



# CHARD TOWN COUNCIL

THE GUILDHALL, FORE STREET,  
CHARD, SOMERSET TA20 1PP  
[www.chard.gov.uk](http://www.chard.gov.uk)

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Mayor: Cllr Jill Shortland Acting Town Clerk: Sarah Robson MILCM

## COUNCIL MINUTES

**Minutes of the Meeting of Chard Town Council  
Held in the Mayor's Parlour, The Guildhall, Chard  
On Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2011 at 6.30 pm.**

PRESENT: Councillors

Mrs J Shortland – Mayor

D Bulmer – Deputy Mayor

A Kenton

Mrs. J Kenton

D Orchard

A J Prior

G Shortland

Mrs. A Spencer

M Wale

Mrs. S Wyatt

### **IN ATTENDANCE:**

Sarah Robson, Acting Town Clerk

### **62. Apologies for absence and to consider whether to approve reasons given.**

[LGA 1972 s85 \(1\)](#).

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor J Dorse – personal engagement

**RESOLVED – to note the apologies and approve the reasons given.**

### **63. Declarations of Interest.** [Local Authorities \(Model Code of Conduct\) Order 2007 SI No.1159.](#)

None Received

### **64. Exclusion of the press and public** - To agree any items to be dealt with after the public, including the press, have been excluded under. [Standing Order #1c](#).

**RESOLVED – That Agenda item #65 be treated as confidential and dealt with after the public (including the press) has been excluded under standing order #1c**

### **65. In view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted the press and public were excluded during consideration of this item (Item 64 above refers) – [Staff in Confidence](#).**

Before Members debated the business in hand Councillor Wale requested that the Mayor reaffirm Standing Orders relating to confidential matters. He also requested his

comments regarding confidential business be minuted. He expressed his disappointment at being approached by the press to confirm information they had been given that had been discussed in confidence by Members in closed session. The Mayor stated that this was a serious matter as it breached the Council's standing orders and this could be a matter of investigation for the Standards Board. The Mayor pointed out that the Job Evaluations of the former clerk was in the public domain in pursuance of the Freedom of Information Act.

Members were asked to confirm agreement that the item about to be considered should be confidential and would remain confidential and that details would not be discussed outside the meeting.

Members confirmed their acceptance that Item no: 65 should be confidential.

### **Organisational Structure**

Members agreed not to make any interim changes at present preferring to wait until the new council is elected. It was agreed that current overtime arrangements for key staff could continue.

It was proposed that the Acting Town Clerk would receive an amount of £8,000.00 pa backdated to February on a temporary basis until such times as the Council makes a decision concerning the staffing structure.

Proposed: Councillor A Prior

Seconded: Councillor M Wale

**RESOLVED – It was agreed unanimously to approve the proposal**

The Meeting closed at 6.55 pm