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SPECIAL COUNCIL

Minutes of a Special Council Meeting held on Monday 11 January 2016 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Matlock at 6.00pm.

PRESENT

Councillor Richard FitzHerbert - In the Chair

Councillors Jason Atkin, Martin Burfoot, Sue Burfoot, Albert Catt, Phil Chell, Tom Donnelly, Ann Elliott, Graham Elliott, Steve Flitter, Helen Froggatt, Chris Furness, Alyson Hill, Susan Hobson, Angus Jenkins, Vicky Massey, Jean Monks, Joyce Pawley, Garry Purdy, Irene Ratcliffe, Mike Ratcliffe, Lewis Rose OBE, Peter Slack, Andrew Statham, Jacquie Stevens, Colin Swindell, John Tibenham, Philippa Tilbrook and Joanne Wild.

Dorcas Bunton (Chief Executive), Sandra Lamb (Head of Corporate Service), Simon Johnson (Democratic & Electoral Service) and Phillip Woodward (Chairman of the Independent Remuneration Panel)

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Deborah Botham, Jennifer Bower, Richard Bright, Sue Bull, Tony Millward BEM, Tony Morley and Andrew Shirley.

262/15 – CONSIDERATION OF THE INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION (IRP) PANEL'S RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES.

The Council considered a report, presented by Phillip Woodward, Chairman of the Independent Remuneration Panel, which set out the recommendations of the IRP in response to a request to conduct a full review of the Members' Allowance Scheme as required by the Local Government Act 2000, and in response to changes in the governance arrangements of the Council in May 2015.

The IRP examined every aspect of the Members' Allowance Scheme including the level of Basic Allowance, Special Responsibility Allowances and scheme for reimbursement of expenses, and benchmarked against other local authorities as noted in Appendix 1 of the agenda.

It was moved by Councillor Lewis Rose OBE, seconded by Councillor Joanne Wild

RESOLVED

(Unanimously)

1. That having had regard to the report of the Independent Remuneration Panel a Scheme of Members Allowances is approved as follows:

- (a) A basic Allowance of £4243 payable to all Members of the Council
- (b) A schedule of Special Responsibility Allowances (SRA) based on the levels and formula as set out below, subject to a condition that no councillor is in receipt of more than one SRA. Should circumstances arise where a Councillor may be eligible to receive two or more SRA's, only the highest SRA will be paid.

Position	Amount pa £	Formula
Council Leader	12512	£212 per member in group + 1.5x BA
Deputy Council Leader	6256	50% of leader's SRA
Chairman – Council	4243	1x BA
Chairman – C and E	4243	1x BA
Chairman – G and R	4243	1x BA
Vice-Chair – Council	1485	0.35 x BA
Vice-Chair – C and E	1485	0.35 x BA
Vice-Chair – G and R	1485	0.35 x BA
Chairman – Planning	4243	1x BA
Vice-Chair – Planning	1485	0.35 x BA
Chair, Licensing & Appeals	1273	0.3 x BA
Vice-Chair, Licensing & Appeals	636	50% of Chair's SRA
Leader – Majority Group*	0	n/a
Leader – 1 st Opposition Group (Labour)	1060	£212 per member
Leader – 2 nd Opposition Group (Lib)	636	£212 per member
Total cost of SRA	45285	

- (c) Reimbursement of travel expenses for the use of a councillor's private vehicle (car, motorcycle or bicycle) whilst on official Council business, based on the current rates recognised by HMRC, subject to all claims for travel expenses being limited to journeys between the following locations
 - Home – meeting – home
 - Work – meeting – work
 - Work – meeting – home (or vice versa less usual home to work journey)
 - (d) Reimbursement of subsistence allowances to the same level applicable to employees of the Council
 - (e) Reimbursement of child carer's and dependent carer's allowance to a rate of £7.20 per hour and thereafter at the prevailing rate of the National Living Wage. Higher levels of reimbursement may be available in exceptional circumstances with the prior authorisation of the Head of Corporate Services.
2. That the Scheme of Allowances is implemented with effect from 1 June 2015 with the proviso that any reduction to allowances being applied from 1 February 2016 without recovery of any overpayment.
 3. That a Special Responsibility Allowance for Member Champions be reviewed during 2016/17
 4. That the Scheme of Allowances be subject to an annual adjustment to the Basic and Special Responsibility Allowances, be in line with any annual cost of living increases awarded to staff.
 5. That Councillor Lewis Rose OBE wanted the Council's thanks to the IRP for their work in producing the report be noted.

MEETING CLOSED 6.45PM

CHAIRMAN