

**CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**  
**HELD IN THE CIVIC CENTRE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK**  
**AT 4.00 P.M., WEDNESDAY, 14 JANUARY, 2015**  
**PART 1**

PRESENT: Councillors:

Pearson, A. (Chairman)	
Freeman, Miss M.A. (Vice Chairman)	
Adamson, G.	Gamble, B.
Alcott, G.	Grocott, M.R.
Allen, F.W.C.	Hardman, W.
Allt, Mrs. A.	Holder, M.J.
Anslow, C.	Johnson, J.P.
Ball, G.D.	Jones, R.
Bernard, Mrs. A.F.	Mitchell, Mrs. C.
Bernard, J.D.	Molineux, G.N.
Bottomer, B.	Preece, J.
Buttery, M.	Snape, P.A.
Cartwright, Mrs. S.	Stretton, Mrs. P.Z.
Davis, Mrs. M.A.	Todd, Mrs. D.M.
Dean, A.	Todd, R.
Dixon, D.I.	Toth, J.
Dudson, A.	Whitehouse, Ms. S.
Fisher, P.	Witton, P.

**Minute Silence**

Prior to the commencement of the formal business of the meeting, the Chairman invited Members to join him in a minute silence as a mark of respect to those people injured and killed in the Paris attacks last week.

**63. Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors C. Bennett; Mrs. J.L. Burley, Mrs. D. Grice, J.T. Kraujalis; A. Lovell; Mrs. A. Spicer; and Mrs. H.M. Sutton.

**64. Declarations of Interests of Members in Contracts and Other Matters and Restriction on Voting by Members**

<u>Councillor</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Type</u>
G. Adamson	All Members of Hednesford Town Council declared an interest in the "Designation of Hednesford Town Council Area as a Neighbourhood Area" referred to in the Minutes of the meeting of Cabinet held on 20 November, 2014.	Personal
Mrs. S. Cartwright		
B. Gamble		
A. Pearson		
Mrs. D.M. Todd		
R. Todd		
A Pearson	The Member's son was a speaker at the forum.	Personal

No other Declarations of Interests were made in addition to those already confirmed by Members in the Register of Members' Interests.

**65. Minutes**

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 12 November, 2014, be approved as a correct record and signed.

**66. The Chairman's Announcements and Correspondence**

(i) Chairman's Fundraising

The Chairman advised that the charity collection box was circulating for Members to make a donation. He reported that at the meeting held on 12 November, 2014, a total of £38 was collected, and he thanked Members for their donations.

(ii) Rex Roberts OBE

The Chairman advised Members that former Councillor, Rex Roberts OBE, had passed away on 20 December, 2014. The Chairman then gave an overview of Mr Roberts' local government service and asked Members to join with him in sending condolences on behalf of the Council to Mr Roberts' family.

(iii) Michael Tichford and Neville Raby

Mr. Michael Tichford, Head of Economic Development, and Mr. Neville Raby, Head of the shared Human Resources service, who were present at the meeting, introduced themselves.

**67. Question(s) in Accordance with Rule 8**

No questions had been submitted in accordance with Rule 8.

## 68. Part 1 Minutes of Cabinet, Committees and Panels

RESOLVED:

That the Part 1 Minutes of the following Cabinet, Committees and Panels be adopted and any recommendations be approved and decisions implemented following the expiry of any call-in period:-

- (a) Cabinet – 23 October and 20 November, 2014
- (b) Planning Control Committee – 15 October and 5 November, 2014
- (c) Scrutiny Committee – 6 October, 2014
- (d) Health Scrutiny Committee – 11 September (Joint Meeting with Health & Wellbeing PDC) and 13 November, 2014

(Minute 15) Royal Wolverhampton Hospitals Trust Presentation (page 12) – The Leader of the Council and other Members were concerned that in respect of decisions concerning the Minor Injuries Unit, the Clinical Commissioning Group had failed to ensure that the promised information leaflets were delivered to all households “by mid-December”. Indeed the leaflets had still not been delivered. The matter had been raised with Dr. MacMahon, Chairman of the CCG, and he had offered apologies. However, Members felt that it was simply not good enough and showed discourtesy towards the people of Cannock Chase.

Members also expressed concern in respect of capacity in Accident and Emergency at neighbouring hospitals in, for example, Walsall and Wolverhampton, Stafford and Stoke, and wondered at what impact it was having on them. This was of particular concern when a number of hospitals across the country, including ones within the local region were in a state of crisis.

In respect of the shuttle bus service between Cannock and New Cross hospitals, the Leader expressed concern that the service was not being sufficiently well publicised. As it was only being run initially on a six month trial basis, he feared that unless the service was promoted, it would be underutilised and withdrawn to the detriment of local patients.

