

Swindon Borough Council

Special Committee

Tuesday, 21 December 2004

Committee Room 5, Civic Offices, Swindon (Anticipated meeting room)

At 5.00 p.m.

Conservative Councillors

Mike Bawden (Chair)
Ian Dobie (Vice-Chair)
Brian Ford
Garry Perkins
Fionuala Foley (Deputy)
Nick Martin (Deputy)
Jemima Milton (Deputy)
David Renard (Deputy)
Justin Tomlinson (Deputy)

Labour Councillors

David Nash
Barrie Thompson
Maureen Caton (Deputy)
Mavis Childs (Deputy)
Maureen Dilley (Deputy)
Maurice Fanning (Deputy)
David Glaholm (Deputy)
Andy Harrison (Deputy)
Derique Montaut (Deputy)

Liberal Democrat Councillors

Chris Shepherd
Wendy Johnson (Deputy)

(Copies to all other Members of the Council – For Information)

Committee Officer: Ian Willcox (Telephone: 01793 463601)
email: iwillcox@swindon.gov.uk

Swindon Borough Council can be contacted at the Civic Offices, Euclid Street, Swindon, SN1 2JH (Telephone 01793 463000)

AGENDA

PART 1 (PUBLIC ITEMS)

1. Apologies for Absence

2. Declarations of Interest

Members are reminded that at the start of the meeting they should declare any known interests in any matter to be considered, and also during the meeting if it becomes apparent that they have an interest in the matters being discussed.

3. Minutes (Pages 1 - 2)

To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 5th November 2004.

4. Public Question Time

See explanatory note below. Please phone the Committee Officer whose name and number appears at the top of this agenda if you need further guidance.

5. Appointments to Committees, Commissions and Other Bodies. (DLCG) (Pages 3 - 8)

Date of Despatch: 15 December 2004

Key:

Officers:

- CE - Chief Executive
- DCC - Director of Cultural Change
- DE - Director of Education
- DEP - Director of Environment and Property
- DF - Director of Finance
- DH - Director of Housing
- DLCG - Director of Law and Corporate Governance
- DSS - Director of Social Services
- DSWS - Director of Swindon Services

Public Question Time - Swindon Borough Council is committed to increasing its accountability to the public and to promoting active citizenship. Up to 15 minutes will be allowed at the start of all Council meetings for questions to the Chair from members of the public about the work of the Committee (except for confidential matters and specific planning applications). Questions must be relevant, clear and concise. Because of time constraints Public Question Time is not an opportunity to make speeches or statements. Prior notice of a question to the Director of Law and Corporate Governance is desirable - particularly if detailed background information is needed.

Access Arrangements – The Venue is wheelchair accessible and an infrared receiver hearing system is provided. If you would wish to attend the meeting but have any special requirement to enable you to do so please contact the Committee Clerk above, as soon as possible prior to the date of the meeting.

If you would like to receive any of the pages contained in this agenda in a larger print size please contact the Committee Officer whose name appears on the first page of this agenda.

Special Committee - Terms of Reference

The Special Committee shall have delegated to it the power to act for the Council on the advice of the Chief Executive on any policy decision or any particular matter that is urgent and necessary in the best interests of the Council.

The quorum of the Committee shall be three.

Deputy Members may be appointed at the Annual or any meeting of the Council.

Minutes of any proceedings of this Committee shall be submitted to the Council.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE

FRIDAY, 5 NOVEMBER 2004

PRESENT:- Councillors Ian Dobie (Vice-Chair), David Nash, Barrie Thompson and David Renard (Deputy).

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mike Bawden (Chair), Brian Ford, Garry Perkins and Chris Shepherd.

8. Declarations of Interest

The Chair reminded Members of the need to declare any known interests in any matters to be considered at the meeting.

9. Minutes

Resolved - That the minutes of the meeting held on 25th June, 2004, be confirmed and signed.

10. Public Question Time

No questions were submitted in accordance with Standing Order 28.

11. Revised Cycle of Cabinet Meetings.

The Director of Law and Corporate Governance submitted a report dated 14th October, 2004, setting out proposals to (a) amend the Council's Constitution to provide for the Cabinet to meet on a six-weekly cycle rather than three-weekly as at present, and (b) change the timetable of meetings to reflect the changed arrangements and the impact of this for meetings of the Scrutiny Review Board and for the February 2005 meeting of the Council.

Resolved – (1) That the Cabinet meet on a six-weekly cycle and that the Director of Law and Corporate Governance be authorised to amend the Constitution accordingly.

