

LICHFIELD DISTRICT COUNCIL

DIANE TILLEY BSc., MRICS
Chief Executive
Tel : (01543) 308001

District Council House
Frog Lane
Lichfield
WS13 6YY

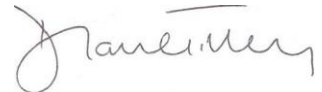
30 November 2015

To : Members of the Lichfield District Council

In accordance with Paragraph 4(2) of Part 1 of Schedule 12 to the Local Government Act 1972, you are hereby summoned to attend the meeting of the Lichfield District Council which will be held in the Council Chamber, District Council House, Frog Lane, Lichfield, on **TUESDAY 8 DECEMBER 2015 at 6.00 pm.**

Prayers will be said by Reverend L. Collins.

Access to the Council Chamber is either via the Members' Entrance or the main door to the vestibule.



Chief Executive

AGENDA

- 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (if any).
- 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.
- 3 TO APPROVE AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 29 SEPTEMBER 2015 (VOLUME 43 PART 3 MINUTE BOOK).
- 4 TO APPROVE AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 13 OCTOBER 2015 (VOLUME 43 PART 3 MINUTE BOOK)
- 5 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS.
- 6 REPORT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL ON CABINET DECISIONS FROM THE MEETINGS HELD ON 6 OCTOBER, 3 NOVEMBER AND 1 DECEMBER (to follow) 2015 AND CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS (GREY ENCLOSURE).
- 7 REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF LEISURE, PARKS AND WASTE MANAGEMENT (OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY) COMMITTEE (YELLOW ENCLOSURE).
- 8 REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF STRATEGIC (OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY) COMMITTEE (BLUE ENCLOSURE). (to follow)

- 9 THE CHAIRMEN INDICATED BELOW TO MOVE THAT THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEES (VOLUME 43 PART 3 MINUTE BOOK) BE RECEIVED AND, WHERE NECESSARY, APPROVED AND ADOPTED.

	Committee	2015	Pages	Chairman
(a)	Audit	7 October	44-48	R. C. Mosson
(b)	Planning	12 October	49-51	D. Smedley
(c)	Employment	28 October	54-55	J. J. R. Powell
(d)	Planning	2 November	56-57	D. Smedley
(e)	Planning	23 November	58-59	D. Smedley
(f)	Regulatory and Licensing (to follow)	25 November	60-	B. W. Yeates

10 **AFFORDABLE HOUSING DELIVERY**

To agree the recommendation of Cabinet that the Policy in relation to the delivery of affordable housing in line with Policy H2 of the submitted Local Plan Strategy before it was modified to account for Government changes to the National Planning Guidance be adopted. (The report can be accessed through the District Council Website by selecting the following link:

<http://www.lichfielddc.gov.uk/meetings/cabinet>).

11 **SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENTS**

To agree the recommendation of Cabinet that the following Supplementary Planning Documents be adopted:

- a) Supplementary Planning Document Sustainable Design
- b) Supplementary Planning Document Historic Environment
- c) Supplementary Planning Document Rural Development

(The reports can be accessed through the District Council Website by selecting the following link:

<http://www.lichfielddc.gov.uk/meetings/cabinet>)

12 **CHANGES TO THE CONSTITUTION AND FINANCIAL PROCEDURE RULES**

- (1) To agree that delegated authority be granted to the Cabinet Member for Finance and Democracy or the Leader of Council (in his absence) to authorise the write off of debts up to £25,000 and amend Page 33 of the Financial Procedure Rules by the substitution of the words "Cabinet Member for Finance and Democracy and the Leader of the Council" for the words "Directors with the agreement of the Chief Finance Officer."

- (b) To amend Part 3 of the Delegations to Officers as follows:-

- (a) Page 67, 11 be deleted and replaced with:-

11. DELEGATED TO THE DEVELOPMENT EXECUTIVE (PLANNING AND BUILDING CONTROL), DEVELOPMENT CONTROL MANAGER AND THE STRATEGIC DIRECTOR - DEMOCRATIC, DEVELOPMENT AND LEGAL SERVICES OR THE SOLICITOR

11.1 To secure a direction under Article 4 of the Town and Country Planning (General

Permitted Development) Order 2015 in cases of urgency.

(b) Page 69, 13.4 be deleted and replaced with:-

13.4 To make minor modifications to the wording of planning conditions post committee to render them National Planning Practice Guidance compliant.

(c) Page 69, 14.1 and 14.2 be deleted and replaced with:-

14. DELEGATED TO THE STRATEGIC DIRECTOR – DEMOCRATIC, DEVELOPMENT AND LEGAL SERVICES, DEVELOPMENT PLANS AND IMPLEMENTATION MANAGER, DEVELOPMENT EXECUTIVE (PLANNING AND BUILDING CONTROL), DEVELOPMENT CONTROL MANAGER AND PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENT CONTROL OFFICERS

14.1 To determine submissions, prior notifications and similar submitted under the Parts 1 to 15 inclusive and Parts 17 to 19 inclusive of Schedule 2 of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2015.

14.2 Authority to determine applications under Part 16 of Schedule 2 of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2015, unless objections have been received.

(d) Page 72, 18 and 18.2 be deleted and replaced with:-

18. DELEGATED TO THE DEVELOPMENT EXECUTIVE (PLANNING AND BUILDING CONTROL) OR DEVELOPMENT CONTROL MANAGER OR PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENT CONTROL OFFICERS IN CONSULTATION WITH THE CHAIRMAN OR VICE-CHAIRMAN OF PLANNING COMMITTEE

18.1 Authority to agree the content and wording of relevant planning conditions and formalisation of the Decision Notice in the event of planning permission being granted by the Planning Committee contrary to officer recommendation.

18.2 Authority to determine applications under Part 16 of Schedule 2 of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2015, where objections have been received.

13 REVIEW OF STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY

To agree the proposed Licensing Policy Statement a copy of which will be forwarded before the Council Meeting.

14 QUESTIONS

To answer any questions under Procedure Rule 10.2.

15 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED: That as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business, which would involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 3, 4 and 7 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended.

EXEMPT ITEMS NOT ISSUED TO PUBLIC AND PRESS

- 16 CONFIDENTIAL REPORT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL ON CABINET DECISIONS FROM THE MEETINGS HELD ON 6 OCTOBER AND 1 DECEMBER (to follow) 2015 AND CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS (PINK ENCLOSURE).
- 17 CONFIDENTIAL REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF LEISURE, PARKS AND WASTE MANAGEMENT (OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY) COMMITTEE (PINK ENCLOSURE).

COUNCIL MEETING

29 September 2015

PRESENT:

Mrs N. Bacon (Chairman)
D. F. Salter (Vice Chairman)

Allsopp, Mrs J. A.	Greatorex, C.	Shepherd, Miss O. J.
Awty, R. J.	Hassall, Miss E. A.	Smedley, D.
Bamborough, R. A. J.	Leytham, D. J.	Smith, A. F.
Banevicius, Mrs S. W.	Marshall, T.	Spruce, C. J.
Barnett, Mrs S. A.	Matthews, T. R.	Stanhope MBE, Mrs M.
Constable, Mrs B. L.	Mills, J.	Strachan, R. W.
Constable, D. H. J.	Mosson, R. C.	Tittley, M. C.
Cox, R. E.	O'Hagan, J. P.	Tranter, Mrs. E. H.
Drinkwater, E. N.	Powell, J. J. R.	Warfield, M. A.
Eadie, I. M.	Pritchard, I. M. P.	White, A. G.
Eagland, Mrs J. M.	Pullen, D. R.	Wilcox, M. J.
Fisher, Miss B.	Pullen, Mrs N. I.	Woodward, Mrs S. E.
Fisher, Mrs H. E.	Rayner, B. L.	Yeates, B. W.

(APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Councillors Mrs Baker, Mrs Bland, Mrs Evans and A. Yeates.)

PRAYERS:

Prayers were said by Reverend L. Collins who made particular reference to the current problems in Syria.

78 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

No Declarations of Interest were made

79 MINUTES – 14 JULY 2015:

It was proposed, duly seconded and

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 14 July 2015 (Volume 43 Part 2 Minutes Book) as printed and previously circulated be taken as read, approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

80 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

(a) Mobile Devices

The Chairman asked all Members and Officers to switch their mobile devices to silent during the meeting.

(b) **Diary Dates**

The Chairman informed Members that she was hosting a charity fund raising flower arranging demonstration/afternoon tea in St Mary's Centre, Lichfield on Tuesday 24 November 2015 and hoped Members would attend. The Chairman also reminded Members of the following events:-

- (1) Chairman and Members' Carol Service St Michaels Church Lichfield – Friday 11 December 2015.
- (2) Chairman's hosted event – Jack and the Beanstalk at Lichfield Garrick Theatre – Wednesday 30 December 2015.
- (3) Chairman's Sunday Lunch at the School House Weeford – Sunday 13 March 2016.

81 REPORT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL ON CABINET DECISIONS FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 8 SEPTEMBER AND CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS:

The Leader of the Council submitted his report on Cabinet Decisions from the meeting held on 8 September 2015 and Cabinet Member Decisions. Councillor Wilcox took the opportunity of informing Members of a training opportunity named "Understanding Child Sexual Exploitation – Chelsea's Choice" which would take place at the Studio, Garrick Theatre, Lichfield at 6.00 pm on Wednesday 14 October 2015 and hoped that as many Members as possible would attend.

82 REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMUNITY, HOUSING AND HEALTH (OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY) COMMITTEE:

Councillor Leytham submitted his report on the items considered by the Community, Housing and Health (Overview and Scrutiny) Committee held on 7 September 2015.

1 – Staffordshire Health Select Committee

Councillor Drinkwater expressed the view that the item on feedback from the Healthy Staffordshire Select Committee did not sufficiently cover the wide range of subjects covered by the Committee and hoped that more detail would be provided in future. Councillor Leytham said that there were considerable number of issues discussed at the County Committee which would be reported back to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in due course but he would contact Councillor Drinkwater and give him an overview.

3 – Housing Service Review

Councillor Mrs Woodward welcomed the reports that had been considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and by Cabinet but referred to the proposed Empty Property Policy to be developed. Councillor Mrs Woodward recalled that there had been a similar policy adopted some years ago and asked when the new policy would be introduced and if scrutiny would be involved. Councillor Leytham confirmed that the Scrutiny Committee would be involved and papers were due to be considered in January 2016.

4 – Commissioning the Community and Voluntary Sector – Member Task Group

Councillor Mrs Woodward referred to Appendix B being mentioned at paragraph 4.4 of the report and suggested if a document was referred to it should be appended to the report submitted to Council. Councillor Mrs Woodward considered that the local commissioning priorities set by the District Council and Partners did not take account of all needs within the Community and particularly referred to the impact on the provision for early years children whereby some

organisations were no longer in a position to bid. Councillor Mrs Woodward referred to the situation in Burntwood where two Children Centres had been saved by the work of people in the area through an organisation called Spark (Burntwood) and hoped that this could be considered by Councillor Leytham and the appropriate Cabinet Member

(COUNCILLOR WHITE DECLARED A PERSONAL INTEREST IN THIS ITEM IN VIEW OF HIS ROLE AS CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH CARE AND WELL-BEING AT STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL).

5 – Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) – Member Task Group

Councillor Drinkwater asked if the Task Group consider the use of domes on the top of CCTV cameras as was the practice in the Tamworth area and which prevented the direction of the cameras being obvious to the public. Councillor Mrs Woodward added that money allocated towards the Sankeys Corner, Burntwood infrastructure proposals could be used for that purpose and Councillor Pullen confirmed that the use of domes for the cameras at Sankey's Corner was being looked into.

83 REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE STRATEGIC (OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY) COMMITTEE:

Councillor Tittley submitted his report on the items considered by the Strategic (Overview and Scrutiny) Committee held on 9 September 2015. In submitting his report Councillor Tittley stated that Councillor Spruce was present as the Cabinet Member for Finance, Democratic and Legal Services.

1 – Money Matters 2014/15: Review of Financial Performance against the Financial Strategy

Councillor Mrs Banevicius referred to the capacity issues mentioned in the report in relation to the delivery of Disabled Facilities Grants and asked for confirmation that there were sufficient Officers to carry out the required work. Councillor Mrs Woodward added that a recent Focus Group had also raised the question of capacity and said that redundancies could create imbalances across the Council. Councillor Mrs Woodward also referred to the Business safety net payment received by the District Council and asked that as the District Council were the only one within the Birmingham Local Enterprise Partnership that had received such a payment if that meant that the District Council were doing less well than the others. Councillor Mrs Woodward reminded Members that she had previously said that the scrutiny process should be used to assist in the process as the intention was to resolve problems that occurred.

Councillor Wilcox reminded Members that the payment was a safety net that the Government had introduced, irrespective of which Local Enterprise Partnership the District Council were involved in. Councillor Wilcox added that the payment was required due to the increased number of Business Rate appeals received and all Councils were affected but the scale of the impact on the District Council Business Rate Collection meant they received a safety net payment which was not a reflection of performance.

Councillor Tittley confirmed that he had been assured that there were sufficient District Council Officers to undertake tasks in relation to Disabled Facilities Grants. Councillor Tittley added that at the meeting it was proposed, seconded and agreed that the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Democratic and Legal Services should also be involved in the process to write off debts under £25,000 and said that he would be writing to the Cabinet Member accordingly.

4 – Modernisation of the Civic Function at Lichfield District

Councillor Tittley wished to put on record his thanks for the Members who had put a lot of time and effort into the Task Group process.

84 REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ECONOMIC GROWTH, ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT (OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY) COMMITTEE:

Councillor Cox submitted his report on the items considered by the Economic Growth, Environment and Development (Overview and Scrutiny) Committee held on 23 September 2015. In submitting his report Councillor Cox said that Councillor Mrs Eagland was not present as indicated in the report and confirmed that her submission of an apology for absence was correct. Councillor Cox also referred to the reports on Supplementary Planning Documents and thanked all Officers and Members involved in producing those documents and Mrs C. L. Lewis (Overview and Scrutiny Officer) for preparing his report expeditiously in time for consideration by Council.

85 MINUTES OF COMMITTEES:

(a) Planning Committee – 13 July 2015

It was proposed by Councillor Smedley and duly seconded “that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning Committee held on 13 July 2015 (Minutes Nod 44 – 47) be approved and adopted.”

Arising on the Minutes:

Minute No 47 – Burntwood – 14/00612/FULM – Residential Dwellings, together with Associated Works including the Provision of Access, Infrastructure, Public Open Space and Car Parking, Land East of Burntwood By Pass, Burntwood, Staffordshire for Barratt Homes, Taylor Wimpey, London and Cambridge Properties

Councillor Drinkwater expressed concern that access from Burntwood to Chasewater was not referred to in the Planning Report nor in the Planning Brief for the area and added that he was concerned that whilst 375 houses were mentioned in the report the actual agreed number was 351 and sought assurances that both the number of dwellings and the access to Chasewater would be looked into. Councillor Mrs Woodward said that since the transfer of the ownership of the Chasewater area to Staffordshire County Council a lot of work had been done in order to make the area of regional benefit but felt that access to the site for the people of Burntwood was inadequate and a long vehicle journey was required to obtain such access. Councillor Mrs Woodward therefore supported the view of Councillor Drinkwater and hoped that this could be dealt with.

Councillor Smedley confirmed that he would ask Officers to respond to the points raised by Councillor Drinkwater.

It was then:

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning Committee held on 13 July 2015 (Minutes Nod 44 – 47) be approved and adopted.

(b) Employment Committee – 15 July 2015

It was proposed by Councillor Powell and duly seconded “that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Employment Committee held on 15 July 2015 (Minutes Nod 67 – 71) be approved and adopted.”

Arising on the Minutes:

Minute No 69 – Role of Employment Committee

Councillor Mrs Woodward said that merely receiving a report on the Terms of Reference for the Employment Committee and its remit did not address concerns that she had previously raised about the future direction that the Employment Committee should take and asked Councillor Powell if he would be dealing with that in the future. Councillor Powell said that where possible that would be done but issues are often determined by circumstances.

Minute No 71 – Health & Safety Annual Report

Councillor Mrs Banevicius asked if all near misses were recorded and Councillor Powell said that in every instance where an incident was regarded as a near miss it was recorded.

It was then:

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Employment Committee held on 15 July 2015 (Minutes Nod 67- 71) be approved and adopted.

(c) Planning Committee – 24 August 2015

It was proposed by Councillor Smedley duly seconded and

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 24 August 2015 (Minutes Nod 72 – 77) be approved and adopted.

86 MEDIA AND SOCIAL MEDIA PROTOCOLS:

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Fisher and seconded by Councillor Miss Fisher “that the Media and Social Media Protocols as submitted be approved.” In submitting the proposal Councillor Mrs Fisher said that the opportunity had been taken to update the Media Protocols and add Social Media Protocols to that having regard to the ever changing and evolving world. Councillor Mrs Fisher added that a Media Workshop and Training Session was due to be held in November 2016 and that all Members would be invited.

Councillor Mrs Woodward said that her Group had received prior sight of the report before the Council Meeting and was grateful for that. She hoped that in future press releases would not be on a political bias basis as they should be from the Council as a whole. Councillor White said that the District Council is by definition a political organisation and often press releases reflected the implementation of the Manifesto given to the Controlling Group.

It was then:

RESOLVED: That the Media and Social Media Protocols as submitted be approved.

87 REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES:

It was proposed by Councillor Wilcox and duly seconded “that the Changes to Representatives on Outside Bodies as submitted be approved.”

Councillor Drinkwater referred to comments made at the Council Meeting on 14 July 2015. (Minute No 57 refers) that changes were constantly being made and which prevented Members gaining experience of a particular role. In answer Councillor Wilcox said that the first proposal was to introduce a substitute rather than a replacement and that the work load of Councillor Leytham meant that it would be better if another Member took his place as the Armed Forces Liaison Member.

It was then:

RESOLVED: (a) That Councillor Awty be the substitute for Councillor Smith on the Cannock Chase Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Joint Committee and be given full powers to act in that capacity.

(b) That Councillor Miss Hassall replace Councillor Leytham as the Armed Forces Liaison Member.

88 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR 2014/15:

Councillor Spruce presented the Statement of Accounts for 2014/2015 and reminded Members that it was a requirement for the Council to formally approve the accounts by 30 September 2015. The Auditors had officially signed off and confirmed that the Council's accounts presented a true and fair view and Councillor Spruce reported that the accounts had been prepared in accordance with the relevant Codes of Practice and would be available for the public. Councillor Spruce highlighted various financial activities undertaken by the District Council including the Fit for the Future Proposals which continued and which had made a £1.85 million saving. Councillor Spruce also referred to the risks to the District Council particularly by Business Rate appeals and added that for the first time since 2010/2011 the District Council had put money into the reserves and thus proposed that the Statement of Accounts be approved.

Councillor Mrs Woodward seconded the proposal and informed Members that both Audit Committee and Strategic (Overview and Scrutiny) Committee had looked at the accounts in detail but suggested that in future a digest of key points could be added to assist in reading the lengthy documents.

Councillor Strachan thanked Councillor Tittley for chairing the Strategic (Overview and Scrutiny) Committee in his absence but confirmed that he had himself studied the accounts in detail and was confident that they were accurate. Councillor White added that it was important to note that local politicians were well trusted and committed to their local areas and that the work of the Cabinet had shown that the District Council was a well run Authority.

It was then:

RESOLVED: That the Statement of Accounts 2014/2015 be approved.

89 QUESTIONS:

Question 1

Question from Mrs Woodward to the Leader of the Council

"Can the Leader tell me, please, what actions are being proposed by the Council in relation to the current refugee crisis?"

Response from the Leader of the Council:

"We have been working with colleagues in County as well as other partners such as Bromford and Health, we also attended a meeting arranged by the Dean where other concerned organisations and individuals came together in response to the crisis. We are committed to assist where we are able and are seeking clarification on the process and funding from the Government. Whilst naturally keen to assist it is not just housing that is required, but mentoring and support, school places and health provision.

Staffordshire's response is being coordinated through the County Council and we are in contact with the Government's regional lead.

I have spoken with Leader colleagues within Staffordshire, and we are united in wanting to help in the most appropriate way.”

Councillor Mrs Woodward asked the following supplementary question:

“Will the Leader agree with me that the recent statements made by the Green Party and Liberal Democrat Party have been rather limited with too much party politicking being involved?”

Councillor Wilcox responded:

It is important that we in Staffordshire work together to assist in trying to help with this issue and will continue to work with colleagues to do so. I would not wish to comment on the statements made by the Green Party and Liberal Democrat Party.”

90 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS:

RESOLVED: That as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business which would involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 3, 4 and 7 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

IN PRIVATE

91 CONFIDENTIAL REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF COMMUNITY, HOUSING AND HEALTH (OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY) COMMITTEE:

Councillor Leytham submitted his confidential report on the matters considered by the Community, Housing and Health (Overview and Scrutiny) Committee on 7 September 2015.

1 – Minor Injuries

Councillor Drinkwater referred to the indication that Minor Injury Units did not plan to be closed completely and felt that this did not give a sufficient reassurance. Councillor White added that the National Health Service was constantly evolving and a blanket guarantee could not be given.

Councillor Leytham said that there were no proposals in the foreseeable future to close the Minor Injury Units other than at night.

(COUNCILLOR WHITE DECLARED AN INTEREST IN THIS MATTER IN VIEW OF HIS INVOLVEMENT AT STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL).

(The Meeting closed at 6.59 pm)

CHAIRMAN

COUNCIL MEETING

13 October 2015

PRESENT:

Mrs N. Bacon (Chairman)
D. F. Salter (Vice Chairman)

Allsopp, Mrs J. A.	Leytham, D. J.	Smith, A. F.
Bamborough, R. A. J.	Marshall, T.	Stanhope MBE, Mrs M.
Banevicius, Mrs S. W.	Matthews, T. R.	Strachan, R. W.
Barnett, Mrs S. A.	Mills, J.	Tittley, M. C.
Bland, Mrs M. P.	Mosson, R. C.	Tranter, Mrs. E. H.
Cox, R. E.	O'Hagan, J. P.	Warfield, M. A.
Drinkwater, E. N.	Powell, J. J. R.	White, A. G.
Eagland, Mrs J. M.	Pritchard, I. M. P.	Wilcox, M. J.
Evans, Mrs C. D.	Pullen, D. R.	Woodward, Mrs S. E.
Fisher, Miss B.	Rayner, B. L.	Yeates, A.
Fisher, Mrs H. E.	Shepherd, Miss O. J.	Yeates, B. W.
Humphreys, K. P.	Smedley, D.	

(**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** were received from Councillors Awty, Mrs Baker, Eadie, Greatorex, Miss Hassall, Mrs Pullen and Spruce.)

PRAYERS:

Prayers were said by Reverend L. Collins who made particular reference to Mr G. Boyle and Mr J.G. Brown who had both recently died.

109 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

(a) **Mr J.G. Brown**

The Chairman informed Members that Mr J.G. Brown, a Loader with the Joint Waste Service, had died on 9 October 2015. The Chairman informed Members that Mr Brown had worked for the District Council for 14 years and said that the thoughts and prayers of the Council were with his family.

(b) **Mr G. Boyle**

The Chairman referred to the recent death of Mr G. Boyle, the husband of Councillor Mrs Boyle, and informed them that a Memorial Service was to be held on 9 November 2015 at Lichfield Cathedral.

110 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

No Declarations of Interest were made.

111 WEST MIDLANDS COMBINED AUTHORITY:

Before submitting his report Councillor Wilcox informed Members that Ms D. Tilley (Chief Executive) was not present at the meeting as she was suffering from concussion following a fall.

It was proposed by Councillor Wilcox and seconded by Councillor Pritchard “that the District Council declines the invitation to become a Non Constituent Member of the proposed West Midlands Combined Authority at this time.”

In submitting the proposal Councillor Wilcox reminded Members that a considerable amount of work had been undertaken since he first attended a meeting on 1 June 2015 to explore the potential benefits for the District Council of joining the West Midlands Combined Authority. Councillor Wilcox particularly thanked the Chief Executive for attending a number of meetings and preparing the report for consideration and stated that he had listened to all views and digested the information received and had ensured that all Members of the District Council were kept fully informed so that a decision could be made in knowledge of all of the facts.

Councillor Wilcox highlighted various aspects of the submitted report and informed Members that irrespective of any decision made the Local Enterprise Partnership arrangements would continue for the benefit of the District. Councillor Wilcox added that the evolution of the proposed West Midlands Combined Authority was changing constantly and only that day further information had been received concerning the right of the District Council to veto a decision made which affected the District directly.

Councillor Wilcox said that his Group had concluded that at the present time it would not be in the best interests of the District Council to accept the invitation with the information currently available to Members.

Councillor Pritchard in seconding the motion said this issue had been the subject of many discussions and various views had been expressed, however, he agreed with Councillor Wilcox that it was in the best interests of the District Council not to join at the present time.

The motion was then voted upon with 32 being in favour, 4 being against and 1 abstaining.

It was then:

RESOLVED: That the District Council declines the invitation to become a Non Constituent Member of the proposed West Midlands Combined Authority at this time.

(The Meeting closed at 6.23 pm)

CHAIRMAN

REPORT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

CABINET DECISIONS – 6 OCTOBER 2015

1. HOUSING SERVICE REVIEW

The Cabinet:

- 1.1 Noted the process and findings of the Housing Service Review.
- 1.2 Approved the key proposals and recommendations as detailed in the final report of the review.

2. SUPPORTING THE LICHFIELD CITY BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

The Cabinet:

- 2.1 Noted the successful Business Improvement District (BID) ballot.
- 2.2 Agreed in principle the operating agreement and baseline agreements as set out at Appendix A of the report and agreed to give delegated authority to the Cabinet Member for Economic Growth, Development & Environment and the Cabinet Member for Finance and Democracy in consultation with the Strategic Director of Democratic, Development and Legal Services and the Director of Finance, Revenues and Benefits to make any final amendments and sign off these agreements.
- 2.3. Noted the contribution the Council will make in terms of the annual BID levy.
- 2.4. Noted the role the Council will play in collecting the BID levy over a five-year period and that this activity will be recharged to the BID.
- 2.5. Noted that the Council, in support of economic development across the district, will purchase the necessary BID levy collection software.
- 2.6. Noted that, further to approval by Cabinet in July 2015, the Council will pay 80% of the annual BID levy income to the Lichfield BID Steering Group/successor organisation in October 2015 (year one of the BID term). It was further noted that if the relevant systems are not in place by October 2015, the Council will make a payment of £35,000 to the Lichfield BID Steering Group/successor organisation in October 2015 for the first months of operation, and pay the balance of the 80% of the annual BID levy income when the relevant systems are fully established, or no later than 1 January 2016.

3. ADMINISTRATION AND MONITORING OF CCTV

The Cabinet:

- 3.1 Noted the proposed extension of the contract for the administration and monitoring of CCTV up to a maximum of two years which will provide time for the Council and its partners to assess, redesign and implement future CCTV arrangements taking account of the Friarsgate scheme.
- 3.2 Authorised an ongoing contribution to the contract with G4S to a value of £96,079 per annum.
- 3.3 Approved an exception to financial standing orders due to the contract having an extension period of 2 years, which will allow the Council to test the market.
- 3.4 Agreed that officers should enter into negotiations with Jones Lang LaSalle (on behalf of Railpen) to develop a new Licence Agreement for the future administration and monitoring of CCTV.
- 3.5 Delegated authority to the Cabinet Member for Community and Cabinet Member for Finance and Democracy in consultation with the Strategic Director, Community, Housing and Health to enter into a new Licence Agreement for the administration and monitoring of CCTV.

