

ANNUAL COUNCIL

19th May, 2005

PRESENT – The Mayor; Councillors Armstrong, Baldwin, Bristow, Mrs. Brown, Burt, Copeland, Dixon, Foster, Flowers, Harker, Mrs. Hart, Hartley, Haszeldine, Heaney, Holmes, Hughes, Hutchinson, Johnson, B. Jones, Mrs. Jones, S.J. Jones, Lee, Lewis, Lister, Long, D.A. Lyonette, J. Lyonette, Maddison, Maybrey, McEwan, Newall, Nutt, Reynolds, Richmond, Roberts, F.S. Robson, S. Robson, Ruck, A.J. Scott, Mrs Scott, Stenson, Mrs. Swift, Thistlethwaite, J.C. Vasey, L. Vasey, Vasey-Smith, Wallis, Williams and Wilson. (50)

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE - Alderman Skinner.

APOLOGIES – Councillors Lawton, Stamford-Bewlay and G. B. Walker. (3)

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS - There were no declarations of interest reported at the meeting.

2. MAYOR - Consideration was given to the election of a Mayor for the Municipal Year 2005/06.

RESOLVED - That Councillor Stella Robson be elected Mayor of the Borough of Darlington for the Municipal Year 2005/06.

Following her election, the Mayor, was invested with the Chain of Office and :-

- (i) made and subscribed the Declaration of Acceptance of the said Office required by Law;
- (ii) signed the ‘Diamond Jubilee Record Book’;
- (iii) tendered her thanks to the Members of the Council for having elected her;
- (iv) announced her decision to support during her term of Office, amongst other charities, Family Help, Darlington Association on Disability (DAD) and Darlington Festival of Performing Arts;
- (v) announced that her Escort for the Mayoral Year would be Councillor F. S. Robson.

3. RETIRING MAYOR - VOTE OF THANKS - A vote of thanks was proposed to the retiring Mayor and Mayoress.

RESOLVED - That the cordial thanks of the Council are due, and are hereby tendered, to Councillor Roderick Francis and his Mayoress, Councillor Isobel Hartley, for the exemplary manner in which they have discharged the duties of the high office of Mayor and Mayoress of this Borough during the past Municipal Year.

In recognition of their services, the Mayor presented the retiring Mayor with a medallion and his Mayoress with a brooch.

4. DEPUTY MAYOR - Consideration was given to the appointment of a Deputy Mayor for the Municipal Year 2005/06.

RESOLVED - That Councillor Eleanor Lister be appointed Deputy Mayor of the Borough of Darlington for the Municipal Year 2005/06.

Following her appointment as Deputy Mayor, Councillor Eleanor Lister made and subscribed the Declaration of Acceptance of the said office as required by Law.

5. APPOINTMENT OF LEADER - Consideration was given to the appointment of a Leader for the Council for the Municipal Year 2005/06.

RESOLVED - That Councillor Williams be appointed Leader of the Council for the Municipal Year 2005/06.

6. APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY LEADER - Consideration was given to the appointment of a Deputy Leader for the Council for the Municipal Year 2005/06.

RESOLVED - That Councillor Dixon be appointed Deputy Leader of the Council for the Municipal Year 2005/06.

7. MEMBERSHIP OF CABINET, SCRUTINY COMMITTEES, STANDARDS COMMITTEE AND OTHER COMMITTEES/SUBSIDIARY BODIES 2006/06 - Submitted - A revised list (previously circulated) of the Membership of the Cabinet and various Committees for the Municipal Year 2005/06 for approval.

RESOLVED – That the membership of the Cabinet, Scrutiny Committees, Standards Committee and other Committees and Subsidiary Bodies of the Council for the 2005/06 Municipal Year be as follows :-

CABINET (9) - Councillor Williams (Leader); Councillors Bristow, Dixon (Deputy Leader), Harker, D.A. Lyonette, McEwan, Thistlethwaite, L. Vasey and Wallis.

LICENSING COMMITTEE (13) - Councillors Flowers, Foster, Hartley, Lawton, Lister, Maybrey, Newall, Nutt, Roberts, A.J. Scott, Stenson, J.C. Vasey, and Wilson.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS COMMITTEE (11) – Councillors Baldwin, Mrs. Brown, Holmes, Hughes, Hutchinson, Johnson, S.J. Jones, Lee, D.A. Lyonette, F.S. Robson and Williams.

ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (11) – The Mayor; Councillors Armstrong, Mrs. Hart, Hartley, Heaney, S.J. Jones, Lewis, Long, Ruck, Mrs. Scott and J.C. Vasey.

LIFELONG LEARNING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (11) – Councillors Armstrong, Burt, Copeland, Francis, Mrs. Hart, Hughes, Long, Richmond, A. J. Scott, Stamford-Bewlay and Vasey-Smith.

VOTING CO-OPTED REPRESENTATIVES (5) - Vacancy (Roman Catholic Church Representative), Reverend C. Wardale (Church of England Representative), Mr. D. Chambers (Primary School Parent Governor Representative), Mrs. J. Brannan,

(Secondary School Parent Governor Representative) and Vacancy (Special School Parent Governor Representative).

PUBLIC PROTECTION AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (11) – Councillors Holmes, B. Jones, Mrs. Jones, Lee, Lister, J. Lyonette, Maddison, Newall, Dr. Reynolds, Ruck and Mrs. Swift.

RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (11) – Councillors Burr, Francis, Haszeldine, Hutchinson, Johnson, Lewis, Maddison, Richmond, F.S. Robson, G.B. Walker and Wilson.

SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (12) - Councillors Copeland, Flowers, Haszeldine, Johnson, Lawton, Nutt, Dr. Reynolds, Richmond, Roberts, Mrs. Scott, Mrs. Swift and G.B. Walker.

STANDARDS COMMITTEE (5) - Councillors B. Jones and J.C. Vasey and Mr. M. Airey, Mr. J. McGuckin and Mr. J.R. Parker.

HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE (16) – Cabinet Member with Resource Management Portfolio, Cabinet Member with Community and Public Protection Portfolio, Cabinet Member with Consumer and Environmental Services Portfolio; Cabinet Member with Regeneration and Planning Portfolio; Cabinet Member with Children’s Services Portfolio; Cabinet Member with Leisure Services Portfolio; Cabinet member with Highways and Transport Portfolio; Cabinet Member with Adult Services Portfolio; Councillor Williams (Leader), Chair of Resources Scrutiny Committee, Vice-Chair of Resources Scrutiny Committee, and four Conservative Members and one Liberal Democrat Member.

HUMAN RESOURCES CHIEF OFFICERS APPOINTMENTS PANEL (9) – Cabinet Member with Resource Management Portfolio; Chair of Resources Scrutiny Committee; Councillor Williams (Leader); three Relevant Cabinet Members, two Conservative Member and one Liberal Democrat Member.

HUMAN RESOURCES PANEL (SITTING AS AN APPOINTMENTS PANEL) (5) – Cabinet Member with Resource Management Portfolio, two relevant Cabinet Members, one Conservative Member and one Liberal Democrat Member.

HUMAN RESOURCES PANEL (SITTING AS JCC AND APPEALS COMMITTEE) (5) - Cabinet Member with Resource Management Portfolio, Chair of Resources Scrutiny Committee, Councillor Johnson, Vice-Chair of Resources Scrutiny Committee and Councillor Lawton.

TENDERING PANEL (3) – Cabinet Member with Resource Management Portfolio, Deputy Leader and Councillor Richmond.

RIGHTS OF WAY PANEL (3) – Councillor Mrs. Hart (Member of Environment Scrutiny Committee), Councillor Lewis (Member of Environment Scrutiny Committee) and Chair of Environment Scrutiny Committee.

CONSTITUTIONAL COMMITTEE (3) – Councillors Bristow, J.C. Vasey and Mrs. Scott.

LEA GOVERNORS APPOINTMENTS PANEL (5) – Cabinet Member with Children’s Services Portfolio; Chair of Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Committee, Councillor Richmond, Vice-Chair of Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Committee; and Councillor Lawton.

PUBLIC PROTECTION FORUM (8) – Councillor Ruck, Chair of Licensing Committee, Councillor Holmes (Member of Public Protection and Community Partnerships Scrutiny Committee), Chair of Public Protection and Community Partnerships Scrutiny Committee, Cabinet Member with Consumer and Environmental Services Portfolio (Chair), Vice-Chair of Public Protection and Community Partnerships Scrutiny Committee, Vice-Chair of Licensing Committee and Councillor Lawton.

