

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of the COUNCIL held in the Civic Suite, Pathfinder House, St Mary's Street, Huntingdon PE29 3TN on Wednesday, 4 June 2014.

PRESENT: Councillor Mrs B E Boddington – Chairman.

Councillors J D Ablewhite, M G Baker,
I C Bates, P L E Bucknell, G J Bull,
E R Butler, R C Carter, S Cawley,
B S Chapman, K J Churchill, Mrs S Conboy,
S J Criswell, J W Davies, D B Dew, Mrs A
Dickinson, Mrs L A Duffy, R S Farrer,
M Francis, R Fuller, D A Giles, J A Gray,
A Hansard, A J Hardy, G J Harlock,
R Harrison, D Harty, T Hayward, R B Howe,
B Hyland, P Kadewere, Ms L Kadic,
S M Van De Kerkhove, A J Mackender-
Lawrence, Mrs R E Mathews, P G Mitchell,
M C Oliver, P D Reeve, Mrs D C Reynolds,
T D Sanderson, M F Shellens, R G Tuplin,
D M Tysoe and R J West.

APOLOGIES: Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors K M Baker, I J Curtis, Mrs P A Jordan, Mrs P J Longford, J P Morris and P K Ursell.

1. PRAYER

The Reverend A Milton, Rector of All Saints and St. Mary's, Huntingdon opened the meeting with Prayer.

2. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

To bring her term of office to a close, Councillor Mrs Boddington described to Members the events she had attended on behalf of the Council since the last meeting.

The Chairman also advised the Council that she had received an apology from former Councillor C R Hyams in respect of his conduct at the last meeting and letters from her nominated charities expressing their thanks for her contributions over the past two years.

Councillor Mrs Boddington also read to the Council the content of a letter of appreciation received from the widow of Tom Calcott, the former caretaker.

3. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

It was proposed by Councillor B S Chapman, seconded by Councillor T D Sanderson and

RESOLVED

that Councillor A J MacKender Lawrence be elected Chairman of the Council for the ensuing Municipal Year.

Councillor MacKender Lawrence made the Statutory Declaration of Acceptance of Office and thanked Members for their support and the honour which the Council had bestowed upon him. Councillor MacKender Lawrence underlined his commitment to the community and his willingness to give help and assist as best as he could from his office as Chairman.

Councillor MacKender Lawrence in the Chair.

4. VOTE OF THANKS TO RETIRING CHAIRMAN

The Chairman paid tribute to the way in which Councillor Mrs Boddington had performed her duties as Chairman of the District Council and having proposed a vote of thanks to her, presented Councillor Mrs Boddington with her past Chairman's badge and a photograph album capturing the memories of her term of office. He added that Councillor Mrs Boddington had been very supportive to him as Vice-Chairman and had laid firm foundations for his term of office to follow. Having wished the new Chairman every success in his new role, the Executive Leader, Councillor J D Ablewhite paid tribute to the devoted service that Councillor Mrs Boddington had given both as Chairman and Vice-Chairman, the way that she had represented the Council when visiting schools and businesses and the funds that she had raised for her chosen charities. The Council gave Councillor Mrs Boddington a round of applause.

As Leader of the Principal Opposition, Councillor K J Churchill concurred with the sentiments of Councillor Ablewhite and particularly paid tribute to the way in which Councillor Mrs Boddington had represented the authority suggesting that she would be a hard act to follow and that he wished her well for the future.

In offering his best wishes to her for the future, Councillor M G Baker, as Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group concluded by commending Councillor Mrs Boddington on the excellent manner in which she had chaired the Council meeting and her inclusive and fair approach to all Members.

In response, Councillor Mrs Boddington announced that she had raised £7,000 for her nominated charities, that she had many wonderful memories of her term of office and had particularly enjoyed her visits to schools and hosting visits to Pathfinder House by Members of Town and Parish Councils. However, the highlight of her term had been the award of the Freeman of the District of Huntingdonshire to local RAF bases. To conclude, Councillor Mrs Boddington thanked all Members for their support and Lorraine Riseley, Chairman's Secretary and Christine Deller, Democratic Services Manager for their particular support and assistance.

5. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 30th April 2014 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

6. MEMBERS' INTERESTS

No interests were declared by the Members present.

7. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

It was proposed by Councillor I C Bates, seconded by Councillor R Carter and

RESOLVED

that Councillor P L E Bucknell be appointed Vice-Chairman of the District Council for the ensuing Municipal Year.

Councillor Bucknell made the Statutory Declaration of Acceptance of Office and expressed his appreciation to his proposer, Councillor Bates for his kind words and expressed his wish to represent Huntingdonshire to the best of his ability.

8. LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972: SECTION 87 - WARBOYS & BURY WARD

The Returning Officer reported that Notice had been given of the vacancy resulting from the recent death of Councillor J W G Pethard and that a by-election would be held in the Warboys and Bury Ward in due course.

9. LOCAL ELECTIONS: 22ND MAY 2014

The report of the Returning Officer with regard to the District Council elections held on 22nd May 2014 was received and noted (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book).

