

# NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

## CABINET

**Monday, 29 January 2007**

**PRESENT:** Councillor Hadland (Chair); Councillor Palethorpe (Deputy Chair);  
Councillors Caswell, Flavell, Larratt and Miah

### 1. APOLOGIES

None.

### 2. MINUTES

The minutes of the meetings of the Cabinet held on 4 and 19 December 2006 and 8 January 2007 were signed by the Chair.

### 3. DEPUTATIONS/PUBLIC ADDRESSES

**RESOLVED:** (1) That N Adams, L Avery, C Bricher, M Clark, A Gilbert, C Grethe, D Green, D Munday, P Southworth, D Turtle, H Tuttle, D Randall and Councillor Woods be granted leave to address the Cabinet in respect of Item 8 "Budget 2007/08 to 2009/10".

(2) That A Timpson and W Kirkham be granted leave to address the Cabinet in respect of Item 12 "Sheltered Housing Review".

### 4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

### 5. ISSUES ARISING FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

None.

### 6. COMMUNITY VISION FOR 2031 (CPFSP)

The Operational Manager for Recovery Policy & Governance submitted a report that had attached to it the current draft of the Community Vision following consultation at the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) Conference held on 5 December 2006. The intention was to have a single vision for the Town that all the separate public bodies were signed up to. Following any comments that the Cabinet wished to make, the draft would be presented to the LSP Board on 2 February 2007 for adoption following which a new Community Strategy for 2007/11 would be developed. It was intended that the final Community Strategy would be completed by 1 April 2007.

Councillor Hadland proposed that the fifth bullet point for 2011 should read, "Be well served by modern and efficient public services;".

Councillor Larratt suggested that under 2031 the heading under "Be a major regional cultural and economic centre;" should place greater emphasis on enhancing the skills base of the workforce within the Town.

**RESOLVED:** That subject to the suggestions put forward being included, the Community Vision for 2031 be approved for consideration and agreement by the LSP Board.

## **7. CORPORATE PLAN 2007/08- 2011/12 (CPFSP)**

The Operational Manager for Recovery Policy & Governance submitted a report and commented that the Cabinet had, at its meeting on 25 September 2006, approved priorities for 2007/08 to 2011/12. These priorities had been used to inform the development of the Medium Term Financial Strategy as part of the Council's budget setting process for the 2007/08 budget. However, owing to the extent of the policy options currently under consultation and consideration as part of the budget process, it was not feasible for full objectives and targets in advance of those decisions to be made by Council on 13 February 2007. Therefore it was suggested that a meeting of Councillors and senior managers take place on 27 February to do this work and consequently to allow managers to draw up Service Plans to be in place by 1 April 2007.

**RESOLVED:** That the report be received and that the new timetable for developing the Corporate Plan for 2007/08 to 2011/12 be approved.

## **8. BUDGET 2007/08 TO 2009/10 (CPFSP)**

The Director of Finance submitted a report that summarised the General Fund revenue budget position for 2007/08. It included reference to the consultation process and outcomes and set out the statutory requirements for budget setting. The Cabinet was invited to recommend a robust and balanced budget for consideration by Council on 13 February 2007. He further commented that there were two key targets to be met, firstly £1.146m in efficiency savings, which were currently under consultation with staff and secondly the need to meet the £3.1m funding gap. It would be a challenging situation for the Council to be able to implement these reductions in a single financial year. It was recommended that accordingly general reserves should be not less than £3m for 2007/08.

Councillor Hadland commented that the funding gap of £3.1m had been widely reported and the Cabinet had produced, at its meeting on 8 January 2007, a list of budget options £1m greater than the savings required. This list had been the result of many meetings and hours of discussion before Christmas. The public consultation process had been short but had focused the attention of the public and the response had been beyond anything that had been previously experienced. In total there had been around ten thousand responses, some seven and a half thousand of these by means of two petitions. He commented that no decision would be made at this meeting as some further work needed to be undertaken to produce a balanced budget. However he would be able to make the following announcements:

- Lings Forum: There had been a tremendous response to the options and this facility would be kept open and consideration be given to increasing the level of charges in Leisure Services.
- Neighbourhood Wardens: These posts were widely valued and would be safeguarded and extra funding made available working with partners. ...
- Community Grants: The Council would spend over £600,000 on community grants and this process was being reviewed with a view to making a reduction of £50,000.

