

SPECIAL COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 4 MAY 2004

Councillors: Keith Lock (*Chairman*) (P), Mrs Barbara Alexander (P), Peter Argyle (P), Trevor Banning (P), Phil Barnett (P), Brian Bedwell (P), J.C.G. Brooks (P), Paul Bryant (P), Mrs Val Bull (P), George Chandler (P), John Chapman (P), Keith Chopping (P), Billy Drummond (P), Sue Farrant (*Vice-Chairman*) (P), John Farrin (P), Geoff Findlay (P), Marcus Franks (P), Mrs Kathleen French (P), Miss Denise Gaines (P), Manohar Gopal (P), Mrs Sally Hannon (P), Mrs Sandra Harding (P), Roger Hunneman (P), Owen Jeffery (P), Graham Jones (P), Bob Judge (P), Mrs Susie Kemp (P), Andy Kilgour (P), Tony Linden (P), Mrs Mollie Lock (P), Dr Royce Longton (P), Gordon Lundie (P), Alan Macro (P), Tim Metcalfe (P), James Mole (P), Joe Mooney (AP), Mrs Irene Neill (P), Graham Pask (P), Alexander Payton (P), Terry Port (P), Paul Pritchard (P), Mike Rodger (P), Andrew Rowles (P), Anthony Stansfeld (P), Ms Caroline Suggett (P), Julian Swift-Hook (P), Tony Vickers (P), Quentin Webb (P), Chris Webber (P), Emma Webster (P), Keith Woodhams (P), Laszlo Zverko (P)

PART I

15. APOLOGIES.

Apologies for the inability to attend the meeting were received on behalf of Councillor Joe Mooney.

16. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

Councillor Royce Longton declared a Personal Interest in Agenda Item 3 (Minute 17).

17. WASH COMMON LIBRARY

Councillor Royce Longton declared a Personal Interest in this matter.

Councillor Mike Rodger introduced the report (Agenda Item 3) in relation to Wash Common Library. He referred to the background behind the decision to close the Library, specifically in relation to Government guidance (ODPM) on the level of Council Tax increase considered to be acceptable for 2004/5.

MOTION:

“That the Council re-affirm its previous decision to close Wash Common Library.”

In introducing the following Amendment, the Council noted that the Conservative Group had circulated, with the agenda, and had subsequently issued a revised version of, a Financial Options report proposing various savings from the 2004/5 revenue budget in order to secure the retention of the Wash Common Library. The revised report also referred to a proposal from Total Oil to provide, in principle, funding of £10,000 in order to assist with the retention of the Library.

AMENDMENT proposed by Councillor Graham Jones and seconded by Councillor Keith Chopping:

“That

1. the Council agree to re-open the Wash Common Library immediately;
2. the Council agree to re-instate the £22,000 in the revenue budget needed to run Wash Common library;
3. the Council meet this cost by allocating a saving of £12,000 from an underspend on Members' pensions for 2004/5 and by agreeing in principle to accept funding of £10,000 from Total Oil;

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- 4 as a fallback position, should the funding from Total Oil not materialise, the Council meet this cost by allocating the full saving of £13,500 from an underspend on Members' pensions for 2004/5 and by adopting Option 2.1 of the Financial Options paper to save a further £8,500.

In accordance with Procedure Rule 4.15.2 it was requisitioned that the voting on the Amendment be recorded. The names of those Members voting for, against and abstaining were read to the Council as follows:

FOR the Amendment:

Councillors Barbara Alexander, Peter Argyle, Brian Bedwell, Paul Bryant, George Chandler, John Chapman, Keith Chopping, Geoff Findlay, Marcus Franks, Kathleen French, Manohar Ghopal, Graham Jones, Susie Kemp, Andrew Kilgour, Tony Linden, Gordon Lundie, Tim Metcalfe, Irene Neill, Graham Pask, Andrew Rowles, Anthony Stansfeld, Quinton Webb, Chris Webber, Emma Webster and Laszlo Szverko (25)

AGAINST the Amendment:

Councillors Trevor Banning, Phil Barnett, Jeff Brooks, Val Bull, Billy Drummond, Sue Farrant, John Farrin, Denise Gaines, Sally Hannon, Sandra Harding, Roger Hunneman, Owen Jeffery, Bob Judge, Keith Lock, Mollie Lock, Royce Longton, Alan Macro, James Mole, Alex Payton, Terry Port, Paul Pritchard, Mike Rodger, Caroline Suggett, Julian Swift-Hook, Tony Vickers and Keith Woodhams (26).

The Amendment was declared **LOST**.

The Motion was put to the meeting and duly **RESOLVED**.

(The meeting commenced at 8.30pm and closed at 9.30pm)

CHAIRMAN

Date of Signature: