

CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE SHADOW COUNCIL

At a meeting of the **CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE SHADOW COUNCIL** held in the Council Chamber, Priory House, Monks Walk, Chicksands, Shefford on Tuesday, 8 July 2008.

PRESENT

Cllr D McVicar (Chairman)
Cllr A Duggan OBE (Vice-Chairman)

Cllrs	P N Aldis	Cllrs	B J Golby	Cllrs	S A Mitchell
	A R Baines		J Goodchild		Mrs E Morgan
	R G Baker BEM		Mrs S Goodchild		J Murray
	Mrs A Barker		R Goodwin		Mrs M Mustoe
	A R Bastable		Ms A M W Graham		T Nicols
	D A Bayntun		T Green		P Penman
	Mrs R Bird		Mrs A Guess		B Piggott
	L Birt		Mrs D B Gurney		P Rawcliffe
	P A Blaine		J A Gurney		P Record
	D Bowater		H T W Harper		A A J Rogers
	A D Brown		M Hearty		D Ross
	M Butler		Mrs C Hegley		Mrs M Russell
	A B Carter		Mrs S Hills		A Shadbolt
	Mrs C F Chapman MBE		D Hogan		K Sharer
	M R Chapman		P Hollick		M A Smith
	J A E Clarke		D Jones		P Snelling
	Mrs B Coleman		M R Jones		Miss A Sparrow
	N B Costin		J Kane		B J Spurr
	I Dalgarno		Mrs K D Keen		J Street
	Mrs R J Drinkwater		D J Lawrence		G Summerfield
	G Ellis		Mrs J G Lawrence		T Swain
	A Fahn		Mrs L Ledster		L Thompson
	Mrs J Fairbairn		V Lee		Mrs C Turner
	W Forde		Mrs A M Lewis		Mrs P E Turner MBE
	M Freeman		J H Lewis		N Warren
	D J Gale		J Machin		B Wells
	Mrs R B Gammons		S F Male		Mrs C Wyles
	M Gibson		K C Matthews		

Apologies for Absence

Cllrs	R A Baker	Cllrs	R W Johnstone	Cllrs	D Smith
	R D Berry		R V King		Mrs W P Smith
	A Brandham		H J Lockey		Mrs P Staples
	P B Carne		K D Lynch		R Stay
	Mrs J R Davison		Mrs B Meakins		P Swaisland
	A Fairbairn		M J Pearce		J Taylor
	Mrs J Freeman		A J Rayment		D M Tysoe
	E Gilchrist		G Rolfe		P F Vickers
	Mrs S Gilchrist		B Sadler		J N Young
	M Hawkins		J E Scott		R Younger

Officers in Attendance:	Mr G Alderson	– Director of Environmental & Planning Services, MBDC
	Mr S Cooke	– Electoral/Members' Services Manager, MBDC
	Mr B Dunleavy	– Democratic and Administrative Services Manager, SBDC
	Mr R Ellis	– Transition Director, BCC
	Miss S Hobbs	– Committee Administrator, SBDC
	Miss M A Houghton	– Members' Services Officer, MBDC
	Mr M Hustwitt	– Communications Manager, MBDC
	Mrs K John	– Democratic Services Manager, MBDC
	Mr A Kang	– Corporate Services Manager - Legal and Democratic, SBDC, Interim Deputy Monitoring Officer, Central Bedfordshire
	Miss S Lyons	– Managing Solicitor, MBDC
	Mrs B Morris	– Director of Corporate & Democratic Services Manager, MBDC, Interim Monitoring Officer, Central Bedfordshire
	Mr J Phillipson	– Senior Committee Administrator, MBDC
	Mr M Reeves	– Interim Chief Executive, BCC
	Mr J Ruddick	– Chief Executive, SBDC/Interim Deputy Chief Executive, Central Bedfordshire
	Mrs J Salisbury	– Chief Executive, MBDC/Interim Chief Executive, Central Bedfordshire
	Mr D Sutherland	– Chief Finance Officer, MBDC/Interim Chief Finance Officer, Central Bedfordshire

PRAYERS

Prayers were taken by the Reverend Richard Andrews, Team Rector and Principal Minister at Priory Church of St Peter, Dunstable.

SC/08/11 **MINUTES**

RESOLVED

that the Minutes of the Inaugural Meeting of the Shadow Council held on 10 April 2008 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

SC/08/12 **MEMBERS' INTERESTS**

(a) **Personal Interests:-**

None.

