

WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL
ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC CENTRE, STOURPORT-ON-SEVERN

WEDNESDAY 18TH MAY 2005 (6.00 P.M.)

PRESENT:

Councillors: J C Simmonds (*Chairman), Mrs P V Hayward (Vice-Chairman), Mrs M B Aston, Mrs M H Baillie, J Baker, G W Ballinger, A J Buckley, J-P Champion, S J M Clee, N J Desmond, Mrs I M Dolan, J W Dudley, Mrs H E Dyke, P Dyke, Mrs L Edginton, Mrs J Fairbrother-Millis, B T Glass, P B Harrison, M J Hart, Mrs S M Hayward, M A W Hazlewood, Mrs A T Hingley, J Holden, W G Jones, M B Kelly, Mrs R L Lewis, Miss M A Mason, Miss S C Meekings, C D Nicholls, Mrs F M Oborski, M M G Oborski, M W Partridge, Mrs A R A Poole, Mrs J L Salter, J A Shaw, M J Shellie, K J Stokes, R Wheway, A D Williams, S J Williams.

*(*Councillor J C Simmonds, the outgoing Chairman of the Council, in the chair until the new chairman had been elected.)*

CM.1 PRAYERS

Prayers were said by the Reverend Keith James, St Anne's, Bewdley.

CM.2 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Councillor S J Williams was nominated as Chairman. *(Moved by Councillor S J M Clee and seconded by Councillor M J Hart)*

There were no other nominations.

DECISION: Councillor S J Williams be elected Chairman of the Council for the current Municipal

Year.**CM.3. CHAIRMAN - INVESTITURE AND DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE**

After being invested with his Badge of Office, Councillor S J Williams took his Declaration of Acceptance of Office as the Chairman.

CM.4 CHAIRMAN'S RESPONSE

The Chairman expressed thanks for his appointment , which he considered to be a great honour. He would strive to be apolitical and respect all Councillors and Officers.

(Councillor S J Williams in the Chair.)

CM.5 CHAIRMAN'S CONSORT - INVESTITURE

The Chairman presented his consort, Mrs Chris Williams, with her badge of office.

CM.6 RETIRING CHAIRMAN

The Chairman thanked Councillor J C Simmonds and his consort for the excellent manner in which they had carried out their duties during the past Municipal Year.

CM.7 RETIRING CHAIRMAN AND CONSORT - PRESENTATION OF BADGES

The Chairman presented Councillor J C Simmonds with a Past Chairman's Badge of Office and Mrs P Simmonds with a Past Chairman's Consort's Badge.

Councillor Simmonds thanked his Vice-Chairman, Councillor Mrs P V Hayward, and her consort for the support they had given him during his year of office.

CM.8 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

Councillor J C Simmonds was nominated as Vice-Chairman. *(Moved by Councillor S J M Clee and seconded by Councillor M J Hart)*

There were no other nominations.

DECISION: Councillor J C Simmonds be appointed as Vice-Chairman of the Council for the current Municipal Year.

CM.9 VICE-CHAIRMAN - INVESTITURE AND DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

After being invested with his Badge of Office, Councillor J C Simmonds took his Declaration of Acceptance of Office as Vice-Chairman.

CM.10 VICE-CHAIRMAN'S RESPONSE

The Vice-Chairman thanked the Council for his appointment. He stated that he would do his best for the Council and the District and would support the Chairman in any way he could.

CM.11 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Mrs L Hyde and Mrs P A Rimell.

CM.12 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Councillor M J Shellie declared a prejudicial interest in agenda item number 19, relating to Taxi Licensing, in view of having two relatives in the taxi trade.

CM.13 MINUTES

DECISION:

The minutes of the meeting held on 20th April 2005 be confirmed as a correct record subject to an amendment to Minute CM.950 to record the fact that the late Norman Broome had been a Member of Kidderminster Charter Trustees.

CM.14 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

In accordance with the Council's scheme for public participation at meetings of Full Council, Mr R South, Secretary and Treasurer of the Wyre Forest Taxi Driver's Association addressed the meeting. He referred to the item to be taken later in the meeting when the Council would review the restriction on the number of taxi vehicle licences issued within the District. (Minute CM.19 refers).

A summary of Mr South's address is attached as Appendix 1 to these minutes.

CM.15 CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS

The new Chairman of the Council made the following announcements.

1. Investors in People

The Council's Strategy and Performance Unit and the Legal and Democratic Services Division had been recognised as Investors in People. This meant that they complied with the National Business Standards of Good Practice and Procedures.

