

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL held at the Guildhall
Portsmouth on Tuesday, 21 March 2017 at 2.00 pm

Council Members Present

The Right Worshipful The Lord Mayor
Councillor David Fuller (in the Chair)

Councillors

Dave Ashmore	Leo Madden
Julie Bird	Hugh Mason
Simon Bosher	Lee Mason
Jennie Brent	Stephen Morgan
Ryan Brent	Gemma New
Yahiya Chowdhury	Robert New
Alicia Denny	Steve Pitt
Ben Dowling	Will Purvis
Ken Ellcome	Darren Sanders
John Ferrett	Lynne Stagg
Jim Fleming	Luke Stubbs
Colin Galloway	David Tompkins
Steve Hastings	Gerald Vernon-Jackson CBE
Hannah Hockaday	Steve Wemyss
Suzy Horton	Matthew Winnington
Lee Hunt	Rob Wood
Frank Jonas	Tom Wood
Donna Jones	Neill Young
Ian Lyon	

13. Declarations of Interests under Standing Order 13(2)(b)

Councillor Luke Stubbs, Councillor Matthew Winnington and Councillor Frank Jonas all declared personal, non-pecuniary interests in agenda item 12(c) - Hampshire Fire Service as they are the council's representatives on the Fire Authority. Councillor Julie Bird declared a pecuniary interest in item 12(c) as she has land immediately adjacent to the fire station. Councillor Bird also declared a non-prejudicial pecuniary interest in agenda item 10 as members of her family may be affected by the living wage and she would leave the chamber for this item.

Councillor Donna Jones declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 12(d) - Royal Marines Museum owing to a trustee position she holds and would leave the chamber for this item.

14. Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 14 February 2017

It was

Proposed by Councillor Donna Jones

Seconded by Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson

That the minutes of the meeting of the council held on 14 February 2017 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the council held on 14 February 2017 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

15. Communications and Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillor Stuart Potter, Councillor Lynda Symes and Councillor Paul Godier.

Councillor Robert New apologised for possibly having to leave the chamber for a while during the meeting but would then return.

The Lord Mayor gave detailed information concerning filming in the chamber advising that notices had been displayed on the walls concerning the council's rules which strictly prohibits the filming, photography or recording of members of the public unless they are addressing a meeting and only then if they do not actively object. Filming from gallery to gallery is also prohibited. The Lord Mayor then gave details of the evacuation procedure and reminded everyone that there are building evacuation signs displayed both inside in the public galleries and in the chamber itself.

16. Deputations from the Public under Standing Order No 24

The City Solicitor advised that there were no oral deputations from the public.

He advised that a written representation from Mr Mark Chapman, Fire Brigades Union, concerning agenda item 12(c) Notice of Motion - Hampshire Fire Service - had been received and circulated to all members with the green sheet.

17. Questions from the Public under Standing Order 25

There were no questions from the public.

18. Appointments

There were no appointments.

19. Urgent Business - To receive and consider any urgent and important business from Members of the Cabinet in accordance with Standing Order No 26

There was no urgent and important business.

20. Recommendations from the Cabinet Meeting held on 9 March 2017

The following minute was approved unopposed:

Minute 13 - Treasury Management Policy 2017/18

The following minute was opposed:

Minute 15 - Revenue Budget Monitoring 2016/17 Third Quarter to December 2016

It was

Proposed by Councillor Donna Jones
Seconded by Councillor Luke Stubbs

That the recommendations contained in Cabinet minute 15 - Revenue Budget Monitoring 2016/17 Third Quarter to December 2016 be approved.

As an amendment it was

Proposed by Councillor Lynne Stagg
Seconded by Councillor Suzy Horton

That

"Add new section

iv) In the event that the Council achieves an overall underspend in 2016/17 in excess of £130,000, members of the Cabinet are asked to consider reversing the £130,000 cut in services to victims of domestic abuse, as the funding promised by the Administration, from the Police and Crime Commissioner, in February 2016, has not been received."

In response to a query the City Solicitor advised that the proposed amendment was in order.

The Leader of the Council then summed up. Upon the amendment standing in the name of the Councillor Lynne Stagg being put to the vote this was LOST.

Members were uncertain about whether the result of the vote had been counted correctly. The City Solicitor advised that in these circumstances a recount was in order. For the avoidance of doubt, a recorded vote was requested by eight members standing. The following members voted in favour of the amendment:

Councillor David Ashmore
Councillor Julie Bird
Councillor Yahiya Chowdhury
Councillor Ben Dowling
Councillor Colin Galloway
Councillor Suzy Horton
Councillor Lee Hunt

Councillor Stephen Morgan
Councillor Steve Pitt
Councillor Will Purvis
Councillor Darren Sanders
Councillor Lynne Stagg
Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson
Councillor Matthew Winnington

Councillor Leo Madden
Councillor Hugh Mason

Councillor Rob Wood
Councillor Tom Wood

Those voting against the amendment:

