

# M I N U T E S

meeting: **STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

date: **4 MAY 2011**

**PRESENT:-**

Mr W A Parker (Chairman)  
Councillors Jones, Mrs Mills and Turner  
Mr K R Aithal, Mr J Harris, Mr G W Hurd, Mr A W Lee and  
Mr R C Tyler-Morris (Independent Members)

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:-**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor Miles  
and Mr Hurd

**OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:-**

Delivery Directorate

S Kembrey	-	Assistant Director, Governance
P Main	-	Assistant Director, Corporate Services
F Davis	-	Group Manager (Advocacy Services)
L Banbury	-	Democratic Support Officer

**Wolverhampton**  
City Council



**Declarations of Interest**

77 No interests were declared.

**Minutes**

78 Resolved:-  
That the minutes of the meeting held on 4 March 2011 be approved as a correct record.

**Schedule of Outstanding Minutes (Appendix 5)**

The Democratic Support Officer submitted a report, which set out a schedule of outstanding minutes, together with an indication as to when it was expected that reports on individual items would be presented for consideration.

79 Resolved:-  
That the report be received.

**Members' Allowances Scheme: Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel (Appendix 6)**

The Assistant Director (Governance) submitted a report, which recommended to full Council a number of revisions to the Members' Allowance Scheme.

The Chair indicated that, from a personal point of view, he had never sought or expected payment of an allowance in regard to his position as Chairman of the Committee. He had, however, raised the possibility of the payment of an allowance for independent members of the Sub-Committee in the event that they were involved in lengthy hearings.

80 Resolved:-  
That full Council be recommended to -  
(a) approve a revision to the 2011/12 Members' Allowance Scheme to pay a Special Responsibility Allowance to the Leader of a Minority Opposition Group, only if the Minority Group comprises five or more Members of the Council;  
  
(b) not approve the renaming of the Member Champion, and  
  
(c) not approve the payment of an allowance to the Independent Chairman of the Standards Committee.

**Annual Review of the Constitution (Appendix 7)**

The Assistant Director (Governance) submitted a report, which sought approval to proposed revisions to the Council's Constitution, to be incorporated in the May 2011 edition.

The Committee noted that the Special Advisory Group had considered the report earlier that day and had approved the recommendations for consideration by this Committee.

Members further noted that a comprehensive rewrite of the Constitution would be undertaken in the 2011/12 municipal year as part of the Council's Improvement Plan.

81

Resolved:-

That full Council be recommended to approve the following amendments to the Constitution at the Annual Meeting on 18 May 2011, as outlined in Appendix 1 to the report:-

- (a) Part 2, Article 13 – Decision Making During the Summer Recess;
- (b) Part 3/20 – Appointments to Outside Bodies;
- (c) Section A (3.1) – Contract Procedure Rules;
- (d) Section A (new clause) – Delegations to Officers – Delegation to Strategic Director for Education and Enterprise, and
- (e) Part 4 – Paragraph 12.5, Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules – Amber Decisions and Consideration by the Call-In Group.