(b) **Personal and Prejudicial Interests:-**

None.

SC/08/13 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

The Chairman congratulated the Vice-Chairman on his award of an OBE in the recent Queen's Birthday Honours List. The Chairman reflected that such award was in recognition of the services of Cllr Duggan to the Bedfordshire Fire & Rescue Service and to local government in Bedfordshire. The Vice-Chairman responded by expressing appreciation for all the messages of congratulation he had received which he would be responding to.

SC/08/14 **COMPOSITION OF THE COUNCIL**

The Council noted as follows:-

1. (a) that Les Thompson had been elected to fill the vacancy for a District Councillor in the Flitwick East Ward of the District of Mid Bedfordshire;
- (b) that, following the Flitwick East Ward By-election, the composition of the Council remained unchanged and that accordingly no adjustments were required to the current allocations of seats upon various Committees.
2. that, whilst at the previous Shadow Council meeting reference had been made to the possible increase in size of the Independent Group, the size of the Group had in fact not changed and the composition of the Council therefore remained as follows:-

Conservative	Independent	Labour	Liberal Democrat	No Party
89	4	5	25	1

SC/08/15 **REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL**

The Council was invited to consider the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel with regard to the proposed Scheme of Members' Allowances for the Central Bedfordshire Shadow Council for the year commencing 1 April 2008. To assist with the conduct of this item of business, Members were provided with a summary of the Scheme of Members' Allowances for 2008/09 for the authorities forming Central Bedfordshire Council.

Following the presentation of the report of the Independent Remuneration Panel by the Portfolio Holder for Corporate Resources, it was moved and seconded:-

“that the Shadow Council adopts a Scheme of Members' Allowances for the year commencing 1 April 2008, in accordance with the recommendations made by the Independent Remuneration Panel, as set out in paragraph 13 in Appendix “A” to their report, subject to:-

- (a) The rates specified for Travelling and Subsistence Allowances, within Schedule 3 to the Scheme (which are fixed at the same level as the rates prescribed by the National Joint Council for Local Government staff), being amended during the year ending 31 March 2009 in line with any change recommended by the National Joint Council, for the payment of local government staff;
- (b) Payment of all Allowances within the approved Scheme being backdated to 1 April 2008.”

As an amendment to the Motion, it was moved and duly seconded:-

“that the rate stated in Schedule 4 of the Members' Allowances Scheme in respect of Dependents' Carers' Allowance where care is required for children or is of a non-specialist nature for dependent relatives be amended to read “£7.20 per hour”.

Upon being put to the vote, the amendment was **lost**.

As a further amendment to the Motion, it was moved and duly seconded:-

“that the rate payable in respect of Dependents' Carers' Allowance where care is required for children and is of a non-specialist nature for dependent relatives be set at the rate fixed by the Government as the national minimum wage, currently £5.52 per hour, and amended subsequently in line with any change made to that rate.”

Upon being put to the vote, the amendment was **carried**.

As a further amendment to the Motion, it was moved and duly seconded:-

“that the top rate of car mileage allowance, i.e. 58.7p for a car or motorcycle exceeding 1199cc, as indicated in Schedule 3 of the report of the Independent Remuneration Panel, be deleted.”

Upon being put to the vote, the amendment was **lost**.

RESOLVED

that the Shadow Council adopts a Scheme of Members' Allowances for the year commencing 1 April 2008, in accordance with the recommendations made by the Independent Remuneration Panel, as set out in paragraph 13 and Appendix "A" to their report, subject to:-

- (a) the rates specified for Travelling and Subsistence Allowances, within Schedule 3 to the Scheme (which are fixed at the same level as the rates prescribed by the National Joint Council for local government staff), being amended during the year ending 31 March 2009 in line with any change recommended by the National Joint Council, for the payment of local government staff;***
- (b) the rate payable for Dependents' Carers' Allowance where care is required for children or is of a non-specialist nature for dependent relatives be set at the rate fixed by the Government as the national minimum wage, currently £5.52 per hour, and amended in line with any change made to that rate; and***
- (c) the payment of all allowances within the approved Scheme being backdated to 1 April 2008.***

(Note: The meeting commenced at 6.30 p.m. and concluded at 7.10 p.m.)