



MEETING OF THE  
COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MELTON

PARKSIDE, STATION APPROACH, BURTON STREET, MELTON MOWBRAY

10 OCTOBER 2012

PRESENT

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

Sarah Boyce - Young Mayor  
John Cade – Chair, Welland Partnership Remuneration Panel

Chief Executive  
Strategic Director (KA)  
Head of Communications  
Senior Democracy Officer

The Reverend Kevin Ashby offered prayers

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The Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting

CO33. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Botterill, Horton and Sheldon.

The Chief Executive advised Councillors that Councillor Dungworth had resigned from the Council on 9 October 2012 for health and family reasons. A notice of the vacancy had been placed on 10 October 2012 and a combined election could be held with the Police and Crime Commissioner Election on 15 November 2012 as this met the statutory timetable.

Several Councillors paid tribute to Councillor Dungworth's work on the Council and it was said that he had been an excellent Councillor who would be greatly missed not only by those on his ward but by his fellow Councillors. The Mayor stated that the sentiments expressed were shared by them all.

(Councillor Holmes entered the meeting during the tribute to Councillor Dungworth at 6.40 p.m.)

#### CO34. MINUTES

(a) Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 18 July 2012

Minute CO17/12 - Minutes

Councillor Gordon requested that with regard to the first paragraph relating to her non-participation in the Market Place with the other Labour Councillors, she would like it noted that this was due to her membership of the Waste Management Working Party.

(b) Subject to the foregoing, the minutes of the Meeting held on the 18 July 2012 were confirmed and authorised to be signed by the Mayor.

(c) The minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on 11 September 2012 were confirmed and authorised to be signed by the Mayor.

#### CO35. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Orson, Posnett and Rhodes each declared a personal interest in any items relating to the Leicestershire County Council due to their roles as County Councillors.

Policy, Finance & Administration Committee : 25 September 2012

Minute P38/12 – Major Property Update

Councillor Cumbers declared a personal and pecuniary interest with regard to matters requiring planning permission due to her membership of the Development Committee.

#### CO36. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor stated

(a) he had been very busy since the last Council Meeting and he had attended

- many Civic Services around the other local authorities as well as a charity fashion show organised by Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council
- an event at Waltham Church which had included a superb performance by Global Harmony
- a certificate presentation evening for workshops which helped school age young people who were trying to turn around the lives
- a VIP Reception at the Beer Festival at the Cattle Market and drank the first drink from the beer barrel donated for his charity
- the Defence Animal Centre Dinner
- Macmillan Coffee Mornings and seen lots of money raised around the area
- The reopening of the Hunting Museum

(b) he had hosted a tour of Parkside for the Bowls Club

(c) he had met with Carmel Angrave and family to view the bench that had been installed in memory of Past Mayor and colleague, Nigel Angrave

- (d) on the previous weekend he had hosted a polish delegation from Sochaczew to visit the Food Festival which had been fantastic and they had also attended a Gurkha concert as well as been very kindly hosted by Councillors Posnett and Holmes for meals at their respective homes
- (e) his thanks to Councillors Holmes and Posnett for their help and support for the polish delegation's visit as well paid tribute to Jodie Webb who was providing civic support in the office and had arranged the visit and organised an itinerary little notice. To further extend his appreciation he further presented flowers to Councillors Holmes and Posnett and to Jodie Webb
- (f) he also presented flowers to the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Gordon, for her part in the previous weekend and her support in standing in for him in his duties. He added that she was a credit to herself and the Borough

The Young Mayor, Sarah Boyce, stated that

- (a) this was her last Council Meeting as Young Mayor and in the following week, the chain would pass to one of 3 candidates
- (b) it had been a fantastic year and she had enjoyed all the events attended including being on the radio, writing for the local paper, giving an opinion on matters including where a budget could be spent
- (c) it had been an amazing experience and very worthwhile
- (d) there were so many people to thank and couldn't remember all the names but they would know who they were, she thanked all those who had helped her through the entire process
- (e) she was happy to have been able to be involved in the Jubilee Festival and complete here manifesto, organise the bus petition and act as a voice for the young people. She referred to the saying 'let Boyce be your voice' and that this would be with her always
- (f) she thanked the Council for allowing her to carry out the role

On behalf of the Council, Councillor Posnett thanked Sarah Boyce for being such an excellent Young Mayor. She added that she had been very professional and although some of the duties had been new to her she had carried them out really well. She thanked her for the effort and time put in for the Borough.

The Mayor also paid tribute to the Young Mayor and stated that the Borough was lucky to continue its tradition of young mayors and expressed his personal thanks to Sarah Boyce.

#### CO37. LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Leader, Councillor Rhodes, made the following announcements :-

- (a) the Waterfield Leisure Centre was expected to be open before the end of the month;
- (b) the Universal Credit scheme was to be introduced at the beginning of next year and the Council was working with Rushcliffe Borough Council as one of the 12 national pilots;
- (c) the Core Strategy documentation had been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate on 27 September 2012 and an Inspector had been appointed. The remaining documents were being progressed so that a complete Local Plan could be in place by the middle of next year. A supplementary document was being considered for renewable energy applications;
- (d) Job Centre Plus was now consulting on whether to move into Parkside and it was hoped they would move in before the end of 2013. If they do relocate to Parkside, there would be 11 partner organisations within the building;
- (e) the new company awarded the housing maintenance contract had started on 1 October 2012;
- (f) he had addressed the Conservative Party Conference on the Family Intervention Project and his presentation had been well received and a number of people had praised the work of the Council in this field.

#### CO38. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

In accordance with Procedure Rule 9 and 9.3, the following question was received from Mr. Mark Twitney on 1 October which met the notice requirement :-

**'Please will Melton Borough Council begin taking an audio recording of every full council meeting, and all committee and sub-committee meetings; and promptly publish the recordings on the Council website.**

**This will ensure that an accurate record of every meeting is quickly available in the public domain - subject of course to the meeting having been open to the public.**

**I believe this will help raise the standard of debate; and improve local democracy, by giving more people access to workings of the meetings; increasing Councillors accountability to the electorate; and enabling local media to provide more comprehensive coverage. It will also ensure that any disputes as to what was or wasn't said by councillors, can be quickly resolved.**

**This is already being done locally by Harborough District Council and should involve little or no additional cost. At its simplest an audio file could be recorded on a digital recorder and uploaded directly to the website.'**

The Leader responded as follows :-

*'To the first part of the question my answer is no.*

*The Council makes every effort to work with the media on Council decision-making and keep them informed on matters of public interest, not only when decisions are being made but throughout the progress of a project. This has been the case on the relocation of the Council to Parkside, the Local Development Framework, the Waterfield Leisure Centre refurbishment as well as on all other important Council initiatives.*

*I understand that Harborough District Council is in fact running a pilot scheme on publishing audio recordings of selected Council Meetings. This Council is monitoring Harborough's progress and we will consider the outcomes of this pilot in due course.*

*With regard to the content of minutes, it is important to the Council that these are a correct record of decisions taken at the meeting. For this reason, the Council has an approved Minutes Procedure within the Constitution.*

*As to the matter of a recording resolving disputes as to what may or may not have been said, this is quite a negative way of looking at a facility such as this and whilst verbatim recordings might have a purpose in a quasi-judicial setting I do not consider them appropriate for Council or Committee meetings.*

*The book entitled 'Knowles on Local Authority Meetings' which is a recognised reference book on Council Meetings refers to the purpose of minutes as being to establish an accurate record of decisions taken and the drafting of minutes be in such a style as to be brief, self-contained and decisive. It goes on to explain onto explain that a minute is not a verbatim record but a summary of proceedings.*

*The minutes published by Melton Borough Council aim to contain the decisions made by Members and an account of the proceedings of the meeting and I believe they meet these requirements.'*

Mr. Twitney asked a supplemental question which asked the Leader if he was aware of the letter from Bob Neill MP, the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, dated 23 February 2011, which was sent to all Council Leaders and Monitoring Officers. Due to the one minute time limit on the supplementary question, Mr. Twitney read the following extracts from the letter with the offer of supplying a full copy.

*'As part of the Government's transparency drive I want to highlight the importance of your council giving citizens the opportunity to access and experience their local democracy using modern communication methods.'*

*'The public should rightly expect that elected representatives who have put themselves up for public office be prepared for their decisions to be as transparent as possible and welcome a direct line of communication to their electorate. I do hope that you and your colleagues will do your utmost to maximise the transparency and openness of your council.'*

*'In short transparency and openness should be the underlying principle behind everything councils do and in this digital age it is right that we modernise our approach to public access, recognising the contribution to transparency and democratic debate that social media and similar tools can make.'*

'The mainstream media also needs to be free to provide stronger local accountability by being able to film and record meetings without obstruction.'

The Leader responded that he was not aware of the letter as he was not the Leader of the Council at that time. He further stated that the Council was open to the public, the Council Chamber was accessible and the Council published to the website. The Localism Act allowed Councils not to be dictated to by central government any longer.

#### CO39. PETITIONS

There were no petitions received.

(The Head of Communications here left the meeting.)

#### CO40. RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

(a) Community & Social Affairs Committee : 19 September 2012  
Local Authority Mortgage Scheme (LAMS)

**RECOMMENDED** that approval be given to adding the following paragraph to the Annual Investment Strategy. This follows approval of the Local Authority Mortgage Scheme (LAMS) scheme at a meeting of the Community & Social Affairs Committee held on 19 September and subsequent approval by the Policy, Finance & Administration Committee on 25 September 2012.

**'Local Authority Mortgage Scheme (LAMS)**

Under this scheme the Council will place funds of up to £1m, for a period of up to 5 years. This is classified as being a service investment, rather than a treasury management investment, and is therefore outside of the Specified/Non Specified categories of investments.'

There was unanimous support for the recommendation.

**RESOLVED** that approval be given to adding the following paragraph to the Annual Investment Strategy. This follows approval of the Local Authority Mortgage Scheme (LAMS) scheme at a meeting of the Community & Social Affairs Committee held on 19 September and subsequent approval by the Policy, Finance & Administration Committee on 25 September 2012.

**'Local Authority Mortgage Scheme (LAMS)**

Under this scheme the Council will place funds of up to £1m, for a period of up to 5 years. This is classified as being a service investment, rather than a treasury management investment, and is therefore outside of the Specified/Non Specified categories of investments.'

(b) Governance Committee : 20 September 2012  
Minute G35 – Monitoring Officer Role

**RECOMMENDED** that Members approved adoption of Option 5, Head of

Communications as a course of action to enable the Council to fill the statutory role of Monitoring Officer, for onward referral and approval by Full Council at its next meeting.

The Chair of the Committee, Councillor Graham, proposed the recommendation and thanked Christine Marshall for fulfilling this role for a number of years and stated that she had carried out the duties in a professional way. He also paid tribute to the recently resigned Councillor Dungworth for his role on the Council Business Development Sub Committee and more recently on the Governance Committee.

The Vice Chair, Councillor Douglas, seconded the motion.

Councillor O'Callaghan thanked Christine Marshall for her work as Monitoring Officer too. He stated that the change in the Monitoring Officer came when outsourcing legal services and there had been conflicts for the Monitoring Officer when dealing with major projects and her Deputy had helped when necessary. He added that the Monitoring Officer ought to have a legal qualification and therefore he would not be supporting the recommendation.

Councillor Holmes stated that one of the previous Chairs of the Standards Committee felt strongly that the role should have legal knowledge and she agreed with this view. She felt the individual proposed did a good job but it was essential that the Council had a Monitoring Officer with legal knowledge. She stated that in her opinion the Council was in a mess and it was vital that it had a proper Monitoring Officer with a legal background.

The Leader, Councillor Rhodes, stated that the Council was to appoint an able senior officer who was qualified to do the job with the support of the Council's Legal Officer. He further stated the Council did not have the capacity or amount of work to appoint a Legal Officer to the role and the budget dictated that this was not possible. He advised that the Council was not in a mess and some may find the work of the Monitoring Officer not to their taste and it was now appropriate to handover the role to another officer.

