

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of the County Council held at County Hall, Hertford, on Thursday 14 February 2002.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

N E Agar	M Downing	S E Jones	S Quilty
T I Ambrose	D J Drake	T G M Kent	D Royall
J E Anderson	R J M Ellis	L R Kercher	P A Ruffles
D A Ashley	K F Emsall	I H Laidlaw -	H M Saunders
S A Batson	B C Engel	Dickson	D T F Scudder
M V Bayes	F J Escott	B J Lamb	A M R Searing
D Beatty	G D Game	A Lee	I Simpson
D E Billing	S B A Giles-Medhurst	D B Lloyd	E N Singam
N K Brook	J Gipps	D E Lloyd	R H Smith
P T J Channell	P V Goggins	R Mays	R J Smith
G R Churchard	R I N Gordon	D R McManus	W A Storey
D Clayton	A K Gray (Chairman)	J T Metcalf	I E M Tarry
F W Clayton	M Green	R Mills	J Taunton
R S Clements	F Guest	S J Mills	J W A Usher
K J Coleman	B N W Hammond	J R Morton	P A Webb
M D Colne	D W Hills	V I Muspratt	G F Wenham
G M Cook	J A Hobday	M H O'Neill	C J White
R N Copping	M J Hobday	D A A Peek	B A York
A D Dodd	M H T Janes	J M Pitman	

Upon consideration of the agenda for the meeting of the County Council held on 14 February 2002, as circulated, action was taken or decisions were reached as follows:-

1. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Council and of the Extraordinary meeting of the Council held on 27 November 2001 were confirmed.

2. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

2.1 DEATH OF HER ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCESS MARGARET

The Council stood in memory of Her Royal Highness Princess Margaret who had died on 9 February. The Chairman announced that he had written to Her Majesty the Queen and to Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, expressing the Council's condolences.

2.2 DEATH OF FORMER COUNTY COUNCILLOR P.L. BURGIN

The Chairman reported the death in December 2001 of former County Councillor P.L Burgin who represented Harpenden South from 1964 to 1974.

2.3 DEATH OF FORMER DEPUTY CLERK, JOHN MANSON

The Chairman reported the recent death of the former Deputy Clerk of the Council, John Manson, and paid tribute to the part he had played in the management of the Authority prior to his retirement in 1974.

2.4 AWARD TO ADULT CARE SERVICES

The Council congratulated the Adult Care Services department on winning the prestigious LGC Award for 'Procurement Initiative of the Year'

2.5 NATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY AWARD

The Council congratulated David Moses, Head of Safety, Emergency and Risk Management, and all members of the Health and Safety Week Working Group on the receipt of a regional award for their initiatives during last October's National Health and Safety Week.

2.6 COMMISSION FOR RACIAL EQUALITY STANDARDS

The Council was pleased to note that level 3 in the Commission for Racial Equality Standards had been attained.

3. QUESTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDER 7(1)

3.1 (a) B A York asked the Leader of the Council (R J M Ellis):-

"Could the Leader of the Council indicate briefly in what ways the Council supported and facilitated events on (and around) the second Holocaust Memorial Day (28 January 2002)?"

(b) R J M Ellis replied:-

"This year was the third Holocaust Memorial Day.

The County Council marked the event in its libraries through promoting a special reading list of books for both children and adults concerning the Holocaust. In addition, our libraries displayed a series of special posters from the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust on this year's theme, Britain and the Holocaust.

The educational materials produced by the Trust and the Department for Education and Skills were promoted throughout our schools, and many schools chose to use the day as part of their educational work concerning the Holocaust.

In particular, children from four of our secondary schools took part in a three day event organised by the Northwood United Synagogue and Northwood and Pinner Liberal Synagogue. The took part with over 500 children from schools in North London Boroughs bordering Hertfordshire.

In addition to this educational work, the Chairman represented the County Council at a service organised by the Hertford Youth Town Council where there was a ceremony and a tree planting.

Young people and education continue to be the theme of Hertfordshire's marking of Holocaust Memorial Day. I find this the most appropriate response when one considers that one of the most important objectives of the day is that we should never forget the horrors of the Holocaust, and that we should pause to consider man's continuing inhumanity to man.

