



Minutes of the ANNUAL MEETING of the MILTON KEYNES COUNCIL held on TUESDAY 23 MAY 2006 at 7.30 pm and reconvened on 6 JUNE 2006 at 7.30 pm

Present: Councillor Gerrella (Mayor) (23 May 2006 only)
Councillors Barry, Box, Bristow, Brock (23 May 2006 only), Burke, Butler-Ellis, Campbell, Carruthers, Carstens, Sandra Clark, Stephen Clark, Coventry, Crooks, Dransfield, Drewett, Eastman, Eaton, Edwards, Exon, Ferrans, Fraser, Geary, E Henderson, I Henderson, Holroyd, Hopkins, Hoyle, Irons, Jury, Latham (23 May 2006 only), Legg, Lloyd, Long, Mabbott, D McCall, I McCall, McKenzie, Miles, Morris, Morsley, Pendry, Pugh, Seymour, Snell, Tallack, Tamagnini-Barbosa, Tunney, Wharton, Williams, and Wilson

The following Honorary Aldermen were also present:

Aldermen Bellchambers (23 May 2006 only), Connor, Ellis (23 May 2006 only), Hardwick (23 May 2006 only), Howell (23 May 2006 only), Saunders (23 May 2006 only) and Smith (23 May 2006 only)

Apologies: Councillors Brock (6 June 2006 only), Gerrella (6 June 2006 only) and Latham (6 June 2006 only) and Aldermen Cowley, Ellis (6 June 2006 only) and Howell (6 June 2006 only).

CL01 ELECTION OF MAYOR

It was moved by Councillor Jury and seconded by Councillor Miles that Councillor Brinley Richard Carstens be elected Mayor of Milton Keynes for 2006/07.

RESOLVED -

That Councillor Brinley Richard Carstens be elected Mayor of Milton Keynes for the Council Year 2006/07.

The retiring Mayor presented Councillor Carstens with the Mayor's Chain of Office and Councillor Carstens signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

The Mayor (Councillor Carstens) thanked the Council for his election, particularly the retiring Mayor, Councillor Gerrella, for his support and guidance over the last year during his time as Deputy Mayor.

The Mayor welcomed the newly elected Members and thanked the Members who had either retired, or were not returned, for their contributions to the Council.

The Mayor indicated that his aim for the year would be to enable disadvantaged children to experience the pleasure that could be gained by involvement in music. To this end his chosen charity would be Inter Action MK, in particular the Shed MK theatre project.

The Mayor stated that he also wanted to get the message over that Milton Keynes was a great place to do business.

The Mayor announced that the Civic Service would be held on 2 July 2006 at the Church of Christ the Cornerstone.

The Mayor also announced that the position of Mayoress would be undertaken by his wife, Mrs Audrey Carstens.

CL02

VOTE OF THANKS

Councillor I McCall moved a vote of thanks to the retiring Mayor (Councillor Gerrella), which was seconded by Councillor Sandra Clark, and approved.

The Mayor presented Councillor Gerrella with a Past Mayor's badge.

Councillor Gerrella thanked his wife Caroline, the Mayoress; Councillor Carstens and his wife Audrey; his family; the workers from his Charity, MacMillan Cancer Relief; Members and officers of the Council for the support he had received during his year in office.

Councillor Gerrella also detailed a number of the events and highlights he had experienced during his term of office, which had seen him attend 313 engagements and raise in excess of £25,000 for his Charity.

CL03

APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR

The Council noted that, in accordance with the selection procedure agreed by the Council (Minute CL66(d)), the nomination for Deputy Mayor fell to the Liberal Democrat Group.

It was moved by Councillor I McCall and seconded by Councillor D McCall, that Councillor Michael Barry be appointed Deputy Mayor of Milton Keynes for the Council Year 2006/07.

RESOLVED -

That Councillor Michael Barry be appointed Deputy Mayor of Milton Keynes for the Council Year 2006/07.

The Mayor presented Councillor Barry with the Deputy Mayor's Chain of Office and Councillor Barry signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

CL04

MINUTES

RESOLVED -

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 14 March 2006, be approved and signed by the Mayor as a correct record.

