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**MINUTES
OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
COUNCIL
THURSDAY 19 MAY 2011**

Held at 7.00 pm in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Pavilion Road, West Bridgford

Councillor Mrs M M Males – Mayor
Councillor G S Moore – Deputy Mayor

PRESENT:

Councillors L J Abbey, R A Adair, Mrs S P Bailey, J R Bannister, D G Bell, Mrs D M Boote, S J Boote, N K Boughton-Smith, A Brown, B Buschman, R L Butler, H A Chewings, J N Clarke, T Combellack, L B Cooper, J E Cottee, J A Cranswick, B G Dale, G Davidson, A M Dickinson, J E Greenwood, M G Hemsley, R Hetherington, K A Khan, I I Korn, N C Lawrence, E J Lungley, A MacInnes, G R Mallender, S E Mallender, D J Mason, F J Mason, B A Nicholls, E A Plant, F A Purdue-Horan, S J Robinson, Mrs J A Smith, P Smith, J A Stockwood, Mrs M Stockwood, B Tansley, H Tipton, T Vennett-Smith, D G Wheeler

OFFICERS PRESENT:

A Graham	Chief Executive
S Griffiths	Deputy Chief Executive (SG)
V Nightingale	Senior Member Support Officer
N Morton	Head of Financial Services
P Randle	Deputy Chief Executive (PR)
L Reid-Jones	Democratic Services Manager
D Swaine	Head of Corporate Services

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Councillors R M Jones and Mrs J M Marshall

OPENING PRAYER

The Meeting was opened by the Mayor inviting Members and Guests to observe a minute's silence in memory of Councillor Wally Smith who had died recently. The Meeting was then led in prayer by the Mayor's Chaplain.

1. Declarations of Interest

There were none declared.

2. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 3 March 2011 were received as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

3. Address of the Retiring Mayor

The Retiring Mayor, Councillor Mrs Males, addressed Council giving the highlights of her year. She talked about the importance of the young people in the Borough, and referred to the cricket, garden parties and carnivals and many of the other 210 events she had attended in her year as Mayor. She announced that she had raised almost £11,000 for her chosen charity, The Ear Foundation. The Mayor thanked those who had supported her during her year in office, and thanked Council for giving her the opportunity to serve the Council as Mayor; which she said, had been a great privilege and honour.

4. Vote of Thanks to the Retiring Mayor

Councillor Clarke proposed a vote of thanks to Councillor Mrs Males for her successful year of office and for carrying out her duties in a calming, charming and caring style. He referred to this being the second time that she had been Mayor and stated that this demonstrated the level of esteem held for her by Councillors and residents of the Borough. Councillor Clarke highlighted a number of the engagements attended by the Mayor, and also the way in which she had kept order at the Full Council Meetings. He said Councillor Mrs Males had been a great ambassador for the Council and Borough.

He then presented Councillor Mrs Males with an album of photographs of the Mayoral year, a photographic portrait and the badge of office of Past Mayors which showed her in the exclusive band of two term Mayors.

The other Group Leaders were invited to comment and endorsed the remarks made by the Leader and thanked the retiring Mayor for the dedication, sincerity and professional way she had carried out her duties throughout her year of office and strongly supported the vote of thanks. They also congratulated her on the amount raised for The Ear Foundation.

RESOLVED that -

a vote of thanks be accorded to Councillor Mrs Marie Males and her husband for the excellent manner in which they had carried out their duties during Councillor Mrs Males' year of office as Mayor of the Borough of Rushcliffe.

5. Election of Mayor 2011/12

Nominations were invited for the election of Mayor of the Borough of Rushcliffe for the 2011/12 Municipal Year.

It was proposed by Councillor Butler and seconded by Councillor Cottee that Councillor Gordon Moore be nominated for the Office of Mayor of the Borough for the year 2011/12.

RESOLVED that -

Councillor Gordon Moore be elected Mayor of the Borough of Rushcliffe for the 2011/12 Municipal Year.

(Councillor Moore read and signed the declaration of acceptance of office and after thanking his proposer, seconder and Members, took the Chair and was invested with the chain of office by the retiring Mayor. The Mayor announced his chosen charity for the year, that being 'Maggie's Nottingham').

6. Election of Deputy Mayor 2011/12

Nominations were invited for the election of Deputy Mayor of the Borough of Rushcliffe for the 2011/12 Municipal Year.

It was proposed by Councillor Nicholls and seconded by Councillor D Mason that Councillor Irving Korn be nominated for the Office of Deputy Mayor of the Borough for the year 2011/12.