4. A NEW ARRANGEMENT FOR THE SHARING OF A FINANCIAL INFORMATION SYSTEM

The Cabinet:

- 4.1 Approved the Council entering into a new agreement with Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council to share their Oracle Financials Financial Information System.
- 4.2 Gave delegated responsibility to the Cabinet Member for Finance and Democracy in consultation with the Director of Finance, Revenues and Benefits to negotiate and agree the service level agreement with Solihull MBC for the sharing of their Financial Information System.

CABINET DECISIONS – 3 NOVEMBER 2015

5. AFFORDABLE HOUSING DELIVERY

- 5.1 The Cabinet endorsed the approach taken to adopt Council Policy in relation to the delivery of affordable housing in line with Policy H2 of the submitted Local Plan Strategy before it was Modified to account for Government changes to the national planning guidance on 28th November 2014 and recommended that Full Council adopt Policy accordingly as set out at Appendix A of the report.

6. COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY

- 6.1 The Cabinet resolved that the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Draft Charging Schedule (DSC) set out in Appendix A of the report along with supporting documentation (Appendices B, C, D, E, and F of the report) as per the CIL regulations be submitted for independent examination.

7. STONNALL & LITTLE ASTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS REFERENDUM DECISION STATEMENT

The Cabinet agreed:

- 7.1 That Lichfield District Council make the modifications recommended within the 'Decision Statement regarding Stonnall Neighbourhood Plan proceeding to referendum' to the Stonnall Neighbourhood Plan to ensure it meets the 'Basic Conditions'. Following the making of these modifications the Stonnall Neighbourhood Plan be then allowed to proceed to the referendum stage.
- 7.2 That Lichfield District Council make the modifications recommended within the 'Decision Statement Regarding Little Aston Neighbourhood Plan Proceeding to Referendum' to the Little Aston Neighbourhood Plan to ensure it meets the 'Basic Conditions'. Following the making of these modifications the Little Aston Neighbourhood Plan be then allowed to proceed to the referendum stage.

8. SUSTAINABLE DESIGN SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT

The Cabinet:

- 8.1 Approved the Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) as amended at Appendix B of the report and adopted the Sustainable Design SPD.
- 8.2 Agreed to the withdrawal of two existing SPD's - 'A Planning Guide to Residential Extensions SPD July 2005' and 'Residential Design Guide SPD December 2007'.

9. RURAL DEVELOPMENT SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT

The Cabinet:

- 9.1 Approved the Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) as amended at Appendix B of the report and adopted the Rural Development SPD.
- 9.2 Approved the withdrawal of the existing SPD on Re-use of Rural Buildings and the existing SPD on Telecommunications.

10. HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT

- 10.1 The Cabinet approved the Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) as amended at Appendix B of the report and adopted the Historic Environment SPD.

DECISIONS MADE BY CABINET MEMBERS

11. PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1925 – STREET NAMING – PARISH OF BURNTWOOD AND PARISH OF ALREWAS.

The Cabinet Member for Finance and Democracy agreed:

- To formalise the names of twenty roads serving a development at Milestone Way, Burntwood.

- To formalise the name Puddledock Grove for the Road serving a development off Park Road, Alrewas.

12. ANNUAL REVIEW OF CORE PRICES OF LEISURE ACTIVITIES

- 11.1 The Cabinet Member for Leisure and Parks agreed the maximum prices for core leisure activities for 2016.

**MICHAEL J WILCOX
LEADER OF THE COUNCIL**

FOR: COUNCIL MEETING
8 DECEMBER 2015
AGENDA ITEM 7
(YELLOW ENCLOSURE)

**REPORT OF CHAIRMAN OF LEISURE, PARKS AND WASTE MANAGEMENT
(OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY) COMMITTEE**

PRESENT:

Councillors Awty (Chairman), Matthews (Vice-Chairman), Mrs Banevicius, Constable, Miss Fisher, Miss Hassall, Mrs Pullen, Mrs Tranter, Mrs Woodward and B. W. Yeates.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Councillor A. Yeates.

(In accordance with Council Procedure No. 17 Councillors Eadie and Smith also attended the meeting).

At the meeting of the Leisure, Parks and Waste Management (Overview and Scrutiny) Committee held on 5th October 2015 the following matters were considered:

1. FIT FOR THE FUTURE SERVICE REVIEW PARKS & OPEN SPACES SERVICE REVIEW – PHASE 2:

- 1.1 Members received a report on the planned Phase 2 Fit for the Future (F4F) review for the Parks, Grounds Maintenance and Countryside service. It was reported that it was reported at the Committee's June meeting that the Phase 1 review had been completed with the achievement of £200,000 worth of annual savings found.
- 1.2 Members noted the Project Initiation Document (PID) for the Phase 2 review and the intention of finding a further £150k annual savings. It was reported that Phase 2 would concentrate on two main areas of reducing the estate, becoming more efficient and with an expected completion date of January 2016.
- 1.3 It was reported that in the future, it was anticipated that adoption of new areas of open space would be proactive and incorporated in the planning phase of development. The intention would be of creating a similar scheme to resident's funds/management initiatives with the local community taking control for the maintenance of the open space. The Committee had concerns regarding this proposal as it would be a charge over and above Council Tax. It was noted that the use of service charges for maintenance of open space was not a new concept and used elsewhere nationally. It was also noted that these charges would be known upfront to any potential home purchaser
- 1.4 It was asked what the advances would be to the transfer of Gentleshaw Common to the Staffordshire Wildlife Trust and it was reported that the costs of managing the Common were minimal however the Trust operated closer to the needs of the Common and would be better equipped.
- 1.5 The Committee felt that the transfer of playing fields and pitches to sports clubs was a positive move. It was reported that Officers were supporting clubs to safeguard that community benefit was maintained and also to assist the clubs growth and success. It was noted that due diligence was carried out to ensure the organisations were in the

best possible position to take over management however it was noted that transfers were on a lease basis and so the Council could take back the asset if there were any problems.

- 1.6 The transfer of the pitches to at Brownsfield Road to Lichfield City Football Club was reported as a positive example and it was noted that the club had promoted girls football which was now thriving.
- 1.7 It was noted that final negotiations with Burntwood Town Council for the transfer of the parks in that area were underway.
- 1.8 It was suggested that very small pockets of land that had been identified could be given to residents to develop as a community garden. The Cabinet Member reported that he would investigate the concept further.
- 1.9 The Committee requested a breakdown of the Central Support Charges as reported in the budget for 2015/16 and it was agreed that this would be circulated after the meeting.
- 1.10 Overall, the Committee were content the PID and Phase 2 of the Fit for the Future Service Review for Parks & open Spaces and the report was noted.

COUNCILLOR MARSHALL DECLARED A PERSONAL INTEREST AS A MEMBER OF THE STAFFORDSHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST.

NEIL TURNER, DIRECTOR – LEISURE AND PARKS DECLARED A PERSONAL INTEREST AS A MEMBER OF LICHFIELD CITY FOOTBALL CLUB.

2. FLY-TIPPING WITHIN LICHFIELD DISTRICT:

- 2.1 The Committee received a report giving an overview of recent large scale fly-tipping incidents throughout the district. The report also informed Members on how incidents were investigated, actions taken and the cost of clean-up to the authority.
- 2.2 It was reported that there was a statutory duty for the district council, as the amenity cleansing authority, to ensure that waste dumped on adopted highways was removed to an approved disposal centre. It was noted that Staffordshire County Council was the disposal authority and responsible for arranging a suitable disposal facility and paying the direct costs. It was noted that there was no duty to remove fly-tipped waste from private land.
- 2.3 It was then reported that the Council received reports of fly-tipping via various sources including Fix My Street, the Council's Connects team and Website.
- 2.4 It was reported that there had been a significant increase in fly-tipping incidents over the past five years with a sharp rise since April 2015.
- 2.5 It was reported that it was very difficult to predict where and when fly tipping would occur and so the service was more reactive and about clearing the site and investigating who had committed the fly tipping in the hopes of a conviction. It was reported that many offenders were not from the Lichfield District area and clear enough to not leave evidence along with using false number plates on their vehicles.
- 2.6 It was asked if there was a pattern of fly tipping taking place and when the Household Waste Recycling Centres (Tips) were closed. The Cabinet Member for Waste reported that there was not an obvious one but he had concerns that the potential introduction of a charge, at tips by the County Council, if waste is questionable as to being

household waste, could exacerbate fly tipping further. The Committee expressed their support to the Cabinet Member in any discussions he may have with the County Council regarding tip opening hours. The Cabinet Member also reported that meetings were taking place between the County Council and the Joint Waste Service to investigate the amalgamation of both waste collection and disposal.

