



Walsall Council

Minutes of the **ANNUAL MEETING** of the Council of the Walsall Metropolitan Borough held on **Monday 18th May, 2009, at 6.00 p.m.** at the Council House.

Present

Councillor T.G. Ansell (Mayor) in the Chair

Councillor A.G. Clarke (Deputy Mayor)

“ K. Aftab
“ A.J.A. Andrew
“ D.A. Anson
“ M. Arif
“ C.M. Ault
“ J.M. Barton
“ L.A. Beeley
“ M.A. Bird
“ C. Bott
“ P. Bott
“ R. Carpenter
“ B. Cassidy
“ K. Chambers
“ J. R. Cook
“ S.P. Coughlan
“ C.U. Creaney
“ B.A. Douglas-Maul
“ M. D. Flower
“ A.E. Griffiths
“ A.D. Harris
“ L.A. Harrison
“ E.F. Hughes
“ A.D. Johnson
“ M. Longhi
“ S.W. Madeley
“ Ms. R.A. Martin
“ Mrs. B.V. McCracken

Councillor M. Munir

“ Mushtaq Ahmed
“ M. Nazir
“ J.G. O'Hare
“ T.S.Oliver
“ A.J. Paul
“ G. Perry
“ K. Phillips
“ D.J. Pitt
“ Mrs. E.E. Pitt
“ M.G. Pitt
“ I.C. Robertson
“ J. Rochelle
“ B. Sanders
“ K. Sears
“ Mrs. D.A. Shires
“ I. Shires
“ P.E. Smith
“ C.D.D. Towe
“ D.J. Turner
“ W.T. Tweddle
“ A. Underhill
“ R.A. Walker
“ G. Wilkes
“ V.G. Woodruff
“ M. Yasin
“ P.A. Young
“ Zahid Ali

1. **Apologies**

Apologies for non-attendance were submitted on behalf of Councillors P. Hughes and Sarohi.

2. **Election of Mayor**

It was **moved** by Councillor Andrew and seconded by Councillor Zahid Ali:

That Councillor John Gregory O'Hare be elected Mayor of this Borough for the Municipal Year 2009/2010.

On being put to the vote the motion was declared carried and it was:-

Resolved

That Councillor John Gregory O'Hare be and is hereby elected Mayor of this Borough for the Municipal Year 2009/2010.

The Council adjourned to enable the Mayor to put on the robes and chain.

Councillor J.G. O'Hare (Mayor) in the Chair

The Mayor read and signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office. The Mayor thanked the Council for the honour conferred upon him.

3. **Appointment of Deputy Mayor**

It was **moved** by Councillor Tweddle and seconded by Councillor Bird:

That Councillor Arthur Gary Clarke be appointed Deputy Mayor of this Borough for the Municipal Year 2009/2010.

On being put to the vote the motion was declared carried and it was:-

Resolved

That Councillor Arthur Gary Clarke be and is hereby appointed Deputy Mayor of this Borough for the Municipal Year 2009/2010.

4. **Minutes**

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 20th April 2009, copies having been sent to each Member of the Council, be approved as a correct record and signed.

5. **Mayor's announcements**

(a) **Civic Sunday**

The Mayor stated that he proposed to visit St. Matthew's Parish Church on Sunday 14th June 2009.

(b) **Mayor's Charity**

The Mayor announced that monies raised during his year of office would be donated to the blind and deaf people of Walsall.

6. **Presentation of badges to retiring Mayor and Mayoress**

The Mayor presented badges to the retiring Mayor and Mayoress, Councillor T.G. Ansell and Mrs. R. Ansell.

7. **Vote of thanks to retiring Mayor and Mayoress**

It was **moved** by Councillor Perry, seconded by Councillor Longhi and:

Resolved

That the Council thank Thomas Gordon Ansell for the contribution he has made as Mayor to Walsall MBC and to the people who live and work in the Borough. Our thanks also go to Mrs. Ansell for her services as Mayoress. The Council warmly thanks you both.

Councillor Ansell replied.

8. **Adjournment**

At 6.40 p.m. it was **moved** by the Mayor, duly seconded and:

Resolved

That the Council adjourn until 6.00 p.m. on Wednesday 20th May 2009.

The meeting adjourned at 6.40 p.m.

Meeting reconvened at 6.00 p.m. on Wednesday 20th May 2009

The Mayor reminded the meeting that 2 hours 20 minutes remained for business to be transacted. The Mayor stated that with the approval of the Council he proposed to suspend Council procedure rule 13.1(a) to enable Councillor Oliver to move a motion relating to the introduction of Active Traffic Management on the M6 (a copy of which was circulated around the Council Chamber). The motion to be taken as the last item of business to be transacted at the meeting.

It was **agreed** unanimously that Council procedure rule 13.1(a) be suspended for the duration of the meeting.

Councillor Young requested members to convey their sympathy to the parents of a 5 year old pupil of North Willenhall Primary School who recently died.

9. Declarations of interest

Councillor M.G. Pitt declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Item 19 – Notice of motion – Building Schools for the Future.

Councillor I. Shires asked for advice regarding the late notice of motion relating to the Active Traffic Management Scheme which was proposed between Junctions 9 and 10A of the M6 motorway and whether he had a personal interest to declare.

The legal representative (Mr. Cox) informed Councillor I. Shires that in his opinion he had a personal interest, and potentially also a prejudicial one, because his property backed onto the motorway and the proposals could devalue his property, therefore his involvement in any decision could be seen to influence the vote. Potentially there was a risk.

10. Petitions

The following petitions were submitted:

- (1) Councillor Aftab – Active Traffic Management System M6
- (2) Councillor I. Shires – Sneyd School

11. **Formation of political groups**

The report was circulated around the Council Chamber.

Resolved

That the Council notes the receipt of returns from political groups.

12. **Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007**

The report was submitted.

It was **moved** by Councillor Bird, seconded by Councillor Andrew and it was:

Resolved

- (a) That no change be made to the scheme of elections .
- (b) That approval be given to the amendment of Article 7 of the Constitution regarding the appointment and removal of the Leader, to be effective immediately, as follows:

Appointment of the Leader

The Leader will be a Councillor elected to the position of Leader by the Council.

Where there is vacancy or imminent vacancy in the office of Leader the Chairperson shall request if there are any nominations for the office of Leader. Where nominations are received the normal voting rules shall apply.

The Leader's term of office ceases on earliest of

- the day after the annual Council following the normal date of retirement for the Councillor or
- the date he resigns office or
- the date the Council resolves that (s)he be removed from the office of Leader.

(imminent vacancy is defined as due to retire from office the following day)

Removal of the Leader

The Leader of the Council can only be removed from office if the Council so resolve following a notice of motion (subject to resignation, retirement or disqualification).

- (c) That group leaders be requested to inform the Chief Executive of their nominee to sit on a working group to oversee the changes to the executive arrangements.
- (d) That authority be delegated to the Chief Executive to carry out such consultation as is required to facilitate a consideration by the Council of a new model of executive arrangements within the permitted period

13. **Appointment of Leader of the Council**

It was **moved** by Councillor Andrew and seconded by Councillor Bird:

That Councillor M.A. Bird be appointed Leader of the Council for the municipal years 2009/2010 and 2010/2011.

On being put to the vote the motion was declared carried and it was:

Resolved

That Councillor M.A. Bird be appointed Leader of the Council for the municipal years 2009/2010 and 2010/2011.

14. **Appointment of Deputy Leader of the Council**

It was **moved** by Councillor Bird and seconded by Councillor Andrew:

That Councillor A.J.A. Andrew be appointed Deputy Leader of the Council for the municipal year 2009/2010.

On being put to the vote the motion was declared carried and it was:

Resolved

That Councillor A.J.A. Andrew be appointed Deputy Leader of the Council for the municipal year 2009/2010.

15. **Appointment of members to the Executive**

A list was circulated around the Council Chamber prior to the meeting.

It was **moved** by Councillor Bird, seconded by Councillor Andrew and:

Resolved

That the following members be appointed to the Cabinet for the municipal year 2009/2010:

