BATH AND NORTH EAST SOMERSET COUNCIL

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, 19th February, 2019

Present:- Councillors Cherry Beath, Patrick Anketell-Jones, Rob Appleyard, Tim Ball, Colin Barrett, Jasper Becker, Sarah Bevan, Colin Blackburn, John Bull, Neil Butters, Anthony Clarke, Sue Craig, Paul Crossley, Chris Dando, Fiona Darey, Matthew Davies, Sally Davis, Emma Dixon, Michael Evans, Charles Gerrish, Ian Gilchrist, Lizzie Gladwyn, Bob Goodman. Francine Haeberling, Alan Hale. Liz Hardman. Deirdre Horstmann. Eleanor Jackson, Steve Jeffries, Les Kew, Barry Macrae, Paul May, Shaun Stephenson-Alison Millar, Robin Moss, Paul Myers, Michael Norton, McGall. Lisa O'Brien, Michelle O'Doherty, Bryan Organ, Lin Patterson, June Player, Vic Pritchard, Joe Rayment, Dine Romero. Richard Samuel, Liz Richardson. Will Sandry, Mark Shelford. Brian Simmons, Peter Turner, David Veale, Martin Veal, Karen Walker, Geoff Ward, Tim Warren, Karen Warrington and Chris Watt

Apologies for absence: **Councillors** Matt Cochrane, Douglas Deacon, Andrew Furse, Steve Hedges and Nigel Roberts

Absent: Councillors Marie Longstaff and Caroline Roberts

64 EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE

The Chair drew attention to the emergency evacuation procedure as set out on the agenda.

65 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Charles Gerrish declared an 'other' interest in item 8, Budget and Council Tax, as Chairman of ADL.

Councillor Les Kew declared an 'other' interest in item 8, Budget and Council Tax, as Director of ADL.

Councillor Robin Moss declared an 'other' interest in item 8, Budget and Council Tax, as Chair of Radstock & Westfield Big Local.

The Monitoring Officer issued a general dispensation to all Councillors in respect of their payment of Council Tax.

66 MINUTES - 8TH NOVEMBER 2018

On a motion from Councillor Tim Warren, seconded by Councillor Les Kew, it was

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of 8th November 2018 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

67 ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OR FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

In addition to the customary announcements regarding meeting arrangements, the Chair made the following announcements;

- Congratulations to the Roman Baths & Pump Room who triumphed at the South West Tourism Excellence Awards, winning three awards: Gold for Large Attraction of the Year, Gold for International Visitor Experience, and Silver for Bath's Historic Venues in the Business Tourism and Venue category.
- Congratulations to Bath's Fashion Museum for being honoured for its work in celebrating the rich history of glove making in the UK and promoting the wearing of gloves.
- The Chair invited Councillors to attend 2 events to support the Chairman's charities;
 - Charity Music Evening in the Guildhall on Saturday 16th March at 7.30pm
 - Elegance in the Afternoon Fashion Show on Saturday 13th April in the Banqueting room at 2.30pm.
- The Chair noted that Members had received a copy of the final approved BTP accounts for information, which were not available when the Council Company Annual Accounts report was considered at the September meeting.
- The Chair reminded Councillors that all votes on the budget (item 8) were required to be a recorded vote.

68 TO ANNOUNCE ANY URGENT BUSINESS AGREED BY THE CHAIRMAN

Following representations by various Councillors and advice from the Chief Executive, the Chair agreed that the public gallery should be opened and the public admitted to the Council Chamber.

69 QUESTIONS, STATEMENTS, PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

The Council noted the question from Sarah Warren, and response from the Leader, which had been circulated to Councillors and is attached to the online minutes and placed on the Minute book.

Statements were made by the following members of the public;

Andrew Dickens made a statement concerning the Lower Common East Allotment Association, calling upon the Council to recognise certain rights for the Association. In response to a question from Councillor Sue Craig who asked if Mr Dickens had met with the Cabinet Member about this issue, he responded that the Leader had offered to meet following his last statement to Council but that, after seeking advice, Mr Dickens had not felt it was appropriate for him to meet the Leader on behalf of the Association and so he had set this out in a letter to Group Leaders. Councillor Dine Romero asked Mr Dickens to please re-send this to them. The Chair thanked Mr

Dickens for his statement which would be referred to the relevant Cabinet Member and placed on the Council's Minute book.

