

14 SEPTEMBER 2009

NEW FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the New Forest District Council held at Appletree Court, Lyndhurst on Monday, 14 September 2009.

- p Cllr L R Puttock - Chairman
- p Cllr Mrs P A Wyeth – Vice-Chairman

Councillors:

- p G C Beck
- p D A Britton
- p Mrs D M Brooks
- p Mrs F Carpenter
- p Mrs J L Cleary
- p G F Dart
- p S P Davies
- p W H Dow
- p L T Dunsdon
- p Ms L C Ford
- p H F Forse
- e P C Greenfield
- p C J Harrison
- p D Harrison
- p E J Heron
- p J D Heron
- p P E Hickman
- p Mrs A J Hoare
- p Mrs M D Holding
- p J A G Hutchins
- p Mrs P Jackman
- p M J Kendal
- e 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

Councillors:

- p G J Parkes
- p Sqn Ldr B M F Pemberton
- p J Penwarden
- p M P Reid
- e A W Rice
- p B Rickman
- p W S Rippon-Swaine
- p Mrs M J Robinson
- e Mrs A M Rostand
- e D J Russell
- p R F Scrivens
- p Lt Col M J Shand
- p A E J Shotter
- p Mrs B Smith
- p Mrs S I Snowden
- p A J Swain
- p 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
- p Dr M N Whitehead
- p C A Wise
- e P R Woods

Officers Attending:

D Yates, R Jackson, J Mascall, Miss G O'Rourke and Ms M Stephens.

17. MINUTES.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 20 July 2009, having been circulated, be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

18. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

Cllr Kendal in Minute No 19 - item 2 of the report of the Cabinet dated 2 September.

19. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS.

The Chairman reported that he had hosted the 'Swing into Summer' event on Sunday, 16 August when approximately 170 people had attended to hear the Pete Weston Swing Band. The event had been in aid of the Chairman's two charities, Simon Says and the Stroke Association.

The Chairman thanked all who attended the event and gave their support, most importantly Donna Louise Miller and Rosemary Rutins for all their hard work in organising the day, and members of New Forest Rotary who helped as stewards.

The Chairman announced that he would be holding his civic day on Friday, 18 September where he would show other civic heads from Hampshire, Dorset and the Isle of Wight the delights of the New Forest. This would provide the opportunity to showcase the district and to demonstrate some of the good work taking place in the Forest.

The theme of the day was 'Brand New Forest', to support the campaign aimed at invigorating the forest's economy. Most of the food and drink consumed during the day would hold the New Forest Marque or would be locally sourced. The Chairman hoped to promote New Forest produce as much as possible on the day.

20. REPORTS OF CABINET.

Cllr Kendal declared a personal interest as a member of Hampshire County Council in item 2 of the Cabinet report dated 2 September. He did not consider his interest to be prejudicial and he remained in the meeting for the consideration of this item.

The Leader of the Council, as Chairman of the Cabinet, presented the reports of the Cabinet dated 5 August and 2 September 2009.

Financial Report – Outturn Projection Based on Performance to July 2009

The Leader announced that owing to the significant reduction of income from sunbeds and the need to replace some of these, the provision of sunbeds in Health and Leisure Centres would cease after fulfilling existing commitments to customers.

The Leader of the Opposition said that the Liberal Democrat Group had long opposed the provision of sunbeds within the Council's leisure centres due to their obvious hazards and he therefore welcomed the decision of the Leader to remove these from all of the Council's leisure centres.

On the motion that the reports be received and the recommendation be adopted, it was

RESOLVED:

That the reports be received and the recommendation adopted.

21. QUESTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDER 22.

There were none.

22. PORTFOLIO HOLDERS' QUESTION TIME.

Cllr D Harrison had submitted a question to the Leisure, Culture and Youth Matters Portfolio Holder on the provision of sunbeds, but due to the announcement made by the Leader earlier in the meeting to the effect that the sunbeds were to be withdrawn, he formally withdrew his question.

Question from: Cllr Hickman to Cllr E Heron (Environment Portfolio Holder)

"Will the Portfolio Holder strongly encourage all elected members and council staff to sign up personally to the nation-wide 10:10 initiative, which entails a 10% reduction of one's personal carbon footprint by the end of 2010?"

Answer:

The Portfolio Holder replied that the recently announced 10:10 initiative was one to be welcomed as it fitted well with what the Council was seeking to achieve in terms of reducing its carbon footprint and influencing a reduction in the carbon footprint of the district. A 10% target for some was more easily achievable than for others depending on how well they had been working already to reduce their own impact on the environment. He noted that achievement of anything over 3% for organisations was something that would be celebrated and that was welcomed.

The Portfolio Holder said that he was happy to arrange for links to this initiative to be included on the Council's website and on ForestNet and for opportunities to be taken to promote the initiative both externally and internally. He would also be working with officers and partners to achieve carbon reductions, partly through the implementation of the Green Audit improvement plans, and would take opportunities at the County level to influence others to do the right thing.

The Portfolio Holder found pledges less important than taking action. Many of the things individuals could do were relatively simple such as reducing consumption, re-using and recycling of materials more. In these days of high energy costs people should be, and many were much more aware of energy saving measures, reducing car journeys or choosing more energy efficient transport and appliances. If the 10:10 initiative raised awareness and helped people do the right thing then he hoped the initiative would do well. But it was only one approach and the Council needed to identify other ways of trying to influence people's current practices that created waste and pollution.

In response to a supplementary question regarding whether the Council would undertake to monitor these commitments and publicize the outcomes, the Portfolio Holder replied that he would monitor the Council's commitment but that it would be extremely difficult and impractical to monitor all member and officer activity.

23. CHANGES TO COMMITTEES AND PANELS.

There were none.

CHAIRMAN

(DEMOCRAT/CL140909/MINUTES.DOC)