Councillor Wyatt stated that in his opinion the Council was not in a mess.

The Mayor stood to stop Councillor Wyatt continuing as he did not have permission to speak.

Councillor Holmes added as a point of personal explanation that she did not expect a full time solicitor in the role but a part-time person with legal knowledge.

Councillor Moncrieff added that this was an important senior position and disagreed with the Leader when he talked of the costs involved as he considered using people from London was a great cost. He also mentioned there may be a conflict of interest with the HR work also required of the officer in question.

On the motion being put to the vote, there were 14 in favour, 7 against and 2 abstentions, therefore the motion was carried.

**RESOLVED** that Members approved adoption of Option 5, Head of Communications to fill the statutory role of Monitoring Officer.

(The Head of Communications here re-entered the meeting.)

#### CO41. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS

(a) The Chairmen of Committees were to answer any questions upon items of reports of Committees when those items are being received or under consideration by the Council in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 10.1 of the Constitution :-

Development Committee	5 July 2012
Development Committee – not available at this meeting	26 July 2012
Ad Hoc Development Committee	2 August 2012
Development Committee	16 August 2012
Rural, Economic & Environmental Affairs Committee	4 September 2012
Ad Hoc Development Committee	13 September 2012
Community & Social Affairs Committee	19 September 2012
Governance Committee	20 September 2012
Policy, Finance & Administration Committee	25 September 2012

#### Community & Social Affairs Committee : 19 September 2012

##### Minute C20/12 – Minutes – Page 1

Councillor Moncrieff requested that the minutes be amended to reflect his correct initial for his first name as this had been minuted as M. Moncrieff instead of T. Moncrieff. It was noted that this would be reported to the next meeting of the Committee for the amendment.

#### Policy, Finance & Administration Committee : 25 September 2012

##### Minute P34/12 – Items for Approval under Financial Procedure Rules – Page 19

Councillor Graham asked if all the recommendations had been accepted especially relating to the Local Authority Mortgage Scheme.

The Leader responded yes and the money was only to be used for mortgage applications for the people in the Borough.

#### Policy, Finance & Administration Committee : 25 September 2012

##### Minute P37/12 – Sun Server Upgrade

Councillor Gordon stated that the figures in the preamble of the minute did not align with the figures in the resolution, the first set of figures added up to £28,000 and those in the resolution to £29,000.

The Leader stated that he would prefer such matters be raised before the meeting so that the relevant officers could be consulted and an informed response provided.

Councillor Gordon made a personal explanation that she had only noticed the discrepancy that day and had not had chance to contact officers. She further apologised if she had made a mistake but felt that this was the place to raise such matters.

The Leader responded that he would look into the matter and write to Councillor Gordon following the meeting.

The Mayor, the Leader and the Chairmen of Committees were to answer any



questions on any matters in relation to which the Council has powers or duties or which affect the Borough of which due notice has been given in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 10.5

In accordance with Procedure Rule 10.5(b), the following question was received from Councillor Moulding on 4 October 2012 which met the notice requirement :-

**‘Will the Leader acknowledge that the carrying of the Olympic Torch through the town and borough was a proud moment for the people of Melton; and in doing so he agrees that we should maximise the exhilaration of our community to encourage young people to engage in sport, therefore acknowledging that the proposed increase by up to 50% in charges after the refurbishment of Waterfield Leisure Centre is unacceptable and will he promise to reject those proposed charges and review them again so that we have a pricing structure that will encourage young people and families, who may be discouraged purely on the basis of price, and that it is our duty to build upon our Olympic Legacy?’**

The Leader responded as follows :-

*‘I am pleased to agree with Councillor Moulding that the carrying of the Olympic Torch through the Borough was a proud and inspiring event.*

*This Council has an excellent history of increasing participation in physical activity for all residents and last year’s performance shows that Melton was the best performing and improving Council for the percentage of people participating in physical activity in the County.*

