



Committee and Date  
  
COUNCIL  
  
27 February 2014

Item  
  
**3**  
  
Public

## MINUTES

MEETING OF SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL

HELD ON 19 DECEMBER 2013

AT 10.00 AM

### PRESENT:

Mr P Adams  
Mr A Bannerman  
Mr N Bardsley  
Mr T Barker  
Mrs C Barnes  
Mrs J Barrow  
Mr K Barrow  
Mr M Bennett  
Mr T Biggins  
Mr V Bushell JP  
Mr G Butler  
Mr J Cadwallader  
Mrs K Calder  
Mr D Carroll  
Mr L Chapman  
Mr S Charmley  
Mrs A Chebsey  
Mr P Cherrington  
Mr T Clarke  
Mr G Dakin  
Mr S Davenport  
Mr A Davies

Mr D Evans  
Mr R Evans  
Mr J Everall  
Mrs H Fraser  
Mr N Hartin  
Mrs A Hartley  
Mr R Huffer  
Mr R Hughes  
Mr J Hurst-Knight  
Dr J Jones  
Mr S Jones  
Mr M Kenny  
Mrs H Kidd  
Mr C Lea  
Mr D Lloyd MBE  
Mr R Macey  
Mr C Mellings  
Mrs P Moseley  
Mr A Mosley  
Mrs C Motley  
Mrs M Mullock

Mr M Owen JP  
Mr K Pardy  
Mr W Parr  
Mrs V Parry  
Mr M Pate  
Mr M Price  
Mr K Roberts  
Mrs M Shineton  
Mr J Tandy  
Mrs R Taylor-Smith  
Mr D Tremellen  
Mr K Turley  
Mr D Turner  
Mr A Walpole  
Mr S West  
Mrs C Wild  
Mr B Williams RD  
Mr L Winwood  
Mr M Wood  
Mrs T Woodward  
Mr P Wynn

## **60. APOLOGIES**

The Chief Executive reported that apologies for absence had been received from Mr T Bebb, Mrs P Dee, Mrs T Huffer, Mr V Hunt, Ms J Mackenzie, Mr D Minnery, Mr P Nutting, Mr D Roberts, Mr R Tindall and Mr M Williams.

## **61. DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

Members were reminded that they must not participate in the discussion or voting on any matter in which they had a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest and should leave the room prior to the commencement of the debate.

## **62. MINUTES**

### **RESOLVED:**

That subject to the seconder 'Mr D Turner' being deleted and replaced with 'Dr J Jones' at Minute 53, the Minutes of the meeting held on 26 September 2013, as circulated with the agenda papers, be approved and signed as a correct record.

## **63. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **63.1 Chairman's Engagements**

The Chairman referred members to the list of official engagements carried out by himself and the Speaker since the last meeting of the Council on 26 September 2013, which had been circulated at the meeting.

### **63.2 Christmas Celebrations and Lunch**

The Chairman invited all members to join him in the Foyer at the conclusion of the meeting for a glass of mulled wine before lunch was served.

### **63.3 Condolences**

On behalf of the Council, the Chairman expressed his sincere condolences to Cllr B Williams on the recent loss of his wife.

## **64. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

The Speaker announced that one public question and one statement had been received in accordance with Procedure Rule 15.

64.1 Mr S Mulloy of Shrewsbury asked a Question about the 5 Year Housing Land Supply and in particular the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and the knock on effect of developer contributions on small developers. This was answered by Mr M Price, Portfolio Holder for Planning, Housing and Commissioning (South) – copy attached to the signed minutes.

There was no supplementary question.

64.2 A detailed Statement was received from Mr David Kilby on behalf of Shrewsbury West Resident's Association on the Shrewsbury West Sustainable Urban Extension Masterplan – copy attached to the signed minutes. Briefly, their viewpoint was that the Shrewsbury West Sustainable Urban Extension should not be put forward for adoption for the following reasons;

- The plan was not a sustainable plan given the considerable state of flux and change occurring in the local and national environment currently.
- The plan was a Shropshire Council led plan not a community led plan which meant Shropshire Council were in their opinion, unable to demonstrate a clear separation between its role as planning and highways authority and their interests as landowner.
- The plan was not sufficiently viable or deliverable in its current format to benefit any of those concerned, including the local community with regard to social infrastructure, developers, landowners and the local councils.

