

**COPELAND BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON 16 MARCH 2007**

**Present:** Councillors: Mrs A Faichney (Deputy Mayor in the Chair); M J Ashbrook; D Banks; Mrs M Barnes; Anne Bradshaw; H Branney; Mrs Y R T Clarkson; G Clements; R Cole; P C Connolly; B A Dixon; Mrs M Docherty; Mrs E Eastwood; Mrs C A Giel; F J Gleaves; G Garrity; F R Heathcote; J E Hewitson; A E Jacob; F McPhillips; M A McVeigh; S J Meteer; D W Moore; A W M Norwood; J Park; J Prince; R Salkeld; W Southward; P D Tyson; Mrs C Watson; P Watson; N Williams; Miss E M Woodburn; H Wormstrup.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors: G Blackwell; E Brenan; N Clarkson; J Close BEM; K H Hitchen; A Holliday; Mrs J I Hully; J Jackson; G Scurrah; J G Sunderland; A Wonnacott; Mrs D A Wonnacott; Mrs M Woodburn.

**C 80 Better Government for Cumbria Working Group - Outline Alternative Governance Model**

(Councillor J Park declared a personal interest in this item as a member of his family was employed by Cumbria County Council.

Councillor R Cole declared a personal interest in this item as a Member of Cumbria County Council).

Consideration was given to a report outlining an approach to governance in Cumbria developed by the Better Government for Cumbria Working Group on behalf of the Cumbrian districts. The proposals had been developed in response to the Local Government White Paper, as an alternative to the Cumbria County Council bid for a unitary Cumbria.

The Chief Executive gave a presentation in support of the proposals, which was followed by a debate.

**RESOLVED** – that this Council supports in principle the outline approach of the proposals of the Better Government for Cumbria Working Group.

**C 81 Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel**

Consideration was given to the Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel on Members' Allowances.

**RESOLVED** – that

(1) all allowances (Basic Allowance, all Special Responsibility Allowances and Travelling and Subsistence Allowances) are increased

by 4.2% (the rise in the Retail Prices Index from January 2006 to January 2007) for the 2007/8 year.

(2) all allowances for the years 2008/9, 2009/10 and 2010/11 are annually index-linked to the Retail Prices Index, and index-linked increases are implemented each year, commencing in May 2008 as follows:

On the variation date which shall be the Annual Meeting of the Council in 2008 and at yearly intervals thereafter, allowances will be increased automatically. The increase in allowances shall be the increase, if any, between the Retail Prices Index for the month 15 months before the date of the first variation and the Retail Prices Index for the month 3 months before the variation date.

(3) the Panel be asked to conduct a further review of all allowances as soon as possible after the changes referred to in paragraph 7 of the report have been made, and further amendments to allowances introduced part-way through 2007/08 if necessary

The meeting closed at 2.35 pm

Mayor