

18 MAY 2015

NEW FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the New Forest District Council held in the COUNCIL CHAMBER, APPLETREE COURT, LYNDHURST on Monday, 18 May 2015

- * Cllr Mrs M D Holding (Chairman)
- * Cllr Mrs A J Hoare (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors:

- * A R Alvey
- Mrs D E Andrews
- W G Andrews
- * P J Armstrong
- * G C Beck
- * Mrs S V Beeton
- * Ms R Bellows
- * Mrs S M Bennison
- * J E Binns
- * G R Blunden
- * D A Britton
- * Mrs D M Brooks
- * Mrs F Carpenter
- * Mrs L D Cerasoli
- * S J Clarke
- * Mrs J L Cleary
- * I C Coombes
- * Ms K V Crisell
- * S P Davies
- * A H G Davis
- * W H Dow
- * Ms L C Ford
- * R L Frampton
- * A T Glass
- * L E Harris
- * M R Harris
- * D Harrison
- * J D Heron
- * E J Heron

Councillors:

- Mrs P Jackman
- * M J Kendal
- * Mrs E L Lane
- * Mrs P J Lovelace
- * B D Lucas
- * Mrs A E McEvoy
- * A D O'Sullivan
- * J M Olliff-Cooper
- * N S Penman
- * A K Penson
- * D M S Poole
- * L R Puttock
- * B Rickman
- * W S Rippon-Swaine
- * Mrs A M Rostand
- * D J Russell
- * Miss A Sevier
- * M A Steele
- * M H Thierry
- * Mrs B J Thorne
- * D B Tipp
- * D N Tungate
- * A S Wade
- * R A Wappet
- * J G Ward
- * Mrs C V Ward
- * M L White
- * C A Wise
- * Mrs P A Wyeth

*Present

Apologies:

were received from Cllrs Mrs Andrews, W Andrews and Mrs Jackman.

Officers Attending:

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

The Chairman of the Council, Cllr Mrs Holding, in the Chair.

1 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Cllr Mrs Holding moved that Cllr Mrs Hoare be elected Chairman of the Council for the ensuing municipal year. The motion was seconded by Cllr Mrs Wyeth.

RESOLVED:

That Cllr Mrs Hoare be elected Chairman of the Council to continue in office until her successor becomes entitled to act as Chairman at the next annual meeting of the Council.

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

Cllr Mrs Holding invested the Chairman with the Chain and Badge of Office and a bouquet of flowers, and presented Mr Hoare, the Chairman's consort, with a gift.

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

The Chairman thanked members of the Council for electing her as Chairman.

2 VOTE OF THANKS TO CLLR MRS HOLDING

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

The Chairman, in paying tribute to Cllr Mrs Holding, said that Cllr Mrs Holding had been held in high esteem by colleagues and residents alike during her term as Chairman. She had proved to be excellent ambassador for the New Forest, and had worked tirelessly to ensure that the New Forest was well represented and showcased.

The motion was seconded.

Members spoke in support of the motion. They said that Cllr Mrs Holding, with the support of her husband, had worked very hard during her year in office and had been very successful in her charitable fundraising. She had represented the people of the New Forest District in an exemplary manner, attending a large number of events both within and outside the District, and had been a great ambassador for the Council.

Other members referred to the commitment and hard work displayed by Cllr Mrs Holding during her time in office.

The Chief Executive thanked Cllr Mrs Holding for her tireless work during her year as Chairman.

RESOLVED:

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

Cllr Mrs Holding thanked members for their kind wishes. She said that it had been a great privilege to serve as Chairman of the Council. She had thoroughly enjoyed her time in office. Cllr Mrs Holding thanked in particular colleagues she had met

over the last year, who had made her time as Chairman enjoyable. She also thanked those who had helped organise her civic day, which had provided an invaluable opportunity to showcase the New Forest.