(2) That the time-table of meetings, set out in Appendix 1 to the report of the Director of Law and Corporate Governance dated 14th October 2004, be adopted, and the Director of Law and Corporate Governance, in consultation with the three political group leaders, be authorised to vary these dates should this prove necessary for the efficient discharge of Council business.

12. Appointments to Committees and Other Bodies.

The Director of Law and Corporate Governance submitted a report dated 22nd October 2004, concerning proposals to change Committee memberships and the Council's representation on outside bodies for the remainder of the Municipal Year 2004/05, to reflect changes to Cabinet portfolio responsibilities and changed personal and work commitments of certain Councillors.

Resolved – That the changes to Committee memberships and representation on outside bodies for the remainder of the Municipal Year 2004/05, set out below and in Appendix 1 to the report of the Director of Law and Corporate Governance dated 22nd October 2004, be approved.

Appointments to Committees and Other Bodies

Council Body / Outside Body	Current Membership / Appointment	Proposed Membership / Appointment
Appeals Committee	Councillor Peter Greenhalgh	Councillor Bernard Baker
Appeals Committee - Chair	Councillor Peter Greenhalgh	Councillor Colin Lovell
Appeals Committee - Sub-Committees	Councillor Peter Greenhalgh	Councillor Bernard Baker
Education and Young People Commission	Councillor Bernard Baker	Councillor Peter Greenhalgh
Education and Young People Commission – Vice- Chair	Councillor Bernard Baker	Councillor Peter Greenhalgh
Services to the Community Commission	Councillor Peter Greenhalgh	Councillor Bernard Baker
Education Partnership Board (Deputy)	Councillor Bernard Baker	Councillor Peter Greenhalgh
School Organisation Committee	Councillor Bernard Baker	Councillor Peter Greenhalgh
Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE)	Councillor Bernard Baker	Councillor Peter Greenhalgh
Swindon Admissions Forum	Councillor Bernard Baker	Councillor Peter Greenhalgh
Children's Board (Deputy)	Councillor Bernard Baker	Councillor Peter Greenhalgh
Community Organisations Advisory Forum	Councillor Fionuala Foley	Councillor David Renard
Grant Aid Working Party of Cabinet	Councillor Fionuala Foley	Councillor David Renard
Waste Management Task Group of Cabinet	Councillor Peter Greenhalgh	Councillor Andrew Bennett
Pinehurst People's Centre Steering Group of Cabinet	Councillor Fionuala Foley	Councillor David Renard
Arts Council England – South West	Councillor Fionuala Foley	Councillor Jemima Milton
Swindon Arts Community Fund	Councillor Fionuala Foley	Councillor Jemima Milton
Wiltshire Arts Development Forum	Councillor Fionuala Foley	Councillor Jemima Milton
Member E-Government Group (MEGG)	Councillor Maureen Caton	Councillor Steve Allsopp
Wiltshire and Swindon Record Office Project Board	No Conservative Group Deputy appointed	Conservative Group Deputy to be appointed with the name to be forwarded to the Director of Law and Corporate Governance

Agenda Item 5

To: The Chair and Members of
the Special Committee

Agenda Item No

Date: 21st December, 2004

By: Director of Law and Corporate
Governance

Parish/Ward: All

Appointments to Commissions, Committees and Other Bodies

1 Purpose

- 1.1 To review appointments to Commissions, Committees and Other Bodies made by Annual Council and Special Committee.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to determine appointments to Commissions, Committees and Other Bodies set out in Paragraph 5.9 and Appendices 1 and 2, to the report.

3 Financial Implications

- 3.1 There are no direct financial or procurement implications arising from this report.

4 Social, Environmental, Staffing and Legal/Human Rights, Risk and Other Implications

- 4.1 There are no social, environmental or staffing implications arising from this report.
- 4.2 Legal and Human Rights considerations have been taken fully into account in compiling this report. It is considered that the contents of this report are compatible with convention rights.
- 4.3 All other Risk Implications – Risk has been considered and no major or uncontrolled risks have been identified.
- 4.4 Links to the Corporate Plan – The delivery by way of the constitution of effective and transparent decision making directly links to that part of the Corporate Plan relating to “A Council for the future”.

5 Detail

- 5.1 On 22nd November, 2004, I received a letter from Councillor Michael Dickinson informing me of his resignation from the Liberal Democrat Group. Subsequently I received formal notification that Councillor Michael Dickinson had joined the Council’s Conservative Group (signed by Councillor Dickinson

on 29th November, 2004, and by the Leader of the Conservative Group, Councillor Mike Bawden on 30th November, 2004).

- 5.2 I also received a letter dated 26th November, 2004, from Councillor Laura Holiday resigning as a Councillor for Walcot Ward.
- 5.3 The political composition of the Council is now 33 Conservative Group Members, 19 Labour Group Members, 6 Liberal Democrat Members and one vacancy.
- 5.4 The remainder of this report assumes that the Council will seek to continue the current political balance arrangements set out in the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.
- 5.5 Following a review of those arrangements, there is no change to the relative proportions of the political group membership on the Council's Commissions, Committees, and Other Bodies.
- 5.6 However, following adjustments required under the Act the Liberal Democrat Group is required to give up two seats on Committees and/or Commissions to the Conservative Group.
- 5.7 The Liberal Democrat Group have proposed to give up seats on the Licensing Committee and the Appointments Committee.
- 5.8 The Liberal Democrat Group have also requested the changes, set out in Appendix 1 to the report, to their Group's Membership on various bodies in respect of seats previously held by Councillor Dickinson.
- 5.9 The Liberal Democrat Group have also requested that Councillor Wendy Johnson replace Councillor Mike Every as their representative on the Education Partnership Board.
- 5.10 The Conservative Group have requested the changes set out in Appendix 2 to the report, to their Group's Membership on various bodies following the resignation of Councillor Laura Holiday and the addition of Councillor Michael Dickinson to the Group.
- 5.11 Following these changes there are currently vacancies on the Licensing Committee and Appointments Committee arising from Councillor Laura Holiday's resignation.

6 Appendices

- 6.1 Nominations for changes to Liberal Democrat Group membership on various bodies.
- 6.2 Nominations for changes to Conservative Group membership on various bodies.

7 Date

7.1 14th December, 2004

The Director of Finance and the Director of Law and Corporate Governance are consulted on all reports. The Chief Executive and Political Assistants were also consulted on this report: .

The following Councillors were consulted or informed of the contents of this report: Councillors Mike Bawden, David Nash and Chris Shepherd

THE FOLLOWING UNPUBLISHED DOCUMENTS HAVE BEEN RELIED ON IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT:

Letter of Resignation from the Liberal Democrat Group from Councillor Michael Dickinson dated 22nd November, 2004.

Form A (Local Government and Housing Act 1989) Councillor Michael Dickinson intension to join the Conservative Group

Letter of Resignation from the Council from Ex-Councillor Laura Holliday dated 26th November, 2004.

Further information regarding this report can be obtained from Shaun Banks, Committee and Member Services, on Direct Dial No. 463606 or Email sbanks@swindon.gov.uk

The Cabinet Member for the service area subject to this report is Councillor Mike Bawden, Leader of the Council.

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Appendix 1

Changes requested by the Liberal Democrat Group to their Membership on various bodies

The Liberal Democrat Group have requested that Councillor Michael Dickinson be replaced with the following Members on the bodies listed below:

Commission/Sub-Committee/Task Group	Councillor
Ad Hoc Licensing Sub-Committee	Mike Every *
Public/Private Entertainment Licensing Sub-Committee	Mike Every *
Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Licensing Sub-Committee	Mike Every *
Corporate Performance Commission	Mike Every
School Organisation Committee (Deputy)	Mike Every
Asset Management Task Group	Mike Every
Audit Sub-Group	Chris Shepherd
Benefits Monitoring Group	Chris Shepherd
Budget Strategy Task Group	Mike Every
Contracts and Procurement Task Group	Chris Shepherd
Swindon Town Centre Partnership Board (Deputy)	Stan Pajak
Special Expenses Task Group	Martin Wiltshire
Outside Body	
Local Government Association (South West Branch) (Deputy)	Martin Wiltshire

* Subject to the agreement of the Licensing Committee

Appendix 2

Changes to Membership requested by the Conservative Group

Scrutiny Review Board	Michael Dickinson to replace Laura Holiday
Licensing Committee	Michael Dickinson
Education & Young People Commission	Michael Dickinson to replace Roderick Bluh
Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Licensing Sub-Committee	Michael Dickinson to replace Laura Holiday *
Children Bill Task Group	Michael Dickinson to replace Colin Lovell
Housing Advisory Forum	Steve Wakefield to replace Laura Holiday
School Organisation Committee	Owen Lister to replace Laura Holiday
Licensing Committee	Steve Wakefield to replace Peter Greenhalgh
Public/Private Entertainment Licensing Sub-Committee	Steve Wakefield to replace Peter Greenhalgh *

* Subject to the agreement of the Licensing Committee