RESOLVED that -

Councillor Irving Korn be appointed Deputy Mayor of the Borough of Rushcliffe for the 2011/12 Municipal Year.

(Councillor Korn read and signed the declaration of acceptance of office and after thanking his proposer, seconder and Members, was invested with his badge of office by the Mayor).

7. Appointment of Leader of the Council 2011 - 2015

It was proposed by Councillor Cranswick and seconded by Councillor D Mason that Councillor Clarke be appointed to the office of Leader of the Council for the period 2011 - 2015.

RESOLVED that –

Councillor J N Clarke be appointed as Leader for the 2011 – 2015.

Following his appointment as Leader, Councillor Clarke reported that his Cabinet would be as set out below:

Councillor J N Clarke	Leader, Portfolio Holder for Strategic Direction
Councillor J A Cranswick	Deputy Leader, Portfolio Holder for Resources
Councillor J Smith	Portfolio Holder for Community Services
Councillor D J Mason	Portfolio Holder for Environment
Councillor D Bell	Portfolio Holder for Sustainability
Vacancy	Portfolio Holder for Community Protection.

8. Appointment of Committees and Member Groups 2011/12

It was proposed by Councillor Clarke and seconded by Councillor Cranswick that the Membership of the following Committees, Member Groups and Working Groups with Chairmen and Vice Chairmen as set out in the attached appendix be appointed for 2011/12.

- Community Development Group

- Corporate Governance Group
- Partnership Delivery Group
- Performance Management Board
- Alcohol and Entertainment Licensing Committee
- Development Control Committee
- Licensing Committee
- Employment Appeals Committee
- Interviewing Committee
- Local Development Framework Group
- Member Development Group
- Civic Hospitality Panel
- Standards Committee

Councillor Davidson, seconded by Councillor MacInnes moved an amendment with the following words:

‘that two Scrutiny Committees be chaired by the Opposition Groups, with Councillor Plant chairing Corporate Governance Group and Councillor Jones chairing Performance Management Board’.

Councillor Davidson stated that with a powerful Executive there was a need for strong independent scrutiny. He continued by stating that in previous years two Scrutiny Committees had been chaired by opposition Members and they had worked professionally and had not been the subject of any complaints. He was of the view that openness and transparency were important and by giving the chairs of all Scrutiny Committees to the ruling Group this was not the case.

Councillor MacInnes stated that in the past the chairmanship of scrutiny committees had been brokered on the understanding that they would be shared out between the Groups. He stated that the arrangement proposed by the Leader would lead to control and conflict rather than consensus and collaboration.

Councillor S Mallender stated that chairing of scrutiny by opposition Members was widely regarded as good practice, and urged Members to vote for the amendment.

Councillors Vennett-Smith and S Boote also spoke in support of the amendment.

In summing up Councillor Clarke stated that it was the majority view of the Conservative Group that the Chairmen of Scrutiny should be from the ruling Group. He stated that the opposition Groups would have two vice-chairmen positions.

The amendment was put to the vote and declared lost.

Councillor Clarke, seconded by Councillor Davidson proposed that Councillors Jones and Plant be vice chairmen of Performance Management Board and Corporate Governance Group respectively.

RESOLVED that –

- (a) the Committees and Member Groups set out in the Appendix attached be appointed for 2011/12 with the membership indicated; and
- (b) the Members indicated in the Appendix attached be appointed Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen, including Councillors Jones and Plant, of the respective Committees and Member Groups for the 2011/12 Municipal Year.

9. Appointments of Representatives to Outside Bodies 2011/12

It was proposed by Councillor Clarke and seconded by Councillor Cranswick that the representatives be appointed to the Outside Bodies as set out in the report, excluding the four contested appointments to the East Midlands Area Museum Service PLC, Leicestershire and Northamptonshire Rail Action Committee, Nottinghamshire Relate, Rushcliffe Barn Owl Project.

Councillor Bell withdrew his nomination for the East Midlands Area Museum Service PLC. Councillor R Mallender stated that he had been nominated for the Leicestershire and Northamptonshire Rail Action Committee.

RESOLVED that -

- a) the appointments to Outside Bodies for 2011/12, excluding the contested appointments, as indicated in the report, be approved, and
- b) For the contested appointments Members be appointed to the outside bodies as follows:
 - (i) East Midlands Area Museum Service PLC – Councillor N Boughton-Smith
 - (ii) Leicestershire and Northamptonshire Rail Action Committee – Councillors Hetherington and Lawrence
 - (iii) Nottinghamshire Relate – Councillor E Plant
 - (iv) Rushcliffe Barn Owl Project – Councillors Greenwod and Tansley.

The meeting closed at 8.20 pm.

MAYOR