



Extraordinary Meeting Minutes of Hednesford Town Council

Monday 03rd February 2025

Pye Green Community Centre, Bradbury Lane, Hednesford, WS12 4EP

Present:

Cllr Alan Pearson
Cllr Ron Turville
Cllr Arthur Roden
Cllr Paul Jones
Cllr Sheila Cartwright
Cllr Ann Turville
Cllr Debbie Cartwright
Cllr Shirley Pearson

In attendance from Hednesford Town Council:

Lindsey Smith - Chief Officer

Members of the Public:

There were 0 members of the public present

3. Apologies:

Cllr Garry Samuels – prior personal commitment

4. Declaration of Interest

None received

6. Business of Meeting

The Chairman requests to amend/remove the Chief Officers responsibility, as per the Committee Delegations 2024 resolved by full council (agenda item 5 - 4th June 2024) (accepted as true record – 16th July 2024) to

"Appoint all employees in accordance with the council's staff structure and /or budget agreement" (page 8 bullet point 12 Hednesford Town Council Committee Delegations 2024)

Cllr A Roden requested that votes be named

Proposed: Cllr A Roden

Second: Cllr P Jones

Agreed: Cllr A Pearson, Cllr R Turville, Cllr A Roden, Cllr P Jones, Cllr A Turville, Cllr S Cartwright, Cllr D Cartwright

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Action: Named voting to be recorded

Cllr A Pearson informed that the Chief Officer was correct regarding the interview process and that the signing of the Committee Delegations has been an oversight on his part and also on the wider part of Members

Cllr A Pearson read out the proposal:

I move, that, with immediate effects, any powers or authorities previously delegated or implied to Officers relating to the appointment, retention and dismissal of employees be revoked and in future:

- a. Arrangements for the recruitment of employees to fill vacancies or for new posts to be agreed by the Council including terms and conditions of service, job descriptions and advertising
- b. A panel of 3 Members including Chairperson or Vice Chairperson of the Council, the Chairperson or Vice Chairperson of Finance, Operations and Personnel Committee and one other Member of the council be appointed and given authority to:

Select candidates to be interviewed for any post being recruited by the council Interview and appoint new employees with the assistance of such professional advice as may be deemed necessary i.e.: the first officer, clerk to council or rep including any professional that council deem appropriate

That as a matter of urgency, the council review the procedures relating to grievances and discipline (including dismissal) with the intention of ensuring that elected members can be included as appropriate in the process

An intense discussion followed regarding the proposal

Proposed: Cllr A Pearson

Second: Cllr R Turville

Agreed: Cllr A Pearson, Cllr R Turville, Cllr S Cartwright, Cllr S Pearson, Cllr D Cartwright, Cllr A Turville

Against: Cllr A Roden, Cllr P Jones

Abstain: 0

Action: Motion carried

Proposed: Cllr A Pearson

Second: Cllr D Cartwright

Agreed: Cllr A Pearson, Cllr R Turville, Cllr S Cartwright, Cllr S Pearson, Cllr D Cartwright, Cllr A Turville

Against: Cllr A Roden, Cllr P Jones

Action: Cllr S Cartwright elected to be third Member for recruitment process

Chief Officer requested list of questions from Cllrs for the PGCC Officer interviews on 6th February 2025 by 5pm 03rd February 2025

12. Date and Time of Next Meeting

Tuesday 03rd February 2025

Meeting closed at 10:15am

Signed:

Date: