

CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING

WEDNESDAY, 6 AUGUST 2008 AT 4.00 P.M.

COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC CENTRE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK

Notice is hereby given of the above mentioned meeting of the Council which you are summoned to attend for the purpose of transacting the business set out below:-

- 1. Apologies**
- 2. Declarations of Interests of Members in Contracts and Other Matters and Restriction on Voting by Members**

To declare any personal or prejudicial interests in accordance with the Code of Conduct and any possible contraventions under Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

Members should refer to the guidance included as part of this agenda.

- 3. Minutes**

To confirm the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 25 June 2008, Minute Nos. 12-29 and 30, Page Nos. 10–21 and 22.

- 4. The Chairman's Announcements and Correspondence**

5. Questions in Accordance with Rule 8

The following questions have been submitted by Councillor F.W.C Allen in accordance with Rule 8:

Question 1

"At the recent planning inquiry in connection with the closure and proposed sale of Cannock Stadium, the ruling alliance engaged a Queens Counsellor to conduct their case, bearing in mind that the Save Our Stadium team appointed a solicitor paid for by themselves and various donations from members of the public sympathetic to their cause. Would the appropriate Portfolio Leader care to enlighten us as to the cost of the QC, and if possible any other costs involved which would be borne by the Council and consequently by the ratepayers of the District?"

Question 2

"We now know that the Cannock Stadium closed on July 31st. During the course of the public inquiry, comment was made about consultations between the Council and officials of the Athletics Club. In the light of this, would the appropriate Portfolio Leader like to comment on the statement made by Mr. Fellows, the Secretary of the Athletics Club that no consultation prior to the decision to close took place and there was no discussion with regard to what facilities the club would have after the closure? It was also stated that Sport England had been consulted. Did this consultation take place before or after the decision was taken to close the facility? Mr. Fellows also commented that the timing of the closure was both inconvenient and unfortunate as the closure date was halfway through the club's season."

Question 3

"Would the appropriate Portfolio Leader care to comment about the inquiry itself, and the total organisational shambles at the outset of the event? Considering that the original intention to hold the inquiry in the Civic Suite was shelved at the last moment, and the venue changed to the Council Chamber. Would he like to comment on why there was insufficient seating for the public, why there was no initial microphone provision so that people could hear what was being said, and lastly for an occasion referred to as a public inquiry, why was there no signage whatsoever provided for the guidance of the general public? Indeed, throughout the four days of the inquiry this continued to be the case."

The Leader of the Council will provide an oral response at the meeting.

6. Part 1 Minutes of Cabinet, Committees and Panels

To (a) consider reports and determine recommendations and matters referred to the Council for specific determination and (b) receive for information details of resolutions in respect of powers and duties delegated by the Council in Part 1 Minutes of the following Cabinet, Committees, Committees and Panels: -

(a) Cabinet

- (i) 19 June 2008
Minutes 1-17
Page Nos. 1-6

(Members are asked to note that the recommendation contained within Minute 6 relating to "The Sustainable Community Strategy" was approved by Council on 25 June 2008).

(b) Scrutiny Committee

- (i) 2 June 2008
Minutes 1-6
Page Nos. 1-3

(c) Environment Select Committee

- (i) 7 April 2008
Minutes 28-30
Page Nos. 23-25

(d) Safer & Stronger Communities Select Committee

- (i) 31 March 2008
Minutes 23-24
Page Nos. 19-21

(e) Planning Control Committee

- (i) 28 May 2008
Minutes 1-8
Page Nos. 1-4
- (ii) 18 June 2008
Minutes 9-14
Page Nos. 5-8

7. Rent Restructuring Strategy

Report of the Director of Service Improvement (Enclosure 7.1 – 7.12)

8. Review of the Council's Constitution

Council is requested to note that the report of the Constitution Working Group outlining proposed changes to the Council's Constitution will be submitted to Council in September 2008.

9. Exclusion of the Public

The Chairman to propose the following motion:-

"That the public be excluded for the remainder of the meeting because of the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 1, 3 and 5, Part I, Schedule 12A, Local Government Act, 1972."

10. Part 2 Minutes of Cabinet, Committees, Select Committees and Panels

To (a) consider reports and determine recommendations and matters referred to the Council for specific determination and (b) receive for information details of resolutions in respect of powers and duties delegated by the Council in Part 2 Minutes of the following Cabinet, Panels, Committees and Select Committees: -

(a) Cabinet

- (i) 19 June 2008
Minutes 18-21
Page Nos. 7-8

S.G. Brown
Chief Executive

Civic Centre,
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Cannock.
WS11 1BG

29 June 2008

GUIDANCE ON DECLARING PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS AT MEETINGS

DEFINITION OF WHAT IS A PERSONAL OR PREJUDICIAL INTEREST

A PERSONAL INTEREST is one where your well-being or financial position, or those of a relative or friend would be affected by the decision.

You automatically have a personal interest if you have given notice in the Register of Members' Interests under Paragraph 14 and 15, e.g. if you are appointed to an outside body by the Council.

A PREJUDICIAL INTEREST is where a member of the public knowing the facts would reasonably regard the interest as so significant that it would prejudice your judgement of the public interest.

PLEASE MAKE IT CLEAR WHETHER IT IS A PERSONAL OR PREJUDICIAL INTEREST.

It would be helpful if, prior to the commencement of the meeting, members informed Legal & Democratic Services Unit of any declarations of interest, of which you are aware. This will help in the recording of the declarations in the minutes of the meeting.

DECLARING INTERESTS AT FULL COUNCIL

The Code of Conduct only requires that personal interests (or personal and prejudicial interests) are declared where the matter to which the interest relates is being considered. Some items will be mentioned in the papers for full Council but are not actually being considered by Full Council. In particular, some items are mentioned as having been dealt with in Cabinet but are not actually mentioned or discussed at full Council. In such circumstances the Monitoring Officer's advice to Members is that there is no need to declare an interest unless the particular matter is mentioned or discussed. As a general rule, Members only need to declare an interest at full Council in the following circumstances:

- Where a matter is before the Council for a decision and/or
- Where the matter in which the Member has an interest is specifically mentioned or discussed at the Council meeting.