

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF WELLINGBOROUGH
HELD AT SWANSPool HOUSE, WELLINGBOROUGH
ON TUESDAY 31 MARCH 2015**

Present: The Mayor (Councillor J Bass) and Councillors Allebone, Bailey, Bell, Blackwell, Carr, Dholakia, Elliott, Emerson, Gough, Graves, Griffiths, Harrington, Hollyman, Henley, Higgins, G Lawman, L Lawman, Maguire, Morrall, Partridge-Underwood, M Patel, Pursglove, Raymond, Timms, Scarborough, Simmons, Ward, M Waters, V Waters, Warwick and Watts.

Officers present: Mr J T Campbell (Chief Executive), Mrs L Elliott (Head of Finance), Mrs B Lawrence (Head of Resources), Miss J Thomas (Head of Planning and Local Development), Mr G Hollands (Solicitor, District Law), Mr G Betts (Mayor's Sergeant) and Mrs C A Mundy, (Democratic Services Officer).

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

RESOLVED to note that apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ainge, Beirne, Hawkes and B Patel.

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 under-mentioned councillor declared an interest in the following item:

Councillor	Committee	Reason for declaration
Bass	Resources 18 March 2015 and Council 31 March 2015	Minute 3 – Sywell Aerodrome and Minute 5 – Questions. Personal – he knew some of the speakers.

3. MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING OF 24 FEBRUARY 2015

The minutes of the council meeting held on 24 February 2015 were received.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the council meeting held on 24 February 2015 be confirmed and signed.

4. LONG SERVICE AWARD FOR MRS T CAVE AND RETIREMENT AWARD FOR MR M KILPIN

The annexed circulated report of the Head of Resources was received in relation to the long service award for Mrs T Cave after 25 years' service and the retirement award for Mr M Kilpin who had been with the council for 36 years.

The mayor congratulated Mrs Cave and presented her with a certificate and gift of One4all vouchers. The mayor asked Councillor Ward as chairman of the planning committee to address the meeting. Councillor Ward congratulated Mr Kilpin on his time at the council and the excellent service that he had provided and wished him well in his retirement. Mr Kilpin was presented with his retirement certificate.

RESOLVED that the long service award for Mrs Cave and retirement award for Mr Kilpin be noted.

5. QUESTIONS/PETITIONS/REQUESTS TO ADDRESS THE MEETING

The mayor had received two requests to speak from Mr Hague and Mr Kimbell. Both addressed the meeting for three minutes and expressed their concern over various issues relating to Sywell Aerodrome and the conditions contained within the planning permission relating to the hard runway which was approved on appeal in 2007.

RESOLVED to note the comments made.

6. MINUTES TO NOTE

The minutes of the following meetings were received:

Planning Committee	11 February 2015
Planning Committee	11 March 2015
Licensing Sub-Committee	23 February 2015

RESOLVED that the minutes of the above meetings be noted.

7. SERVICES COMMITTEE – 16 MARCH 2015

The minutes of the Services Committee of 16 March 2015 were received.

Reference was made to minute 7 – Street Lighting Policy, by Councillor Elliott who asked for clarification on town centre lighting. The chairman informed him that a written response would be provided.

Reference was made to the recommendation in minute 5 – Food and Health & Safety Enforcement Service Plans, and this was put to the vote and declared carried.

RESOLVED that:

- (i) The Food Safety Enforcement Service Plan 2015-16 be adopted;
- (ii) The minutes of the Services Committee of 16 March 2015 be adopted.

8. RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 18 MARCH 2015

The minutes of the Resources Committee of 18 March 2015 were received.

Reference was made to minute 4 – Waste Collection, particularly over the county council's budget decision regarding savings to be made on waste disposal costs if this resulted in reductions in recycling credits, this could have a huge impact on all the borough councils. It was considered that such a change could have a negative impact on recycling rates when the government was trying to increase recycling rates by 2020 to avoid fines from the EU.

The chairman thanked members for their comments, support and concern and he also confirmed that a waste collection working group would be established at the annual council meeting and that Wellingborough Norse would be taking over the Wollaston household waste recycling centre from 1 April 2015.

(Councillor Pursglove joined the meeting.)

Minute 7 Reserves Policy - the recommendation contained within this minute to approve the reserves policy was put to the meeting and declared carried.

Minute 8 Capital Strategy For The Medium Term - the recommendations contained within this minute were put to the vote and declared carried.

Minute 9 Prudential Indicators and Treasury Management Strategy 2015-16 - the recommendations contained within this minute were put to the vote and declared carried.

Minute 10 Procurement Regulations Update and Refreshed Contract Procedure Rules – the recommendation contained within this minute was put to the meeting and declared carried.

A member referred to minute 12 - Development of a Joint Planning Delivery Committee and Unit - and the history and concept of the creation of the first garden cities. Following the recent budget announcement of funding for a two year period he enquired whether further funding would be available and also asked if the planning aspect would remain with the borough council and whether delivery of infrastructure would be paramount.

