

# WARWICK DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 6 March 2013, at the Town Hall, Royal Leamington Spa at 6.05 pm.

**PRESENT:** Councillor Kinson (Chairman); 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, Guest, Hammon, Mrs Higgins, Illingworth, Mrs Knight, MacKay, Mobbs, Pittarello, Pratt, Sawdon, Shilton, Mrs Syson, Vincett, Weber, Wilkinson, Williams and Wreford-Bush.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Dagg, Mrs Falp, Heath, Mrs Mellor and Weed.

## 83. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

## 84. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 20 February 2013 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

## 85. **COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman made the following announcements and communications:

- (1) The Chairman informed the Council that he had recently met with the Chairman of Bowls England who had expressed his gratitude to the Council for its support and assistance in helping Bowls England move to Royal Leamington Spa;
- (2) The Chairman congratulated all those involved in the Warwickshire Association of Guides and Scouts (WAGS) Gang Show for their excellent show at the Spa Centre.
- (3) The Chairman informed the Council that the Warwick School Under 18s Rugby Team had lost their national semi final, but the Under 15s Rugby team semi final was due to be played this coming weekend.

## 86. **COUNCILLOR MACKAY**

Councillor MacKay, with the permission of the Chairman, informed Council that:

"On 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2011 a complaint was submitted to the Monitoring Officer to the effect that, while acting as a member of Warwick District Council, I had breached that provision of the Council's Code of Conduct which says that while engaged on Council business a member shall never do anything which compromises, or is likely to compromise, the impartiality of those who work for, or on behalf of, the Council.

This related to the action I had taken in trying to help a resident of the District and after trying to resolve the matter through other routes, I issued a compilation of evidence together with a counter rebuttal of the evidence sent to members by the Deputy Chief Executive Andrew Jones.

Following investigation, as I have subsequently accepted, I breached the Code of Conduct by compromising the impartiality of Andrea Wyatt, then Principal Benefits Officer for the District Council. I have apologised to Ms Wyatt, in writing, and I now apologise to you, my Councillor colleagues, for involving you in the unintentional compromising of impartiality of an officer of the Council."

(The Chairman explained that there had been no submissions for consideration under agenda: item 5, Public Interest Debate; item 6, Petitions; item 7, Notices of Motion; item 8, Public Submissions; item 9, Questions to Committee Chairmen; and item 10, Questions to Portfolio Holders.)

**87. LEADER'S AND PORTFOLIO HOLDERS' STATEMENTS**

Councillor Coker, Portfolio Holder for Community Protection and Environmental Health, informed Council that he had met with the Chairman of the PCC who had informed him that they would continue to provide a small budget to the Community Safety Partnership to work on its health initiatives and in addition to this, he was to have a meeting with the Public Health Department at Warwickshire County Council with a view to starting some innovative projects in deprived areas of Warwick and Leamington.

**88. QUESTIONS FOR THE LEADER**

Councillor Boad asked the Leader of the Council:

"If he agreed that this meeting and the Council Tax/Budget Setting meeting should be combined into a single meeting in future years"

In response, the Leader of the Council, Councillor Doody, agreed.

**89. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE**

The report of the Executive meeting of 13 February 2013, (excluding minutes 145 and 148 that were considered by Council on 20 February 2013), were proposed by Councillor Doody duly seconded and

**RESOLVED** that the report be approved.

**90. LICENSING COMMITTEE**

It was moved by Councillor Guest, duly seconded and

**RESOLVED** that the recommendation of the Licensing Committee 18 February 2013 as set out in minute 7 be approved.

**91. PAY POLICY STATEMENT**

The Council considered a report from Organisational Development and Human Resources that set out the Council's Pay Policy Statement for 2013-2014 as required under the Localism Act 2011.

It set out the Authority's policies for the financial year relating to the remuneration of chief officers, the remuneration of the lowest paid employees and the relationship between the remuneration of its chief officers and its employees that were not chief officers.

The report provided a definition of chief officers and lowest paid employees. It covered different elements of remuneration and outlined the guidelines and policies that governed remuneration.

Following the publication of the agenda further advice had been provided regarding Section 3. Pay Levels on Recruitment as set out in the Pay Policy. As a result of this Councillor Doody proposed the Policy as set out subject to Section 3 of the Pay Policy Statement being amended to read:

**"3. Pay Levels on Recruitment**

*The pay level offered on recruitment is typically the bottom point of the salary grade for all roles including Chief Officers. In situations, however, where the individual recruited has a high level of knowledge or skills, and/or previous relevant experience, a higher salary up to the maximum salary for that post, may be authorised by the Chief Executive.*

*The majority of Chief Officers are appointed by the Employment Committee (which reflects all political parties) exercising their delegated powers as outlined in the officer employment procedures.*

*This excludes the appointment to the role of Head of Paid Service (Chief Executive) and any other posts where the salary is greater than £100,000 where the Employment Committee recommends the appointment to Full Council for approval."*

The proposal was duly seconded and

**RESOLVED** that the Pay Policy Statement, as set out at Appendix 1 to the report subject to the inclusion of the amendment set out above, be approved.

92. **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 the relevant paragraphs of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, following the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006.

93. **REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE**

The report of the Executive meeting of 9 January and 15 February 2013 were proposed by Councillor Doody duly seconded and

**RESOLVED** that the reports be approved.

94. **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 6.22 pm)

CHAIRMAN  
27 March 2013