- 2.7 The Committee felt there should be more joined up working with other agencies including the Police. It was believed that should be similar to the new Scrap Metal regulations which would aid joint working and give more power to check vehicles. It was requested that the Cabinet Member write to the Police and Crime Commissioner regarding joined up working.
- 2.8 It was noted that Walsall Metropolitan Council were considering decreasing their tip opening times which too could cause an increase in fly tipping. .
- 2.9 It was asked if signage and the use of CCTV helped. It was reported that it did but only with a small scale chance of catching offenders. Unfortunately the big fly tippers knew how to conceal themselves.
- 2.10 It was also asked if charging for second black bins was encouraging fly tipping and it was reported that it was about striking a balance. It was noted that second black bins were not charged for if qualifying criteria was met but also that the primary focus was around recycling.
- 2.11 The report was noted.

3. FIT FOR THE FUTURE SERVICE REVIEW FINAL REPORT - PARKS, GROUNDS MAINTENANCE AND COUNTRYSIDE

- 3.1 The Committee was advised that the Parks, Grounds Maintenance and Countryside Review, which formed part of the Fit for the Future programme, was largely complete and had identified savings of £200,000.
- 3.2 Members were informed of the intention to complete a Phase 2 Review with the aim of finding further annual savings of £150,000.
- 3.3 The Cabinet Member for Leisure drew attention to two key thematic objectives, the reduction of the Council's estate and the reduction of unit costs through increased efficiency.
- 3.4 It was advised that a number of positive meetings had taken place over the past twelve months in connection with the transfer of open space to Burntwood Town Council.
- 3.5 In view of the intervals between meetings, it was felt that ongoing communication on the progress of the review was important to ensure Members kept abreast of developments. The Chairman suggested that this be done through briefing papers and it was agreed that details of the Project Initiation Document would be circulated when ready.

4. WORK PROGRAMME AND FORWARD PLAN

- 4.1 Members considered the Work Programme and Forward Plan and it was noted that at a meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Coordinating Group It was agreed that following the LGA Peer Review, a number of changes would be introduced to aid effective scrutiny. It was reported that these included a fewer items on the work

programme and for Committees to only consider items that required significant O&S input with other 'for information' items being sent as briefing papers.

- 4.3 Councillor Mrs Tranter asked for a briefing paper on the clean-up of the public conveniences in Burntwood. She reported that she had visited the toilets with the Cabinet Member who agreed that the standard of cleanliness could be improved and a deep clean be carried out. It was also requested that an attendant from Lichfield City visit the toilets in Burntwood once a week to continue the cleaning. It was agreed that this would be looked into however there were Officers that checked the toilets regularly.
- 4.4 It was noted that the item on the Garrick had moved to the January meeting as senior Officers had recently changed at the Theatre and it was only appropriate to give them time to settle into their roles.
- 4.5 It was requested that information regarding discussions by the Joint Waste Service with the police regarding fly tipping be returned to the committee.
- 4.6 The Committee were happy for the Chairman and Vice-Chairman to manage the work programme and the work programme and forward plan was noted.

R J Awty
Chairman

Leisure, Parks and Waste Management (Overview & Scrutiny) Committee

REPORT OF CHAIRMAN OF STRATEGIC (OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY) COMMITTEE

PRESENT:

Councillors Strachan (Chairman) Tittley (Vice-Chairman) Mrs Barnett, Constable, Drinkwater, Miss Hassall, Marshall, Matthews, Powell, White, and Mrs Woodward.

(In accordance with Council Procedure Rule No.17 Councillors Eadie, Mrs Fisher, Greator, Pritchard and Pullen, attended the meeting)

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Councillors Bamborough and Humphreys.

At the meeting of the Strategic (Overview and Scrutiny) Committee held on 17th November 2015 the following matters were considered:

1	MONEY MATTERS 2015/16: REVIEW OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE AGAINST THE FINANCIAL STRATEGY
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- 1.1 A report was submitted on the Council's financial performance against the Financial Strategy for the period of April to September 2015 (Quarter Two) for the year 2015/16.
- 1.2 It was reported by the Cabinet Member that there would be a further transfer of £424,410 to General Reserves rather than the budgeted had been delayed due to the death of the tenant of one of the shops.
- 1.3 It was reported that following the recommendation of the Committee at the last meeting, the delegation of write off debts below £25k would be changed from the Director for Finance, Revenues and Benefits to the Cabinet Member for Finance and Democracy and Leader of the Council. It was noted that this change to the Constitution would be reported to Council.
- 1.4 It was asked, that as the Council Tax Collection arrears was higher than last year, if it was projected to get worse. It was reported that the figure included all precept bodies but the increase was due to changes in the Welfare reforms and was a national trend not just within the District. It was noted that the situation could get more difficult over time.
- 1.5 Non-Domestic Rates arrears was then discussed and it was reported that a company had applied to the Council for a payment deferment which was considered by the Cabinet Member for Finance & Democracy and the Leader of the Council. It was reported that it was granted based on the business case and information presented by the company and was already being paid back. It was noted by the Committee that businesses were more proactive in looking at ways to reduce their rates and appeals were now part of the norm. Members welcomed the news that the situation was monitored closely with month by month projections being produced. The Committee felt that although the District Council could not directly influence rates as they were done by the Valuations Office Agency, it could lobby government to ensure the impact on Local Authorities was known.
- 1.6 When asked, it was reported that there was a duty to maintain reserves and it was prudent to increase them where possible. It was noted that the Government's Financial Settlement would not be known until after Christmas, although it was known that the

Department for Communities and Local Government had agreed a 30% reduction in their budget.

1.7 The following was agreed:

- (1) That the report be noted; and
- (2) That the continuation to closely monitor and manage the Medium Term Financial Strategy (Revenue and Capital) 2015-18 (MTFS) (R&C) 2015-18) by Leadership Team and Cabinet Member be noted.

2	MID YEAR PERFORMANCE REPORT – ONE YEAR ACTION PLAN 15/16 FOR DEMOCRATIC & LEGAL AND FINANCE, REVENUES & BENEFITS DIRECTORATES
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- 2.1 A report on progress against the activities and projects set out in the Directorates One Year Action Plan for 15/16 was considered by the Committee. It was noted that the statistics presented within the report were up to the 30th September 2015.
- 2.2 It was asked that as the New Homes Bonus scheme was not set in stone, whether this would cause problems in the future. It was reported that it was a scheme from the coalition government and Lichfield District Council had been very successful in building homes and receiving New Homes Bonus. It was noted that there had been discussions at government about reviewing the scheme and it would cause difficulties at the District Council if the payments ceased.
- 2.3 It was agreed that the report be noted.

3	STRATEGIC PLAN 2016-20 UPDATE
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- 3.1 Detailed consideration was given to the progress made in developing a new Strategic Plan for the Council. It was reported that the Staffordshire Intelligence Hub had been commissioned to develop an evidence base for the new Plan and this had been used to inform the snapshot sections underpinning each priority. It was also reported that the views of the Committee had been taken into account when drafting the Plan and efforts had been made to use plain language and keep the overall document short and focused including a summarised 'plan on a page'.
- 3.2 It was reported that taking into account the evidence base and new administration's Manifesto, four priorities had emerged, which in turn contributed to an overall vision for the District Council over the next four years. Three consultation focus groups had been carried out and officers had attended an event organised by Staffordshire Council of Voluntary Youth Services to ensure the views of young people were taken into account along with residents, Members and staff.
- 3.3 Overall, the Committee felt that the draft Strategic Plan was very well written and were pleased to see that the comments made at the previous meeting had been taken on board.
- 3.4 Members then made specific comments regarding the draft Plan and consultation process, suggesting that engagement with the business and voluntary sectors was important as they had a significant role to play in the delivery of the Plan. It was noted that a survey of businesses was underway and that the results would be fed into the document. Officers would explore the possibility of a specific consultation with the BID and Burntwood Business crew.

- 3.5 It was suggested that the inclusion of locality commissioning should be reviewed given current uncertainties about the future financial contribution to be made to the locality commissioning budget by the County Council and the health service.
- 3.6 The important role of volunteers and the importance of supporting them was discussed (although it was acknowledged that there are examples of small communities taking responsibility for getting things done without needing external assistance).
- 3.7 It was requested that the description for rural areas be reconsidered as many were now small towns. It was reported that the definitions of city, town and rural communities had been based on the Local Plan but it was recognised that some villages have more amenities than others.
- 3.8 The Committee felt that the Plan should be realistic as well as aspirational without raising expectations too much. Members requested that the value 'continuous Improvement' be reconsidered as it may not be possible / desirable to continuously improve all aspects of council service delivery eg. some services may cease during the course of the Plan which in turn would not be seen as improvement by residents. It was suggested that the term adaptive (as in 'strong and adaptive Council') be substituted. It was also suggested that reference be made in the Plan to the pressures faced by Local Authorities.
- 3.9 It was asked if there had been any evaluation of the last Strategic Plan and it was reported that the annual One year Action Plans were produced to review the progress of the Plan. Feedback on the overall content and approach of the previous Plan was also being used to inform the next Plan.
- 3.10 The draft Strategic Plan 2016-20 was noted and comments recorded.

