

DISTRICT COUNCIL OF SEVENOAKS

Minutes of the Meeting of the Sevenoaks District Council held on 9 November 2010 commencing at 7 p.m.

Present: Cllr. Loney (Chairman)

Cllr. Orridge (Vice-Chairman)

Cllrs. Abraham, Arnold, Bosley, Mrs. Bosley, Brigden, Brookbank, Mrs. Broomby, Bruce, Mrs. Clark, Cole, Mrs. Cook, Cooke, Darrington, Davison, Mrs. Davison, Mrs. Dawson, Fleming, Gaywood, Gilbert, Grint, Harrod, Mrs. Hunter, Lankester, London, Mrs. Lowe, McGarvey, McInnes, Ms. Moore, Mrs. Morris, Mrs. Parkin, Piper, Mrs. Purves, Ramsay, Mrs. Sargeant, Scholey, Underwood, Waller, Walshe and Wigg.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. Mrs. Bracken, Coates, Dibsall, Pett, Ryan, Miss Stack and Williamson.

37. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Chairman proposed that the Minutes of the ordinary and extraordinary meetings of the Council held on 14 September 2010 be approved and signed as correct records.

Resolved: That the Minutes of the ordinary and extraordinary meetings of the Council held on 14 September 2010 be approved and signed by the Chairman as correct records.

38. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr. Mrs. Dawson reported that her declaration and Cllr. Mrs. Parkin's declaration with regard to taxi licensing should read "Colin Annett" instead of "Colin Arnell".

There were no further declarations of interest.

39. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman informed Members of the principles he would follow should it be necessary to use the Chairman's casting vote. Whilst informing Members that the Chairman's discretion in using the casting vote could not be fettered, he stated that when using the casting vote he would:

- Vote for further discussion (i.e. referral back to Cabinet/Committee) where this is possible;
- That where no further discussion is possible, positive decisions for action should only be taken by a majority and therefore not by use of the casting vote. The Chairman would not vote for a budget motion where there was not a majority, unless a decision was forced by a statutory time limit to set a Council Tax.

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- That where a casting vote would create a final decision the Chairman would use the casting vote to maintain the existing status quo.

The Chairman also informed Members that at the half way stage of his Civic year, he and the Vice-Chairman had attended 115 events in 120 working days. He ensured that all invitations accepted furthered the aims of the Community Plan and his own aim for the civic year of demonstrating that Sevenoaks District was a great place to live in, work and to visit.

He informed Members that his target was for 90% of non-ceremonial events attended to be within Sevenoaks District or adjoining Districts where the organisation's area of operation straddled both Districts. He was currently at 87% but was hopeful that the 90% target would be met by the end of December.

40. TO RECEIVE ANY PETITIONS SUBMITTED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

None were received.

41. MATTERS CONSIDERED BY THE CABINET AND/OR OTHER COMMITTEES

A. Statement of Licensing Policy

Cllr. Mrs. Broomby moved and Cllr. Davison seconded, that the recommendation of the Licensing Committee be adopted.

Resolved: That the Statement of Licensing Policy, including the amendments identified in Appendix B to the report, be adopted.

B. Executive Leadership Models

Cllr. Fleming moved and Cllr. Mrs. Davison seconded that the recommendation of the Cabinet be adopted.

Resolved:

- (a) That the Council agrees to move to a new-style Leader and Cabinet Executive Model, as set out in the report and the Appendix.
- (b) That the Council's Constitution be amended as set out in the appendices to the report, with effect from 9 May 2011.

C. Christmas Car Parking Arrangements

Cllr. Fleming moved and Cllr. Mrs. Davison seconded that the recommendation of the Cabinet be adopted.

Resolved: That approval be given to a Supplementary Budget provision to provide free parking in all car parks and on-street parking areas throughout the District for the two Saturdays before Christmas Day 2010.

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42. REPORTS FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OR OTHER DIRECTORS ON MATTERS REQUIRING THE ATTENTION OF COUNCIL

None.

43. TO CONSIDER ANY QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS UNDER PARAGRAPH 19.3 OF PART 2 OF THE CONSTITUTION

None were received.

44. TO RECEIVE ANY QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC UNDER PARAGRAPH 17 OF PART 2 OF THE CONSTITUTION

None were received.

45. TO RECEIVE THE REPORT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL ON THE WORK OF THE CABINET SINCE THE LAST MEETING

The Leader informed the Council that the proposals for the Local Enterprise Partnership, which had included Kent and Essex, now also included East Sussex. This announcement had come three days after the announcement that the A21 widening would not happen for the next five years. This was of particular concern, as the widening of the A21 was a priority for the Districts in West Kent.

The Leader informed Members that he had attended a launch event for the new Local Enterprise Partnership at the House of Lords. He expressed concern that the businesses in the partnership tended to represent developers and property companies and that there had been some suggestion that there had been requests for the partnership to have increased compulsory purchase order powers and some of the former Development Agencies' planning powers. The three county councils had suggested that they could provide some highways improvements, including the third Lower Thames crossing, if some funding was provided by the Highways Agency. He stated that the Council would continue to lobby hard for the widening of the A21.

There were no questions asked by Members.

46. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMEN OF THE SELECT COMMITTEES ON THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEES SINCE THE LAST COUNCIL MEETING

There were no questions on the report.

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47. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PERFORMANCE AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE ON THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE SINCE THE LAST COUNCIL MEETING

There were no questions on the report.

THE MEETING WAS CONCLUDED AT 7.24 P.M.

Chairman