

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL held at the Guildhall
Portsmouth on Tuesday, 11 July 2017 at 2.05 pm

Council Members Present

The Right Worshipful The Lord Mayor
Councillor Ken Ellcome (in the Chair)

Councillors

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

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

There were no declarations of members' interests.

49. Minutes of the Meetings of the Annual Council Meeting held on 16 May 2017 and the Adjourned Council Meeting held on 16 May 2017

It was

Proposed by Councillor Donna Jones
Seconded by Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson

That the minutes of the annual council meeting held on 16 May 2017 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the annual council meeting and the adjourned council meeting held on 16 May 2017 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

50. Communications and apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillor Steve Wemyss. Apologies for lateness were received on behalf of Councillor Stuart Potter. Apologies for having to leave the meeting early were given by Councillor David Fuller.

The Lord Mayor welcomed the new Independent Group whose leader was Councillor Paul Godier, deputy leader Councillor Julie Swan. He also advised that Councillor Stuart Potter had been appointed as deputy leader of the UK Independence Party group. The Lord Mayor further advised that as a result of these changes the seating plan had been revised.

The Lord Mayor congratulated Councillor Stephen Morgan on his recent election as Member of Parliament for Portsmouth South and on his appointment as Parliamentary Private Secretary to the Shadow Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government. He also congratulated Penny Mordaunt, Minister of State for the Department for Work and Pensions, on her re-election as Member of Parliament for Portsmouth North.

The Lord Mayor also offered congratulations to Councillor Frank Jonas who had been awarded the British Empire Medal by the Queen in her Majesty's birthday honours for services to the community.

The Lord Mayor also extended thanks to Councillors Lynne Stagg and Alicia Denny for providing refreshments at council meeting over several years.

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Donna Jones advised that Councillor Paul Godier had been appointed as champion for homelessness and put on record thanks for his work leading the homelessness working group.

Finally the Lord Mayor announced the sad news that Gladys Howard, a former Lord Mayor of Portsmouth had passed away recently and said that he had attended her funeral on behalf of the city council. He reminded councillors that Gladys Howard had been presented with a special recognition of achievement award for her service to the city of Portsmouth. The Lord Mayor gave brief details of Gladys' achievements and invited the city council to observe a minute's silence in her memory.

51. Deputations from the Public under Standing Order No 24

The City Solicitor advised that five deputation requests had been received in respect of item 13(b) - Homelessness.

The Leader advised that although a proposal to suspend standing orders was not often made, on this occasion the amount of time allowed for each person wishing to make a deputation would only be two and a half minutes. The Leader said that she wished to propose that each person making a deputation could speak for five minutes.

It was

Proposed by Councillor Donna Jones
Seconded by Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson

That standing orders be suspended for this item in order to allow each person making a deputation five minutes. This was agreed.

Deputations on this item were then given by Hilary Reed, Paul Smith, Alan Burgess and John Sutton. A deputation by Graham Newell was not made as he was not present in the chamber.

The City Solicitor advised that a deputation request had been made in respect of agenda item 6 - Appointments - Temporary Deputy Member for the Hampshire Fire & Rescue Authority.

The City Solicitor invited Mark Chapman, Fire Brigades Union to make his deputation which he then did.

The City Solicitor thanked all those who had made deputations.

52. Questions from the Public under Standing Order No 25

There were no questions from the public.

53. Appointments - Temporary Deputy Member for the Hampshire Fire & Rescue Authority

The Lord Mayor advised that two nominations had been received to be appointed to act as temporary deputy member on the Hampshire Fire & Rescue Authority (HFRA).

It was

Proposed by Councillor Donna Jones
Seconded by Councillor Luke Stubbs

That Councillor Frank Jonas be appointed to act as temporary deputy member on the Hampshire Fire & Rescue Authority.

It was

Proposed by Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson
Seconded by Councillor Darren Sanders

That Councillor Winnington be appointed to act as temporary deputy member on the Hampshire Fire & Rescue Authority.

Following debate upon being put to the vote, Councillor Frank Jonas was appointed.

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RESOLVED that Councillor Frank Jonas be appointed to act as temporary deputy member on the Hampshire Fire & Rescue Authority (HFRA).

54. 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 there was no urgent business.

55. Recommendations from the Cabinet Meeting held on 29 June 2017

Minute 21 - LED Street Lighting Replacement Programme

Minute 21 was approved unopposed.

56. Recommendations from the Licensing Committee held on 23 June 2017

The following minute was opposed:

Minute 13 - The Gambling Act 2005 - Adoption of Statement of Licensing Policy

It was

Proposed by Councillor Lee Mason
Seconded by Councillor Hannah Hockaday

That the recommendations contained in minute 13 - The Gambling Act 2005 - Adoption of Statement of Licensing Policy be noted and approved.

