

EAST STAFFORDSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of East Staffordshire Borough Council held in the Council Chamber at the Town Hall, Burton upon Trent on Monday 4th March 2019

Present:

Councillor C Smith (Mayor) in the Chair

Councillors	Mrs P L Ackroyd	H Hall
	G Allen	P Hudson
	S Andjelkovic	Mrs J F Jessel
	E W R Barker	R Johnston
	M J Bowering	C B Jones
	K J Builth	Mrs J Jones
	R J Clarke	Mrs J A Killoran
	R A Faulkner	D C Leese
	M Fitzpatrick	Ms A J Legg
	D F Fletcher	G E Marjoram
	D Florence-Jukes	S McGarry
	S P Gaskin	L G Milner
	D Goodfellow	B G Peters
	Mrs V J Gould	Mrs L Shelton
	R G W Grosvenor	Mrs B Toon
	G Hall	C Wileman (Deputy Mayor)

Officers Present:

The Chief Executive, the Heads of Service (Sal Khan and Mark Rizk), the Monitoring Officer, the Deputy Monitoring Officer, and the Principal Democratic Services Officer.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A Johnson and C V Whittaker.

287/19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest at the commencement of the meeting.

288/19 MINUTES

The public minutes of the meeting of the Borough Council held on 25th February 2019 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

THOSE VOTING FOR THE MOTION	THOSE VOTING AGAINST	THOSE ABSTAINING
Councillor S Andjelkovic		Councillor Mrs P L Ackroyd
Councillor E W R Barker		Councillor S P Gaskin
Councillor M J Bowering		Councillor Mrs L Shelton
Councillor K J Builth		
Councillor R J Clarke		

Councillor R A Faulkner		
Councillor M T Fitzpatrick		
Councillor D F Fletcher		
Councillor D Florence-Jukes		
Councillor D Goodfellow		
Councillor Mrs V J Gould		
Councillor R G W Grosvenor		
Councillor G Hall		
Councillor H Hall		
Councillor P Hudson		
Councillor Mrs J F Jessel		
Councillor R A Johnston		
Councillor C B Jones		
Councillor Mrs J Jones		
Councillor Mrs J A Killoran		
Councillor D C Leese		
Councillor Ms A J Legg		
Councillor G E Marjoram		
Councillor S McGarry		
Councillor L G Milner		
Councillor B G Peters		
Councillor C Smith		
Councillor Mrs B Toon		
Councillor C D Wileman		

289/19 **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Leader advised Council that Councillor L G Milner had resigned from the Conservative party and was now an independent Councillor.

The Leader placed on record his thanks to those Councillors who were not seeking re-election at the Borough Council elections on 2nd May 2019.

At this juncture Councillors S Andjelkovic, K J Builth, R J Clarke, M T Fitzpatrick, D F Fletcher, R A Johnston, C B Jones and Ms A J Legg left the meeting

290/19 **URGENT BUSINESS**

There was no urgent business for consideration at the meeting.

291/19 **INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL – FINAL REPORT ON MEMBERS REMUNERATION – OUTCOME OF REVIEW**

At this juncture Councillor G Allen entered the meeting.

The report of the Chief Executive on the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel on Members Allowances was considered. Council noted the contents of Appendix A - A Review of Members' Allowances for East Staffordshire Borough Council, the Seventh Report by the Independent Remuneration Panel.

The Mayor invited Dr Declan Hall (Chairman of the Independent Remuneration Panel) to present the report.

Council noted that Councillor D Florence-Jukes wished to place on record her disagreement with the increase in the Special Responsibility Allowance for the Chairman of the Licensing Committee.

