

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF  
THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF WELLINGBOROUGH  
HELD AT SWANSPool HOUSE, WELLINGBOROUGH  
ON TUESDAY 20 JANUARY 2015**

**Present:** The Mayor (Councillor J Bass) and Councillors Allebone, Bailey, Bell, Carr, Dholakia, Elliott, Emerson, Gough, Graves, Griffiths, Harrington, Hawkes, Higgins, Hollyman, G Lawman, Morrall, Partridge-Underwood, M Patel, Raymond, Scarborough, Simmons, Ward and Watts.

**Officers present:** Mr J T Campbell, Chief Executive, Mrs L Elliott, Head of Finance, Mrs B Lawrence, Head of Resources, Mr G Hollands, Solicitor/Monitoring Officer, District Law, Miss S Gibson, Mayor's Sergeant and Mrs C A Mundy, Democratic Services Officer.

The Mayor welcomed his fellow councillors, members of the public, his chaplain and his guests for the evening. The Mayor's chaplain said prayers.

The Mayor then asked that everyone remain standing to observe a minute's silence and pay the council's respects to everyone affected by the terrible terrorist attacks in France on 7 and 8 January 2015.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

**RESOLVED** to note that apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ainge, Beirne, Blackwell, Henley, L Lawman, Maguire, B Patel, Pursglove, Timms, Warwick, M Waters and V Waters.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations made.

**3. MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING OF 9 DECEMBER 2014**

The minutes of the council meeting held on 9 December 2014 were received.

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the council meeting held on 9 December 2014 be confirmed and signed.

**4. LONG SERVICE AWARDS**

The annexed circulated report of the Head of Resources was received in relation to long service awards, for 25 years' service to the council, for Mrs Felicity Webber and Mrs Diane Pape.

The Mayor congratulated Mrs Webber on her achievement and presented her with her long service award and gift. Mrs Pape did not attend the meeting.

**RESOLVED** to note the long service awards for Mrs Webber and Mrs Pape.

## 5. MINUTES TO NOTE

The minutes of the following meetings were received:

Licensing Sub-Committee	1 December 2014
Licensing Sub-Committee	15 December 2014
Planning Committee	3 December 2014
Appointment Panel	10 December 2014

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the above meetings be noted.

## 6. SERVICES COMMITTEE – 15 DECEMBER 2014

The minutes of the Services Committee of 15 December 2014 were received.

Reference was made to minute 4 – market working group update. Councillor Allebone made particular reference to the potential alternative location for the market and pointed out that any relocation would need to be considered carefully. He also considered that the full support of the county council, with regard to highway issues, would be required.

The chairman thanked him for his comments.

Councillor Emerson made reference to minute 5 – response to the county council consultation on existing residents' parking schemes. He thanked the committee for the decision made and confirmed that parking was a big issue within his ward. He urged the head of planning and local development and the chairman and vice-chairman to work closely with the ward and county councillors, Network Rail and Bovis Homes to resolve the ongoing parking issues. Councillor Scarborough also endorsed these comments.

Councillor Hawkes pointed out that the electrification of the line would encourage more people to travel from Wellingborough station and that potentially the parking problem would increase if the parking charges for the car park at the station were not reduced.

The chairman thanked his fellow councillors for their comments and confirmed that discussions would be continuing with all parties.

Councillor Scarborough referred to minute 9 – street lighting advisory group. He believed that the advisory group had already met and asked that all ward councillors be informed of any lights being turned off in their wards as he had been led to believe that a number of lamps were likely to be turned off.

Councillor Bell responded to this and clarified that the group had yet to meet, though informal discussions had taken place. The advisory group would only be discussing the lamps owned by the borough council and there was no intention to turn off any borough council owned lamps in public parks, car parks etc.

The recommendation of the establishment of a street lighting advisory group, along with its terms of reference, with the membership of Councillors Ainge, Carr, Elliott, G Lawman and Simmons, was put to the vote and declared carried unanimously.

**RESOLVED** that:

- (i) A street lighting advisory group be set up with the membership being Councillors Ainge, Carr, Elliott, G Lawman and Simmons and that the terms of reference be adopted;
- (ii) the minutes of the Services Committee of 15 December 2014 be adopted.

## **7. RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 17 DECEMBER 2014**

The minutes of the Resources Committee of 17 December 2014 were received.

The recommendation within minute 3 – calculation of the council tax base 2015-16 was put to the vote and declared carried.

Reference was made to minute 5 – draft revenue budget 2015-16, particularly in relation to the draft fees and charges. Councillor Elliott referred to the cost for the hire of football pitches and the rising obesity problem within the borough. He considered that a strategy needed to be formulated and that consideration be given to a reduction in charges for sports pitches.

Councillor Graves confirmed that he shared Councillor Elliott's concern about the obesity problem, and explained that tackling obesity was a major objective which was discussed within the Health and Wellbeing Forum. Work was ongoing with Sport England who, along with the council, was arranging a fun run in early summer with a view to encouraging as many people as possible to join in.

Councillor Bell clarified that the draft budget had been out for consultation, and that this had concluded on 19 January. The responses would be the subject of discussion at the Resources Committee in February.

The recommendation contained within minute 13 – senior management arrangements was put to the vote and declared carried.

**RESOLVED** that:

- (i) the amount calculated by the Borough Council of Wellingborough as the council tax base for the year 2015-16 be 23,190 (band D equivalents);
- (ii) the council tax bases for the parish councils and Wellingborough town be approved;
- (iii) the proposed amendments to the senior management arrangements be endorsed to take effect from 1 January 2015;

- (iv) the council's constitution be amended to reflect the designation of heads of service as chief officers;
- (v) the salary banding of 55% of the chief executive's salary be approved (£57,067 - £59,446) for chief officers and that the council's pay policy be amended to reflect this;
- (vi) the minutes of the Resources Committee of 17 December 2015 be adopted.

Mayor

The meeting closed at 7.30pm.