DARLINGTON ENVIRONMENTAL FORUM (9) – Councillor Hartley (Member of Environment Scrutiny Committee), Councillor S. J. Jones, Councillor Lewis, Cabinet Member with Regeneration and Planning Portfolio, Cabinet Member with Consumer and Environmental Services Portfolio (Chair), Councillor Newall (Member of Public Protection and Community Partnerships Scrutiny Committee), Chair of Environment Scrutiny Committee, Vice-Chair of Environment Scrutiny Committee, and Vice-Chair of Public Protection and Community Partnerships Scrutiny Committee.

DARLINGTON TRANSPORT FORUM (7) – Councillor Hartley (Member of Environment Scrutiny Committee), Councillor S. J. Jones (Member of Environment Scrutiny Committee), Councillor Lewis (Member of Environment Scrutiny Committee), Cabinet Member with Consumer and Environmental Services Portfolio, Chair of Environment Scrutiny Committee, Vice-Chair of Environment Scrutiny Committee, Cabinet Member with Highways and Transport Portfolio (Chair).

EDUCATION SERVICE REVIEW FORUM (3) – Councillor Burt (Member of Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Committee, Chair of Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Committee, Cabinet Member with Children’s Services Portfolio.

TOWN CENTRE FORUM (9) – Councillor Mrs. Brown, Councillor Hartley (Central Ward Member), Councillor Long (Member of Environment Scrutiny Committee), Cabinet Member with Regeneration and Planning Portfolio, Councillor Richmond, Chair of Environment Scrutiny Committee, Councillor Lawton, Cabinet Member with Highways and Transport Portfolio and Leader (Chair).

SOCIAL SERVICES CONSULTATION FORUM (5) – Cabinet Member with Adult Services Portfolio (Chair), Councillor Mrs. Scott, Chair of Social Affairs and Health Scrutiny Committee, Vice-Chair of Public Protection and Community Partnerships Scrutiny Committee and Councillor Lawton.

REPRESENTATIONS SUB-COMMITTEE (5) – Councillors Copeland (Vice-Chair of Social Affairs and Health Scrutiny Committee), Councillor Flowers, (Member of Social Affairs and Health Scrutiny Committee), Councillor Roberts (Member of Social Affairs and Health Scrutiny Committee, Councillor Mrs. Swift (Chair of Social Affairs and health Scrutiny Committee) and Councillor Lawton (Member of Social Affairs and health Scrutiny Committee).

APPRAISAL SUB-GROUP (5) – Cabinet Member with Resource Management Portfolio, Deputy Leader, Chair of Resources Scrutiny Committee, Councillor Richmond and the Leader.

MONITORING AND CO-ORDINATION GROUP (5) – Chair of Resources Scrutiny Committee, Chair of Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Committee, Chair of Public Protection and Community Partnerships Scrutiny Committee, Chair of Environment Scrutiny Committee and Chair of Social Affairs and Health Scrutiny Committee.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES MEMBERS SCOPING GROUP (6) – Councillors Armstrong, Mrs. Jones, Lister, Long, S. Robson and Mrs. Swift.

TEES VALLEY JOINT HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (3) – Vice Chair of Social Affairs and Health Scrutiny Committee, Councillor Mrs. Scott, Chair of Social Affairs and Health Scrutiny Committee.

TOWN CENTRE BOARD (3) – Cabinet Member with Regeneration and Planning Portfolio, Councillor Richmond and the Leader, Councillor Williams.

CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL (3) – Cabinet Member with Children’s Services Portfolio, Cabinet Member with Adult Services Portfolio and Councillor Mrs. Scott.

REASON – To appoint the Cabinet and Council Committees for the 2005/06 Municipal Year.

8. CONSTITUTION OF COUNCIL – AMENDMENTS – The Director of Corporate Services submitted a report (previously circulated) detailing a number of amendments to this Council’s Constitution, the majority of which had been previously approved by Council. A copy of the revised Constitution incorporating the Scheme of Delegation was also previously circulated.

RESOLVED - That the changes, as detailed in the submitted report, be approved and the revised Constitution, incorporating the Scheme of Delegation, as appended to the submitted report, be approved.

REASON – To approve the Constitution for the Council.

9. PROGRAMME OF COUNCIL MEETINGS 2005/06 MUNICIPAL YEAR - Submitted – A programme of ordinary meetings of the Council for the 2005/06 Municipal Year.

RESOLVED - That the programme of ordinary meetings be approved.

10. REPRESENTATION ON OTHER BODIES FOR THE 2005/06 MUNICIPAL YEAR - The Director of Corporate Services submitted a report (previously circulated) requesting that consideration be given to this Council’s representation on other bodies for the 2005/06 Municipal Year, the appointment for which were the responsibility of Full Council.