Resolved:

That the recommendations detailed in the executive summary of appendix 1 of the report be approved - as follows:

- (1) That the Basic Allowance and Special Responsibility Allowances be paid as set out in the table below

Post	Basic Allowance	Special Responsibility Allowance	Maximum Payable Per Member
All Members (39)	£4,724	-	£4,724
Leader (1)	£4,724	£17,566	£22,290
Deputy Leaders (6)	£4,724	£7,984	£12,708
Chairs of Scrutiny Committees (2)	£4,724	£3,513	£8,237
Chair of Planning (1)	£4,724	£6,707	£11,431
Chair Licensing (1)	£4,724	£5,855	£10,579
Chair of Standards (1)	£4,724	£1,404	£6,128
Leader (Main) Opposition Group (1)	£4,724	£7,984	£12,708
Leader (Minority) Opposition Group (with at least 4 Members - 0)	£4,724	£958	£5,682

- (2) That the Basic Allowance continue to be deemed to cover costs such as broadband, personal telephone and printing costs;

(3) That the 2-tier Special Responsibility Allowances paid to the Leader and Deputy Leaders and Opposition Leader be discontinued and maintained as set out in table above regardless of the size of the Executive;

(4) That the threshold for the Special Responsibility Allowance payable for a Leader of a Minority Opposition Group be maintained at 10%;

(5) That the Co-optees' Allowance remain at £220 per annum;

(6) That the current rates payable for the Travel and Subsistence Allowances and the terms and conditions by which they may be claimed be maintained;

(7) That the Dependants' Carers' Allowance be maintained and the following changes/clarifications be inserted into the allowances scheme:

- That the Dependants' Carers' Allowance can only be claimed upon the production of relevant receipt
- That where the Dependants' Carers' Allowance is claimed the carer cannot be a member of the claimants' family.

(8) That the following indices be reapplied from 1st April 2019 and to run for four years:

- **Basic, Special Responsibility Allowances, Co-optees' Allowances:**
 - Indexed to the annual percentage salary increase for local government staff (at new spinal column 43) to be implemented from 1 April 2019 and to run for 4 years.
- **Dependants' Carers' Allowance:**
 - at relevant hourly rate for a home help as charged by Staffordshire County Council for the elderly and/or disabled element and the applicable National Living Wage for age of carer for the child care element
- **Travel Allowances:**
 - **Mileage:** indexed to the HMRC rates
 - Other Travel: actual costs subject to most cost effective provisions
- **Subsistence and Overnight Allowances (Outwith Borough Only):**
 - Subsistence: indexed to the maximum rates payable under the Officers Subsistence Scheme.
 - Overnight Allowances: indexed to the NJC index unless directly provided by the Council.

(9) That the attendance threshold for withholding of a Members' 12th instalment be increased from 70% to 75%; that where a Member has not attended 75% of all scheduled meetings by the end of any municipal year their 12th remuneration instalment be withheld;

(10) That where a Member has not attended 50% of their scheduled meetings by the end of the 10th month of the municipal year then the 11th and 12th instalment of their Basic Allowance and any Special Responsibility Allowance payable be withheld;

(11) That the Members' Allowances scheme be clarified by adding that "to qualify as an attendance at a meeting a Member shall attend all of that meeting, until the expiry of the meeting (i.e. up to 3 hours from the beginning of the meeting)";

(12) That the Members' Allowances scheme be amended to clarify that where a Member on the Planning Committee does not attend the preceding site visits, but does attend the subsequent Planning Committee meeting, then no attendance will be recorded and that where a Member attends both the site visits in the morning and Planning Committee meeting in the afternoon, then they will have been deemed as attending two meetings;

(13) That the Basic Allowance, Special Responsibility Allowances, Co-optees' Allowance, Travel and Subsistence Allowances, the Dependants' Carers' Allowance and refreshed authority on indexation be implemented from 1st April 2019;

(14) That the extension to the current attendance monitoring and clarifications on what counted as an attendance, be implemented from the date of the Annual Council Meeting on 17th May 2019.

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

THOSE VOTING FOR THE MOTION	THOSE VOTING AGAINST	THOSE ABSTAINING
Councillor Mrs P L Ackroyd		
Councillor G Allen		
Councillor E W R Barker		
Councillor M J Bowering		
Councillor R A Faulkner		
Councillor D Florence-Jukes		
Councillor S P Gaskin		
Councillor D Goodfellow		
Councillor Mrs V J Gould		
Councillor R G W Grosvenor		
Councillor G Hall		
Councillor H Hall		
Councillor P Hudson		
Councillor Mrs J F Jessel		
Councillor Mrs J Jones		
Councillor Mrs J A Killoran		
Councillor D C Leese		
Councillor G E Marjoram		
Councillor S McGarry		
Councillor B G Peters		
Councillor Mrs L Shelton		
Councillor C Smith		
Councillor Mrs B Toon		
Councillor C D Wileman		

292/19 **REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS, POLLING PLACES AND POLLING STATIONS 2018**

The report of the Returning Officer on the Review of Polling Districts, Polling Places and Polling Stations 2018 was considered.