*The proposed new pricing structure provided to Members is designed to ensure price is not a barrier to participation and supports the strategy of increasing the number of people who will visit the refurbished Waterfield Leisure Centre.*

*The percentage increase to which Councillor Moulding refers would affect only 2 people and bring that particular price into line with other membership charges. The other charges some of which affect thousands of people are designed to encourage further participation and demonstrate clear value for money. They compare favourably with facilities elsewhere in the county.*

*Therefore I am unable to reject the prices that have been proposed to Members of the Community & Social Affairs Committee including Councillor Moulding.*

*Councillor Moulding may also note that we have committed an initial £30,000 to pump prime the Wider Leisure Vision to develop much needed dry sports and physical activity facilities in the Borough.’*

Councillor Moulding asked a supplemental question which referred to young people facing higher charges and being proportionately disadvantaged in the new pricing structure. He asked if an equalities impact assessment had been done and was such evidence lacking when the decision was made.

The Leader responded that all necessary procedures would be followed before the decision was made.

## CO42. MOTIONS ON NOTICE

There were no motions on notice received.

## CO43. MEMBERS' REMUNERATION PACKAGE

The Head of Communications submitted a report (copies of which had previously been circulated to Members) which presented the report of the independent Welland Partnership Remuneration Panel on the outcome of the review into the Members' Remuneration Package offered by Melton Borough Council.

Mr. John Cade, the Chair of the Welland Partnership Remuneration Panel presented the panel's report and was available to answer questions thereon.

Mr. Cade stated that the report was deliberately short and due to the financial climate he felt that the public would need to see evidence and compelling reasons to make an increase. He added that Councillors' workload and complexity had increased and this was a Member-led review. A more detailed piece of work would be developed over time and he would wish to come back within the year with a more in depth review. He added that one of the other Welland authorities had requested this and this had influenced that recommendation.

Mr. Cade went onto the explain the recommendations and specifically referred to the following :-

- Basic Allowance and Index Linking – no increase at this time but recommended index linking be introduced which would help periodic movement and was a better understood method of increase. There was already a precedent for this and he would like to see this over all the allowances
- Special Responsibility Allowances (SRAs) – the Panel would like to test these out over a longer period to assess the workloads and see how this develops especially with regard to the Localism Act
- Leader of the main Opposition Group – due to the abolition of the OSA Committee and there being specific responsibilities associated with the role, a modest increase had been recommended
- An allowance for the independent persons being appointed and this being index linked too

Mr. Cade went on to explain that he understood the Council did not wish to increase its Members' Allowances budget at this time and the proposals before the Council could be met from the savings made from the costs associated with the previous Standards Committee. He advised that there may be some future cost due to the index linking but this had not been the case in recent years.

The Leader stated that he was happy to move the recommendations in the Order Paper and thanked Mr. Cade and his colleagues and for the report and the work he was doing and looked forward to a further report in a year's time. He added that four years was a long time to leave allowances but people's salaries and earnings

had not increased in that time as there had been a freeze on pay generally. Therefore he felt it was not appropriate at this time to increase the basic allowance. He added that he was happy to support the recommendation to alter the allowance for the Leader of the main Opposition Group (with effect from 9 May 2012) otherwise there would be an anomaly due to the abolition of the OSA Committee. He was happy to award the modest sum proposed to the independent persons upon their appointment and agreed with the index linking to the NJC pay awards which aligned the allowances with other people who worked for the Council. On the ICT issue, he stated that a package was available to individual Councillors to help them in their work and so far 9 Members had requested this and it was open to others to pick up if they wished. There was no change to the travel and childcare allowances and he felt this was right too and he looked forward to the next report in October 2013.

Councillor Posnett seconded the motion.

Councillor Holmes referred to the cost of fuel and how this was going up all the time and that this mostly affected the rural Councillors. She asked if this had been considered as she felt these type of costs could stop people from becoming a Councillor.

Mr. Cade responded that no representations had been received on that particular point although he did have sympathy and advised that he would look at this in the further review.

