

WINCHESTER CITY COUNCIL

At a Special Meeting of the Council held in the Guildhall, Winchester on 29 June 2005

Attendance:

Councillor Baxter (The Mayor in the Chair) (P)

Councillors:

Allgood (P)	Jackson (P)
Anthony (P)	Jeffs (P)
Beckett (P)	Johnston (P)
Bennetts (P)	Knasel (P)
Berry (P)	Learney (P)
Beveridge (P)	Lipscomb
Bidgood (P)	Love (P)
Busher (P)	Macmillan (P)
Campbell (P)	Mather (P)
Chamberlain	Maynard (P)
Chapman (P)	Merritt (P)
Clohosey (P)	Mitchell (P)
Coates (P)	Nelmes (P)
Collin (P)	Nunn (P)
Cook	Pearce (P)
Cooper (P)	Pearson (P)
Darbyshire	Pines (P)
Davies (P)	Quar (P)
de Peyer (P)	Read (P)
Evans (P)	Rees (P)
Godfrey (P)	Saunders (P)
Goodall (P)	Stallard (P)
Hammerton (P)	Steel (P)
Higgins (P)	Sutton (P)
Hiscock (P)	Tait
Hoare	Verney (P)
Hollingbery (P)	Wagner (P)
Hutton (P)	Wright (P)

149. COMMUNICATION FROM MAYOR

The Mayor reported that he had sent congratulations on behalf of the Council to the following people with local connections, who had been recognised in the Queen's Birthday Honours List:-

Paul Kernaghan QPM CBE – for services to the Police
 Rodney Carr OBE – for services to sailing
 Miranda McKearney OBE – for services to libraries and education
 Jacky Stevens OBE – for services to business
 John Wilkinson OBE – for services to education
 Sally Taylor MBE – for services to regional broadcasting

The Mayor also congratulated the Chief Executive and his team of cyclists who had recently cycled from Winchester to Laon and raised £2,116 for the Mayor's Charities.

150. **COMMUNICATION FROM THE LEADER**

The Leader reported that a meeting of the South East England Regional Assembly (SEERA) would be held on 13 July 2005 in the Winchester Guildhall and would be open to Councillors and the public to attend. In addition, she advised that SEERA were recommending a level of growth of 4,000 dwellings per year in the 'South Hampshire' region and 800 dwellings per year in the 'Rest of Hampshire' area. Further details were set out in Report CAB1104 which was considered by Cabinet at its meeting on 29 June 2005.

The Leader also reported that the new Customer Service Centre at the Council's City Offices was now open and had received positive feedback from customers.

151. **ANNUAL SCRUTINY REPORT 2004/05**

(Report CL29 refers)

Councillor Allgood addressed the meeting as Chairman of Principal Scrutiny Committee and author of the Report. He summarised the work that had taken place over the year and thanked the Members and officers involved.

It was moved by Councillor Allgood and seconded by Councillor Beckett that the Annual Scrutiny Report 2004-05 be endorsed.

RESOLVED:

That the Annual Scrutiny Report 2004/05 be endorsed.

152. **EXTRACTS FROM MINUTES OF CABINET AND PRINCIPAL SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

(Report CL31 refers)

It was reported that the Report set out the recommended minutes from Cabinet on 20 April 2005 and 1 June 2005 and from Principal Scrutiny Committee on 6 June 2005 for consideration by the Council. However, each Minute was supported by an additional Council report which should be considered in conjunction with the Minute as appropriate.

152.1. **THE HOUSING OPTIONS APPRAISAL**

(Reports CAB1071 and CL30 refer)

It was advised that as there were no amendments to the text of the Appraisal report, the version circulated with the Council agenda was the same as that considered by Cabinet on 20 April 2005. Therefore, the recommendation before Council was as set out in Report CL31 subject to the deletion of the words in the first recommendation "...subject to any amendments as a result of the process outlined in resolutions 1 and 2 below" and formally noting the contents of the additional supporting information contained in Report CL30. The full text of the composite recommendation was therefore as follows:

- “ 1. That the Housing Options Appraisal be approved for submission to the Government Office for the South East.
2. That the Council approves a retention strategy for its housing stock and commits to repeating a detailed review of housing options in three years.
3. That the contents of Report CL30 be noted.”

At the request of the Mayor it was agreed that Council Procedure Rules be suspended to enable two representatives of TACT to address the meeting.