Paul Mallon made a statement regarding speeding traffic through Wellow village. Paul explained how the village was used as a rat run and outlined the community's extensive efforts to have a smiley face speed warning sign installed, which he hopes have resulted in a sign being installed soon. He thanked Councillor Neil Butters for his support. Councillor Butters asked Paul if he was aware that the Council had agreed budget funding for strips to measure traffic speed into and out of the village, to which Paul replied that he was now aware. Councillor Sarah Bevan asked if the 20mph limit had resulted in any prosecutions, to which Paul responded that in the 2015/16 speed watch exercise, more than 10% of cars were found to be speeding. The Chair thanked Paul for his statement which would be referred to the relevant Cabinet.

Lydia Halcrow made a statement calling on the Council to take immediate action regarding climate change and commit to being carbon neutral by 2030. Councillor Tim Warren asked if Lydia was aware that the Council were supportive of this and planning to bring a motion to the next Council meeting in March, to which she responded that she was. Councillor Richard Samuel asked Lydia to outline the implications of achieving this by 2050 not 2030 to which she responded by urging Councillors to read the full IPCC report, which set out very clearly why 2050 would be too late. The Chair thanked Lydia for her statement which would be referred to the relevant Cabinet Member and placed on the Council's Minute book.

Martin Blewett, Rector of Timsbury, Camerton, Priston & Dunkerton presented a petition from villagers of Timsbury, Farmborough, High Littleton, Hallatrow and Tunley, signed by over 1,000 local people, requesting that funding be provided to reinstate the weekend First Bus 179 service to these villages, to prevent the potential withdrawal of the whole service in the summer of this year and thirdly to argue for a more fully thought-out and strategic provision of rural public transport in the region. In response to a question from Councillor Mark Shelford about the petition having now been referred to WECA as the office responsible for this service. Martin responded that he was aware that had taken place. Councillor Neil Butters asked about the impact of the loss of this service, to which Martin reiterated those points covered in his speech. Councillor Liz Hardman asked if Martin was aware that Paulton had also lost their 179 bus service and that Councillor John Bull and herself had met with Chris Hanson, FirstBus Head of Operations, about this; to which Martin replied that he hadn't been aware, but welcomed that. Councillor Sarah Bevan asked where the split of responsibility lay between the Council and FirstBus. Martin responded that he wasn't sure but stressed that rural services should be prioritised due to the lack of alternative transport options. The Chair thanked Martin for his statement and the petition which would be referred to the relevant Cabinet Member and placed on the Council's Minute book.

David Redgewell made a statement regarding public transport issues and stressing the need for a Bus strategy from WECA. Councillor Tim Warren asked if David was aware that the Bus strategy should be out for consultation in a couple of months, to which he responded that he was. In response to a question from Councillor Neil Butters about what could be done to inject some further urgency, David responded that it could be raised at the WECA Scrutiny meeting. Councillor John Bull asked if

David considered that the role of the WECA Mayor should be to look at franchising projects rather than leaving that to commercial operators, to which he responded that he was open to franchising but preferred quality bus partnerships. The Chair thanked David for his statement which would be referred to the relevant Cabinet Member and placed on the Council's Minute book.

Adam Ley-Lange made a statement calling on the Council to declare a climate emergency and suggesting some practical solutions for achieving this. Councillor Tim Warren asked if Adam was aware that there were some ambitious measures planned that had cross party support. Adam replied that he was aware and hoped that they would all be in place by 2030. Councillor Richard Samuel asked Adam if he was aware that the Liberal Democrat motion to March Council had 2030 as the target, to which Adam replied that he was and that his speech was to those who might be considering a later target. The Chair thanked Adam for his statement which would be referred to the relevant Cabinet Member and placed on the Council's Minute book.

John Chapman made a statement regarding litter enforcement contracts and problems associated with these. Councillor Tim Warren asked John if he agreed that the Council should try to stop littering, to which he replied that he did agree but challenged the route for doing so. In response to a question from Councillor Alison Millar about the typical length of time contracts are in place, John responded that many are only for 6 months, and very unpopular. Councillor Robin Moss asked John if he agreed that littler bins were the first port of call in addressing littering, to which John agreed and more effective than 'bandits in the bushes' (*litter enforcement officers*). The Chair thanked John for his statement which would be referred to the relevant Cabinet Member and placed on the Council's Minute book.

Jessica Johannesson made a statement calling upon the Council to declare a climate emergency and take steps to become carbon neutral by 2030. Councillor Shaun McGall asked if Jessica considered that Avon Pension Fund (of which he is a trustee), in addition to its recent creation of a low carbon fund and renewable energy fund, should divest its assets out of fossil fuel extraction, to which she responded that she considered the Fund should divest out of fossil fuels entirely. The Chair thanked Jessica for her statement which would be referred to the relevant Cabinet Member and placed on the Council's Minute book.

Rachel Willis made a statement outlining frustrations with issues falling between Curo and the Council, and cited various examples of being passed between the two organisations. Councillor Tim Warren asked Rachel if she was aware that Councillors shared some of these frustrations too, but were in discussions with Curo about how to address this. Rachel welcomed this. In response to a question from Councillor Tim Ball about whether Rachel thought it would be a good idea if Curo used the Fix My Street App, she replied that any mechanism for sharing data between the organisations would be good. Councillor Robin Moss asked if Rachel was aware that in 2012, the Liberal Democrat Administration gave up Curo Board representation, to which Rachel replied that she hadn't been aware and that seemed a bit short-sighted. The Chair thanked Rachel for her statement which would be referred to the relevant Cabinet Member and placed on the Council's Minute book.

Revd Philip Hawthorn made a statement calling upon the Council to become carbon neutral by 2030. In response to a question from Councillor Tim Warren whether the Church of England had an environmental strategy for this at parish level, Philip responded that they did and it was mainly about carbon neutrality and awareness and they had a good team in the Diocese working on this. Councillor Richard Samuel asked if Philip agreed that the highest priority should be tackling carbon dioxide emissions from petrol motor vehicles, to which Philip responded that it needed to be part of a portfolio of measures. The Chair thanked Philip for his statement which would be referred to the relevant Cabinet Member and placed on the Council's Minute book.

70 BUDGET & COUNCIL TAX 2019/20 AND FINANCIAL OUTLOOK

The Council considered a report presenting the Cabinet's revenue and capital budgets for the 2019/20 financial year together with proposals for Council Tax and Adult Social Care Precept for 2019/20.

In addition to the reports circulated with the agenda, all Councillors had received a summary document of Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel comments on the budget proposals. Councillors also received Annex 12 – Formal Council Tax Setting resolutions (incorporating precepts from Parishes, Fire and Police).

On a motion from Councillor Tim Warren, seconded by Councillor Dine Romero, it was **RESOLVED** that the Council suspends Council rule 42, Content and Length of Speeches, for the duration of this debate so as to enable variations to be permitted to the length of speeches by the Cabinet Member for Finance and Efficiency, the Liberal Democrat, Labour and Independent Group Leaders or their nominated Spokespersons, and the Chair of the Resources Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel.

On a motion from Councillor Gerrish, seconded by Councillor Tim Warren, it was

RESOLVED

- 1. that Council approves;
 - a)The General Fund net revenue budget for 2019/20 of £113.10m and the individual service cash limits for 2019/20 as outlined in Annex 1 of the report.
 - b)The savings and income generation plans outlined in Annex 2 of the report in conjunction with the Equalities Impact Assessment Report in Annex 3 of the report and thereby agrees to implement the Council's draft Organisational Plan which has been presented to each of the relevant PDS Panels.
 - c)To help protect front line services and meet additional pressures in Children's Services, the budget includes a recommendation that Council Tax is increased by 2.95% in 2019/20 (an increase of £39.76 per Band D).

