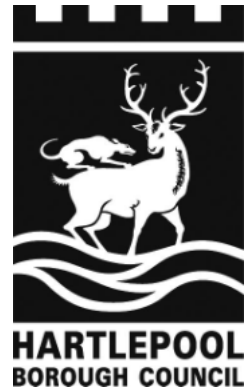


GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE AGENDA



Tuesday 4 October 2011

at 2.00 pm

in Committee Room A, Civic Centre, Hartlepool

MEMBERS: GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE:

Councillors Aiken, C Akers-Belcher, S Akers-Belcher, Cook, James, Lawton, Simmons, Thomas and Wells.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS

3. MINUTES

3.1 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 5 September 2011.

4. ITEMS REQUIRING CONSIDERATION

4.1 Scheduling of General Purposes (Appeals and Staffing) Committees – verbal update – *Democratic Services Team Manager*

EXEMPT ITEMS

Under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraphs referred to below of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

5. ITEMS REQUIRING DECISION

5.1 Appeals and Staffing Appeals Review – *Chief Customer and Workforce Services Officer (para 1)*

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

MINUTES AND DECISION RECORD

5 September 2011

The meeting commenced at 2.00 pm in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

Present:

Councillor: Rob Cook (In the Chair)

Councillors: Marjorie James, Patricia Lawton, Chris Simmons and Ray Wells

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4.2 (ii), Councillor Mick Fenwick was in attendance as substitute for Councillor Stephen Akers-Belcher.

Officers: Alyson Caman, Legal Services Manager
Lorraine Bennison, Principal Registration and Members' Services Officer
Jackie Payne, Senior Registration Officer
Angela Armstrong, Principal Democratic Services Officer

14. Adjournment of Meeting

In view of the responses received from Members on the review of the polling districts, stations and places, the Chair adjourned the meeting to enable the full consideration of these responses during a General Purposes Working Group.

Upon reconvening the meeting at 2.30pm the following were present:

Present:

Councillor: Rob Cook (In the Chair)

Councillors: Marjorie James, Patricia Lawton, Chris Simmons and Ray Wells

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4.2 (ii), Councillor Mick Fenwick was in attendance as substitute for Councillor Stephen Akers-Belcher.

Officers: Alyson Caman, Legal Services Manager
Lorraine Bennison, Principal Registration and Members' Services Officer
Jackie Payne, Senior Registration Officer
Angela Armstrong, Principal Democratic Services Officer

15. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Christopher Akers-Belcher, Stephen Akers-Belcher and Stephen Thomas.

16. Declarations of interest by Members

None.

17. Confirmation of the following minutes

- (i) Meeting held on 16 June 2011 – confirmed.
- (ii) Meeting held on 4 July 2011 – confirmed.

18. Business Report (*Democratic Services Team Manager*)

A number of provisional dates had been identified by the Chair in conjunction with the Chief Customer and Workforce Services Officer and the Democratic Services Team Manager and they were detailed in the report.

After considering the dates in the report, Members confirmed the following dates to be held for the remaining three training sessions:

17 October – 4.30 pm
31 October – 4.30 pm
7 November – 1.00 pm.

A letter will be forwarded to Members of the Committee confirming the dates as well as the venues and topics for each training session.

Decision

That all Members of the Council be invited to the following training sessions:

17 October – 4.30 pm
31 October – 4.30 pm
7 November – 1.00 pm

19. Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places (*Legal Services Manager*)

All Members had been invited to comment on the review of polling districts, polling places and polling stations. There had been two responses received from Members and they had been considered at the General Purposes Working Group held prior to the commencement of this Committee.

Although the Committee acknowledged the responses received in relation to the Newton Bewley and Fens areas respectively, they reaffirmed their original decisions.

A revised timetable was included within the report for Members' consideration and the authority was sought to enable the Chief Solicitor to take any necessary action to implement the review, and the necessary consultations.

Decision

- (i) The responses from Members on the review were considered.
- (ii) The previous preliminary proposals from the review of polling districts, polling places and polling stations proposed by the General Purposes Working Group held on 26 July 2011 were reaffirmed.
- (iii) The revised timetable was approved.
- (iv) The Chief Solicitor was authorised to take any necessary action to implement the review, and the necessary consultations.

20. Any Other Items which the Chairman Considers are Urgent

None.

The meeting concluded at 2.37 pm

CHAIR