

Lichfield City Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Lichfield City Council held in the Guildhall, Lichfield, on Monday, 6 December 2010 at 6.30 pm

PRESENT: Councillor C J Spruce (Mayor), and Councillors Mrs J A Allsopp, R J Awty, B F Bacon, Mrs N Bacon, Mrs M P Bland, G Boyle, Mrs M G Boyle, B D Diggle, D P A Dundas, Mrs D English, T V Finn, P L Hitchman, I A Jackson, D R R Prentis, 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 J R Bayliss, Mrs J M Eagland, M J Fryers and C Greatorex.

MEMBERS STOOD IN SILENCE TO PAY TRIBUTE TO MRS ANNE HALL (FORMER MAYOR, SHERIFF, MAYORESS, SHERIFF'S LADY, AND CITY COUNCILLOR) WHO DIED ON 22 NOVEMBER 2010, AND ALSO TO MR STAN SEAL (CITY COUNCIL TREASURER) WHO DIED ON 18 NOVEMBER 2010.

61 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor reported on recent civic and other engagements he had attended, including the Remembrance Sunday Service and Saxon Hill School Christmas presentation in the Cathedral.

62 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors R J Awty, T V Finn, I A Jackson and J A Smith declared a personal interest in Minute 65 (Darwin Hall Committee) as they were directors of Darwin Hall Management Committee. Councillors Mrs J A Allsopp, B F Bacon, Mrs N Bacon, Mrs M P Bland, Mrs M G Boyle, D B Diggle, Mrs D English, T V Finn, I A Jackson, D Smedley, J C Walker and J N Wilks declared a personal interest in Minute No 73 (Market Square Paving) as members of Lichfield District Council.

63 COUNCIL MINUTES

RESOLVED: *That the Minutes of the Meeting of the City Council held on 25 October 2010 (50 - 60) be confirmed and signed as a correct record.*

64 PLANNING APPLICATIONS COMMITTEE

RESOLVED: *That the Minutes of the Planning Applications Committee meetings held on 5 October 2010 and 28 October 2010 be received.*

65 DARWIN HALL COMMITTEE

RESOLVED: *That the Minutes of the Darwin Hall Committee meeting held on 17 November 2010 be adopted.*

66 REPORT OF THE TWINNING OFFICER

Consideration was given to the report of the Twinning Officer.

RESOLVED: *That the Twinning Officer be thanked for her report and the report be received.*

67 REPORT ON THE SPCA AGM

RESOLVED: *That Cllr Smith be thanked for his report and that the report be noted.*

68 SHERIFF'S RIDE WORKING PARTY

RESOLVED: *That a Working Party comprising Councillors Mrs J A Allsopp, R J Awty, Mrs M G Boyle, M J Fryers, D Smedley, J A Smith and J N Wilks be appointed (with Councillor D Smedley as Chairman) to consider arrangements for future Sheriff's Rides in order to achieve savings where possible yet still retaining the status of this ancient traditional event.*

69 COUNCIL MEETING DATES AND MAYOR'S SUNDAY 2011

Members considered the proposals to alter the Council meeting dates during May 2011.

RESOLVED: *That the Calendar of Meetings and Civic Events be amended as follows:*

	<u>Delete Date</u>	<u>Revised Date</u>
<i>Annual Meeting</i>	<i>Wed 11 May 2011</i>	<i>Wed 18 May 2011</i>
<i>Mayor's Banquet</i>	<i>Wed 11 May 2011</i>	<i>Wed 18 May 2011</i>
<i>Planning Committee</i>	<i>Thur 12 May 2011</i>	<i>CANCELLED</i>
<i>Mayor's Service</i>	<i>Sun 15 May 2011</i>	<i>Sun 22 May 2011</i>
<i>Annual Town Meeting</i>	<i>Wed 18 May 2011</i>	<i>Wed 25 May 2011</i>

70 PROPOSED CHRISTCHURCH ALLOTMENTS – CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Consideration was given to the agenda report and recommendations and it was

RESOLVED: *That the Council accept the principle of creating allotments on part of the land at Christchurch, broadly as identified on the plan in the Consultation Report. That further design work and costings be undertaken to progress the scheme, and external funding be sought.*

71 YOUTH CONSULTATIVE GROUP

Consideration was given to the agenda report and recommendations and it was

RESOLVED: *1. That the Report be noted.*

2. That the post of YCG Leader (currently vacant) be discontinued

3. That the Council continue to arrange youth events, such as Frite Nite from within its Arts/Tourism budget

4. That the P4Y Grant Application Committee comprising of the Council Leader, Deputy Leader, and Minority Group Leader continue, with delegated authority to approve/refuse P4Y grants applications; subject to no single grant exceeding £400 and the total of grants within any one year not exceeding £2,500 [such sum to be reviewed annually within the Council's budget].

72 TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NO. 332 – 2010, CHRISTCHURCH

Consideration was given to the report and recommendations on the Tree Preservation Order No. 332 – 2010.

RESOLVED: *That the City Council respond to the TPO, objecting to the inclusion of the City Council areas alongside the old churchyard on the basis that:*

a. The inclusion within an area order is inappropriate as Government advice is that “the area classification should only be used in emergencies, and then only as a temporary measure” and there is no emergency in this case.

b. The trees are in public ownership and responsibly maintained by the City Council so they are not under any threat requiring a TPO

c. An area TPO would result in unnecessary work for LCC and LDC officers.

73 MARKET SQUARE PAVING

Members considered a request from Lichfield District Council for financial support towards the City Centre repaving works.

RESOLVED: *That, subject to confirmation from the District Council that the outstanding works to the Johnson statue surrounds will be completed, the City Council release the balance of its agreed funding of the paving scheme on completion.*

74 TREASURER

Members considered arrangements to fill the vacancy in the post of Treasurer.

RESOLVED: *1. That the Town Clerk be the City Council's Responsible Financial Officer until further notice.*

2. That delegated authority be given to the Council's Staffing Establishment Working Party to make all necessary arrangements for a new appointment; including such revisions to the terms and condition of the post as are deemed necessary in order to achieve efficiency savings where practical.

75 PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

RESOLVED: *That payment of accounts be approved and confirmed as listed for the period 1 October 2010 to 31 October 2010 in the sum of £195,657.91 General Account, and £650.20 Imprest Account.*

76 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.*

77 STAFFING ESTABLISHMENT WORKING PARTY

RESOLVED: *That the Minutes of the Staffing and Establishment Working Party held on 10 November 2010 be received, and the recommendations contained therein be adopted.*

78 ADDITIONAL ALLOTMENT LAND CHRISTCHURCH – DISTRICT VALUER'S REPORT

RESOLVED:

- 1 That the Report be noted*
- 2 That the Council seek to negotiate a substantially lower purchase price for the land on the basis that it will be used for community purposes and in such circumstance the District Council can make a disposal for less than "best value".*
- 3 That more detailed costings and designs be obtained*
- 4 That the City Council seek external funding for the project and apply for S106 funds*
- 5 That this matter be considered further when more detailed financial information of income and expenditure is known.*

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MAYOR DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 7.36PM