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**COUNCIL**

**KIRKLEES COUNCIL**

**At a Meeting of the Council of the Borough of Kirklees held at  
the Town Hall, Huddersfield on Wednesday 18 March 2009**

**PRESENT**

**The Mayor (Councillor Karam Hussain) in the Chair**

**COUNCILLORS**

M AHMED  
M AKHTAR  
M BATES  
R BATTYE  
S M BOLT  
T BRICE  
J CALVERT  
J COOK  
A COOPER  
A E DENHAM  
J DODDS  
M FEARNLEY  
D M FIRTH  
E FIRTH  
D J HALL  
S HALL  
D HARDCASTLE  
M HARKIN  
C HARRIS  
M HUSSAIN  
N HUSSAIN  
K IQBAL  
C M IREDALE  
R IREDALE  
B JONES  
P KANE  
M KHAN  
V LEES  
R LIGHT  
G LOWE  
P McBRIDE  
A C G MARCHINGTON  
H MAYET

A MURPHY  
P O'NEILL  
A PALFREEMAN  
S PANDOR  
R PARCHMENT  
S PATEL  
N PATRICK  
A C PINNOCK  
K M PINNOCK  
A RAISTRICK  
D RIDGWAY  
R ROGERS  
M SARWAR  
C SCOTT  
D SHEARD  
G SIMPSON  
K D SIMS  
E E SMAJE  
B SMITH  
C M L SMITH  
K SMITH  
J R SMITHSON  
M SOKHAL  
C M STANFIELD  
J STEWART TURNER  
K TAYLOR  
N TURNER  
M WALTON  
E WARD  
L M WILKINSON  
A O WOODHEAD  
D WOODHEAD  
D YATES

**140 Announcements by the Mayor and the Chief Executive**

The Mayor and the Chief Executive, along with the Leader of the Council, paid tribute to Vanda White (Members' Allowances Officer) in view of her forthcoming retirement and conveyed thanks for her service to the Authority.

**141 Apologies for Absence**  
There were no apologies for absence.

**142 Minutes of Extraordinary and Budget Meetings of Council**  
It was moved by the Mayor (Councillor K Hussain), seconded by the Deputy Mayor (Councillor Stewart Turner) and

**RESOLVED - That the Minutes of the Extraordinary and Budget meetings of Council held on 25 February 2009 be approved and signed by the Mayor as a correct record.**

**143 Declarations of Interest**  
All Members present declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 10 - Members Allowances Scheme 2009/10.

The following Councillors declared interests in Agenda Item 14 (Question a) relative to funding for Building Schools for the Future:

- Councillor K Pinnock (prejudicial) on the grounds that she is Chair of the Governing Body of Whitcliffe Mount School
- Councillor Scott (personal) on the grounds that her child attends St John Fisher High School
- Councillor Lees (personal) on the grounds that she has a child in education
- Councillor Smaje (personal) on the grounds that she is a Governor of Birkenshaw First School
- Councillor Murphy (personal) on the grounds that he is a director of KSSL
- Councillor M Hussain (personal) on the grounds that he has children in attendance at Castle Hall School
- Councillor Ahmed (prejudicial) on the grounds that (i) he is a parent governor at Westborough High School and (ii) he has relatives in attendance at Westborough High School, Thornhill High School and Castle Hall High School
- Councillor Patel (personal) on the grounds that his daughter attends Heckmondwike Grammar School
- Councillor K Hussain (personal) on the grounds that he has relatives in attendance at St John Fisher High School, Westborough High School and Mirfield Free Grammar School
- Councillor E Firth (prejudicial) on the grounds that he is a governor at Earlsheaton Technology College
- Councillor Lowe (prejudicial) on the grounds that she is a Governor of St John Fisher High School and (personal) on the grounds that she has a son in attendance at the school
- Councillor Mayet (prejudicial) on the grounds that his daughter in law is a teacher at Howden Clough Girls School
- Councillor Pandor (personal) on the grounds that he has children in the secondary schooling system
- Councillor Raistrick (prejudicial) on the grounds that she is Governor of Whitcliffe Mount Enterprise College

The following Councillors declared interests in Agenda Item 9 relative to the Fieldhead Regeneration Project, on the grounds that they are members of the Board of Kirklees Community Association:

- Councillor Battye (personal)
- Councillor D Firth (prejudicial)
- Councillor C Smith (prejudicial)
- Councillor R Iredale (prejudicial)
- Councillor Rogers (prejudicial)
- Councillor Walton (prejudicial)

**144 Deputations**

Council received and noted a deputation on behalf of Mencap Kirklees (Changing Places Group) with regard to the provision of improved access to toilet and bathing facilities within public buildings.

**145 Petitions**

Councillor D Firth submitted a petition in relation to the proposed closure of New Mill Library.

Under the provisions of Council Procedure Rules, the Mayor directed that the petition be referred to the appropriate Head of Service for investigation and report back to Cabinet or the appropriate Committee on action taken.

**146 Questions by Members of the Public**

Council received questions from Mr Philip Gott with regard to:

- (a) the road/pavement sweeping schedule for Moor Top Road, Kirkheaton, and
- (b) the expenditure of Council resources on refurbishing facades on Huddersfield Road, Ravensthorpe/Thornhill and Savile Town.

The Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Environment and Transport (Councillor Walton) replied to question (a) and the Cabinet Member for Adults and Communities (Councillor Marchington) replied to question (b).

**147 Reference from Cabinet of 3 March 2009 - Fieldhead Regeneration Project**

It was moved by Councillor Marchington, seconded by Councillor Pandor and

**RESOLVED - That Council approves the making of an application under Section 32 of the Housing Act 1985 to the Department for Communities and Local Government for consent to transfer the freehold interest in five areas of land as detailed in Appendix 1 of the submitted report.**

**148 Reference from Corporate Governance and Audit Committee of 6 March 2009 - Members' Allowances Scheme for 2009/10**

It was moved by Councillor Raistrick, seconded by Councillor E Firth and

**RESOLVED - That Council approves and adopts the Members' Allowances Scheme for 2009/10, as detailed in Appendix A of the submitted report, with effect from 1 April 2009.**

**149 Reference from Area Committee - Mirfield of 2 March 2009 - Appointment of Chair**

It was moved by Councillor C Smith, seconded by Councillor Bolt and

**RESOLVED - That the appointment of Councillor Lees as Chair of Area Committee - Mirfield be noted and confirmed.**

- 150 Annual Audit and Inspection Letter**  
(During consideration of this item references were made to the Building Schools for the Future programme, during which time Members who had previously declared an interest in this matter left the meeting)

Council noted the Annual Audit and Inspection Letter which was presented for information.

- 151 Discussion Item - Economic Recession**  
(With reference to Council Procedure Rule 47 (Suspension of Procedure Rules), it was moved by Councillor Smithson and seconded by Councillor E Firth and

**RESOLVED - That Council Procedure Rule 18 (Rules of Debate) be suspended for this item)**

Council received and noted a presentation from Councillor Khan and Councillor K Pinnock with regard to the impact of the recession.

- 152 Written Questions, under Procedure Rule 12, to the Leader and Cabinet Members**

Council received the undermentioned questions:

- (a) Question by Councillor Christine Smith to the Cabinet Member for Children and Families (Councillor Ken Smith)

"Can Councillor Ken Smith please tell me the amount of funds we have received from the Labour Government for Building Schools for the Future as at 18 March 2009?"

**The Cabinet Member replied thereto.**

- (b) Question by Councillor Christine Iredale to the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Transport and (Councillor Christine Stanfield)

"Now that Yorkshire has its own flag can we expect these to be flying on our Town Halls on Saturday August 1st?"

**The Cabinet Member replied thereto.**

- (c) Question by Councillor Christine Iredale to the Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Environment and Transport (Councillor Christine Stanfield)

"Can Councillor Stanfield give me a progress report on the refurbishment of St. George's Square?"

**The Cabinet Member replied thereto.**

- (d) Question by Councillor David Hall to the Leader of the Council (Councillor Mehboob Khan)

"Is it the intention of your administration to complete the roll-out of alternative-week bin collections across the borough?"

**The Cabinet Member replied thereto.**

- (e) Question by Councillor Jean Calvert to the Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Environment and Transport (Councillor Christine Stanfield)

"Would Councillor Stanfield clarify the situation about the 'closure' of the Tourist Information Office in Huddersfield?"

**The Cabinet Member replied thereto.**

- (f) Question by Councillor Linda Wilkinson to the Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Environment and Transport (Councillor Christine Stanfield)

"Will you let me know the current situation with regard to Castle Hill?"

**The Cabinet Member replied thereto.**

- (g) Question by Councillor Nicola Turner to the Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Environment and Transport (Councillor Christine Stanfield)

"Will the Cabinet Member for Regeneration please advise me as to why New Mill Library has to close?"

**The Cabinet Member replied thereto.**

- (h) Question by Councillor Kenneth Sims to the Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Environment and Transport (Councillor Christine Stanfield)

"What is the worst performing Library in Kirklees and how is it measured?"

**The Cabinet Member replied thereto.**

- (i) Question by Councillor Kenneth Sims to the Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Environment and Transport (Councillor Christine Stanfield)

"What measures have you put in place to bring St George's Square to a speedy completion since the main contractor has gone into receivership?"

**The Cabinet Member replied thereto.**

- (j) Question by Councillor Kenneth Sims to the Cabinet Member for Corporate (Councillors Mehboob Khan and Kath Pinnock)

"After reading the Annual Audit and Inspection Report, can you tell me where the new Administration found the large financial irregularities that they publicised in the media and if they existed can they clarify how an inspector might be able to say that Kirklees financial management and value for money are good?"

**The Cabinet Member replied thereto.**

- (k) Question by Councillor Tony Brice to the Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Environment and Transport (Councillor Christine Stanfield)

"Is Councillor Stanfield going to recommend taking Lindley Moor out as being development land in the new LDF process?"

**The Cabinet Member replied thereto.**

**153 Scrutiny Discussion**

Council received an update from the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee on the work of the Scrutiny Panels.

**154 Response to Motion Approved and Adopted by Council**

Council noted the response of the Department of Energy and Climate Change in respect of the Council Motion of 3 September 2008 on Renewable Energy Tariff.