The County Council will continue to promote the work of the Holocaust Memorial Trust through its schools, libraries, and indeed on its website, and to listen to the views of the community to ensure that we mark this day in an appropriate and sensitive manner."

3.2 D E Billing asked the Executive Member for Children Schools and Families (**R I N Gordon**):-

"As a result of the Executive Member's answer to a question at the CSF Scrutiny Committee on 23 January, I am concerned about the level of support for children on the autistic spectrum and Asperger Syndrome, and the amount of training being given to Hertfordshire teachers and support staff who work with them.

Would the Executive Member:

- (a) ***"Provide information as to how this LEA compares with our statistical neighbours and the national situation, in terms of supporting specialists, specific units for children at different points on the spectrum, and training for the teachers and classroom assistants involved?"***

R I N Gordon replied:-

" There is no national data source to answer this question and a comprehensive answer will require detailed consultation with our statistical neighbours. However from officer contacts and comments by the National Autistic Society, I believe that Hertfordshire is at the forefront of development work and provision in this area.

Nationally, many Local Authorities still have no specific provision for pupils with ASD. A recent report by the All Party Parliamentary Group on Autism (Dec 2001) highlights the lack of provision in a significant number of LEAs. There is a similar picture with respect to training. The report says that many LEAs do not keep central records of training and there is no uniformity across the country. Training ranges from one-day awareness courses to longer accredited courses.

As you know Hertfordshire has a dedicated service for children with ASD, comprising 1 Senior Advisory Teacher, 3 Visiting Teachers and 4 specialist Nursery Nurses (the latter work with pre-school children). In addition to this there are 9 specialist bases providing 68 places in special schools."

(b) **"Provide information on good practice in this regard, nationally?"**

R I N Gordon replied:-

"The All Party Parliamentary Group report advocates a continuum of provision as does Evans (1999) in a paper published by the National Foundation for Educational Research. Evans summarises 4 models of provision found in a survey of 9 LEAs which range from limited levels of specialism in generic special schools through to a range of specialist bases and specialist advisory support in mainstream and special schools.

There are a number of recognised ways of teaching ASD pupils and specialist staff in Hertfordshire are trained to use a variety of approaches according to the needs of the child. Provision for individual children is geared according to the severity of their needs and kept under regular review.

The All Party Parliamentary Group also recommended that LEAs should develop and make available autism-specific expertise to mainstream schools, including targeted awareness raising and training programmes. This is provided in Hertfordshire and includes:-

- *nationally accredited advanced training for teachers in specialist units*
- *nationally accredited training (10 modules) for teachers and support staff in special and mainstream schools*
- *one day training for school staff, pre-school workers and CSF staff*
- *local awareness raising for individual staff and whole school groups*
- *local support groups."*

(c) **"Give the numbers of children in the County (in the latest year with full figures) on the autistic spectrum and Asperger Syndrome?"**

R I N Gordon replied:-

"The number of children recorded ion the Specialist Autism Service database as on the autistic spectrum at 1 February is as follows:-

<i>Mainstream Nursery:</i>	<i>46</i>
<i>Mainstream Primary:</i>	<i>389</i>
<i>Mainstream Secondary:</i>	<i>177</i>
<i>Special school primary:</i>	<i>41</i>
<i>Special school Secondary:</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>Special Base primary:</i>	<i>32</i>
<i>Special Base Secondary:</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>SLD Base all-age::</i>	<i>24</i>

It needs to be borne in mind that these figures include all children known to the service, and levels of need will vary considerably"

(d) **"Indicate whether each of the these figures is increasing or stable or decreasing, and, if changing, then by roughly what percentage annually?"**

R I N Gordon replied:-

"There has been a significant increase in reported incidence of children with autistic spectrum disorders in Hertfordshire as well as nationally. The number of children known to the Hertfordshire Specialist Advisory Service has increased from 325 in January 1999 to the 742 shown above in 2002. In addition to its ongoing commitments the service now receives around 125 new referrals each year."

- (e) ***"Give for those out of school the numbers receiving home tuition and the hours per week actually received by representative cases?"***

R I N Gordon replied:-

"The parents of some younger children choose to educate them at home and the Advisory Service also operates a pre-school home base teaching service for approximately 60 children at any one time. Some children with more complex problems need to build up their attendance on a gradual basis and this is planned on an individual basis.

