

COUNCIL

15 September 2010

Present:-

The Worshipful the Mayor

(Councillor Mrs Ann Heames) in the Chair

COUNCILLORS

Bannister, James MacKenzie
Barber, Christian Stephen
Becket, David William
Beech, Mrs Ann Elizabeth
Bishop, Mrs Elizabeth Ellen
Boden, Edward Michael
Bowyer, Mrs Sandra Phyllis
Braithwaite, Mrs Eileen
Burgess, Mrs Silvia
Burke, Mrs Yvonne Carmel
Cairns, George O'Kane
Clarke, David
Clarke, Michael Ross
Cooper, John, CC
Cooper, Miss Julie Margaret
Cornes, Mrs C Dylis, JP CC
Daniels, David Ephraim
Fear, Andrew Thomas
Gilmore, Ian David
Hailstones, Mrs Linda
Hailstones, Peter James, JP
Hambleton, Mrs Sandra
Hambleton, Trevor
Howells, Robert Ashley
Huckfield, Derrick, CC
Jones, William Nigel
Lewis, Mrs Barbara Mary

Matthews, Ian John
Morrey, Mrs Tina
Morris, Mrs Helen Mary JP
Naylon, Mrs Wenslie
Nixon, David Ernest, CC
Olszewski, Mark Joseph, JP
Reddish, Marion Lynne
Richards, Dennis John
Robinson, Kyle
Shenton, Mrs Elizabeth A R
Short, Miss Susan Elizabeth
Simpson, Mrs Sandra Jean
Snell, Gareth Craig
Studd, Robin
Sweeney, Stephen J M, CC
Tagg, John Henry
Tagg, Simon John, CC
Taylor, Kyle-Noel
Tomkins, Brian Ronald
Walklate, Miss June
Welsh, Billy
Wemyss, Andrew Robert
Wilkes, Ian Frank
Williams, Mrs Gill
Williams, John
Woolley, David Anthony

231. **APOLOGIES**

An apology was received from Councillor Mrs Johnson.

232. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Resolved:- That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 28 July 2010 be approved as a correct record.

233. VACANCIES ON COMMITTEES

Resolved:- That appointments to Committees be made as follows:-

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Nomination</u>
Planning Committee	Councillor Daniels
Transformation and Resources	Councillor Mrs Burgess
Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee	Councillor Morrey (to replace Councillor Wemyss)
Conservation Advisory Working Party	Councillor Wemyss (to replace Councillor Richards)

234. MARK BARROW

Members were reminded that the current Chief Executive, Mark Barrow would be leaving the Council's employ on 24 September 2010 to take up a position with Birmingham City Council and Members paid tribute to his work on behalf of the Council since his appointment in April 2007.

Mr Barrow responded suitably.

Resolved:- That the thanks of Members be placed on record for the excellent service Mr Barrow has given to the Council.

235. INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Consideration was given to the appointment of an interim Chief Executive to enable the Council to retain senior management capacity and to ensure the effective discharge of the Council's Constitution pending the recruitment of a new Chief Executive.

Resolved:- That the Council support the appointment of Alan Hill as the Council's Interim Chief Executive and Head of Paid Service pending the recruitment of the new Chief Executive.

236. ANNUAL REPORT 2009/10

Consideration was given to the Council's 2009/10 Annual Report which provided information on the Council's performance and resources used to deliver it.

There was no legal requirement on the Council to produce a report but it was perceived as best practice and reflected the Council's desire to promote external accountability.

Resolved:- (a) That the Annual Report for 2009/10 be received and the thanks of Members conveyed to all employees for their achievement in the Council's progress.

(b) That representatives of Staffordshire Police be invited to a subsequent Council meeting to outline their plans for future policing in the

Borough in particular and North Staffordshire as a whole in the light of the current budget restrictions.

Councillors Miss Reddish, Tomkins and Mrs Bowyer declared an interest in the following item as either a Member or prospective Member of the Aspire Housing Board and left the meeting during consideration of the following item

Councillor Boden also declared an interest in the item as a current tenant of Aspire Housing but remained and took part in the discussion thereon.

237. ASPIRE HOUSING'S PROPOSED GROUP STRUCTURE

A report was submitted outlining proposals by Aspire Housing to form a company group structure comprising Aspire Housing, PM Training and the Realise Foundation.

Details of the proposed Board structure was submitted for consideration.

Resolved:- (a) That the proposal from Aspire Housing to form a company group structure be endorsed in principle subject to conditions securing appropriate accountability/performance reporting, as well as a nominated place for the Council on the Group's Board.

(b) That the officers be authorised, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration and Planning, to work with the Company's Board/representatives to agree the precise details of the proposals.

(c) That written reassurances be received by the Council to ensure that the Aspire Housing Group continues to prioritise investment in Newcastle as part of the Group Strategy and Intra-group Agreement enabling Aspire Housing Board to continue local investment to meet housing need.

238. STATEMENT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

Consideration was given to a statement submitted by the Leader of the Council detailing the activities and recent decisions of the Cabinet and items included in the Forward Plan.

Questions were put and responses received from the Leader and other Cabinet Members on a number of issues raised.

Resolved:- That the statement of the Leader of the Council be received.

239. REPORTS OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE CHAIRS

The Chairs of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees gave verbal reports on the activities of the various Committees for the consideration of the Council.

Resolved:- That the reports of the Chairs of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees be received.

MRS A HEAMES
Chair