

ITEM NO. 2 (c)

COUNCIL
26th May, 2011

PRESENT – The Mayor; Councillors Baldwin, Copeland, Cossins, Coultas, Crudass, Curry, Dixon, Donoghue, Francis, Galletley, Grundy, Harker, Haszeldine, L. Haszeldine, C. L. B. Hughes, L. Hughes, Hutchinson, Johnson, Kelley, Knowles, Landers, Lawton, Lister, D. A. Lyonette, Macnab, Maddison, McEwan, Newall, Nutt, Regan, E. A. Richmond, S. Richmond, A. J. Scott, Mrs. H. Scott, Stenson, C. Taylor, J. Taylor, Thistlethwaite, J. Vasey, Wallis and Wright. (42)

APOLOGIES – Councillors Carson, Harman, B. Jones, Mrs. D. Jones, Lee, Lewis, Long, J. M. Lyonette, Swainston and York. (10)

ABSENT – Councillor Burton. (1)

10. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – There were no declarations of interest reported at the meeting.

11. COUNCIL REPORTS – (1) Constitution – The Director of Resources submitted a report (previously circulated) seeking Members' approval for the revised Constitution, incorporating in year changes, and seeking approval for minor changes to the Contract Procedure Rules and the Scheme of Delegation.

The submitted report stated that the Constitution was reviewed annually, and that the proposed revised Constitution appended to the submitted report incorporated a number of changes which had arisen from decisions already taken individually by Council or Cabinet during the last year, and therefore did not require individual decisions. The submitted report also outlined changes to the Political Arrangements, including to the composition of the Cabinet and the Portfolios, changes to the Scheme of Delegation and the Contract Procedure Rules.

RESOLVED – (a) That the proposed changes to the Contract Procedure Rules, and Scheme of Delegation, be approved.

(b) That the revised Constitution be approved.

REASON – To ensure that the Council has an up to date and complete record of its decision making processes which is available to Members and the public.

(2) Members' Allowances Review - The Director of Resources submitted a report (previously circulated) to enable Members to give consideration to a review of the Members' Allowances Scheme, the appointment of an additional member to serve on the Council's Independent Members' Allowances Panel, and to consider a review of the Mayoral Allowances.

The submitted report outlined the requirement of the Council to establish and maintain an Independent Remuneration Panel to make recommendations to Council about the allowances to be paid to Elected Members, which included the level of basic allowance for all Members, and on whether a dependant's carers allowance, travel and subsistence allowances and Co-optees allowances should be paid. The submitted report included information on previous reviews, the composition of the Independent Remuneration Panel, the Terms of Reference for the Panel, and a proposed review of Mayoral Allowances.

RESOLVED – (a) That a review of the Council's Members' Allowances Scheme be undertaken by the Council's Independent Remuneration Panel.

(b) That Paul McGee be appointed to this Council's Independent Panel.

(c) That the Terms of Reference for the Panel, as attached in Appendix A of the submitted report, be approved for the review.

(d) That the Panel be also asked to review the Council's current Mayoral Allowances.

REASONS – (a) To ensure that this Council reviews its Members' Allowances Scheme to meet legislative requirements.

(b) To ensure the composition of the Panel is in accordance with Guidance.

(c) To ensure the Mayoral Allowances are appropriate to the designated roles.

(3) Appointment to Committees 2011/2012 - The Director of Resources submitted a report (previously circulated) requesting that consideration be given to the membership of the Cabinet and various Committees for the Municipal Year 2011/12, for approval.

RESOLVED – (a) That the appointment of Members to the Various Committees, as detailed in the Appendix to the submitted report, be approved.

(b) That the appointment of the Chairs and Vice Chairs to the Scrutiny Committees, General Licensing Committee, Licensing Act 2003 Committee, Planning Applications Committee and Audit Committee, as detailed in the Appendix to the submitted report, be approved.

(c) That the appointment of Cabinet Members and their respective Portfolios, as detailed in the Appendix to the submitted report, be noted.

REASON – To comply with the nominations received.

(4) Representation on Other Bodies 2011/12 - The Director of Resources submitted a report (previously circulated) requesting that consideration be given to this Council's representation on other bodies for the 2011/12 Municipal Year, the appointment for which were the responsibility of Full Council.

Councillor Curry moved that the vacancies on the Darlington Citizen's Advice Bureau and the Darlington Community Carnival Committee be filled by Councillor Macnab and herself respectively, and this addition was incorporated within the resolution voted thereon.

RESOLVED - That the following, be appointed (or nominated) to represent this Council on the bodies specified for the Municipal Year 2011/12:-

Name of Body or Organisation	Labour Group Representation	Conservative Group/ Liberal Democrat Representation
Association of Councillors		
(a) General Management Committee	Councillor Dixon	-
(b) Northern Branch Committee	Councillor Dixon	-
Association of North East Councils	Councillor Dixon (Leader of the Council), Councillor D A Lyonette (Cabinet Member with Transport Portfolio) and Councillor McEwan (Cabinet Member with Economy and Regeneration Portfolio)	Councillor Mrs Scott (Leader of the Opposition)
(a) Leaders' and Elected Mayors' Group	Councillor Dixon (Leader of the Council) and Councillor Harker (Deputy Leader as named substitute)	-
(b) Director	Councillor Dixon (Leader of the Council)	-
Combined Fire Authority	Councillor Wallis (Cabinet Member with Leisure and Local Environment Portfolio) and Councillors Thistlethwaite and Maddison (Chair and Vice Chair respectively of the Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Committee) (Councillor Newall as named substitute and two vacancies for named substitutes)	Councillor Lewis (Councillor B Jones named substitute)
Combined Fire Authority :-		
(a) Appeals Committee	-	Councillor Lewis
(b) Human Resources Committee	Councillor Maddison (Vice-Chair of Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Committee)	Councillor Lewis
(c) Standards Committee	Councillor Wallis (Cabinet Member with Leisure and Local Environment Portfolio)	-
(d) Performance Committee	Councillor Wallis (Cabinet Member with Leisure and Local Environment Portfolio)	Councillor Lewis

Name of Body or Organisation	Labour Group Representation	Conservative Group/ Liberal Democrat Representation
(e) Audit and Finance Committee	Councillor Maddison (Vice-Chair of Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Committee)	-
(f) Local Government Association	Councillor Wallis (Cabinet Member with Leisure and Local Environment Portfolio) (Councillor Maddison (Vice-Chair of Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Committee as named substitute))	-
(g) Joint Consultative Committee	Councillor Wallis (Cabinet Member with Leisure and Local Environment Portfolio)	-
Cruse Bereavement Care and Resource Centre	Councillor Lister	-
Darlington and District Town Twinning Association Management Committee	Councillors Landers and Nutt	-
Darlington Citizen's Advice Bureau	Councillor Newall	Councillor Macnab
Darlington Community Carnival Committee	Councillor Dixon	Councillor Curry
Darlington Hospital (Radio Skerne) - Management Team	Councillor Wright	-
Darlington Young Men's Christian Association - Local Management Board	Councillors J. Taylor and Wright (Central Ward Members)	-
Durham Police Authority	Councillor Dixon (Leader of the Council)	-
eVOLution – Executive Committee (formerly Darlington Council for Voluntary Service)	Councillors Long (Observer)	-
Local Government Association	Councillor Dixon (Leader of the Council) and Councillor Harker (Deputy Leader of the Council)	Councillor Mrs Scott (Leader of the Opposition)
Local Government Association - Urban Commission	Vacancy	-
Police Community	Councillors Copeland, I. Haszeldine and Nutt	Councillor Stenson

Name of Body or Organisation	Labour Group Representation	Conservative Group/ Liberal Democrat Representation
Consultation Group		
Poor Moor Charity	Councillor McEwan	-
Sadberge Village Hall Association – Management Committee	-	Councillor B Jones (Sadberge and Whessoe Ward Member)
Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE)	Councillor C. L. B. Hughes (Cabinet Member with Children and Young People Portfolio) and Councillor Lister (Chair of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee)	Councillor Galletley
Willow Road Community Centre – Management Committee	Councillor L Hughes (Pierremont Ward Member)	-

REASON – To comply with the nominations received from the Political Groups.