Councillor Simon Boshier
Councillor Jennie Brent
Councillor Ryan Brent
Councillor Ken Ellcome
Councillor John Ferrett
Councillor Jim Fleming
Councillor Steve Hastings
Councillor Hannah Hockaday
Councillor Frank Jonas

Councillor Donna Jones
Councillor Ian Lyon
Councillor Lee Mason
Councillor Gemma New
Councillor Rob New
Councillor Luke Stubbs
Councillor Ian Tompkins
Councillor Steve Wemyss
Councillor Neill Young

Those who abstained:

Councillor Alicia Denny

As the result of the vote was 18 in favour and 18 against the proposed amendment, the Lord Mayor, Councillor David Fuller used his casting vote in favour of the amendment. The amendment standing in the name of Councillor Lynne Stagg was therefore CARRIED.

Upon the substantive proposal incorporating the amendment being put to the vote, this was CARRIED.

RESOLVED that

(i) The forecast outturn position for 2016/17 be noted:

- (a) An underspend of £1,287,400 before further forecast transfers from/(to) Portfolio Specific Reserves & Ring Fenced Public Health Reserve**
- (b) An underspend of £1,118,200 after further forecast transfers from/(to) Portfolio Specific Reserves & Ring Fenced Public Health Reserve.**

(ii) Members note:

- (a) That any actual overspend at year end will in the first instance be deducted from any Portfolio Specific Reserve balance and once depleted then be deducted from the 2017/18 Cash Limit.**
- (b) That on 14th February 2017 City Council approved that any underspending for 2016/17 arising at year-end outside of those made by Portfolios (currently forecast at £1,118,200) be transferred to Capital resources.**

- (iii) **Directors, in consultation with the appropriate Cabinet Member, consider options that seek to minimise any forecast overspend presently being reported and prepare strategies outlining how any consequent reduction to the 2017/18 Portfolio cash limit will be managed to avoid further overspending during 2017/18.**
- (iv) **In the event that the Council achieves an overall underspend in 2016/17 in excess of £130,000, members of the Cabinet are asked to consider reversing the £130,000 cut in services to victims of domestic abuse, as the funding promised by the Administration, from the Police and Crime Commissioner, in February 2016, has not been received.**

21. Recommendations from the Employment Committee Meeting held on 28 February 2017

The following minute was opposed:-

Minute 4 - Pay Policy Statement

It was

Proposed by Councillor Donna Jones

Seconded by Councillor Luke Stubbs

That the recommendations contained in minute 4 be approved.

An amendment on the pay policy was ruled out of order by the City Solicitor.

Upon the original proposal being put to the vote, this was CARRIED.

RESOLVED that council approved the pay policy statement attached as Appendix 1 to the report from Employment Committee.

22. Recommendations from the Governance & Audit and Standards Committee Meeting held on 3 March 2017

Minute 26 - Members' Allowance (Stage 1 Review)

This was approved unopposed.

23. Notices of Motion

The Lord Mayor advised that there were four notices of motion before council today.

Notice of Motion (a) - Dial A Ride

If was

Proposed by Councillor Jim Fleming

Seconded by Councillor Luke Stubbs

That this motion of motion be debated today.

Upon being put to the vote this was CARRIED.

It was

Proposed by Councillor Jim Fleming
Seconded by Councillor Luke Stubbs

That notice of motion (a) as set out on the agenda be adopted.

Following some debate, it was

Proposed by Councillor Steve Pitt
Seconded by Councillor Leo Madden

That the matter was moved to the vote without further debate under Standing Order 40(k).

Upon being put to the vote this was CARRIED.

Upon the proposal standing in the name of Councillor Jim Fleming being put to the vote, this was CARRIED.

RESOLVED that

"Pompey Dial-a-Ride is a service which many elderly and disabled residents rely upon for their transport needs.

Since its formation it had been in receipt of revenue funding and grants from Portsmouth City Council to continue its operations.

However, due to the hard work of Tracey Jones, and others who have been assisting the business, along with support from Council Officers, it has increased its customer base and has recently become a Community Interest Company.

This Council would like to congratulate Tracey and all those involved in working with Pompey Dial-a-Ride for its efforts to ensure it has a sustainable future."

Notice of Motion (b) - Transparency in Council Meetings

It was

Proposed by Councillor Luke Stubbs
Seconded by Councillor Steve Hastings

That notice of motion (b) as set out on the agenda be debated today. Upon being put to the vote this was CARRIED.

It was

Proposed by Councillor Luke Stubbs
Seconded by Councillor Steve Hastings

That notice of motion (b) as set out on the agenda be adopted.

As an amendment it was

Proposed by Councillor Rob Wood
Seconded by Councillor Stephen Morgan

To add in paragraph 3 after the words "Cabinet and committee" "(including all decision and scrutiny meetings)"

The mover of the original motion, Councillor Luke Stubbs agreed to subsume the amendment into his original notice of motion.

Following debate, upon the substantive notice of motion incorporating the amendment being put to the vote this was CARRIED.