- d)An increase of 1% to Council Tax for the Adult Social Care Precept is approved in recognition of the current demands and financial pressures on this service. This is equivalent to an increase of £13.47 on a Band D property.
- e)The adequacy of Un-earmarked Reserves at £12.2m within a risk assessed range requirement of £11.9m £13.1m.
- f) The Efficiency Strategy attached at Annex 4 of the report.
- g)The Capital Programme for 2019/20 of £78.591m including new and emerging capital bids outlined in Annex 5(i), planned sources of funding in 5.7.2, and notes the programme for 2020/21 to 2023/24 and that any wholly funded projects coming forward during the year will be added to the Capital Programme in line with the Budget Management Scheme.
- h)The delegation of implementation, subject to consultation where appropriate, of the capital programmes set out in Annex 5(ii) to Annex 5(iv) of the report to the relevant Director in Consultation with the appropriate Portfolio Holder.
- i) The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) allocations and amendments outlined in Annex 5(v) of the report and the addition of Alternative Education Provision to the Regulation 123 list.
- j) The Capital & Investment Strategy at Annex 6 to the report.
- k) The MRP Policy at Annex 7 to the report.
- I) The Capital Prudential Indicators outlined in 5.7.8 of the report.
- m) The Annual Pay Policy Statement at Annex 9 of the report.
- n)The Council's Organisational Plan at Annex 10 of the report.
- o)The Council Tax Support Scheme for 2019/20 shown in the following link:

http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/sites/default/files/sitedocuments/Council-Tax-Benefits-and-

<u>Grants/CouncilTax/draft_bath_ne_someset_s13a_201920.pdf</u> and referred to in 5.3.4 of the report.

- That the Council approves the technical resolutions that are derived from the budget report, and all the figures in that report, including the precepts for towns, parishes and other precepting bodies as set out in Annex 12 of the report.
- 3. That Council notes the S151 Officer's report on the robustness of the proposed budget and the adequacy of the Council's reserves outlined in 5.6 of the report.

THE COUNCIL APPROVES THE BUDGET AND COUNCIL TAX FOR 2019/20 AS INDICATED ABOVE AND ACCORDINGLY RESOLVES:

4. That the 2019/20 revenue expenditure is funded as follows:

	Total £
2019/20 Gross Expenditure	344,236,634
2019/20 Income (service income and specific grants)	190,235,019
Core Funding:	
Retained Business Rates*	61,526,536
Collection Fund Surplus	438,979
2019/20 Gross Income	252,200,534
Council Tax Requirement (excluding Parish Precepts)	92,036,100

^{*} Before Tariff Payment of £38.980m

- a. That it be noted that on the 12th December 2018 the Director of Finance (as authorised section 151 officer) agreed 65,687.52 Band D property equivalent as the Council Tax Base for the year 2019/20 in accordance with regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 1992 made under Section 35(5) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.
- b. The amounts calculated by the Council, in accordance with Regulation 6 of the Regulations, as the amount of its Council Tax Base for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate is given as Annex 1 (1) of the report. [Annex 1 (1) gives Band D Tax base by parish]
- 5. That the following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the 2019/20 financial year in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Local Government and Finance Act 1992, as amended:
 - a. £346,963,908 (=£344,236,634 (gross expenditure including contribution to reserves) +£2,727,274 (Parish precepts)) being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the 1992 Act.

 [This is the gross expenditure incurred in performing functions and
 - [This is the gross expenditure incurred in performing functions and charged to the revenue account, contingencies for revenue, any financial reserves to be raised, financial reserves to meet prior year deficit not yet provided for, any amounts transferred from its general fund to its collection fund in accordance with section 97(4) of the Local Government Finance 1988 Act, and any amounts transferred from general fund to collection fund under section 98(5) of 1988 Act.]
 - b. £252,200,534 (gross income) being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the 1992 Act.
 - [This is the income estimated to accrue which will be credited into the revenue account for the year in accordance with proper practices, any

amounts transferred in the year from the collection fund to the general fund in accordance with section 97(3) of the 1988 Act, any amounts which will be transferred from the collection fund to the general fund pursuant to a direction under section 98(4) of the 1988 Act and will be credited to the revenue account for the year, and financial reserves used to provide for items in Section 31A(2)]

- c. £94,763,374 being the amount by which the aggregate at 5(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 5(b) above calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the 1992 Act as its Council Tax requirement for the year.
- d. £ 1,442.64 being the amount at 5(c) above divided by the amount at 4(a) above, calculated in accordance with Section 31B of the 1992 Act, as the basic amount of Council Tax for the year.