- **Street Scene:** Grounds Maintenance, parks and graffiti were all important issues concerning the local environment and a small reduction would be made but this was within the context of a budget that was in excess of £5m. Cleanliness was a responsibility of all citizens and the Town needed to build a culture of keeping itself clean so that funding could go further.
- **Theatres:** The proposals to reduce funding had been widely publicised and, in fact, had been notified over a number of previous years. The Council would continue to fund the theatres but the issue was what that share should be. Since Derngate opened in 1984 tax payers had contributed £50m towards their funding. The Council would work with the Trust to identify support from other major partners. It was now proposed to reduce funding by £200,000 in this financial year and the same amount in the following financial year.
- **Council Tax:** The proposed increase in Council Tax was now 4.95% as against 3%. This represented an additional increase of eight pence per week for a band D property. 80 to 90% of properties within Northampton were band D or less.
- **Leisure Centres:** Energy costs had risen sharply to the Leisure Centres, as had for residents generally and therefore charges would be reviewed to cover these increased costs.
- **Public Conveniences:** These were very costly to run and where there were other facilities available these would be closed. However they would be retained in situations where there were no alternatives, for example, in the parks.

Councillor Larratt commented that the cleanliness of the Town was important and that the Council had a good record of operation with its grounds maintenance, litter and graffiti teams. The budget for this was £5.5m per year and it was important that levels of service were maintained. It was proposed that the street cleaning budget would be reduced by £150,000, the grounds maintenance budget by £150,000 and graffiti removal by £60,000. The Council would be working hard to reduce the effects of this reduction in funding. Savings were being investigated on the purchase or leasing of equipment. Councillor Larratt stressed that in respect of public conveniences these facilities would be maintained in the Council's parks. He further commented that the numbers of park rangers would be reduced and, if possible, some of their role transferred to the Neighbourhood Wardens.

Councillor Flavell commented that the Neighbourhood Wardens had already proved themselves to be a valuable resource. It was right, however, that the service be considered as an option and views on it canvassed. The Council remained committed to the continuation of the Neighbourhood Wardens and the seventeen currently in post would remain. This role was vital to joint work with the Police and other agencies. A further £100,000 would be made available for community safety proposals.

In respect of Lings Forum, Councillor Flavell commented that this and sports development would remain open. There had been powerful arguments from the public for the use of Lings Forum; twenty schools used the swimming pool in term time. Consideration would be given

to increasing income across all of leisure services to help meet the costs. Sports development were involved in a number of community projects, all of which were essential to the cohesion of Northampton.

Councillor Palethorpe commented that the extra £100,000 for community safety proposals would be given to the Police for the provision of six further PCSOs in Northampton. The Police would be contributing extra funding as well. This work tied in with the facilities provided at Lings Forum, those provided by sports development, street scene, etc. In respect of community grants he commented that the Council currently funded £1.125m, half of which went to the theatres. He thanked the voluntary sector for their openness and honesty in responding to the consultation, noting that some groups were able to access other sources of funding. Many accepted that the Council had a finite pot of money available to it. The amount of money available for community grants would still be over £600,000 in 2007/08. Currently a review was being undertaken of the groups that the Council supported and the voluntary sector were represented on the panel that was considering this. Priority would always be given for services that the Council could not deliver itself and to the most vulnerable groups in society, for example the victims of domestic violence.

In respect of the theatres, Councillor Palethorpe noted that some 60% of the four thousand signature petition were from people who lived outside of the Borough. The £650,000 grant given to the theatres represented £11 of a band D Council Tax payer's annual payment. £200,000 reduction would equate to a £7.50 payment by a band D Council Tax payer. It seemed appropriate that the theatres took a higher share of the reduction than the voluntary sector. He was aware of concerns that the Arts Council and others might withdraw funding, which was why the funding reduction was £200,000 for 2007/08 and not increased for the following year. Discussion would continue with the County Council to increase their funding. The reduction in funding would equate to £1.40 on the price of a theatre ticket.

Councillor Hadland commented that the options document also referred to events, events licensing and arts development. These headings had been amalgamated into one £380,000 saving. No events would be lost but a charge would be made for the Balloon Festival. Regrettably the Council could no longer afford the tourism service, which would make a saving of £275,000.

D Munday, Chief Executive of the Theatres Trust, commented that users of the theatres from outside of the Borough brought a £20m spend to Northampton annually, including income to the Council's car parks. Until recently the Borough had five Councillors on the Board of the Trust including Councillors Hadland and Flavell. If there were ways for the Trust to be more commercial then these would have already been explored and implemented. She was concerned that if the £200,000 reduction in funding was carried through then the WNDC, EMDA, the Arts Council and others would withdraw funding and in some cases also claw back grants that had been given as part of the recent refurbishment. She was also concerned about comments that the consultation exercise had not statistically represented the public's views and queried why, in that case, the Council was using them to base its own decisions on. The Trust statistics were from its own customer base.

D Green on behalf of Northampton Trades Union Council and Pensioners' Voice commented that they were continuing to petition the public and would hand this in at the Council meeting on 13 February. The backtracking of the Administration was welcome but he remained opposed to all of the cuts proposed as they had an effect on all residents' lives and the creation of a pleasant environment. He commented that cutbacks and privatisations had to stop before there was nothing left. The proposals for increased charges might affect usage and further make the viability of facilities questionable.

D Randall, on behalf of Northampton Enterprise Limited, commented that the decision in respect of tourism was disappointing. Tourism represented £235m annually to Northampton. The implications of this decision were not only the closure of the Tourist Information Centre but also the promotional budget for the Town and County. He considered that EMDA and East Midlands Tourism were likely to reduce their funding. Redundancies were likely to cost Northampton Enterprise Limited in the region of £125,000 and he queried a moral obligation to these individuals who had recently transferred from the Council. He considered that this decision would not benefit Northampton.

C Grethe, Community Co-Chair of the Disabled Forum, commented that the announcement in respect of community grants was good news provided that vulnerable groups were not at risk. He welcomed the decision in respect of Lings Forum and the Council's general backtracking. Account needed to be taken of what the public had said.

L Avery thanked the Council for the decision to save Lings and hoped that this would be ongoing and would not lead to further proposals for privatisation or the lifting of the existing covenant on the land. She was generally concerned about staff losses, if not at Lings, but elsewhere in the Council's services. She was also concerned about community grants. She queried when the decision had been taken to restrict public speaking at Council meetings. She considered that the public consultation had been a debacle and that proper notice of meetings had not been given. She also wondered whether the backtracking would only last until the elections in May. She also sought assurances about further investment in Lings Forum.

A Gilbert, on behalf of Northampton Volunteering Centre, commented that her organisation supported other voluntary organisations to work effectively. She was pleased with the news in respect of community sector grants and stated that the Council must have a clear strategy for what services were needed in Northampton. She supported comments made about the consultation process, which had been especially difficult for the voluntary sector. She was concerned about the proposals for charges for community centres which provided vital facilities for local communities.

M Clark commented that she worked for the community centre in St James and was concerned about the proposed cuts in services that supported well-being in the Town. She commented that the consultation had not given enough information about the options and impact of the proposals. There had been no prior information available at the consultation events. She was pleased that there were now some changes to the options but commented that the £50,000 reduction to the voluntary sector would cause difficulties. She commented that community centres were at the heart of local communities and enjoyed wide usage by a number of different groups. She commented that Councillors should ring fence funding to the voluntary sector.

N Adams commented that the Community Vision, elsewhere on the Cabinet's agenda, referred to, in 2011 Northampton being a safer and cleaner place. But these options would cut back services to these areas. It seemed as if the Council was going backwards. He commented that it was not so much a vision but more of a mirage. He supported the decision in respect of Lings and commented that it needed further investment. He also supported the position of the theatres. He commented that all these cuts should be resisted because if they went through then other service areas would be at risk in future.

H Tuffell, on behalf of Kingsley Pensioners Voice, commented on the statutory Concessionary Fares Scheme and its effect on the Council's finances. He commented that Central Government had given some £350m to Local Government for implementing the scheme and if the Council had not received the right amount of funding this was its own fault. He also referred to the decision many years previously of the Council to sell off the bus

company. He commented that the bus services should be run on a not for profit basis. In respect of the proposals for a Council Tax increase of 4.95% he commented that pensioners were on a fixed income and how was it expected that they were going to be able to afford to pay this increase.

