

COUNTY COUNCIL: MINUTES

Date: Tuesday, 19th June 2001

Time: 2.30 p.m. – 3.12 p.m.

Place: Shire Hall, Cambridge

Present: Councillor: J A P Eddy (Chairman)

Councillors: C M Ballard, R S G Barnwell, I C Bates, Dr T J Bear, B S Bhalla, A J Bowen, S V Brinton, J Broadway, C M Carter, M Y Chapple, R L Clarke, J E Coston, R Driver, M Farrar, H J L Fitch, J L Gluza, P D Gooden, A Hansard, B Hardy, G F Harper, V A Hearne-Casapieri, W G M Hensley, J L Huppert, S F Johnstone, J D Jones, A C Kent, S J Kime, S J E King, M L Leeke, V H Lucas, A R Mair, R B Martlew, L W McGuire, A K Melton, S V Normington, M K Ogden, L J Oliver, A G Orgee, D R Pegram, J A Powley, P A E Read, J E Reynolds, C E Shaw, P W Silby, R C Speechley, A B Stenner, P L Stroude, J M Tuck, J K Walters, R Wilkinson, L J Wilson and F H Yeulett

Apologies: Councillors: P D Bailey, P J Downes, S A Giles, G J Heathcock, and I C Kidman.

1.. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL

It was moved by Councillor J K Walters and seconded by Councillor J E Reynolds:

That Councillor P W Silby be elected Chairman of the County Council for the period to the next annual meeting of Council.

On being put to the vote it was resolved:

That Councillor P W Silby be elected Chairman of the County Council for the period to the next annual meeting of Council.

Councillor P W Silby made the statutory declaration of acceptance of office, took the Chair and thanked the Council for her election.

[Voting pattern: Nem con]

Councillor P W Silby in the Chair

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2. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL

It was moved by Councillor J K Walters and seconded by Councillor J A Powley:

That Councillor R Driver be appointed Vice-Chairman of the County Council for the period to the next annual meeting of Council.

It was moved by Councillor S V Brinton and seconded by Councillor J D Jones that Councillor T J Bear be appointed Vice-Chairman of the County Council for the period to the next annual meeting of Council.

On being put to the vote it was resolved by 33 votes for Councillor R ~~Driver~~ to Driver 19 votes for Councillor Dr T Bear:

That Councillor R Driver be appointed Vice-Chairman of the County Council for the period to the next annual meeting of Council.

Councillor R Driver made the statutory declaration of acceptance of office and thanked the County Council for his appointment.

[Voting pattern: Conservative Group in favour of Councillor Driver, Labour and Liberal Democrat Groups in favour of Councillor Bear]

3. MINUTES: 15TH MAY 2001

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 15th May 2001 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

4. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

New County Council

The Chairman welcomed all newly elected members as well as those returning following the elections. Members attention was drawn to the introduction of a revised democratic process which would involve significant changes and require members and officers to become familiar with new roles and responsibilities.

Queen's Birthday Honours

The Chairman congratulated:

- Councillor Bachan Bhalla on being awarded the MBE for services to community relations
- Lesley Ryan, a Learning Support Assistant at Green Hedges School, Cambridge, on being awarded the MBE
- Mr. D G Gunn, Chief Constable of Cambridgeshire, on being awarded the CBE.

Betty Sweet

The Chairman congratulated Betty Sweet, Senior Support Officer for International Education in the Education, Libraries and Heritage Department, on being awarded the Medal of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany in recognition of her contribution to German/British relations.

Local Authority of the Year

The Chairman reported that Cambridgeshire had been shortlisted for Local Authority of the Year in addition to the individual Park and Ride category in the prestigious National Transport Awards. Winners were to be announced at a ceremony in Birmingham on September 13th. The Chairman congratulated the Director of Environment and Transport and his Department on these achievements.

Philip Tolhurst

The Chairman reported that Philip Tolhurst, Assistant Director (Resources), in the Environment and Transport Directorate, would be leaving the Council after 15 years service. She expressed the Council's thanks to him for his contribution over the years and wished him well for the future. It was noted that he would be succeeded by Mark O'Sullivan, who was joining the Council on 1st August.