2. Improvements to the Bus Service in the Wyre Forest Area

Worcestershire County Council had that day announced improvements to the bus service in the Wyre Forest area. The changes were favourable to bus users and details would be circulated to Members.

CM.16 APPOINTMENT OF LEADER AND DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

Councillor S J M Clee was nominated as Leader of the Council and Councillor M J Hart as Deputy Leader. In

both cases, there were no other nominations.

DECISION:

1. **Councillor S J M Clee be appointed Leader of the Council for the current Municipal Year.**
2. **Councillor M J Hart be appointed Deputy Leader of the Council for the current Municipal Year.**

CM.17

CONSTITUTION AND APPOINTMENT OF CABINET, COMMITTEES AND OTHER BODIES, ALLOCATION OF SEATS AND APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN

The Leader of the Council proposed that the membership of the Cabinet remain unchanged from the previous municipal year.

a) Membership of Cabinet

DECISION:

The Cabinet members and their respective responsibilities as detailed below, be approved for the current Municipal Year.

Cabinet Member

Responsibility

Cllr. S J M Clee
(Leader of the Council)
Cllr. M J Hart
(Deputy Leader of the Council)
Cllr. Mrs M B Aston
Cllr. J-P Campion
Cllr. N J Desmond
Cllr. J W Dudley

Strategic Overview and Direction

Commercial Services

Housing, Health and Rural Affairs
Finance and Corporate Affairs
Community and Leisure Services
Environment and Economic Regeneration

b) Constitution of Committees and Other Bodies**DECISION:**

The political structure for the current Municipal Year be as set out in the structure diagram attached at Appendix 2 of these minutes.

c) Allocation of Seats to Political Groups on Committees and other Bodies

The Council considered the proposed allocation of seats on Committees and other bodies in accordance with the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, as set out in the paper circulated in the Council Book.

DECISION

In accordance with Sections 15 and 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, the political representation on Committees and Other Bodies be as set out in Appendix 3 of these Minutes.

d) Membership of Committees etc. and Appointment of Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Committees etc.

The Council considered the proposed membership of committees etc. and the appointment of Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen, as set out in the paper circulated in the Council book. The Council also considered a report from the Head of Planning, Health and Environment, which recommended the appointment of two Vice-Chairmen of the Licensing Sub-Committee, in view of the level of business anticipated under the requirements of the Licensing Act 2003.

The proposed memberships of committees etc. and Chairman / Vice-Chairmanships was approved subject to the deletion of Councillor A J Buckley's name from the Miscellaneous Functions Committee membership and the appointment of Councillor J-P Campion as its Chairman and Councillor M W Partridge as its Vice-Chairman.

DECISION:

1. Members be appointed to serve on committees and other bodies, with substitutes as

appropriate, for the ensuing Municipal Year as set out in Appendix 4 of these Minutes.

2. **Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of committees and other bodies be appointed at as set out in Appendix 4 of these Minutes.**
3. **Authority be delegated to the Head of Legal and Democratic Services to accept nominations from Group Leaders in respect of any subsequent changes in membership of Committees and other bodies.**

e) Appointment of New Independent Member to Ethics and Standards Committee

The Head of Legal and Democratic Services stated that there was a vacancy for an Independent Member on the Ethics and Standards Committee and, following advertisement, one application had been received. This was from the Reverend J Cox.

The Leader advised that this application had been considered and endorsed at a Group Leaders' meeting.

DECISION:

The Reverend J Cox be appointed as an Independent Member on the Ethics and Standards Committee.

2005- 2006 Municipal Year**LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND HOUSING ACT 1989 SECTIONS 15 AND 16****POLITICAL REPRESENTATION**
ALLOCATION OF SEATS ON COMMITTEES ETC.

The revised political representation on the Council is set out below. Also detailed is the revised political representation on Committees and Other Bodies The duty to allocate seats according to political balance applies only to political groups.

