

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the **Constitution Committee**
held on Thursday, 26th November, 2015 at Committee Suite 1,2 & 3,
Westfields, Middlewich Road, Sandbach CW11 1HZ

PRESENT

Councillor A Martin (Chairman)
Councillor D Marren (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors B Burkhill, S Edgar, S Gardner, S Hogben, D Mahon, N Mannion,
R Menlove, D Newton, S Pochin and G Wait

Officers

Brian Reed, Head of Governance and Democratic Services
Anita Bradley, Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer
Lindsey Parton, Registration Service and Business Manager
Paul Mountford, Democratic Services Officer

Apologies

Councillor M Beanland

21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

22 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME/OPEN SESSION

There were no members of the public wishing to speak.

23 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting held on 17th September 2015 be approved
as a correct record.

24 CALENDAR OF MEETINGS FOR 2016-17

The Committee considered the draft calendar of meetings for 2016-17.

A draft timetable of meetings was attached as Appendix 1 to the report.

It was suggested that for next year's calendar an exercise could be
undertaken, possibly involving a Member task and finish group, to see
what comparator and neighbouring authorities were doing, identify best
practice and assess the implications of holding some meetings in the

evening. The officers took note of the suggestion with a view to undertaking an exercise along the lines suggested.

It was also suggested that the Council meetings in the winter months should commence at 11.00 am and not 10.00 am to allow for winter travel conditions.

RESOLVED

That the draft Calendar of Public Meetings for Cheshire East Council 2016-2017 be recommended to Council for approval subject to the following amendment:

- The Council meetings to be held on 15th December 2016 and 23rd February 2017 commence at 11.00 am and not 10.00 am as indicated in the report.

25 RE-APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS ALLOWANCES INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL

The Committee considered a report on appointments to the Cheshire East Council Members' Allowances Independent Remuneration Panel, and the appointment of the Panel Chairman.

Eight applications had been received in response to a press release seeking expressions of interest. Interviews were held on 9th and 15th October 2015.

The names of the preferred candidates were as follows:

Patrick Grange
Steve Leach
Mandy Ramsden
Eric Shaw

Background information on the individuals concerned relating to their suitability for appointment to the Panel had been circulated to Committee members.

Owing to the high calibre of applicants, it was suggested that a pool of four Members be created, from which the Chairman of the Panel would choose attendees for meetings, depending on the nature of the business to be considered.

RESOLVED

That

1. the following four individuals be appointed to a pool of Members to sit on the Cheshire East Council's Independent Remuneration Panel for a period of four years:

Patrick Grange
Steve Leach
Mandy Ramsden
Eric Shaw

2. Steve Leach be appointed as the Panel Chairman; and
3. the Chairman of the Panel be given authority to use his discretion to select members from the pool according to the nature of the work to be conducted by the Panel.

26 DISCUSSION ON THE ISSUE OF MEMBERS VISITING PLANNING MEETINGS

This item was withdrawn.

The meeting commenced at 2.00 pm and concluded at 3.08 pm

Councillor A Martin (Chairman)