Description of portfolio	Name of portfolio holder
1. Leader of the Council - overall responsibility for Vision for 2008, the corporate plan, communications and public relations, city region agenda, government relations and liaison with local MPs and West Midlands leaders. Local Area Agreement and Local Strategic Partnership.	Councillor Bird
2. Children's services - education services, including relationship with Education Walsall, social services for children, safeguarding and promoting welfare of children, looked after children and corporate parenting, care leavers, interagency cooperation, involvement of children and young people, youth parliament, children's trust arrangements, youth offending services, youth service, summer activities programme, school meals, school music services	Councillor Flower
3. Communities and partnerships – local neighbourhood partnerships, community engagement and consultation, local area plans, community associations, community safety agenda, Safer Walsall Partnership, equalities and diversity, voluntary and community sectors, customer contact.	Councillor Perry
4. Environment - waste management, clean and green agenda, sustainability, environmental health, cemeteries and crematoria, licensing, pollution control, Coroner Service and Registrars.	Councillor Walker
5. Finance and personnel - strategic and operational financial management, insurance and policy led budgeting. Financial regulations, audit, legal services, constitutional services; Mayor's office. Human resources and organisational development (including Member development).	Councillor Towe

- | | | |
|-----|--|----------------------|
| 6. | Leisure and culture - parks, leisure and culture services including the Art Gallery, libraries, adult learning, sports, museums and twinning. | Councillor Sanders |
| 7. | Business support services - performance management, strategic procurement, risk management and information technology. | Councillor Arif |
| 8. | Regeneration - economic development, urban regeneration company (URC), physical development, environmental regeneration, markets, property, New Deal for Communities (NDC), Black Country Consortium, West Midlands regeneration issues. Town and district centres. Planning policy and local development framework. | Councillor Andrew |
| 9. | Social care, health and housing - care services for older people and people with learning disabilities, people with physical disabilities and people with mental health needs, health partnership and the public health agenda, community meals and supporting people. Strategic housing role, housing partnerships, private sector housing, homelessness, and relationship with Walsall Housing Group (WHG). | Councillor McCracken |
| 10. | Transport – traffic and transportation, car parks, gateways and corridors, strategic transport and highways | Councillor Ansell |

16. **Appointments on Committees**

A list was circulated around the Council Chamber prior to the meeting.

It was **moved** by Councillor Bird, seconded by Councillor Andrew and:

Resolved

That the following members be appointed to Committees for the municipal year 2009/2010:

Audit Committee

Councillors Aftab, Chambers, Martin, Robertson, Rochelle, Sears, D. Shires
1 independent member

Appointments Board

Councillors Andrew, Bird, McCracken, Nazir, Oliver, E. Pitt, Towe
2 Cabinet members relevant to appointment
Labour group member relevant to appointment

Development Control Committee

Ward:

Aldridge Central and South	Rochelle
Aldridge North and Walsall Wood	Harris
Bentley & Darlaston North	Madeley
Birchills-Leamore	Barton
Blakenall	Robertson
Bloxwich East	Beeley
Bloxwich West	M. Pitt
Brownhills	Turner
Darlaston South	P. Bott
Paddock	Ali
Palfrey	Munir
Pelsall	Ault
Pheasey Park Farm	Bird
Pleck	Sarohi
Rushall-Shelfield	Carpenter
Short Heath	Cook
St. Matthews	Arif
Streetly	Douglas-Maul
Willenhall North	P. Hughes
Willenhall South	Underhill

Employment Appeals A

Councillors Carpenter, Chambers, Cook, Douglas-Maul, Martin, Paul, Phillips

Employment Appeals B

Councillors Ali, Cassidy, Harris, P. Hughes, Munir, Sarohi, Tweddle,

Licensing and Safety Committee

Councillors Aftab, Anson, Barton, Beeley, C. Bott, Clarke, P. Hughes, Mushtaq, Rochelle, Sarohi, Sears, Tweddle, Underhill, Wilkes

Standards Committee

Councillors Andrew, P. Hughes, M. Pitt, Wilkes
6 independent members

Children and Young People Scrutiny and Performance Panel

Councillors Beeley, Cassidy, Chambers, E. Hughes, Khan, Martin, Munir, Paul, E. Pitt

- 1 Lichfield Diocesan Education (voting)
- 1 Archbishop of Birmingham (voting)
- 3 Parent Governors (voting)
- 1 Primary Education Teachers (non-voting)
- 1 Secondary Education Teachers (non-voting)

Community Services Scrutiny and Performance Panel

Councillors Aftab, Ali, P. Bott, Creaney, Harrison, D. Pitt, M. Pitt, Robertson, I. Shires.