Mr M Price Portfolio Holder for Planning, Housing and Commissioning (South) briefly responded to the Statement and in doing so stated that he did not propose to set out a detailed response, although the Council disagreed with many of the comments within the Statement – copy attached to the signed minutes. By way of general response, he confirmed that the Council's position remained that the Shrewsbury West Sustainable Urban Extension was identified in the adopted Core Strategy as a strategic location for development, and the Masterplan was considered to be important as planning guidance to prospective developers and other interested parties, and to help to ensure that the strategic objectives for the area were achieved and the overall co-ordination of development and the delivery of infrastructure.

**Supplementary Question:**

Why is there no Neighbourhood Plan?

**Supplementary Answer:**

The Portfolio holder confirmed he was supportive of Neighbourhood Plans, but to date, no response on this had been received from the Town Council. Mr M Price undertook to circulate all Members and Mr Kilby with a copy of the response from Shrewsbury Town Council once received and also circulate a copy of the written response that Mr Kilby had received from the Chief Executive on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2013 regarding education provision.

## 65. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS

The Speaker advised that the following Member questions had been received in accordance with Procedure Rule 15:

- (a) Received from Mr A Bannerman and answered by Mr Steve Charmley the Portfolio Holder for Business Growth, ip&e and Commissioning (North):

### **Question**

Shropshire Council was given a large amount of public and charitable money to convert the Music Hall complex of buildings into a new, state-of-the-art Museum and Visitor centre. The aim was to make this the focal point of the Visitor Economy Strategy for Shrewsbury and the county. The Visitor Centre welcomes people to the town and county and the museum displays and interprets the county's rich heritage. It was always assumed that this would be free to all, unlike the temporary exhibitions, where an admission charge is expected. Nationally county and city museums are generally free to enter.

Can I please be told;

- If an admission charge is to be made, what this will be and how will discounts and concessions operate to mitigate the cost to families, students and those with restricted income.
- Who and which organisations were consulted before this plan was made.
- How many more visitors are expected at the new Museum than those who visited Rowley's House and what their estimated contribution to the Visitor Economy will be.
- If the formation of a Trust to run the Museum has been considered.

### **Answer**

The Music Hall will be the focal point for the town's visitor economy and access to the Ground Floor and to the Roman and Pre History Gallery will be free of charge.

All admission charges and concessions are detailed within the Fees and Charges Schedule at Appendix 3 of the Income Review of Fees and Charges report to Cabinet on 11 December 2013.

The plan to charge is based on the consideration of all options and following debate and detailed discussion with relevant portfolio holders. The Council faces unprecedented financial challenges and the only option which provides a viable and sustainable future for the museum service is to charge.

Rowley's House has an average visitor footfall of 25,000. We anticipate 50,000 paying visitors to the new Museum.

The estimated contribution of 25,000 additional day visitors would be £825,000 to the Shrewsbury Economy per annum.

A number of options for future governance are under consideration, in line with all Council services.

**Supplementary Question:**

How will we harness public opinion and encourage people to visit the museum to ensure its success.

**Supplementary Answer:**

The Portfolio holder replied that ongoing work was being undertaken on fees and charges and that it was very much intended to draw up a strategy in conjunction with the Friends of the Museum.

- (b) Received from Mr C Mellings and answered by Mr M Price, Portfolio Holder for Planning, Housing and Commissioning (South):

**Question**

What is the impact across all housing providers in Shropshire of the “bedroom tax”? What is the Council’s budget for Discretionary Housing Payments (DHPs)? How many applications to date have been received and approved? How much of the DHP budget remains unspent?

**Answer**

Impact across all housing providers in Shropshire

The impact of the under-occupancy rules for housing providers is measured and monitored by the Welfare Reform Sub-Group of the Shropshire Social Housing Forum. The Social Housing Forum is attended by the main social housing providers with housing stock in Shropshire. . To date this Sub- Group has focussed on ensuring early identification of affected households, development and implementation of a range of interventions and ‘offers’ to support households to address a shortfall in Housing Benefit, and management and monitoring of actual or potential rent arrears accruing as a result of reductions in Housing Benefit entitlement.

A primary impact for housing providers has been, and continues to be, the additional demand on staffing resources required to identify and engage with affected households, work with households and partners especially around financial inclusion, debt management and access to work, to facilitate transfers and exchanges to appropriately sized properties, and to map and monitor arrears.

