



# Agenda & minutes

Full Council meeting of  
Tuesday, 15 November 2016



# *Portsmouth City Council*

A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL will be held at the Council Chamber - The Guildhall on Tuesday, 15 November 2016 at 2.00 pm and all members of the council are hereby summoned to attend to consider and resolve upon the following business:-

## *Agenda*

- 1 Members' Interests**
- 2 To approve as a correct record the Minutes of**
  - the Ordinary Council meeting held on 11 October 2016 (to follow).
- 3 To receive such communications as the Lord Mayor may desire to lay before the Council, including apologies for absence.**
- 4 The Council has received the following petition -**  
**Save the Animals and Birds at Victoria Park**

"We the undersigned call on Portsmouth City Council to oppose the plan to demolish the animal and bird enclosures in Victoria Park. Generations of children have enjoyed the birds and the animals and the enclosures should not be destroyed by the Conservatives on the City Council."

The Council's rules state that as the petition contains more than 1,000 signatures it will be debated by the Full Council (if the lead petitioner so requests and they do) even if the issue has been considered by the Council within the last 24 months and it not a matter the Full Council can determine.

1. The petition organiser, Mrs Margaret Foster will be given six minutes to present the petition at the meeting,
2. Followed by any public deputations received on this item.
3. The Administration, via a proposer and seconder, will then present its response to the petition
4. The petition will then be discussed by councillors and the normal rules of debate will apply,

Note - As an Executive (Cabinet) matter, the Full Council is precluded from determining the issues raised in the Petition, although of course the petition can still be debated at the Full Council meeting.

5 **Deputations from the Public under Standing Order No 24 (excluding item 4)**

6 **Questions from the Public under Standing Order 25.**

7 **Appointments**

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

9 **Council Tax Support Scheme (known nationally as Council Tax Reduction Scheme) (Pages 1 - 230)**

To receive and consider the attached report from the Cabinet held on 10 November 2016 (recommendations to follow).

N.B. The verbatim comments made during the consultation (Appendix 1a Free Comments) can be viewed on the Portsmouth City Council website by using this link:

<https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/ext/documents-external/cou-cts-consultation-appendix1a-verbatim.pdf>

10 **Notices of Motion**

(a) Proposed by Councillor Suzy Horton  
Seconded by Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson

The City Council actively encourages members of the public to be involved in decision making at many levels, including at Full Council meetings. In the light of concerns from members of the public about the experiences of some residents during that process, this Council asks the City Solicitor to initiate a cross party review of standing orders (to be reported to the Governance and Audit and Standards Committee in the first instance), and to ask for a cross party governance review from the LGA to see how the actions and procedures of the Council can be improved to encourage public participation in council decision making. If this should result in any suggestion for constitutional change these also to be reported to Governance and Audit and Standards Committee for consideration.

(b) **The Bus Services Bill**

Proposed by Councillor Colin Galloway  
Seconded by Councillor Stuart Potter

The Bus Service Bill currently passing through Parliament includes Clause 21 that appears to be designed specifically to prohibit a local authority from forming a company for the purpose of providing a local bus service. As this is contrary to the Localism Act of 2011 that provides powers of competence to local authorities, it is proposed that the Leader of the Council be asked to write to Lord Ahmad and to call on the Department for Transport to omit Clause 21 from the final legislation. Furthermore the Leader of the Council be asked to write to both MP Penny Mordaunt and MP Flick Drummond to ask

them to oppose Clause 21 when the Bus Service Bill reaches the House of Commons and ask them to write to Lord Ahmad and the Department of Transport to raise concerns about Clause 21

- (c) Proposed by Councillor Lynne Stagg  
Seconded Councillor Hugh Mason

"Council is disappointed by the recent announcement by Off The Record to cease their free 1-1 counselling service for young people in Portsmouth due to a lack of local funding. Council also notes the recent closure of the Portsmouth Counselling Service, showing a worrying trend of decreasing services for young people in the city.

Council notes the current criteria for organisations to access the Public Sector Challenge Fund which currently stands at £475,000 out of £500,000 allocated 18 months ago and asks the Cabinet to consider revising the criteria to make it more accessible to community organisations who would benefit considerably and thereby benefit the people of Portsmouth.

Council also asks the Cabinet to consider using part of the Public Sector Challenge Fund to provide some interim funding to Off The Record so that the organisation has the necessary time to source further funding."

- (d) Proposed by Councillor Hugh Mason  
Seconded by Councillor David Ashmore

"Council notes the Portsmouth Water Company's objection to the application (by UK Oil and GAS (UKOG) for further development of the oil and gas site at Markwell's Wood, near Rowlands Castle, pending a fuller Groundwater Risk Assessment of any possible impact on the water supply source for the City of Portsmouth.

Council supports this precautionary approach and would be greatly concerned were planning permission to be given without the Portsmouth Water Company being entirely satisfied that the development poses no risk to the quality of water supply to the City. Consequently this Council believes the applicant should be required to take all necessary steps to ensure the continued security of pure water from its aquifers in the South Downs

Council resolves to communicate its concern and these points to the Southdown National Park Authority (to whom the application has been submitted) and also to apprise the Members of Parliament for the Portsmouth, Havant and Chichester constituencies of its concern."

- (e) **Portsmouth Royal Mail delivery office moving to Voyager Park**

Proposed by Councillor Alicia Denny  
Seconded by Councillor Stephen Morgan

As councillors will be aware, Royal Mail has closed its enquiry and delivery offices at Slindon Street in the centre of the city and Northern Road, Cosham, and moved operations to Voyager Park, close to Eastern Road, a change which has caused some concern to residents who need to collect parcels which have not been delivered to them.

This will have particular impact on people without access to cars across the postcode areas PO1 to PO6 since, unlike Slindon Street and Northern Road, Voyager Park has no nearby bus service. Therefore, this Council asks the Executive Member for Traffic and Transportation to write to Stagecoach bus company and request that a certain number of 21 service journeys serving Anchorage Park via Copnor Road be diverted to use Williams Road and Quartremaine Road instead, being the nearest main roads to Voyager Park.

Also, while fully acknowledging that the Royal Mail is a private business, the Leader of the council is asked to write to an appropriate manager asking if a temporary Royal Mail parcel collection facility can be set up in the centre of the city during the forthcoming festive period as a helpful service to those adjusting to this change of premises.

**11 Questions from Members under Standing Order No 17.** (Pages 231 - 232)

David Williams  
Chief Executive

Members of the public are now permitted to use both audio visual recording devices and social media during this meeting, on the understanding that it neither disrupts the meeting or records those stating explicitly that they do not wish to be recorded. Guidance on the use of devices at meetings open to the public is available on the Council's website and posters on the wall of the meeting's venue.

Full Council meetings are digitally recorded.

If any member of the public wishing to attend the meeting has access requirements, please notify the contact, the Local Democracy Manager at [Stewart.Aglan@portsmouthcc.gov.uk](mailto:Stewart.Aglan@portsmouthcc.gov.uk). Please also use this email address for any deputation requests.

Civic Offices  
Guildhall Square  
PORTSMOUTH  
7 November 2016