

COUNCIL

THURSDAY, 11 APRIL 2013

PRESENT:- The Worshipful The Mayor in the Chair; Councillors Junab Ali, Steve Allsopp, Abdul Amin, Paul Baker, John Ballman, Ray Ballman, Mike Bawden, Andrew Bennett, Alan Bishop, Roderick Bluh, Michael Bray, Wayne Crabbe, Mark Dempsey, Michael Dickinson, Mark Edwards, Toby Elliott, Claire Ellis, Emma Faramarzi, Fionuala Foley, Brian Ford, Mary Friend, Jim Grant, John Haines, Peter Heaton-Jones, Neil Heavens, Dale Heenan, Russell Holland, Fay Howard, Richard Hurley, Colin Lovell, Nick Martin, Cindy Matthews, Brian Mattock, Des Moffatt, Derique Montaut, Teresa Page, Stan Pajak, Maureen Penny, Garry Perkins, Julian Price, David Renard, Ann Richards, James Robbins, Rochelle Russell, Vera Tomlinson, Joe Tray, Steve Wakefield, Nadine Watts, Peter Watts, Steve Weisinger, Keith Williams, Robert Wright and Julie Wright.

117. Mayor's Announcements

The Mayor reported the recent death of Mrs Ellen Garrett (former Mayoress of the Borough in the Municipal Year 1984/85) and wife of the late Mr Harry Garrett (former Mayor). He informed the Council that he, together with former Mayors of the Borough, would represent the Council at her funeral on Monday 22nd April 2013.

The Mayor reported that Mr Richard Symonds had requested that he be permitted to video the proceedings. The Council confirmed its agreement that Mr Richard Symonds be permitted to video the meeting.

118. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Nicky Sewell, Kevin Small, Steve Wakefield and Dave Wood.

119. Communications

The Chief Executive reported that no communications had been received.

120. Minutes

Resolved – That, subject to the inclusion of Councillor Roderick Bluh in the list of attendees, the minutes of the meeting held on 22nd July, 2004, be confirmed and signed.

121. Declarations of Interest

(Councillors John Ballman, Ray Ballman, Dale Heenan and Teresa Page made Personal declarations of interest in respect of Agenda Item 8(1) (Cabinet Minute 115 and Corporate Governance Review Working Group Minute 28(5) – Corporate Governance review) as they lived in the area affected.)

(Councillor Joe Tray, Peter Watts made a Personal declaration of interest in respect of Agenda Item 8(1) (Cabinet Minute 115 and Corporate Governance Review Working Group Minute 28(5) – Corporate Governance review) as they were Parish Councillors.)

(Councillors Wayne Crabbe, Michael Dickinson, Emma Faramarzi, Brian Ford, Russell Holland, Toby Elliot Mary Friend, Peter Heaton-Jones, Richard Hurley, Teresa Page, Vera Tomlinson and Peter Watts made Personal declarations of Interest in respect of Agenda Item 8(1) (Cabinet Minute 115 and Corporate Governance Review Working Group Minute 28(5) – Corporate Governance review) as they lived in parished areas.)

(Rochelle Russell made a Personal and Prejudicial declaration of interest in respect of Agenda Item 8(1) (Cabinet Minute 115 and Corporate Governance Review Working Group Minute 28(5) – Corporate Governance review), as her husband worked for Stratton Parish Council and left the room during its discussion.)

(Councillor Andrew Bennett made a Personal declaration of interest in respect of Agenda Item 8(1) (Cabinet Minute 115 and Corporate Governance Review Working Group Minute 28(5) – Corporate Governance review) as he was a Member of the Swindon Area Committee of Parrish Councils.)

(Councillors John Ballman Ray Ballman, Mark Edwards, Dale Heenan and Richard Hurley had dispensations under Section 33 of the Localism Act 2011 in respect of this item.)

122.

Public Question Time

Mrs Kareen Boyd asked a public question regarding papers relating to report on opening and closing of schools in Swindon considered by the Children and Young People's Overview Committee meeting held on 27th March 2013 that were not included in the Council Papers before Members with the minutes of that meeting.

The Deputy Mayor responded at the meeting and indicated a written response regarding the legal advice received would be provided.

Mr. Colin Doubleday asked a public question regarding the omission of a reference to an emailed question, from him, to be submitted to the Children and Young People's Overview Committee meeting held on 27th March 2013.

The Deputy Mayor responded at the meeting.

Mr. Colin Doubleday asked, in the absence of a written response to his public question to the Children and Young People's Overview Committee meeting held on 27th March 2013 whether consideration of the Croft School Motion should be deferred to a future meeting.

The Leader of the Council responded at the meeting.

Mr. Brian Cockbill asked the Leader of the Council about meetings, not open to the public or opposition Councillors relating to the Croft School site.

The Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care responded at the meeting.

Mr. Colin Doubleday asked a public question regarding public engagement in the process of choosing the Croft School site.

The Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care and Leader of the Council responded at the meeting.

Mr. Brian Cockbill asked a public question regarding the future of the No. 21 bus service.

The Cabinet Member for Leisure and Strategic Transport responded at the meeting.

Mr. Brian Cockbill asked a public question regarding the numbers using the No.21 bus service and why Thamesdown Transport felt it was not viable in its current form.

The Cabinet Member for Leisure and Strategic Transport responded at the meeting.

Mr. Brian Cockbill asked whether an amendment on the Corporate Governance Review Working Group recommendations was admissible.

The Director of Law and Democratic Service responded at the meeting.

Mr. Tim French asked whether a decision on contractors for the Catholic College Site had been approved.

The Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Children's Services responded at the meeting.

123. Appointment of Leader of Swindon Borough Council

The Mayor reported the formal resignation of Councillor Roderick Bluh as Leader of the Council and called for nominations to fill the vacancy of Leader of the Council.

Councillor Fionuala Foley moved and Councillor Roderick Bluh seconded:

"That Councillor David Renard be appointed as Leader of Swindon Borough Council."

The Motion was put to the vote and declared carried.

Councillor David Renard thanked the Council for his appointment and tabled details of his Cabinet appointments which would become effective from 12:00 midnight (attached as Appendix 1).

124. Appointment to Committees

Councillor David Renard moved and Councillor Brian Mattock seconded:

“That the following changes to Conservative Group Committee representation be approved.”

Committee	Member(s) being replaced	Member(s) being appointed
Standards Committee	Councillor Richard Hurley	Councillor Brian Ford
Licensing Committee	Councillors Claire Ellis and Richard Hurley	Councillors Roderick Bluh and Michael Dickinson
Scrutiny and Overview Committee	Councillors Claire Ellis and Richard Hurley	Councillors Emma Faramarzi and John Haines
Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Councillors Claire Ellis and Richard Hurley	Councillors Mark Edwards and Vera Tomlinson
Economic, Environmental and Sustainability Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Councillors Mike Bawden and Richard Hurley	Councillors Roderick Bluh and Mark Edwards

The Motion was put to the vote and declared carried.

(2) Councillor Stan Pajak moved and Councillor Anne Richards seconded the following changes to Liberal Democrat Group Committee representation be approved.

Committee	Member(s) being replaced	Member(s) being appointed
Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Councillor Anne Richards	Councillor Nicky Sewell
Economic, Environmental and Sustainability Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Councillor Nicky Sewell	Councillor Anne Richards

The motion was put to the vote and declared carried.

(3) Councillor David Renard moved and Councillor Brian Mattock seconded:

“That:

(i) Councillor Nicky Sewell be appointed as Chair of the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the remainder of the Municipal Year 2012/13,

(ii) that Councillor Andrew Bennett be appointed as Chair of the Licensing Committee

for the remainder of the Municipal Year 2012/13, and

(iii) that Councillor Emma Faramarzi be appointed as Vice-Chair of the Licensing Committee for the remainder of the Municipal Year 2012/13.”

125.

Minutes for Confirmation

(1) Councillor Michael Dickinson moved and Councillor Roderick Bluh seconded:

“That Minute 115(5) of the Cabinet and Minutes 31(2) to (5) of the Corporate Governance Review Working Group (Corporate Governance Review) be confirmed and adopted as set out below.”

Cabinet Minute 115 of the Cabinet (Community Governance Review 2013 – Reference from Corporate Governance Review Working Group

Resolved – (1) *That the report on the Community Governance Review of Swindon submitted to the Corporate Governance Review Working Group on 7th March 2013, as set out in Appendix 1 to the joint report, be noted.*

(2) *That the recommendations of the Corporate Governance Review Working Group on 7th March 2013, as set out in Appendix 2, to the joint report be noted and endorsed.*

(3) *That the draft proposals in relation to the Community Governance Review of Swindon, as set out in Appendix 3 to the joint report, be noted.*

(4) *That the petition presented at the Cabinet meeting in further support of the creation of a separate Nythe parish, be noted, and (a) the petition be referred to the Corporate Governance Review Working Group and it be asked to convene as a matter of urgency to consider the petition and advise the Council at its meeting on 11th April 2013 as whether it wishes to change its recommendation that a separate Nythe parish not be created; and (b) the Director of Law and Democratic Services be requested to inform those parties who have already made representations on this issue, of the receipt of the petition in order that any comments can be taken into account by the Corporate Governance Review Working Group.*

(5) *That, following the Corporate Governance Review Working Group meeting, the Director of Law and Democratic Services, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, be authorised to prepare the Draft Scheme and consequential draft Parish Changes Order resulting from the Community Governance Review of Swindon, for submission to Council on 11th April 2013. (Minute 115 of Cabinet refers)*

Minutes 31(2) to (5) of the Corporate Governance Review Working Group

Resolved –

(2) *That the Working Group confirms its recommendation to the Council that a new Parish of Nythe not be created.*

(3) *That the Council be recommended to approve the draft Proposals of the Working Group as set out in Appendix 3 of the report to the Cabinet on 20th March 2013 and endorsed by the Cabinet at that meeting (Minute 115 of the Cabinet refers).*

(4) *That, in accordance with the requirements set out in Section 96 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, the Director of Law and Democratic Services be authorised to publish the Council’s decision in relation to those recommendations set out in the draft Proposals (Appendix 3 to the Cabinet Report 20th March 2013) and the reasons for making that decision, and to take such*

steps as he considers sufficient to secure that persons who may be interested in the Community Governance Review are informed of that decision.

(5) That, further to the decision in (4) above, the Director of Law and Democratic Services be authorised to make the necessary Order to give effect to that decision.

Amendments

Councillor Dale Heenan moved and Councillor Richard Hurley seconded that the Motion be amended as follows:

“That this Council:

(1) Approves the draft Community Governance Review recommendations with the exception that after considering all submissions to the Community Governance Review Council agrees that a Nythe Parish with a Nythe Parish Council of seven Members should be created because:

(a) Nythe is a distinct and separate community of place with its own shops, community centre and schools, has a recognizable local community identity which residents identify with and will improve community cohesion;

(b) It will increase the local representation from 3 members to 7 members, and generate sufficient interest to hold a parish election improving community representation;

(c) It is of sufficient size to be a viable entity, would be more effective and convenient and improve local administration by being a more representative and accountable, governance arrangement and enable inclusive, active and effective participation by residents;

(d) The boundary can be clearly defined and identified geographically with boundaries set as west of Dorcan Way, south of the Greenbridge Fields, north of Dorcan stream and west of Ashbury Avenue and the Drive Road covering the CDB Borough Council polling district, and

(e) It takes into account the views of local residents, other governance arrangements in the area, all statutory criteria including the 1972 Act.

(2) Requests that the Cabinet Member for Finance set up a working group comprising Ward Councillors and Stratton Parish Council representatives to help minimise the impact of these changes on Stratton Parish Council.”

In response to a question from Councillor Des Moffatt as to whether the amendment negated the motion, the Director of Law and Democratic Services confirmed his view that it did not.

The Amendment was put to the vote and declared carried becoming the Substantive Motion.

Councillor Jim Grant moved and Councillor John Ballman seconded that the Substantive Motion be amended as follows:

“That this Council:

(1) Amends the draft Community Governance Review recommendations to exclude the following streets from the Stratton Parish:

- Constable Road
- Headlands Grove
- Jefferies Avenue
- Masefield Avenue
- Wheeler Avenue.

(2) Supports all other recommendations agreed by the Corporate Governance Review Working Group on April 2nd as set out in Appendix 3 of the Community Governance report to the Cabinet on 20th March 2103 and endorsed by the Cabinet at that meeting (Minute 115 of the Cabinet refers).”

With the agreement of the mover and seconder the amendment was amended to delete (2) above to read as follows:

“That this Council:

Amends the draft Community Governance Review recommendations to exclude the following streets from the Stratton Parish:

- Constable Road
- Headlands Grove
- Jefferies Avenue
- Masefield Avenue
- Wheeler Avenue.”

The Amended Motion was put to the vote and declared carried becoming the Substantive Motion.

Substantive Motion

“That this Council:

(1) Approves the draft Community Governance Review recommendations with the exception that after considering all submissions to the Community Governance Review Council agrees that a Nythe Parish with a Nythe Parish Council of seven Members should be created because:

(a) Nythe is a distinct and separate community of place with it's own shops, community centre and schools, has a recognizable local community identity which residents identify with and will improve community cohesion;

(b) It will increase the local representation from 3 members to 7 members, and generate sufficient interest to hold a parish election improving community representation;

(c) It is of sufficient size to be a viable entity, would be more effective and convenient and improve local administration by being a more representative, and accountable, governance arrangement and enable inclusive, active and effective participation by residents;

(d) The boundary can be clearly defined and identified geographically with boundaries set as west of Dorcan Way, south of the Greenbridge Fields, north of Dorcan stream and west of Ashbury Avenue and the Drive road covering the CDB Borough Council polling district, and

(e) It takes into account the views of local residents, other governance arrangements in the area, all statutory criteria including the 1972 Act.

(2) That this Council amends the draft Community Governance Review recommendations to exclude the following streets from the Stratton St. Margaret Parish:

- *Constable Road*
- *Headlands Grove*
- *Jefferies Avenue*
- *Masefield Avenue*
- *Wheeler Avenue.*

(3) Requests that the Cabinet Member for Finance set up a working group comprising Ward Councillors and Stratton Parish Council representatives to help minimise the impact of these changes on Stratton Parish Council.”

The Substantive Motion was put to the vote and declared carried.

Councillors John Ballman, Ray Ballman, Dale Heenan and Teresa Page made Personal declarations of interest in respect of Agenda Item 8(1) (Cabinet Minute 115 and Corporate Governance Review Working Group Minute 28(5) – Corporate Governance review) as they lived in the area affected.

Councillor Joe Tray, Peter Watts made a Personal declaration of interest in respect of Agenda Item 8(1) (Cabinet Minute 115 and Corporate Governance Review Working Group Minute 28(5) – Corporate Governance review) as they were Parish Councillors.

Councillors Wayne Crabbe, Michael Dickinson, Emma Faramarzi, Brian Ford, Russell Holland, Toby Elliot Mary Friend, Peter Heaton-Jones, Richard Hurley, Teresa Page, Vera Tomlinson and Peter Watts made Personal declarations of interest in respect of this item as they lived in parished areas.

Rochelle Russell made a Personal and Prejudicial declaration of interest in respect of this item and left the room during its discussion.

Councillor Andrew Bennett made a Personal declaration of interest in respect of this item as he was a Member of the Swindon Area Committee of Parrish Councils.

Councillors John Ballman Ray Ballman, Mark Edwards, Dale Heenan and Richard Hurley had dispensations under Section 33 of the Localism Act 2011 in respect of this item.

(2) Councillor Michael Dickinson moved and Councillor Roderick Bluh seconded:

“That Minute 28(5) of the Corporate Governance Review Working Group be confirmed and adopted (Corporate Governance Issues – (a) Standing Order 4, and (b) Code of Conduct) be confirmed and adopted.

The Motion was put to the vote and declared carried.

(3) Councillor Dale Heenan moved and Councillor David Renard seconded:

“That Minute 122 of the Cabinet (Statement of Community Involvement in the Planning Process) be confirmed and adopted.”

The Motion was put to the vote and declared carried.

(4) Councillor Brian Mattock moved and Councillor David Renard seconded:

“That Minutes 126(1) and (2) of the Cabinet (The Swindon Health and Well-Being Board) be confirmed and adopted.

The Motion was put to the vote and declared carried.

(5) Councillor Dale Heenan moved and Councillor David Renard seconded:

“That Minute 133(1) of the Cabinet (Wiltshire and Swindon Waste Sites Allocation Plan – Inspectors Report and Adoption) be confirmed and adopted.

The Motion was put to the vote and declared carried.

(6) Councillor Garry Perkins moved and Councillor David Renard seconded:

“That Minute 116 of the Cabinet (Motion at Council – Honda Task Group – Summary of Support to Honda) be noted.

The Motion was put to the vote and declared carried.

(7) Councillor Mark Edwards moved and Councillor David Renard seconded:

“That Minute 125 of the Cabinet (Use of Bailiffs – Motion at Council) be noted.

The Motion was put to the vote and declared carried.

(8) Councillor Dale Heenan moved and Councillor David Renard seconded:

“That Minute 127 of the Cabinet (Recording and Broadcasting Full Council) be noted.

Councillor Mark Dempsey moved and Councillor Bob Wright seconded that the Motion be amended to read:

“That this Council requests:

(i) The Director of Law and Democratic Services to work with the Corporate Governance Review Working Group on the development of a Standing Order giving a presumption in favour of recording meetings by residents, and to identify ways that residents who wish to record meetings have the same access to the full Council Chamber as the media.

(ii) That a cross party working group on the recording of Council meetings be established to help support individuals and groups that wish to record Council meetings and develop the best arrangements for these recordings to be made. This group should provide recommendations to the next meeting of Full Council and should meet on an on-going basis to monitor and update these recommendations and consider alternative approaches if using volunteers proves unsatisfactory.”

The Amendment was put to the vote and declared lost.

The Substantive Motion was put to the vote and declared carried.

(9) Councillor Russell Holland moved and Councillor David Renard seconded:

“That Minute 130(5) of the Cabinet (Motion at Council – Housing Market Support) be noted.

The Motion was put to the vote and declared carried.

126. Motion - Pop Up Shops

Councillor Mark Dempsey moved and Councillor Jim Robbins seconded:

“That this Council notes that in large towns and cities such as Brighton, Pop Up Shops have brought empty shops back to life, have enabled new businesses to grow and have unleashed young retail entrepreneurs onto the high street.

Council requests the Chief Executive and the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Culture to provide a report to Cabinet (a) on how the Council can support the creation of Pop Up Shops as part of a Help for the High Street Strategy to breathe new life into Swindon Town Centre and to tackle increasing shop vacancy rates, and

(b) investigating how the Council can enable the creation of Pop up Shops through access to empty shops units in Swindon town centre, to help rebuild our local economy and provide a vibrant addition to the Swindon shopping experience.”

Councillor Garry Perkins moved and Councillor Emma Faramarzi seconded that the Motion be amended to read:

“That this Council notes that in large towns and cities such as Brighton, Pop Up Shops have brought empty shops back to life, have enabled new businesses to grow and have assisted young retail entrepreneurs onto the high street.

This Council notes the work already undertaken by the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Culture, the North Swindon MP Justin Tomlinson, Forward Swindon Ltd and InSwindon to find sustainable as well short-term uses for properties in the town centre, including funding from Mary Portas Project and the Coalition Government.

Council requests the Chief Executive and the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Culture to provide a report to Cabinet on the continuing work that InSwindon, in collaboration with Swindon Borough Council, have been pursuing with the shop owners to ensure empty premises are brought back into use.

The Amendment was put to the vote and declared carried becoming the Substantive Motion.

The Substantive Motion was put to the vote and declared carried.

127. Motion - Housing Benefits

Councillor Cindy Matthews moved and Councillor Steve Allsopp seconded:

“That this Council notes that 1,120 households who are part of the Swindon Council housing stock will be affected as a result of the government housing benefit under-occupancy changes- dubbed the ‘bedroom tax’. There are also a further 330 households who live in accommodation rented from Housing Associations affected by these changes. This includes households with:

- Disabled People with at least one extra bedroom (even those that have adapted their houses to meet their needs).
- Families with two or more children under the age of 10 with their own bedrooms.

This Council notes that even if the Council was to prioritise affected tenants who need to downsize to one bedroom properties over other priority cases, it would take around 3 years to accommodate them.

This Council resolves:

- To request the Cabinet Member for Finance to bring a report to Cabinet detailing what support can be provided for tenants affected by the housing benefit changes and, in particular, how the housing discretionary fund will be used to support affected tenants.
- To request that the Cabinet Member for Housing write to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions urging him to look at other ways the Government can reduce the Housing Benefit bill, such as by investing in more social house-building which would then reduce the need to use expensive private rented homes to accommodate housing benefit recipients.

To request the Cabinet Member for Housing to bring a report to the Cabinet after six months and one year of the implementation of the housing benefit under-occupancy changes to assess the impact these reforms have had on affected tenants.”

Councillor Russell Holland moved and Councillor Richard Hurley seconded that the motion be amended to read:

“This Council recognises the need for reform to social security benefits to ensure that assistance to people in need is both fair and financially sustainable.

This Council notes the Central Government reform in respect of housing benefit whereby entitlement to housing benefit will be partly based on the need for bedrooms.

The Council recognises the concerns expressed in respect of the housing benefit reform.

The Council endorses the principle of the provision of financial assistance for Council house tenants in need funded by the Housing Revenue Account and supports the Cabinet Member for Housing in developing such a scheme.

This Council further requests that the Cabinet Member for Housing monitors and provides updates on the impact of benefits reform to tenants, Members, Swindon Tenants Voice and Housing Advisory Forum.”

The Amendment was put to the vote and declared carried becoming the Substantive Motion.

The Substantive Motion was put to the vote and declared carried.

128. Motion - Protecting our Heritage: Victoria Road Technical College

Councillor Stan Pajak moved and Councillor Bob Wright seconded:

“This Council deplores:

- The lamentable state of the old college building resulting from the insecurity of the site.

- Recent arson attacks on the building and the prospect of further attacks

This Council notes:

- That contractors are due to move on site in the next month and that this is an unacceptable time for the building to be unsecured.

- The efforts of ward councillors and residents to lobby the developers and Swindon Borough Council to secure the site

This Council Resolves:

- To ask the Head of Planning to liaise with the developers to ensure the site and building security is inspected regularly to ensure its maintenance.

- To ask the Head of Planning urgently investigate the possibility of taking steps to secure the building and site in the interest and safety of the public in the event that

the developer will not keep it secure.

- To actively support any efforts made to have the building listed following the completion of the college site development.”

Councillor Garry Perkins moved and Councillor Dale Heenan seconded that the Motion be amended to read:

“This Council deplores the recent arson attacks on the building.

This Council notes:

- The work now done by the developer to secure the site and that contractors are due to move on site in the next month.
- The efforts of ward councillors, residents and officers to assist the developers in securing the site and start progressing redevelopment work.

This Council Resolves:

- To ask the Building Control team to continue liaising with the developers to ensure the site and building security continues to be inspected regularly to ensure its maintenance.
- To ask the Chief Executive to discuss the future of the building with the site owners.”

The Amendment was put to the vote and declared carried becoming the Substantive Motion.

The Substantive Motion was put to the vote and declared carried.

129. Motion - Croft School

Councillor Nadine Watts moved and Councillor Jim Robbins seconded:

“That this Council notes the report on opening and closing of schools within the Borough, presented to the Children’s Overview and Scrutiny Committee on the 27th March 2013.

This Council thanks the independent members for providing this report and in light of the report’s view that elements of the Council’s consultation over the siting of a school at Croft was “at best, confused”, this Council would like to apologise to Old Town residents for this failing.

In light of the findings of the report, Council sees benefits in reviewing the decision to site the new primary school for a demand in the Old Town, Town Centre and surrounding areas on the Croft site. Council requests that a paper is brought to Cabinet for them to consider authorising an independent external review of the Croft School decision, including why the Croft site was chosen by council decision-makers and the way the decision was taken.”

Councillor Russell Holland moved and Councillor David Renard seconded:

That this Council:

- i. Welcomes the report on opening and closing of schools within the Borough, presented to the Children's Overview and Scrutiny Committee on the 27th March 2013;
- ii. Thanks the independent members of the Review Group for providing this report and the diligence and thoroughness with which they approached the task;
- iii. Notes the independent members' finding in paragraph 7.23 of their Review that "it is important to stress that the Review Group did not find that there was any failure to follow the Statutory process nor was there any attempt to mislead." and
- iv. Considers that the various complaints and queries raised with regard to the Croft School have now been fully responded to, and that no further time should be spent on this matter, having regard to the outcome of the external and internal investigations and reviews that have been carried out.
- v. Wishes the current and future children at this school well in their educational careers.

The Amendment was put to the vote and declared carried becoming the Substantive Motion.

The Substantive Motion was put to the vote and declared carried.

130. Calendar of Meetings 2013/14

The Director of Law and Democratic Services submitted a report setting out the proposed dates for meetings of the Council, the Cabinet, Committees and Other Swindon Borough Council Bodies for the Municipal Year, 2013/14.

Councillor David Renard moved and Brian Mattock seconded:

"(1) That the Timetable of Meetings for the Municipal Year 2013/14, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report of the Director of Law and Democratic Services be approved for formal adoption by Annual Council.

(2) That the Director of Law and Democratic Services, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, be authorised to vary the dates for meetings of the Council, the Cabinet, Committees and Other Swindon Borough Council bodies should this prove necessary for the efficient discharge of Council business."

The Motion was put to the vote and declared carried.

131. Locality Team Structure 2013/14

The Leader of the Council, Leader of the Opposition Group, Leader of the Minority Group and Chief Executive submitted a report setting out proposed Locality Team Priorities and Locality Team Structure for the Municipal Year 2013/14.

Councillor David Renard moved and Councillor Jim Grant seconded:

“That Council endorses the proposed priorities and structure for the Locality Team for 2013/14, as set out in the report, and notes that the Programme Director Stronger Together will proceed to implement these with immediate effect.”

The Motion was put to the vote and declared carried.

132. Minutes of Cabinet and Decisions Delegated to Cabinet Members

The Council considered (a) the minutes of the meetings of the Cabinet held on 6th February and 20th March 2013, and (b) questions to the Cabinet Members regarding their portfolio responsibilities and answers received.

133. Minutes of other Council Bodies

The Council (a) received the Minutes set out in the “Minutes of Other Council Bodies” circulated with the Agenda, and (b) considered questions to Chairs regarding the work of their Committees and other bodies and answers received.

134. Councillors Question Time

The Director of Law and Democratic Services reported that Standing Order 15 Questions have been received from Councillors Jim Grant and Cindy Matthews.

Councillor Cindy Matthews asked the Cabinet Member for Streetsmart and Corporate Services why the written answer provided regarding the Cottingham Close Play Area differed to an oral response received from officers?

The Cabinet Member for Streetsmart and Corporate Services indicated she would investigate this and provide a written response.

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