

# MEMBERS/TRADES UNIONS JOINT CONSULTATION AND SAFETY PANEL

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 13 April 2005 at the Town Hall, Royal Leamington Spa at 4.30 p.m.

## **PRESENT:**

**Employers' side:** Councillors Copping and Holland.

**Trades Unions' side:** Mr A Crump, Mr A E Foster and Mr A Rybicki

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs J Webb.

(Councillor Holland took the Chair as it was the employers' turn)

## **924. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest

## **925. MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING**

The minutes of the meeting held on 1 March 2005 were not signed by the Chair as they were had not been considered by Council.

The Chair reported that following the last meeting he and Mr A Rybicki had met with James Plaskitt MP on Thursday 2 March 2005 and passed to him a copy of the resolution of this Panel, regarding the proposed amendments to the Local Government Pension Scheme. On Friday 3 March 2005 James Plaskitt MP had raised the issue with the Deputy Prime Minister and on Monday the Deputy Prime Minister had announced that he would be re consulting on the proposed amendments to the Local Government Pension Scheme with a view to having them rescinded at the earliest opportunity by Parliament.

At this point the Panel noted the re-consultation on the proposed amendments to the Local Government Pension Scheme.

Councillor Holland had a personal and prejudicial interest in this item. However, he did not declare it because the matter was not discussed only noted.

## **926. ACCIDENT REPORT**

The Panel considered a report from the Health and Safety Advisor advising them of the accidents during the period 16 September 2004 to 31 March 2005.

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**(Continued)**

During the period there was an accident which required statutory notification, six other accidents which did not require statutory notification and there were also three violent or potentially violent incidents, details of which were all contained within the report.

Mr A Rybicki reported another incident at the Town Hall, of which the Health and Safety Advisor had not been informed officially, with regard to a member of the public who was known to have criminal convictions for violent offences. He had been able to enter the Town Hall undetected and unchallenged trying to find the CCTV Control Room. The Health and Safety Advisor reported that since this had taken place the Commercial Crime Prevention Officer had visited the Town Hall and made some recommendations for the improvement of security.

Mr A Crump raised the issue of the amount of cash being dealt with by the reception. This issue had been raised by staff at the Riverside House and was being discussed at the next Joint Communications Forum.

**RESOLVED** that

- (1) the reported be noted;
- (2) with regard to incident F, as detailed in the report, no person should carry out any maintenance or work in the in the room which contains the clock mechanisms of the tower at the Town Hall until after the contractor has been on site and inspected the mechanism;
- (3) a copy of the contract for the maintenance to the clock at the Town Hall, be circulated to the next meeting;
- (4) the Health and Safety Advisor meets with Mr A Rybicki to discuss the outcomes of the risk assessment undertaken with regard to the clock and the recommendations of the Commercial Crime Prevention Officer at the Town Hall and report back to the next meeting of this Panel if necessary; and
- (5) a report be submitted to the October meeting of this Panel, from UNISON, regarding the issue of staff safety at reception and the possible need for a concierge/porter.

(The meeting ended at 5.10 p.m.)