

DEMOCRATIC SERVICES COMMITTEE

27 APRIL 2016

Minutes of the meeting of the Democratic Services Committee of Flintshire County Council held at Council Chamber, County Hall, Mold on Wednesday, 27 April 2016

PRESENT: Councillor Nigel Steele-Mortimer (Vice-Chair in the Chair)

Councillors Alex Aldridge, Haydn Bateman, Chris Bithell, Clive Carver, Peter Curtis, Paul Cunningham, Glenys Diskin, Andy Dunbobbin, Veronica Gay, George Hardcastle, Dave Mackie, Tim Newhouse, Neville Phillips, Ian Smith, Nigel Steele-Mortimer and Arnold Woolley

APOLOGIES: Councillors Robin Guest and David Williams

IN ATTENDANCE:

Chief Officer (Governance), Member Engagement Manager, and Committee Officer

13. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (INCLUDING WHIPPING DECLARATIONS)

There were no declarations of interest.

14. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 27 January 2016, were submitted.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes be received, approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

15. TIMING OF COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS SURVEY

The Member Engagement Manager introduced a report on the timing of Council and Committee Meetings survey. He referred to the survey which had been undertaken amongst elected and co-opted members of the Council to determine their preferences for when formal meetings should be held. He advised that there was a significant majority in favour of not making changes to the current approach and therefore the recommendation was that a mixture of morning and afternoon meetings continued to be held with a four week recess during the month of August for the life of this Council. The Member Engagement Manger reported on the results of the survey which were detailed in the report.

Councillor Alex Aldridge expressed thanks to Officers for the opportunity given to Members to express their views on the timing of meetings. He expressed concerns around Members' attendance at Council meetings if the Welsh Government was to proceed with reorganisation of local authorities in Wales.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Committee acknowledges the results of the survey detailed in the report and recommends to the Council that there be no change in our arrangements for the times and frequency for holding meetings for the life of the Council; and
- (b) That the practice of holding a four week recess from scheduled meetings during the month of August be confirmed for 2016.

16. MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE

There were no members of the press or public in attendance.

(The meeting started at 2.55 pm and ended at 3.10 pm)

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Chairman