

**FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**29 OCTOBER 2013**

Minutes of the meeting of Flintshire County Council held in the Council Chamber, County Hall, Mold on Tuesday, 29 October 2013

**PRESENT: Councillor Carolyn Thomas (Chair)**

Councillors: Alex Aldridge, Bernie Attridge, Glyn Banks, Haydn Bateman, Marion Bateman, Chris Bithell, Amanda Bragg, Helen Brown, Derek Butler, Clive Carver, David Cox, Peter Curtis, Ron Davies, Alan Diskin, Glenys Diskin, Ian Dunbar, Andy Dunbobbin, Carol Ellis, David Evans, Jim Falshaw, Veronica Gay, Robin Guest, Alison Halford, Ron Hampson, George Hardcastle, Cindy Hinds, Ray Hughes, Hilary Isherwood, Joe Johnson, Rita Johnson, Christine Jones, Kevin Jones, Richard Jones, Stella Jones, Colin Legg, Brian Lloyd, Richard Lloyd, Mike Lowe, Dave Mackie, Nancy Matthews, Hilary McGuill, Ann Minshull, Billy Mullin, Tim Newhouse, Mike Peers, Neville Phillips, Mike Reece, Gareth Roberts, Ian Roberts, Tony Sharps, Aaron Shotton, Paul Shotton, Ian Smith, Nigel Steele-Mortimer, Owen Thomas, Sharon Williams, David Wisinger and Arnold Woolley

**APOLOGIES:**

Councillors: Adele Davies-Cooke, Chris Dolphin, Rosetta Dolphin, Brian Dunn, Ted Evans, Trefor Howorth, Dennis Hutchinson, Phil Lightfoot, David Williams and Matt Wright

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Chief Executive, Director of Community Services, Director of Lifelong Learning, Head of Finance, Head of Legal & Democratic Services, Head of Human Resources and Organisational Development, Head of ICT and Customer Services, Head of Streetscene, Corporate Finance Manager and Team Manager, Committee Services

**TRADE UNION REPRESENTATIVES:**

Steve Bennett, Ren Davies, Hannah Gibbons, Mick Holt, Donna Hutton, Ian Jones, Elizabeth Lewis, Sarah Taylor and Karl Wainwright

**54. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The Head of Legal and Democratic Services gave notice of the formal interests for the Members listed below following the Standards Committee meeting on 14 October 2013 where dispensations had been applied for, and granted:

Councillors: Alex Aldridge, Bernie Attridge, Amanda Bragg, Helen Brown, Hilary Isherwood, Kevin Jones, Colin Legg, Billy Mullin, Hilary McGuill, Neville Phillips, Aaron Shotton, Ian Smith, Carolyn Thomas and David Williams.

The Head of Legal and Democratic Services emphasised that no information had been shared with any Members on any people they were closely associated with so they were not disenfranchised. Information had been provided on a broad basis rather than specific details. The dispensations granted at

Standards Committee were subject to a limited period of time so that when details about individuals became known, further requests for dispensations would be required to be made.

In addition to those Members, the Head of Legal and Democratic Services sought any further declarations from Members who had not applied for a dispensation. Councillors Glyn Banks, Paul Shotton and Robin Guest all declared personal interests.

**55. LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985 – TO CONSIDER THE EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

**RESOLVED:**

That the press and public be excluded for the remainder of the meeting.

**56. SINGLE STATUS AND EQUAL PAY**

The Chief Executive welcomed Members and Trade Union representatives to the meeting.

A presentation would be delivered by the Chief Executive, Head of Human Resources and Organisational Development, Head of Legal and Democratic Services, Head of Finance and the Director of Community Services on the proposed Single Status Agreement. Members were invited to ask any questions at the end of each section as well as at the end of the presentation.

Following all Member questions, the Trade Unions representative, Sarah Taylor, was invited to present the joint Trade Unions statement.

In conclusion, the Chief Executive asked Members to evaluate the recommended agreement against two tests (1) was Council assured that they had done everything possible to meet the Nine Point Plan to be confident with the Agreement and (2) was this the best Agreement the Council could strike in balancing acceptability and affordability.

The Trade Union representatives left the meeting prior to the decision making.

**RESOLVED:**

- (a) That the proposed Single Status Collective Agreement based on and including Pay and Grading Model 31, and the revised Part 3 Terms and Conditions of Employment be adopted;
- (b) That a combined effective and implementation date for the Agreement of 1 April 2014 be set;
- (c) That two years of full Pay Protection to compensate all employees affected by any loss in base pay through job evaluation be offered, and further and

extended Pay Protection of 50% compensation for any loss in base pay for a third year and 25% compensation for a fourth year for any affected employees losing 10% or more in base pay be offered (excluding Nursery Nurses – see (d) below);

- (d) That two years of Pay Protection be offered to Nursery Nurses calculated on net loss having allowed for any increase in base pay for contracted term time working hours;
- (e) That an Implementation Payment (known as ‘Back Pay’) be offered to all employees who gain through job evaluation equivalent to 12 months pay at the new pay rate;
- (f) That the settlement of issues and unissued Equal Pay claims be approved in accordance with the strategy set out in the report;
- (g) That the use of the Equal Pay/Single Status Reserve as set out in the report be approved and the option to capitalise a proportion of the costs of settling Equal Pay be retained;
- (h) That the investment levels in the new Agreement as set out in the report be approved and the inclusion of this investment in the Medium Term Financial Plan be endorsed;
- (i) That the non-inclusion of all employees at the Clwyd Theatr Cymru workgroups from the Single Status Agreement be agreed on the grounds set out in the report, pending fuller advice and review, noting that a resolution on removing the risk of any Equal Pay claim liability will need to follow;
- (j) That the Equalities Impact Assessment and its conclusions be noted as an underpinning assessment to the Single Status Agreement; and
- (k) That the draft employment policies for Appeals against Job Evaluation Outcomes and Maintenance be adopted and delegated authority be granted to the Chief Executive and Head of Human Resources and Organisational Development to add to and amend the detail of the policies in consultation with the Trade Unions and the portfolio Cabinet Members.

**57. ATTENDANCE BY MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

There were no members of the press or public present.

The meeting commenced at 2.00p.m. and finished at 4.25p.m.

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**Chair**