Council noted the contents of Appendix A - List of Polling Districts, Polling Places and Polling Stations, which had been circulated previously.

Resolved:

- 1) That the responses to the consultation on the Polling District Review be noted;
- 2) That the recommendations set out in the appendix be approved.
- 3) That no changes be made to the existing Polling Districts, Polling Places and Polling Stations.

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

THOSE VOTING FOR THE MOTION	THOSE VOTING AGAINST	THOSE ABSTAINING
Councillor Mrs P L Ackroyd		
Councillor G Allen		
Councillor E W R Barker		
Councillor M J Bowering		
Councillor R A Faulkner		
Councillor D Florence-Jukes		
Councillor S P Gaskin		
Councillor D Goodfellow		
Councillor Mrs V J Gould		
Councillor R G W Grosvenor		
Councillor G Hall		
Councillor H Hall		
Councillor P Hudson		
Councillor Mrs J F Jessel		
Councillor Mrs J Jones		
Councillor Mrs J A Killoran		
Councillor D C Leese		
Councillor G E Marjoram		
Councillor S McGarry		
Councillor B G Peters		
Councillor Mrs L Shelton		
Councillor C Smith		
Councillor Mrs B Toon		
Councillor C D Wileman		

293/19 **LEADER AND DEPUTY LEADERS' STATEMENTS**

The following Councillors submitted their Annual Statements to Council:-

Leader of the Council	Councillor R G W Grosvenor
Cultural Services	Councillor C V Whittaker
Environment	Councillor D C Leese

Housing and Homelessness	Councillor Mrs P L Ackroyd
Planning	Councillor Mrs J Jones
Regeneration	Councillor Mrs J F Jessel
Regulatory Services	Councillor G Hall

Following questions from Councillors, the statements were received and noted.

NOTED.

294/19 **CORPORATE PLAN 2019-2023**

The Leader of the Council presented the Corporate Plan 2019-2023, a copy of which had been circulated.

Resolved:

That the Corporate Plan 2019-2023 be approved.

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

THOSE VOTING FOR THE MOTION	THOSE VOTING AGAINST	THOSE ABSTAINING
Councillor Mrs P L Ackroyd	Councillor D Florence-Jukes	
Councillor G Allen		
Councillor E W R Barker		
Councillor M J Bowering		
Councillor R A Faulkner		
Councillor S P Gaskin		
Councillor D Goodfellow		
Councillor Mrs V J Gould		
Councillor R G W Grosvenor		
Councillor G Hall		
Councillor H Hall		
Councillor P Hudson		
Councillor Mrs J F Jessel		
Councillor Mrs J Jones		
Councillor Mrs J A Killoran		
Councillor D C Leese		
Councillor G E Marjoram		
Councillor S McGarry		
Councillor B G Peters		
Councillor Mrs L Shelton		
Councillor C Smith		
Councillor Mrs B Toon		
Councillor C D Wileman		

295/19 **ANNUAL REPORTS OF THE CHAIRMEN OF SCRUTINY COMMITTEES**

The following Councillors submitted their Annual Scrutiny Committee reports to the Council:-

Scrutiny (Audit and Value for Money Council Services) Committee	Councillor D Goodfellow
Scrutiny (Economic Growth, Communities and Health) Committee	Councillor A Johnson

Following questions from Councillors the reports were received and noted.

NOTED

296/19 **QUESTIONS**

No questions had been asked by members pursuant to Rule 18.

297/19 **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Resolved:

That, in accordance with Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972 the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the Meeting as it was likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that there would be disclosed exempt information as defined in the paragraph of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

Mayor