



EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE
COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MELTON

PARKSIDE, STATION APPROACH, BURTON STREET, MELTON MOWBRAY

29 NOVEMBER 2011

PRESENT

Councillors A. Freer (Mayor)
P.M. Baguley, M.W. Barnes, G.E. Botterill
G. Bush, P.M. Chandler, P. Cumbers, S. Dungworth
M. Gordon; M.C.R. Graham MBE, E. Holmes, L. Horton
J. Illingworth, S. Lumley, V.J. Manderson, T. Moncrieff, J. Moulding
M. O'Callaghan, J.T. Orson, P.M. Posnett, J.B. Rhodes
M.R. Sheldon, J. Simpson, N. Slater, D.R. Wright, J. Wyatt

Chief Executive
Strategic Director (KA), Strategic Director (CM)
Senior Democracy Officer

At the start of the meeting, the Chief Executive apologised for the desktop microphones not working. She advised that technical advice was being sought.

Members expressed concern for the public being able to hear at the Development Committee on 1 December 2011 and the Chief Executive advised that alternative arrangements would be in place for this meeting.

There was also a comment about the cool temperature of the room and a request that it be warmer at future meetings.

CO48. APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Douglas.

CO49. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

CO50. ELECTION OF LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

In accordance with Procedure Rule 3.1(d), Councillors Bush, Dungworth, Gordon, Moncrieff and O'Callaghan requested that an Extraordinary Meeting of the Council be called to consider the following :-

Motion

This Council notes the election of a new leader of the ruling Conservative Group on the Council.

This Council therefore resolves to elect a new Leader of the Council at this meeting.

Councillor O'Callaghan proposed the above motion and stated the reasons for the motion were :-

- To end the uncertainty and give guidance to officers as to who is shaping the future;
- It was understood that the original reason for the delay in electing a new Leader until the next Council was that Sainsbury's would be handing over the purchase monies and the opening of Parkside;
- It seemed right to hold a 'special' meeting for the election of Leader to enable thanks to the outgoing Leader and for the new Leader to make a statement on their vision for the future.

Councillor O'Callaghan further stated that he appreciated the Leader's contribution since 1996 and although they had had differences, he considered the Leader had taken difficult decisions and led the Council through difficult times and by and large he appreciated his actions and his long service to the Borough and thanked him for it.

Councillor Dungworth seconded the motion. He personally thanked the Leader for his courtesy and thanked him for his contribution on behalf of the Labour Group. He stated that he considered this special meeting was needed to highlight his contribution and hear what the new leadership would bring.

Councillor Posnett proposed the following amendment :-

Amendment

This Council notes the election of a new leader of the Conservative Group on the Council;

This Council therefore resolves to elect a new Leader of the Council at the Full Council meeting on 14 December 2011.

Councillor Wright seconded the amendment.

On the amendment being put to the vote, there were 18 in favour, 7 against and no abstentions, therefore the amendment was carried.

In response, Councillor O'Callaghan stated that he considered it wrong to have this period of uncertainty but was happy to wait until 14 December for the matter to be resolved.

On the substantive motion being put to the vote, there were 18 in favour and 7 against therefore the motion was carried.

RESOLVED that

- (1) this Council notes the election of a new leader of the Conservative Group on the Council;
- (2) this Council therefore resolves to elect a new Leader of the Council at the Full Council meeting on 14 December 2011.

The meeting which commenced at 6.30 p.m., closed at 6.50 p.m.

Mayor