

Item 3

SEDGEFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL

Council Chamber,
Council Offices,
Spennymoor

Friday,
23 November 2007

Time: 11.00 a.m.

Present: Councillor Mrs. S. J. Iveson (Mayor) and

Councillors Mrs. A.M. Armstrong, W.M. Blenkinsopp, Mrs. D. Bowman, V. Chapman, D. Chaytor, Mrs. K. Conroy, Mrs. P. Crathorne, Mrs. L. M.G. Cuthbertson, T.F. Forrest, P. Gittins J.P., Mrs. B. Graham, A. Gray, G.C. Gray, Mrs. J. Gray, B. Haigh, Mrs. S. Haigh, Mrs. I. Hewitson, J.E. Higgin, A. Hodgson, T. Hogan, Mrs. L. Hovvells, G.M.R. Howe, J.G. Huntington, Ms. I. Jackson, B. Lamb, Mrs. E. Maddison, C. Nelson, B.M. Ord, Mrs. E.M. Paylor, Mrs. C. Potts, J. Robinson J.P, A. Smith, B. Stephens, T. Ward and Mrs E. M. Wood

Apologies: Councillors B.F. Avery J.P, T. Brimm, D.R. Brown, J. Burton, V. Crosby, D. Farry, D.M. Hancock, Mrs. H.J. Hutchinson, J.M. Khan, D.A. Newell, K. Thompson, A. Warburton, W. Waters and J. Wayman J.P

C.57/07 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

C.58/07 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meetings held on 28th September, 2007 and 26th October, 2007 were confirmed as correct records and signed by the Mayor.

C.59/07 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor reported that since the last meeting she had attended 27 functions including two charity evenings which had been held in aid of her chosen charity. These were a "Wedding Dress Display and Exhibition" at St. Mary's Church, Newton Aycliffe and a "Variety Entertainment Evening" held at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre.

She had also attended a number of Civic functions and events as well as a diamond wedding celebration.

C.60/07 LICENSING ACT 2003 DRAFT STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Neighbourhood Services regarding the above. (For copy see file of Minutes).

It was reported that the current policy had been recently reviewed and redrafted and had taken into account recent changes in the Government Guidance issued under Section 182 of the Licensing Act.

It was reported that following the completion of the statutory consultation process the draft Policy was considered by Licensing Committee 2 on 22nd October before it was sent to Cabinet for information and Council for

approval. Members were informed that the Policy needed to be approved by Council and published by the 7th January, 2008.

RESOLVED : That the report be received and the recommendations approved.

C.61/07

REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING PLACES

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Executive regarding the above. (For copy see file of Minutes).

It was explained that the Electoral Administration Act 2006 required the Council to complete a review of polling districts and polling places by the end of 2007.

The final proposals indicated in Schedule 2 of the report were made after taking into consideration all of the representations received. The polling places identified provided all electors reasonable facilities for voting as would be practicable in the circumstances and so far as was reasonable and practicable were accessible to all electors including those with disabilities.

RESOLVED : That the report be received and the recommendations adopted.

C.62/07

ANNUAL SCRUTINY REPORT

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Executive regarding the above. (For copy see file of Minutes).

The report , which was submitted on an annual basis in accordance with the Council's Constitution, identified scrutiny reviews which had been undertaken and achievements which had been made by Overview and Scrutiny Committees during the year.

It was reported that an IDeA Review of Overview and Scrutiny had been conducted and concluded that the Council had "made real progress in developing overview and scrutiny".

In terms of future reviews Members were informed that in view of Local Government Re-organisation the Corporate Plan would be reviewed so that short term priorities could be addressed. A transitional document covering the period up to March, 2009 would be produced and taken to Cabinet for approval. Overview and Scrutiny Committees would then consider appropriate topics for review.

RESOLVED: That the report be received.

ACCESS TO INFORMATION

Any person wishing to exercise the right of inspection, etc., in relation to these Minutes and associated papers should contact Liz North 01388 816166 ext 4237 email:enorth@sedgefield.gov.uk