4	FIT FOR THE FUTURE (F4F) PROGRAMME: CREATING A CORPORATE COUNCIL
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- 4.1 Members received a report updating them on the activity delivered and planned as part of the Fit for the Future: Creating a Corporate Council project.
- 4.2 It was reported that the project had a number of strands of work attached to it and each of those areas would report back to a relevant Committee separately.
- 4.3 The Committee welcomed the project and felt it was an evolving piece of work.
- 4.4 It was asked if there was an end point was envisioned for the Fit for the Future (F4F) programme. It was reported that there would always be a need to ensure the Authority was best placed to tackle any challenges and so there should always be a mechanism to review the way services are delivered. It was then asked if there would be a point where it would be considered whether the District Council should cease existing. It was reported that the F4F reviews required that all alternative ways of delivering the service be investigated but there would need to be an appetite from wider partners if alternative forms of local government were to be adopted.
- 4.5 The report was noted.

5	FORWARD PLAN AND WORK PROGRAMME
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- 5.1 Members considered the Work Programme and Forward Plan and it was requested that Combined Authorities remained on the work programme to allow for updates on other opportunities within Staffordshire and with the West Midlands Combined Authority.

- 5.2 It was noted that the Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR) would be announced before the next meeting and the question was raised whether a paper should be received on its proposals. It was proposed that issues of impact from CSR would be reported in the budget papers.
- 5.3 The Forward Plan was then discussed and it was requested that the definition of Affordable Housing Policy be sent to Members. It was then discussed that the housing mix of developments should be considered as it had been noted earlier in the meeting that residents were getting older and suitable homes should be available for them. It was suggested that there could be an Older Persons Supplementary Planning Document to aid this requesting that retirement villages and bungalows be built. It was reported that the Council did negotiate with developers on types of properties needed in the area. It was agreed that as this came under the remit of the Economic Growth, Environment and Development (Overview & Scrutiny) Committee, these comments be passed to the Chairman, Councillor Cox.
- 5.4 It was noted that the Civic Function Review report was no longer being considered by Cabinet at their December meeting and it would be confirmed when it would be.
- 5.5 The Forward Plan and Work Programme was noted.

R.W. Strachan
Chairman
Strategic (Overview and Scrutiny) Committee

AUDIT COMMITTEE

7 OCTOBER 2015

PRESENT:

Councillors Mosson (Chairman), Leytham, Strachan and Mrs Woodward

Independent Member: Mr R. Betteridge

Cabinet Member for Finance and Democracy: Councillor Spruce

Officers in attendance: Ms B. Nahal, Mrs J. Kitchen, Mrs A. Struthers, and A. Thomas.

Also present: Mr J. Cook from Grant Thornton.

(**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** were received from Councillor O'Hagan (Vice-Chairman) and Mrs P. Moore (Independent Member)).

92 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

There were no declarations of interest made.

93 MINUTES:

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 24 June 2015, as printed and previously circulated, were taken as read and approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman subject to the word 'Submissioin' in the heading of Minute 34 being amended to read 'Submission'.

94 ANNUAL REPORT ON THE EXCEPTIONS AND EXEMPTIONS TO FINANCIAL REGULATIONS:

Members considered the report of the Director - Finance, Revenues and Benefits which highlighted the number of Exceptions and Exemptions made to the Chief Financial Officer for the year 2014/15 in respect of the 'old' Financial Regulations.

It was also explained that future exceptions and exemptions to Financial and Contract Procedure Rules would be submitted to future meetings of the Committee.

Members expressed concerns at the level of expenditure incurred by the Council on contracts which were deemed to be exceptions and/or exempt from the Financial Regulations. Members agreed that there needed to be far greater transparency and accountability for expenditure falling within these categories.

It was agreed that there was a need to reduce the level of expenditure that fell within these categories and that it should be monitored more closely with justifiable explanations being provided by the Leadership Team. Greater scrutiny was required and, in future, the relevant representatives of the Leadership Team would be invited to the Audit Committee Meeting when the next Annual Report was presented.

It was agreed by the Director – Finance, Revenues and Benefits that she would report these comments back to the Leadership Team. The Solicitor supported this view and considered that greater accountability was required.

RESOLVED: (A) That the Exceptions and Exemptions as set out in Appendix A of the report be noted.

(B) That it be agreed that the Director- Finance, Revenues and Benefits report the Committee's concerns back to the Leadership Team to ensure that officers from the relevant service departments are present at the Committee to secure greater accountability and transparency when future reports regarding these matters are submitted.

(C) That future assurances be sought that expenditure by service departments be more competitive and transparent and that margins for the use of these powers be increased to reduce the level of expenditure falling within their remit.

(D) That future Annual reports on Exceptions and Exemptions to the Finance and Contract Procedure Rules be submitted to the Committee and the Leadership Team be invited to attend the meeting for this item.

95 SUBMISSION OF THE ANNUAL REPORT OF INTERNAL AUDIT 2014/2015:

Members considered the report of the Audit Manager relating to the Annual Report of Internal Audit 2014/2015.

The submission reported on the activity and performance of the Internal Audit Section for the 2014/2015 financial year.

Members noted that the Performance Indicator for the number of recommendations implemented had not been achieved but it was emphasised by officers that higher risks were prioritised and that the achievement of 72.1% out of a target of 76% was considered to be an acceptable performance target. Furthermore, it was an ongoing exercise to ensure that all Risks were circumvented.

Members were concerned about the terminology within the report and sought clarification as to whether there was a scenario whereby departments had several risks written off. Officers explained that that this was not the case and that every effort was made to target all risks but, obviously, the higher risks took priority. There was a view expressed that there may be merit in the Committee tracking one or two of the risks to ascertain how these were dealt with. Members sought assurances that there was an ongoing process in place to alleviate risks and Members sought confirmation that key Members were informed of progress.

It was agreed that the Annual Audit Letter could be sent to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman and the Chairman stressed that what Members needed to know was what was happening to overcome any identified risks. Members needed to be confident and assured that the actions taken by management would secure the alleviation of risk.

Concerns were expressed at the level of risk in relation to the Friary Grange Leisure Centre and Safeguarding and it was suggested that Briefing Papers be provided in relation to both of these areas.

Members were of the general view that there needed to be greater transparency and assurances to demonstrate the issues of risks were being addressed,

Arising from consideration of this Report it was agreed that Briefing Papers be prepared in relation to (i) Safeguarding and (ii) Friary Grange.

RESOLVED: (A) That the Annual Report of Internal Audit for 2014/2015 be noted.

(B) That the Chairman and Vice-Chairman continue to receive reports on Audit.

(C) That a briefing note be submitted to the Committee on the Risk Management process to demonstrate how this is undertaken.

(D) That confirmation be sought that there is greater scrutiny of the process to assure Members that key risks are not overlooked.

(E) That Briefing Papers be submitted in relation to (i) the Friary Leisure Centre and (ii) Safeguarding.

96 RISK MANAGEMENT UPDATE:

Members considered the report of the Director - Finance, Revenues and Benefits and the Internal Audit Manager in relation to the Risk Management Update. The report provided Members with an update on the Risk Management Policy and the management of the Corporate Risk Register.

Members sought reassurances that the management of risk was ongoing and that it was reported to other Members and Committees within the organisation especially bearing in mind that this Committee only met four times per year. Members were assured that this was the case and, in fact, Risk Management was an ongoing matter. The Director – Finance, Revenues and Benefits stressed that whilst there was a considerable level of financial resilience it was still necessary to ensure that the Committee was made aware of severe risks.

Members reassured others that through the whole process of rigorous scrutiny, Risk Management was monitored on an ongoing basis and that the Corporate Risk Register was dynamically managed. It was stressed that reports on the Corporate Risk Register and other matters were submitted to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Councillor Mrs Woodward requested that her name be placed on record as having sought these re-assurances.

Following further consideration of this item, it was:-

RESOLVED: (A) That the revised Risk Management Policy be approved.

(B) That the work being undertaken to ensure that the Risk Management Policy be adhered to and the actions taking place to manage the Council's most significant risks be noted.

97 SUBMISSION OF THE INTERNAL AUDIT PROGRESS REPORT APRIL TO AUGUST 2015:

Members considered the report of the Audit Manager which reported on the activity and performance of the Internal Audit Section for the period April 2015 to August 2015.

RESOLVED: That the internal Audit Progress Report for the period April 2015 to August 2015 be noted.

98 ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF INTERNAL AUDIT:

Members considered the report of the Audit Manager relating to the Annual Review of the Effectiveness of Internal Audit.

Members noted that, in accordance with the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2015, the Council was required to undertake this annual review of the effectiveness of its internal audit. It was stressed that there were no significant areas of non-compliance. Furthermore, the External Auditors had concluded that the Internal Audit Service continued to provide an independent and satisfactory service to the Council and contributed to an effective internal audit to the Council.

The Chairman expressed the view that an excellent piece of work had been undertaken and he thanked his officers for this.

RESOLVED: (A) That the findings of the Annual Review of the Effectiveness of Internal Audit for 2014/15 be noted.

(B) That it be noted the Internal Audit was operating effectively and could be relied on when considering the Annual Governance Statement for 2014/15.

99 PUBLIC SECTOR INTERNAL AUDIT STANDARDS:

Members considered the report of the Audit Manager relating to the Internal Audit Section's conformance to the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards.

Members were informed that the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards came into force as proper practice for all Local Authorities with effect from 1 April 2013 and it was stressed that the Internal Audit Section needed to ensure that it conformed to the Standards as far as possible. The Director – Finance, Revenues and Benefits assured Members that work was being undertaken to secure compliance with the requirement to undertake an External Assessment every five years and it was expected that this would be completed in the next financial year. The External Auditor stressed to the Committee that progress was satisfactory.