| <u>Political Group</u> | <u>Number</u> | <u>Percentage</u> |
|---|----------------------|--------------------------|
| Conservative Group | 18 | 42.86% |
| Independent Kidderminster Hospital and Health Concern (IKHHC) | 8 | 19.05% |
| Liberal Group | 8 | 19.05% |
| Labour Group | 4 | 9.52% |
| Liberal Democrat Group | 2 | 4.76% |
| <i>(Independent</i> | <i>1</i> | <i>2.38%</i> |
| <i>(Independent</i> | <i>1</i> | <i>2.38%</i> |
| | <hr/> 42 | <hr/> 100.00% |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |

| | | CONSERVATIVE GROUP | IKHHC GROUP | LIBERAL GROUP | LABOUR GROUP | LIB/DEM GROUP | INDEPENDENTS No seat entitlement as of right |
|--|--------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| | | 42.86% | 19.05 % | 19.05% | 9.52 % | 4.76% | 4.76% |
| MISCELLANEOUS FUNCTIONS | (10) | 4 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| APPOINTMENTS AND APPEALS | (9) | 4 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| | (19) | | | | | | |
| CABINET SCRUTINY COMMITTEE | (11) | 5 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| <u>POLICY AND SCRUTINY PANELS</u> | | | | | | | |
| Commercial Services | (9) | 4 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Housing, Health and Rural Affairs | (9) | 4 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Environment and Economic Regen. | (9) | 4 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Community and Leisure Services | (9) | 4 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Finance and Corporate Affairs | (11) | 5 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| | (47) | | | | | | |
| <u>REGULATORY COMMITTEES</u> | | | | | | | |
| LICENSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL | (15) | 6 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 new seat |
| (Licensing Sub-Committee – rota of 3 committee members including Chairman or Vice-Chairman Taxi Trade Liaison Group – Chairman, Vice-Chairman and one committee member) | | | | | | | |
| PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT CONTROL) | (20) | 9 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 gift of Liberal Group |
| PLANNING (ENFORCEMENT) | (11) | 5 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| | (46) | | | | | | |
| <u>TOTALS</u> | (123) | <u>54</u> | <u>25</u> | <u>24</u> | <u>12</u> | <u>6</u> | |
| | | (43.90%) | (20.33%) | (19.51%) | (9.76%) | (4.88%) | |

ETHICS AND STANDARDS (10)

6 Councillors 3 Independent Members and 1 Parish Member

(Hearings Sub-Committee

5 Ethics and Standards Committee members

(alphabetical rota - 3 District Councillors, 1 Parish Councillor , 1 Independent Member)

1

1

1

1

1

1

AUDIT PANEL (8)

Cabinet Member – Finance and Corporate Affairs

Joint Chairmen of Cabinet Scrutiny Committee

Chairmen of Policy and Scrutiny Panels

WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL
COMMITTEES 2005/2006

CABINET (6)

Chairman: Councillor S J M Clee
Vice-Chairman: Councillor M J Hart

Councillor S J M Clee (Leader)
Councillor M J Hart (Deputy Leader)
Councillor Mrs M B Aston
Councillor J-P Campion
Councillor N J Desmond
Councillor J W Dudley
No substitutes permitted.

Strategic Overview & Direction
Commercial Services
Housing, Health & Rural Affairs
Finance & Corporate Affairs
Community & Leisure Services
Environment & Economic Regeneration

MISCELLANEOUS FUNCTIONS COMMITTEE (10)

Chairman: Councillor J-P Campion
Vice-Chairman: Councillor M W Partridge

Councillor P Dyke
Councillor Mrs L Hyde
Councillor Mrs R L Lewis
Councillor Miss M A Mason

Councillor Miss S C Meekings
Councillor Mrs P A Rimell
Councillor R Wheway
Councillor A D Williams

**Substitutes: All Members of the Council.*

APPOINTMENTS AND APPEALS COMMITTEE (9)

Chairman: Councillor S J M Clee
Vice-Chairman: Councillor M J Hart

Councillor Mrs M B Aston
Councillor G W Ballinger
Councillor B T Glass
Councillor M B Kelly

Councillor M M G Oborski
Councillor Mrs P A Rimell
Councillor S J Williams

**Substitutes: All Members of the Council.*

CABINET SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (11)

Joint Chairmen: Councillor M M G Oborski
Councillor K J Stokes

Councillor J Baker
Councillor G W Ballinger
Councillor Mrs H E Dyke
Councillor M A W Hazlewood
Councillor Mrs A T Hingley

Councillor J Holden
Councillor Mrs L Hyde
Councillor Mrs J L Salter
Councillor M J Shellie

**Substitutes: In exceptional circumstances only, all Members of the Council except for Cabinet Members .*

COMMERCIAL SERVICES POLICY & SCRUTINY PANEL (9)

Chairman: Councillor M J Shellie
Vice-Chairman: Councillor J Holden

Councillor G W Ballinger
Councillor Mrs J Fairbrother-Millis
Councillor Mrs P V Hayward
Councillor W G Jones