At the time of your enquiry we had records of 5 children with autism and challenging behaviour who had been permanently excluded. The normal arrangement is to provide 10 hours individual tuition per week whilst alternative provision is put in place and in 3 of these cases this has been done through a specialist agency which provides teachers with experience of teaching autistic pupils. Individual arrangements vary considerably according to individual circumstance and it is sometimes necessary to provide Learning Support Assistants in addition to teaching staff."

- (f) ***"Detail the training give to those who provide such home tuition, the means of ensuring that only those adequately trained work with these children, and the means of monitoring the timeliness, suitability and continuity of this provision?"***

R I N Gordon replied:-

"The pre-school Specialist Teaching Service is delivered directly by 4 specially trained Nursery Nurses who are supported by qualified Specialist Advisory Teachers who plan individual programmes and monitor children's progress using a range of assessment tools.

Approximately 10 parents a year opt to teach their children at home using a rigorous behavioural approach known as "Applied Behaviour Analysis". This programme may be delivered by a number of independent providers who train and monitor non-teaching staff to work through the behaviour programmes at home or as the child is being phased into school. Staff from Hertfordshire's Specialist Teaching Service liaise with the programme supervisors and monitor progress.

Suitably experienced teaching staff are recruited wherever possible to work with children who have been permanently excluded. This is not always possible and it may then be necessary to rely on advice and support through the Specialist Teaching Service."

- (g) ***"Say Whether there are any significant differences (compared with the rest of the SEN data) in the length of time to get children who turn out to be on the autistic spectrum statemented (or supported by EPF), from the parents' first request, or in the numbers of and outcomes of related SEN tribunals?"***

R I N Gordon replied:-

"The process of assessment for children with autistic spectrum disorder can be complex as these children may have a combination of learning, relationship, communication and attention difficulties which need to be investigated by a range of educational, medical and paramedic professionals.

In the year 1 April 2000 to 31 March 2001, 407 statutory assessments were undertaken. Of these, 55 were for children with ASD. In 100% of the cases where medical advice was received within Code of Practice time scales, the proposed statement was issued within 18 weeks. Taking all of the assessments into account, including those where advice was received late, the proportion of assessments completed within 18 weeks was 54.55%. The equivalent figures for statutory assessments as a whole were 100% and 58.99% respectively.

The figures from 1 April 2001 to 23 January 2002 are as follows:-

	ASD	All assessments
Number of ASD assessments	58	387
Proportion of ASD assessments completed in 18 weeks with no late advice	100%	100%
Proportion of all ASD assessments completed in 18 weeks including those with late advice	67.24%	56.33%

31 Tribunal appeals have been lodged since March 1995 for children with ASD. This represents 9% of the total appeals registered, which is what would be expected from the number of assessments undertaken."

- (h) ***"Agree that one day's training on autism for classroom assistants, in nursery and primary schools which are admitting a child with autism, together with a voluntary two-day course for teachers and assistants run centrally, is inadequate to deal with the complexity and variety of learning and behavioural issues?"***

R I N Gordon replied:-

"The awareness training to which you refer is only part of the available support for staff. For those working directly with ASD children there are a variety of courses, including, where appropriate, a nationally accredited advanced diploma. Training is followed up by visits from specialised advisory staff and there are separate support groups for pre-school, primary, secondary and special schools."

- (i) **"Quantify the whole-school awareness training, referred to in his 23 January answer, in terms of numbers of days?"**

R I N Gordon replied:-

"This generally takes the form of a half-visit, which includes advice to staff and twilight whole-school training. This is usually followed by another half-day visit later in the term. The number of sessions in a year will depend upon the number of new referrals but is generally around 30 per year."

- (j) **"Agree that the revenue budget for support and training, related to the autistic spectrum and Asperger Syndrome, should be increased, and by how much in 2002/03?"**

R I N Gordon replied:-

"The standards Fund budget for ASD training has been increased from £16,000 in 2001/2002 to £25,000 for 2002/2003. It is intended to use some of this extra money to expand the Herts accredited training and to fund some Learning Support Assistants on the newly developed web-based course run by the University of Birmingham, which leads to a qualification at level 1."

