

EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

MINUTES of a MEETING of the EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL held at COUNTY HALL, LEWES on TUESDAY, 6 DECEMBER 2011 at 10.00 am.

Present Councillors Barnes, Belsey, Bennett, Bentley, Birch, Daniel, Dowling, Elkin, Ensor, Fawthrop, Field, Freebody, Freeman, Gadd, Glazier, Harris, Healy, Heaps, Howson, Hughes, Jones, Kenward, Lambert, Livings, Lock, Maynard, O'Keeffe, Ost, Pragnell, Reid, Rodohan, Rogers OBE, Scott, D Shing, S Shing, Simmons, Sparks, Stogdon, Stroude, Taylor, Thompson, Mrs Tidy, Tidy, Tutt, Waite, Webb and Whetstone.

41 Minutes of last meeting

41.1 RESOLVED – to confirm the minutes of the meeting of the County Council held on 18 October 2011 as a correct record.

42. Apologies for absence

42.1 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors St. Pierre and Thomas.

43. Chairman's Business

AWARD FROM PERSONNEL TODAY

43.1 On behalf of the Council the Chairman congratulated the Personnel and Training team which won a prestigious national award from Personnel Today – the HR industry publication. The team won the inaugural award for Innovation in Dispute Resolution for its work in establishing a workplace mediation service and helping individuals and teams to resolve disputes quickly and fairly. The Service, which has been developed in partnership with Trade Union colleagues, sees trained and accredited mediators work both within the Council and with external organisations to resolve workplace disputes before they develop into grievances. Since introducing the service the number of workplace disputes has fallen by 47% and our mediators have so far successfully resolved more than 150 cases without further intervention being required, achieving significant productivity savings in the process.

EAST SUSSEX MUSIC SERVICE

43.2 The Chairman stated that was good to see councillors attending the events organised by the East Sussex Music Service. He reminded all members that the Music Service is in the middle of its Christmas season and encouraged all members to attend the Service's events in their area. The

Chairman stated that he could highly recommend the events and would encourage other Members to support the Service.

CHAIRMAN'S ACTIVITIES

43.3 I have attended a number of engagements since the last County Council meeting including: attending the opening of the new Forest Row Library and the Remembrance Day Services in Eastbourne and Lewes. The Vice Chairman attended the Service in Hastings. I hosted the annual lunch for past Chairmen of the Council and I welcomed delegates to the Interreg Project Monitoring meeting in Lewes. I visited Eastbourne Fire Station, Eastbourne Borough Football Club, Sussex Police head quarters and the new Lewes Police Station. I presented the ESCC Long Service awards and performed the official opening of the Volunteer Centre's new drop in café in Eastbourne on International Volunteer Day. The Vice Chairman and I have attended several citizenship ceremonies. The Vice Chairman attended a number of events including the Federation of Small Businesses' Regional AGM and the Great Christmas Sing at Glyndebourne Opera House at which he narrated the story. He also generously attended a number of events with me and undertook a number of engagements on my behalf.

PRAYERS

43.4 The Chairman thanked the Reverend Geoffrey Daw, Rural Dean of Lewes and Seaford, for leading the prayers before the Council meeting.

PETITIONS

43.5 The Chairman informed the Council that immediately before the meeting he had received petitions from members as follows:

Councillor Ensor - calling on the County Council to instigate an immediate parking review of the Conquest House area of Collington Avenue, Bexhill-on-Sea on the grounds of the safety of the local residents and the prevention of accidents on this busy main road.

Councillor Lambert - calling on the County Council to ban parking on the pavements in Seaford

44. Questions from Members of the Public

44.1 There were no questions from members of the public

45. Declarations of Interest

45.1 The following members declared personal interests in items on the agenda as follows:

<i>Member</i>	<i>Position giving rise to interest</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Whether interest was prejudicial</i>
Councillor Harris	Employee of BT	Cabinet report, paragraph 1	No
Councillor Jones	Declared candidate for the office of Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner	Sussex Police Authority report, paragraph 1	No
Councillor Simmons	Chairman of the Heathfield Partnership and the Council's representative on East Sussex Energy and Infrastructure and Development Limited	Cabinet report, paragraph 1	No

46. Reports

CALLOVER

46.1 The Chairman of the County Council, having called over the reports set out in the agenda, reserved the following paragraphs for discussion:

Cabinet	- paragraph 1
Sussex Police Authority	- paragraphs 1 and 2

NON-RESERVED PARAGRAPHS

46.2 On the motion of the Chairman of the County Council, the Council ADOPTED those paragraphs in the reports of the Committees that had not been reserved for discussion.

47. Cabinet Report – Reconciling Policy, Performance and Resources

47.1 Councillor Jones moved paragraph 1 of the Cabinet's report.

47.2 The motion was carried after debate.

48. Questions from County Councillors

ORAL QUESTIONS TO CABINET MEMBERS

48.1 The following members asked questions of the Lead Cabinet Members indicated and they responded:

Questioner	Respondent	Subject
Councillor Healy	Councillor Bentley	Apology to staff, service users and carers in relation to the failures at Mount Denys, Hastings highlighted following the Care Quality Commission inspection
Councillor Rogers	Councillor Elkin	Promotion of free school meals prior to annual census in order to secure the maximum take up and potential benefit on the pupil premium funding from central government
Councillor Tutt	Councillor Elkin	Key Stage 2 achievements in East Sussex in reading, writing and mathematics compared with the family group and geographical neighbours.
Councillor Daniel	Councillor Maynard	Government announcement in relation to funding for the Bexhill to Hastings Link Road
Councillor Scott	Councillor Maynard	Economic and community safety impact assessments if the CCTV control room at Hastings were to close.
Councillor Ensor	Councillor Belsey	Outcome of OFSTED Inspection of the Fostering Service in East Sussex
Councillor Livings	Councillor Maynard	Guidance in relation to the display of street decorations for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the Olympics in 2012

WRITTEN QUESTIONS PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER 44

48.2 There were no written questions from Councillors

49. Report of the Sussex Police Authority

PARAGRAPH 1 – POLICE REFORM AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY ACT 2011

49.1 Members commented on paragraph 1 of the Sussex Police Authority's report and Councillor Tidy responded on behalf of Councillor Jones, the nominated spokesperson for the Sussex Police Authority.

PARAGRAPH 2 – NATIONAL POLICE AIR SUPPORT PROPOSAL

49.2 Following debate the following motion moved by Councillor Barnes and seconded was CARRIED:

“East Sussex County Council is in full support of the response being made by the Sussex Police Authority to retain at least the level of Police Air Support service currently provided to this County”

THE CHAIRMAN DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 11.50 am

The reports referred to are included in the minute book