Most housing providers have increased staffing levels to engage in these activities. Housing providers have also made some funding available to households to support a move to alternative accommodation, some through their existing ‘Tenant Incentive Schemes’, others through a tailored package of support according to individual household needs. Another key impact has therefore been financial with respect to staffing resources and help to move.

The impact of the regulatory changes on rent arrears levels has been mixed, and appears closely related to the degree of engagement achieved with affected households. At this stage, and from the information currently available, the majority of affected households who have engaged with the

support available have either no arrears or are managing to keep the level of arrears under control. Only a small percentage of households are not engaging (2%-14% depending on household profile/provider), and it is mainly in relation to these households where arrears may be rising. Housing providers are however continuing to try to engage with these households.

Overall, housing providers are reporting little change in the level of arrears/ % rent collection in relation to previous years, although the arrears profile may be different. In some instances, % rent collection has increased, possibly as a consequence of targeted work and support around rent arrears in general.

The Welfare Reform Sub-Group will be undertaking a more detailed statistical evaluation early in 2014 when more data will be available and any longer term impacts may be more apparent.

#### Discretionary Housing Payments

Discretionary Housing Payments (DHPs) are additional payments for people currently receiving Housing Benefit who require further financial assistance with their housing costs. DHP is paid for a time-limited period and is intended primarily as 'transitional' assistance.

From April 2013, each Local Authority was given extra funding in the DHP budget to support people affected by the Welfare Reforms.

Year	National DHP budget	Shropshire DHP budget
2010/2011	£20 million	£50,667
2011/2012	£30 million	£56,983
2012/2013	£60 million	£106,201
2013/2014	£155 million	£277,475

Each Council has a limited amount of money available to spend on DHPs. Shropshire Council uses the DHP budget to:

- Alleviate hardship and help prevent homelessness;
- Support vulnerable people in the community;
- Help people through family crisis or difficult life events.

As of 4<sup>th</sup> November 2013, the Shropshire DHP fund stands at:

Net paid to date	£101,337.94
Total committed	£22,306.16
Budget unallocated	£153,830.90

Up to and including September 2013, 841 applications have been received. A breakdown of awards and refusals per month shown below:

DHP Applications (2013)	April	May	June	July	August	Sept	Totals
Number of awards	82	54	56	77	52	31	352
Number of refusals	155	66	90	87	75	16	489

Each claim is considered on its own merit and is means tested. The majority of awards have been made to those identified as under occupying their homes who are struggling to meet their rent shortfall. For most claimants DHPs will only be awarded on a short-term basis to allow time to consider longer term solutions such as moving, finding employment, increasing hours of work, taking in a lodger etc.

The vast majority of refusals are due to excess income.

**Supplementary Question:**

Concerns around arrears, levels of refusals and under spent budgets remain, therefore can this issue please be referred on to scrutiny committee to see if the DHP is being applied effectively.

**Supplementary Answer:**

The Portfolio holder confirmed he would deal with this request.

- (c) Received from Mr C Mellings and answered by Mr M Owen, Portfolio Holder for Resources, Finance and Support:

**Question**

In 2013/14, Shropshire is one of those authorities which passports in full the Council Tax Benefit Support Grant to its Parish & Town Councils. Why is this not the case for 2014/15?

**Answer**

Cabinet agreed on 13 November 2013 to continue to allocate Council Tax Reduction Grant to Town and Parish Councils. As the amount of this grant is not separately identified in 2014/15 finance settlement, Cabinet agreed that the amount to be allocated is equivalent to the 2013/14 figure reduced by the same proportion as the Council's total government funding has reduced by. This is a reduction of 10.4% and will reduce the allocation from £0.648m to £0.581m.

**Supplementary Question:**

In the spirit of passporting can the portfolio holder reconsider allocating Council Tax Reduction grant to Town and Parish Councils in 2014/15.

**Supplementary Answer:**

The Portfolio holder confirmed that the course of action confirmed by Cabinet at their November 2013 meeting was in his view fair, especially in the light of the enormous financial challenges currently faced by this authority.

- (d) Received from Mr C Mellings and answered by Mrs C Wild, Portfolio Holder for Highways and Transport:

**Question**

At period 4, the Council's Revenue monitoring report indicated that forecast income from car parking was down by £530,000. What is the current forecast?

**Answer**

The shortfall in car park income at period 4 was reported as £530,000. In the period 6 monitor the shortfall was not separately disclosed, but had fallen to £400,000 and will continue to be monitored closely.

**There was no Supplementary Question.**

- (e) Received from Mr M Kenny and answered by Mr M Price, Portfolio Holder for Planning, Housing and Commissioning (South):

**Question**

How many 'rough sleepers' are there and what provision has been made to provide them with appropriate shelter during the cold spells this winter? Where will the accommodation be and will it provide support?

**Answer**

Shropshire Council's Rough Sleepers' Task Group/Housing Options Team is currently working with 14 rough sleepers across the County. The Shropshire Cold Weather provision starts around 16<sup>th</sup> December, earlier if the Severe Weather Emergency Protocol is activated by 3 consecutive nights of below zero temperatures.

With respect to accommodation being offered this year, the Council is continuing to implement the approach taken in previous years, to offer a period of settled accommodation with support to the 14 identified rough sleepers from mid-December to March the following year. It has proved more challenging this year than in previous years to secure appropriate accommodation, especially from within the privately rented sector. However, sufficient accommodation has now been identified. Where dogs are not acceptable within the accommodation, access to kennelling can be arranged. The accommodation available is located across the County, specifically: Shrewsbury; Oswestry area; Church Stretton area; and Whitchurch area. Those rough sleepers taking up the offer of accommodation will be able to apply for Housing Benefit for the period of occupation.



In May this year, the Shropshire and Staffordshire (Homelessness) Prevention Partnership implemented a new 'rough sleepers' outreach service, funded through DCLG sub-regional Single Homeless Prevention Funding. This is a rapid response outreach service for rough sleepers and aims to support individuals to end rough sleeping. The service is delivered by a specialist provider: Brighter Futures. Initially a 6 month pilot, this service has been extended to February 2014, using the DCLG sub-regional funding. In addition to the DCLG sub-regional funding, Brighter Futures have recently secured funding from the Homeless Transition Fund, which will extend the service in Shropshire until the end of 2014.

Each of the 14 rough sleepers identified is engaged with Brighter Futures and is in receipt of support and assistance through this route. Through the winter period, where required, Brighter Futures support will be supplemented with housing support provided through the Council's temporary accommodation support staff in partnership with housing support providers across the County.

### **The Shrewsbury Ark**

Shropshire Council works closely with the Shrewsbury Ark (10 Castle Foregate opposite the Railway Station. Open 9 – 4:30 Mon – Fri). The Ark is a drop-in centre providing advice and support for homeless and vulnerable people. The facilities and services include provision of advice, information and support, access to health care, meals, clothing, shower facilities and so on. For more details, the website address is [www.shrewsburyark.co.uk](http://www.shrewsburyark.co.uk) and the phone number is 01743 363305.

People from out of the Shrewsbury area can access the Ark services and should contact the Ark directly. Transport into Shrewsbury can be problematic, and people may be referred to services closer to or in their locality.

### **Emergency Situations**

In emergency situations, Shropshire Council will grant travel warrants and small amounts of money to enable rough sleepers (with a local connection to Shropshire) to access 'direct access hostels' in the region. This is with the view that accommodation and support will be sourced for the rough sleeper to return to Shropshire in a planned way. This arrangement operates on a year-round basis.

### **Out of Hours**

Shropshire Council's Housing Options Team operates an Out of Hours Service for homelessness all year round. Emergency calls are responded to at the time they are received.

### **StreetLink**

This is a new service (launched December 2012) to help rough sleepers in England by involving the public. Concerned individuals can make reports through a telephone hotline and website in order to connect rough sleepers with local advice services. Members of the public wishing to assist someone sleeping rough may use this line for assistance, as may rough sleepers themselves (telephone line 0300 500 0914 and website [www.streetlink.org.uk](http://www.streetlink.org.uk))

Each year, the Rough Sleepers Task Force Group sends a Briefing Note to Members with respect to arrangements for rough sleepers during the winter period. (The Briefing Note for Winter 2013/14 has been prepared and will be sent to Members week commencing 9<sup>th</sup> December 2013).

**Supplementary Question:**

Why are numbers for sofa surfers/rough sleepers not included in this response. How many can be identified and where will they be accommodated?

**Supplementary Answer:**

The Portfolio holder responded that to date he knew of nine rough sleepers. Accommodation would be offered up to February 2014. He undertook to get more information following the meeting.

