

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF WELLINGBOROUGH
HELD AT SWANSPool HOUSE, WELLINGBOROUGH
ON TUESDAY 17 OCTOBER 2017**

Present: The Mayor, Councillor P Bell and Councillors Abram, Allebone, Anslow, Aslam, Bailey, Beirne, Bone, Carr, Francis, Gough, Graves, Griffiths, Harrington, Henley, G Lawman, L Lawman, Maguire, Morrall, Partridge-Underwood, Patel, Scanlon, Scarborough, Simmons, Skittrall, Stevenson, Walia, Ward, M Waters, V Waters and Watts.

Officers present: Mrs B Gamble, (Director), Miss J Thomas (Monitoring Officer/Director) Miss K Denton and Mrs S Knowles (Assistant Directors), Mr G Betts, (Mayor's Sergeant) and Mrs C A Mundy, (Democratic Services Officer).

A minute's silence was held in memory of former Mayor George Willmott who died on 4 October 2017; and former Mayor and Honorary Freeman Geoffrey Timms who died on 5 October 2017.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

RESOLVED to note that apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ekins, Emerson, Hallam, Lloyd, Simmons and York.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

RESOLVED to note that in accordance with the Localism Act 2011, the council's code of conduct and the council's constitution, the following declarations were made.

Name of councillor	Item	Interest
Aslam	Planning 5/7/17 WP/17/00181/FUL	Other – is a director on Wellingborough Homes Board
	Planning 6/9/17 AP/16/00806/FUL	Registerable – director on Wellingborough Homes Board
Graves	Partnerships & Performance 25/9/17	Registerable – board member of Wellingborough Bereavement Services Ltd.
G Lawman	Planning 5/7/17 WP/17/00181/FUL WP/17/00312/FUL	Other – is a director on Wellingborough Homes Board Other – is aware of an acquaintance and supporter of the application.

	Planning 2/8/17 WP/17/00341/FUL WP/17/00234/FUL	Other – two objectors were known to him. Other – one of the speakers was known to him.
	Planning 6/9/17 WP/17/00806/FUL	Registerable – is a director on Wellingborough Homes Board.
	Audit 19/9/17 Minute 4 - Audited statement of accounts.	Personal - chairman of the pensions board at the NCC
L Lawman	Audit 19/9/17 Minute 4 - Audited statement of accounts.	Personal – husband, Cllr G Lawman is chairman of the pension's board at the NCC.

3. MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING OF 11 JULY 2017

The minutes of the council meeting held on 11 July 2017 were received.

RESOLVED that minutes of the council meeting, held on 11 July 2017, be confirmed and signed.

4. MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL OF 18 JULY 2017

The minutes of the extraordinary council meeting held on 18 July 2017 were received.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the extraordinary council meeting, held on 18 July 2017, be confirmed and signed.

5. QUESTIONS/PETITIONS/REQUESTS TO ADDRESS THE MEETING

RESOLVED to note that no requests to speak had been received.

6. MINUTES TO NOTE

The minutes of the following meetings were received to note:

Planning Committee	5 July 2017
Planning Committee	2 August 2017
Planning Committee	6 September 2017
Licensing Committee	10 August 2017
Licensing Sub-Committee	18 September 2017
Appointment Panel	21 August 2017
Appointment Panel	28 September 2017

Reference was made to the planning committee of 2 August, minute 5, that an amendment was required to the title to read Little Irchester instead of Little Harrowden.

In relation to the appointment panel the chairman asked that it be noted that an incorrect percentage figure had been quoted in relation to the assistant director salaries in the report to the resources committee of 28 June 2017, relating to the senior management structure. For clarity the salary figures for the assistant director positions are based on 70% (not 60%) of the salary of the directors. The salary figures quoted in the report were correct.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the above meetings be noted.

7. PARTNERSHIPS AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE – 3 JULY 2017

The minutes of the partnerships and performance committee of 3 July 2017 were received.

Reference was made to minute 4 – severe weather emergency protocol. Members raised concern over whether there would be sufficient funding in place to provide for the needs of the homeless and asked for an assurance that people would not be sent elsewhere. The chairman of the committee assured members that there was sufficient funding to meet the demand and, should there become a greater need, additional funding would be requested.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the partnerships and performance committee of 3 July 2017 be adopted.

8. PARTNERSHIPS AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE – 25 SEPTEMBER 2017

The minutes of the partnerships and performance committee of 25 September 2017 were received.

Members asked that their grateful thanks be extended to Mrs M Thomas who had spoken in relation to community safety, prior to her leaving the authority.

Thanks were also extended to Ms Sheppard who had attended from Nene Valley Crematorium and given a very good presentation.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the partnerships and performance committee of 25 September 2017 be adopted.

9. SERVICES COMMITTEE – 4 JULY 2017

The minutes of the services committee of 4 July 2017 were received.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the services committee of 4 July 2017 be adopted.

10. SERVICES COMMITTEE – 26 SEPTEMBER 2017

The minutes of the services committee of 26 September 2017 were received.

