

18 MAY 2009

NEW FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the New Forest District Council held at Appletree Court, Lyndhurst on Monday, 18 May 2009.

Councillors:

p G C Beck
p D A Britton
p Mrs D M Brooks
e Mrs F Carpenter
p Mrs J L Cleary
p G F Dart
e S P Davies
e W H Dow
e L T Dunsdon
p Ms L C Ford
p H F Forse
p P C Greenfield
p C J Harrison
p D Harrison
p E J Heron
p J D Heron
e P E Hickman
p Mrs J A Hoare
p Mrs M D Holding
p J A G Hutchins
p Mrs P Jackman
p M J Kendal
p C Lagdon
p Mrs M E Lewis
p Mrs K J Lord
p Mrs P J Lovelace
p B D Lucas
p Mrs A E McEvoy
p Mrs M McLean
p G J Parkes

Councillors:

p Sqn Ldr B M F Pemberton
p J Penwarden
p L R Puttock
p M P Reid
p A W Rice
p B Rickman
p W S Rippon-Swaine
p Mrs M J Robinson
p Mrs A M Rostand
p D J Russell
p R F Scrivens
e Lt Col M J Shand
p A E J Shotter
e Mrs B Smith
p Mrs S I Snowden
p A J Swain
e M H Thierry
p A R Tinsley
p D B Tipp
p C R Treleaven
p F P Vickers
p M S Wade
p S S Wade
p R A Wappet
p J G Ward
p A Weeks
e Dr M N Whitehead
p C A Wise
p P R Woods
p Mrs P A Wyeth

Officers Attending:

D Yates, R Jackson, J Mascal, D Atwill, Miss D Miller, Miss G O'Rourke, Mrs R Rutins and Ms M Stephens.

The Chairman of the Council, Cllr P R Woods, in the Chair.

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN.

Cllr Woods moved that Cllr L R Puttock be elected Chairman of the Council for the ensuing municipal year. The motion was seconded by Cllr Mrs Wyeth.

RESOLVED:

That Cllr Puttock 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 Puttock took the chair and made the declaration of acceptance of office, which was formally witnessed by the Chief Executive.

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

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

The Chairman thanked his fellow members for his election. He said he would strive to achieve the high standards set by his predecessors. The Chairman also thanked his wife, family and friends for their support and encouragement.

The Chairman announced that his chosen charities for the year would be the Stroke Association and Simon Says, an established charity offering children and young people bereavement support following the loss of a parent or close relative. The Chairman also announced that he would like to support, in some small way, the Fenwick 2 Hospital in Lyndhurst.

The Chairman said that he was looking forward to his year in office and hoped to serve the Council and its residents well.

2. VOTE OF THANKS TO CLLR P R WOODS.

The Chairman moved a vote of thanks to the outgoing Chairman, Cllr Woods.

The Chairman, in paying tribute to Cllr Woods, said that Cllr Woods and his wife had been held in high esteem by colleagues and residents alike during Cllr Woods' term as Chairman. They had proved to be excellent ambassadors for the New Forest, and had served the Council diligently and with style and grace.

The motion was seconded.

Members spoke in support of the motion. They said that Cllr Woods and his wife had worked very hard during their year in office and had been very successful in their charitable fundraising. They had represented the people of the New Forest very well and were great ambassadors for the Council. Other members commented on the happy memories of the past year, and the popularity of the Chairman. In particular members thanked Cllr Woods for his efficiency and fairness in the running of the Council meetings. They congratulated Cllr Woods and his consort on a job well done.

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

RESOLVED:

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

Cllr Woods thanked members for their kind wishes. He said that it had been a great privilege to serve as Chairman of the Council. He said that he had thoroughly enjoyed his time in office and through his many engagements as Chairman had seen many beautiful parts of the District and the County. Councillor Woods paid particular thanks to colleagues he had met over the last year, who had made his time as Chairman enjoyable.

Cllr Woods said that he could not have carried out his role efficiently without the help and support of fellow councillors, officers and in particular the support of his wife Olwen.

Cllr Woods thanked colleagues and officer for helping to raise £6,704 for his charities First Opportunities and Oakhaven Hospice Trust. While he was extremely pleased to be able to donate funds to these charities, he pointed out that the Council made substantial other contributions to the charitable and voluntary sector.

Representatives from both charities were in attendance at the meeting and gratefully received their cheques from Cllr Woods. They thanked the Council for its generosity and support.

3. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN.

It was moved by Cllr Wise and seconded by Cllr Hutchins that Cllr Mrs P A Wyeth be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Council for the ensuing municipal year.

It was seconded and

RESOLVED:

That Cllr Mrs P A Wyeth 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 Mrs P A Wyeth made the declaration of acceptance of office, which was formally witnessed by the Chief Executive. The Chairman invested Cllr Mrs Wyeth with her Badge of Office and a bouquet of flowers and presented Mr Wyeth, the Vice-Chairman's Consort, with a gift.

Cllr Mrs Wyeth thanked the Council for her election.