The chairman responded clarifying that with regard to the borough the two urban extensions of Stanton Cross and Wellingborough North would be included and that both already had planning permission. Any planning issues remained with the borough council and both developments would be infrastructure led with the new bridge across the railway line coming before the construction of the first 100 homes, this would be followed by the first shops, schools, community centre and a medical centre. He announced that capacity funding to assist delivery had been agreed over a two year period.

Minute 16 Crematorium Update – Costings Post Tender Exercise – the recommendations contained within this minute were put to the vote and declared carried.

RESOLVED that:

- (i) a waste collection working group, along with membership, be set up at the annual council meeting on 19 May 2015;
- (ii) approval be given to the reserves policy;
- (iii) approval be given to the capital strategy;
- (iv) the capital programme for 2015-16 onwards be noted;
- (v) approval be given to the treasury management policy statement;
- (vi) approval be given to the prudential and treasury Indicators;
- (vii) approval be given to the annual investment strategy;
- (viii) approval be given to the new contract procedure rules;
- (ix) approval be given to the revised budget requirement for the crematorium project based on the figures provided;
- (x) approval be given for the chief executive, in consultation with the chairman of Resources Committee, to release further funding up to the value of £250,000 if any of the risks identified crystallise during the building phase of the project;
- (xi) approval be given to the head of finance, in consultation with the chairman and vice-chairman of Resources Committee, to grant supplementary estimates to no more than 10% of a projects total cost to a maximum of £20,000;
- (xii) the minutes of the Resources Committee of 18 March 2015 be adopted.

9. AUDIT COMMITTEE

The minutes of the Audit Committee of 24 March 2015 were received.

The chairman asked that it be noted that reference within the minutes to KMPG was incorrect and that this should read KPMG for which he apologised. He also thanked the finance team for their hard work in achieving an unqualified certificate for the second consecutive year.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Audit Committee of 24 March 2015 be adopted.

10. MEMBERS' QUESTIONS AND OR MOTIONS (PREVIOUSLY NOTIFIED)

Councillor G Lawman asked the following question:

“At the council meeting held on 24 February 2015 the recommendation of the Services Committee in relation to property at 31-32 Church Street Wellingborough was approved as follows:

- (i) that officers enter into negotiations with the land owner to transfer the property into the council's ownership within four weeks;

- (ii) that if the above fails officers use the council's compulsory purchase powers under Section 226(1) (a) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) to acquire all estates and interests in the land shown edged red on the drawing in the report, subject to appropriate attempts to explore options with the property owner which would resolve the matter without the need for the council to invoke its compulsory purchase power.

"Officers started the period of four weeks mentioned in the resolution from the date of the last council meeting, beyond which the council would look to force a sale. That period has now passed.

"The property has attracted considerable adverse comment as to its state of repair and concern over its safety and the poor aspect it presents for the town centre.

"Can the leader please inform council whether agreement has been reached with the owner and, if not, whether action to force a sale has begun? If agreement has been reached, can the leader please give council an update on negotiations including expected timescales as far as reasonably practical given commercial and legal restrictions".

The leader confirmed that negotiations were near completion with the land owner on an agreed sale and that there had been no need to use compulsory purchase powers. The monies due to the council would also be recovered from the sale of the building, which would, in due course, be demolished.

RESOLVED that the leader's response be noted.

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

Retiring councillors

The mayor referred to the 11 councillors who were retiring at the next election. Councillors Blackwell, Dholakia, Higgins, Pursglove, Raymond, Timms and Warwick all addressed the meeting, thanking their fellow councillors, officers and the electorate for voting them in and wished the council well for the future. The mayor spoke about Councillors Ainge, Hawkes and B Patel who were not in attendance. He was also retiring and recalled his time on the council and his achievements during this time and wished all councillors and officers the best of health and good luck in the future.

Mayor

The meeting closed at 8.10pm.

**MINUTES OF
THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
BOROUGH COUNCIL OF WELLINGBOROUGH
HELD AT SWANSPOOL HOUSE, WELLINGBOROUGH
ON TUESDAY 19 MAY 2015**

Present: The Mayor, Mr J Bass, and Councillors Abram, Allebone, Anslow, Aslam, Bailey, Bell, Beirne, Bone, Carr, Ekins, Emerson, Gough, Graves, Griffiths, Harrington, L Lawman, Morrall, Partridge-Underwood, Patel, Scanlon, Scarborough, Simmons, Skittrall, Stevenson, Walia, Ward, M Waters, V Waters, Watts and York.

Officers present: Mr J T Campbell, Chief Executive, Miss S Lyons, Solicitor/Monitoring Officer, District Law, Mrs L Elliott, Mrs B Lawrence and Miss J Thomas, Mr G Betts, Mayor's Sergeant, Mrs F Hubbard and Mrs C A Mundy, Democratic Services Officers.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

RESOLVED to note that apologies for absence were received from Councillors Francis, Hallam, Henley, G Lawman, Lloyd and Maguire.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

RESOLVED to note that there were no declarations made by councillors.

