

17 MAY 2004



NEW FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the New Forest District Council held at Appletree Court, Lyndhurst on Monday, 17 May 2004.

Councillors:

p G Abbott
p K F Ault
p K E Austin
p C Baker
p G C Beck
p Mrs J L Cleary
p D E Cracknell
p G F Dart
p W H Dow
p Miss P A Drake
p L T Dunsdon
e M H G Fidler
p Ms L C Ford
p P C Greenfield
p R C H Hale
p C J Harrison
p D Harrison
p F R Harrison
p J D Heron
p D A Hibbert
p P E Hickman
p Mrs M D Holding
p J M Hoy
p Mrs M Humber
p J A G Hutchins
p M J Kendal
p Mrs B M Maynard
p Mrs M McLean
p M J Molyneux
p R J Neath

Councillors:

p G J Parkes
p B M F Pemberton
p J Penwarden
p L R Puttock
p A W Rice TD
p B Rickman
p Mrs M J Robinson
p B Rule
p D J Russell
p T M Russell
e D N Scott
p N E Scott
p Lt Col M J Shand
p S A Shepherd
p Mrs B Smith
p Mrs L P Snashall
p Mrs S I Snowden
p M H Thierry
p A R Tinsley
p D B Tipp
p Mrs B Vincent
p M S Wade
p S S Wade
p G M Walmsley
p J G Ward
p A Weeks
p Dr M N Whitehead
p C A Wise
p P R Woods
p Mrs P A Wyeth

Officers Attending:

D Yates, N J Gibbs, C Malyon, J Mascall, D Atwill, Ms J Bateman, Miss G O'Rourke and Mrs R Rutins.

The Chairman of the Council, Cllr Hutchins (in the Chair)

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN.

Cllr Mrs Robinson moved that Cllr Lt Col M J Shand be elected Chairman of the Council for the ensuing municipal year. The motion was seconded by Cllr Kendal and a number of members spoke in support.

RESOLVED:

That Cllr Lt Col M J Shand be elected Chairman of the Council to continue in office until his successor becomes entitled to act as Chairman at the next annual meeting of the Council.

Cllr Shand took the Chair and made the declaration of acceptance of office which was formally witnessed by the Chief Executive.

Cllr Hutchins invested the Chairman with the Chain and Badge of Office and presented Mrs Shand, the Chairman's consort, with a bouquet of flowers.

On behalf of the employees, the Chief Executive congratulated the Chairman on his election.

The Chairman thanked his fellow members for his election.

The Chairman, in paying tribute to Cllr Hutchins, said that he had been a very enthusiastic Chairman and would be a hard act to follow. He appreciated the opportunities that had been afforded to him as Vice-Chairman and looked forward very much to the year ahead.

The Chairman announced that his chosen charity for the year would be the district-wide New Forest Sailability which was affiliated to the Royal Yachting Association. He said he wanted to build on the work of the previous Chairman in supporting Sailability in the New Forest.

Based at the Spinnaker Sailing Club, just north of Ringwood, New Forest Sailability provided supervised dinghy sailing for disabled people of all ages and abilities. Sailing took place on a former quarry that had been transformed into an inland lake which provided a safe sailing area. However the club needed to expand and this would need considerable investment in boats, pontoon and other vital equipment.

The Chairman said he and his wife Ann were going to work hard fundraising for New Forest Sailability and he hoped everyone would support such a worthwhile cause.

2. VOTE OF THANKS TO CLLR HUTCHINS.

The Chairman of the Council moved a vote of thanks to the outgoing Chairman Cllr Hutchins. A number of members spoke in support of the motion.

Members said that Cllr Hutchins had been a very popular Chairman and they congratulated him for his hard work. He and his wife had given outstanding service to the Council and had been very active in their charity work.

The Chief Executive expressed his thanks to Cllr Hutchins for all his hard work during his year as Chairman.

It was seconded and

RESOLVED:

That the thanks and best wishes of the Council be recorded to Cllr Hutchins for his service during his term of office as Chairman of the Council.

Cllr Hutchins thanked members for their tributes and said the he and his wife had thoroughly enjoyed their year. He said that he could not have carried out his duties without the support of other members and officers and he thanked them for that. He said that it had been a very good year as the Council had achieved an 'excellent and improving' rating in the CPA and had achieved Beacon Status for Tourism.

Cllr Hutchins said he was particularly pleased that during his year of office he had raised over £9,500 for his charity, Lymington Sailability. That had enabled them to not only purchase the boat that they had wanted but also gave them funds to re-equip others. He said that it had been a privilege to represent the Council as Chairman.

3. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN.

It was moved by Cllr Thierry and seconded by Cllr Rickman that Cllr B M F Pemberton be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Council for the ensuing municipal year.

Members spoke in support of the motion.

RESOLVED:

That Cllr B M F Pemberton be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Council to hold office until immediately after the election of the Chairman at the next annual meeting of the Council.

Cllr Pemberton made the declaration of acceptance of office which was formally witnessed by the Chief Executive. The Chairman invested Cllr Pemberton with his Badge of Office and presented Cllr Ms Ford, the Vice-Chairman's Consort, with a bouquet of flowers.

4. APPOINTMENT OF LEADER OF THE COUNCIL.

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED:

That Councillor Kendal be appointed Leader of the Council for the ensuing municipal year.

5. MINUTES (REPORT A).

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 26 April 2004 be signed as a correct record.

6. CHANGES TO COMMITTEES AND PANELS.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That Cllr Dow be appointed to the Appeals Committee in place of Cllr D Scott;
- (b) That Cllr Neath be appointed to the Planning Development Control Committee in place of Cllr D Scott;
- (c) That Cllr Neath be appointed to the Corporate and Finance Review Panel in place of Cllr D Scott; and
- (d) That Cllr Mrs Smith be appointed to the NFDC/Test Valley Commercial Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee in place of Cllr Weeks.

7. POLITICAL REPRESENTATION ON COMMITTEES.

RESOLVED:

That, in accordance with Section 15(1)(b) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, the position in relation to the representation of political groups on Committees and Panels, having been reviewed, be noted.

8. CONSTITUTION OF CABINET AND PORTFOLIOS.

RESOLVED:

That the number and content of Cabinet Portfolios and members to be appointed to the Cabinet be as detailed below and as shown at Appendix 1 to these minutes:-

Policy and Strategy – Cllr Kendal

Crime and Disorder – Cllr Beck

Economy and Planning – Cllr Heron

Environment – Cllr Thierry

Finance and Support – Cllr Wise

Housing – Cllr Greenfield

Health and Social Inclusion – Cllr Mrs Holding

Leisure – Cllr Rickman

CHAIRMAN

Attachment: Minute No. 8

(Democrat/Annual Agendas & Minutes/2004/CL170504.doc)