 [This is the average Council tax including B&NES and parish precepts]
- e. £ 2,727,274 being the aggregate amount of all special items (Parish precepts) referred to in Section 34(1) of the 1992 Act. [This is the total of parish precepts]
- f. £1,401.12 being the amount at 5(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 5(e) above by the amount at 4(a) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the 1992 Act, as the basic amount of its council tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no special item relates.

 [This is the B&NES Council tax only excluding parish precepts]
- g. The amounts given by adding to the amount at 5(f) above the amounts of special items or items relating to dwellings in those parts of the Council's area mentioned above divided in each case by the amount at 4(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with section 34(3) of the 1992 Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate are given at Annex 1 (3) of the report.

 [Annex 1 (3) gives the Band D Council tax for each area including the parish precepts]
- h. h) The amounts given by multiplying the amounts at 5(g) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation band D, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 36(1) of the 1992 Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands are given in Annex 1 (4) of the report.

 [Annex 1 (4) shows the B&NES and parish Council Tax for all bands.]

Precepting Authorities

6. That it be noted that for the year 2019/20 the Police & Crime Commissioner for Avon and Somerset has determined the amount in precepts issued to the

Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of the dwellings shown below:-

7. Avon and Somerset Police

Valuation Bands

A	В	С	D	E	F	G	Н
£145.21	£169.41	£193.61	£217.81	£266.21	£314.61	£363.02	£435.62

8. That it be noted that for the year 2019/20 Avon Fire Authority met on 13th February 2019 to determine the amounts in precepts issued to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of the dwellings shown below:-

9. Avon Fire Authority

Valuation Bands

Α	В	С	D	Е	F	G	Н
£48.99	£57.15	£65.32	£73.48	£89.81	£106.14	£122.47	£146.96

- 10. That, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts 7, 9 and 5(h) above, the Council, in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 hereby sets the following amounts as the amounts of Council Tax for the 2019/20 financial year for each of the categories of dwellings shown, as listed in Annex 1 (5) of the report.
- 11. On average (for a Band D, 2 adult household) the Council Tax for 2019/20 will be as follows:

Reference		£ Band D	% Increase
Band D		2019/20	on 2017/18
2018/19 £			
1,260.52	Bath and North East Somerset Council*	1,300.28	2.95*
87.37	- Adult Social Care (ASC)*	100.84	1.00*
1,347.89	Sub Total B&NES (Including ASC)	1,401.12	3.95
39.01	Average Parish Precept	41.52	6.43
71.35	Avon Fire Authority	73.48	2.99
193.81	Avon and Somerset Police	217.81	12.38
1,652.06	Total Tax Charged	1,733.93	4.96

[Overall annual increase in average Band D Council Tax is £81.87]

12. The Council's basic amount of Council Tax for 2019/20 is not determined to be excessive in accordance with principles approved under section 52ZB Local Government Finance Act 1992.

[Notes:

1. During debate, an unsuccessful amendment was moved by Councillor Joe Rayment and seconded by Councillor Chris Dando, calling for an alternative budget to be brought to the

^{*} The percentage figures represent the number of percentage points which increases for the Adult Social Care precept and the B&NES general expenditure charge each contribute to the overall increase set by the Council in 2019/20.

reserve meeting with proposals more consistent with the Corporate Strategy, and asking the Leader to demand of Government a reversal of cuts to the core grant. This was lost on a recorded vote with 24 Councillors voting in favour, 34 Councillors voting against and 0 abstentions, as set out below;

<u>Councillor voting in favour;</u> - Councillors Rob Appleyard, Tim Ball, Cherry Beath, Sarah Bevan, Colin Blackburn, John Bull, Neil Butters, Sue Craig, Paul Crossley, Chris Dando, Ian Gilchrist, Liz Hardman, Eleanor Jackson, Alison Millar, Robin Moss, Michelle O'Doherty, Lin Patterson, June Player, Joe Rayment, Dine Romero, Richard Samuel, Will Sandry, Shaun Stephenson Mc-Gall and Karen Walker.