3. ELECTION OF THE MAYOR FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2015-16 AND APPOINTMENT OF HIS MAYORESS AND CHAPLAIN

Nominations were invited for the election of the Mayor of the Borough of Wellingborough for the municipal year 2015-16.

It was moved by Councillor Partridge-Underwood and seconded by Councillor Scarborough and **RESOLVED** that Councillor Barry Alfred Graves be elected to the office of the Mayor of the Borough of Wellingborough for the municipal year 2015-16.

Councillor Graves made his declaration of acceptance of office, was invested with the insignia of office, and took his seat as Mayor.

The Mayor appointed his wife, Pauline Rose Graves, as his Mayoress.

The Mayor appointed Reverend Chris Pearson, as his chaplain and informed the meeting that his civic service would be held on Sunday 14 June at St Nicholas Church, Great Doddington.

The Mayor then welcomed his family, friends, distinguished guests, honorary freeman, parish councillors and fellow councillors to the annual meeting of the council. He presented his inaugural speech as Mayor of the Borough of Wellingborough, expressing his pride in the honour bestowed upon him for the coming year in representing the borough which he would do with integrity and distinction. He hoped that this would be an interesting mayoral year and was proud to be representing the borough.

It was moved by Councillor Gough, seconded by Councillor Scarborough and **RESOLVED** that the council record its thanks and appreciation to the immediate past Mayor, Mr J Bass for the service he had given to the council, and to the Borough of Wellingborough, during his year of office.

Mr Bass responded to the vote of thanks and officially welcomed the new Mayor to office. He addressed the meeting, stating how much he and Mrs Bass had enjoyed the mayoral year, and considered it to have been a great honour and privilege to meet so many warm and welcoming people in the borough.

4. ELECTION OF THE DEPUTY MAYOR FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2015-16 AND APPOINTMENT OF HIS DEPUTY MAYORESS

Nominations were invited for the election of the Deputy Mayor for the municipal year 2015-16.

It was moved by Councillor Griffiths, seconded by Councillor Scarborough and **RESOLVED** that Councillor Graham Michael Lawman be appointed to the office of the Deputy Mayor of the Borough of Wellingborough, for the municipal year 2015-16.

The Deputy Mayor was not present but on his behalf the Mayor announced that the Deputy Mayor had appointed his wife Councillor Hannelore Lawman to be his Deputy Mayoress, and the Mayor invested her with the insignia of office.

5. PRESENTATION OF BADGES TO THE IMMEDIATE PAST MAYOR AND MAYORESS FOR 2014-15

The Mayor presented the immediate past Mayor and Mayoress with badges to commemorate their term of office.

6. APPOINTMENT OF LEADER AND DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2015-16

RESOLVED to note the appointment of Councillor Paul Anthony Bell as leader of the council and Councillor Martin Griffiths as deputy leader of the council for the municipal year 2015-16.

7. APPOINTMENT OF LEADER AND DEPUTY LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION FOR 2015-16

RESOLVED to note the appointment of Councillor Andrew Michael Julian Scarborough as leader of the opposition, and Councillor Brian Emerson as deputy leader of the opposition for the municipal year 2015-16.

8. ALLOCATION OF COMMITTEE SEATS; APPOINTMENT OF STANDING COMMITTEES AND ADVISORY GROUPS AND MEMBERS THERETO; APPOINTMENT OF LEAD ADVISERS; APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS; APPROVAL OF THE CALENDAR OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR 2014-15; APPROVAL OF THE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE NEW COMMITTEE STRUCTURE.

It was proposed by Councillor Bell and seconded by Councillor Graves and **RESOLVED** that:

- (i) Committee seats be allocated as detailed in appendix A to the agenda;
- (ii) Standing committees and advisory groups be appointed as detailed in appendix B to the agenda;
- (iii) Chairmen, vice-chairmen and councillors be appointed to standing committees and advisory groups as detailed in Appendix C to the agenda with the addition that Councillor Maguire also be appointed to the Standards Committee;
- (iv) Lead advisers be appointed as detailed in Appendix D to the agenda;
- (v) Appointments to outside organisations be made as detailed in appendix E to the agenda;
- (vi) The calendar of committee meetings for 2015-17 as detailed in appendix F to the agenda be approved;

9. AUTHORISATION OF THE COMMON SEAL FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2015-16

RESOLVED that authority be and is hereby given to affix the common seal of the Borough Council of Wellingborough to documents necessary to give effect to any of the business of the proceedings of the council for the municipal year 2015-16.

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

RESOLVED to note that there being no correspondence, communication or other business to consider, the Mayor closed the meeting and invited his guests to join him at The Castle for his civic reception.

Mayor

Meeting closed at 8.15pm.