4. APPOINTMENT OF LEADER OF THE COUNCIL.

It was moved by Cllr E Heron and seconded by Cllr Mrs Cleary that Cllr Rickman be appointed Leader of the Council for the ensuing municipal year.

RESOLVED:

That Cllr B Rickman be appointed Leader of the Council for the ensuing municipal year.

5. MINUTES (PAPER A).

RESOLVED:

That subject to the amendment under Minute No. 73 of an error in the spelling of the name of Cllr Mrs Smith, the minutes of the meeting held on 20 April 2009, having been circulated, be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

6. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS.

The Chairman drew members' attention to a press release which had been circulated to members announcing the NVQ Level 2 achievement in Waste Management Operations (Collections) by Environmental Services staff.

A member announced that Cllrs Shand and Dr Whitehead were regrettably unable to attend the Council meeting as the Clerk of Fordingbridge Council; a long standing employee of that council, was retiring the same evening.

On behalf of all members of the Council, the Chairman expressed his best wishes for an speedy recovery to Cllr Davies who was unwell.

7. MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES AND PANELS.

RESOLVED:

That the following changes in the membership of committees and panels be agreed: -

(a) Appeals Committee

That Cllrs Mrs Jackman and Shotter be appointed to serve on the Committee in place of Cllrs E Heron and Mrs Wyeth

(b) Corporate Overview Review Panel

That Cllr Wappet be appointed to serve on the Corporate Overview Review Panel in place of Cllr Penwarden.

(c) Crime & Disorder Review Panel

That Cllr Kendal be appointed to serve on the Crime & Disorder Review Panel in place of Cllr Tipp.

(d) Environment Review Panel

That Cllr Dow be appointed to serve on the Environment Review Panel in place of Cllr Mrs Lovelace.

(e) General Purposes & Licensing Committee

That Cllr Woods be appointed to serve on the General Purposes & Licensing Committee in place of Cllr Puttock.

(f) Leisure, Culture & Youth Matters Review Panel

That Cllr Mrs Rostand be appointed to serve on the Leisure, Culture & Youth Matters Review Panel in place of Cllr Puttock.

8. CONSTITUTION OF CABINET AND PORTFOLIOS.

RESOLVED:

That the number and content of Cabinet Portfolios as shown in Appendix 1 to these minutes be agreed.

CHAIRMAN

Attachment: Minute 8 – Appendix 1

APPENDIX 1

1. The functions of the Cabinet shall be divided into Portfolios agreed by the Council.
2. The Leader shall allocate responsibility for each Portfolio to a Member of the Cabinet who shall be known as a Portfolio Holder.
3. The Portfolio Holder shall provide the political vision and leadership for each of the services contained within his/her Portfolio.
4. The responsibilities of the Portfolio Holders for the functions and services contained within each of the Portfolios approved by the Council, and referred to below, shall be as described in the Annexes to Chapter 4 to the Constitution:-

Policy and Resources

Functions and Services included:

- Corporate and Community Plans
- Performance Management
- Political and Management Structures
- Financial Strategy
- Risk Management
- Communications
- Human Resources Strategy
- Service Specific Grants
- Other Corporate Matters

Crime and Disorder

Functions and Services included:

- Crime and Disorder
- Community Safety
- Emergency Planning
- Road Safety
- Service Specific Grants

Employment, Health and Wellbeing

Functions and Services included

- Economic Development
- Business Partnership
- Tourism
- Adult Learning
- Personal Health
- Social Inclusion
- Environmental Health Services
- The Council's Health and Safety Responsibilities as an Employer
- Service Specific Grants
- Meals on Wheels and Sheltered Housing Catering

Environment

Functions and Services included:

- Sustainability co-ordination
- Refuse Collection
- Street Cleaning
- Grounds Maintenance
- Recycling
- Public Conveniences
- Abandoned Vehicles
- Cemeteries
- Coastal Protection
- Land Drainage and Sewerage (other than in the public health context)

Finance and Efficiency

Functions and Services included:

- Value for Money
- Information and Communications Technology
- Asset Management
- Commercial Services
- Capital and Revenue Budgets
- Council Tax and Benefits
- National Non-Domestic Rates and Discretionary Non-domestic rate relief
- Central Support Services
- Employee and Civic Catering

Housing

Functions and Services included:

- Housing Strategy
- Housing Investment Programme
- Housing Service Delivery
- Improvement Grants

Leisure, Culture and Youth Matters

Functions and Services included:

- Arts
- Play
- Sport
- Recreation
- Museums
- Galleries
- Libraries
- Children and Youth Matters
- Open Space
- Leisure related and other non-service specific and core funding grants (but not CAB or Community First)
- Eling Tide Mill/Tollbridge
- Catering at Health and Leisure Centres and Dibden Golf Centre

Planning & Transportation

Functions and Services included:

- Planning Strategy
- Development Plans
- Building Control
- Transportation
- Car Park Management
- Concessionary Travel
- Highways Agency and Highways Development Control Advice
- Street Naming and Numbering
- Local Land Charges