- 3.3** (a) **D E Billing** then asked the following supplementary question:-

"Given the significant increase in numbers of children with autistic spectrum disorder to 742 in 2002, and given the increase in consciousness of the public in relation to autism, would the Executive Member recognise that still more effort needs to be made?"

- (b) **R I N Gordon** replied:-

"Yes, there clearly has been an increase in need, to which Hertfordshire has responded well. There is a need to keep under review what further needs to be done and at what expense".

- 3.4** (a) **T G M Kent** asked the Executive Member for Children, Schools and Families (**R I N Gordon**):-

In view of the responsibility that every County Councillor has as a corporate parent, when is the Corporate Parenting Panel going to be back in action?"

- (b) **R I N Gordon** replied:-

"Following the establishment of Cabinet Panels, I have been in discussion with officers on the appropriate remit for the Corporate Parenting Panel and the Special Needs Panel. These have now been finalised and the Panels have been established by the County Secretary at my request.

Groups will be invited to make their nominations for membership in the usual way and I anticipate that the Panels will meet as soon as a date convenient to those members can be identified."

4. QUESTIONS - HERTFORDSHIRE POLICE AUTHORITY - STANDING ORDER 7(2)

None were notified.

5. PUBLIC QUESTIONS - STANDING ORDER 7 (10)

None were notified.

6. PUBLIC PETITIONS - STANDING ORDER 14

None were notified.

ITEMS REPORTED FROM CABINET 7-12

7. COUNTY COUNCIL RESOURCE BUDGET 2002/3 TO 2005/6

- 7.1 The Council received a supplementary report from the Finance Director, item 7A circulated as a separate document.
- 7.2 The following motion was proposed by **D E Beatty** and duly seconded:-

"1. *That in order to ensure that schools budget shares are sufficient to meet the full cost of the teachers' pay award, without the need for real term delegated expenditure reductions, savings of equivalent value (£662,000) within non-delegated budgets be identified by the Director of Children, Schools and Families and the Finance Director (in consultation with the Executive Member for Children, Schools and Families) in time for inclusion in the published budgets for the new financial year.*

2. *That the unallocated sum referred to in paragraph 2.4 of the Supplementary Report be allocated as follows:*

£'000

<i>Carry forward of 2001-02 overspend</i>	600
<i>Additional Standards Fund contribution</i>	2251
<i>Enhanced 6th form allocations via LSC</i>	3685
<i>Savings in non-delegated budgets</i>	<u>(662)</u>

TOTAL 5874

3. *That in light of the above, the responses to the two school funding consultation exercises and the comments of the CSF Resources Cabinet Panel, all the proposals (except 1, maternity pay for school staff; 2, roof repairs at primary and special schools; 7, counting nursery and reception age pupils; and 18, distribution of funding between schools) be implemented as set out in the consultation documents*

4. *That the Borehamwood Homestart project receives a grant of £20,000 in 2002-03 to be funded from identified savings within contracts for other external providers and without reduction in financial support for other Homestart projects.*

5. *That the revenue budget for 2002/3 proposed by Cabinet on 28 January 2002 be agreed, subject to:*

(a) *the following changes to the Education budget:*

*Increase/
(Decrease)
£'000*

<i>Technical Adjustments 2002/3 - Post 16 Transfer</i>	1,468
<i>Inflation</i>	2,962
<i>Pressures - 2001/2 carry forward</i>	600
<i>Growth</i>	(2,668)
<i>Savings</i>	(662)

- (b) an increase of £61,000 in the County Council's share of the grant funding for Magistrates' Courts
- (c) an increase of £800,000 in the special provision for dealing with uncertainties, to produce a budget set out below

	2002/3	
	Revenue Budget	
	£m	
Adult Care Services		154.682
Children, Schools and Families		708.573
Community Information		20.622
Corporate Services		12.411
Environment		84.986
Protection		
Fire & Rescue	29.960	
Fire Pensions	4.809	
Coroners	0.740	
Emergency Planning	0.267	
Registration	0.709	
Trading Standards	<u>2.205</u>	38.690
Central Items		42.002
Special Provision		5.300
Asset Management Revenue Account		<u>(210.098)</u>
		857.168
Capitalisation of Annual Provisions		<u>(3.300)</u>
Budget requirement		<u>853.868</u>