CL05

RETURNING OFFICER'S REPORT

The report of the Returning Officer following the Elections held on 4 May 2006, was presented.

RESOLVED -

That the report be received.

CL06

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND HOUSING ACT 1989 AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT (COMMITTEES AND POLITICAL GROUPS) REGULATIONS 1990.

In accordance with the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990, the Council noted that the Conservative Group was entitled to 25.490% of the seats on the Council's Committees, the Labour Group was entitled to 29.412% of the seats and the Liberal Democrat Group to 45.098% of the seats.

CL07

ELECTION OF LEADER

The Mayor deferred consideration of this item.

CL08

APPOINTMENT OF CABINET

The Mayor deferred consideration of this item.

CL09

AUDIT COMMITTEE

Business Management Group – 15 March 2006

Councillor Eastman moved the following recommendation from the meeting of the Business Management Group which was held on 15 March 2006, which was seconded by Councillor Pugh:

- “1. That an Audit Committee be established, initially with the Terms of Reference, set out as an Annex to the report.
2. That the Chair and Vice Chair of the Audit Committee be independent persons co-opted to serve on the Committee with full voting rights.
3. That the performance review functions of the current Performance Review and Audit Panel be combined with those of the Corporate Policy Development Committee and establish a Performance Review and Corporate Policy Development Committee.
”

4. That a Performance Review and Audit Panel be not appointed as from the Annual Meeting in 2006.
5. That the Head of Democratic Services be authorised to make any subsequent changes to the Constitution.”

Councillor Wilson moved the following amendment which was seconded by Councillor Dransfield:

“That the recommendations of the Business Management Group be amended as follows:

1. That recommendation 1 be amended to read as follows:
‘That an Audit Committee be established, initially with the Statement of Purpose and Core Functions as set out in the **Annex** to the report.’
2. That recommendation 2 be deleted and replaced by the words:
‘That the Audit Committee include two independent members who are not Members of the Council, or of any Parish or Town Council within the Borough’.
3. That recommendation 3 be amended by the deletion of all after ‘be’ in Line 2 and the addition of ‘allocated to a separate Performance Review Panel’.
4. That recommendation 4 be deleted.
5. That recommendation 5 be re-numbered.”

On being put to the vote the amendment was declared carried with 28 Members voting in favour and 23 Members voting against.

On being put to the vote the substantive motion was declared carried by acclamation.

RESOLVED -

1. That an Audit Committee be established, initially with the Statement of Purpose and Core Functions as set out in the Annex to the report.
2. That the Audit Committee include two independent members who are not Members of the Council, or of any Parish or Town Council within the Borough.
3. That the performance review functions of the current Performance Review and Audit Panel be allocated to a separate Performance Review Panel.
4. That the Head of Democratic Services be authorised to make any subsequent changes to the Constitution.

CL10 APPOINTMENT TO COMMITTEES/GROUPS

The Council considered the appointments to the Development Control and Licensing Committees in accordance with the political balance on the Council.

RESOLVED –

1. That Councillors Burke, Butler-Ellis, Stephen Clark, Eastman, Exon, Geary, Holroyd, Hopkins, Legg, McKenzie and Pugh be appointed to the Development Control Committee for the meeting scheduled to take place on 24 May 2006.
2. That Councillors Barry, Box, Bristow, Brock, Burke, Carruthers, Eastman, Latham, McKenzie, Miles, Morsley, Snell and Tamagnini-Barbosa be appointed to the Licensing Committee to allow the appointment of Licensing Sub-Committees to hear licensing applications, subject to its membership being reviewed before the first scheduled meeting of the Committee.

CL11 APPOINTMENT OF CO-OPTED PERSONS

The Council considered the appointment of co-opted persons to the Learning and Development Policy Development Committee for the Council Year 2006/07.