An amendment standing in the name of Councillor Winnington was circulated in the chamber but an adjournment was requested by the Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group in order to allow for a short discussion to take place between the proposer of the minute and the proposer of the amendment.

Council adjourned at 2.47 pm. Council resumed at 2.57 pm.

As an amendment it was

Proposed by Councillor Matthew Winnington
Seconded by Councillor Hugh Mason

That in addition to adopting the statement of licensing policy, the council agreed the following -

"That further to the concerns expressed in paragraph 18.9 of the Gambling Policy, the council therefore requests the government to take action either to remove fixed odds betting terminals from use or at least to reduce the price per spin to £10. These are highly addictive gaming machines as they allow people to lose up to £100 per spin and users to spin every ten seconds. As such the Council will lobby the Secretaries of State for Communities & Local

Government and Culture, Media & Sport to change the law to remove fixed odds betting terminals from use or at least to regulate further to reduce the stakes that can be gambled each spin to a much lower sum. The Chief Executive be requested to make representations to these Government departments accordingly."

Councillor Lee Mason agreed to subsume the amendment into his original proposal. Upon the substantive recommendations being put to the vote these were CARRIED.

RESOLVED that

- (1) Council notes and approves the recommendations of the Licensing Committee and adopts the Statement of Licensing Policy in accordance with section 349 of the Gambling Act 2005;**
- (2) That in addition to adopting the Statement of Licensing Policy, the Council agree the following -**

That further to the concerns expressed in paragraph 18.9 of the Gambling policy, the Council therefore requests the Government to take action either to remove fixed odds betting terminals from use or at least to reduce the price per spin to £10. These are highly addictive gaming machines as they allow people to lose up to £100 per spin and users to spin every ten seconds. As such the Council will lobby the Secretaries of State for Communities & Local Government and Culture, Media & Sport to change the law to remove fixed odds betting terminals from use or at least to regulate further to reduce the stakes that can be gambled at each spin to a much lower sum. The Chief Executive be requested to make representations to these Government departments accordingly.

Minute 14 - Licensing Act 2003 - Adoption of Statement of Licensing Policy

It was

Proposed by Councillor Lee Mason
Seconded by Councillor Hannah Hockaday

That the recommendations contained in Minute 14 - Licensing Act 2003 - Adoption of Statement of Licensing Policy be adopted.

Following debate, upon being put to the vote, this was CARRIED.

RESOLVED

That the Council noted and approved the recommendations of the Licensing Committee and Council adopted the statement of licensing policy in accordance with Section 5 of the Licensing Act 2003.

57. Recommendations from the Governance & Audit & Standards Committee Meeting held on 30 June 2017

Minute 36 - Proposed amendments to the Complaint Form submitted in relation to the Councillor Code of Conduct

This was approved unopposed.

58. Review of the political balance on committees and panels

It was

Proposed by Councillor Donna Jones
Seconded by Councillor Frank Jonas

To adopt the proposals circulated in the chamber. Upon being put to the vote this was CARRIED.

RESOLVED that council

(1) Adopted the overall political balance and allocation of seats as set out in the Chief Executive's report, and agree the following named membership which has the agreement of all those affected

- **UKIP Group (4 seats): Councillor Galloway retains membership of Licensing Committee, Planning Committee, Housing & Social Care Scrutiny Panel and Scrutiny Management Panel.**
- **Labour Group (4 seats) : Councillor Morgan retains membership on the Licensing Committee and Scrutiny Management Panel ; Councillor Chowdhury retains membership on Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel and the Economic Development Culture and Leisure Scrutiny Panel.**
- **Independent Group (3 seats) : Councillor Godier retains membership of Licensing Committee and Education, Children & Young People Scrutiny Panel and the Group gains a seat on the Traffic, Environment and Community Safety Scrutiny Panel to be taken by Councillor Godier.**

(2) That Councillor Steve Hastings be the Chair of the Traffic, Environment and Community Safety Scrutiny Panel.

59. Notices of Motion

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

Notice of Motion (a) - The Committee System

This was abandoned owing to the seconder not being present when the item was called.

Notice of Motion (b) - Homelessness

It was

Proposed by Councillor Colin Galloway
Seconded by Councillor Stuart Potter

That this notice of motion be debated today.

Upon being put to the vote this was CARRIED.

