

EAST DORSET DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on 20th April, 2009 at 7.30 p.m.

Present:-

Councillor R. C. Dudman - Chairman
Councillor Mrs P. A. Reynolds - Vice-Chairman

Present: Councillors P. G. Bennett, M. C. Birr, D. B. F. Burt, Mrs L. J. Clark, A. A. J. Clarke, Mrs Q. N. D. Comfort, Mrs T. B. Coombs, P. G. Cuckston, R. E. Daw, Mrs J. Dover, M. R. Dyer, Mrs G. S. Elliot, S. G. Flower, Mrs J. M. Hazel, Mrs A. Holland, J. P. Holland, Mrs P. A. Hymers, J. E. Little, Mrs B. T. Manuel, I. J. Monks, D. Morgan, B. E. Mortimer, Mrs M. B. Osner, D. G. L. Packer, P. W. Richardson, G. W. Russell, M. G. Simper, S. S. Tong, D. J. Wallace and Mrs A. Warman.

Also in attendance: Mr David Atkinson (Independent)

592. Prayers

Prayers were led by the Reverend Robert Jones of the Wimborne Baptist Church.

593. Mr Brian Hall

The Chairman announced the death of Mr Brian Hall who had represented the Verwood Ward on East Dorset District Council from 1991-1995. Further to this Members were advised that during his time on the Council Mr Hall had sat on the Planning Committee and the Amenities Committee.

594. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors S. C. Hearn, P. Holden, T. J. Palmer and N. Smith.

595. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest made on this occasion.

596. Chairman's Announcements and Review of Civic Functions Attended

The Chairman submitted a schedule of Civic Functions attended since his election as Chairman of the Council, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member and a copy of which appears as Appendix 'A' to these minutes in the Minute Book.

The Chairman advised Members that all the events attended had been enjoyable and that he had found the Ferndown Hearing Group particularly interesting.

In addition to this the Chairman informed Members that one of the events had been his Civic Day which had been an enjoyable day for all who attended.

597. Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 2nd March, 2009 were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

598. Presentations by the Public

Mrs Sheila Bourton a local resident from Wimborne, (Chairman - Keep Wimborne Green) and Mr Brian Lane a local resident from Corfe Mullen, (Chairman -Keep Corfe Mullen Green) made deputations pertaining to the Regional Spatial Strategy, and potential urban extensions.

Mrs Sheila Bourton

Mrs Bourton addressed Members as a local resident and on behalf of the Keep Wimborne Green group.

Mrs Bourton spoke regarding the recently produced Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment Report which had been agreed at a recent meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee, and in relation to this congratulated Officers on their work and the production of the report.

Mrs Bourton stressed the importance and value of maintaining the impressive green belt within East Dorset and emphasised that once building on green belts was allowed, that a precedent would have been set which would be impossible to undo.

Members were urged to maintain the stand against development on the green belt and hoped that in addition to this the Council would support the motion which was to be proposed by Councillor Mrs Holland, and urged that the Council take appropriate legal action if necessary following the Secretary of States report due to be published in June.

Mr Brian Lane

Mr Lane addressed Members as a local resident and as Chairman and founder of Keep Corfe Mullen Green group.

Mr Lane urged Members to protect our beautiful District, and to stand by the Councils Key values.

In relation to the recently published SHLAA report Mr Lane questioned whether it would be possible for the names of the roads to be printed on maps within future reports of this nature, and that it would also be helpful to have one map showing all the areas, as opposed to small maps displaying individual areas.

Mr Lane informed the Council that he fully realised the hard and extensive work which had gone into producing the report.

Mr Lane commended the Council for supporting full protection of the Green Belt, and reiterated that in the Parish Plan the majority of people had indicated that they did not want building on our greenbelt. In relation to this Mr Lane urged Councillors to back the local people.

In addition to this Mr Lane urged Councillors to support a judicial review should the unthinkable happen when the Secretary of State makes her Statement in the near future.

Councillor Flower

Councillor Flower thanked Mrs Bourton and Mr Lane for their comments, and informed that their comments would be taken into consideration.

DELEGATED BUSINESS

599. Committee Reports

Planning Committee

The report of the 3rd March, 2009 was submitted.

RESOLVED that the report as submitted be adopted.

Voting: Unanimous

Audit Committee

The report of the 3rd March, 2009 was submitted.

RESOLVED that the report as submitted be adopted.

Voting: Unanimous

Standards Committee

The report of the 9th March, 2009 was submitted.

RESOLVED that the report as submitted be adopted.

Voting: Unanimous

Policy and Resources Committee

The report of the 18th March, 2009 was submitted.

RESOLVED that the report as submitted be adopted.

Voting: Unanimous

Planning Committee

The report of the 31st March, 2009 was submitted.

RESOLVED that the report as submitted be adopted.

Voting: Unanimous

Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee

The report of the 6th April, 2009 was submitted.

RESOLVED that the report as submitted be adopted.

Voting: Unanimous

Audit Committee

The report of the 14th April, 2009 was submitted.

RESOLVED that the report as submitted be adopted.

Voting: Unanimous

Policy and Resources Committee

The report of the 15th April, 2009 was submitted.

Members were advised that the resolution in Minute No. 584 should be amended to read as a resolved item, and that in addition to this the last paragraph on page 305 referring to Minute No. 579 should be amended to read Minute No. 591.

RESOLVED that subject to the agreed amendments as detailed above being incorporated the report as submitted be adopted.

Voting: Minute Nos. 576, 577, 579, and 580 Unanimous, Minute No 578 and the minutes as a whole 30:1

600. Appointment of Chief Executive

The Chief Executive submitted a report, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member and a copy of which appears as Appendix 'B' to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

Members were requested to consider the appointment of a new Chief Executive to East Dorset District Council following the retirement of Mr Alan Breakwell on 31 July 2009.

RESOLVED that David McIntosh be appointed to the post of Chief Executive commencing 03 August 2009

Voting: Unanimous

601. Questions

There were no questions submitted in accordance with the Procedural Rule No. 9, Questions by Members; a Motion was however submitted in accordance with Procedural Rule No. 10, Motions on Notice.

The following Motion was submitted and proposed by Councillor Mrs Holland;

'Given that the Secretary of State's response to the South West Regional Spatial Strategy is now expected in the week beginning the 29 June 2009 and in the event of this being contrary to that of the overwhelming views of local residents opposed to the proposed housing allocations in the Green Belt around Colehill, Corfe Mullen and West Parley; this Council pledges to take all reasonable steps to mount a challenge via a judicial review.'

This Motion was seconded by Councillor Holland.

Councillor Flower proposed an amendment to the motion so that it read;

'The Secretary of State's response to the South West Regional Spatial Strategy is now expected in the week beginning the 29th June, 2009. In the event of this being contrary to existing policy and views of this Council, who have raised objections to the proposed housing allocations in the Green Belt North of Wimborne, Corfe Mullen, West Parley and the EIP arbitrary addition of a further 1,000 dwellings in existing urban areas; that this Council reaffirms its existing pledge, subject to the outcome of the reference to seeking a Counsel's opinion, to take all reasonable steps to mount a legal challenge.'

This amendment was seconded by Councillor Dyer.

The proposer and seconder of the original motion supported the

amendment and when put to the vote the motion was carried by a Unanimous vote.

RESOLVED that the Motion as amended be supported.

Voting: Unanimous

The meeting ended at 8.15 p.m.

CHAIRMAN