Reference was made to minute 6 – review of private sector housing policy and the two recommendations contained therein which on being put to the vote were declared carried.

Reference was also made to minute 9 - public space protection order and the recommendation therein. On being put to the vote this was declared carried.

Members were also asked to vote on the recommendation contained in minute 10 – enforcement review. On being put to the vote this was also declared carried.

RESOLVED that:

- (i) authority be delegated to the relevant director to amend the Private Sector Housing Policy, to include definitions of banning order offences, as described in the report;
- (ii) approval be given to the powers listed in appendix A, section 25, to the housing policy being delegated to the relevant director;
- (iii) approval be given to the making of the Public Space Protection Order, having regard to the conditions within section 59 of the Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policy Act 2016, to continue to provide ongoing and additional powers to tackle dog fouling and other forms of irresponsible dog ownership;
- (iv) authority be delegated, as required, to the director to implement the provisions of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policy Act 2014 in relation to public spaces protection order as set out in the report;
- (v) the fixed penalty levels in use across the county be adopted as recommended through the countywide anti-social behaviour (ASB) and hate crime group;
- (vi) approval be given to a further consultation in 2018 in relation to extending the provision of the PSPO in relation to dogs on leads and dog exclusion areas as a result of further member comments and that this be examined as part of the statutory three year review.
- (vii) authority be delegated to the head of paid service, to increase the staffing establishment, should enforcement action require this, in line with the budget available;
- (viii) that the minutes of the services committee of 26 September 2017 be adopted.

11. DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE – 11 SEPTEMBER 2017

The minutes of the development committee of 11 September 2017 were received.

Reference was made to East Midlands Rail Franchise public consultation, with members congratulating officers for the work that had gone into the response submitted to the proposals.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the development committee of 11 September 2017 be adopted.

12. RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 13 SEPTEMBER 2017

The minutes of the resources committee of 13 September 2017 were received.

Reference was made to minute 6 – Victoria Ward car parks and the decision that had been made by the committee. The ward councillor, Councillor Francis proposed that the decision be referred back to the committee, as she considered that the closure of one of the car parks would be detrimental. Residents already struggled to find a parking space and this would only exacerbate the situation. The amendment was seconded by Councillor Aslam.

In accordance with rule 4.1.6(d) of the constitution eight councillors requested that there be a recorded vote.

The Mayor put the amendment as follows to the vote:

“that the decision made at the resources committee of 13 September 2017 to sell the land adjacent to 130 Winstanley Road, Wellingborough and to seek planning permission for housing development, be referred back to the committee.”

On being put to the vote the following votes were cast:

For: Councillors Abram, Anslow, Aslam, Francis, Henley, Maguire, Scarborough and Watts (no.8)

Against: Councillors Allebone, Bailey, Beirne, Bone, Carr, Gough, Graves, Griffiths, G Lawman, L Lawman, Morrall, Partridge-Underwood, Patel, Scanlon, Skittrall, Stevenson, Walia, Ward, M Waters and V Waters (no.20)

Abstention: Councillor Harrington (no.1)

The amendment was declared lost.

Reference was made to minute 8 – members of reserve forces: councillors and the recommendation therein which on being put to the vote was declared carried.

RESOLVED that:

- (i) the policy and procedure in relation to councillors who are members of the reserve forces be approved and adopted;
- (ii) the minutes of the resources committee of 13 September 2017 be adopted.

13. AUDIT COMMITTEE – 19 SEPTEMBER 2017

The minutes of the Audit Committee of 19 September 2017 were received.

Reference was made to minute 4 – update on the appointment of the new external auditor and the recommendation contained therein. On being put to the vote this was declared carried.

The chairman of the committee thanked the section 151 officer, the Assistant Director, Mrs Knowles and her team for the work that had gone into producing the accounts.

RESOLVED that:

- (i) Ernst & Young LLP (EY) be appointed as the council's external auditors, to audit the accounts, for a five year period from 2018-19;
- (ii) The minutes of the audit committee of 19 September 2017 be adopted.

14. BUSINESS RATES RETENTION – BID TO BE PART OF A PILOT SCHEME FOR 2018/19

The annexed circulated report of the managing director was received in relation to the proposals of the current Northamptonshire business rates pool to bid for a 100% business rates retention (BRR) pilot and to seek approval to the council being part of such pilot scheme.

The report set out details of the new pilot scheme and asked that the managing director, in consultation with the leader, be given delegated authority over the final details of the pooling arrangement.

RESOLVED that:

- (i) approval be given to the inclusion of the borough council in a bid for pilot status for 100% business rates retention as part of a Northamptonshire pool;
- (ii) authority be delegated to the managing director, in consultation with the leader of the council, to agree the financial and governance aspects of the partnership arrangement with the other local authorities in Northamptonshire within the proposed pilot pool.

15. CORRESPONDENCE, COMMUNICATIONS AND OTHER BUSINESS BROUGHT FORWARD BY THE DIRECTION OF THE MAYOR OR THE CHAIRMAN OF THE MEETING

There being no further business the mayor closed the meeting.

Mayor

The meeting closed at 7.45pm.