Councillor O'Callaghan welcomed Mr. Cade to Melton and went on to state that this report was a missed opportunity. He stated that four years was too long to wait and a new allowances scheme should have coincided with the new Council starting in May 2011. He considered that there were opportunities for making savings and reducing some costs for instance he stated the allowance to Vice Chairs had no purpose. He referred to the previous Panel and its recommendation to remove the allowance to Vice Chairs and felt that this Panel had missed that opportunity. He added that he had not been invited to speak to the Panel and put across his views as Leader of the Opposition. He stated that £42,000 in SRAs went to the Conservative Group in allowances and only £3,000 to the Opposition and considered this situation to be 'jobs for the boys and girls' with the remuneration that went with it. He added that the proportion of two thirds of Councillors getting SRAs was not acceptable. He did not consider there needed to be a change to the basic allowance but there could be a reduction for those who did not deserve to get an SRA. He added that the Labour Group would not support the motion.

Councillor Moncrieff was happy to thank Mr. Cade for his report but could not accept the recommendations at this time as he felt that Chairs were non-executive and had no other special duties than to chair the Committee. However he felt some Chairs did work hard, particularly on the Committees on which he was a Member. He considered a scheme was needed that reflected the work being done. He went on to give the number of meetings per year of the policy and other Committees and compared this to the high number of Development Committee meetings per year. He also referred to the Appeals Committee having not met. He further stated that the previous panel had recommended removal of the Vice Chair role as there was no evidence to support their work and he felt that their payments were still unwarranted and unnecessary and they should stop now and the leadership should do something immediately.

The Mayor stated that although he wished to remain impartial he felt the Councillor's words were uncomfortable and referred to 'payments for favours'.

Councillor Moncrieff responded that he did not mean there was anything underhand happening.

Mr. Cade responded that he would like to point out that Councillor O'Callaghan had not requested an additional sum for the Leader of the main Opposition group, it had been identified as part of the review. He went on to say that all Councillors were given the opportunity to give evidence and some provided written evidence and some oral evidence. Councillor Moncrieff gave oral evidence and made the points that he had made at this meeting. The timeframe for the review was short and that was why the Panel proposed to do a wider review over a longer period of time. The Panel needed to consider the number of meetings, a rate, accountability, responsibility, time and effort. With regard to the Appeals Committee he felt that when this did meet, it needed a Chair who was trained and ready to deal with complex matters. He added that he was the new member to the Panel and although the other members were involved in the previous review, the report presented was a unanimous report of the Panel.

Councillor Chandler requested confirmation that the site visit payments would remain in the scheme. The Mayor responded that this was not part of this review.

Councillor Orson stated that he supported the recommendations and pointed out that this was an independent panel's report which should be accepted. He felt that there was still some scope for rebalancing overall and there should be a more in depth look at the Development Committee Chair and its Members as they did a lot of valuable work.

Councillor Wright spoke in support of the role of Chairs and stated that as Chair of a policy Committee, as well as the main Committee he attended 6 other meetings under that Committee and some of these led him into further work particularly with the Melton Community Partnership, therefore the role of a Chair was not as previously presented.

Councillor Moncrieff wished to make a point of clarification and explained that there were anomalies as the Constitution stated that Chairs were non-executive Chairs and that in his opinion this did not match Councillor Wright's explanation. He added that the Council needed to act on this together before moving forward.

Councillor Cumbers stated that as Chair of the Appeals Committee, she had mentioned to the Leader that the Committee was not required. In the past she was the Vice Chair and there were meetings and they were very onerous and the Committee had had to be really sure of what they were doing due to the responsibilities involved. The existence of the Appeals Committee goes back to before there was licensing. She considered that there was an anomaly now and that the Governance Committee was going to look at this. She added that she was also Vice Chair of the Development Committee and she only received the one allowance and it was not as much as a Chair of a policy Committee.

