

# WARWICK DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 24 October 2012, at the Town Hall, Royal Leamington Spa at 6.00 pm.

**PRESENT:** Councillor Kinson (Chairman); Councillors Barrott, Mrs Blacklock, Boad, Mrs Bromley, Brookes, Mrs Bunker, Caborn, Coker, Copping, Cross, Davies, Dean, Dhillon, Doody, Edwards, Mrs Gallagher, Gifford, Gill, Mrs Goode, Mrs Grainger, Hammon, Heath, Mrs Higgins, Illingworth, Kirton, Mrs Knight, MacKay, Mrs Mellor, Mobbs, Pittarello, Pratt, Rhead, Sawdon, Shilton, Mrs Syson, Vincett, Weber, Wilkinson, Weed, Williams and Wreford-Bush.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs Falp and Guest.

(Councillor Weber raised a point of order with the Chairman because in his opinion the meeting formally started when the Council was asked to rise for the Chairman as a mark of respect. The Chairman explained that in his opinion the agenda started with Apologies and that the Councillors were standing for prayers as was normal custom and practice)

## 39. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

## 40. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 27 September 2012 were approved as a correct record subject to the following corrections:

The attendance be amended to show Councillor Weber as being present, and Minute 32 the response from Councillor Doody to Councillor Mrs Falp be amended to read:

*"In response, the Leader of the Council explained that in his opinion Councillor Mrs Gallagher had resigned for her own reasons. He also took the opportunity to recognise the very good job Councillor Mrs Gallagher had done and the new Portfolio Holder would have a lot to live up to. With regard to the inequality he believed the Executive should have the best talent on view and it would be totally wrong to say because Councillor Mrs Gallagher gave up her position she should be replaced by another woman. It should be terrible for all women because you're asking the Executive to give preferential treatment You wanted equal rights, you got them, so don't come bleating about it."*

## 41. **COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman made the following announcements and communications:

- (1) The Chairman thanked all for the good wishes to his wife (Enid) following her heart attack;
- (2) The Chairman congratulated; Khalsa Hockey Club on their promotion to the English Hockey Mens Conference North, the second tier of English Hockey; and thanked the officers of the Council who had supported the development of the team at its home of St Nicholas Park;

- (3) The Chairman introduced Richard Hall, Head of Environmental Health and his visitor from Bo City Council, Director of Waste Management for the Western Area Rural District Council, Mohamed Koroma. Mr Koroma was visiting the Council, as a guest of Mr Hall, as part of the One World Link between the two Councils; and
- (4) The Chairman reminded the Council that he would be holding a Christmas concert at the Town Hall on 1 December 2012, which would include a performance from the Belles of Three Spires Choir.

(The Chairman explained that there had been no submissions for consideration under agenda: item 5, Public Interest Debate; item 6, petitions; item 8, Public Submissions; item 9, Questions to Committee Chairmen; and item 10, Questions to Portfolio Holders.)

#### 42. **NOTICES OF MOTION**

It was proposed by Councillor Wilkinson, duly seconded by two Councillors and therefore carried, that all votes on this item should be recorded.

Councillor Wilkinson proposed, and it was duly seconded that

*"We call upon this the Council to respond to the concern in our communities over the growing number of Sexual Entertainment Venues (SEVs) by consulting with interested parties and residents of Warwick District on whether there are any suitable locations or not for Sexual Entertainment Venues (SEVs) within the District"*

Councillor Boad, proposed and its was duly seconded that the motion be amended to read:

*"We call upon this Council to respond to the concern in our communities over the growing number of Sexual Entertainment Venues (SEVs) by introducing a clear District wide policy on SEVs that includes the following criteria,*

- a) a clear definition of the minimum number of properties that would constitute a 'residential area';*
- b) no SEVs to be permitted within 500m of a 'residential area';*
- c) a cap on the total number of SEVs to be permitted in a given area; and*
- d) the requirement for a clear statement of the policing capacity to maintain law and order within the vicinity of the Sexual Entertainment Venue.*

*The policy to be published for consultation prior to its adoption by the Council."*

The amendment was debated, put to the vote and lost.

The following Councillors voted against the amendment: Barrott, Mrs Bromley, Brookes, Mrs Bunker, Caborn, Coker, Cross, Davies, Ms Dean, Doody, Edwards, Mrs Gallagher, Gill, Mrs Grainger, Hammon, Heath, Mrs Higgins, Illingworth, Kirton, Mrs Knight, MacKay, Mrs Mellor, Mobbs, Pratt, Rhead, Mrs Sawdon, Shilton, Vincett, Weber, Ms Weed, Wilkinson and Williams.

The following Councillors voted in favour of the amendment: Mrs Blacklock, Copping, De-Lara-Bond, Dhillon, Gifford, Mrs Goode, Pittarello, Mrs Syson and Wreford-Bush.

Councillor Kinson abstained from voting.

The original proposal was debated and during the debate it was proposed by Councillor Shilton, duly seconded that the motion now be moved.

The motion that the original motion now be moved and put to the vote, was put to the vote and won.

The following Councillors voted for the proposal: Mrs Bromley, Brookes, Mrs Bunker, Caborn, Coker, Cross, Davies, Doody, Mrs Gallagher, Mrs Grainger, Heath, Mrs Higgins, Illingworth, Kirton, MacKay, Mrs Mellor, Mobbs, Pratt, Rhead, Mrs Sawdon, Shilton and Vincett.

The following Councillors voted against the proposal: Barrott, Mrs Blacklock, Boad, Copping, De-Lara-Bond, Ms Dean, Dhillon, Edwards, Gifford, Gill, Mrs Goode, Hammon, Mrs Knight, Pittarello, Mrs Syson, Weber, Ms Weed, Wilkinson, Williams and Wreford-Bush.