RESOLVED - That the following, be appointed (or nominated) to represent this Council on the bodies specified for the Municipal Year 2004/05 :-

| Name of Body or Organisation | Labour Group Representation | Conservative Group and Liberal Democrat Representation |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|

Association of Councillors

| Name of Body or Organisation | Labour Group Representation | Conservative Group and Liberal Democrat Representation |
|---|--|---|
| (a) General Management Committee | Councillor Dixon | |
| (b) Northern Branch Committee | Councillor Dixon | |
| Association of North East Councils | Cabinet Member with Regeneration and Planning Portfolio and Leader of the Council. | |
| Association of North East Council's Executive Committee | Cabinet Member with Regeneration and Planning Portfolio | |
| Christmas Charities of Buck and Others | Councillors Francis and Maddison | Councillors Roberts and Stenson |
| Combined Fire Authority | Cabinet Member with Consumer and Environmental Services Portfolio, Vice-Chair of Public Protection and Community Partnerships Scrutiny Committee and Member of Public Protection and Community Partnerships Scrutiny Committee (Councillor Holmes) (Councillors Long, Maddison and Newall as respective named substitutes from the Public Protection and Community Partnerships Scrutiny Committee) | Mrs. Brown (Councillor Foster as named substitute from the Public Protection and Community Partnerships Scrutiny Committee) |
| Combined Fire Authority :- | | |
| Appeals Committee | Vice-Chair of Public Protection and Community Partnerships Scrutiny Committee | |
| Appointments Panel | No Labour vacancy | Councillor Mrs. Brown |
| Best Value Working Group | Vice-Chair of Public Protection and Community Partnerships Scrutiny Committee | |
| Budget Panel | Cabinet Member with Consumer and Environmental Services Portfolio. | |
| Fire and Rescue Joint Consultative Forum | Vice-Chair of Public Protection and Community Partnerships Scrutiny Committee | |

| Name of Body or Organisation | Labour Group Representation | Conservative Group and Liberal Democrat Representation |
|--|---|---|
| Local Government Association | Cabinet Member with Consumer and Environmental Services Portfolio, Vice-Chair of Public Protection and Community Partnerships Scrutiny Committee as named substitute) | |
| Standards Committee | Cabinet Member with Consumer and Environmental Services Portfolio | |
| Cruse Bereavement Care and Resource Centre | Councillor Flowers | |
| Darlington and District Town Twinning Association Management Committee | Councillors Hartley and Nutt | |
| Darlington and Durham Racial Equality Council | Councillor Hughes | Councillor Stamford-Bewlay |
| Darlington Citizens Advice Bureau | Councillor Newall | Councillor Armstrong |
| Darlington Community Carnival Committee | Councillor Holmes | Councillor Ruck |
| Darlington Council for Voluntary Service – Executive Committee | Councillors Maddison and Mrs. Swift | Councillor Armstrong |
| Darlington Hospital (Radio Skerne) - Management Team | Councillor Hutchinson | |
| Darlington Young Men’s Christian Association - Local Management Board | Councillors Flowers (Central Ward Member) and Hutchinson | |
| Durham Police Authority | Deputy Leader | |
| Durham Rural Community Council | Councillor Flowers | |
| Local Government Association | Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council | Leader of Opposition |
| Local Government Association – Urban Commission | Councillor Hartley | |

| Name of Body or Organisation | Labour Group Representation | Conservative Group and Liberal Democrat Representation |
|--|---|--|
| Local Government Information Unit - Management Committee | Leader | |
| North East Assembly | Leader and Councillor L. Vasey | Leader of the opposition (appointed by NEA as a minority group representative) |
| North East Assembly - Executive Committee | Leader | |
| North East Community Forest | Councillor D. Lyonette | |
| Police Community Consultation Group | Councillors Copeland, Flowers and Nutt | Councillor Stenson |
| Poor Moor Charity | Councillor McEwan | |
| Sadberge Village Hall Association Management Committee | Councillor McEwan | Councillor B. Jones (Sadberge and Whessoe Ward Member) |
| School Organisation Committee | Cabinet Member with Children's Services Portfolio and Chair of Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Committee | Councillor Burt |
| Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) | Cabinet Member with Children's Services Portfolio and Chair of Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Committee | Councillor Burt |
| Willow Road Community Centre Management Committee | Councillor Mrs Swift (Pierremont Ward Member) | |

REASON – The recommendation is supported to comply with the nominations received from the Political Groups.