The Leader, in summing up, stated that it had been an interesting debate. On the cost of fuel he considered that everyone was having to tighten their belts. On

Councillor O'Callaghan's comments, he stated that if his group had won the election, then they would have to take the responsibilities. To Councillor Moncrieff, he stated that Chairs were not paid per meeting and referred him to the Constitution which stated that they led on policy. With regard to Councillor Cumbers she was a very valuable Member of the Council who had taken on two responsibilities and got paid for one and should an Appeals Committee be needed, then she would have a lot of work to do. He stated that the remarks of the opposition were invalid.

Councillor O'Callaghan supported by three other Members requested a recorded vote in accordance with Procedure Rule 15.5.

The Chief Executive announced the result of the vote as being 16 in favour, 7 against and 1 abstention therefore the motion was carried. The result of how individual votes were cast was as follows :-

No.	Councillor	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
1.	P. Baguley	√			
2.	M.W. Barnes	√			
3.	G.E. Botterill				√
4.	G. Bush		√		
5.	P.M. Chandler	√			
6.	P. Cumbers	√			
7.	J. Douglas	√			
8.	S. Dungworth				Resigned
9.	A. Freer-Jones	√			
10.	M. Gordon		√		
11.	M.C.R. Graham	√			
12.	E. Holmes		√		
13.	L. Horton				√
14.	E. Hutchison		√		
15.	J. Illingworth			√	
16.	S. Lumley	√			
17.	V. Manderson	√			
18.	T. Moncrieff		√		
19.	J. Moulding		√		
20.	M. O'Callaghan		√		
21.	J.T. Orson	√			

22.	P.M. Posnett	√			
23.	J.B. Rhodes	√			
24.	M.R. Sheldon				√
25.	J. Simpson	√			
26.	N. Slater	√			
27.	D.R. Wright	√			
28.	J. Wyatt	√			
	<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>

**RESOLVED** that

- (1) the Council accept that this is an interim report of the Welland Partnership Remuneration Panel and a more detailed study will be completed and reported to the Council by October 2013.
- (2) the following recommendations from the Panel's report be approved :-
  - (a) the Basic Allowance should remain unaltered;
  - (b) all Special Responsibility Allowances, with the exception of that for the Leader of the main Opposition Group, should remain unaltered;
  - (c) the existing Special Responsibility Allowance paid to the Leader of the main Opposition Group be augmented by an interim sum of £650 per annum with effect from 9 May 2012, as a consequence of increased responsibilities following the abolition of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee;
  - (d) the Independent Persons appointed to advise the Governance Committee on Code of Conduct complaints each be paid an allowance of £448 per annum from the date of appointment;
  - (e) all allowances be now index linked to NJC pay awards with immediate effect;
  - (f) no provision be made in the Allowance Scheme for Members' use of Information and Communication Technology as it is separately covered in the Council's Electronic Working Package for Members;
  - (g) no change be made to the Travel and Subsistence Expenses Scheme and the Childcare and Carers Allowance Scheme;
  - (h) a more detailed appraisal of workloads individually, comparatively and in Partnership working be undertaken in 2013, having particular regard to the implications of the Localism Act 2011 and changes in the Council's governance arrangements with an update report coming to the Council by October 2013;
- (3) publicity be arranged ensuring that Public Notice is given and that copies of the report are available for inspection by members of the public;

- (4) the Panel be thanked for its work to date;
- (5) the Members' Allowance Scheme contained at Part 6 of the Constitution be amended to reflect the changes approved at this meeting.

### **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

**RESOLVED** that the Public be excluded during the consideration of the following item of business in accordance with Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (Access to Information: Exempt Information under Paragraph 3.

### **CO44. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS**

Policy, Finance & Administration Committee : 25 September 2012

Minute P39/12 – Partner Organisation Occupation Update

Councillor Bush asked the Leader if the Council had contacted The Right Hon. Alan Duncan MP's regarding his press release and if so had a response been received.

The Leader responded that the Council had written to the MP and a response had been received.

On the same minute, Councillor O'Callaghan asked about the capital funding payback period.

The Leader responded that this would be covered during the rental period.

The meeting, which commenced at 6.30 p.m., closed at 8.04 p.m.

Mayor