Mr Bricher commented that the Council had been elected to serve the public. He queried the exclusion of public addresses at the Council meeting. He welcomed the decision in respect of Lings Forum and commented that any reduction in the grant to the Theatres Trust should be done through negotiation. He commented that the Council Tax was already too high and that if shops in Northampton were not prepared to contribute towards the Christmas lights then they should be ended. He also commented that central Government should fund the bus services. He commented that savings could be made in not employing consultants, reducing the Mayoralty and cutting the civic newspaper. He commented that staff should be left alone unless the Council wanted to make them feel unloved as with their County Council colleagues. He suggested that other facilities could be moved into the One Stop Shop but that closing Council offices in more deprived areas of the Town was not sensible.

Councillor Woods commented that his group had identified the principle that the budget "should do no harm" and that reductions should be made through increased efficiency and income generation. He also commented that he believed that savings could be made in back office operations. He was pleased that the Administration had stepped back from closing Lings or ending the Neighbourhood Warden service. However, they were concerned about any cuts to the key voluntary sector organisations and felt that services in respect of the cleanliness of the Town needed to be maintained and improved and was not sure of what was now being proposed. His group also wished to see regeneration projects driven forward and properly funded. He welcomed the saving of the sports development function but hoped that this would be extended to arts development. His group were continuing to look for alternatives to make savings. He commented that the £3.1m funding cap could only be met by the Council operating more efficiently.

P Southworth, on behalf of Northampton Enterprise and the Theatres Trust, commented that he supported the statements made about the Theatres Trust and tourism. He commented that in private business there was a need to constantly review costs and to maintain income. He commented that the options under consideration appeared not to deal with the income question and he noted that the likely redundancies from the options would cost hundreds of thousands of pounds but the consequent loss of investment in Northampton would be much more. He felt that the financial situation in the Town would worsen.

J West, Chair of Northampton Arts Collective, commented that she was opposed to all the proposed cuts as they affected residents' quality of life. Taken together with the cuts made by the County Council, the situation was bleak. She commented that although culture was not vital like some services, it was about quality of life. She commented that the proposed cuts to the arts would have a catastrophic effect on culture in Northampton. She commented that the Council should be examining ways of increasing its income and its own internal workings. There was a danger that the Town would become a city run by a parish council.

Mr Turtle queried how the Council had got into its current mess and that the proposals appeared to be tinkering at the edges. He queried whether this situation would arise again next year and that the debate about the issues needed to be better than had been so far.

Councillor Hadland thanked all those that had spoken for their contribution and indicated that a further meeting of the Cabinet would be held on 5 February 2007 to consider other options and alternative savings in order to produce a balanced budget. He commented that it was difficult for the Council to expand its income base and that it operated within a financial

straightjacket. He commented that further public comments during the forthcoming week would be welcome and taken into account.

**RESOLVED:** That having regard to the responses to the consultation process so far, that a further meeting of the Cabinet be held on 5 February 2007 on the rising of the meeting already scheduled for that evening in order to give further consideration to the budget and make recommendations to Council on 13 February 2007.

## **9. HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT; RENT SETTING 2007/08 (RO)**

### **(A) Housing Revenue Account Forecast Outturn 2006/07**

Councillor Miah submitted a report that set out the anticipated outturn position for the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) for 2006/07 and identified the impact of capital financing upon it and also identified the level of working balances anticipated at 1 April 2007. He noted in Appendix 1, the improved level of balances and the improvements on voids and gas servicing, which had led to seventy properties being brought back into use, which represented £450,000 income.

**RESOLVED:** (1) That the anticipated HRA outturn position as set out in Appendix 1 to the report be noted.

(2) That the HRA earmarked reserves set out in Appendix 4 of the report be transferred back into HRA working balances.

(3) That the anticipated revenue impact of the financing of the HRA Capital Programme be approved.

### **(B) Housing Revenue Account Budgets 2007/08 to 2009/10**

Councillor Miah submitted a report that set out the proposed HRA rent increases for 2007/08 according to the Government's rent restructuring regime and also gave consideration to the overall HRA budgets for 2007/08 and forecast budgets for 2008/09 and 2009/10.

