

WARWICK DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 28 February 2001 at the Town Hall, Royal Leamington Spa at 6.00 pm.

PRESENT: Councillor Short (Chairman); Councillors Mrs Begg, Boad, Mrs Boad, Butler, Byrd, Caborn, Mrs Clayton, Cleaver, Cockburn, Coker, Mrs Compton, Copping, Crowther, Darmody, Davis, Mrs Edwards, Mrs Evans, Evans, Ms Flanagan, Gifford, Gill, Golby, Mrs Goode, Hammon, Harris, Mrs Hodgetts, Kirton, Kohler, Mrs Leddy, MacKay, Shilton, Tamlin, Thomas, Wooller.

467. PRAYER

A prayer was offered by the Chairman's Chaplain.

468. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologise for absence were received from Councillors Guest, Jackson, Mrs Pavier and Talbot.

469. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 3 January 2001 were taken as read, approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

470. COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- (A) The Chairman expressed sympathy on behalf of the Council to the farming community within the District for the distress which was being caused as a result of the current foot and mouth disease outbreak. He confirm that, along with the County Council, steps were being taken to stop public access to the Council's leisure and nature reserves.
- (B) The Chairman referred to his Spring concert which would be taking place at the Town Hall on Saturday 7 April 2001 and encouraged as many Members as possible to attend.
- (C) The Chairman extended a warm welcome to Mr Derrick Dyas, Head of Housing, who was attending his first meeting since becoming unwell towards the end of last year.

471. MEMORIALS AND PETITIONS

- (A) A petition sponsored by Councillor H A Thomas was presented:-
"We the undersigned ask that an Area Planning Committee for Kenilworth be set up as soon as possible".

COUNCIL MINUTES (Continued)

RESOLVED that the petition be referred to the Executive.

472. QUESTIONS PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER 7 (2)

(A) From Councillor M F Coker to the Leader of the Executive:-

“On 5 June the Executive decided to set up a Drainage Forum to consider drainage and flooding problems. It was further decided that reports would be made of its work on a regular basis and this was confirmed by the Council on 13 July”.

Councillor Mrs M A Begg, Leader of the Executive, replied:-

“At its meeting on 5 June 2000, the Executive agreed that “the proposed terms of reference for the Warwick District Surface Water Drainage Forum be approved, subject to consideration being given to elected members being represented on the Forum and regular reports being submitted to the Executive on the progress of the Forum.

An inaugural meeting of the forum has taken place to set up the officer infrastructure between the various agencies with drainage powers within the District. Since that time it has not been possible to progress formal meetings of the Forum, nor to pursue what form the elected membership of the Forum would take. This has been due to the pressure on Engineering to deliver the capital drainage projects already put forward in the Council’s programme with the pressure on staff resources, which members have already acknowledged and the absence due to illness of the Head of Engineering.

When members decided that the Council would take a pro-active role on drainage problems within the District it was also agreed that priority would be given to those schemes which had already been identified and for which potential mitigation measures had been identified. Work, in close liaison with the other agencies and elected members, has continued on all these schemes which are progressing on schedule. Reports on all these schemes have been brought back to members.

The Unit’s workload on watercourse management has been further increased by the Local Government Association’s commitment, on behalf of all local authorities, to meet the new MAFF High Level Targets for Flood Defence. There is a legal responsibility on the Council to comply with these targets, including carrying out an audit of every watercourse within the District, which created even greater demands upon already stretched staff.

In addition, the unit has been providing advice and assistance to the members of Kenilworth Town Council and the local MP, Andy King, in their dealings with the Environment Agency and English Heritage to progress the flood mitigation works on the Finham Brook at the Mere.

Although, for the above reasons, it has not been possible to progress the Forum since its inaugural meeting, members can be assured that the

COUNCIL MINUTES (Continued)

unit has continued to take the lead, on behalf of the Council, by involving local members in cross agency discussions to find solutions to identified local drainage problems.

Now that the Head of Engineering has returned from sick leave, he will be meeting with the Group Leaders to discuss future political representation on the Forum and a calendar of meetings. The results of this discussion will be reported to members and a report to members will follow each future meeting”.

In a supplementary question, Councillor Coker asked the Chair:-

“Would the Leader of the Executive now put to the Executive or to the Council the formation of a Members Working Party to drive it forward as this is an essential feature? Fortunately, this District so far this winter has not suffered to any great degree. This is a core service and in the light of nothing so far having happened, will she now consider appointing a Working Party?”.

In reply, Councillor Mrs Begg said:-

“I shall be seeing Mr Jermond tomorrow and I am sure that the formation of a working party has already been agreed. You are quite right in your recollection that Members of this Council are supposed to be a party to it. So I will discuss with Mr Jermond and specifically mention driving forward”.

473. THE EXECUTIVE

It was moved by Councillor Mrs Begg, and duly seconded that

- (1) the recommendations of the Executive of 5 January, 5 February, 12 February and 19 February be approved and adopted;
- (2) in accordance with normal practise, that the Council agree the budget under minute 330 of the meeting of 19 February first, together with the report of the Responsible Financial Officer under item number 8; and

COUNCIL MINUTES (Continued)

(3) that before the Council consider the recommendations under minute 334 that, under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 the Public and Press be excluded from the meeting for that item by reason of the likely disclosure of exempt information within paragraphs 8 and 9 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

(A) Council Tax - Calculation of Warwick District Council Element 2001/2002 (Executive Minute 330)

RESOLVED that

- (1) the recommendation set out in minute 330 be adopted;
- (2) it be noted that for the year 2001/02 the Warwickshire County Council and the Warwickshire Police Authority have stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:-

Band	Warwickshire	Warwickshire
	County Council	Police Authority
		£
		£
A		475.7340
		56.7813
B		555.0230
		66,2449
C		634.3120
		75.7084
D		713.6010
		85.1720
E		872.1791
		104.0991
F		1,030.757
		1
		123.0262
G		1,189.335
		1

COUNCIL MINUTES (Continued)

	141.9533
H	
	1,427.202
	1
	170.3439;
	and

- (3) having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at paragraph (2) above and the amounts required under section 36 (1) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, the Council in accordance with section 30 (2) of the Act hereby sets the amounts shown in Appendix "A" as the amounts of council tax for the year 2001/02 for each of the categories of dwellings shown.

(B) Assisted Travel Scheme (Executive Minute 316)

First It was moved by Councillor Mackay and duly seconded that Amendment minute 316 that:

- (1) delete all words after "new applications" and insert "for a pass to be valid for the period 1 March 2001 and 31 May 2001 will be subject to the current administration charge of £5.00"; and
- (2) insert the following "and the £5.00 administration charge made for the issue of tokens be discontinued with effect from new issue date."

The Leader of the Executive proposed that the amendments be referred for consideration by the Executive on 19 March 2001 and be granted delegated authority to make a decision on the matters.

The mover of the amendment, Councillor Mackay, and the seconder agreed with this proposal.

(C) Public and Press

In accordance with Standing Order 14, on the requisition of one member supported by three other members, the vote on the motion to exclude the public and press prior to consideration of minute 334 (Royal Priors), was recorded and, on the vote being taken, the motion was declared carried, the voting being as follows:

For the motion: 26

Councillors Attwood, Aujla, Mrs Begg, Boad, Mrs Boad, Bird, Mrs Clayton, Copping, Crowther, Darmody, Davis, Dove, Dray, Mrs Evans, Evans, Ms Flanagan, Gifford, Gill, Golby, Mrs Goode, Harris, Kent, Mrs Leddy, Shilton, Tamlin, Thomas

COUNCIL MINUTES (Continued)

Against the motion: 14

Councillors Butler, Caborn, Cleaver, Cockburn, Coker, Mrs Compton, Doody, Mrs Edwards, Hammon, Mrs Hodgetts, Kirton, Mackay, Short, Wooller

Abstentions: 0

Members of the public and press who were present at the meeting then left.

It was moved by Councillor Boad and duly seconded that Standing Orders 10 (4B) and (5) be suspended for consideration of minute 330 (Royal Priors).

On the motion being put to the meeting it was declared carried.

(D) Adoption Of Report

The original motion, as amended by the first amendment, was then put to meeting and declared carried.

474. ECONOMIC SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

It was moved by Councillor Cockburn, duly seconded and

RESOLVED that report of the Economic Scrutiny Committee dated 4 January 2001, be approved.