Councillor Kinson abstained from voting.

Councillor Wilkinson addressed Council to put the motion and with support from his seconder, accepted that prior to the consultation a report be brought to Council providing guidance to the Council on the consultation and the legal implications.

On being put to the vote the original motion from Councillor Wilkison was carried unanimously with Councillors Barrott, Mrs Blacklock, Boad, Mrs Bromley, Brookes, Mrs Bunker, Caborn, Coker, Copping, Cross, Davies, Ms De-Lara-Bond, Dean, Dhillon, Doody, Edwards, Mrs Gallagher, Gifford, Gill, Mrs Goode, Mrs Grainger, Hammon, Heath, Mrs Higgins, Illingworth, Kinson, Kirton, Mrs Knight, MacKay, Mrs Mellor, Mobbs, Pittarello, Pratt, Rhead, Mrs Sawdon, Shilton, Mrs Syson, Vincett, Weber, Ms Weed, Wilkinson, Williams and Wreford-Bush, voting in favour.

**RESOLVED** that the Council responds to the concern in our communities over the growing number of Sexual Entertainment Venues (SEVs) by consulting with interested parties and residents of Warwick District on whether there are any suitable locations or not for Sexual Entertainment Venues (SEVs) within the District.

(Councillor Mrs Higgins left and Councillor Mrs Sawdon arrived during this item)

#### 43. **LEADER'S AND PORTFOLIO HOLDERS' STATEMENTS**

Councillor Coker, Portfolio Holder for Community Protection and Environmental Health, made three announcements:

- (i) That Environmental Services, in liaison with Fire and Rescue, had introduced a voluntary registration scheme for public firework displays providing advice and guidance;
- (ii) On Saturday 27 October there would be another "Your Town Your Choice" multi agency operation in Leamington Town Centre with the aim of helping people enjoy their night out safely while causing no harm to the local community; and
- (iii) He, thanked the Council for the funding of street pastors in Leamington and thanked the local churches for their assistance in staffing these.

#### 44. **QUESTIONS FOR THE LEADER**

Councillor Boad asked the Leader of the Council:

“That considering the Council was 23<sup>rd</sup> slowest for determining planning applications for minor developments and 22<sup>nd</sup> slowest for determining major applications, what actions had been taken to rectify this, had improvements been made and were these being monitored?”

In response, the Leader of the Council, Councillor Doody, explained that the figures quoted by Councillor Boad were correct and his concerns were valid. However, since the survey had taken place the decision time and service had changed significantly for the better which in his opinion was due to Tracy Darke, Head of Development Services. He hoped that Councillor Boad would ask the question again in 3 to 6 months by which time the figures should have changed dramatically.

Councillor Barrott asked the Leader of the Council:

“In light of the blacklisting of workers by Carillion, as stated in the information received by Councillors, would Councillor Doody review their position on framework agreements for the Council prior to any works being given to them?”

In response the Leader of the Council, explained that he had not been aware of this but agreed it was not acceptable behaviour. This behaviour would need to be considered, explained and changed prior to work being offered to them.

Councillor Weber asked the Leader of the Council:

“If he would be asking a member of his Group to apologise for the comments they made on an online forum. The Councillor had responded to an unemployed Councillor who was struggling to find work that would allow them to continue in their role as a Councillor, suggesting it would be better for the economy if they got a job than continued as a Councillor.”

In response the Leader explained that he would always defend the right of free speech. He appreciated that Councillor Weber had concerns but Councillor Williams should be allowed to submit his own views. If he agreed or not was not relevant, it was his choice and he should have the right to say what he wanted. If Councillor Williams felt the need to apologise he would without any pressure from the Leader. His statement may have been unfortunate but he had the right to express an opinion.

#### 45. **REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE**

The report of the Executive meetings of 12 September and 10 October 2012, were proposed by Councillor Doody duly seconded and

**RESOLVED** that the reports be approved.

46. **LOCAL PLAN TIMETABLE AND MEMBER INVOLVEMENT IN THE LOCAL PLAN**

The Council considered a report from Development Services that set out revisions to the Local Plan Timetable to better enable a full and robust evidence base to be constructed prior to preparing the submission draft of the Local Plan and to enable infrastructure planning and a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Scheme to be developed alongside this.

Councillor Caborn addressed the meeting about the report, as its sponsor, including proposing an additional recommendation for Council to consider which was "The Council asks officers to revisit immediately the figures for housing supply and annual growth with a view to their early verification".

The recommendations of the report were proposed by Councillor Caborn, along with the additional proposal, duly seconded and

**RESOLVED** that

- (1) the revised Local Plan and Community Infrastructure Levy Scheme timetable, set out in Table 1.1 of the report, be approved;
- (2) the proposals for the ongoing involvement of members in the preparation of the Local Plan, as set out in paragraph 3.24 of the report, be approved;
- (3) the inputting of public consultation representations be independently verified prior to finalising the report on public consultation; and
- (4) officers immediately revisit the figures for housing supply and annual growth with a view to their early verification

(Councillor Mobbs left at the conclusion of this item)

47. **PUBLIC AND PRESS**

**RESOLVED** that under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 that the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item by reason of the likely disclosure of exempt information within paragraphs 1,2 and 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, following the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006,

48. **REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE**

The confidential report of the Executive meetings of 8 August, 12 September and 10 October 212 was proposed by Councillor Doody duly seconded and

**RESOLVED** that the report be approved

49. **COMMON SEAL**

It was

**RESOLVED** that the Common Seal of Warwick District Council be affixed to such deeds and documents as may be required for implementing decisions of the Council arrived at this day.

(The meeting ended at 8.45 pm)

CHAIRMAN  
5 DECEMBER 2012