

Present

Councillor B S Fortune (In the Chair)

Councillor	D E Adamson	Councillor	J Noone
	R A Baker		Mrs C Patmore
	P Bardon		B Phillips
	A W Barker		M J Prest
	K Billings		M Rigby
	D M Blades		M S Robson
	J Coulson		C R Rooke
	G W Dadd		Mrs I Sanderson
	S P Dickins		Mrs M Skilbeck
	Mrs F M Greenwell		J N Smith
	B Griffiths		P G Sowray
	Mrs J A Griffiths		T Swales
	A W Hall		A P Wake
	R W Hudson		S Watson
	J D Hugill		D A Webster
	R Kirk		P R Wilkinson
	N A Knapton		

(Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs C S Cookman, G W Ellis, K G Hardisty, N W Huxtable, C A Les and A W Wood)

C.14 **MINUTES**

**THE DECISION:**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 24 July 2012 (C.6 - C.13), previously circulated, be signed as a correct record.

C.15 **ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

The Chief Executive introduced the new Director of Resources, Justin Ives.

C.16 **STATEMENT FROM THE DEPUTY LEADER AND REFERRALS FROM CABINET**

The Deputy Leader made a statement regarding the Director of Resources, Housing Benefits and Localisation of Council Tax Support.

The Deputy Leader moved Cabinet minute CA.18.

**THE DECISION:**

That the reports, resolutions and recommendations of the following meetings of the Cabinet be received, approved and adopted:-

<u>Body</u>	<u>Date of Meeting</u>	<u>Minute No</u>
Cabinet	11 September 2012	CA.18

C.17

**CABINET MEMBER STATEMENTS**

- (a) Councillor P R Wilkinson, Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Health made a statement regarding the Olympic Torchbearers after Party, Tour of France 2016, Hambleton Forum and the Environmental Health Service. A question regarding a combined Pest Control Service was asked and responded to.
- (b) Councillor B Phillips, Portfolio Holder for Corporate Services made a statement regarding Service Level Agreements with Richmondshire District Council and Asset Management.
- (c) Councillor M S Robson, Portfolio Holder for Housing and Planning made a statement regarding the repatriation of Planning Services, Sowerby Gateway, Gypsy and Traveller Sites, Bagby Airfield, Resources for Enforcement and New Waste Vehicles. Councillor J Coulson questioned issues relating to boarded up properties in Northallerton and litter problems in Northallerton High Street and adjoining roads; Councillor Robson agreed to provide a written response.
- (d) Councillor T Swales, Portfolio Holder for Customer Services made a statement regarding Customer Services and Community Safety including CCTV. Councillor G W Dadd questioned the full costs of providing area offices at Easingwold and Stokesley; Councillor Swales agreed to provide a written response.

C.18

**NORTH YORK MOORS NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY**

Councillor J D Hugill, the Council representative on the North York Moors National Park Authority, presented a report detailing the current structure and activities of the National Park Authority. Questions regarding grants, road signage and North Yorkshire County Council representation on the Park were asked and responded to.

C.19

**ELECTORAL REVIEW – WARDING NAMES**

All Wards

The Director of Corporate Resources presented a report regarding a proposal on Warding Names recommended by the Electoral Arrangements Working Group for submission to the Local Government Boundary Commission.

An amendment to the report was suggested; that the proposed Tanfield with Wiske ward be named simply Tanfield.

**THE DECISION:**

That the Warding Names contained in the Annex to the report be supported subject to the Tanfield with Wiske ward being named Tanfield.

C.20

**AMENDMENT TO CONSTITUTION – ELECTION OF CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEES**

All Wards

The Director of Corporate Services submitted a report recommending an amendment to the Constitution concerning the rules governing the election of Chairmen of Committees. The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Council were not eligible for election as Chairman or appointment as Vice-Chairman of any Committee. Whilst the Chairman of the Council was expected to be politically neutral and it was therefore appropriate that the Chairman of the Council continued to be prohibited from becoming a Chairman or Vice-Chairman of a Committee, the Vice-Chairman of the Council's role was much more limited and it was considered appropriate to amend the rules to allow the Vice-Chairman of the Council to be the Chairman or Vice-Chairman of a Committee. This change might be of particular value following the next District Council election when the number of Councillors and therefore Members eligible to be Chairmen of Committees, was reduced to twenty eight.

Members considered that it was not appropriate to amend the Council Procedure Rule at this time and the Deputy Leader advised that Councillor R A Baker would resign as Chairman of the Licensing and Environmental Protection Committee with immediate effect.

**THE DECISION:**

That Rule 23.2 of the Council Procedure Rules not be amended.

Declaration of Interest

Councillor R A Baker declared a personal interest and left the room during discussion and voting on this matter.

C.21

**MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES SCHEME**

All Wards

The Director of Corporate Services submitted a report regarding the Members' Allowances Scheme which sets out the types of allowances which would be paid to Members for undertaking their duties as Councillors and also the amount of allowances to be paid. The Scheme was renewed each year with effect from 1 April. The report suggested amendments to the current Allowances Scheme, amendments could be made at any time, but significant amendments to the Scheme required the Council to consider the views of the Independent Remuneration Panel. The Council was not bound by the recommendations of the Panel, but could not make significant changes to the Scheme without considering any views.

The suggested amendments to the Scheme included deletion of references to the former Standards Regime; amendments in respect of the Co-optees Allowance to take account of the new Standards Regime; and amendments to the list of meetings where Travelling Allowances were paid to include meetings of Political Groups.

Members considered that Travelling Allowances should not be extended to allow for attendance at meetings of Political Groups.

**THE DECISION:**

That the Members' Allowances Scheme be amended by:

- (1) deleting references to the pre 1 July 2012 Standards Regime;
- (2) replacing Section 6 with the wording contained in Annex 'B' to the report;
- (3) replacing the reference to a "Co-optees Allowance" in the Annex with a reference to an "Independent Persons Allowance" of £233 per annum; and
- (4) amending Section 5 to entitle Independent Persons to Travelling Allowances, etc;

C.22

**TIMING OF MEETINGS**

All Wards

A report of the Director of Corporate Services was submitted which asked the Council to consider the start time of its meetings.

It was practice to periodically review the start times of meetings and the commencement of a new civic year was considered the right time to do this. To help with this process Members were asked to indicate their preferred time for meetings to commence by specifying all the times that were suitable to them.

Forty Members responded to the survey, 34 Members chose a 10.00am start although 10 indicated that 9.00am or 9.30am would be preferred. Thirty Members opted for a 2.00pm start with 3 indicating a preference for 1.00pm or 1.30pm. Nineteen members chose a start time of 4.30pm and 10 for 6.00pm.

**THE DECISION:**

That future meetings commence at 2.00pm

The meeting closed at 2.40pm.

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Chairman of the Council