

# **STAFFORDSHIRE MOORLANDS DISTRICT COUNCIL**

## **Extraordinary Council Meeting**

### **Minutes**

**Wednesday, 19 October 2016**

PRESENT: Councillor B. Emery (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors F.R. Alcock, C. Atkins, A. Banks, M. Bowen, M. Deaville, E. Fallows, A. Forrester, M. Gledhill, D.A. Hall, K. Harrison, A. Hart, N. Hawkins, C.G. Heath, I. Herdman, B. Hughes K. Jackson, C. Jebb, B. Johnson, J. Jones, I. Lawson, L. Lea, M.A. Lovatt, L. Malyon, D. Ogden, R. Plant, S. Ralphs MBE, J. Redfern, T. Riley, P. Roberts, S. Scalise, D. Shaw, E. Wain, R Ward, A. Wilkinson, P. Wilkinson, and P. Wood.

APOLOGIES: Councillors G. Bond, J. Davies, R. Done, J. Bull, S. Ellis, K. Flunder, D. Grocott, P. Jackson, G. Lockett, M.M. Lovatt, I. Lucas, T. McNicol, C. Pearce, N. Podmore, H. Sheldon MBE, D. Trigger, J. Walley, C. Wood and M. Worthington.

#### **31. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations were made.

#### **32. COUNCILLOR J. BULL**

The council considered a motion of no confidence with regards to Councillor Julie Bull and, given concerns relating to her suitability to continue in her role as Chairman of the District Council, also considered whether the authority should write to the Department for Communities and Local Government to consider changing Section 3 of the Local Government Act 1972 with view to providing local authorities with the power to remove a local authority chairman.

Members considered in considerable depth recent events with regards to a complaint made against the conduct of Councillor Bull and her subsequent actions which it was thought had led to the reputation of the authority and the office of Chairman of the Council being placed under adverse scrutiny. Councillors also expressed frustration that, given the terms of Section 3 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Authority did not have the ability to remove the Chairman of the Council and associated resources.

A named vote having been called, voting was as follows:-

Those voting **FOR**:

Councillors Alcock, Atkins, Banks, Bowen, Deaville, Emery, Fallows, Forrester, Gledhill, Hall, Harrison, Hart, Hawkins, Heath, Herdman,

Hughes, K. Jackson, Jebb, Johnson, Jones, Lawson, Lea, M.A. Lovatt, Malyon, Ogden, Plant, Ralphs, Redfern, Riley, Roberts, Scalise, Shaw, Wain, Ward, A. Wilkinson, P. Wilkinson and P. Wood. **(37)**

There were no votes against or abstentions.

RESOLVED - That a motion of no confidence with regards to Councillor Julie Bull be carried and that the Council writes to the Department for Communities and Local Government to request that consideration be given to changing Section 3 of the Local Government Act 1972 with view to providing local authorities with the power to remove a local authority chairman.

The Meeting closed at 7.22 p.m.

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Date Chairman