

MINUTES of the **STAFF APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE** meeting held at Ipswich Town Football Club on 10 December 2013 at 12 noon.

Present: Councillors Colin Spence, Jenny Antill, Stephen Burroughes, Sandy Martin and Derek Hackett.

Officers Present: Mark Hardingham, Chief Fire Officer, Jaime Milton HR Manager, Public Protection Directorate and Sue Morgan, Head of Democratic Services.

74. Apologies for absence and substitutions

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Michael Ladd who was substituted by Councillor Jenny Antill. Councillor Antill had been present and involved in the selection panel for the Deputy Chief Fire Officer that preceded the Staff Appointments Committee.

75. Declarations of interest and dispensations

There were none declared.

76. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 6 November 2013 were approved as an accurate record and were signed by the Chairman.

77. Exclusion of the Public

At Agenda Item 4, the Committee was invited to consider whether Agenda Item 5 should be taken with the public (including the press) present.

Decision: The Committee agreed that the public (including the press) should be excluded from the meeting during consideration of Agenda Item 5.

Reason for Decision: The Committee agreed to exclude the press and public for these items pursuant to Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that:

- a) they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as detailed in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972; and
- b) in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

Alternative Proposals: None considered.

Declarations of Interest: None declared.

Dispensations: None reported.

78. Appointment of the Deputy Chief Fire Officer

The Committee considered Agenda Item 5, a report by Jaime Milton, HR Manager, Public Protection Directorate, seeking approval by the Staff Appointments Committee to an appointment to the position of Deputy Chief Fire Officer for Suffolk County Council. The Committee had been set up to consider the appointment following a full assessment and open selection process which had taken place on 12 December 2013. Mark Hardingham, Chief Fire Officer and Jaime Milton, HR Manager were also in attendance and had supported the selection panel.

Decision: the Committee agreed by a unanimous decision that:

(a) There was one candidate who the Committee agreed should be offered the post of Deputy Chief Fire Officer.

(b) In line with The Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) Regulations 2001 S/No.3384, Cabinet Members would be given the opportunity to raise a valid objection to the decision to appoint the candidate to the post of Chief Fire Officer.

Reason for Decision: The Committee considered that the candidate had given an impressive performance throughout a robust selection process involving shortlisting against the job and person specification, psychometric testing, information gained from stakeholders and a full panel interview, and clearly met the selection criteria.

Alternative Proposals: None considered.

Declarations of interest: None reported

Dispensations: None reported.

The meeting closed at 12.14 p.m.