It was

Proposed by Councillor Colin Galloway
Seconded by Councillor Stuart Potter

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

It was

Proposed by Councillor Donna Jones
Seconded by Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson

To delete the first and second paragraph and amend the final paragraph by inserting the following after the words "this chamber".

"places on record the hard work being done by the Voluntary Sector, faith groups, Officers and Members of the City Council for some of our most vulnerable and needy homeless and rough sleepers"

and asks the Leader of the Council to write to the Police and Crime Commissioner to

- then replace the remainder of the paragraph with the following words -

"request further assistance from the local police force and PCSOs where appropriate. The Conservative, Liberal Democrat, Labour and Independent Groups on this council are keen to see an end to homelessness in our city and are committed to ensuring there is adequate funding for this purpose."

Following debate, upon being put to the vote the amendment standing in the name of Councillor Donna Jones was CARRIED. On being put to the vote, the substantive notice of motion (as amended) was CARRIED.

RESOLVED that council adopted the following notice of motion:

"This Chamber places on record the hard work being done by the Voluntary Sector, faith groups, Officers and Members of the City Council for some of our most vulnerable and needy homeless and rough

sleepers and asks the Leader of the Council to write to the Police and Crime Commissioner to request further assistance from the local police force and PCSOs where appropriate. The Conservative, Liberal Democrat, Labour and Independent Groups on this council are keen to see an end to homelessness in our city and are committed to ensuring there is adequate funding for this purpose."

Council adjourned at 4.55 pm.

Council resumed at 5.15 pm.

Notice of Motion (c) - Congratulations to Land Rover BAR

It was

Proposed by Councillor Alicia Denny
Seconded by Councillor Steve Hastings

That notice of motion (c) be debated today.

Upon being put to the vote this was CARRIED.

It was

Proposed by Councillor Alicia Denny
Seconded by Councillor Steve Hastings

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

Following debate upon being put to the vote this was CARRIED.

RESOLVED that "The city council congratulates Sir Ben Ainslie and all of his Land Rover BAR team on reaching the semi-finals of the 2017 Louis Vuitton America's Cup in Bermuda and, in particular, the BAR Academy for winning the Red Bull Youth America's Cup. Thanks are due to them for representing the country and the city so admirably and promoting Portsmouth as a centre of maritime excellence to a worldwide audience. While appreciating the disappointment of not being able to bring the cup home this time, we hope the unique offer of sailing in Southsea is repeated in future years supported by BAR in their future endeavours.

To ensure we maximise on the unique and strong offer we have in Southsea with one of the best sailing locations in the world, the Council requests the Executive consider options of other sailing events to develop the city's economy to support jobs in the city through tourism."

Notice of Motion (d) - Children and Social Work Act

It was

Proposed by Councillor Ryan Brent

Seconded by Councillor Hannah Hockaday

That this notice of motion be debated today.

Upon being put to the vote this was CARRIED.

It was

Proposed by Councillor Ryan Brent
Seconded by Councillor Hannah Hockaday

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

As an amendment it was

It was

Proposed by Councillor Will Purvis
Seconded by Councillor Rob Wood

In paragraph 5 delete "highlight their resourcing intentions" replace with "commit to funding the additional costs of this change".

Councillor Ryan Brent agreed to subsume the amendment into his original notice of motion. Following debate on being put to the vote, the substantive notice of motion incorporating the amendment was CARRIED.

RESOLVED that Council adopts the following Notice of Motion:-

"The Children and Social Work Act provides the legal framework to support a programme of reform in children's social care set out in the Government's July 2016 policy paper 'Putting Children First'. This Act is only the first legislative step, and places a duty on the Secretary of State to make a variety of Regulations, including provisions such as:

- **Local Authorities must publish information about their 'local offer for care leavers'**
- **Personal advisers must be provided for care leavers up to the age of 25**
- **Extending the existing duties of local authorities and schools to children who have been adopted or placed in other long-term arrangements within their geography**

Portsmouth City Council and the Conservative administration commends the government's action to strengthen support for young people leaving care; in particular extending the personal adviser service from age 21 to age 25, which will support young people make this important transition.

In Portsmouth there has been an annual average of 34 children who 'leave' the care of the city council and receive statutory support as care

leavers. This costs an average of £13,194 per care leaver per year. However, due to the increase in Unaccompanied Minors entering the locality this number is set to increase by a predicted average of 8 in the coming years. In addition to this, the statutory extension from the age of 21 to 25 for Care Leavers' will add a further £383,000 pressure in year 1. This would see an additional demand pressure of £1,385,000 upon the Children, Families and Education directorate at the council by year 5.

This council requests the Chief Executive to write to the Secretary of State for Education, the Minister for Children and Families, the Chairman of the LGA as well as both Portsmouth constituency MPs, to ask the government to commit to funding the additional costs of this change to ensure that the increase in demand pressure that this Act will place on Children's Social Care across all Local Authorities does not impact upon the quality of service delivered to vulnerable children and families."

Notice of Motion (e) - Tackling delayed discharge

It was

Proposed by Councillor Darren Sanders
Seconded by Councillor Ben Dowling

That this notice of motion be debated today.

Upon being put to the vote this was CARRIED.

It was

Proposed by Councillor Darren Sanders
Seconded by Councillor Ben Dowling

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

As an amendment it was

Proposed by Councillor Luke Stubbs
Seconded by Councillor Donna Jones

To delete last paragraph and replace with the following:

"The Council therefore resolves to ask the Chief Executive to write to the CCG and Solent NHS Trust asking them to draw up a business plan with the support of the city's MPs and Leader of the Council to create a facility at St James' Hospital by the end of 2017".

Councillor Darren Sanders agreed to subsume the amendment into his original notice of motion.

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

RESOLVED that the following Notice of Motion be adopted

"Council regrets the significant number of patients at QA who are medically fit to be discharged from an acute care hospital but for varying reasons cannot return home immediately.

Portsmouth Hospital NHS Trust believes this group to be about 240 people at any one time, about a third of whom live in Portsmouth. Each one costs the NHS £500 for every day they remain in QA.

Such patients would be better served by short-term convalescent care. As such, Council welcomes the suggestion by the NHS Trust that a convalescent care home will significantly reduce the capacity and financial pressures this situation raises for the NHS, the people concerned and the Council.

Council also notes that discussions have taken place between it and the NHS on this matter and recognises there is already spare land the NHS is vacating at St James' Hospital where this could go.

The Council therefore resolves to ask the Chief Executive to write to the CCG and Solent NHS Trust asking them to draw up a business plan with the support of the city's MPs and Leader of the Council to create a facility at St James' Hospital by the end of 2017".

60. Questions from Members under Standing Order No 17

There were five questions before council.

Question No 1 was from Councillor Julie Bird

"Our local paper 'The News' has recently reported that the building in Victoria Park, previously known as 'The Arts Lodge' is to be run as a charity for the homeless.

For over a year we have been under the impression that this was going to be a centre for Adult Learning Disabilities. Whilst undoubtedly a good, worthy and necessary cause what alternative provisions have been made for this and what prompted the change to assist a homeless charity."

This and supplementary questions were answered by the Leader of the Council with responsibility for Planning, Regeneration and Economic Development, Councillor Donna Jones.

Question No 2 was from Councillor Colin Galloway

"We note that the Victoria Park catering outlet has been given over to the Society of St James. The Society, we know, is primarily a homelessness charity, but we also have certain apprehensions about staffing the unit as homelessness is often associated with alcohol and substance abuse. Will you

please explain the details of the infrastructure of the unit so that we can all rest assured that this will be a safe and healthy place to visit?"

This and supplementary questions were answered by the Leader of the Council with responsibility for Planning, Regeneration and Economic Development, Councillor Donna Jones.

Question No 3 was from Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson CBE

"When did the Fire Service last inspect Horatia and Leamington Houses before the fire at Grenfell Tower fire? What recommendations were made and were all recommendations actioned?"

This and supplementary questions were answered by the Leader of the Council with responsibility for Planning, Regeneration and Economic Development, Councillor Donna Jones.

Question No 4 was from Councillor Julie Bird

"Fratton Councillors have recently received notification that 250 Fratton Road will become a drop in and rehabilitation centre. Bearing in mind that there is a known issue in the area with alcoholics and drug addicts and dispersal orders have previously been in place to try and mitigate these issues, could the Council please confirm why they have considered an area with existing issues situated behind a community centre, between three schools and directly opposite a public library a suitable premises for such a service."

This was answered by the Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care, Councillor Luke Stubbs.

Question No 5 was from Councillor Colin Galloway

"Portsmouth has all the potential for being a "green" city. We are blessed with a city that benefits from being an island city with a relatively flat topography. It is good to see that the city is encouraging cycleways, however one major problem remains and that is the continued use of pavements designated for pedestrians being used and abused by uncaring and dangerous cyclists who show no regard for people as they cycle at them at great speeds. I ask the portfolio holder for Traffic and Transport if the problem is being addressed and how can this practice be brought abruptly to an end before there is a fatality?"

This was answered by the Cabinet Member for Traffic and Transportation, Councillor Simon Boshier.

The meeting concluded at 7.12 pm.

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Lord Mayor