

**HEALTH, WELFARE AND SAFETY PANEL
FRIDAY, 11TH JANUARY, 2013**

Present:- Councillor R. S. Russell (in the Chair); Councillors G. A. Russell, P. A. Russell, Sharman, Swift, Whelbourn and Wootton; Mrs. J. Adams (NUT), Mrs. C. Maleham (UNISON), Mrs. S. Brook (NASUWT) and Mr. P. Harris (GMB).

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ali and Dodson and from Mrs. R. Asquith (UNISON).

47. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 19TH OCTOBER, 2012

Resolved:- That the minutes of the previous meeting of the Health, Welfare and Safety Panel, held on 19th October, 2012, be approved as a correct record for signature by the Chairman.

48. MATTERS ARISING

The Panel noted with regard to Minute No. 46(d) (Visit of Inspection to Whiston Worrygoose Primary School) that Health and Safety Officers had made a further visit of inspection to this School and the majority of the reported issues had been dealt with and action would soon be taken on the remaining ones.

49. HEALTH AND SAFETY BULLETIN

Consideration was given to the Health and Safety Bulletin, containing recent articles and reports of legal cases relating to health and safety.

The following items were highlighted:-

- matters of interest from the Health and Safety Executive;
- safety myths of Christmas (throwing snowballs; carol singing; seats in crowded shops; siting of Christmas trees; throwing sweets at pantomimes; Christmas decorations in the workplace);
- recent Court Cases, **with** one incident involving the Environment Agency.

Resolved:- That the Principal Health and Safety Officer distribute copies of the bulletin throughout the Authority and also publish the bulletin on the Council's Intranet web site.

50. HEALTH, WELFARE AND SAFETY PANEL - OVERVIEW OF INITIATIVES AND PROCEDURES

The Panel discussed various initiatives relating to employee welfare.

51. REPORT OF THE VISITS OF INSPECTION HELD ON 7TH DECEMBER, 2012

Consideration was given to matters arising from the visits of inspection made by the Panel on Friday, 7th December, 2012. The Panel noted that Councillor Whelbourn attended these visits of inspection.

The report included the responses provided by Service Areas to the various issues raised at the inspections. Particular reference was made to:-

(a) Bailey House

The building is now mainly used as a repository for archives and records management. The Elections and Electoral Registration Office is also accommodated there. Discussion took place on the heating of the various parts of the building. The fire-fighting equipment is now in place. Repairs are required to a roof leak.

(b) Riverside House

Discussion took place on cash handling within the building. A further issue was reported about toilets being blocked and the Panel requested that the Facilities Manager should investigate.

(c) Visits of Inspection – 15th March 2013

A visit of inspection will be made to the Swinton Brookfield Primary School.