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COUNCIL

11 MARCH 2015

Present: The Right Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor Bruce Dowling) in the Chair, Councillors Rogers, Birch, Cartwright, Charlesworth, Chowney, Clark, Davies, Forward, Hodges, Poole, Roberts, Sabetian, Scott, Sinden, Street, Webb, Westley, Wincott, Lee, Fitzgerald, Beaney, Atkins and Edwards

Apologies for absence were noted for Councillor Batsford, Cooke, Howard, Pragnell, Turner, Beaver and Lock

At the start of the meeting, the Leader of the Council paid tribute to Neil Dart, who would be retiring as Director of Corporate Resources at the end of March. Councillor Birch thanked Mr Dart for his dedication in overseeing a range of council services and the valuable contribution he has made to the town since joining the organisation in 1984. Members and officers gave a round of applause.

The Leader of the Council thanked all staff who would be leaving the council as a result of the 2015/16 budget setting process for their contribution to the organisation.

29. APPOINTMENT OF THE HEAD OF PAID SERVICE AND RESPONSIBLE OFFICERS

The report of the Director of Corporate Resources on the appointment of the Head of Paid Service and responsible officers was submitted. At its meeting on 2 March 2015, the Employment Committee had recommended that Jane Hartnell be appointed as Director of Corporate Services and Governance, which included Head of Paid Service responsibilities. The Head of Paid Service was a statutory role under section 4 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, and the Full Council was required to ratify this recommendation. The report also recommended that Jane Hartnell be appointed as Electoral Registration Officer and Retuning Officer.

The report proposed that Christine Barkshire-Jones be appointed as Monitoring Officer, which was a statutory role under section 5 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

Councillor Birch moved approval of the recommendations to the report, which was seconded by Councillor Cartwright.

RESOLVED (by 23 votes for, 0 against with 1 abstention) that: -

- 1) Council ratifies the resolution of the Employment Committee of 2 March 2015 to designate Jane Hartnell as the Head of Paid Service from 1 April 2015 in compliance with Section 4 Local Government and Housing Act 1989, and;**
- 2) With effect from 1 April 2015, the following be agreed: the council's Monitoring Officer be Christine Barkshire-Jones; the Electoral Registration Officer and Returning Officer be Jane Hartnell.**

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The reason for this decision was:

The council is required to appoint a Head of Paid Service and responsible officers to certain posts.

(The Mayor declared the meeting closed at. 6.09 pm)