

**THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
DISTRICT COUNCIL OF EASINGTON**

**HELD ON THURSDAY 6 DECEMBER 2007**

Present: Councillor Mrs. M. Nugent (Chair)  
Councillors E. Bell, S. Bishop, Mrs.  
G. Bleasdale, B. Burn, A. Burnip,  
P.J. Campbell, A. Collinson, Mrs. E.M.  
Connor, R. Crute, R. Davison, Mrs. S.  
Forster, Mrs. J. Freak, J. Haggan, H.  
High, G. Johnson, D. Maddison, Mrs.  
J. Maitland, Mrs. S. Mason, K. McGonnell,  
D. Milsom, A. Napier, Mrs. A. Naylor,  
G. Patterson, G. Pinkney, B. Quinn, D.  
Raine, F. Shaw, P. Stradling, R. Taylor,  
R.J. Todd, T. Unsworth, C. Walker and  
Mrs V. M. Williams.

1. **THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE DISTRICT COUNCIL OF EASINGTON** held on 1 November 2007, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were confirmed.
2. **THE MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE DISTRICT COUNCIL OF EASINGTON** held on 23 November 2007 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were submitted.

**RESOLVED** that the information contained within the Minutes, be noted.

**PRIOR TO CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING ITEM OF BUSINESS COUNCILLORS R DAVISON AND MRS E M CONNOR DECLARED PERSONAL BUT NOT PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS.**

3. **REVIEW OF HOUSING ALLOCATION POLICY**

Consideration was given to the report of the Executive Member for Housing which sought approval to amend the Council's existing Housing Allocation Policy to facilitate the introduction of a Choice Based Lettings Scheme in April 2008, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member.

In June 2006, the Council had agreed to move towards the introduction of a Choice Based Lettings Scheme as part of a countywide approach in line with the Government's target for all authorities to introduce this by 2010. The aim of this scheme was to empower people living in the social rented sector to exercise more choice when making decisions about where they lived, which in turn would help to create sustainable communities.

Minor changes to the Council's Housing Allocation Policy were approved in July 2006 with the agreement to carry out a more comprehensive review in advance of the introduction of a Choice Based Lettings Scheme in April 2008.

Details of the comprehensive review were set out in the report for Members consideration.

**RESOLVED** that:-

- (a) the changes to the Housing Allocation Policy and the introduction of a Choice Based Lettings scheme, be approved;

- (b) a further report setting out any operational issues after six months of implementation of the policy changes, be awaited.

**4. URGENT DECISION OF THE EXECUTIVE - RENEWAL OF THE CONTRACT FOR THE KERBSIDE COLLECTION OF MATERIALS FOR RECYCLING**

The Head of Democratic Services and Administration reported that the Executive at its meeting on 27 November 2007, considered that the decision taken in respect of the report in relation to the renewal of the contract for the kerbside collection of materials for recycling was urgent and should not be subject to the call-in process.

The decision was considered to be urgent as the existing contract for the delivery of the kerbside collection recycling service expired on 1 April 2008. In order to ensure a new contract was in place and that the contractor could acquire premises, equipment and staff, the contract had to be awarded mid-December 2007. In order to do so, the Authority had to notify unsuccessful tenderers as soon as possible to complete the ten day standstill period before the end of December to permit the awarding of the contract. Any delay in awarding the contract could mean there was a significant risk that the contractor would not be ready to deliver the service from 1 April 2008.

In accordance with the procedure set out in the Constitution relating to call-in and urgency, the Chair of the Council, in consultation with the Chairs of the Scrutiny Committees, agreed that the decision was reasonable and urgent and should not be subject to call-in.

**RESOLVED** that the decision taken, be noted.

**5. TO SEAL DOCUMENTS**

**RESOLVED** that the action taken in affixing the Common Seal to the following documents, be endorsed:-

- 19690 Transfer of Part of Registered Title(s) made between EDC (1) and Goeffrey Holcroft and Theresa Holcroft (2) relating to land adjacent to 44 Stainton Way, Peterlee
- 19691 Transfer of Part of Registered Title(s) made between Francis Watson and Jean Watson (1) and EDC (2) relating to Garage 8, Station Estate North, Murton, Seaham
- 19692 Release of part of the land from a registered charge relating to Plot 100, High Croft, Thornley
- 19693 Release of part of the land from a registered charge relating to Plot 105, High Croft, Thornley
- 19694 Transfer of Part of Registered Title(s) made between EDC (1) and Thomas Elliott and Hazel Elliott (2) relating to Garage at 6 Shinwell Terrace, Murton
- 19695 Transfer of Part of Registered Title(s) made between EDC (1) and Tracey Yelland (2) relating to 9 Weston View, Peterlee
- 19696 Transfer of Part of Registered Title(s) made between Thomas Elliott and Hazel Elliott (1) and EDC (2) relating to the Council Offices, Seaside Lane, Easington Village, Peterlee

**District Council - 6 December 2007**

- 19697 Transfer of Part of Registered Title(s) made between EDC (1) and Michelle Johnson and Thomas Baul (2) relating to 17 Ash Crescent, Horden
- 19698 Transfer of Part of Registered Title(s) made between EDC (1) and Amanda Thompson and David Barnes (2) relating to No. 99 Parkside Crescent, Seaham
- 19699 Cancellation of Entries relating to a Registered Charge relating to 8 Snowdon Place, Peterlee
- 19700 Cancellation of Entries relating to a Registered Charge relating to 11 Glebe Avenue, Easington
- 19701 Transfer of Part of Registered Title(s) made between EDC (1) and Stephen Goundry and Catrina Jayne Goundry (2) relating to 1 Thorntree Gill, Peterlee
- 19702 Cancellation of Entries relating to a Registered Charge relating to 38 Kings Road, Wingate
- 19703 Deed of Rectification made between EDC(1) and Wesley Cowley (2) relating to 1 Truro Avenue, Murton
- 19704 Transfer of Part of Registered Title(s) made between EDC (1) and Allyson Paul (2) relating to 24 Fern Crescent, Seaham
- 19705 Transfer of Part of Registered Title(s) made between EDC (1) and Sylvia Hetherington (2) relating to 28 Windsor Place, Shotton
- 19706 Transfer of Part of Registered Title(s) made between EDC (1) and Stella Trower (2) relating to 18 Donald Avenue, South Hetton
- 19707 Deed of Variation made between EDC (1) and Barratt Homes Limited (2) relating to land at Pattison Gardens, Blackhall (in duplicate)
- 19708 Transfer of Part of Registered Title(s) made between EDC (1) and Kelly Winchombe (2) relating to 21 Galloway Road, Peterlee
- 19709 Transfer of Part of Registered Title(s) made between EDC (1) and Melissa Wilkinson and Ian Cummings (2) relating to 21 Mansell Crescent, Peterlee
- 19710 Transfer of Part of Registered Title(s) made between EDC (1) and Gwendoline Keen (2) relating to 69 Lancaster Hill, Peterlee
- 19711 Release of Part of the land from a Registered Charge relating to Plot 106, High Croft, Thornley