



# Agenda & minutes

Full Council meeting of  
Tuesday, 19 May 2020



# *Portsmouth City Council*

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL will be held virtually on Tuesday 19 May 2020 to commence at **10.00 am** and all members of the council are hereby summoned to attend remotely (link on Council's web site page to follow) to consider and resolve upon the following business:-

## *Agenda*

- 1 To elect the Lord Mayor for the ensuing Municipal Year.
- 2 To appoint the Deputy Lord Mayor for the ensuing Municipal Year.
- 3 Declaration of Members' Interests
- 4 To approve as a correct record the Minutes of Council meeting held on 17 March 2020 (Pages 9 - 16)
- 5 To receive such communications as the Lord Mayor may desire to lay before the Council, including apologies for absence.
- 6 Deputations from the Public under Standing Order No 24.
- 7 **Leader - To note that under the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, the current Leader of the City Council will remain in office until May 2023 unless**
  - a) they resign from the office;
  - b) they are no longer a Councillor
  - c) they are removed from office by resolution of the Council
- 8 **Cabinet - In accordance with the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, to receive details from the Leader of the Council regarding Cabinet members (including Deputy Leader) and portfolios for the ensuing Municipal Year.**

The Council will also receive details of the appointments from the Leader (as it is within their gift) for the Health and Wellbeing Board, applying the following criteria;

- Leader of the Council (or nominated representative)
- Portfolio holder responsible for Health & Social Care
- Portfolio holder responsible for Children's Services
- Leader of the largest opposition group (or nominated representative)

A named standing deputy may also be appointed for each position.

## **9 Proportional Representation on Panels and Committees**

Under the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, the City Council is required at each Annual Meeting to review the representation of different political groups, to determine the allocation of seats to different political groups for the forthcoming Municipal Year based on the Group Strengths on the Council and to appoint Members in accordance with the decisions of the Council as to allocation and according to the wishes of the groups as to the identities of the Members to be appointed.

Since the last review, as previously advised there has been a change in Group strengths on the Council with Councillor Lee Mason becoming a non-aligned Independent Member.

Arithmetically the Liberal Democrat Group continues to be entitled to a total of 31 seats. In 2019/20 it only took up 30 of its seats as it gifted one of its 6 seats on the Licensing Committee to the Progressive People Group (Councillor Udy).

The Conservative Group lose two seats, with Councillor L Mason being entitled to two seats. Councillor L Mason previously sat on the Licensing Committee and the Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel. The outcome of discussions regarding seat allocation between those affected will be reported.

The appointment of Members is dealt with separately under Item 10 below.

### **Proposed allocation of Seats for 2020/21 (Table 1) below**

The representation of groups must be in accordance with the rules set out in the relevant legislation. Details of the proposed allocation of places on Panels and Committees are set out below -

Groups	1	2	3	4	5	6
	No of Cllrs	Total No of Cttee Seats	Licensing Committee (15 Members)	Planning Committee (10 Members)	7 committees and panels (see note) (6 Members each)	Scrutiny Management Panel (9 Members)
Liberal Democrat	17	31* (but 1* gifted to PPPG in 2019/20)	6* but gifted *1 seat to PPPG in 19/20	4	17	4
Conservative	15	27 (was 29)	5 (was 6)	4	14 (was 15)	4
Labour	6	11	2	1	7	1
PPP	2	3* (4 <sup>th</sup> seat gifted by LD in 19/20)	0/*1 *gifted 1 seat by LD in 19/20	1	2	
Non- Aligned Independent JF	1	2	1		1	
Non- Aligned Independent LM	1	2	1 (was 0)		1 (was 0)	
Totals	<b>42</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>9</b>

Note: Group 5 contains the following: Governance & Audit & Standards; Employment; & Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel; and the 4 themed scrutiny panels

Principle 2 within Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 requires the majority of seats on Committees and Panels to be allocated to the group having the majority of seats on the City Council.

A group is defined in the regulations as comprising two or more persons.

2020/21 municipal appointments will be presented at the meeting

**RECOMMENDED** (1) that the total number of seats on Committees and Panels be divided amongst the political groups and individual members as applicable in accordance with Table 1 above

**10 To appoint Members to the following Committees and Panels for the 2020/21 Municipal Year :-**

Scrutiny Management Panel	- 9 members
Planning Committee	- 10 members
Licensing Committee	- 15 members
Governance & Audit & Standards Committee	- 6 members
Employment Committee	- 6 members
Health Overview & Scrutiny Panel	- 6 members
Economic Development, Culture & Leisure Scrutiny Panel	- 6 members
Education, Children & Young People Scrutiny Panel	- 6 members
Housing and Social Care Scrutiny Panel	- 6 members
Traffic, Environment & Community Safety Scrutiny Panel	- 6 members

**11 To appoint Standing Deputies (three named Members for each Group on each Committee or Panel, five in respect of the Planning Committee).**

**12 To appoint the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of Committees and the Scrutiny Management and Scrutiny Panels for the 2020/21 Municipal Year.**

**13 Appointments**

To appoint representatives, who must be elected members, to the following outside bodies. These appointments are reserved to the City Council in accordance with the Council's Constitution.

- (1) To appoint 1 member to serve on the Hampshire Fire & Rescue Authority for the 2020/21 municipal year.

(In 2019/20 the appointee was Councillor Jason Fazackarley who has also recently been appointed by the Full Council to serve on the Shadow Fire and Rescue Authority for 2020/21.)

- (2) To appoint 1 member to serve on the Police and Crime Panel (PCP) (Councillor Lee Hunt was the Council's representative in 2019/20).

- (3) To appoint up to 4 members to serve on the Local Government Association General Assembly for the 2020/21 municipal year, who will be supported by the appropriate officers at the Annual Conference, and to specify which of the elected members will hold the voting rights.

Portsmouth City Council has 5 votes on the LGA, which are usually exercised by the party forming the City Council's political administration. Those having the right to vote should be identified.

In 2019/20 the representatives were Councillors Lee Mason, Steve Pitt, Judith Smyth and Gerald Vernon-Jackson, who each exercised one vote.

- (4) To appoint 6 members to serve on the Langstone Harbour Board who must be an elected member and in accordance with the political

balance regulations.

For 2019/20, the representatives were; Councillors Graham Heaney, Lee Mason, Hugh Mason, Robert New, Jeanette Smith and Matthew Winnington and standing deputy Matthew Atkins.

Note the Conservative Group are entitled to an extra seat on this body in place of Councillor L Mason

**14 Other Appointments**

6 members to the Twinning Advisory Group - in 2019/20 the chair was the Resources Portfolio holder (Tom Wood), with the Lord Mayor (David Fuller) performing the deputy Chair role (the other 4 members in 2019/20 were Councillors Chris Attwell, Tom Coles, Leo Madden and Linda Symes).

**15 To approve the following dates for meetings of the Council during the 2020/21 municipal year to commence at 2pm unless otherwise indicated**

21 July 2020	12 January 2021 (provisional)
13 October 2020	9 February 2021
10 November 2020	16 March 2021
8 December 2020	18 May 2021 (Annual) (10:00am)

To provisionally agree the following Council meeting dates for 2021/22

20 July 2021	18 January 2022 (provisional)
12 October 2021	8 February 2022
9 November 2021	15 March 2022
7 December 2021	17 May 2022 (Annual) (10:00am)

David Williams  
Chief Executive

Please notify the Local Democracy Manager at [Stewart.Agland@portsmouthcc.gov.uk](mailto:Stewart.Agland@portsmouthcc.gov.uk) in respect of any deputation requests.

Civic Offices  
Guildhall Square  
PORTSMOUTH  
11 May 2020

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# Agenda Item 4

17 March 2020

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MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL held at the Guildhall  
Portsmouth on Tuesday, 17 March 2020 at 2.00 pm

<https://democracy.portsmouth.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=146&MId=3981&Ver=4>

## **Council Members Present**

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

### Councillors

Tom Coles	Darren Sanders
John Ferrett	Jeanette Smith
Scott Payter-Harris	Luke Stubbs
Hannah Hockaday	Claire Udy
Suzy Horton	Gerald Vernon-Jackson CBE
Donna Jones	Neill Young
Lee Mason	Rob Wood
Robert New	Tom Wood
Steve Pitt	

## **General Procedural Announcements/Decisions**

The Lord Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting and referred to the email that had been sent by the Chief Executive to members regarding the way the meeting would be run today owing to the issues that have arisen as a result of the coronavirus. A briefing would take place for all members at 3pm or the conclusion of this meeting, whichever occurred first.

In consultation with the Chief Executive, the Group Leaders and myself, the following items that had been scheduled for today's meeting would be held over to the next ordinary Council Meeting.

Item 8 - the Petition - the Lord Mayor advised that the Lead Petitioner was content that this should be delayed

Item 15 - Proposed revision of Standing Order 32

Item 17 - Notices of Motion

Item 18 - Members Questions

In relation to items 17 and 18, the six month rule would not apply as they will not be put to Council today.

**RESOLVED that Standing Orders be waived to allow these changes.**

In order to comply with government advice on social distancing, the Lord Mayor advised that only the minimum number of councillors to ensure the meeting is quorate are in attendance today.