RESOLVED -

That the following co-options of voting co-optees to the Learning and Development Policy Development Committee be approved for the Council year 2006/07, with the Committee being authorised to fill any current vacancies or vacancies which occur during the year:

- (a) 1 representative of Oxford Diocesan Board of Education - Dr M Archer
- (b) 1 representative of Northampton Diocesan Schools Commission - Vacant
- (c) 2 representatives of parent governors in primary schools - Mr J McAuley and Mr S Tucker
- (d) 1 representative of parent governors in secondary schools - Vacant

CL12 APPOINTMENTS TO OTHER BODIES - BUCKINGHAMSHIRE AND MILTON KEYNES COMBINED FIRE AUTHORITY

The Council considered appointing Members to the Combined Fire Authority.

RESOLVED -

That Councillors Dransfield, Edwards, Fraser, Morsley and Pugh be appointed to the Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Combined Fire Authority.

CL13 APPOINTMENT TO THAMES VALLEY POLICE AUTHORITY

The Council considered appointing a representative to the Thames Valley Police Authority.

It was reported that in accordance with Schedule 2 Paragraph 4 (1) of the Police Act 1996, the allocation of seats on the Thames Valley Police Authority had been reviewed by the Authority's Joint Committee to ensure that the Authority's membership reflected the political proportionality of its area. As a result the Milton Keynes seat had been awarded to the Liberal Democrat Group as the largest political group on the Council.

RESOLVED -

That Councillor Crooks be appointed as the Authority's representative to the Thames Valley Police Authority for a four year term.

CL14 SCHEME OF DELEGATION FOR EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS

The Mayor deferred consideration of this item.

CL15 NOTICE OF MOTION

Councillor Dransfield moved the following motion, which was seconded by Councillor Hopkins:

"That this Council no longer considers itself bound by the policies agreed by the adoption of the Liberal Democrat Manifesto at its meeting on 22 June 2004 (Minute CL13 refers)".

On being put to the vote the motion was declared carried with 28 Members voting in favour and 23 Members voting against.

RESOLVED -

That this Council no longer considers itself bound by the policies agreed by the adoption of the Liberal Democrat Manifesto at its meeting on 22 June 2004 (Minute CL13 refers).

The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 9.38 pm. The Meeting reconvened on Tuesday 6 June 2006 at 7.30 pm, with the Mayor (Councillor Carstens) in the Chair.

CL16 ELECTION OF LEADER

It was moved by Councillor E Henderson and seconded by Councillor Eastman, that Councillor I McCall be elected Leader for the Council Year 2006/07.

On being put to the vote the motion was declared carried with 22 Members voting in favour, 0 Members voting against and 26 Members abstaining from voting.

RESOLVED -

That Councillor I McCall be elected Leader for the Council Year 2006/07.

CL17

APPOINTMENT OF CABINET

It was moved by Councillor I McCall and seconded by Councillor Fraser, that a Cabinet of eight Members (including the Leader) be appointed.

It was moved by Councillor I McCall and seconded by Councillor Eaton, that the Cabinet comprise Councillors Sandra Clark, Crooks, E Henderson, I Henderson, D McCall, I McCall, Tallack and Williams.

On being put to the vote the motions were declared carried with 22 Members voting in favour, 0 Members voting against and 26 Members abstaining from voting.

RESOLVED -

1. That a Cabinet of eight Members (including the Leader) be appointed.
2. That the Members of the Cabinet for the Council Year 2006/07 be Councillors Sandra Clark, Crooks, E Henderson, I Henderson, D McCall, I McCall, Tallack and Williams.

CL18

APPOINTMENT TO COMMITTEES/GROUPS

The Council considered the number of Members to sit on the Council's Committees and Groups, and also considered appointing Members to those Committees and Groups in accordance with the political balance on the Council.