475. STANDARDS COMMITTEE

It was moved by Councillor Mrs Boad, duly seconded and

RESOLVED that the report of the Standards Committee dated 9 January 2001, be approved and adopted

476. ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

It was moved by Councillor Wooller, duly seconded and

RESOLVED that the report of the Environment Scrutiny Committee dated 9 January 2001, be approved and adopted.

477. SOCIAL SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

It was moved by Councillor Kohler, duly seconded and

RESOLVED that the report of the Social Scrutiny Committee dated 10 January 2001, be approved and adopted.

COUNCIL MINUTES (Continued)

478. ECONOMIC SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

It was moved by Councillor Kohler, duly seconded and

RESOLVED that the report of the Economic Scrutiny Committee dated 23 January 2001, be approved and adopted.

479. ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

It was moved by Councillor Wooller, duly seconded and

RESOLVED that the report of the Environment Scrutiny Committee dated 29 January 2001, be approved and adopted.

COUNCIL MINUTES (Continued)

480. SOCIAL SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

It was moved by Councillor Kohler, duly seconded and

RESOLVED that the report of the Social Scrutiny Committee dated 31 January 2001, be approved and adopted.

481. LICENSING COMMITTEE

It was moved by Councillor Shilton, duly seconded and

RESOLVED that the report of the Licensing Committee dated 1 February 2001, be approved and adopted.

482. ECONOMIC SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

It was moved by Councillor Cockburn, duly seconded and

RESOLVED that the report of the Economic Scrutiny Committee dated 14 February 2001, be approved and adopted.

483. MEMBERS/TRADES UNIONS JOINT CONSULTATION AND SAFETY PANEL

It was moved by Councillor Attwood, duly seconded and

RESOLVED that the report of the Members/Trades Union Joint Consultation and Safety Panel, dated 20 February 2001, be approved and adopted.

484. PLANNING COMMITTEE

It was moved by Councillor Kirton, duly seconded and

RESOLVED that the report of the Planning Committee dated 18 December 2000, 16 January and 6 February 2001, be approved and adopted.

485. NOTICES OF MOTION

(A) It was moved by Councillor H A Thomas and duly seconded:

"This Council considers setting up Area Committees.

Rather than setting district wide area planning committees as a start this Council runs a pilot scheme in Kenilworth for the first year or so.

Following reports on the pilot a further decision will be needed to set up area planning committees for the towns in the District"

RESOLVED that the motion stand referred to the Executive.

(B) Councillor R Copping to move:

COUNCIL MINUTES (Continued)

“This Council notes the pride that residents of Royal Leamington Spa have in their town’s royal status. Our statue of Queen Victoria has recently been cleaned, but repairs to the orb (missing cross) and sceptre (partly broken off) are needed

To celebrate the centenary of the death of the former Queen, I move that the necessary repairs be undertaken in this centennial year, the misaligned position of the statue on its plinth remaining undisturbed”.

RESOLVED that the motion stand referred to the Executive.

(C) Councillor C C L Davis to move:-

“This Council views with concern to the increase of reported violent crime in Warwickshire, including the robbery and attempted robbery within the last three months at the parade of shops on the Rugby Road in Leamington.

Strong consideration should be given by Warwick District Council to the installation of CCTV at this location and similar out-of-town shopping centres as and when the basic CCTV system is expanded beyond the core streets of Leamington Spa”.

RESOLVED that the motion stand referred to the Executive.

(D) Councillor R H Attwood to move:-

“That the terms of reference of the Licensing Committee be altered to read: To exercise delegated powers in respect of all matters relating to Licences and Registration, except the setting of charges and the granting of permission for public entertainment and Good Friday”.

RESOLVED that the motion stand referred to the Executive.

486. **SECTION 92, LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 - DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

In addition to Members who already disclosed their interest in the appropriate Committee and Sub-Committee Minutes the following declared their interest in respect of the Minutes set out in columns (1) and (2) below and, when the Minutes were discussed by the Council, took no part in the discussion and did not vote.

(Those shown with * indicate Members who left the meeting whilst the matter was under discussion.)

<u>Minute</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Person declaring interest</u>
334	Royal Priors	Councillor Kohler (Pecuniary*)

COUNCIL MINUTES (Continued)

487. **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 9.25 p.m)

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CHAIRMAN