

EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 12 FEBRUARY 2015

I N D E X

Page No	Minute No	Heading
1	593	Apologies for Absence
1	594	Declarations of Interest
2	595	Proposal for North East Derbyshire District Council to be a constituent member of the Proposed Derby and Derbyshire (D2) Combined Authority

NORTH EAST DERBYSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

HELD ON 12 FEBRUARY 2015

Present:

Councillor T Reader..... Chair
Councillor A Holmes Vice Chair

Councillor J Allsop

“ Mrs J Austen
“ N Barker
“ B Barnes
“ G Baxter MBE
“ G Butler
“ A Cooper
“ J A Dargue
“ Mrs C F Ellis
“ S Ellis
“ Miss M Emmens
“ M Gordon
“ R Hall
“ Mrs P Hemsley
“ Mrs E A Hill

Councillor C Hunt

“ P R Kerry
“ H Laws
“ B Lewis
“ W Lilleyman
“ J McGrory
“ G Morley
“ D S Oxspring
“ B Rice
“ B Ridgway
“ Mrs L Robinson
“ K Savidge
“ L Stone
“ Miss T Williams
“ J Windle

Before the meeting began, members observed a moment's silence in memory of Councillor T Moon who had recently passed away.

593 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs P Antcliff, Mrs A Blackburn, P Blackburn, Mrs N C Dolby, P Elliott, Mrs A Foster, N Foster, A Garrett, K Gillott, Mrs J Hill, Mrs C D Huckerby, S Peters, G P Ramshaw, Mrs J Ridgway, D Skinner, Mrs C A Smith, M E Thacker and B Wright.

594 Declarations of Interest

Members were requested to declare the existence and nature of any disclosable pecuniary interest and/or other interest, not already on their register of interests, in any item on the agenda and withdraw from the meeting at the appropriate time.

There were no interests declared at this meeting.

595 Proposal for North East Derbyshire District Council to be a constituent member of the Proposed Derby and Derbyshire (D2) Combined Authority

Council considered a report of the Chief Executive which set out the outcome of the recent governance review and resulting proposal to create a Derby and Derbyshire (D2) Combined Authority (CA).

Council considered a report which sought endorsement of a decision taken by Executive earlier in the day to submit to Government a scheme for the establishment of a Derby and Derbyshire Combined Authority (CA).

In September 2013 the Leaders of the County Council, City Council and the eight district and borough councils in D2 agreed to establish a joint economic prosperity board to support more effective and collaborative working across a range of functions. Formal approval from each individual authority to establish the D2 Joint Committee was secured between December 2013 and March 2014.

Working alongside a similar joint committee arrangement for Nottingham and Nottinghamshire (N2) area, the D2 Joint Committee supported the work of the wider D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership.

A key area of work for the D2 Joint Committee had been to undertake a governance review to determine whether the existing arrangements for economic development, regeneration and transport in Derbyshire were delivering the best results. The review had been undertaken within the context of current policy and the aspirations of national Government to devolve powers and resources to strong local governance structures. The review was carried out under the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 and the Transport Act 2008.

An appendix to the report presented the governance review report and set out a detailed account of the current economic conditions across the D2 area. It also evaluated the existing joint committee on wider LEP governance arrangements and considered the potential options for improvement.

The proposed D2 CA would be constituted of a Board, made up of the 10 Leaders from the D2 local authorities. It would form an essential element of the overall LEP wide governance and would strengthen local accountability and ensure transparency of decision making.

Non-constituent membership of the D2 CA Board was proposed to be offered to the D2N2 LEP to ensure strength in governance and relationship management. Observer status on the Board was proposed to be offered to the Peak District National Park. A new Joint Leaders Forum constituted of all 19 Leaders from across the Local Authorities of D2 and N2 was proposed as part of the wider LEP and CA arrangements.

One of the significant benefits of the proposed CA was that it would attract further devolved funding from Government with more local determination

priorities and alignment of resources. The work programme of the D2 CA would be focused around the four main ambitions of jobs and employment, skills, transport and housing. A fifth area of work, "Funding our Future", would explore more creative and initiative use of the general power of competence and other freedoms and flexibilities to support the D2 economic development, regeneration and transport programme.

Overall, it was considered that the proposals would meet the statutory tests set out in the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 and the Transport Act 2008.

As part of the governance review, the Joint Committee had undertaken a strong process of engagement with key stakeholders from across and outside the area. A major consultation exercise was undertaken between 2 and 23 January 2015 to test local support on a proposal to create a CA and the proposed ambitions outlined.

A total of 734 responses had been received, along with 19 individual letters, emails or telephone calls. Headline analysis of the results confirmed overall strong support for the proposal to create a CA with 67% strongly agreeing or tending to agree.

Details of the financial support to create the CA were set out in section five of the report. The total value of existing financial and in kind contributions was £875,120 per annum.

In line with statutory requirements for establishing a CA, officers from the constituent authorities would be appointed to undertake the duties of Head of Paid Service, Monitoring Officer and Chief Financial Officer. Nomination or appointment to these posts would not incur any additional expenditure to the proposed CA over and above existing costs. The CA would agree an annual budget for the purpose of the above range of expenditure, which was not expected to exceed that already incurred and would be applied equally across the 10 constituent councils.

It was moved and seconded that the Council endorsed the decision taken by Cabinet on 12 February 2015 to submit to Government a scheme for the establishment of a Derby and Derbyshire Combined Authority.

Three members requested that the motion be the subject of a recorded vote under the Council's Constitution. The result of the vote was as follows:

For the motion – 32

(Councillors J Allsop, Mrs J Austen, N Barker, B Barnes, G Baxter MBE, G Butler, A Cooper, J A Dargue, Mrs C F Ellis, S Ellis, Miss M Emmens, M Gordon, R Hall, Mrs P Hemsley, Mrs E A Hill, Mrs P Holmes, C Hunt, P R Kerry, H Laws, B Lewis, W Lilleyman, J McGrory, G Morley, D S Oxspring, B Rice, B Ridgway, Mrs L Robinson, K Savidge, L Stone, Mrs T Reader, Miss T Williams and J Windle)

Against the motion – 0

Abstentions – 0

RESOLVED - That Council endorses the decisions taken by Cabinet on 12 February 2015 to submit to Government a scheme for the establishment of a Derby and Derbyshire Combined Authority.

(Chief Executive)

COUNCIL MINS 0212 (2015)/AH