

COUNCIL

Wednesday 22nd February 2012

Councillor P Andrews (Mayor)

Councillors:	S Ainley	PA Allan(a)
	R D Allan	B Andrews
	E Bailey	S J Barnes
	P G Barnes	D N Beeston MBE
	C P Barnfather	K Blair
	A S Bexon	N Brooks
	F J D Boot	W J Clarke
	G V Clarke	J Creamer
	R F Collis	P Feeney
	R Ellis(a)	A J Gillam
	A. Ellwood	G Gregory
	K Fox	S Hewson
	M Glover	M Hope
	C J Hewlett	P A Hughes
	J Hollingsworth	M Lawrence
	P R Key	B S R Miller
	P McCauley	M Paling
	R J Nicholson	M R Payne
	J M Parr	S Poole
	V C Pepper	S J Prew-Smith
	C J Powell	N Quilty
	D E Pulk	S J Tomlinson
	R F Spencer(a)	G Tunnicliffe
	J Truscott	H T N Wheeler
	M Weisz	

64 OPENING PRAYERS

65 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ellis, Spencer and P. Allan

66 MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor presented Association of Public Service Excellence (APSE) awards to Leisure staff for Best Performer (Westdale Lane Community Centre) and Most Improved Performer (Arnold Hill Community Centre).

67 TO APPROVE AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 21 DECEMBER 2011.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the above meeting be approved as a correct record and

signed by the Mayor.

68 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors WJ Clarke and Payne declared a personal, non prejudicial interest in item 8 (iii)

69 TO DEAL WITH QUESTIONS ASKED BY THE PUBLIC UNDER STANDING ORDER NO.8.

No questions were received

70 TO DEAL WITH QUESTIONS OF WHICH DUE NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN UNDER STANDING ORDER NO.9(1) (A) ON ANY MATTER IN RELATION TO WHICH THE COUNCIL HAS POWERS OR DUTIES.

No questions were received

71 TO CONSIDER AND, IF APPROVED, ADOPT THE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CABINET AND COMMITTEES:-

72 REPORTS

Proposed Amendments to Procedural Standing Order 11

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Executive, copies of which had been previously circulated, setting out proposals to improve the process whereby questions and comments were invited from Members on minutes of meetings and delegated decisions included on the agenda.

On the motion of Councillor Clarke and seconded by Councillor Payne it was RESOLVED that:-

The matter stand adjourned without discussion to the next ordinary meeting of the Council.

73 Local Government Boundary Commission for England Review of Electoral Arrangements – Council Size Submission

Consideration was given to a report of Stephen Bray, Corporate Director, copies of which had been previously circulated, seeking agreement for the Council's submission to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) with regard to future size of the Council.

On the motion of Councillor W.J. Clarke and seconded by Councillor Barnfather it was RESOLVED:

To approve the Council size submission document, for submission to the

74 Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel

Consideration was given to a report of Stephen Bray, Corporate Director, copies of which had been previously circulated, setting out recommendations from the Independent Remuneration Panel with regard to the level of Members' allowances to be payable for 2012/13.

On the motion of Councillor W.J. Clarke and seconded by Councillor Payne it was RESOLVED:

- i) that the proportionate links for payment of Special Responsibility Allowances between different roles with different levels of responsibility be retained now and in any future proposals for members allowances.
- ii) that the Basic Allowance, Special Responsibility Allowances and Co-optees Allowances should remain as agreed in February 2011, but should be increased by any percentage pay award awarded to staff in the current year should such an award be made (in the case of any differential award, allowances should be adjusted in line with any Senior Management award as outlined in 3.13.4 of the Independent Panel's report).
- iii) that a strategic review of the Member Allowances Scheme should take place after the Local Government Boundary Review was completed, which should consider the change in total number of members and the change in roles and functions of members, as well as other factors considered by the Independent Remuneration Panel.

75 Changes to representation on the Licensing Act Committee

Consideration was given to a report of Stephen Bray, Corporate Director, copies of which had been previously circulated, setting out proposals for changes to membership of the Licensing Act Committee.

On the motion of Councillor W.J. Clarke and seconded by Councillor Brooks it was RESOLVED to approve the following changes to representation on the Licensing Act Committee:

- I. Councillor Ellis to replace Councillor W.J. Clarke
- II. Councillor Lawrence to be appointed as Vice Chair
- III. Councillor Brooks to replace Councillor P. Allan

76 MINUTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

(a) Local Authority Mortgage Scheme

In respect of minute no. 77 of the meeting of the Cabinet 12th January 2012, on the motion of Councillor W.J. Clarke and seconded by Councillor Payne that the recommendations contained therein be adopted, the Mayor put the proposition to the meeting and declared the same carried and it was:-