6. That the provision for cost of teachers and other schools staff pay awards be met from the proposed Children, Schools and Families budget, and that the provision for all other staff be made at 3% and delegated to services when the awards are known.
7. That the Capital Programme, excluding annual provisions, set out as follows be agreed:-

	2002/03 £m	2003/04 £m	2004/05 £m
Adult Care Services	2.135	1.860	0.430
Children, Schools and Families	38.371	46.325	7.629
Community Information	0.400	0.295	0.280
Corporate Services	3.045	2.330	1.081
Environment	28.170	21.545	21.470
Protection - Fire and Rescue	2.734	3.829	0.254
Total	74.855	76.184	31.144

of which £28.974m is funded from the Council's general capital resources including capital receipts and £45.881m from capital grants and earmarked borrowing approvals.

8. *That to support the expenditure proposals a council tax increase of 9.5% be agreed.*
9. *That the Finance Director be authorised to borrow on behalf of the County Council for the year ending 31 March 2003 such amounts as are required to meet approved capital expenditure within the limits of the basic and supplementary credit approvals received; the amounts to be borrowed for periods which will not result in the overall borrowing limit of £150 million being exceeded, and of which no more than £70 million shall be short term and 30% with variable interest rate terms.*
10. *That vehicles and equipment up to a value of £3.5 million be purchased by the County Council in the year ending 31 March 2003, the total costs of which to be financed by entering into operating lease agreements as defined by Regulation 20 of the Local Authorities (Capital Finance) Regulations 1997, with the County Council acting as lessee.*
11. *That the Band D council tax for the County Council in 2002/03 be £718.73 and that the amount of tax calculated for all bands be as follows:*

<i>Band A</i>	<i>£479.15</i>
<i>Band B</i>	<i>£559.01</i>
<i>Band C</i>	<i>£638.87</i>
<i>Band D</i>	<i>£718.73</i>
<i>Band E</i>	<i>£878.45</i>
<i>Band F</i>	<i>£1,038.17</i>
<i>Band G</i>	<i>£1,197.88</i>
<i>Band H</i>	<i>£1,437.46</i>

12. *That the precept amounts required from the District Councils be as follows:*

<i>Broxbourne Borough Council</i>	<i>£25,002,819.87</i>
<i>Dacorum Borough Council</i>	<i>£38,940,072.67</i>
<i>East Hertfordshire District Council</i>	<i>£39,146,980.66</i>
<i>Hertsmere Borough Council</i>	<i>£28,660,077.48</i>
<i>North Hertfordshire District Council</i>	<i>£32,871,979.03</i>
<i>St Albans City & District Council</i>	<i>£41,186,103.92</i>
<i>Stevenage Borough Council</i>	<i>£19,588,173.98</i>
<i>Three Rivers District Council</i>	<i>£26,457,364.09</i>
<i>Watford Borough Council</i>	<i>£21,741,582.50</i>
<i>Welwyn Hatfield District Council</i>	<i>£27,445,280.03</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>£301,040,434.23</i>

13. *That the Chief Executive be authorised to issue the council tax leaflets after consultation with the Leader of the Council."*

7.3 **C J White** declared a personal interest in that part of the motion (no.4) relating to Homestart. He remained in the meeting but did not speak or vote on that part of the motion.

7.4 The following amendment to 7.4 proposed by I H Laidlaw - Dickson and duly seconded, was LOST:-

*" (1) Add after 'in consultation with' : 'the CSF Resources Panel and'
(4) Add after 'providers' : '(after consultation with the CSF Resources Panel)'.
(5) Add to the Children Schools and Families budget (£000):*

<i>Measures to Improve Behaviour and Early Intervention</i>	<i>315</i>
<i>Joint funding with Health (inc. CAHMS)</i>	<i>100</i>
<i>Teacher Recruitment and Retention Initiatives</i>	<i>75</i>
<i>Additional support for schools causing concern</i>	<i>150</i>

Add to the Adult Care Services budget (£000):

<i>Re-instate savings from change in provision for high dependency clients</i>	<i>50</i>
<i>Added support to elderly clients for bathing</i>	<i>100</i>

Add to the Environment budget (£000):

<i>To maintain Bus services</i>	<i>170</i>
<i>Street Lighting</i>	<i>300</i>

Add to the Community Information budget (£000):

<i>Materials fund</i>	<i>40</i>
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Reduce Special Provision by £1.3m to £4.0m."

