

EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Date: 8 April 2015

Venue: East Northamptonshire House, Cedar Drive, Thrapston

Time: 7.30pm

Present: Councillors:-

Gill Mercer (Chairman of the Council)
Marika Hillson (Vice-Chairman of the Council)
Glenn Harwood MBE (Deputy Leader of the Council)

Peter Baden
Wendy Brackenbury
Derek Capp
John Farrar
Richard Gell
Glenvil Greenwood-Smith
Sylvia Hobbs
Sue Homer
Barbara Jenney
David Jenney
Richard Lewis
Andy Mercer

Bob Nightingale
Sarah Peacock
Ron Pinnock
David Read
Rupert Reichhold
Alex Smith
Phillip Stearn
Robin Underwood
Peter Wathen
Pam Whiting
Clive Wood
Colin Wright

467. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Tony Boto, David Brackenbury, Pauline Bradberry, Roger Glithero JP, Marian Hollomon, Dudley Hughes JP, Sylvia Hughes, Steven North, Brian Northall, Anna Sauntson and Jake Vowles. .

468. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

469. CONFIRMATION OF REVISIONS TO DESIGNATED CHELVESTON-CUM-CALDECOTT NEIGHBOURHOOD AREA

A report was submitted which sought approval to confirm revisions to the Chelveston-cum-Caldecott Neighbourhood Area following a statutory consultation process which had taken place over a period from December 2014 to February 2015.

The consultation period had invited comments as to whether there was any reason why the council should not make revisions to the designated Chelveston-cum-Caldecott Neighbourhood Area. Members noted that responses were received from Anglian Water and Stanwick Parish Council, confirming that they had no comment to make, and a further response was received from Natural England detailing generic guidance on a range of

environmental issues that the emerging neighbourhood plan should consider. There were no objections to the proposed revision to the designated neighbourhood area. .

RESOLVED:

That the designation of a revised Neighbourhood Area for Chelveston-cum-Caldecott, aligned to the revised Chelveston-cum-Caldecott parish area that came into effect on 15 October 2014, be approved.

(Reason – to align the emerging Chelveston-cum-Caldecott Neighbourhood Plan area with the recently revised Parish boundary.)

470. AMENDMENT TO THE SCHEME OF DELEGATION – DESIGNATION OF NEIGHBOURHOOD AREAS

Consideration was given to a report which sought authorisation of the delegation to the Head of Planning Services to confirm the designation of neighbourhood areas, for the purposes of preparing neighbourhood development plans.

It was noted that the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 had been amended by further regulations in 2015 to simplify the process for designating neighbourhood areas. The new regulations had introduced statutory deadlines within which local planning authorities must complete the process for designating neighbourhood areas.

In order to comply with the provisions of the regulations, it was proposed that authority be delegated to the Head of Planning Services, in consultation with the Chairman of the Planning Policy Committee (or Vice-Chairman in their absence) to designate a neighbourhood area for the purpose of neighbourhood planning, where an application had been received by a town or parish or designated neighbourhood forum.

RESOLVED:

That authority to designate statutory Neighbourhood Areas be delegated to the Head of Planning Services, in consultation with the Chairman (or Vice Chairman, in their absence) of the Planning Policy Committee and ward councillors for the proposed area, and the Scheme of Delegation be amended accordingly.

(Reason – to streamline the process for designating neighbourhood areas in accordance with the requirements of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, as amended.)

471. CHANGES TO THE CONSTITUTION – PROCUREMENT RULES

Consideration was given to a report which sought to make changes to the procurement rules detailed within the council's constitution, following the amendment to the European Procurement Directive, which had been incorporated into English law through the Contracts Regulations 2015.

The report detailed the key changes which had been made and the required amendments that would need to be made to the constitution of the council. Members noted that the most significant change would be to raise the advertising threshold for tenders to £50,000 from £20,000.

RESOLVED:

That the proposed amendments to the Part 4.6 (Contract Procedure Rules) of the Constitution be approved.

472. VOTE OF THANKS TO RETIRING MEMBERS

The Chairman of the Council paid tribute to those councillors who would not be seeking re-election on 7 May 2015 and wished them well for the future. She invited the council to pay specific tribute to the 35 years of service given by Councillor Clive Wood, who had also served twice as Chairman of the Council in 1984-85 and 2012-13.

Councillors also took the opportunity to pay tribute to the officers of the council whose hard work during the four year period since the previous municipal election was also recognised.

RESOLVED:

1. That the Councillors Pauline Bradberry JP, Derek Capp, Sue Homer, Eloise Lucille, Brian Northall, Jeremy Taylor and Clive Wood be thanked for their service as councillors in East Northamptonshire.
2. That the thanks of the Council be conveyed to all staff at East Northamptonshire for their hard work.

Chairman