Corporate Scrutiny and Performance Panel

Councillors Cook, Coughlan, Harris, Longhi, Nazir, Rochelle, Turner, Yasin, Young

Environment Scrutiny and Performance Panel

Councillors Anson, C. Bott, Carpenter, Douglas-Maul, Harris, Phillips, D. Shires, Tweddle, Yasin

Health Scrutiny and Performance Panel

Councillors Ault, Carpenter, Creaney, Martin, Mushtaq, Nazir, Paul, Robertson, Woodruff

Regeneration Scrutiny and Performance Panel

Councillors Anson, Coughlan, Douglas-Maul, Harrison, Phillips, D. Pitt, Sears, I. Shires, Tweddle

Social Care and Inclusion Scrutiny and Performance Panel

Councillors Ault, Barton, E. Hughes, Martin, Oliver, Paul, Robertson, Turner, Woodruff

17. Appointment of Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Committees

A list was circulated around the Council Chamber prior to the meeting.

It was **moved** by Councillor Bird, seconded by Councillor Andrew and:

Resolved

That the following members be appointed Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Committees for 2009/2010:

Committee	Chairman	Vice-Chairman
Audit	Councillor Martin	Councillor Rochelle
Appointments Board	Councillor Bird	Councillor Andrew
Development Control	Councillor M. Pitt	Councillor Bird
Employment Appeals A	Councillor Douglas-Maul	Councillor Paul
Employment Appeals B	Councillor Zahid Ali	Councillor Tweddle
Licensing and Safety	Councillor Sears	Councillor C. Bott
Children's and Young People Scrutiny and Performance Panel	Councillor E. Hughes	Councillor E. Pitt
Community Services Scrutiny and Performance Panel	Councillor Harrison	Councillor Creaney
Corporate Scrutiny and Performance Panel	Councillor Longhi	Councillor Nazir
Environment Scrutiny and Performance Panel	Councillor Harris	Councillor Anson
Health Scrutiny and Performance Panel	Councillor Ault	Councillor Woodruff
Regeneration Scrutiny and Performance Panel	Councillor D. Pitt	Councillor Coughlan
Social Care and Inclusion Scrutiny and Performance Panel	Councillor Oliver	Councillor Ault

18. **Constitution and timetable of meetings 2009/10**

The report and supplementary report were submitted.

It was **moved** by Councillor Bird, seconded by Councillor Andrew and:

Resolved

- (1) That the amendments to Part 3 – Table 5 – Scheme of delegation to officers of non-executive functions of the Constitution as set out in Appendix 1 of the report be approved.
- (2) That reference in the Constitution to the Neighbourhood Scrutiny and Performance Panel be deleted and replaced with two new panels to be known as the Community Services Scrutiny and Performance Panel and the Environment Scrutiny and Performance Panel and that Article 6 and Part 3.2 of the Constitution be amended to include the following remits:

Community Services Scrutiny and Performance Panel

Remit

All aspects and general services related to serving the community, for example community safety, leisure and culture, the local strategic partnership, third sector co-ordination and to review or scrutinise decisions made or other actions taken in connection with the discharge by the responsible authorities of their crime and disorder functions (no less than twice in every 12 months) as required by the Police and Justice Act, 2006, within the functions set out in section 21 of the Local Government Act 2000

Environment Scrutiny and Performance Panel

Remit

All aspects and general services related to the environment such as waste management, highways maintenance, grounds maintenance and traffic management, within the functions set out in Section 21 of the Local Government Act, 2000.

- (3) That reference in the Constitution to the Health, Social Care and Inclusion Scrutiny and Performance Panel be deleted and replaced with two new panels to be known as the Health Scrutiny and Performance Panel and the Social Care and Inclusion Scrutiny and Performance Panel and that Article 6 and Part 3.2 of the Constitution be amended to include the following remits:

Health Scrutiny and Performance Panel

Remit

All aspects and general services related to health service matters, for example, health partnership matters and the public health agenda as conferred under the Health and Social Care Act 2001 within the functions set out in section 21 of the Local Government Act 2000.

Social Care and Inclusion Scrutiny and Performance Panel

Remit

All aspects and general services related to social care and inclusion for example; adult services and strategic housing matters as conferred under the Health and Social Care Act 2001 within the functions set out in section 21 of the Local Government Act 2000.

- (4) That as a result of the land and property function being transferred from the Neighbourhoods directorate to the Regeneration directorate, reference to land and property be included within the remit of the Regeneration Scrutiny and Performance Panel and that Article 6 and Part 3.2 of the Constitution be amended as follows:

Regeneration Scrutiny and Performance Panel

All aspects and general services related to regeneration for example; economic, environmental and physical regeneration, planning, land and property and partnership working within the functions set out in section 21 of the Local Government Act 2000.

