

Lichfield City Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Lichfield City Council held in the Guildhall, Lichfield, on Tuesday, 25 January 2011 at 6.30 pm

PRESENT: Councillor C J Spruce (Mayor), and Councillors R J Awty, B F Bacon, Mrs N Bacon, J R Bayliss, Mrs M P Bland, B D Diggle, D P A Dundas, Mrs J M Eagland, Mrs D English, T V Finn, C Greatorex, P L Hitchman, I A Jackson, Mrs E C Roe, D Smedley, J A Smith, T J Thomas, A D Thompson, J C Walker, M A Warfield and J N Wilks.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Mrs J A Allsopp, G Boyle and Mrs M G Boyle.

79 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor reported on recent civic and other engagements he had attended, which had included 14 Carol Services and visits to St Giles Hospice, Whittington Barracks and Scotch Orchard School.

80 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors R J Awty, T V Finn, I A Jackson and J A Smith declared a personal interest in Minute 84 (Darwin Hall Committee) as they were directors of the Darwin Hall Community Association. Councillors Mrs J M Eagland and T V Finn declared a personal interest in Minute No 88 (Electoral Review of Staffordshire) as they were elected members of Staffordshire County Council. Councillor M A Warfield declared a personal interest in Minute No 88 (Electoral Review of Staffordshire) as he was employed by a parish council whose area was referred to in the Report.

81 COUNCIL MINUTES

RESOLVED: *That the Minutes of the Meeting of the City Council held on 6 December 2010 (61 - 78) be confirmed and signed as a correct record.*

82 PLANNING APPLICATIONS COMMITTEE

RESOLVED: *That the Minutes of the Planning Applications Committee meetings held on 18 November 2010 and 8 December 2010 be received.*

83 QUESTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDER 8(2)

Councillor J C Walker submitted the following question under Standing Order 8(2):

Who is going to take responsibility for the shabby workmanship and unsuitable material used in the block paving, which is causing a danger to the public and a terrible eye-sore to this historical city; and what cost is this going to be to the tax payer?

Councillor D Smedley, Leader of Council, answered as follows:

The paving works were arranged by Lichfield District Council. It is known that problems have been experienced with the durability of some of the paving blocks that were installed, and it is understood that the District Council has referred this matter to the suppliers of the paving blocks to seek a remedy to this.

84 DARWIN HALL COMMITTEE

RESOLVED: *That the Minutes of the Darwin Hall Committee meeting held on 9 December 2010 be received.*

85 STAFFING ESTABLISHMENT WORKING PARTY

RESOLVED: *That the Minutes of the Staffing Establishment Working Party held on 16 December 2010 be received.*

86 REPORT ON NALC LARGER COUNCILS CONFERENCE

The Council considered the report of Councillor A D Thompson on the NALC Larger Councils Conference held on 1 December 2010.

RESOLVED: *That Councillor Thompson be thanked for his Report and the Report be noted.*

87 LOCALISM BILL

The Council considered a report outlining the main elements of the Localism Bill which received its first reading on 13 December 2010. This was the Government's new legislation to radically shift power away from Westminster and down to local communities.

During the discussion on this item it was suggested that a Working Party should be established to examine in more detail the implications of this major legislation for town and parish councils.

RESOLVED: *That the Report be noted.*

88 ELECTORAL REVIEW OF STAFFORDSHIRE

The Council considered a report outlining the progress of the Review - the County Council's proposals for new County divisions; and an alternative proposal which would avoid the City/District Ward of St Johns being split between two County electoral divisions.

RESOLVED: *That the City Council propose to the Boundary Commission the alternative County Divisions as indicated in the Report, for the reasons as stated.*

89 FEES AND CHARGES 2011/2012

The Council considered the level of fees and charges to be levied for Markets, the Guildhall and photocopying for 2011/2012.

RESOLVED:

1. *That charges for the Markets per 2.4 metre [8 foot] stall with effect from 1 April 2011 be increased as follows:*

<i>Friday market</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>£20.00</i>	<i>= £18.00 rent, plus £2.00 (VAT inclusive) service charge</i>
<i>Saturday market</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>£21.00</i>	<i>= £19.00 rent, plus £2.00 (VAT inclusive) service charge</i>
<i>Farmers' market</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>£21.00</i>	<i>= £19.00 rent, plus £2.00 (VAT inclusive) service charge</i>
<i>Tuesday market</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>£11.00 per 2.4 m. frontage stall x 2.1m. depth (minimum charge), plus £1.80 per 50cm extra frontage, and £1.10p per sq m. for additional depth of stall. Includes a £1 (VAT inc.) service charge.</i>	

2. *That the Guildhall hire charges with effect from 1 April 2011 be as detailed in Appendix 4 to the agenda.*

3. *That with effect from 1 April 2011 the charges for photocopies be:*

<i>A4 Monochrome</i>	<i>- 5 pence per copy (side), inclusive of VAT</i>
<i>A3 Monochrome</i>	<i>- 8 pence per copy (side), inclusive of VAT</i>
<i>A4 Colour</i>	<i>- 10 pence per copy (side), inclusive of VAT</i>
<i>A3 Colour</i>	<i>- 15 pence per copy (side), inclusive of VAT</i>

**90 BUDGET ESTIMATES 2011/2012
(INCLUDING FINANCIAL PROGRESS REPORT 1 APRIL TO 31 DECEMBER 2010)**

Consideration was given to:

- a) Financial Progress Report for the period 1 April to 31 December 2010.
- b) Budget estimates for 2011/2012 financial year.

RESOLVED:

- 1. *That the Financial Progress Report for the period 1 April to 31 December 2010 be noted.***
- 3. *That the Council approve:***
 - i) *The Budget Estimates and Report for 2011/2012 financial year.***
 - ii) *A precept for 2011/2012 financial year in the sum of £630,500.***

91 PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

RESOLVED: That payment of accounts be approved and confirmed as listed:

- a) 1 November 2010 to 30 November 2010 in the sum of £57,808.68 General Account, and £977.91 Imprest Account.***
- b) 1 December 2010 to 31 December 2010 in the sum of £65,299.99 General Account, and £564.68 Imprest Account.***

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MAYOR DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 6.59PM