**RESOLVED that Standing Order 48(a) be waived so that Members were not required to be in their designated seats in order to vote.**

The Lord Mayor then announced that he had been advised by the Leader of the Council that Councillor Rob Wood was no longer the Portfolio Holder for Children and Families.

## **20. Deputy Lord Mayor**

The Lord Mayor invited the Leader to address Council.  
The Leader thanked Councillor Ben Dowling former Deputy Lord Mayor and Ms Roxana Andrusca former Deputy Lady Mayoress for all their work during their time in office and supported their decision to step down from office a few months early.

Councillor Donna Jones also thanked the former Deputy Lord Mayor and Deputy Lady Mayoress for their work.

Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson nominated Councillor Rob Wood as Deputy Lord Mayor.  
The nomination was seconded by Councillor Donna Jones.

Councillor Rob Wood said he was pleased to accept the nomination.

There being no other nominations, the Lord Mayor put the proposal which was CARRIED unanimously.

The Lord Mayor declared that Councillor Rob Wood is elected as Deputy Lord Mayor for the remainder of this Municipal Year.

The Lord Mayor invited the new Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Rob Wood to subscribe the Declaration of Acceptance of Office which he then did witnessed by the City Solicitor, Peter Baulf.

The Lord Mayor presented the Deputy Lord Mayor with his Chain of Office.

The Deputy Lady Mayoress, Deborah Wood, was then presented with a badge of office by the Lady Mayoress, Mrs Leza Tremorin

The Deputy Lady Mayoress then subscribed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office witnessed by the City Solicitor.

## **21. Declaration of Members' Interests**

There were no declarations of members' interests.

## **22. To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 11 February 2020**

It was  
Proposed by Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson  
Seconded by Councillor Donna Jones  
That the minutes of the ordinary Council Meeting held on 11 February 2020 be confirmed as a correct record.

Upon being put to the vote this was CARRIED.

**RESOLVED that the minutes of the ordinary Council Meeting held on 11 February 2020 be confirmed as a correct record.**

**23. To receive such communications as the Lord Mayor may desire to lay before the Council, including apologies for absence.**

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Dave Ashmore, Lee Hunt, Linda Symes, Hugh Mason and Stephen Morgan MP (who had business in parliament).

The Leader of the Council explained that as Members had been advised that only a minimum number of Councillors should attend the meeting today, that a note be included in the minutes to say that members were available to attend but were advised not to do so in order to comply with the government's health advice and that their absence would not be viewed in a negative way and their attendance record would indicate "not required".

The Lord Mayor then read out the evacuation procedures.

**24. Deputations from the Public under Standing Order No 24**

There were no deputations.

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

There were no questions from the public under Standing Order 25.

**26. Appointments**

The Lord Mayor asked for nominations for the Shadow Fire and Rescue Authority appointment.

It was

Proposed by Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson

Seconded by Councillor Darren Sanders

That Councillor Jason Fazackarley be appointed to the Shadow Fire and Rescue Authority.

Upon being put to the vote this was CARRIED.

**RESOLVED that Councillor Jason Fazackarley be appointed to the Shadow Fire and Rescue Authority for 2020/21**

**27. Petition - Title "Accessible Beach 4 Pompey"**

The Lord Mayor had previously advised this matter would be held over to the next ordinary Council meeting.

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

The Lord Mayor advised that the necessary notice had been given that there was urgent business to consider and invited the Leader of the Council to address Council.

The Leader advised that the urgent business concerned the coronavirus and that the City Council needed to respond to this. He advised that the Council had launched a 12 point plan to help support residents and businesses in the City and outlined each provision.

1. The City Council is setting up a helpline to direct residents to the correct professional medical advice on what to do, so residents can get this advice and not rely on rumour.
2. The City Council's website and Facebook page will prominently show this advice and sign post residents to accurate sources of information. We will also use the HIVE to co-ordinate volunteers across the city.
3. The City Council will work with Foodbanks in the city to give them access to the very generous offers local residents have made of food and volunteer time.
4. Services are looking to reduce the number of face-to-face meetings needed and will try to carry out these meetings by phone.
5. We are looking at opening up extra beds at City Council run homes to allow residents to be transferred out of QA to free up beds. This is expensive and will rely on Government financial support.
6. I have written to all the main supermarkets to ask to meet with them to understand how we can protect supply of goods to all residents and how we get food to people who are self-isolating at home.
7. In the same way we will look at removing the 9.30am start time for concessionary bus passes to allow more elderly and vulnerable residents to shop earlier when supermarkets may be quieter.
8. We are increasing the cleaning in Council run buildings to try to stop infections spreading.
9. Services providing food for the homeless are being hit with a loss of volunteers. The City Council will look to step into this area and provide meals for people who rely on this service.
10. We are looking to see if we can provide food for children currently receive free school meals if schools are closed for an extended time
11. In care homes we are looking to reduce the chances of infection by increased cleaning and discouraging nonessential visits.
12. Finally the City Council will write out directly to all elderly and disabled residents to let them know what the City Council is doing, to give them advice and offer them help.

