

NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

DECISION SHEET

Meeting of the Council held in the Spirella Ballroom,
Icknield Way, Letchworth Garden City
on Thursday, 18th May, 2017 at 7.30 pm

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors John Bishop, Faye S. Frost, Steve Jarvis, Ben Lewis, Sandra Lunn, Gerald Morris, M.R.M. Muir, Valentine Shanley, Adrian Smith and Mrs C.P.A. Strong.

2 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE CIVIC YEAR 2017/18

RESOLVED: That Councillor Alan Millard be elected Chairman of the Council to hold office until the next Annual Meeting of the Council in 2018.

Councillor Alan Millard then read and signed the Statutory Declaration of Acceptance of Office and the Chairman (Councillor John Booth) placed the chain of office upon him. Councillor Millard thanked the Council for his election as Chairman and took the Chair. He informed the Council that his consort for the year would be his wife, Maureen, and he invested her with her chain.

3 APPOINTMENT OF A VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE CIVIC YEAR 2017/18

RESOLVED: That Councillor John Bishop be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Council to hold office until the next Annual meeting of the Council in 2018.

The Chairman announced that Councillor Bishop had tendered his apologies for the meeting.

4 MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 11 April 2017 be approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

5 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

(1) Declarations of Interest

The Chairman reminded Members that, in line with the Code of Conduct, any Declarations of Interest needed to be declared immediately prior to the item in question.

(2) New Councillor and Former Councillor re-elected

The Chairman congratulated and welcomed Councillor Sarah Dingley and welcomed back Councillor Ray Shakespeare-Smith following their by-election success at the Elections on 4 May 2017.

(3) Charities and Fundraising

The Chairman announce that his chosen charities for the year were Hitchin Helping Hands and Snappy Gs (a charity providing activities for young adults with learning disabilities), also based in Hitchin.

6 SCHEDULE OF COUNCIL MEETINGS 2017/18

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the following programme of ordinary meetings of the Council be approved for the Civic Year 2017/2018:

Wednesday, 19 July 2017;
Thursday, 31 August 2017;
Thursday, 23 November 2017;
Thursday, 18 January 2018;
Thursday, 8 February 2018;
Tuesday, 10 April 2018; and

- (2) That, for 2018/19 and future years, NHDC will avoid, wherever possible, arranging scheduled Council meetings during the school holidays.

REASON FOR DECISION: To enable Members to agree a programme of ordinary meetings of the Council for 2017/2018.

7 LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

The Council noted that the Leader of the Council for the period until May 2019 would be Councillor Mrs L.A. Needham.

8 APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

The Council noted that the Leader of the Council had appointed Councillor Julian Cunningham as Deputy Leader for the 2017/2018 Civic Year.

9 APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS OF THE CABINET FOR 2017/18

RESOLVED: That it be noted that the following Members be appointed as Executive Members of the Cabinet for 2017/2018 responsible for the following areas, and with the delegations for inclusion in the Council's Constitution as detailed in the report tabled at the meeting:

Councillor Mrs L.A. Needham – Leader and Cabinet Chairman
Councillor Julian Cunningham – Executive Member for Finance & IT and Cabinet Vice-Chairman
Councillor Tony Hunter – Executive Member for Community Engagement & Rural Affairs
Councillor Jane Gray – Executive Member for Leisure
Councillor Bernard Lovewell – Executive Member for Housing & Environmental Health
Councillor Michael Weeks – Executive Member for Waste, Recycling & Environment
Councillor Ray Shakespeare-Smith – Executive Member for Policy, Transport & Green Issues
Councillor David Levett – Executive Member for Planning & Enterprise

10 TO APPOINT MEMBERS OF COMMITTEES FOR 2017/18

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the seats allocated to each political party on the Committees to which Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 applied and the seats allocated to each political party on the bodies to which Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 did not apply be as set out in Appendix A to these Minutes; and
- (2) That Members be appointed to the various Committees and other bodies in accordance with the wishes of the individual groups, as detailed in Appendix B to these Minutes.

11 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMEN AND VICE-CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEES FOR 2017/18

RESOLVED: That the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Committees for 2017/2018 be appointed in accordance with the details set out in the Appendix C to these Minutes.

12 ADJOURNMENT TO ENABLE THE APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMEN AND VICE-CHAIRMEN OF AREA COMMITTEES

The Chairman adjourned the meeting to enable the five Area Committees to meet to elect their respective Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen for 2017/2018.

The meeting was adjourned at 8.02pm.

The meeting was re-convened at 8.07pm.

13 KEY DECISIONS - ANNUAL REPORT ON CASES OF SPECIAL URGENCY

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

REASON FOR DECISION: To comply with Regulation 19 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.

14 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

RESOLVED: That the Annual Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for 2016/2017 be noted.

15 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

RESOLVED:

(1) That the Annual Report of the Standards Committee, as attached at Appendix A to the report, be received and noted; and

(2) That the issues being reviewed by the Standards Committee in 2017/18 be noted.

16 NOMINATION OF REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS AND OTHER BODIES FOR 2017/18

RESOLVED:

(1) That the list of nominations of representatives on Outside Organisations and Other Bodies for 2017/2018, as set out in Appendix A to the report, be approved; and

(2) That Political Group Leaders notify the Democratic Services Manager of nominations to the remaining vacancies or any changes to the existing representatives on outside organisations

(3)

17 COUNCILLOR JOHN BOOTH - PAST CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED: That the Council places on record its sincere thanks and appreciation to former Councillor John Booth for his services as Chairman of the Council during the past year.