- (5) That the amendments to Article 6, Part 4.2 and Part 5 (new protocol 13) of the Constitution relating to Councillor Call for Action as set out in Appendix 3 of the report be approved.
- (6) That approval be given to the deletion of reference to the LEA Governor Appointment Panel from Part 3.2 of the Constitution and that the appointment and removal of LEA representative school governors be delegated to the Executive Director for Children's Services.
- (7) That the following amendment to Council procedure rules paragraph 15.9 (Right of reply) Part 4.1 of the Constitution be approved:
- “(c) The mover of the original motion which is or has become the substantive motion shall have a right of reply;”
- (8) That the timetable of meetings for the municipal year 2009/2010, as amended, be approved.

19. Appointments on outside bodies and charities

A list was circulated around the Council Chamber prior to the meeting and nominations were made as set out.

(a) Outside bodies

Resolved

That the following members be appointed to the undermentioned outside bodies for the municipal year 2009/10:

Local Government Association – General Assembly

Councillors Bird (2 votes), Douglas-Maul, Oliver, D. Shires

Local Government Association – Urban Commission

Councillor Douglas-Maul and 1 officer to be nominated

West Midlands Local Government Association Council

The Leader of the Council (Councillor Andrew alternate)

West Midlands Local Government Association Provincial Council

Councillor Douglas-Maul (Councillor Harris substitute)

West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority

Councillors Andrew, Chambers and Douglas-Maul and that Councillors Andrew and Douglas-Maul be nominated to answer questions on Fire and Rescue matters during 2009/10.

West Midlands Passenger Transport Authority

Councillors Clarke, Longhi and Wilkes and that Councillors Clarke and Longhi be nominated to answer questions on Passenger Transport Authority matters during 2009/10.

West Midlands Joint Committee

Councillors Bird (voting) Andrew (non-voting), Chambers (non-voting)

Advantage West Midlands Regeneration Zone

Councillor Andrew

Association of Black Country Authorities

Councillor Bird

Birmingham University Court

Councillor Flower

Black Country Groundwork Trust

Councillor Andrew

Black Country Consortium

The Leader of the Council (or nominee)

Forest of Mercia

Councillors Harrison, Phillips, D. Shires

Investigation of Air Pollution Standing Conference

Councillor Walker

Safer Walsall Borough Partnership

Councillor Perry

Steps to Work (Walsall) Limited

Councillor Ansell

Supporting People Commissioning Body

Councillor McCracken

Visionary Investment Enhancing Walsall Ltd

Councillors Andrew, McCracken, Robertson

Walsall and Wolverhampton Transport Users Advisory Committee

Councillor Douglas-Maul

Walsall Citizens Advice Bureau

Councillors Cassidy, Rochelle

Walsall Community Transport

Councillor Towe

Walsall Education Business Partnership

Councillors Andrew, Towe

Walsall Society for the Blind

Councillors Barton, Martin

West Midlands Joint Committee – Community Safety Sub-Committee

Councillor Perry

West Midlands Planning and Transportation Sub-Committee

Councillors Ansell (voting), Douglas-Maul (non-voting), Wilkes (non-voting)

West Midlands Superannuation Committee, Investment Advisory Sub-Committee and Joint Consultative Panel

Councillors Zahid (voting), Chambers (substitute)

Black Country Museum Trust

The following nominations were made to the Museum Trust:

Councillors Sanders and Wilkes

Following the nominations being put to the vote it was:

Resolved

That Councillor Sanders be appointed to the Black Country Museum Trust for the municipal year 2009/2010.

Housing Groups

The following nominations were received as set out in the list circulated:

Walsall Housing Group

Councillors Sanders, Coughlan, I. Shires

Darlaston Housing Group

Councillor P. Bott

The following nominations were made to Housing Groups:

Aldridge Brownhills

Councillors Paul and Cassidy

Bloxwich Housing Group

Councillor Tweddle and Robertson

Central Walsall Housing Group

Councillors Yasin and Nazir

Willenhall Housing Group

Councillors Creaney and P. Hughes

Following the nominations being put to the vote it was:

Resolved

That the following members be appointed to Housing Groups for the municipal year 2009/10:

Walsall	Councillors Coughlan, Sanders, I. Shires
Aldridge Brownhills	Councillor Paul
Bloxwich	Councillor Twedde
Central Walsall	Councillor Yasin
Darlaston	Councillor P. Bott
Willenhall	Councillor Creaney

Joint Committee for Civil Parking Enforcement of Parking and Traffic Regulations

The following nominations were made to the Joint Committee:

Councillors Ansell, Creaney and Paul

Following the nominations being put to the vote it was:

Resolved

That Councillor Ansell (Councillor Paul deputy) be appointed to the Joint Committee for Civil Parking Enforcement of Parking and Traffic Regulations for the municipal year 2009/10.

New Deal Board

The following nominations were made to the Board:

Councillors Beeley and Young

Following the nominations being put to the vote it was:

Resolved

That Councillor Beeley be appointed to the New Deal Board for the municipal year 2009/2010.

Shopmobility Management Board

The following nominations were made to the Board:

Councillors Andrew and Robertson

Following the nominations being put to the vote it was:

Resolved

That Councillor Andrew be appointed to the Shopmobility Management Board for the municipal year 2009/2010.

West Midlands Strategy Group

The following nominations were made to the Strategy Group:

Councillors Coughlan, Douglas-Maul and I. Shires

Following the nominations being put to the vote it was:

Resolved

That Councillors Coughlan and Douglas-Maul be appointed to the West Midlands Strategy Group for the municipal year 2009/2010.

Walsall Museum and Art Galleries Development Trust

The following nominations were made to the Development Trust:

Councillors Sanders and Wilkes

Following the nominations being put to the vote it was:

Resolved

That Councillor Sanders be appointed to the Walsall Museum and Art Galleries Development Trust for the municipal year 2009/10.

(b) Charities

Resolved

That the following members be appointed to serve on the undermentioned charities for the municipal year 2009/10:

Harper, Marsh and Crumps Almshouses

Councillor Chambers

Henry Boys Almshouses

Councillor P. Bott

Roger Hinton's Charity

The Mayor and Deputy Mayor

Walsall Hospice

The following nominations were made to Walsall Hospice:

Councillors Ansell and Nazir

Following the nominations being put to the vote it was:

Resolved

That Councillor Ansell be appointed to Walsall Hospice for the municipal year 2009/2010.

(c) Advisory and statutory bodies

Resolved

That the following members be appointed to serve on the undermentioned advisory bodies for the municipal year 2009/10:

Fostering Panel

Councillor Paul

Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education

Councillors Ault, Cook, Khan, Munir, Phillips, Rochelle, Turner

Adoption Panel

The following nominations were made to the Adoption Panel:

Councillors Carpenter and Creaney

Following the nominations being put to the vote it was:

Resolved

That Councillor Carpenter be appointed to serve on the Adoption Panel for the municipal year 2009/10.

Walsall Admission Forum

The following nominations were made to the Admission Forum:

Councillors Bird, Carpenter, Chambers and D. Shires

Following the nominations being put to the vote it was:

Resolved

That Councillors Bird and Carpenter be appointed to the Walsall Admission Forum for the municipal year 2009/10.

At this point in the meeting Councillor M.G. Pitt left the Council Chamber.

20. Notice of motion – Building Schools for the Future

The following motion, notice of which had been duly given was **moved** by Councillor Cassidy and duly seconded:

This Council welcomes the enormous opportunity provided by both “Building Schools for the Future” and the “Primary Capital Programme” to improve our Walsall schools. However, we also place on record our concerns in relation to the fact that Walsall Children’s Services/SERCO and the Cabinet do not have a coherent and well-planned strategy in place in relation to secondary school provision across our Borough.

This Council considers the debacle that has surrounded the proposed closure of Sneyd School to be a consequence of the aforementioned piecemeal approach to secondary education, and therefore resolves to take no further action in relation to school closures and transfers until such time that a borough-wide strategy can be formulated, presented and debated by Council.

Furthermore, this Council recognises as legitimate concerns raised by primary school parents, teachers and governors that cuts to their budgets – as agreed by the Schools Forum as a precept to “Building Schools for the Future” – could have a devastating effect on the extra levels of support to pupils in many disadvantaged areas of Walsall. This Council therefore determines to review this policy at the earliest opportunity.

Meeting adjourned at 7.10 p.m. due to disturbance in the Public Gallery.

Meeting recommenced at 7.15 p.m.

The Mayor reminded all present that this meeting was open to the public but was not a public meeting. He went on to request the public in the gallery not to heckle speakers. At the request of the Mayor the legal representative, Mr. Cox informed the meeting that the reason why Councillor M.G. Pitt had left the room was that he was a Governor of Sneyd School and had been advised that he had a personal and prejudicial interest in the matter under debate and had been advised to take this action.

On being put to the vote the motion was declared **lost** – the voting at the request of several members of the Council being recorded as follows:

**For the motion -
20 members**

Cllr: Oliver
I. Shires
Anson
Barton
C. Bott
P. Bott
Cassidy
Chambers
Cook
Coughlan
Creaney
Madeley
Nazir
Phillips
E.E. Pitt
Robertson
D.A. Shires
Smith
Wilkes
Young

**Against the motion -
27 members**

Cllr: Bird
Aftab
Ahmed
Andrew
Ansell
Arif
Ault
Carpenter
Clarke
Douglas-Maul
Flower
Griffiths
Harris
E. Hughes
Martin
McCracken
Munir
O'Hare
Paul
Perry
Rochelle
Sanders
Sears
Towe
Walker
Yasin
Zahid

Neutral – 4 members

Cllr. Beeley
Harrison
D.J. Pitt
Tweddle

Meeting adjourned at 7.40 p.m. in order to allow members of the public to leave the gallery.

Meeting recommenced at 7.50 p.m.

21. **Notice of motion – Active traffic management scheme – Junctions 9 and 10A of the M6 motorway**

The following motion was **moved** by Councillor Oliver and seconded by Councillor Coughlan:

This Council is dismayed at the lack of effective consultation with local residents by the Highways Agency in their plans for introducing Active Traffic Management (ATM) between junctions 9 and 10A of the M6 motorway. We believe that current proposals will have a significant detrimental impact on the quality of life of local people living in proximity of this major scheme.

This Council therefore instructs its officers to give every possible support to local residents in their campaign for:

- Change in the location of proposed ERAs (Emergency Relief Areas/lay bys) away from the current very close proximity for residents' houses.
- The most effective possible environmental screening and associated measures to reduce noise pollution and disruption.
- Proper monitoring of noise pollution and of any night-time working so as to reduce disruption for local residents.
- A proper environmental assessment to make good any damage being caused.

Amendment moved by Councillor Aftab and duly seconded:

This Council is dismayed at the lack of effective consultation with local residents by the Highways Agency in their plans for introducing Active Traffic Management (ATM) between junctions 9 and 10A of the M6 motorway. We believe that current proposals will have a significant detrimental impact on the quality of life of local people living in proximity of this major scheme.

This Council therefore directs the Chief Executive to write to the Secretary of State for Transport expressing the concerns of the local residents and requests that he instructs the contractors and the Highways Agency to:

- Change the location of proposed ERAs (Emergency Relief Areas/lay bys) away from the current very close proximity for residents' houses.
- Introduce most effective possible environmental screening and associated measures to reduce noise pollution and disruption.
- Ensures proper monitoring of noise pollution and of any night-time working so as to reduce disruption for local residents.
- Conduct a proper environmental assessment to make good any damage being caused.

Councillor Oliver raised a point of order under Council procedure rule 15.7(b) and requested that he be allowed to alter his motion to take in the points contained in the amendment moved by Councillor Aftab. Councillor Coughlan who seconded the motion indicated his consent.

The Mayor indicated to the meeting that he was not prepared to accept the proposal by Councillor Oliver.

On being put to the vote amendment was declared carried unanimously and became the substantive motion.

The substantive motion was put to the vote and declared carried and it was:

Resolved (unanimously)

This Council is dismayed at the lack of effective consultation with local residents by the Highways Agency in their plans for introducing Active Traffic Management (ATM) between junctions 9 and 10A of the M6 motorway. We believe that current proposals will have a significant detrimental impact on the quality of life of local people living in proximity of this major scheme.

This Council therefore directs the Chief Executive to write to the Secretary of State for Transport expressing the concerns of the local residents and requests that he instructs the contractors and the Highways Agency to:

- Change the location of proposed ERAs (Emergency Relief Areas/lay bys) away from the current very close proximity for residents' houses.
- Introduce most effective possible environmental screening and associated measures to reduce noise pollution and disruption.
- Ensures proper monitoring of noise pollution and of any night-time working so as to reduce disruption for local residents.
- Conduct a proper environmental assessment to make good any damage being caused.

The meeting terminated at 8.35 p.m.