7.5 The Motion at 7.2 was then CARRIED

7.6 The following motion was proposed by **R Mays** and duly seconded: -

" That the increase of £37.3 million (7.3%) - from £513.5 million to £550.8 million - in Government support for Hertfordshire be welcomed."

7.7 The following amendment to 7.6, proposed by **R J M Ellis** and duly seconded , was CARRIED:-

"That the motion be amended to read:

'Whilst mindful of the increase of £31.8 million in Government support for Hertfordshire, the Council:

(a) protests that, yet again, it has been penalised by:

- the under-funding of Preserved Rights Cases by £2.2 million*
- the failure to reimburse payments relating to Asylum Seekers by £1 million*
- the failure fully to compensate for changes in Registration and Inspection costing the County £1.2 million*
- the disallowance in respect of Housing Benefit that penalises the County by £2.9 million*
- the failure to fund the disposal of fridges that will cost the County £1.5 million*
- the failure fully to fund Education SSA by £1.6 million*
- the iniquitous use of 'floors and ceilings' that takes £2.7 million from Hertfordshire to subsidise areas with falling populations*
- the ongoing failure fully to fund Hertfordshire in respect of clients with Learning Disabilities that results in a loss of £10 million a year.*
- the continued failure to provide a proper level of funding for Adult Care Services to the tune of £31 million*
-

(b) Calls on all political groups to campaign actively to persuade government of the need to deal with the unfair settlement."

7.8 The substantive motion , as set out at 7.7, was then CARRIED.

8. BEST VALUE PERFORMANCE PLAN 2002/3

The following motion proposed by **R J M Ellis**, and duly seconded, was CARRIED unanimously:-

- "1. That the Best Value Performance Plan 2002 - 2003, including the Best Value Review Programme and the Hertfordshire Environment Strategy, be approved.*
- 2. That the Chief Executive be authorised in consultation with Leader of the Council and other Group Leaders to make such further changes as become necessary, prior to the printing of the final version."*

9. TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY INC BORROWING STRATEGY 2002/3

The following motion proposed by **D Beatty**, and duly seconded, was CARRIED unanimously:-

"That the Treasury Management Strategy for 2002/3 be approved"

10. CHILDREN SCHOOLS AND FAMILIES SERVICE PLAN 2002/7

The following motion proposed by **R I N Gordon**, and duly seconded, was CARRIED unanimously:-

- "(1) That, subject to 2 below, the Children, Schools and Families Service Plan 2002 - 07 be approved.*
- (2) That the Director of Children, Schools and Families be authorised, in consultation with the Executive Member for Children, Schools and Families and the nominees of the Leaders of the Opposition Groups to make such further changes as become necessary, including those required to reflect the resolutions of the Cabinet on 28 January 2002, prior to the printing of the final version."*

11. POLICY STATEMENT ON CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION

The following motion proposed by **D A Ashley**, and duly seconded, was CARRIED unanimously:-

"That the policy statement on crime and disorder reduction be adopted"

12. PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION

The following motion proposed by **R J M Ellis** and duly seconded, was CARRIED unanimously:-

" That the Investment Panel be converted into an Investment Committee with the following remit and membership:-

Remit: the Council's functions in relation to the Local Government Pension Scheme and the Fireman's Pension Scheme.

Membership: 8 County Councillors (5.3), 3 persons appointed by the Hertfordshire Local Government Association (non-voting)."

13. REPORT OF THE CHILDREN, SCHOOLS AND FAMILIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - 23 JANUARY 2002

(presented by **T G M Kent**, Chairman)

Item 1 - Proposed closure of Musley Infant School, Ware

13.1 **D Beatty** declared a personal interest in this item. He remained in the meeting but did not speak or vote.

13.2 The following motion proposed by **R I N Gordon** and duly seconded, was CARRIED:-

"That the decisions made by the Cabinet on 11 February 2002 be noted and endorsed."