Cllr Mrs Holding thanked colleagues and officers for helping to raise funds for her charities, the Hampshire and IOW Air Ambulance, the Nalder Benevolent Fund and Oakhaven Hospice. Representatives from the Hampshire and IOW Air Ambulance and the Nalder Benevolent Fund were in attendance and gratefully received cheques from Cllr Mrs Holding. The Chairman had raised £7,918 for her two charities. In addition the goods donated as part of the Oakhaven spring clean appeal had an estimated value of £10,000.

3 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

It was moved by Cllr O'Sullivan and seconded by Cllr Mrs Ward that Cllr Beck be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Council for the ensuing municipal year.

RESOLVED:

That Cllr Beck 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 Beck made the declaration of acceptance of office, which was formally witnessed by the Chief Executive. The Chairman invested Cllr Beck with his badge of office and presented the Vice-Chairman's consort, Mrs Beck, with flowers.

4 APPOINTMENT OF LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

It was moved by Cllr E J Heron and seconded by Cllr Glass that Cllr Rickman be appointed Leader of the Council.

RESOLVED:

That Cllr Rickman be appointed Leader of the Council for the four year period until May 2019.

5 MINUTES (PAPER A)

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 13 April 2015 be agreed as a correct record.

6 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman welcomed all members to the first Council meeting of the four year term, following the elections on 7 May. She particularly welcomed the 18 new members joining the Council for the first time. She was sure that returning councillors would be happy to assist their new colleagues. The Chairman announced that her charities for the year would be Oakhaven Hospice and the Firefly Orphanage in Kathmandu.

The Chairman explained that whilst her second charity was not a local charity, given the two recent catastrophic earthquakes in Nepal and the devastation that these had caused, she felt it appropriate to raise funds in support of the children who had lost families and homes as a result of these tragic events. She hoped that other members would support her in her fundraising for both charities.

7 LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Leader of the Council thanked the Returning Officer, the Deputy Returning Officer and the staff who had assisted in the elections on 7 May for their hard work particularly in light of the extra demands in the electoral process this year.

8 APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY LEADER, NUMBER AND CONTENT OF PORTFOLIOS AND APPOINTMENT OF PORTFOLIO HOLDERS

The Leader of the Council informed the Council that:

(a) He had appointed Cllr E J Heron as Deputy Leader of the Council and Vice-Chairman of the Cabinet;

(b) The Portfolio Holders were:-

Leader's Portfolio – Cllr Barry Rickman

Environment – Cllr Sophie Beeton

Finance and Efficiency – Cllr Jeremy Heron

Health and Leisure – Cllr James Binns

Housing and Communities – Cllr Jill Cleary

Planning and Transportation – Cllr Edward Heron

and that the content of each portfolio would be as set out below.

1) Leader's Portfolio - Portfolio Holder Cllr Barry Rickman

- Corporate Plan and Financial Strategy
- Communications and Community Engagement
- Employment and Tourism
- Human Resources
- Performance and Risk Management
- Equality and Fairness
- Emergency Planning
- Political and Management Structures

2) Environment – Portfolio Holder Cllr Sophie Beeton

- Refuse Collection
- Street Cleaning
- Abandoned Vehicles
- Cemeteries

- Coastal Protection and Drainage Issues
- Environmental Health Services
- Grounds Maintenance
- Public Conveniences
- Recycling
- Sustainability Co-ordination
- Open Spaces

3) Finance and Efficiency – Portfolio Holder Cllr Jeremy Heron

- Asset Management/Property Services
- Council Tax and Benefits
- Customer Services
- Financial Services
- Information and Communications Technology
- Legal and Democratic Services

4) Health and Leisure – Portfolio Holder Cllr James Binns

- Leisure Services
- Children and Youth Matters
- Health and Wellbeing (other than Environmental Health)
- Older Persons' Matters

5) Housing and Communities – Portfolio Holder Cllr Jill Cleary

- Housing Strategy
- Housing Service Delivery
- Crime and Disorder
- Improvement Grants

6) Planning and Transportation – Portfolio Holder Cllr Edward Heron

- Planning Strategy/Policy
- Development Plans
- Building Control
- Local Land Charges
- Transportation and Car Parking
- Highways Matters
- Listed Buildings and Conservation

RESOLVED:

That the Head of Legal and Democratic Services be authorised to make any consequential changes to the Constitution arising from the above.