Councillor M B Kelly
Councillor M W Partridge
Councillor Mrs A R A Poole

**Substitutes: In exceptional circumstances only, all Members of the Council except for Cabinet Members.*

HOUSING, HEALTH AND RURAL AFFAIRS POLICY & SCRUTINY PANEL (9)

Chairman: Councillor C D Nicholls
Vice-Chairman: Councillor Mrs A T Hingley

Councillor Mrs P V Hayward
Councillor Mrs S M Hayward
Councillor M A W Hazlewood
Councillor W G Jones

Councillor Mrs A R A Poole
Councillor K J Stokes
Councillor A D Williams

**Substitutes: In exceptional circumstances only, all Members of the Council except for Cabinet Members .*

ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMIC REGENERATION POLICY & SCRUTINY PANEL (9)

Chairman: Councillor Mrs F M Oborski
Vice-Chairman: Councillor Mrs J L Salter

Councillor A J Buckley
Councillor Mrs M H Baillie
Councillor Mrs J Fairbrother-Millis
Councillor P B Harrison

Councillor J Holden
Councillor Miss S C Meekings
Councillor J A Shaw

**Substitutes: In exceptional circumstances only, all Members of the Council except for Cabinet Members.*

COMMUNITY AND LEISURE SERVICES POLICY & SCRUTINY PANEL (9)

Chairman: Councillor A D Williams
Vice-Chairman: Councillor J Baker

Councillor A J Buckley
Councillor Mrs P V Hayward
Councillor Mrs L Hyde
Councillor Mrs R L Lewis

Councillor Miss M A Mason
Councillor M J Shellie
Councillor R Wheway

**Substitutes: In exceptional circumstances only, all Members of the Council except for Cabinet Members.*

**FINANCE AND CORPORATE AFFAIRS
POLICY & SCRUTINY PANEL (11)**

Chairman: Councillor G W Ballinger
Vice-Chairman: Councillor M A W Hazlewood

Councillor A J Buckley
Councillor Mrs I M Dolan
Councillor Mrs H E Dyke
Councillor Mrs A T Hingley
Councillor M B Kelly

Councillor Miss S C Meekings
Councillor M M G Oborski
Councillor M W Partridge
Councillor K J Stokes

**Substitutes: In exceptional circumstances only, all Members of the Council except for Cabinet Members.*

REGULATORY COMMITTEES

LICENSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE (15)

Chairman: Councillor Mrs P V Hayward
Joint Vice-Chairmen: Councillor J Baker
Councillor Mrs A T Hingley

Councillor Mrs M B Aston
Councillor G W Ballinger
Councillor N J Desmond
Councillor P Dyke
Councillor Mrs L Edginton
Councillor B T Glass

Councillor P B Harrison
Councillor W G Jones
Councillor M B Kelly
Councillor M M G Oborski
Councillor Mrs P A Rimell
Councillor A D Williams

**Substitutes: All Members of the Council who have had appropriate training.*

LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE (3)

A rota of 3 members of the Licensing and Environmental Committee, including, and chaired by, the Committee's Chairman or a Vice-Chairman.

PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT CONTROL) COMMITTEE (20)

Chairman: Councillor S J Williams
Vice-Chairman: Councillor M A W Hazlewood

Councillor Mrs M B Aston
Councillor J-P Campion
Councillor S J M Clew
Councillor N J Desmond
Councillor Mrs H E Dyke
Councillor Mrs J Fairbrother-Millis
Councillor P B Harrison
Councillor M J Hart
Councillor Mrs S M Hayward

Councillor C D Nicholls
Councillor Mrs F M Oborski
Councillor M W Partridge
Councillor Mrs J L Salter
Councillor M J Shellie
Councillor J A Shaw
Councillor J C Simmonds
Councillor K J Stokes
Councillor A D Williams

**Substitutes: All Members of the Council who have had appropriate training.*

PLANNING (ENFORCEMENT) COMMITTEE (11)

Chairman: Councillor S J Williams
Vice-Chairman: Councillor M A W Hazlewood

Councillor Mrs M H Baillie
Councillor P Dyke
Councillor P B Harrison
Councillor Miss M A Mason
Councillor C D Nicholls

Councillor Mrs F M Oborski
Councillor M W Partridge
Councillor Mrs P A Rimell
Councillor Mrs J L Salter

*Substitutes: All Members of the Council who have had appropriate training.

