

COUNCIL

16 December 2009

Present:- The Worshipful the Mayor

(Councillor Miss Marion Reddish) in the Chair

COUNCILLORS

Bannister, James MacKenzie	Huckfield, Derrick, CC
Barber, Christian Stephen	Johnson, Mrs Hilda
Becket, David William	Maskery, Philip
Beech, Mrs Ann Elizabeth	Matthews, Ian John
Bishop, Mrs Elizabeth Ellen	Maxfield, Mrs Mary Cynthia, CC
Blair, Stephen Paul	Morrey, Mrs Tina
Blake, Mrs Elaine Elizabeth	Morris, Mrs Helen Mary JP
Bowyer, Mrs Sandra Phyllis	Myatt, Mrs Freda Dorothea
Braithwaite, Mrs Eileen	Naylon, Mrs Wenslie
Burgess, Mrs Silvia	Nixon, David Ernest, CC
Burke, Mrs Yvonne Carmel	Richards, Dennis John
Clarke, David	Slater, Raymond André
Cooley, Andrew Robin	Studd, Robin
Cooper, Miss Julie Margaret	Sweeney, Stephen J M, CC
Cooper, John, CC	Tagg, John Henry
Cornes, Mrs C Dylis, JP CC	Tagg, Simon John, CC
Daniels, David Ephraim	Tomkins, Brian Ronald
Gilmore, Ian David	Walklate, Miss June
Hambleton, Mrs Sandra	Wemyss, Andrew Robert
Hambleton, Trevor	Wilkes, Ian Frank
Heames, Mrs Ann	Williams, John
Holland, Stephen Alan	Woolley, David Anthony

536. **COUNCILLOR MRS NORA SALT**

The Mayor referred to the recent death of Councillor Mrs Nora Salt.

Following a minute's silence, Members paid tribute to the work and service undertaken by Mrs Salt on behalf of the Council and the ward that she represented and served.

537. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Councillors Fear, Foy, Gorton, Mrs Hailstones, Hailstones, Mrs Lewis, MacMillan, Mrs Moss, Mrs Shenton, Mrs Simpson, Simpson and Mrs Williams

538. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

Resolved:- That the minutes of the meeting held on 28 October 2009 be approved as a true and correct record.

539. PRESENTATION – PHASE 2 OF THE NEW RECYCLING SERVICE

Members received a presentation by Mr Trevor Nicoll and Miss Nesta Henshaw of the Council's Waste Strategy Team in respect of the introduction of phase two of the new recycling service in March 2010.

Resolved:- That Mr Nicoll and Miss Henshaw be thanked for the presentation.

540. PRESENTATION – GROWTH FUND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE

Members received a presentation from Mrs Denise Smallman, Head of Neighbourhoods and Partnerships, in respect of a growth fund administered by the Department of Work and Pensions to increase the availability of personal loans via third sector lenders such as Credit Unions and Community Development Finance Institutions.

Resolved:- That Mrs Smallman be thanked for the presentation.

541. GAMBLING ACT 2005 – STATEMENT OF GAMBLING POLICY

A report was submitted seeking agreement to recommended changes to the Council's Gambling Policy.

The policy had been the subject of a consultation process following which amendments to the policy had been considered by the Licensing Committee.

Resolved:- That the revised Gambling Policy be agreed.

542. LICENSING ACT 2003 – MINOR VARIATIONS TO PREMISES LICENCES

A report was submitted detailing changes to the process for minor variations under the Licensing Act 2003.

The Government had introduced a new process to allow licensed premises to make some minor variations to licences without recourse to the full 28 day consultation process and referral to the Licensing Sub-Committee. The Licensing Committee had considered the proposal and supported

Resolved:- That the Council's Scheme of Delegation be amended to delegate the granting of minor variation applications where representations have been received to the Chief Executive.

543. 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 were received from the Leader and other Cabinet Members on a number of matters raised.

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

544. REPORTS OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE CHAIRS

The Chairs of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees referred to the various activities that had been undertaken since the previous meeting of the Council.

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

545. MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR BECKET

A motion was submitted by Councillor Becket in respect of the 10:10 Campaign, which is a project to unite every sector of British society to achieve a 10% cut in the UK's carbon emissions in 2010.

Resolved:- (a) That Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council notes:

- (i) That climate change predictions show that without severe cuts in greenhouse gas emissions, the world will be hit by drought, flooding and famine affecting all of us and poorest countries in particular. Some of these countries are already suffering from the effects of climate change. This is an issue of social justice as well as a call to take environmental action.
- (ii) That a reduction in energy costs is a most effective way of reducing the council budget without affecting front line services.
- (iii) That the supply of oil will peak, it is therefore vital that we concentrate on energy efficiency and exploring alternatives to oil.
- (iv) That the Jubilee Pool is the largest single source of carbon emissions under the control of the council a substantial cut in emissions will not take place until the pool is replaced by an energy efficient Leisure Centre. However commitment to 10:10 will concentrate the efforts of individual council departments and ensure that we have robust plans in place to make substantial cuts over the next five years.
- (v) That some positive actions have already taken place, including the appointment of a Climate Change Officer, and the replacement of our refuse fleet with vehicles to Euro 5 standard. We now have a Climate Change Group chaired by a Corporate Director.
- (vi) The forthcoming Energy Efficiency and Climate Change Strategy will contain detailed action plans as to how our targets and commitments will be reached.

(b) That this Council supports the aims and ambitions of the 10:10 Campaign and, in principle, signs up for the 10:10 Campaign.

546. EMERGENCY MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR BECKET

A motion was submitted by Councillor Becket in respect of recognising the success of the Halmer End Youth Association, which received a Philip Lawrence Award from the Secretary of State for Children, Schools and Families for its work in promoting positive images of young people in the village.

Resolved:- (a) That this Council congratulates the Halmer End Youth Association on their receipt of a Philip Lawrence Award.

(b) That this Council recognises their valuable work on promoting positive images of young people within the community.

(c) That this Council notes that ten youth organisations received awards. Halmer End Youth Association represented the West Midlands and were the only rural group to win an award.

547. **COMPREHENSIVE AREA ASSESSMENT**

Members were advised of the recent publication of the Organisational Assessment of the Borough Council by the Audit Commission which detailed the current performance of the authority against the new Comprehensive Area Assessment framework.

Resolved:- (a) That the comments of the Audit Commission be noted.

(b) That all staff be thanked for their hard work in helping the Council to achieve an improved rating.

MISS M L REDDISH
Chair