



EAST
CAMBRIDGESHIRE
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of East Cambridgeshire District Council held in the Council Chamber, The Grange, Nutholt Lane, Ely on Thursday 26 May 2016 at 6.00pm

P R E S E N T

Councillor Christine Ambrose Smith	Councillor Julia Huffer
Councillor David Ambrose Smith	Councillor Mark Hugo
Councillor Sue Austen	Councillor Chris Morris
Councillor Ian Bovingdon	Councillor James Palmer
Councillor Mike Bradley	Councillor Charles Roberts
Councillor David Brown	Councillor Hamish Ross
Councillor David Chaplin	Councillor Mike Rouse
Councillor Steve Cheetham	Councillor Daniel Schumann
Councillor Paul Cox	Councillor Joshua Schumann
Councillor Peter Cresswell (Vice-Chairman in the Chair)	Councillor Carol Sennitt
Councillor Lorna Dupré	Councillor Alan Sharp
Councillor Lis Every	Councillor Mathew Shuter
Councillor Coralie Green	Councillor Stuart Smith
Councillor Richard Hobbs	Councillor Lisa Stubbs
	Councillor Jo Webber

The Vice-Chairman explained that he would be chairing the meeting due to the absence of the Chairman.

Prior to the commencement of formal business, prayers were delivered by the Reverend Sue Potts, Vicar of the Three Rivers Group of Parishes.

Councillor Roberts entered the meeting at 6.04pm.

1. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

No public questions were submitted.

2. **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN 2016/17**

It was resolved:

That Cllr Michael Allan be elected to the office of Chairman of East Cambridgeshire District Council for the ensuing Municipal Year 2016/17.

3. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Alderson, Allan, Bailey, Beckett, Edwards, Griffin-Singh, Hitchin, Bill Hunt, Pearson.

4. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

5. **MINUTES**

It was resolved:

That the Minutes of the Council meetings held on 25 February and 13 April 2016 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

6. **APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN 2016/17**

It was resolved:

That Cllr Peter Cresswell be appointed as Vice-Chairman of East Cambridgeshire District Council for the municipal year 2016/17.

7. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman made the following announcements:

Member Seminar – Leisure Centre

Can I remind Councillors of the Member Seminar taking place on Thursday 9 June 2016 on the Leisure Centre. If you have not already done so, please can you contact Kimberley Wardle in Democratic Services to confirm your attendance.

Committee Meetings following this Council meeting

Please can I remind Members to stay behind at the conclusion of this Council meeting, as there will be a series of 'mini' Committee meetings to elect the Chairman and Vice-Chairman and appoint Sub-Committees, etc, and Service Delivery Champions, for the forthcoming year.

Councillor Chaplin entered the meeting at 6.09pm.

8. **PETITIONS**

No petitions had been received.

9. **MOTIONS**

No motions were received under Council Procedure Rule 10.

10. **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS**

No questions had been received from Members.

11. **LEADER AND DEPUTY LEADER OF COUNCIL, GROUP LEADERS AND DEPUTY GROUP LEADERS**

The Council received a report, R1, regarding details of the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council, Political Groups, Group Leaders and Deputy Group Leaders for the forthcoming municipal year.

It was resolved:

That the details of the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council; Political Groups; Group Leaders and Deputies for the forthcoming municipal year, as set out below, be noted:

Conservative

Cllr James Palmer (Leader)
Cllr Charles Roberts (Deputy)

Liberal Democrat

Cllr Lorna Dupré (Leader)
Cllr Sue Austen (Deputy)

In accordance with Article 2.03(b), the declared Leader of the Council is Cllr James Palmer as Leader of the Conservative Group. In accordance with Article 2.03(c), the declared Deputy Leader of the Council is Cllr Charles Roberts as Deputy Leader of the Conservative Group.

12. **POLITICAL PROPORTIONALITY**

The Council received a report, R2, which gave details of the political balance of the Council and the implications for the allocation of seats on Committees, Sub-Committees and other Member Bodies.

It was resolved (by a unanimous vote):

That Council notes the details of the political balance of the Council as set out in Appendix 1 and approves the allocation of seats on Committees, Sub-Committees and other Member Bodies as set out in Appendix 2 of the report.

13. **MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES AND SUB-COMMITTEES (INCLUDING SUBSTITUTES) AND OTHER MEMBER BODIES 2016/17**

Council received a report, R3, for Members to consider the appointment of Members and Substitute Members to Committees, Sub-Committees and to other Member Bodies for 2016/17.

It was resolved:

That Council approves the membership of Committees, Sub-Committees and other Member bodies for 2016/17 set out at Appendix 1 to the submitted report.