ETHICS AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE (10)

(6 Councillors/3 Independent Members/1 Parish Representative)

Chairman: Mrs A McDowell, Independent Chairman
Vice-Chairman: C J Brighton, Independent Member

Councillor Mrs I M Dolan
Councillor P Dyke
Councillor Mrs P V Hayward

Councillor Mrs S M Hayward
Councillor C D Nicholls
Councillor J C Simmonds

Rev J Cox - Independent Member
R Hobson, Parish Council representative

**District Council substitutes: All members of the District Council.
Parish Council substitute: T Whatmore.*

HEARINGS SUB-COMMITTEE (5)

5 members of the Ethics and Standards Committee, comprising 3 District Councillors, 1 Parish Councillor and 1 Independent Member, appointed by rotation on an alphabetical basis.. A Chairman to be elected by the Sub-Committee for each hearing.

AUDIT PANEL (8)

Chairman: Councillor J-P Champion
Vice-Chairman: Councillor G W Ballinger

Councillor C D Nicholls
Councillor Mrs F M Oborski
Councillor M M G Oborski

Councillor M J Shellie
Councillor K J Stokes
Councillor A D Williams

Substitutes:

- 1. The Vice-Chairmen of the five Policy and Scrutiny Panels for their respective Chairmen.*
- 2. The Leader of the Council or another Cabinet Member for the Chairman of the Audit Panel.*

*Except as specified for the Audit Panel above, Members appointed as substitutes must be members of the same political group. An Independent District Councillor can only substitute for another Independent District Councillor. (Standing Order C11).

CM.18 **MOTIONS - UNDER STANDING ORDER NO. D1 (1)**

No motions were received in accordance with Standing Order Number D1(1).

CM.19 **TAXI LICENSING**

(Shortly after the commencement of this item, Councillor Shellie left the room in view of his prejudicial interest and returned after the item had been dealt with.)

Further to Minute CM. 537(a) of its 8th December 2004 meeting, the Council considered a report from the Head of Planning, Health and Environment, which submitted a revised report by Independent Transport Consultants, Halcrow Limited. The consultants had assessed whether there was significant unmet demand for hackney carriage services in the District, to enable the Council to decide future policy in respect of hackney carriage numbers.

In conjunction with these reports, Members also considered recommendations from the 16th May 2005 Environment and Economic Regeneration Policy and Scrutiny Panel (Minute CM.982) as presented by its Chairman. Copies of the Panel's recommendations and a copy of the presentation to the Panel given by a representative of Halcrow Limited were circulated at the Council meeting. The Chairman of Council also drew Members' attention to Mr R South's contribution under Public Participation (Minute CM 14 above).

Having discussed the issue in detail, Members agreed to follow a path of phased deregulation, with provision for quality control and a review of licensing conditions.

DECISION:

1. **The report of Halcrow Group Limited regarding its Hackney Carriage Unmet Demand Survey dated 31st March, 2005 be noted.**
2. **The current limit of 83 Hackney Carriage Vehicle Licences be increased to 93 with 10 additional Licences to be issued immediately by means of a ballot, as recommended in the report, but only for vehicles which comply with wheelchair local accessibility standards.**
3. **Authority be delegated to the Licensing and Environmental Committee to determine the manner in which the ballot will be conducted and to set local standards for wheelchair accessibility.**
4. **The requirements of the Department for Transport, as contained in its letter to the Chief Executive dated 16th June**

2004, be noted.

- 5 The Head of Planning, Health and Environment be authorised, in consultation with the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, to draw up a Deregulation Plan designed to:
 - a) meet the Government's request to review the case for restricting the number of hackney carriage vehicle licences;
 - b) make public the outcome of the review;
 - c) provide a three-year phased approach to removing the numerical limits on hackney carriage licences after 1st April 2008;
 - d) balance the needs of taxi users, licence holders and new entrants to the taxi industry;
 - e) address any other related issues including vehicle safety, quality and service standards.
6. The Cabinet be authorised, after consultation with the Licensing and Environmental Committee, to approve the Deregulation Plan in respect of the deregulation of quantity control of hackney carriage licences.
7. The Council review its private hire and hackney carriage conditions.

CM.20 POLICY AND BUDGET FRAMEWORK – MATTER WHICH REQUIRES A DECISION BY COUNCIL

Recommendation from the Planning (Development Control) Committee 10th May 2005

Implementation of Part 8 of the Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003 - The High Hedges Regulations

As the Committee had met after the Council's agenda had been published, an updated report was circulated at the Council meeting regarding the Committee's recommendations on Development Control Practice Note 16. This set out procedures for dealing with complaints received from householders whose properties were adversely affected by high hedges.

