

WARWICK DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 22 April 2009, at the Town Hall, Royal Leamington Spa at 6.00 pm.

PRESENT: Councillor Mrs Falp (Chairman); Councillors Barrott, Mrs Blacklock, Boad, Mrs Bunker, Caborn, Coker, Copping, Crowther, Davies, De-Lara-Bond, Ms Dean, Malcolm Doody, Michael Doody, Edwards, Mrs Gallagher, Gifford, Gill, Mrs Goode, Guest, Harris, Hatfield, Heath, Mrs Higgins, Illingworth, Kinson, Kirton, Mrs Knight, MacKay, Mrs McFarland, Mrs Mellor, Mobbs, Pittarello, Pratt, Mrs Sawdon, Mrs Scarrott, Shilton, Mrs Tyrrell, Vincett, Weed, and White.

971. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Dhillon, Mrs Grainger, Hammon and Rhead.

972. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 4 March 2009, were taken as read, approved and signed by the Chairman.

973. COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- (A) The Chairman reported that on 7 April 2009 she had hosted a reception to recognise the 35th anniversary of the creation of Warwick District Council. All past Chairmen of the Council had been invited, of whom 22 had been able to attend. In addition, members of staff who had joined the Council at the time of its inception, and who were still employed by the Council, had also attended.
- (B) On behalf of the Council, the Chairman expressed best wishes to Councillors Mrs Knight and Shilton who would shortly be undergoing treatment in hospital.

974. MEMORIALS AND PETITIONS

- (A) Councillor B Mackay spoke in respect of the following petition:

“We the undersigned urge Warwick District Council to reject any plans to build houses on Kings Hill, whether this is put forward by Warwick District Council or requested by Coventry City Council.

Such a proposal would destroy the Green Belt between Coventry and Kenilworth. The infrastructure in Finham is already overburdened and would be unable to sustain any further development.”

At the invitation of the Chairman, one of the petitioners, Mr Bob Fry, Chairman of the Finham Residents Association, spoke briefly about the reasons for the petition.

COUNCIL MINUTES (Continued)

RESOLVED that the petition be referred for consideration as part of the preparation of the Core Strategy process

975. QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 7 (2)

(A) From Councillor J Barrott to Councillor M Kinson, Environment Portfolio Holder:

“There are many residents living in our district who do not enjoy the same kerbside recycling collections, including green waste, that others have, but who would like to. In some cases the properties concerned have been deemed unsuitable by our collection teams. In others, the individual properties are entirely suitable, but are included in rounds with properties judged unsuitable and, therefore, not provided with the full service.

Will the Environmental Portfolio Holder update members on what will be done to allow full participation in the scheme?”

Councillor Kinson replied:

“Before May 2007 only half of our properties had green waste bins whilst the remainder had to purchase labels in order to get their green waste removed. The purchase of labels was stopped in October 2007 and no charge was made to remove green waste.

On 1 April 2008 the new alternative weekly waste collection service was rolled out to the majority of properties in the District, resulting in a significant increase in the amount of waste being recycled. Some streets were omitted from the initial roll out due to problems over access and storage of wheeled bins. Council officers are currently in the process of reviewing the waste collection services provided to these streets and are consulting with residents on a street by street basis in order to develop a workable solution. The collection of green waste has not been raised in these discussions and it is significant that a large amount of green waste is being taken to the WCC amenity sites. There is no restriction whatsoever on the provision and collection of red box and recycling bags and there is a new programme of rolling out recycling facilities for flats throughout the District, increasing the number of recycling banks from 75 to 150.

The County Council are very keen to increase home composting and this is recommended as the ideal solution to the problem of disposing of green waste.”

Councillor Barrott then asked a supplementary question to which Councillor Kinson replied.

976. QUESTIONS TO PORTFOLIO HOLDERS

The following question was addressed to the Portfolio Holder as shown, who gave a verbal response:

(A) From Councillor T Heath to Councillor C White, Culture Portfolio Holder:

COUNCIL MINUTES (Continued)

“Racing Club Warwick were given a large grant as a result of the sale of the old stable block at Warwick Racecourse by this Council’s previous administration to enable them to carry out a rebuild of their facilities at Hampton Road. Can the portfolio holder please tell me:

- a. How much was the amount given?
- b. Was the use of the grant monitored by our officers?
- c. How much of the planned rebuilding work has been carried out?
- d. Is he satisfied that the due checks have been carried out since the grant was given?
- e. How much of the grant has been spent on the rebuild? and
- f. Is the remainder still available for the continued rebuilding if there should be a new Lessee found?”

977. EXECUTIVE

It was moved by Councillor Michael Doody, duly seconded and

RESOLVED that the report of the Executive meeting held on 18 March 2009, be approved and adopted, subject to, in minute 1: Declarations of Interest, the declaration made by Councillor White in respect of sustainable planting in Warwick be amended to read:

“Councillor White declared a personal interest because he had carried out work for one of the companies (the Rhead Group) who sponsor and advertise on the roundabouts in the district.”

978. AUDIT AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

It was moved by Councillor Mrs Knight, duly seconded and

RESOLVED that the recommendations from the meeting of the Audit and Resources Scrutiny Committee of 17 March 2009, be approved and adopted.

(Note: the Chairman of the Committee referred to the remit of the Finance and Audit Scrutiny Committee in which reference was made to the approval of the Statement of Accounts in accordance with regulation 10 of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2003. Clarification was being obtained regarding the legality of this position with a view to making any necessary amendments at the Annual Council Meeting on 13 May 2009).

979. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

It was moved by Councillor Gifford, duly seconded and

RESOLVED that the recommendations from the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 17 March 2009, be approved and adopted.

COUNCIL MINUTES (Continued)

980. ELECTION OF THE LEADER OF THE EXECUTIVE

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 17, an election took place for the leader of the Executive 2009/10.

RESOLVED that Councillor Michael Doody be elected leader of the Executive for 2009/10.

981. 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 7.05 pm)

CHAIRMAN
13 May 2009