**RESOLVED:** (1) That an average rent increase of 4.76% per dwelling per week (on a forty eight week basis) in line with the Government's rent restructuring regime be approved with effect from 1 April 2007.

(2) That the Warden and Call Care charges (excluding Eleanor House) be increased in line with the sheltered housing review as set out Appendix 5 of the report.

(3) That the heating and Eleanor House service charges be increased by 3.6% as set out in Appendix 5 of the report.

(4) That garage charges be increased by 5% as set out in Appendix 5 of the report.

(5) That the budgets for 2007/08 as set out in Appendices 1 and 2 of the report be approved subject to the result of the HRA re-basing exercise being brought back to a future meeting of the Cabinet.

(6) That the potential reprioritisation of services as set out in Appendices 3 and 4 of the report be approved.

### (C) Housing Revenue Account Capital Programme 2006/07 Onwards

Councillor Miah submitted a report that set the parameters and context for the Housing Revenue Account Capital Programme and its financing for 2006/07 onwards. He also referred to the investment to meet the Decent Homes Standard. In answer to a question, it was noted that the Window Replacement Programme should be generally completed during the forthcoming year with only small numbers of properties being identified via the stock condition survey for this work in future. It was also noted that an unallocated budget of £4.6m had been identified subject to the identification of works necessary to meet the Decent Homes Standard.

- RESOLVED:**
- (1) That the revised Housing Revenue Account Capital Programme for 2006/07 as set out in Appendices A and B of the report be approved.
  - (2) That the draft HRA Capital Programme for 2007/08 and onwards as set out in Appendix A be approved.
  - (3) That the financing options contained within the report be noted and that the implications of revenue contributions to capital expenditure be incorporated into the HRA revenue and budgets and forecast outturn position as detailed in Items 9 (A) and (B) above.

### **10. CAPITAL STRATEGY 2007/08- 2009/2010 (CPFSP)**

Councillor Hadland submitted a report that set out amendments to the Programme agreed by Cabinet on 19 December 2006 and which also proposed an approach to be taken relating to some items of slippage and schemes to be undertaken as part of the Urban Enhancement Programme. He noted a virement of £35,000 to purchase the Performance Management Software from the PC Replacement Programme and that the Capital Strategy had been updated. Councillor Hadland commented that consultation should be widened in appropriate cases to outside of the Council and commented that Northampton Partnership had now been replaced by Northamptonshire Enterprise Limited.

The Director of Finance commented on new funding that had been received from GOEM for the delivery of decent homes within the private sector housing stock and so that this funding could be used for disabled facilities grants. He noted that the Capital Strategy would be part of the Capital Programme which itself would reflect the Council's other policies.

Councillor Miah welcomed the additional funding to Care & Repair.

In respect of the Urban Enhancement Programme schemes Councillor Larratt queried the timetable for works for railings around the bowling rinks at the Racecourse. The Chief Executive undertook to pursue this matter on behalf of Councillor Larratt.

- RESOLVED:**
- (1) That the virement of £35,000 for Performance Management Software be approved.
  - (2) That the virements and savings relating to private sector housing grants as set out in Appendix A of the report be approved.
  - (3) That the principles relating to the movement of budgets between financial years for specific types of capital scheme (slippage) as outlined in the report be approved.



- (4) That the criteria set out in Appendix B against which potential schemes for the Urban Enhancement Programme are to be considered be approved.
- (5) That the potential schemes to be delivered as part of the Urban Enhancement Programme set out in Appendix C be approved.
- (6) That the revised Corporate Capital Strategy set out in Appendix D of the report be approved.

## **11. ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN 2007 (CPFSP)**

Councillor Hadland submitted a report that set out and updated the Asset Management Plan that would guide the management of the Borough's property assets in accordance with known corporate priorities. He noted that the report should be re-titled to cover 2006/07 and 2007/08. The Asset Manager commented that the plan set out the strategic priorities for the management and stewardship of the Council's property assets. He commented that until service plans had been agreed the plan could not fully reflect service needs but that it would evolve as these became known.

