

Lichfield City Council

Minutes of the Special Meeting of Lichfield City Council held in Committee Room 1, Guildhall, Lichfield, on Monday, 19 December 2011 at 6.30 pm

PRESENT: Councillor B Bacon (Mayor), and Councillors Mrs J A Allsopp, R J Awty, Mrs N Bacon, Mrs M G Boyle, J R Brooks, D P A Dundas, I M Eadie, Mrs J M Eagland, T V Finn, M J Fryers (Snr), M J Fryers (Jnr), Mrs J A Greaves, P L Hitchman, I A Jackson, D Smedley, A F Smith, C J Spruce, M A Warfield and J N Wilks.

APOLOGIES: Councillors B D Diggle, Mrs V A Diggle, C Greatorex, Mrs S A James, Mrs S E Strachan, T J Thomas and A D Thompson. *[Councillors B D Diggle and Mrs V A Diggle would have needed to declare a prejudicial interest in the sole item on the agenda due to the proximity of the development to their property, and so did not attend the meeting.]*

79 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Deputy Town Clerk reported that the District Council's Standards Committee had now granted a Dispensation to all City Councillors who were also District Councillors, permitting them to speak and vote at City Council meetings on issues related to the Friary Outer development (Minute 81), when they would otherwise be deemed to have a prejudicial interest. The Dispensation applied to Councillors Mrs J A Allsopp, R J Awty, B F Bacon, Mrs N Bacon, Mrs M G Boyle, I M Eadie, Mrs J M Eagland, M J Fryers (Snr), C Greatorex, D Smedley, A F Smith, C J Spruce, T J Thomas, M A Warfield and J N Wilks.

80 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: *That in accordance with Section 19(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, by reason of the confidential nature of the business next to be transacted, the public and press be excluded from the meeting.*

81 FESTIVAL GARDENS AND FRIARY OUTER DEVELOPMENT

Further to the presentation on this scheme made by the District Council on 15 December, the Council considered the confidential reports of the Town Clerk; and a full debate ensued.

It was proposed:

That the City Council

- 1 *Agrees to the proposed landscaping works on Festival Gardens, based on the assurances offered by Lichfield District Council to ensure satisfactory completion of those works in the event of default by other parties.*
- 2 *That the Council agrees to grant the permanent rights as requested for the emergency access route, future maintenance access and overhang, for the sum of £10,000.*
- 3 *That the Council notes that grant of the right in 2 above is at an undervalue against the District Valuer's valuation, but accepts this on the basis that it considers that the development will improve the economic, social or environmental well-being of its area.*

An amendment was proposed by Councillor M J Fryers (Snr), and seconded by Councillor M J Fryers (Jnr) *"that the value in part 2 of the proposed resolution be amended to read £2,500."*

On being put to the vote the amendment was declared **LOST**.

A request for a named vote on the amendment was recorded as follows:

For: Councillors M J Fryers (Snr), M J Fryers (Jnr) and P L Hitchman.

Against: Councillors Mrs J A Allsopp, R J Awty, B F Bacon, Mrs N Bacon, Mrs M G Boyle, J R Brooks, D P A Dundas, I M Eadie, Mrs J M Eagland, T V Finn, Mrs J A Greaves, I A Jackson, D Smedley, A F Smith, C J Spruce, M A Warfield and J N Wilks

Abstentions: None.

A second amendment was proposed by Councillor D P A Dundas and seconded by Councillor J R Brooks *“that the word ‘assurances’ in part 1 of the proposed resolution be changed to ‘guarantees’ and the word ‘environmental’ in part 3 of the proposed resolution be omitted”*.

On being put to the vote the amendment was declared **LOST**.

The original motion was then put to the vote and it was:

RESOLVED: That the City Council

- 1** *Agrees to the proposed landscaping works on Festival Gardens, based on the assurances offered by Lichfield District Council to ensure satisfactory completion of those works in the event of default by other parties.*
- 2** *That the Council agrees to grant the permanent rights as requested for the emergency access route, future maintenance access and overhang, for the sum of £10,000.*
- 3** *That the Council notes that grant of the right in 2 above is at an undervalue against the District Valuer’s valuation, but accepts this on the basis that it considers that the development will improve the economic, social or environmental well-being of its area.*

A request for a named vote was recorded as follows:

For: Councillors Mrs J A Allsopp, R J Awty, B F Bacon, Mrs N Bacon, Mrs M G Boyle, D P A Dundas, I M Eadie, Mrs J M Eagland, T V Finn, Mrs J A Greaves, I A Jackson, D Smedley, A F Smith, C J Spruce, M A Warfield and J N Wilks

Against: Councillors J R Brooks, M J Fryers (Snr), M J Fryers (Jnr) and P L Hitchman

Abstentions: None.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MAYOR DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 7.02PM