The City Council is moving to a business critical footing which means some services are closing and staff will be encouraged to work from home. Steps are being taken to redeploy Council staff to business critical areas as appropriate.

The Leader advised that there will be a briefing at 3pm for members and that this was likely to be repeated at least weekly.

Councillor Donna Jones welcomed the 12 point plan and commended the work that had been done. She mentioned the huge number of volunteers who had come forward to help and said it was important that this was co-ordinated and the HIVE was instrumental to ensuring this happens.

In response to a request from Councillor Udy, the Leader agreed to look at suspending court action in relation to Council Tax debt but said this was a

decision that had to involve all councillors and advice from Chris Ward, Finance Director, would be required.

## **29. Recommendations from the Cabinet Meeting held on 10 March 2020**

### **Minute 24 Annual Capital Strategy 2020/21 - 2029/30**

This was opposed.

It was

proposed by Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson

seconded by Councillor Steve Pitt

That the recommendations contained in Minute 24 be approved.

As an amendment

It was

proposed by Councillor Donna Jones

seconded by Councillor Luke Stubbs

to

"Add after recommendation (c)

That a report for noting be brought to Cabinet and Full Council whenever the council submits a bid for external funding that requires a local capital contribution in excess of £500,000 if such a contribution would involve significantly reducing the resources available to already approved schemes."

The proposer agreed to subsume into it the amendment standing in the name of Councillor Jones.

Following debate, upon the substantive proposal including the amendment being put to the vote, this was CARRIED.

### **RESOLVED**

- (1) That Part I of the Capital Strategy (Capital Expenditure and Aspirations) be approved including:**
  - a) The Short / Medium / Long-term Aspirations set out in Appendix 1**
- (2) That Part II of the Capital Strategy (Borrowing and Investing in Property) be approved including:**
  - a) The Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) for Debt Repayment Policy (Part II, (paragraph 1.5)**
  - b) The investment indicators in Part II - Appendix 2 (part II, paragraph 2.5)**
  - c) That the Director of Finance and Resources (Section 151 Officer) will bring a report to the next Cabinet and City Council if (part II, paragraph 2.5):**

- (i) **The Council's gross General Fund (GF) debt exceeds 400% of GF net service expenditure or;**
  - (ii) **Overall investment income from investment properties and long term treasury management investments exceeds 7.9% of GF net service expenditure**
- d) **That a report for noting be brought to Cabinet and Full Council whenever the council submits a bid for external funding that requires a local capital contribution in excess of £500,000 if such a contribution would involve significantly reducing the resources available to already approved schemes.**

**Minute 25 - Treasury Management Policy for 2020/21**

This was approved unopposed.

**30. Recommendations from Governance & Audit & Standards Committee held on 3 March 2020**

**Minute 9 - Appointment of Independent Persons**

This was approved unopposed.

**Minute 11 -Employees Code of conduct - Personal Use of Social Media**

This was approved unopposed.

**Minute 14 - Constitution Amendments Concerning Part 2 Section 5 - Chief Officers' Delegated Authority**

This was approved unopposed.

**NOTE:**

*Agenda Item 15 - Proposed Revision to Standing Order 32 - Referral of Motions to other bodies of the Council was deferred to the next ordinary Council meeting.*

**31. Recommendations from Employment Committee held on 6 March 2020.**

**Minute 6- Pay Policy Statement 2020/21**

This was approved unopposed.

**32. Notices of Motion**

The following Notices of Motion are all deferred to the next ordinary Council meeting:-

- Markings on Private Hire Vehicles (note - this has already been withdrawn)
- Central Police Station
- Stop the Knock: local authority debt collection practices
- Road Safety

**33. Questions from Members under Standing Order No 17.**

All questions from Members would be deferred to the next ordinary Council meeting (other than those that were subsequently withdrawn by the member submitting the question).

The Lord Mayor said it was his last scheduled meeting before Annual Council and he wished to thank everyone for making his time as Lord Mayor a very enjoyable experience.

The Leader of the Council thanked the Lord Mayor on behalf of the Council for everything he had done.

The meeting concluded at 2.35 pm.

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Lord Mayor

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