RESOLVED that

"The broadcasting of Full Council meetings has been a success. Since July 2015, when live and on-demand streaming began, each meeting has been watched (at least in part) between 400 and 2500 times. This is far more than can physically fit in the council chamber and is far in excess of expectations.

Council notes that the cost of recording equipment continues to fall. It also notes that members of the public now sometimes record cabinet and committee meetings and it welcomes this development: it sees it as a sign that there is unmet demand to access video of these meetings from the wider community.

Council therefore resolves to ask the Cabinet Member for Resources to bring forward a report on the broadcasting of cabinet and committee meetings (including all decision making and scrutiny meetings) and in the event that a change to standing orders is required the matter is referred to Governance & Audit & Standards Committee before reporting back to Council."

Council adjourned at 4.45 pm.

Council resumed at 5.00 pm.

Notice of Motion (c) - Hampshire Fire Service

It was

Proposed by Councillor Steve Pitt
Seconded by Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson

That notice of motion (c) be debated today.

It was

Proposed by Councillor Donna Jones
Seconded by Councillor Luke Stubbs

That this be referred to the Scrutiny Management Panel.

Upon being put to the vote this was CARRIED.

RESOLVED that notice of motion (c) as set out in the agenda be not debated today but referred to the Scrutiny Management Panel.

Notice of Motion (d) - Royal Marines Museum

It was
Proposed by Councillor Matthew Winnington
Seconded by Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson

That notice of motion (d) as set out on the agenda be debated today.

Upon being put to the vote this was CARRIED.

It was

Proposed by Councillor Matthew Winnington
Seconded by Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson

That notice of motion (d) as set out on the agenda be adopted.

As an amendment it was

Proposed by Councillor Luke Stubbs
Seconded by Councillor Jennie Brent

To amend to add:

"Council also notes that the future maintenance costs of the Yomper are likely to be limited. It therefore resolves to ask the Chief Executive to write to the Museum of the Royal Navy to establish whether the Yomper would remain in place were the council prepared to assume maintenance responsibility, the outcome of this correspondence to be reported to Full Council in due course."

The mover of the original motion, Councillor Matthew Winnington, agreed to subsume the Conservative amendment into his original notice of motion.

Following debate upon the substantive notice of motion incorporating the Conservative amendment being put to the vote, this was CARRIED.

RESOLVED that

Portsmouth City Council expresses its concern about the early closure of the Royal Marines Museum on 1st April 2017. This was announced with less than two months' notice, it having previously been intimated that the museum would be open until at least 2018. There has been no sufficient notice given of this new early closure date to ward councillors or immediate local residents which has given little opportunity to prepare for this major adjustment within the Eastney area.

The closure will leave Portsmouth without a Royal Marines Museum for three years which in the meantime means that the only part of the museum collection on display we are told will be a single display in the Historic Dockyard.

This council therefore resolves that it expresses its disappointment to the National Museum of the Royal Navy for the very short notice of the closure of the museum and the concern that the city will be without a Royal Marines Museum for the long period of three years with no clear information about the display that will temporarily be in its place in the interim or the new museum in the Historic Dockyard.

Portsmouth City Council also reiterates its support as stated last summer in the motion proposed by Cllrs Luke Stubbs and Jennie Brent for the Yomper Statue to stay in situ in perpetuity outside the old Barracks. The Council additionally requests that the National Museum of the Royal Navy at the earliest possible time make aware and consult local residents, ward councillors and people across the city on the plans for the future use of the current Royal Marines Museum building.

Council also notes that the future maintenance costs of the Yomper are likely to be limited. It therefore resolves to ask the Chief Executive to write to the Museum of the Royal Navy to establish whether the Yomper would remain in place were the council prepared to assume maintenance responsibility, the outcome of this correspondence to be reported to Full Council in due course"

24. Questions from Members under Standing Order No 17

There were six questions before council.

Question No 1 from Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson was withdrawn.

Question No 2 was from Councillor Julie Bird asking

"Could the cabinet member please update council as to how many reports of fly-Tipping there have been using the MyCity App and the average response times?"

This and supplementary questions were answered by the Cabinet Member for Resources, Councillor Lee Mason.

Question No 3 was from Councillor Steve Hastings -

"How many statues and monuments are PCC responsible for maintaining and how often does this take place?"

This and supplementary questions were answered by the Cabinet Member for Resources, Councillor Lee Mason.

It was

Proposed by Councillor Leo Madden
Seconded by Councillor Darren Sanders

That standing orders be suspended to allow for all the questions on the agenda to be debated at this meeting.

Upon being put to the vote this was LOST.

The 45 minutes allowed for questions expired before the remaining questions could be put and so in accordance with Standing Order 17(h) written replies would be circulated to members.

The Lord Mayor thanked members and colleagues for their support during the municipal year. He also placed on record his thanks to those who provided the cakes for council meetings.

The meeting concluded at 6.40 pm.

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Lord Mayor