RESOLVED: That the report outlining the findings from the review of conformance with the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards for 2014/15 together with the updated action plan from the previous assessment showing the updated progress to date at Appendix A be noted.

100 QUALITY ASSURANCE AND IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME:

Members considered the report of the Audit Manager relating to the Quality Assurance and Improvement Programme in compliance with the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards.

Following consideration of this report, the Director – Finance, Revenues and Benefits reported to Members that the Council had now reached the end of the twelve month arrangement with Tamworth Borough Council and she sought confirmation from the Committee that they would have no objection to this being extended. Members had no objection to this and the Chairman congratulated officers on the excellent twelve months.

RESOLVED: That the Quality Assurance and Improvement Programme be endorsed.

101 BRIEFING PAPER – THE LEVEL OF COUNCIL RESERVES:

Members considered a briefing paper which addressed the level of the Council's Reserves. The paper explained the Council's legal requirements under the Local Government Act 1992 which required it to have due regard to the level of reserves required to meet future commitments.

Furthermore, it identified (i) earmarked reserves and (ii) general revenue reserves. The level of reserves for 2015/16, based on a risk assessment, had been identified as £1.2m. Having regard to this Council's commitments, the External Auditor considered this to be of a reasonable level.

RESOLVED: That the Briefing Paper be noted.

102 WORK PROGRAMME:

Members considered the Work Programme for 2015/16. The Chairman explained that, due to the likely extent of the agenda for the meeting in January 2016, the following items (i) Overview of Risk Management Strategy, (ii) Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy/Strategy and (iii) Terms of Reference should be moved to the June 2016 meeting.

The Director – Finance, Revenues and Benefits also indicated that the Annual Report of the Benefit Investigation Team could be deleted as this service had transferred to the National Single Fraud Investigation Service (S.F.I.S.)

RESOLVED: That the Work Programme for 2015/16 be noted and amended.

(The Meeting closed at 7:24 pm)

CHAIRMAN

PLANNING COMMITTEE

12 OCTOBER 2015

PRESENT:

Councillors Smedley (Chairman), Marshall (Vice-Chairman), Mrs Allsopp, Mrs Barnett, Cox, Drinkwater, Mrs Eagland, Mrs Fisher, Humphreys, Matthews, Pritchard, Powell, Pullen, Miss Shepherd, Mrs Stanhope MBE, Strachan and A. Yeates.

(**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** were received from Councillors Awty, Mrs Baker, Mrs Evans, Miss Hassall and Mosson)

103 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Councillor Mrs Barnett declared a non pecuniary interest in connection with Planning Application 15/00367/OUTM in view of the fact that the objector was known to her.

104 MINUTES:

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 24 August 2015 and previously circulated were taken as read, approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

105 DECISIONS ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

Applications for permission for development were considered with the recommendations of the Strategic Director – Democratic, Development and Legal Services and any letters of representation and petitions together with a supplementary report of observations received since the publication of the agenda in the determination of Planning Applications 14/000631/COU, 15/00367/OUTM and 15/00486/LBC

106 14/00631/COU – ADDITIONAL USE OF EXISTING COMMERCIAL WOODLAND FOR COUNTRY PURSUITS INCLUDING CLAY PIGEON SHOOTING, AIR SOFT, AIR RIFLES, ARCHERY AND ASSOCIATED PARKING AND BUILDINGS, COACH AND HORSES PLANTATION, LONDON ROAD, WEEFORD, SUTTON COLDFIELD FOR BLACKBROOK COUNTRY SPORTS LIMITED

RESOLVED: That planning permission be approved subject to the conditions and for the reasons set out in the report of the Strategic Director – Democratic, Development and Legal Services.

(PRIOR TO CONSIDERATION OF THE ABOVE APPLICATION REPRESENTATIONS WERE MADE BY MR STEVE LANDER, ON BEHALF OF LOCAL RESIDENTS AND THE WEEFORD PARISH COUNCIL (OBJECTOR), AND MR McVERRY (APPLICANT)).

107 15/00367/OUTM – DEMOLITION OF EXISITING WAREHOUSE AND OFFICE AND THE ERECTION OF 14 NO. RESIDENTIAL UNITS WITH ACCESS, PARKING AMENITY AREA AND ASSOCIATED WORKS. STATION WORKS COLTON ROAD, COLTON, RUGELEY FOR WCL QUARRIES LIMITED

RESOLVED: That, subject to satisfactorily addressing the requirements of Staffordshire County Council's Flood Risk Planning and SuD's Officer and to the owners/applicants first entering into a Section 106 Legal Agreement under the Town and Country Planning Act (as amended) to secure contributions/planning obligations towards:-

1. Cannock Chase SAC
2. Affordable Housing; and
3. Management Company for maintenance of shared landscaped areas, parking and un-adopted roads

planning permission be granted subject to the conditions contained in the report of the Strategic Director – Democratic, Development and Legal Services, in respect of the proposed development with Conditions 8 and 14 being amended to read as follows:-

8. Notwithstanding the details indicated on the drawing no. M13.170.D.004 Revision F, before the development hereby approved is commenced, revised details indicating a communal bin collection point of sufficient size to accommodate the requirements of the Local Planning Authority shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The communal bin collection point shall be provided in the location agreed prior to the first occupation of any of the dwellings hereby approved and thereafter retained for the lifetime of the development.

REASON In the interests of highway safety, in accordance with the requirements of Core Policy 3 and Policies BE1 and ST1 of the Local Plan Strategy and

14. Before any of the dwellings hereby approved are first occupied, the parking and turning areas shall be provided in accordance with drawing number M13.170.D.004 revision F, and thereafter maintained free from obstruction and retained at all times for their designed purposes.

REASON: In the interests of highway safety, in accordance with the requirements of Policies BE1, ST1 and ST2 of the Local Plan Strategy

and to the inclusion of the following additional conditions

17. Before the submission of any reserved matters, pursuant to condition 3, a detailed noise assessment shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. This assessment shall include full details of the noise mitigation required, as referred to in 'Vibrock Ltd' report R.15.8530/1/AP dated the 19 March 2015 and subsequent letter R.158530/1/AP/Let1 dated 7th October 2015 submitted in support of this application. The approved mitigation shall be implemented in full prior to the first occupation of the residential development hereby approved, and thereafter maintained for the life of the development.

REASON: To safeguard the amenity of the local residents from undue noise and disturbance in accordance with the requirements of Core Policy 3 and BE1 of the Local Plan Strategy.

and

18. Before the commencement of development, details of the means by which the existing pedestrian access from the site through the adjacent Injectaplas site shall be permanently closed, shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The scheme so approved shall be implemented prior to

the first occupation of any of the dwellings and thereafter retained for the life of the development.

REASON: To safeguard the amenity of future residents from undue noise and disturbance and protect the on-going neighbouring business operation in accordance with the requirements of Core Policy 3 and Policy BE1 of the Local Plan Strategy and guidance contained within the NPPF.

(PRIOR TO CONSIDERATION OF THE ABOVE APPLICATION REPRESENTATIONS WERE MADE BY MR J. CLARK, ON BEHALF OF INJECTAPLAS (OBJECTOR), AND MR R. PRICE (APPLICANT)).

108 15/00485/FULM & 15/00486/LBC – DEMOLITION OF EXISTING COMMERCIAL/MANUFACTURING UNITS AND CONVERSION OF PACKINGTON HALL TO FORM 4 NO APARTMENTS AND ERECTION OF 20 DWELLINGS AND ASSOCIATED WORK PACKINGTON HALL, TAMWORTH ROAD, WHITTINGTON HEATH FOR MR A GREEN

RESOLVED: (a) That, subject to the owners/applicants first entering into a Section 106 Legal Agreement under the Town and Country Planning Act (as amended) to secure contributions/planning obligations towards:-

1. Open Space, Sport and Recreation;
2. Participation in Sport and Physical Activity;
3. Education Contribution
4. Affordable Housing; and
5. Management Company for maintenance of open space, hedges, trees and un-adopted roads

planning permission be granted subject to the conditions contained in the report of the Strategic Director – Democratic, Development and Legal Services, in respect of the proposed development.

(b) that listed building consent be granted subject to the conditions contained in the report of the Strategic Director – Democratic, Development and Legal Services, in respect of the proposed development subject to the deletion of Condition 8 as this is not relevant to the Listed Building application and is covered by Condition 16 of Planning Application 15/00485/FULM referred to in (a) above.

(The Meeting closed at 8.10 pm)

CHAIRMAN

EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE

28 OCTOBER 2015

PRESENT:

Councillors Powell (Chairman), Mrs Constable (Vice-Chairman), Mrs Banevicius, Cox, Mrs Eagland, Miss Hassall, Mosson, Smedley, Mrs Stanhope MBE and Strachan

(AN APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE was received from Councillor Humphreys)

112 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 15th July 2015, as printed and circulated, were taken as read, approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

113 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

114 EMPLOYEE SURVEY RESULTS 2015

Members received a report on the headline results of the Employee survey which was conducted earlier in the year. The report also informed the Committee on the actions put in place to address the key issues arising from the survey.

It was reported that the response rate for this survey had been significantly higher than previous surveys with an increase from 22% to 65%. It was reported that this was partly due to the survey being anonymous. It was also noted that the results had highlighted many positives along with areas that needed addressing.