Council was advised of an amendment required to Appendix 1 of the practice note and the Committee's proposal to charge a fee, per complaint, for a trial period to recover processing costs. In addition, Members noted that authority was needed for officers to enter land to investigate a complaint about a high hedge.

The Council was, therefore, asked to approve revised wording as set out below.

DECISION:

1. **Approval be given to a fee of £300 per application (complaint) received under the High Hedges legislation, for a period of 12 months and that this fee be reviewed on an annual basis, subject to:**

The reduction of the fee to a concessionary rate of £100 for complainants in receipt of Housing Benefit or Council Tax Benefit.

2. **Delegated authority be given to the Head of Planning, Health and Environment to determine applications received under the High Hedges legislation.**
3. **Development Control Practice Note 16 - High Hedges be published and adopted, subject to an amendment to the third paragraph of Appendix 1 to state that the Arboricultural Officer will aim to visit the site and undertake an inspection of the hedge within 21 days of receipt of the file (not 14 days).**
4. **Delegated authority be given to the Head of Planning, Health and Environment to make further changes to the Practice Note upon receipt of Office of the Deputy Prime Minister guidance.**
5. **Issues relating to enforcement or potential prosecution, for failure to comply with the Hedgerow Remedial Notices, be reported to the Council's Planning (Enforcement) Committee for consideration.**
6. **Delegated authority be given to the Head of Planning, Health and Environment to authorise officers to enter land under section 74 (1) of Part 8 of the Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003, in order to investigate high hedge complaints.**

CM.21 HONORARY ALDERMEN – APPOINTMENT PROCEDURE

A report was considered from the Head of Human Resources that outlined the powers the Council had for conferring the title of Honorary Alderman. The report proposed that the Council exercise these powers by adopting a suitable appointment procedure.

The Leader commented that, currently, the Council had no way of recognising distinguished long service to the authority and the appointment of Honorary Aldermen was an appropriate way of recognising such service.

DECISION:

1. **The Appointment Procedure for Honorary Aldermen, as set out in the appendix to the report, be adopted.**
2. **Authorisation be given to the Cabinet, after seeking the views of Group Leaders, to consider and make recommendations to the Council on nominations to the position of Honorary Alderman.**

CM.22 ANNUAL REPORT OF CABINET SCRUTINY COMMITTEE JOINT CHAIRMEN 2004-2005

The Council considered an annual report from the joint Chairmen of the Cabinet Scrutiny Committee on the achievements of the Cabinet Scrutiny Committee and the five Policy and Scrutiny Panels for the 2004-2005 Municipal Year.

DECISION: the report be noted.

CM.23 APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS 2005/2006

Members considered the appointment of representatives on outside organisations, as set out in the list circulated in the Council Book. As previously agreed with Group Leaders, the Leader proposed that the appointments should be the same as for the previous Municipal Year, subject to the amendments detailed in the decision below.

Some Members commented that no contact had been made by the organisations to which they had been appointed. The Leader therefore asked Members to notify the Committee Section of any such cases so they could be further investigated.

DECISION: the Appointment of Representatives on Outside Organisations be as printed in the list circulated in the Council Book with the following amendments:

1. **Number 16, Horsefair and Broadwaters Community Neighbourhood Partnership – Broadwaters Councillors only .**
2. **Number 60 - The Conservative representative on The Community Housing Group be Councillor Mrs A T Hingley.**

(Appendix 5 attached)

| <u>Organisation</u> | <u>Representatives</u> <u>2005/06</u> |
|-------------------------------|--|
| 1. Active Communities Project | Councillor K J Stokes |
| | |