14. **SCHEDULE OF ITEMS RECOMMENDED FROM COMMITTEES AND OTHER MEMBER BODIES**

Council considered a report, R4, which detailed recommendations from the meeting of Corporate Governance and Finance Committee on 21 March 2016 on the review of the Anti-Fraud and Corruption Strategy and Corporate Risk Register Annual Review and from Regulatory and Support Services Committee on 4 April 2016 in respect of Performance Management reporting arrangements.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND FINANCE COMMITTEE – 21 MARCH 2016

(a) Review of Anti-Fraud and Corruption Strategy

It was resolved:

That the revised Anti-Fraud and Corruption Strategy, as set out at Appendix 1 to the submitted report, be approved.

(b) Corporate Risk Register Annual Review

The Director Resources explained that in response to a question raised at the Corporate Governance and Finance Committee on 21 March 2016 regarding the change in the risk relating to the LATC and potential impact on the achievement of the Corporate Objectives and MTFS referred to in Appendix 1 page 12, the rise in the residual risk by 2 was an increase when compared to the previous year.

It was resolved:

That the revised Corporate Risk Register, set out at Appendix 1 to the submitted report (as amended), be approved.

REGULATORY AND SUPPORT SERVICES COMMITTEE – 4 APRIL 2016

Forward Planning for Performance Management Reporting

The Chairman explained that the intention of the recommendation was to streamline the existing arrangements.

Councillor Dupré referred to Appendix 2 and suggested that a 'traffic light' system of red, amber, green colour coding and arrows to show direction of travel could be used to give a more visual representation of comparative performance. With reference to Appendix 1, Councillor Dupré commented that the 'agreement of priorities by administration' referred to on the January section of the flowchart was the consideration of the priorities by the ruling political group and not actually the setting of these by the Council, which happened later in the year.

It was resolved:

That the revised Performance Management reporting arrangements, specifically:

- The timetable set out in Appendix 1 to align the performance reporting with the Council's budget cycle;
- The reporting template set out in Appendix 2 to highlight progress against the agreed baseline and targets;

be adopted by all relevant Committees.

15. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND (LGBCE)
ELECTORAL REVIEW OF CAMBRIDGESHIRE - EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE
DISTRICT COUNCIL RESPONSE TO CONSULTATION ON NEW DRAFT
RECOMMENDATIONS**

Council considered a report, R5, which contained a proposed submission on behalf of the District Council to the Local Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) consultation on the latest draft recommendations for new electoral arrangements for Cambridgeshire County Council. The Infrastructure and Strategy Manager, Sally Bonnett, explained the background to this further round of consultation and the reasons for the proposed submission being based on 9 single Member County Divisions for East Cambridgeshire. Ms Bonnett acknowledged that it was not possible to create perfect electoral arrangements but that this appeared to be the best that could be achieved within the constraints of the set criteria.

In proposing approval of the submission attached to the submitted report, Councillor Joshua Schumann asked that the Council's thanks be placed on record for the hard work undertaken by Ms Bonnet in preparing the submission. He stated that the Council had been surprised and disappointed at the necessity for a further round of consultation, but that it was important for the Council to engage in this process to obtain the best arrangement for both this and the ongoing District Council electoral review.

Councillor Dupré stated that she opposed the recommended Council submission and that the Liberal Democrats would be submitting an alternative response which did not split any Parish within the District. Councillor Dupré also referred to an error on page 1 of the proposed submission which stated that there were objections to the dividing of the current Sutton Division. She clarified that there had been no objections to changing the current configuration of villages comprising the Sutton Division, but that there had been objections to the splitting of the village of Sutton between Divisions. This was reflected in the strong objections made by Sutton Parish Council to the proposed splitting of the village between Divisions which had not been referred to in the proposed Council submission. Councillor Dupré requested a recorded vote on the issue.

In summing-up, Councillor Joshua Schumann referred to the advantages and disadvantages of the Council's 9 Member proposal which were set out on page 5 of the submission and included the disadvantage of Sutton being split between two Divisions. However, Councillor Schumann believed that the Council's proposal was the best that could be achieved in the circumstances, which was why he was happy to support it.

A recorded vote was taken on the Motion, the results of which were as follows:

FOR: (27) – Cllrs, C Ambrose Smith, D Ambrose Smith, Bovingdon, Bradley, Brown, Chaplin, Cheetham, Cox, Cresswell, Every, Green, Hobbs, Huffer, Hugo, Morris, Palmer, Roberts, Ross, Rouse, D Schumann, J Schumann, Sennitt, Sharp, Shuter, Smith, Stubbs, Webber.

AGAINST: (2) – Cllrs Austen, Dupré.

ABSTENTIONS: (0)

The Motion was declared to be carried.

It was resolved:

That the Council agrees the submission to the LGBCE attached as Appendix 1 to the submitted report.

The meeting concluded at 6.25pm.

Chairman.....

Date: