

DISTRICT COUNCIL OF SEVENOAKS

Minutes of the Meeting of the Sevenoaks District Council held on 16 October 2012 commencing at 7.00 pm

Present: Cllr. Mrs. Morris (Chairman)

Cllrs. Abraham, Mrs. Ayres, Ayres, Mrs. Bayley, Ball, Mrs. Bracken, Brookbank, Butler, Ms. Chetram, Clark, Mrs. Clark, Mrs. Davison, Davison, Mrs. Dibsall, Dickins, Edwards-Winser, Eyre, Firth, Fittock, Fleming, Gaywood, Mrs. George, Hogarth, Horwood, Ms. Lowe, Maskell, McGarvey, Neal, Orridge, Mrs. Parkin, Piper, Mrs. Purves, Raikes, Mrs. Sargeant, Searles, Miss. Stack, Miss. Thornton, Towell, Underwood and Walshe

Apologies for absence: Cllrs Bosley, Mrs. Bosley, Brown, Mrs. Cook, Mrs. Dawson, Grint, Mrs. Hunter, Ramsay, Scholey and Pett

22. To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 24 July 2012

The Chairman proposed that the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 24 July 2012 be approved as a correct record.

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 24 July 2012 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

23. To receive any declarations of interest not included in the register of interest from Members in respect of items of business included on the agenda for this meeting.

24. Chairman's Announcements

There were no announcements.

25. To receive any petitions submitted by members of the public.

There were no petitions.

26. Matters considered by the Cabinet and/or other committees:

- (a) Shared Service Environmental Health Enforcement Policy

Councillor Fleming proposed and Councillor Mrs Bracken seconded that the revised Environmental Health Enforcement Policy be approved.

Resolved that the revised Environmental Health Policy be approved.

27. To consider the following reports from the Chief Executive or other Directors on matters requiring the attention of Council:

(b) New Standards Arrangements - Appointment of Independent Person

Councillor Fleming proposed and Councillor Mrs Bracken seconded that Mr John Henderson be appointed as Independent Person.

Following a vote, it was

Resolved: by a majority of the Council that Mr John Henderson be appointed as Independent Person.

(c) New Standards Arrangements - Appointment of Standards Committee

Councillor Fleming proposed and Councillor Mrs Davison seconded that Councillors Ball, Mrs Bracken, Mrs Dibsdall, Dickins, Firth, Gaywood and Mrs Purves be appointed to the Standards Committee.

Resolved: that Councillors Ball, Mrs Bracken, Mrs Dibsdall, Dickins, Firth, Gaywood and Mrs Purves be appointed to the Standards Committee.

28. To consider any questions by Members under paragraph 19.3 of Part 2 (The Council and District Council Members) of the Constitution, notice of which have been duly given.

There were no questions.

29. To receive any questions from members of the public under paragraph 17 of Part 2 (The Council and District Council Members) of the Constitution.

There were no questions.

30. To receive the report of the Leader of the Council on the work of the Cabinet since the last Council meeting.

The Leader introduced his report and reported that following changes that were being made to Council Tax and Council Tax benefits all Members would receive a full briefing. Any changes made to the budget resulting from the Governments announcements on Council Tax and Council Tax Benefit would be reviewed through the Committee process.

The Leader highlighted that West Kent Debt Advice ran an appointment based system. More information on the services provided by West Kent Debt Advice could be found at their website - <http://www.wkda.org.uk/>.

31. To receive a report from the Chairmen of the Select Committees on the work of the Committees since the last Council meeting.

The Council received reports from the Chairmen of the following Select Committees:

- Environment Select Committee – 4th September 2012
- Services Select Committee – 25th September 2012

32. To receive a report from the Chairmen of the Performance and Governance Committee on the work of the Committee since the last Council meeting.

The Council received a report from the Chairman of the Performance and Governance Committee on the work undertaken by the Committee at its meeting on 18th September 2012.

33. 10 Year Budget Savings Options

Councillor Fleming proposed and Councillor Mrs Davison seconded that the internal appointment proposal outlined in Option D be approved.

The Leader reported that Option D would provide the right combination of significant savings and succession planning from high calibre officers of outstanding track record.

A Member questioned whether the possibility of having a joint Chief Executive with both Directors fulfilling elements of the role had been considered and costed. In response the Leader stressed the need for the Council to have clear managerial and political leadership.

Resolved: that the internal appointment proposal outlined in Option D of the report be approved.

THE MEETING WAS CONCLUDED AT 7.15 pm

Chairman