Councillors voting against; - Councillors Patrick Anketell-Jones, Colin Barrett, Jasper Becker, Anthony Clarke, Fiona Darey, Matthew Davies, Sally Davis, Emma Dixon, Michael Evans, Charles Gerrish, Lizzie Gladwyn, Bob Goodman, Francine Haeberling, Alan Hale, Deirdre Horstmann, Steve Jeffries, Les Kew, Barry Macrae, Paul May, Paul Myers, Michael Norton, Lisa O'Brien, Bryan Organ, Vic Pritchard, Liz Richardson, Mark Shelford, Brian Simmons, Peter Turner, Martin Veal, David Veale, Geoff Ward, Tim Warren, Karen Warrington and Chris Watt.

2. The substantive motion was carried with 33 Councillors voting in favour, 22 Councillors voting against, and 2 objections as set out below;

<u>Councillors voting in favour:</u> - Councillors Patrick Anketell-Jones, Colin Barrett, Jasper Becker, Anthony Clarke, Fiona Darey, Matthew Davies, Sally Davis, Emma Dixon, Michael Evans, Charles Gerrish, Lizzie Gladwyn, Bob Goodman, Francine Haeberling, Alan Hale, Deirdre Horstmann, Les Kew, Barry Macrae, Paul May, Paul Myers, Michael Norton, Lisa O'Brien, Bryan Organ, Vic Pritchard, Liz Richardson, Mark Shelford, Brian Simmons, Peter Turner, Martin Veal, David Veale, Geoff Ward, Tim Warren, Karen Warrington and Chris Watt.

<u>Councillors voting against;</u> - Councillors Rob Appleyard, Tim Ball, Cherry Beath, Colin Blackburn, John Bull, Neil Butters, Sue Craig, Paul Crossley, Chris Dando, Ian Gilchrist, Liz Hardman, Eleanor Jackson, Alison Millar, Robin Moss, Michelle O'Doherty, Lin Patterson, June Player, Joe Rayment, Dine Romero, Richard Samuel, Will Sandry and Shaun Stephenson-McGall.

Councillors abstaining; - Councillors Sarah Bevan and Karen Walker.]

71 TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY STATEMENT AND INVESTMENT STRATEGY 2019/20

The Council considered a report seeking approval for the Treasury Management strategy and Investment strategy for 2019/20. On a motion from Councillor Charles Gerrish, seconded by Councillor Paul May, it was

RESOLVED (unanimously) to agree;

- 1. To approve the actions proposed within the Treasury Management Strategy Statement, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report; and
- 2. To approve the Treasury Investment Strategy as set out in Appendix 2 of the report.

72 APPOINTMENT OF STANDARDS COMMITTEE INDEPENDENT MEMBERS

The Council considered a report concerning the Independent members on the Standards Committee.

On a motion from Councillor Tim Warren, seconded by Councillor Dine Romero, it was

RESOLVED (unanimously) to

- 1. Note the resignation of Ms Toland and record the thanks of the Council for her contribution to maintaining high standards of behaviour during her 15 years as an independent member and Chair of the Standards Committee;
- 2. Confirm the appointment as independent members of the Standards Committee for a period of four years of Dr Palmer and the current independent members, Mr Cyril Davies and Ms Deborah Russell.

73 QUESTIONS, STATEMENTS, PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

There were no items from Councillors.

74 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

On a motion from Councillor Tim Warren, seconded by Councillor Dine Romero, it was

RESOLVED that, having been satisfied that the public interest would be better served by not disclosing relevant information, in accordance with the provisions of Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business and the reporting of the meeting be prevented under Section 100A(5A) because of the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1 and 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, as amended.

75 WAIVER OF 6 MONTH COUNCILLOR ATTENDANCE RULE

On a motion from Councillor Dine Romero, seconded by Councillor Tim Warren, it was

RESOLVED (unanimously) as set out in the report.

The meeting ended at 9.07 pn	n
Chairman	
Date Confirmed and Signed	
Prepared by Democratic Services	