9 REPORT OF THE RETURNING OFFICER (REPORT B)

RESOLVED:

That the report of the Returning Officer be received and noted.

10 POLITICAL REPRESENTATION ON COMMITTEES**RESOLVED:**

That appointments be made to committees and panels in accordance with the principles for the allocation of seats to political groups as set out in Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, except in those cases where it is decided, without any member voting against, not to apply the principles of proportionality.

11 APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES AND PANELS (REPORT C)**RESOLVED:**

That the following members be appointed to the Committees/Panels.

APPEALS COMMITTEE (20 members)**Conservative (19)****Liberal Democrat (1)****Councillors:**

A R Alvey
 Mrs D E Andrews
 W Andrews
 Mrs S M Bennison
 S J Clarke
 Ms L C Ford
 R L Frampton
 A T Glass
 Mrs M D Holding
 Mrs A E McEvoy
 N S Penman
 L R Puttock
 Mrs A M Rostand
 D B Tipp
 N Tungate
 R A Wappet
 Mrs C V Ward
 C A Wise
 Mrs P A Wyeth

Councillor:

D Harrison

AUDIT COMMITTEE (8 members)**Conservative (8)****Councillors:**

W Andrews
 M R Harris
 J D Heron
 Mrs E Lane
 A D O'Sullivan
 R A Wappet
 John G Ward
 C A Wise

GENERAL PURPOSES AND LICENSING COMMITTEE (15 members)**Conservative (14)****Liberal Democrat (1)****Councillors:**

G C Beck
 G Blunden
 S J Clarke
 Ms L C Ford
 R L Frampton
 A T Glass
 L Harris
 J Olliff-Cooper
 A Penson
 L R Puttock
 N Tungate
 Mrs C V Ward
 J G Ward
 Mrs P A Wyeth

Councillor:

A Wade

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE (16 members – Cllrs (8), Employee Side (8))**Conservative (8)****Councillors:**

Mrs D M Brooks
 E J Heron
 J D Heron
 Mrs M D Holding
 M R Harris
 B Rickman
 M Steele
 C A Wise

Substitutes:

J G Ward
 Ms K Crisell

PLANNING DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE (20 members)**Conservative (19)****Liberal Democrat (1)****Councillors:**

Mrs D E Andrews
 P Armstrong
 Mrs S M Bennison
 Mrs F Carpenter
 A Davis
 R L Frampton
 L Harris
 Mrs A J Hoare
 Mrs M D Holding
 A Penson
 W S Rippon-Swaine

Councillor:

D Harrison

Mrs A M Rostand
Miss A Sevier
M H Thierry
R A Wappet
Mrs C V Ward
M White
Mrs P A Wyeth
Vacancy

CORPORATE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL (10 members)

Conservative (10)

Councillors:

A R Alvey
W Andrews
M R Harris
M J Kendal
Mrs A E McEvoy
A D O'Sullivan
Mrs A M Rostand
M Steele
D B Tipp
C A Wise

COMMUNITY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL (10 members)

Conservative (10)

Councillors:

D A Britton
Ms L Cerasoli
I Coombes
Ms K Crisell
S P Davies
A Davis
Mrs P J Lovelace
N S Penman
D J Russell
M White

ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL (10 members)

Conservative (10)

Councillors:

P Armstrong
Ms R Bellows
G Blunden
Mrs F Carpenter
Ms L C Ford
A T Glass
J Olliff-Cooper

D Poole
W S Rippon-Swaine
Mrs B J Thorne

Chairman