RESOLVED -

1. That the following Committees/Panels comprise the numbers shown:

Appeals Commission (15)

Audit Committee (7)

Corporate Policy Development Committee (7)

Development Control Committee (10)

Early Retirement/Redundancy Panel (5)

Environment Policy Development Committee (8)

Executive Scrutiny Panel (7)

External Scrutiny Panel (7)
Health Scrutiny Panel (7)
Joint Negotiating Committee (Employer's Side) (7)
Learning & Development Policy Development Committee (9)
Licensing Committee (15)
Performance Review Panel (7)
Regulatory Committee (15)
Social Care and Housing Policy Development Committee (7)
Standards Committee (5)

2. That the Committees/Groups comprise the following Members:

(a) Appeals Commission

Councillors Box, Brock, Carruthers, Drewett, Eastman, Edwards, Fraser, Jury, Lloyd, McKenzie, Miles, Morris, Williams and 2 further Liberal Democrat nominations.

(b) Audit Committee

Councillors Burke Coventry, Crooks, Dransfield, Tamagnini-Barbosa, Tunney and Wilson

(c) Corporate Policy Development Committee

Councillors Burke, Edwards, Ferrans, Geary, Jury, Mabbott and Pugh

(d) Development Control Committee

Councillors Box, Butler-Ellis, Stephen Clark, Eastman, Exon, Fraser, Geary, Holroyd, Legg and Pugh

(e) Early Retirement/Redundancy Panel

Councillors Dransfield, Edwards, Eastman, Morsley and Tallack

(f) Environment Policy Development Committee

Councillors Butler-Ellis, Eaton, Ferrans, Fraser, Hopkins, Holroyd, Legg and Tamagnini-Barbosa

(g) Executive Scrutiny Panel

Councillors Carruthers, Jury, Gerrella, Holroyd, Pendry, Seymour and Wharton

(h) External Scrutiny Panel

Councillors Stephen Clark, Exon, Ferrans, Lloyd, McKenzie, Morris and Wharton

- (i) Health Scrutiny Panel
Councillors Stephen Clark, Fraser, Gerrella, Hopkins, Hoyle, Irons and McKenzie
- (j) Joint Negotiating Committee (Employer's Side)
Councillors Eastman, Edwards, I Henderson, Morsley, Tallack and 2 Conservative Group representatives
- (k) Learning and Development Policy Development Committee
Councillors Dransfield, Drewett, Eaton, Irons, Lloyd, Miles, Seymour, Snell and Wharton
- (l) Licensing Committee
Councillors Barry, Box, Bristow, Brock, Burke, Carruthers, Coventry, Drewett, Eastman, Irons, Latham, McKenzie, Miles, Snell and Tamagnini-Barbosa
- (m) Performance Review Panel
Councillors Barry, Carruthers, Eastman, Long, Morris, Tunney and Wilson
- (n) Regulatory Committee
Councillors Barry, Box, Bristow, Brock, Burke, Carruthers, Coventry, Drewett, Eastman, Irons, Latham, McKenzie, Miles, Snell and Tamagnini-Barbosa
- (o) Social Care and Housing Policy Development Committee
Councillors Campbell, Drewett, Exon, Gerrella, Hoyle, Latham and Long
- (p) Standards Committee
Councillors Barry, Brock, Eaton, Holroyd and Miles,

CL19

SCHEME OF DELEGATION FOR EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS

Councillor I McCall moved the following motion, which was seconded by Councillor Williams:

“That the Scheme of Delegation for Executive Functions be adopted, but that further consideration be given to the Scheme at the next Council meeting on 13 June 2006, to allow any amendments to be submitted.”

Councillor Long moved the following amendment, which was seconded by Councillor Dransfield and accepted by the mover of the motion:

“That all the words after the word ‘that’ in the second line be deleted and replaced with the words ‘a Panel of seven members in the ratio 3:2:2 be appointed to advise the Leader on any amendments to the Scheme’.”

Councillor Dransfield moved the following further amendment, which was seconded by Councillor Long and accepted by the mover of the motion:

“That the words ‘and any consequential constitutional amendments’ be added to the end of the substantive motion.”

The substantive motion was agreed by acclamation.

RESOLVED –

That the Scheme of Delegation for Executive Functions be adopted, but that a Panel of seven members in the ratio 3:2:2 be appointed to advise the Leader on any amendments to the Scheme and any consequential constitutional amendments.

THE MAYOR CLOSED THE MEETING AT 8.15 PM