- (f) Received from Mr M Kenny and answered by Mrs C Wild, Portfolio Holder for Highways and Transport:

**Question**

How many fixed penalty notices for dog fouling have been issued this year across the county? Were they all paid up within the required time? And as a consequence of there not being paid in time were any prosecutions brought and if so how much were they fined?

**Answer**

Since 1 January 2013 we have issued three Fixed Penalty Notices (FPN's) for dog fouling, on each of these occasions the dog walker was witnessed to fail to pick up after their dog by an officer of the Environmental Maintenance team of the council. Of the 3 FPNs, 2 were paid within 10 days at the discounted rate of £50 and the third one had to be cancelled, due to an error in the administrative processing of the notice, making it invalid and unenforceable. If a FPN has been issued and the recipient fails to pay it we would take that case to court for prosecution under the substantive offence, which could lead to a fine of up to £1 000.00.

In addition to this we have sent two formal warning letters, these are letters that we issue following the completion of an Environmental Crime Report. These reports are completed by officers of town and parish councils and our contractors. They can also be issued, in certain circumstances, by officers of Shropshire Council. These formal warning letters are sent out to offenders, on the first occasion they are witnessed allowing their dog to foul, providing they are cooperative and/or resolve the problem they do not result in a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) being served. If they are witnessed on a second occasion or are not cooperative it can lead to the issue of an FPN.

It is also worth pointing out that there has been a consolidation of the Dog Control Orders in Shropshire this year. This has resulted in a uniform approach to dog control, including fouling offences, across Shropshire. These

went live on 1<sup>st</sup> November and should assist dog owners in understanding their responsibilities where ever they are in Shropshire.

**Supplementary Question:**

How do you hope to enforce dog control orders?

**Supplementary Answer:**

The Portfolio holder confirmed that a uniform pro active approach is taken.

**66. CHARTER TO CHILDREN IN CARE & CARE LEAVERS**

It was proposed by Mrs A Hartley and seconded by Mr N Bardsley that the report, a copy of which is attached to the signed minutes and the recommendations contained therein, be received and agreed.

Mrs Hartley introduced Chris, Weasel and Scott, all members of the Care Council Crew who spoke in support of the Charter for Children in Care and Care Leavers.

**RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:**

That all members acknowledged the importance of the Charter and pledged to uphold the priorities identified.

**67. SHREWSBURY WEST SUSTAINABLE URBAN EXTENSION MASTERPLAN**

It was proposed by Mr M Price, and seconded by Mr P Adams that the report, a copy of which is attached to the signed minutes and the recommendations contained therein, be received and agreed.

In response to concerns raised about education in Shrewsbury, Mr M Price undertook to circulate all members with a copy of a response document looking at Shrewsbury as a whole.

**RESOLVED:**

That further to the recommendations agreed by Cabinet in the report to the meeting of 16<sup>th</sup> October 2013, the Council, as Local Planning Authority, adopts the Shrewsbury West Sustainable Urban Extension (SUE) Masterplan, as amended, for the purposes of informing and guiding the development of the SUE, and as a material consideration for all subsequent planning applications.

**68. TREASURY STRATEGY 2013/14 – MID YEAR REVIEW**

It was proposed by the Leader, Mr K Barrow, and seconded by Mrs A Hartley that the report, a copy of which is attached to the signed minutes and the recommendation contained therein, be received and agreed.

Mr Barrow asked that the Council's appreciation be placed on record for all the hard work and effort undertaken by the internal treasury team.

**RESOLVED:**

That the contents of the report be received.

**69. INCOME REVIEW OF FEES AND CHARGES FOR 2014/15**

It was proposed by the Leader, Mr K Barrow and seconded by Mr S Charmley that the report, a copy of which is attached to the signed minutes and the recommendations contained therein, be received and agreed.

Mr M Kenny proposed an amendment, which was duly seconded by Mr R Evans:

"That there be no increase in charges for pest control services and that the charges for mice and rats be deleted"

On being put to the vote the first amendment was lost, with 13 Members voting in favour and a large majority of Members voting against.

Mr A Bannerman proposed a second amendment in respect of fees and charges for the visitor economy and in particular the Shrewsbury Museum and Art Gallery. He proposed this matter should be looked at in more detail and debated by the appropriate scrutiny committee, notably in relation to charges for local people, families and children and the impact on the visitor economy, with the experience of other museums being taken on board. This was seconded by Mr T Clarke

On being put to the vote the second amendment was lost, with 13 Members voting in favour and a large majority of Members voting against.