The Committee discussed the results of the survey specifically that 17% of responding staff felt valued by Councillors. Members were concerned by this statistic and felt that lines of communications between Councillors and staff needed to be opened up somehow with Councillor making more of an effort to meet staff and Managers creating opportunities for this to happen. It was suggested by Councillor Strachan that the Employee Joint Consultative Committee could be avenue to do this however it was noted that it may not be the right forum and it was agreed that Leadership Team would investigate the best routes of communication. It was noted that other responses in the survey had highlighted that some staff also did not feel valued by the organisation or their Director. Members felt that this could be due to low moral caused by uncertainties from the Fit for the Future programme.

Members felt that the situation could also have been compounded by new Members not fully knowing all Officers especially those who could help with ward queries. It was noted that the yearbook was available online but it still didn't put faces to names.

It was reported that actions had already been implemented and the information and thoughts received by the Committee would be discussed by Leadership Team.

RESOLVED: That the results of the survey and subsequent actions be noted.

115 ELECTED MEMBERS LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT NEEDS ANALYSIS 2015-16

The Committee received a report requesting views to the content of the 2015-16 Elected Members Learning & Development Needs Analysis (LDNA) and how best to ensure a high level of response.

It was reported that with the help of the Committee Members, response rates had increased. It was also felt that with the introduction of new Members following the elections, their views on the questionnaire was paramount and so it would be advantageous to find an avenue to show them the analysis before final distribution. It was agreed that it could be discussed in group meetings and any views passed back to the Personnel Manager by the end of November. Councillor Powell agreed to coordinate asking for comments from the Conservative Group, Liberal Democrat Member and UKIP Member and Councillor Mrs Banevicius agreed to coordinate getting views from the Labour Group.

It was then discussed that training was invaluable for Members to undertake their role and it was for the Groups to drive forward the importance of attending sessions.

RESOLVED: (1) That advice and direction given by the Committee on the LDNA be noted;

(2) That the outcome of the survey be considered by the Committee at its next meeting to ensure that Member learning and development priorities are met; and

(3) That advice given by the Committee on how best to promote learning and development to elected Members be noted.

(The Meeting closed at 7.10 p.m.)

CHAIRMAN

PLANNING COMMITTEE

2 NOVEMBER 2015

PRESENT:

Councillors Smedley (Chairman), Marshall (Vice-Chairman), Mrs Allsopp, Awty, Mrs Baker, Mrs Barnett, Cox, Drinkwater, Mrs Eagland, Mrs Evans, Mrs Fisher, Miss Hassall, Humphreys, Matthews, Mosson, Pritchard, Powell, Pullen, Mrs Stanhope MBE, Strachan and A. Yeates.

(AN APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE was received from Councillor Miss Shepherd).

116 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

There were no Declarations of Interest.

- 117 MINUTES:** The Minutes of the Meeting held on 12 October 2015 and previously circulated were taken as read, approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

(Councillor Mosson arrived at 6.15pm)

118 DECISIONS ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

Applications for permission for development were considered with the recommendations of the Strategic Director – Democratic, Development and Legal Services and any letters of representation and petitions, together with a supplementary report of observations received since the publication of the agenda in the determination of Planning Applications 15/00391/FULM and 15/00568/FULM

119 15/00391/FULM – ERECTION OF A TWO STOREY POLICE BUILDING AND ASSOCIATED WORKS INCLUDING PARKING, LANDSCAPING LIGHTING AND CCTV LAND CORNER OF STAFFORD ROAD AND EASTERN AVENUE LICHFIELD STAFFORDSHIRE FOR THE STAFFORDSHIRE POLICE AUTHORITY

RESOLVED: That, subject to the application being referred to the Secretary of State as a major office development within the Green Belt, planning permission be granted subject to the conditions set out in the report and supplementary report of the Strategic Director – Democratic, Development and Legal Services, in respect of the proposed development.

(PRIOR TO CONSIDERATION OF THE ABOVE APPLICATION REPRESENTATIONS WERE MADE BY MR C. COPESTAKE (APPLICANT'S AGENT)).

120 15/00568/FULM –ERECTION OF 14 NO DWELLINGS (COMPRISING 6 NO 3 BEDROOM AND 8 NO 2 BEDROOM DWELLINGS) WITH ASSOCIATED WORKS - FORMER ACORN GARAGE, 82 QUEEN STREET, CHASETOWN BURNTWOOD FOR FREEMAN HOLDINGS LIMITED

RESOLVED: That, subject to there being no adverse comments from the Staffordshire County Council in its capacity as Highway Authority in respect of amended plans, and to demonstrate that there would be no undue noise or ground contamination issues and to the ownership/applicants first entering into a Section 106 Legal

Agreement under the Town and Country Planning Act (as amended) to secure a contribution towards:-

1. Outdoor Sports provision
2. Cannock Chase SAC
3. Affordable Housing; and
4. Management Company for maintenance of shared landscaped areas, parking and un-adopted roads

planning permission be granted subject to the conditions contained in the report and supplementary report of the Strategic Director – Democratic, Development and Legal Services, in respect of the proposed development, together with any other conditions required as a consequence of the outstanding consultations.

(PRIOR TO CONSIDERATION OF THE ABOVE APPLICATION REPRESENTATIONS WERE MADE BY MRS G. SMITH (OBJECTOR)).

(Councillor A. Yeates left the meeting at 6.50 pm)

121 15/00807/REMM – RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT OF 165 DWELLINGS TOGETHER WITH ASSOCIATED PARKING, PUBLIC OPEN SPACE, LANDSCAPING, LAYOUT AND ASSOCIATED WORK (RESERVED MATTERS) – LAND NORTH OF BROWNS LANE TAMWORTH STAFFORDSHIRE FOR TAYLOR WIMPEY UK LTD

RESOLVED: That the application be approved subject to the conditions contained in the report of the Strategic Director – Democratic, Development and Legal Services, in respect of the proposed development.

(PRIOR TO CONSIDERATION OF THE ABOVE APPLICATION REPRESENTATIONS WERE MADE BY MR J. MITCHELL (OBJECTOR) AND MS. J. SMITH (APPLICANT)).

(Councillor Mrs Allsopp left the meeting at 7:17pm)

122 TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 (AS AMENDED) – TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (ENGLAND) (TREES) REGULATIONS 2012 – LICHFIELD DISTRICT COUNCIL - TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NO 95 – 2007 APPLICATION TO FELL AND REPLACE TWO WHITEBEAM TREES AT 29 ST MARGARETS ROAD LICHFIELD WS13 7RA

Consideration was given to the Report of the Strategic Director, Development and Legal Services regarding the above application.

RESOLVED: That the application for consent to fell and replace the two Whitebeam trees be refused for the reasons set out in the report

(PRIOR TO CONSIDERATION OF THE ABOVE APPLICATION REPRESENTATION WAS MADE BY MRS C. LEDDRA-GRAHAM (APPLICANT)).

(The Meeting closed at 7:55 pm)

CHAIRMAN

PLANNING COMMITTEE

23 NOVEMBER 2015

PRESENT:

Councillors Smedley (Chairman), Marshall (Vice-Chairman), Mrs Allsopp, Awty, Mrs Baker, Mrs Barnett, Cox, Drinkwater, Mrs Eagland, Mrs Evans, Miss Hassall, Matthews, Pritchard, Powell, Pullen, Miss Shepherd, Mrs Stanhope MBE, and Strachan

(APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Councillors Mrs Fisher, Humphreys and Mosson).

123 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

All Members of the Committee, present at the meeting, declared a Personal Interest in relation to Planning Application 15/01212/FUL as they knew the applicant.

- 124 MINUTES:** The Minutes of the Meeting held on 2 November 2015 and previously circulated were taken as read, approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

125 DECISIONS ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

Applications for permission for development were considered with the recommendations of the Strategic Director – Democratic, Development and Legal Services and any letters of representation and petitions.

126 PLANNING APPLICATIONS ON COUNCIL OWNED LAND AND ANY ITEMS SUBMITTED BY MEMBERS OR OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL

- (a) 15/01212/FUL – FIRST FLOOR EXTENSION, AND SINGLE STOREY REAR EXTENSION TO FORM DINING ROOM AND BEDROOM EXTENSION – 4 FRIARY ROAD LICHFIELD FOR MR A SMITH**

RESOLVED: That, subject to no new material planning issues being raised by the 24 November 2015, planning permission be granted subject to the conditions contained in the report of the Strategic Director – Democratic, Development and Legal Services.

- (b) 15/01238/FUL – SINGLE STOREY EXTENSION AND GARAGE CONVERSION TO FORM KITCHEN, STUDY, UTILITY AND DINING - 17 TUDOR CLOSE BURNTWOOD STAFFORDSHIRE WS7 0BW FOR MRS S LANGLEY**

RESOLVED: That, subject to no new material planning issues being raised by the 26 November 2015, planning permission be granted subject to the conditions contained in the report of the Strategic Director - Democratic, Development and Legal Services.

127 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED: That, as publicity would be prejudicial to public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business which would involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended.

128 ENFORCEMENT MATTERS – PROGRESS REPORT

Consideration was given to the progress report of the Strategic Director – Democratic, Development and Legal Services.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

(The Meeting closed at 6:13 pm)

CHAIRMAN