- (e) Audit and Governance Committee – 23 September, 2014
- (f) Appeals & Complaints Panel – 18 December, 2014
- (g) Appointments Panel – 12 November, 2014
- (h) Cannock Community Forum – 16 September, 2014
- (i) Heath Hayes, Norton Canes & Rawsley Community Forum – 8 September, 2014
- (j) Hednesford Community Forum – 17 September, 2014

(k) Rugeley & Brereton Community Forum – 9 September, 2014

#### **69. Recommendations Referred from Cabinet, Committees and Panels**

Consideration was given to the following recommendations, considered by Cabinet at its meeting held on 20 November, 2014, in respect of:

(i) Housing Revenue Account Borrowing Programme – Green Lane Housing Scheme (Minute 85 applies)

‘That Council be requested to make the following resource adjustments to the 2015-16 Housing Revenue Account Capital Programme, in order to finance the Green Lane scheme:

- (a) The inclusion of £1,015,000 of additional borrowing approval, and £150,000 of uncommitted section 106 Affordable Housing monies.
- (b) The transfer of £250,000 of uncommitted “Affordable Housing” capital receipts from the General Fund Capital Programme.’

RESOLVED:

That, in respect of:

Housing Revenue Account Borrowing Programme – Green Lane Housing Scheme (Minute 85 applies)

‘The following resource adjustments be made to the 2015-16 Housing Revenue Account Capital Programme, in order to finance the Green Lane scheme:

- (i) The inclusion of £1,015,000 of additional borrowing approval, and £150,000 of uncommitted section 106 Affordable Housing monies.
- (ii) The transfer of £250,000 of uncommitted “Affordable Housing” capital receipts from the General Fund Capital Programme.’

#### **70. Motion(s) Received under Rule 6**

No Motions had been submitted under Rule 6.

#### **71. Calendar of Meeting 2015-16**

Consideration was given to the Report of the Chief Executive (Item 9.1 – 9.9 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

That:

- (A) The Calendar of Meetings 2015-16, as included at Appendix 1 to the report, be approved.
- (B) The Chief Executive in consultation with the Chairman of the Council, the relevant Chairmen of Committees and / or Leader of the Council, as appropriate, be authorised to amend the Calendar of Meetings, through convening additional meetings, or the postponement or cancellation of meetings, if required.

**72. Greater Birmingham & Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership Joint Scrutiny Committee – Revised Terms of Reference and Appointment of ‘Alternate Member’**

Consideration was given to the Report of the Chief Executive (Item 10.1 – 10.9 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

That:

- (A) Councillor Miss M.A. Freeman be appointed as the Council’s ‘alternate member’ to the Greater Birmingham and Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership Joint Scrutiny Committee (GBSLEP JSC).
- (B) The revised terms of reference and call-in rules for the GBSLEP JSC, as detailed at Appendices 2 and 3 to the report, be approved.

**73. Outcome of Compulsory Review of Polling Districts, Polling Places and Polling Stations**

Consideration was given to the Report of the Chief Executive as (Acting) Returning Officer (Item 11.1 – 11.14 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

That the review process be noted, and the proposals detailed at Appendix 1 to the report be approved.

**74. Exclusion of the Public**

RESOLVED:

That the public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting because of the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph(s) 1; 2; and 3, Part 1, Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act, 1972.

The Corporate Director and the Head of Economic Development left the meeting at this point.



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**HELD IN THE CIVIC CENTRE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK**  
**AT 4.00 P.M., WEDNESDAY, 14 JANUARY, 2015**  
**PART 2**

**75. Part 2 Minutes of Cabinet, Committees, Select Committees and Panels**

RESOLVED:

That the Part 2 Minutes of the following Cabinet, Committees and Panels be adopted and any recommendations be approved and decisions implemented following the expiry of any call-in period:-

- (a) Cabinet – 20 November, 2014
- (b) Appeals and Complaints Panel – 18 December, 2014
- (c) Appointments Panel – 12 November, 2014

The Chief Executive left the meeting at this point.

**76. Proposal to Change the Senior Management Structure of the Council**

Consideration was given to the Not for Publication Report of the Leader of the Council (Item 14.1 – 14.15 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

That:

- (A) The posts of Chief Executive and Corporate Director be deleted from the senior management structure of the Council, placing both post holders at risk of redundancy.
- (B) A new post of Managing Director, to lead the overall management of the Council as Head of Paid Service as set out in the job description attached at Appendix 1 to the report, be approved.
- (C) The current Corporate Director be appointed as the Managing Director as an alternative to being declared redundant and in the best interests of the Council as a whole.
- (D) The voluntary redundancy of the Chief Executive and associated costs as set out in the report be approved.
- (E) The Head of Human Resources finalise all contractual matters linked to the voluntary redundancy of the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader of the Council.

- (F) Cabinet be recommended to approve the payment of the actuarial strain arising from the proposal.
- (G) It was noted that the budget variations arising from the change to the Senior Management Structure would form part of the overall Budget to be recommended to Council by Cabinet as part of the 2015/16 to 2017/18 General Fund Revenue Budget report.
- (H) On implementation of the proposals, references in the Constitution to the Chief Executive and Corporate Director be replaced with references to the Managing Director.

The meeting closed at 4.50 p.m.

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CHAIRMAN