The Executive Leader, Councillor J D Ablewhite and Councillors K J Churchill and M F Shellens extended their appreciation to the Returning Officer and all those who had been engaged in election duties over the period for their hard work, dedication and commitment towards ensuring that the process ran smoothly.

10. REPORT OF PANELS

(a) Senior Officers' Panel

Councillor J D Ablewhite presented the Report of the meetings of the Senior Officers' Panel held on 14th, 16th, 19th, 20th and 21st May 2014.

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Whereupon, it was

RESOLVED

that the Report of the meetings of the Senior Officers' Panel held on 14th,16th, 19th, 20th and 21st May 2014 be received and adopted.

(b) Corporate Governance Panel

Councillor E R Butler presented the Report of the meeting of the Corporate Governance Panel held on 14th May 2014.

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After discussion and having been put to a vote, the recommendations contained in Item No 45 were declared to be CARRIED.

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Whereupon, it was

RESOLVED

that, subject to the foregoing paragraphs, the Report of the meeting of the Corporate Governance Panel held on 14th May 2014 be received and adopted.

11. REPRESENTATION OF POLITICAL GROUPS ON DISTRICT COUNCIL PANELS, ETC

A report was submitted by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) relating to the principles of proportionality to be applied to the appointment of Panels and Committees 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 be determined as set out in the report now submitted.

12. APPOINTMENT OF CABINET

The Executive Leader announced that he had appointed Councillors B S Chapman, D B Dew, J A Gray, R B Howe, T D Sanderson and D M Tysoe to join him as Members of the Cabinet for the ensuing Municipal Year. He also announced that Councillor R B Howe would be Deputy Executive Leader and Vice-Chairman of the Cabinet.

13. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANELS

RESOLVED

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

Overview & Scrutiny Panel (Social Well-Being)	Overview & Scrutiny Panel (Environmental Well-Being)	Overview & Scrutiny Panel (Economic Well-Being)
K M Baker	M G Baker	P L E Bucknell
R Carter	I C Bates	G J Bull
S J Criswell	Mr B E Boddington	E R Butler
R S Farrer	G J Bull	S Cawley
M Francis	J W Davies	I J Curtis
R Fuller	D A Giles	Mrs A Dickinson
A J Hardy	G J Harlock	R Harrison
Mrs P A Jordan	B Hyland	D Harty
P Kadewere	Mrs L Kadic	T F Hayward
Mrs R Mathews	M Oliver	P G Mitchell
Mrs D C Reynolds	R J West	P D Reeve
S M Van De Kerkhove	Vacancy	M F Shellens

14. COMMITTEE AND PANELS

RESOLVED

- (a) that Members be appointed to serve on the Standards and Licensing Committees and Employment, Development Management, Licensing and Protection, Corporate Governance and Senior Officers' Panels for the ensuing Municipal Year as follows:-

Corporate Governance Panel (8)

Councillors M G Baker, E R Butler, K J Churchill, G J Harlock, R Harrison, P Kadewere, P G Mitchell and R J West.

Development Management Panel (16)

Councillors Mrs B E Boddington, P L E Bucknell, G J Bull, E R Butler, R Carter, Mrs S Conboy, D B Dew, Mrs A Dickinson, R S Farrer, Mrs P J Longford, A J MacKender-Lawrence, J P Morris, P D Reeve, R G Tuplin, R J West and one vacancy (including one Member of the Cabinet in an ex officio capacity with appropriate portfolio responsibilities).

Employment Panel (8)

Councillors J D Ablewhite, S Akthar, S Cawley, Mrs L Duffy, J A Gray, Mrs P A Jordan, R G Tuplin and R J West (including one member of the Cabinet in an ex

officio capacity with appropriate portfolio responsibilities).

Licensing and Protection Panel (12)

Councillors K M Baker, I J Curtis, J W Davies, R S Farrer, R Fuller, G J Harlock, Mrs L Kadic, J Morris, M Oliver, T D Sanderson, S M Van De Kerkhove and R J West (including one Member of the Cabinet in an ex-officio capacity with appropriate portfolio responsibilities).

Licensing Committee (12)

Councillors K M Baker, I J Curtis, J W Davies, R D Farrer, R Fuller, G J Harlock, Mrs L Kadic, J Morris, M Oliver, T D Sanderson, S M Van De Kerkhove and R J West (including one Member of the Cabinet in an ex-officio capacity with appropriate portfolio responsibilities).

Senior Officers' Panel (4+1)

Councillors J D Ablewhite, S Cawley, K J Churchill and R J West together with the relevant Executive Councillor in relation to the post(s) under consideration.

Standards Committee (8)

Councillors K M Baker, Mrs B E Boddington, Mrs L A Duffy, G J Harlock, A Hansard, T D Sanderson and S M Van De Kerkhove.

- (b) that the following Members be nominated from which the Head of Legal and Democratic Services be authorised, when necessary, to convene a meeting of the Appeals Sub-Group to include up to five Members (excluding Members of the Employment Panel) to determine appeals under the Council's disciplinary and appeals procedures –

Councillors I C Bates, Mrs B E Boddington, J W Davies, D B Dew, R Fuller, P G Mitchell, M Oliver and Mrs D C Reynolds.

The meeting concluded at 7.30pm.

Chairman

