

## HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of the COUNCIL held in the Council Chamber, Pathfinder House, St Mary's Street, Huntingdon PE29 3TN on Wednesday, 17 May 2006.

PRESENT: Councillor J A P Eddy – Chairman.

Councillors J D Ablewhite, M G Baker, K M Baker, Mrs M Banerjee, I C Bates, J T Bell, Mrs B E Boddington, P L E Bucknell, Mrs J Chandler, K J Churchill, Mrs D E Collins, S J Criswell, J W Davies, D B Dew, P J Downes, J J Dutton, R W J Eaton, J D Fell, J E Garner, A N Gilbert, D A Giles, Mrs C A Godley, Mrs K P Gregory, N J Guyatt, A Hansard, D Harty, C R Hyams, Mrs P J Longford, Mrs S A Menczer, P G Mitchell, I R Muir, M F Newman, R Powell, D J Priestman, Mrs D C Reynolds, K Reynolds, T V Rogers, J M Sadler, T D Sanderson, L M Simpson, C J Stephens, P A Swales, J Taylor, G S E Thorpe, J S Watt, R J West and Ms M Wheeler.

APOLOGIES: Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors R W D Bailey, E R Butler, J A Gray and R G Tuplin.

### 1. PRAYER

The Reverend R Darmody, Team Rector for the Ramseys and Upwood opened the meeting with prayer.

### 2. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

It was proposed by Councillor J J Dutton, seconded by Councillor K Reynolds and

RESOLVED

that Councillor P A Swales be elected Chairman of the Council for the ensuing Municipal Year.

Councillor Swales made the Statutory Declaration of Acceptance of Office, thanked Members for the honour conferred in electing him as Chairman of the District Council and indicated his intention, during his term of office, to engage with the business community and enhance the profile of the voluntary sector especially those organisations that worked with children.

**Councillor P A Swales in the Chair.**

### **3. VOTE OF THANKS TO RETIRING CHAIRMAN**

The Chairman referred to the exemplary manner in which Councillor J A P Eddy had performed his duties as Chairman of the District Council and expressed great pleasure in presenting him with a Past Chairman's badge. Those sentiments were endorsed by Councillor P J Downes who expressed his appreciation for the help, courtesy and countenance shown by the former Chairman over the last two years.

In response and having expressed the honour he had felt in serving the District Council, Councillor Eddy conveyed his appreciation to Councillors Mrs K P Gregory and P L E Bucknell who had served as Vice-Chairmen during his term of office.

RESOLVED

that the Council's appreciation to Councillor J A P Eddy be placed on record as Chairman during the last two years.

### **4. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman congratulated those Members of the Council who had been returned for a further term of office at the District Council elections held on 4th May 2006 and extended a warm welcome to the following newly elected Members –

K M Baker (Alconbury and The Stukeleys);  
R W D Bailey (Buckden);  
R W J Eaton (St. Neots – Priory Park);  
A N Gilbert (St. Neots – Eynesbury);  
D J Priestman (Huntingdon East); and  
R J West (Gransden and the Offords).

A tribute also was paid to former Councillor I P Taylor who had stood unsuccessfully for re-election.

### **5. MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 19th April 2006 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### **6. MEMBERS' INTERESTS**

None were received.

### **7. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN**

It was proposed by the Chairman, Councillor P A Swales, seconded by Councillor P G Mitchell and

RESOLVED

that Councillor J W Davies be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Council for the ensuing Municipal Year.

Councillor Davies made the Statutory Declaration of Acceptance of

Office and expressed his appreciation to Members for the honour which they had conferred upon him.

**8. LOCAL ELECTIONS: 4TH MAY 2006**

The report of the Returning Officer with regard to the District and Parish Council elections held on 4th May 2006 was received and noted (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book).

The Returning Officer extended his particular appreciation to candidates and their agents for their co-operation and courtesy during the elections and the counting of votes and his gratitude for the contribution made by all staff employed during the day. The Council placed on record their appreciation to those who had been engaged in election duties over the period.

**9. ELECTION OF LEADER OF THE COUNCIL**

It was proposed by Councillor N J Guyatt, seconded by Councillor P L E Bucknell and

RESOLVED

that Councillor I C Bates be elected Leader of the Council and Chairman of the Cabinet for the ensuing Municipal Year.

**10. APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL**

It was proposed by Councillor A Hansard, seconded by Councillor T V Rogers and

RESOLVED

that Councillor L M Simpson be appointed Deputy Leader of the Council and Vice-Chairman of the Cabinet for the ensuing Municipal Year.

**11. REPRESENTATION OF POLITICAL GROUPS ON DISTRICT COUNCIL PANELS**

A report was submitted by the Head of Administration (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) relating to the principles of proportionality to be applied to the appointment of Panels in accordance with Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and Part II of the Local Government Act 2000. Whereupon, it was

RESOLVED

that the allocation of seats on Panels to political groups and non-aligned Members be determined as set out in the report now submitted.

