

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the **Lay Members Appointments Committee**
held on Thursday, 27th May, 2010 in Committee Suite 2/3 - Westfields,
Middlewich Road, Sandbach, CW11 1HZ

PRESENT

Councillor C Beard (in the Chair)

Councillors A Barratt, D Cannon, S Conquest, L Smetham and D Thompson

IN ATTENDANCE:

Melissa Andrews
Carol Jones

Solicitor and Clerk to the Committee
Democratic Services Officer

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

2 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME/OPEN SESSION

In accordance with Procedure Rules Nos. 11 and 35, a total period of 10 minutes was allocated for members of the public to address the Committee on any matter relevant to its work.

There were no members of the public present and the Committee, therefore, proceeded to its next business.

3 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 11th May 2009 be approved as a correct record.

4 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED:

That the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item, pursuant to Section 100(A)4 of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1 and 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 and the public interest would not be served in publishing this information.

5 APPOINTMENT OF LAY MEMBERS TO INDEPENDENT APPEAL PANEL FOR SCHOOL ADMISSIONS

The Committee considered a report on the appointment of lay members to sit on both School Admission Appeals Panels and Exclusion Appeals Panels.

Under Section 84 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998, the Council, as the admissions authority, was required to ensure that every school admission hearing included at least one lay member.

Two members of the public had expressed interest in training to become independent appeal panel members for school admissions and exclusions.

The Committee interviewed Candidate 1. To ensure that lay members were representative of society as a whole, Members took account of the candidate's background and experience as well as the skills she could bring to an Independent Appeals Panel, if appointed.

Following her interview, the candidate withdrew from the meeting and the Committee reached its decision.

Candidate 2 was not in attendance. The Committee was minded to defer consideration of the application to the next meeting and agreed that, in the meantime, a letter be sent to him to establish if he would like to be interviewed on another occasion.

RESOLVED:

That

- (1) That Candidate 1, Mrs Joanne Bowkett, be appointed as a lay member to the pool of persons available to sit on Independent Appeals Panels; and
- (2) That consideration of the application from Candidate 2 be deferred to the next meeting, subject to his confirmation that he wished to be interviewed.

The meeting commenced at 10.00 am and concluded at 11.20 am

Councillor C Beard (in the Chair)