5. REPORT OF THE COUNTY RETURNING OFFICER

The Council noted the report of the County Returning Officer following the election of County Councillors on 7th June 2001. The Returning Officer's report listing the successful candidates was attached to the agenda.

6. REVISED COUNTY COUNCIL CONSTITUTION

It was moved by Councillor J K Walters and seconded by Councillor J E Reynolds:

To endorse the implementation of the revised Council Constitution including the Scheme of Delegation, with effect from 19th June 2001, subject to:

- a) the deletion of the second reference to "School and Pupil Attainment, Education Resources and Children in Need" in paragraph 7 of Annex A of Article 10A (page 33).
- b) an amendment to the membership of the Cambridge City Environment and Transport Area Transport Committee to provide for 6 County and 6 City Councillors, subject to consultation with Cambridge City Council.

On being put to the vote the motion was carried.

[Voting pattern: nem con]

7. ELECTION OF LEADER OF COUNCIL

It was proposed by Councillor J E Reynolds and seconded by Councillor J A Powley:

That the Council appoints Councillor J K Walters as Leader of the Council for the period to the next annual meeting of Council.

On being put to the vote it was resolved:

That the Council appoints Councillor J K Walters as Leader of the Council for the period to the next annual meeting of the Council.

[Voting pattern: Conservative Group in favour, Labour and Liberal Democrat Groups abstained]

8. APPROVAL OF CABINET ARRANGEMENTS

It was moved by Councillor J K Walters and seconded by Councillor J E Reynolds:

“That in accordance with the provisions of the Council’s Constitution, the Council determines that for the period to the next annual meeting of Council:

- a) that the Leader of Council shall be authorised to appoint members of Council to the Cabinet;
- b) that the Cabinet shall comprise the Leader of Council and 9 other members of Council;
- c) that Cabinet members be assigned portfolios by the Leader of Council to ensure coverage of the Directorate and Thematic portfolios set out in paragraph 7.04 of Article 7 of the Constitution and that the names of members so assigned and any subsequent changes thereto be notified to the Director of Resources as soon as practicable, who shall keep members of Council informed of the portfolio assignments and any changes thereto.”

On being put to the vote the motion was carried by 33 votes to 0.

The Leader of the Council then informed the Council of the names of Members of the Cabinet and their Portfolio assignments.

[Voting pattern: Conservative Group in favour, Labour and Liberal Democrat Groups abstained.]

9. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES

It was moved by Councillor J K Walters and duly seconded:

That appointments to committees for the period to the next annual meeting of the Council be approved as shown in Schedule A to the signed copy of these minutes.

[Voting pattern: unanimous]

10. APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS

It was moved by Councillor J K Walters and duly seconded:

That appointments be made by the Council to outside organisations as shown in Schedule B to the signed copy of the minutes for the duration of the current Council.

[Voting pattern: unanimous]

11. NOTIFICATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF OPPOSITION GROUP LEADERS AND POLITICAL GROUP SPOKES

The Council noted the appointed opposition Group Leaders and Spokes as set out in Schedule C to the signed copy of these minutes.

12. CALENDAR OF COUNTY COUNCIL MEETINGS

It was proposed by the Chairman of the Council and resolved:

That the following calendar of meetings for the County Council be approved:

- 4th September 2001
- 16th October 2001
- 18th December 2001
- 19th February 2002
- 26th February 2002 (provisional)
- 26th and 27th March 2002
- 14th May 2002

13. THE COUNCIL'S POLICY FRAMEWORK

It was moved by Councillor J K Walkers and seconded by Councillor J E Reynolds and resolved:

That the Council's Policy Framework for 2001/2002 for the following Plans be approved as set out in the Prospects document:

- Corporate Plan
- Care and Education Plan
- Children's Services Plan
- Community Care Plan
- Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategies
- Education Development Plan
- Annual Library Plan
- Local Transport Plan
- Youth Justice Plan
- Local Agenda 21

[Voting pattern: unanimous]

Chairman