| | | |
|-----|---|---|
| 2. | Age Concern | Councillor Mrs M B Aston |
| 3. | Bewdley Museum Management Committee | Councillor Mrs M H Baillie Councillor S J M Clee Councillor Mrs L Edginton Councillor W G Jones |
| 4. | Bewdley - Town Centre Management Forum | Councillor Mrs M H Baillie Councillor Mrs L Edginton Councillor A D Williams Economic Development & Tourism Manager |
| 5. | Carpet Museum Trust | Councillor J Baker Councillor Mrs F M Oborski |
| 6. | Centre For Public Scrutiny – Champions Network | Councillor Mrs F M Oborski |
| 7. | C.H.A.R.T. (Community Health Care Audit and Research Trust Ltd) | Councillor Mrs S M Hayward Councillor Mrs A R A Poole |
| 8. | Chamber of Commerce Area Partnership Forum – Worcestershire | Councillor J W Dudley |
| 9. | CHI – Local Patient and Public Involvement Forum | Councillor Mrs P A Rimell |
| 10. | Children’s Fund Board | Head of Cultural, Leisure & Commercial Services (or his authorised representative) |
| 11. | Citizens’ Advice Bureau - Management Committee | Councillor Mrs J Fairbrother-Millis |
| 12. | Clare Witnell’s and Blount’s Charity | Councillor Mrs A T Hingley |
| 13. | Council for the Protection of Rural England (Worcestershire Branch) | Councillor M A W Hazlewood |
| 14. | Court of the University of Birmingham | Councillor Mrs F M Oborski |
| 15. | Home-Start Wyre Forest | Councillor Mrs M B Aston |
| 16. | Horsefair and Broadwaters Community Neighbourhood Partnership | R Wheway, K J Stokes, Mrs A R A Poole. Community Development Officer, Community Safety Officer, Community Safety Partnership Support Officer, Economic Development and Tourism Manager |
| 17. | Kidderminster Railway Museum Trust Ltd. | Councillor C D Nicholls |
| 18. | Kidderminster - Town Centre Partnership | Councillor Mrs M B Aston Councillor Mrs S M Hayward Councillor Mrs F M Oborski |

| | | |
|-----|---|--|
| | | Economic Development & Tourism Manager |
| 19. | Kidderminster and District Youth Trust | Councillor Mrs L Hyde Councillor M B Kelly Councillor K J Stokes |
| 20. | Kinver Edge Committee -National Trust | Councillor C D Nicholls Councillor M A W Hazlewood |
| 21. | Local Government Association – General Assembly | Councillor S J M Clee |
| 22 | Local Safeguarding Children Board | Head of Cultural, Leisure and Commercial Services |
| 23. | Midland Joint Advisory Council for Environmental Protection | Councillor Mrs J L Salter Councillor R Wheway |
| 24. | National Society for Clean Air and Environmental Protection | No representatives were appointed |
| 25. | North Worcestershire Care and Repair Agency Advisory Board. | Cabinet Member for Housing, Health and Rural Affairs |
| 26. | North Worcestershire Community Policing Board | Councillor B T Glass |
| 27. | Oldington and Foley Park Community Network | Councillor N J Desmond Councillor Miss S C Meekings |
| 28. | Oldington and Foley Park Neighbourhood Management Pathfinder Board | Councillor N J Desmond Councillor Miss S C Meekings |
| 29. | Opportunity Bewdley | Councillor J W Dudley Economic Development & Tourism Manager |
| 30. | Play-On Steering Group | Councillor N J Desmond Councillor Miss S C Meekings |
| 31. | Police Community Consultative Group | Councillor B T Glass |
| 32. | RELATE - Executive Committee | Councillor B T Glass |
| 33. | Stourport Social Day Centre Management Committee | Councillor Mrs M B Aston |
| 34. | Stourport Forward Board | Councillor J A Shaw Economic Development & Tourism Manager |
| 35. | Stourport Sports Club Managing Director Financial Director | Head of Cultural, Leisure and Commercial Services Management Accountant, Cultural Leisure and Commercial Division |

| | | |
|-----|---|---|
| 36. | Stourport on Severn - Town Centre Forum | Councillor Mrs J L Salter Councillor J A Shaw Councillor Mrs P A Rimell Economic Development & Tourism Manager |
| 37. | Surestart | Councillor Miss S C Meekings |
| 38. | Festival 2005 Association (Formerly Town Hall Festival Committee) | Councillor Mrs S M Hayward |
| 39. | West Mercia Housing Group | Councillor K J Stokes |
| 40. | West Midlands Reserve Forces' and Cadets' Association and Hereford and Worcs. Reserve Forces and Cadets Association | Councillor J W Dudley |
| 41. | West Midlands Local Government Association Council | Councillor S J M Clee & substitute |
| 42. | West Midlands Local Government Association: Regional Planning Partnership Forum (formerly Regeneration Conference) | Councillor J W Dudley & substitute |
| 43. | West Midlands Local Government Association: Provincial Council | Councillor M J Hart & substitute Representative required to report quarterly to the Council |
| 44. | West Midlands Local Government Association: Urban Commission | Councillor A J Buckley |
| 45. | West Midlands Local Government Association: Rural Commission | Councillor M A W Hazlewood |
| 46. | West Midlands Regional Assembly | Councillor S J M Clee & substitute |
| 47. | West Midlands Regional Assembly – Regional Planning Partnership representative on the Management Steering Group and Environs Reference Group for the Black Country Sub-regional Study | Councillor J W Dudley |
| 48. | West Midlands Regional Home and Water Safety Council | Councillor Mrs M B Aston |
| 49. | Wilden Village Hall Management Committee | Councillor Mrs P A Rimell |
| 50. | Wolverhampton Business Airport South Staffordshire Consultative Committee | Councillor C D Nicholls |