**12. APPOINTMENT OF THE CABINET**

RESOLVED

that Councillors P L E Bucknell, Mrs J Chandler, N J Guyatt, A Hansard, Mrs P J Longford, Mrs D C Reynolds and T V Rogers be appointed as Members of the Cabinet for the ensuing year.

### 13. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANELS

RESOLVED

- (a) that the following Members be appointed to the Overview and Scrutiny Panels for the ensuing Municipal Year –

<b>Overview &amp; Scrutiny Panel (Service Delivery)</b>	<b>Overview &amp; Scrutiny Panel (Service Support)</b>	<b>Overview &amp; Scrutiny Panel (Corporate &amp; Strategic Framework)</b>
J D Ablewhite, R W D Bailey, Mrs M Banerjee, E R Butler, S J Criswell, K J Churchill, R W J Eaton, J E Garner, D A Giles, Mrs C A Godley, D Harty, P G Mitchell, D J Priestman, J M Sadler and J S Watt	K M Baker, M G Baker, J T Bell, J W Davies, D B Dew, P J Downes, J D Fell, A N Gilbert, J A Gray, I R Muir, M F Newman, P A Swales, G S E Thorpe, R G Tuplin and R J West	M G Baker, Mrs M Banerjee, K J Churchill, S J Criswell, J W Davies, D B Dew, P J Downes, J A Gray, D Harty and M F Newman

- (b) that in the case of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Corporate and Strategic Framework) the remaining five Members of the Panel be appointed from amongst the membership of the remaining Overview and Scrutiny Panels on an ad-hoc basis by the Head of Administration after consultation with the Panel Chairmen, in accordance with the rules of proportionality and in the light of the subject matter to be discussed.

### 14. COMMITTEES AND PANELS

RESOLVED

that Members be appointed to serve on the Standards and Licensing Committees and Employment, Development Control, Licensing and Protection, Corporate Governance, Elections and Appointments Panels for the ensuing Municipal Year as follows:-

#### **Standards Committee (7)**

Mrs B E Boddington, P J Downes, J A P Eddy, Mrs K P Gregory, I R Muir, T D Sanderson and J Taylor;

### **Employment Panel (8)**

Mrs B E Boddington, Mrs D E Collins, J J Dutton, Mrs S A Menczer, K Reynolds, T D Sanderson and Ms M Wheeler and one Member of the Cabinet in an ex-officio capacity with appropriate portfolio responsibility;

### **Development Control Panel (16)**

Mrs M Banerjee, Mrs B E Boddington, E R Butler, D B Dew, P J Downes, J J Dutton, J A P Eddy, J D Fell, C R Hyams, P G Mitchell, R Powell, C J Stephens, P A Swales, G S E Thorpe, R G Tuplin and one Member of the Cabinet in an ex-officio capacity with appropriate portfolio responsibility;

### **Licensing and Protection Panel (12)**

K M Baker, J T Bell, J D Fell, Mrs K P Gregory, D Harty, I R Muir, R Powell, J M Sadler, J Taylor, J S Watt and Ms M Wheeler and one Member of the Cabinet in an ex-officio capacity with appropriate portfolio responsibility;

### **Licensing Committee (12)**

K M Baker, J T Bell, J D Fell, Mrs K P Gregory, D Harty, I R Muir, R Powell, J M Sadler, J Taylor, J S Watt, Ms M Wheeler and one Member of the Cabinet in an ex-officio capacity with appropriate portfolio responsibility;

### **Corporate Governance Panel (7)**

K J Churchill, P J Downes, J A Gray, T V Rogers, L M Simpson, C J Stephens and R J West;

### **Appointments Panel (3)**

M G Baker, J W Davies and T V Rogers together with one Member of the Cabinet with appropriate portfolio responsibility for human resources/personnel together with the relevant Executive Councillor in relation to the post to be filled; and

### **Elections Panel (7)**

J A P Eddy, A N Gilbert, D Harty, M F Newman, K Reynolds, T D Sanderson and J Taylor.

## **15. STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

RESOLVED

- (a) that the nomination by Cambridgeshire Association of Local Councils of Messrs G Watkins and D MacPherson to represent Town and Parish Councils in Huntingdonshire on the Standards Committee until May 2007 be noted; and

- (b) that the appointment of Messrs D H Bristow, D L Hall and D Patterson as Independent Members on the Standards Committee for a four-year term of office expiring in April 2007 be noted.

**16. LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972: SECTION 85**

The Chief Executive reported that there were no absences of Members from meetings for consideration in accordance with Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972.

The meeting concluded at 2.53pm.

Chairman