After further debate, on being put to the vote, the original proposition was carried by a large majority of Members, with 13 Members voting against.

**RESOLVED:**

- a) That the breakdown of the total income for 2013/14 and in particular that the charges for discretionary services represent only £15.616m of the £63.039m of income derived from Fees and Charges be noted.
- b) That the principles to be considered when reviewing charges, as identified in section 7 of the report, be approved.
- c) That the charges for 2014/15 as detailed in Appendix 3 to be implemented as soon as possible, but no later than 1 April 2014, recognising that managers have proposed varying policies for 2014/15 fees and charges ranging from a freeze in certain areas to above inflation level increases in others, based on the nature of the service, market forces, customer reaction and competition from other providers as well as the state of the economy, be approved.

- d) That as previously agreed, any changes to fees and charges proposed by Shropshire Community Leisure Trust Ltd. in relation to the outsourced leisure facilities will only be referred to cabinet and council for approval if the proposed increases exceed Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the preceding November, be noted.
- e) That monitoring reports will identify adjustments required to income budgets in the financial strategy which may or may not be offset by corresponding adjustments to expenditure budgets be noted.
- f) That the impact of the Council's policy decisions on income should be clearly identified and adjustments made as required to the Business Plan and Financial Strategy be noted.

## **70. SETTING THE COUNCIL TAX TAXBASE FOR 2014/15**

It was proposed by the Leader, Mr K Barrow, and seconded by Mr B Williams that the report, a copy of which is attached to the signed minutes and the recommendations contained therein, be received and agreed.

### **RESOLVED:**

- a) That in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012, the amount calculated by Shropshire Council as its Council Tax taxbase for the year 2014/15, as detailed in Appendix A, totalling 100,475.19 Band D equivalents be approved.
- b) That that there will be no changes to the Council's localised Council Tax Support (CTS) scheme in 2014/15 be noted.
- c) That the exclusion of 12,073.66 Band D equivalents from the taxbase as a result of localised Council Tax Support be noted.
- d) That the continuation of the discretionary Council Tax discount policy of 0% in respect of second homes and note the inclusion of 590.11 Band D equivalents in the Council Tax taxbase as a result of this discount policy be approved.
- e) That the continuation of the discretionary Council Tax discount policy of 50% for up to 12 months in respect of vacant dwellings undergoing major repair, i.e. former Class A exempt properties, and the resulting exclusion of 103.71 Band D equivalents from the Council Tax taxbase be approved.
- f) That the revision of the discretionary Council Tax discount policy in respect of vacant dwellings, i.e. former Class C exempt properties, from 25% for up to 6 months to 100% for one month, i.e. effectively reinstating the exemption, and then a 25% discount for the remaining five months and the resulting exclusion of 236.89 Band D equivalents from the Council Tax be approved.
- g) That the application of the "six week rule" in respect of vacant dwellings, i.e. former Class C exempt properties be approved.

- h) That the revision of the long-term empty properties discount to 0% be approved.
- i) That the implementation of the discretionary power to levy a Council Tax premium of 50% in relation to dwellings which have been empty for more than two years and the resulting inclusion of 277.50 Band D equivalents in the Council Tax taxbase be approved.
- j) That the publication of a notice regarding the discretionary Council Tax premium policy levied in respect of dwellings which have been empty for more than two years be approved.
- k) That a collection rate for the year 2014/15 of 97.5% be approved.

**71. STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY: LICENSING ACT 2003**

It was proposed by Mr S Charmley and seconded by Mr M Wood that the report, a copy of which is attached to the signed minutes and the recommendations contained therein, be received and agreed.

**RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:**

- a) That the Council considers the comments received during the consultation period, as set out in Appendix A, and agrees, with any necessary modifications, the manner in which the comments have, or where relevant have not, been addressed in the proposed policy.
- b) That the Council agrees and adopts, with any necessary modifications, the proposed statement of licensing policy, as set out in Appendix B, and confirms that the policy will take effect from 1 April 2014 and instructs the Head of Public Protection to publish the policy on the Council’s website.

**72. APPOINTMENT TO COMMITTEE**

It was proposed by the Speaker, seconded by the Chairman and

**RESOLVED:**

That Mrs M Mullock be appointed as a Substitute Member on the Performance Management Scrutiny Committee.

Speaker .....

Date .....

The meeting closed at 12.00 noon.