| | | |
|-----|---|---|
| 51. | Wolverley Playing Fields Committee | To be nominated by Parish Council |
| 52. | Worcestershire Building Preservation Trust Ltd. | No appointments were made |
| 53. | Worcestershire County Council's Health Scrutiny Body | Councillor Mrs A T Hingley |
| 54. | Worcestershire County Waste Forum | Councillor M J Hart |
| 55 | Nexus (formerly Worcestershire) Housing Association | Councillor M B Kelly |
| 56. | Worcestershire Partnership Board | Councillor S J M Clee Councillor M J Hart |
| 57. | Wyre Forest Arts Forum | Councillor Mrs F M Oborski Councillor K J Stokes |
| 58. | Wyre Forest Arts Partnership | Councillor M B Kelly Councillor Mrs F M Oborski |
| 59. | Wyre Forest Bus Quality Partnership Steering Group | Councillor J-P Campion Councillor Mrs F M Oborski Councillor J A Shaw |
| 60. | The Community Housing Group | Councillor Mrs H Dyke Councillor Mrs A T Hingley Councillor Mrs. Lynn Hyde Councillor Mrs F M Oborski Councillor M J Shellie Councillor J C Simmonds |
| 61. | Wyre Forest Community Leisure Association Ltd., Local Partnership Board | <i>Councillor G W Ballinger</i> <i>Councillor M B Kelly</i> Head of CLACS & Cultural Services Manager |
| 62. | Wyre Forest Cycle Forum | Councillor R Wheway |
| 63. | Wyre Forest Crime Prevention Panel | Councillor B T Glass |
| 64. | Wyre Forest District Youth Strategy Group | Councillor Mrs L Hyde Councillor Mrs F M Oborski Principal Housing Officer |
| 65. | Wyre Forest Highways Partnership Forum | Councillor Mrs I M Dolan Councillor P B Harrison Councillor Mrs J L Salter |
| 66. | Wyre Forest Matters Strategic Board | Councillor S J M Clee |
| 67. | Wyre Forest Matters Theme Working Group: Economic Wellbeing | Councillor J W Dudley |

| | | |
|-----|--|---|
| 68. | Wyre Forest Matters Theme Working Group: Health and Wellbeing | Councillor M B Aston |
| 69. | Wyre Forest Matters Theme Working Group: Community Safety | Councillor N J Desmond |
| 70. | Wyre Forest Matters Theme Working Group: Learning and Participation | Councillor N J Desmond |
| 71. | Wyre Forest Memorial Holocaust Committee | Councillor Mrs A T Hingley |
| 72. | Wyre Forest Nightstop and Mediation Service Management Committee | The Cabinet Member for Housing, Health and Rural Affairs; and the Chairman of the Housing, Health and Rural Affairs Policy and Scrutiny Panel Research & Policy Officer, |
| 73. | Wyre Forest Skateboarding Management Group | Councillor N J Desmond |
| 74. | Local Access Forum <i>(Wyre Forest District Council, Bromsgrove District Council and Redditch Borough Council nominate a Councillor on a rota basis. Wyre Forest appointed a representative for 2003/2004, Redditch made the appointment for 2004/2005 and Bromsgrove will make the appointment for 2005/2006).</i> | |
| 75. | Spennells First School Governor | Councillor Mrs H E Dyke |

CM.24 MEMBERS' ATTENDANCE 2004/2005

The Council received details of Members' attendance at Council, Cabinet, Committee and other meetings for the previous Municipal Year.

DECISION: Members' attendance record for 2004/2005 be noted.

CM.25 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

DECISION:

Under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business, on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of "exempt information" as defined in paragraphs 8 and 9 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

CM.26 SUMMARY OF MINUTES

The following proceedings were considered after the press and public had been excluded from the meeting. A summary of the minutes relating to these items has been made as 'Exempt Information' would be disclosed if the minutes were published in full.

(i) Minutes

The exempt minutes of the meeting held on the 20th April 2005 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

(ii) Compulsory Purchase Order

A report was considered from the Head of Planning, Health and Environment detailing the current position regarding a property in Kidderminster and authority was given to acquire the property, if necessary, by Compulsory Purchase Order.

The meeting ended at 7.34 p.m.