**RESOLVED:** That the Asset Management Plan for 2006/07 to 2007/08 as set out in Appendix 1 to the report be adopted.

## **12. SHELTERED HOUSING REVIEW (RO)**

A Timpson commented that this was the third or fourth review of sheltered housing over recent years. She was concerned at the suggestion that some units might be decommissioned, especially in the context of an aging population. She did agree that sheltered housing must meet the needs of residents but there was an issue of how these needs were identified and who was going to carry that out. She commented that the consultation process had been flawed and carried out at short notice. The report did raise issues of how the service would be delivered and what the future role of a warden would be. She commented that it was important for the Council to listen to both the providers and the receivers of the service.

W Kirkham commented that she was a warden and agreed with the comments made by A Timpson. She was concerned that money was being put before welfare. She commented that the forms had not been understood by residents and that wardens were not allowed to help individuals complete them. She had become an assessor but had received no training. She commented that this was an important matter, as it dealt with individuals' futures and quality of life. She commented that some individuals with mental health issues had not had these recognised. Throughout the process there had been no option to keep the existing service. She commented that the wardens worked hand in hand with the Neighbourhood Wardens. She queried whether the Cabinet were aware of the cuts the review represented.

Councillor Miah submitted a report that proposed a new service delivery model for the sheltered housing service and charges to support that service. He commented that individuals had different needs and that this proposal was a better use of resources; targeted at those with the greatest need. He had been assured that the assessment process had been carried out properly.

The Sheltered Housing Review Project Manager commented that the report set out the results of the review of sheltered housing, which was currently split between wardens and Call Care Service. The present service was not tailored enough towards residents' needs.

The service in future would be customer led and would have three levels, Level 1 being a monthly warden visit plus twenty four hour intercom connection to Call Care, Level 2 being three warden visits per week, plus twenty four hour intercom connection to Call Care and Level 3 being a daily warden visit during weekends plus twenty four hour intercom connection to Call Care. He appreciated the comments made about the assessment process but believed that these had been arrived at fairly. Forty percent of users had been assessed at Level 1, fifty five percent at Level 2 and four percent at Level 3. Notwithstanding this all residents would be written to, given details of their assessment and charges and given the opportunity to appeal against the assessment. He noted that the new employee structure was subject to consultation with individuals and the Trades Unions. It was hoped that the reducing staff levels could be achieved through maintaining vacancies, redeployments and staff turnover.

In answer to a question the Corporate Manager Housing Services commented that the provision of future sheltered housing would be through the Housing Strategy and the affordable housing element of this. Councillor Palethorpe noted that 83% of funding for this came via this Supporting People Grant and that a 10 to 15% reduction of the £13.5m budget was a sizeable proportion. The Council needed to ensure that it did not suffer from the proposed cuts by the County Council.

It was noted that the assessment form was a commonly agreed document that had been drawn up with Social Care and Nursing Services. It was meant to be simple and led individuals through the process.

- RESOLVED:**
- (1) That the proposed service delivery model for the sheltered housing service, the structuring of service provision to three levels as set out in the report be approved and implemented from April 2007.
  - (2) That the proposed support charges for the three service levels, subject to final negotiating with the supporting People Commissioning Body, be approved.
  - (3) That the proposals for achieving the target employee structure by April 2008 be approved.
  - (4) That as part of the wider Stock Condition Review and Asset Management Strategy further work be undertaken during 2007/08 to determine future investment or decommissioning options for sheltered schemes.

### **13. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

The Chair moved that the public and Press be excluded from the remainder of the meeting on the grounds that there was likely to be disclosure to them of such categories of exempt information as defined by Section 100(1) of the Local Government Act 1972 as listed against such items of business by reference to the appropriate paragraph of Schedule 12A to such Act.

The Motion was Carried.

### **14. REVENUE AND BENEFITS CONTRACT (CPFSP) (3)**

Councillor Miah submitted a report, which proposed the appointment of Kendric Ash Limited to provide a management consultancy service to the Revenues & Benefits Section following

a tendering exercise carried out under European tendering rules. The Corporate Manager, Housing Services noted that the contract would be for three years in the interest of sustainability of the improvements to the service.

- RESOLVED:** (1) That Kendric Ash Limited (“Kendric Ash”) be appointed to provide management consultancy services to the Revenues & Benefits Section of the Council (and associating services in connection with the service delivery).
- (2) That the Solicitor to the Council be authorised to agree formal contractual terms with Kendric Ash.

The meeting concluded at 20.55 hours