14. NEW CODE OF CONDUCT

The Report of the Standards Committee was received.

The following motion proposed by **R J M Ellis** and duly seconded, was CARRIED unanimously:-

"(1) That the Council adopt the Code of Conduct set out in the Annex to the report.

(2) That the Council publish the Register of Interests on its internet website, subject to the exclusion of the entries of any members who do not consent to such publication."

15. MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES PANEL

The Panel received the report of the Independent Remuneration Panel.

- 15.1** The following motion proposed by **R J M Ellis** and duly seconded, was CARRIED:-

"That the Allowances Scheme for 2002/3 circulated with the agenda (which takes account of the Independent Panel's recommendations) be approved, subject to the following amendments:-

*On page 1, the Basic Allowance to be £7,000 (total cost £539,000)
On page 3, Special Responsibility Allowances totalling £196,700 be paid in accordance with the attached revised Appendix 3."*

- 15.2** The following motion proposed by **R Mays** and duly seconded was LOST:-

"That the Council welcomes the view of the Independent Remuneration Panel that Scrutiny and Audit Committees should be chaired by the opposition, and accordingly that Standing Order for Scrutiny Committees SC2(1) be amended by adding after 'the Committee' : 'from the membership of the opposition groups on the Council'."

16. ADDITIONAL COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

The following motion proposed by **R J M Ellis** and duly seconded, was CARRIED unanimously:-

"That an additional County Council meeting be held on Thursday 19 September 2002 at 10.30 am at County Hall, Hertford."

17. KEY DECISIONS/FORWARD PLAN

The following motion proposed by **R J M Ellis** and duly seconded, was CARRIED unanimously:-

"That the position of key decisions in the decision-making process shown in the current edition of the Forward Plan, be noted."

18. ITEM REQUESTED BY MEMBERS - REVIEW OF RULES FOR COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTARY SECONDARY SCHOOLS FOR SEPTEMBER 2003

- 18.1** The following motion was proposed by **R I N Gordon** and duly seconded:-

"That the decisions made by the Cabinet on 28 January 2002 be noted and endorsed for the purposes of statutory consultation".

- 18.2** The following amendment proposed by **D E Billing** and duly seconded, was LOST:-

"Delete the words 'and endorsed'."

18.3 The motion at 18.1 was then CARRIED.

19. ITEM REQUESTED BY MEMBERS - STANDING ORDERS FOR SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

The following motion proposed by R Mays and duly seconded, was LOST:-

"That Standing Order for Scrutiny Committees SC9(4) be amended so that the third sentence reads:-

'A written copy of each question and the answer to it shall be available to members of the Committee no later than one hour before the start of the meeting'."

20. NOTICES OF MOTION - STANDING ORDER 8 (5)

None were notified.

ANDREW LAYCOCK
County Secretary

Members Allowances Scheme Revised Appendix 3

SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY PAYMENTS 1 APRIL 2002 TO 31 MARCH 2003

<u>Post</u>	<u>Payment £</u>
Leader of the Council	21,000
Cabinet Member who normally deputises for Leader / Resources Portfolio	15,750
Cabinet Member for:	
- Children, Schools & Families	14,000
- Environment	14,000
- Adult Care Services	14,000
- Community Information & Development (including IT)	14,000
- Protection & Registration	7,000
- Regeneration, the Region and Europe	7,000
- Best Value	7,000
Chairman of Scrutiny Committee who is also Leader of the Labour Group	9,450
Chairman of Scrutiny Committee who is also Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group	3,500
Other Chairmen of Scrutiny Committees (3)	2,625
Vice-Chairmen of Scrutiny Committees (5)	2,625
Chairmen of the following Cabinet Panels:	
- (Children, Schools & Families) Achievement	5,250
- (Children, Schools & Families) Resources	5,250
- (Children, Schools & Families) Strategy	5,250
- (Environment) Structure Plan	5,250
- (Environment) Transport	5,250
- (Resources) Property	5,250
Chairman of Development Control Committee	5,250
Chairman of Audit Committee	3,500
Chairman of the Council	7,000
Vice-Chairman of the Council	1,750

NOTE: Members are restricted to one SRA each