

## **DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL**

**At a Meeting of the County Council** held at the County Hall, Durham on **Wednesday 4 May 2005 at 10.00 a.m.**

**Present:**

**Councillor A Fenwick** in the Chair.

Councillors Armstrong, Barker, Blenkinsopp, Carroll, Dormer, Douthwaite, Ebbatson, Firby, Forster, E Foster, N C Foster, Graham, M Hodgson, Howarth, Hunter, Knox, Lightley, Maddison, Magee, Manton, Marshall, Martin, Morgan, Myers, Nugent, Ord, Pendlebury, Porter, Priestley, Pye, Quigley, Robson, Ross, Scott, Shuttleworth, Smith, Wade, Walker, Watson and Wright.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Nicholls and O'Donnell.

### **A1 Minutes**

The Minutes of the meetings held on 2 and 22 February and 18 April 2005 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### **A2 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest received from Members in relation to the business on the agenda.

### **A3 Chairman's Announcements**

#### **(a) Sunderland AFC Promotion**

The Chairman referred to the recent success of Sunderland Football Club in winning the Coca Cola Championship and promotion back to the Premier League. The Council valued the strong links enjoyed with the Club in the areas of education and community support.

**Resolved:**

That the Council place on record its congratulations to the Club for its achievement in winning the Championship.

(b) **Fire and Rescue Authority Special Meeting**

The Chairman reminded Members of the County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Authority that a special meeting of the Authority would follow immediately after the Council meeting to consider the appointment of a successor to Mr George Herbert, the current Brigade Manager who would retire later in the year.

(c) **Retirement of Members**

The Chairman paid tribute to the following 10 Members who were not seeking re-election to the County Council at the elections on 5 May for their many years of valuable service rendered to the Council and the community.

<b>Councillor</b>	<b>Electoral Division</b>	<b>Year Elected</b>
Dormer, J	Aycliffe West Aycliffe East and Aycliffe North	1989
Firby, W	Deerness Valley and Brandon No. 2	1970
Hodgson, D	Delves Lane	1985
Howarth, B	Belmont	2001
Lightley, J	Elvet	1997
Quigley, J	Shildon South West	1993
Scott, J A	Barnard Castle West	1997
Sutton, J	Bishop Auckland Town	2001
Vaux, L	Stanley	2003
Watson, E	Seaham	1990

Councillor Manton reiterated the comments of the Chairman and thanked all Members and staff for the support they had given him as Leader of the Council.

#### **A4 Questions received from the public**

The Chairman reported that no questions had been received from the public for this particular meeting.

#### **A5 Appreciation**

The Chairman expressed his sincere thanks (and those of his wife) for all of the support and good wishes received from everyone during his recent incapacity and recuperation.