- i) the power to agree to offer an indemnity for qualifying mortgages, as set out in the deed, under section 442 of the Housing Act 1985, be delegated to the Chief Financial Officer.
- ii) a cash-backed scheme provided by Lloyds Banking Group be adopted, on the basis that firstly this provider had the most experience of the LAMS, having been involved with Sector from the outset in its design, and secondly that this lender was currently the only one accepted under the existing terms of the council's approved counterparty list.
- iii) the LAMS Policy attached at Appendix 1 be approved as the basis for a LAMS Scheme for Gedling Borough Council, to be known as the "Lend a Hand Scheme".
- iv) the Chief Executive be authorised to execute the deed indemnifying the Council Solicitor and Monitoring Officer on behalf of the Council.
- v) Council approve the adoption of the LAMS Policy and, subject to the completion of all necessary legal documentation to the satisfaction of the Council Solicitor and Monitoring Officer, and approval of the capital programme, approve the deposit of £1m with Lloyds Banking Group.

(b) Prudential Code Indicators

In respect of minute no. 78 of the meeting of the Cabinet 12th January 2012, on the motion of Councillor W.J. Clarke and seconded by Councillor Payne that the recommendations contained therein be adopted,

the Mayor put the proposition to the meeting and declared the same carried and it was:-

RESOLVED:

to approve the Prudential and Treasury Indicators for 2012/13 to 2014/15 as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report, which had been set with due reference to CIPFA's Prudential Code, under the Local Government Act 2003.

(c)Localism Act: Pay Policy Statement

In respect of Minute no. 33 of the meeting of the Appointments and Conditions of Service Committee 9th February 2012, on the motion of Councillor W.J. Clarke and seconded by Councillor Payne that the recommendations contained therein be adopted,

the Mayor put the proposition to the meeting and declared the same carried and it was:-

RESOLVED: to approve the proposed Pay Policy Statement and method of implementation.

(Councillor Boot left the meeting at 7.30pm)

77 TO CONSIDER COMMENTS UNDER STANDING ORDER NO 11 (1) UPON ANY MATTER DEALT WITH BY THE EXECUTIVE OR BY A COMMITTEE OR SUB - COMMITTEE.

In accordance with Standing Order 11(1), a number of comments were made and responded to by the appropriate Cabinet Member or Committee Chair.

NOTICE OF MOTION

Upon a Notice of Motion received in the name of Councillor W.J. Clarke a proposition was moved by Councillor W.J. Clarke and seconded by Councillor Payne in the following terms: -

Re: Local Government finance settlement

To note the significant reduction in our Revenue Support Grant (allocated to Gedling Borough Council from central government) from £8.011m in 2010/11 to £6.954m in 2011/12 and to £6.135m in 2012/2013 – equating to a cash reduction over 2011/12 and 2012/13 of £1.88m (23.5%) and a real terms reduction of £2.3m (28.7%).

To note the disparity and unfairness in cumulative cuts to local authority areas across England: Gedling Borough has received a reduction in revenue spending of £44 per person over the period 2011-13 (including in year cuts 2010-11) whilst Basingstoke & Deane Borough had received a reduction in revenue spending of £0 per person over the same period.

To note Chair of the Local Government Association, Sir Merrick Cockell's recent comments on council budgets: *"these decisions must be based on local priorities*

and councillors know they will be judged solely by the people they represent when the votes are cast in the next local elections.”

That a letter outlining our concerns, seeking clarification on the government’s priorities and position on the above matters as well as challenging the evident unfairness should be sent by the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council to the Chancellor of the Exchequer and Secretary of State for Communities & Local Government.

That a letter be sent to the Leader of Nottinghamshire County Council by the Leader & Deputy Leader of the Council supporting the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government on his correspondence to Nottinghamshire County Council stating that ‘on the face of it, the cuts that your council have made to its grant aid budget for voluntary sector groups appear to be disproportionate.’ That the letter also further supports the Secretary of State, Eric Pickles MP by outlining to Nottinghamshire County Council that we would be ‘grateful if you could reconcile your council’s decision on funding the voluntary & community sector to the strategic guidance.’

After discussion, and on the requisition of two members, the motion was put to a named vote and was carried.

For the motion

Councillors: Ainley, R. Allan, Bailey, P. Barnes, S. Barnes, Beeston MBE, Blair, Brooks, W.J. Clarke, Collis, Creamer, Feeney, Fox, Glover, Gregory, Hewlett, Hollingsworth, Hope, Key, Lawrence, Mc Cauley, Miller, Paling, Payne, Pulk, Quilty, Truscott, Weisz, Wheeler.

Against the motion

Councillors: B. Andrews, P. Andrews, Barnfather, Bexon, G. Clarke, Ellwood, Gillam, Hewson, Hughes, Nicholson, Parr, Pepper, Poole, Powell, Prew – Smith, Tomlinson, Tunncliffe