In summary, Mr C Gilbert-Wood and Mr A Rickman (TACT) outlined the work undertaken under the Housing Options Appraisal and emphasised that 95 per cent of the tenants who had responded had indicated that they wished the Council to retain control of its housing stock. They also acknowledged that more work would be necessary when a further detailed review of housing options was undertaken in three years time.

It was moved by the Portfolio Holder for Housing, Councillor Hiscock, and seconded by Councillor Mitchell, that the composite recommendation as set out in Report CL31 and amended above, be approved and adopted.

RESOLVED:

That the composite recommendation as set out above be approved and adopted.

152.2. **PERFORMANCE PLAN 2005/06**
(Reports CAB1086, CL28 and Addendum refer)

It was reported that the text of the Performance Plan was amended to that included within Report CAB1086 and the revised text was as set out in Report CL28.

It was further reported that subsequent to the publication of Report CL28, a number of corrections and amendments had been requested and these were set out in the Addendum to Report CL28 which was been circulated at the Council meeting. The Addendum had not been made available for publication within the statutory period, but the Mayor agreed to accept it onto the agenda, as a matter requiring urgent consideration, in view of the need to publish the Plan by the Government set deadline of 30 June 2005.

It was moved by the Chairman, Councillor Campbell, and seconded by Councillor Higgins that the revised Performance Plan 2005/06, as set out in Report CL28 and Addendum, be approved and adopted. In addition, that the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader, be authorised to make any minor textual amendments found necessary on final checking. The full text of the composite recommendation was therefore as follows:

- “ 1. That the Performance Plan 2005/06, as appended to Report CL28 and amended in the Addendum to CL28, be approved and adopted.
2. That the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader, be authorised to make any minor textual amendments found necessary on final checking.”

Amendment (1) Councillor Allgood (2) Councillor Beckett

“That the foreword from the Leader be deleted from the text of the Performance Plan 2005/06.”

Amendment lost.

Amendment (1) Councillor Beckett (2) Councillor Berry

“That the wording of the fourth bullet point, under the Economic Prosperity paragraph on page seven of the Plan be amended by the deletion of the word ‘vision’ and substitution of the word ‘policy’, so the amended bullet point would read ‘develop a policy for the evening economy.’”

Amendment lost.

Original motion carried.

RESOLVED:

That the composite recommendation as set out above be approved and adopted.

152.3. **REALIGNMENT OF FORMER PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEES - APPROVAL OF REMAINING ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES**
(Reports PS180 and CL27 refer)

It was reported that the following changes to the membership of the Scrutiny Panels as set out in Report CL27 were proposed:

Social Issues – replace Councillor Merritt as Deputy Member with Councillor Jackson.

Environment – replace Councillor Merritt with Councillor Higgins as full Member with Councillor Johnston as Deputy Member.

Local Economy – replace Councillor Johnston as full Member with Councillor Love, and replace Councillor Bidgood as Deputy Member with Councillor Johnston.

The Chairman, Councillor Campbell, moved that the recommendations as contained in Report CL27 and amended above be approved and adopted, with the exception of the appointment of Chairmen which was considered separately below.

Amendment (1) Councillor Beckett (2) Councillor Hollingbery

“That the terms of reference of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees as set out on page 8 of CL27 Appendix B, paragraph 6.01 be amended by the deletion of following paragraph: ‘2. To contribute to the development of key Council policies and programmes.’”

Following debate and with the leave of Council, this amendment was withdrawn and replaced with:

Amendment (1) Councillor Beckett (2) Councillor Hollingbery

“That the terms of reference for the Scrutiny Panels be amended from that set out in Appendix A of Report CL27 by the replacement of the word “will” with the word “may” in the first sentence of paragraph 6.02. The amended sentence would read ‘Within their terms of reference, overview and scrutiny Committees may:-’”

Amendment carried.

Substantive motion as amended above carried.

RESOLVED:

1. That Recommended Minutes 3 and 4, as set out in Report CL31, be approved and adopted.

2. That the membership of the four Scrutiny Panels be approved and adopted as set out below and with meeting dates for 2005/06 as set out in Appendix A of Report CL31:

Social Issues Scrutiny Panel

Chapman, Coates, Hammerton, Hutton, Love, Maynard, Nunn, Quar, Rees, Saunders and Steel

Deputies:

Berry, Busher, Jackson and Pines

plus TACT representatives (two Members and two deputies)

Environment Scrutiny Panel

Bidgood, Busher, de Peyer, Higgins, Jackson, Mather, Pearce, Pearson, Sutton, Verney and Wright

Deputies:

Hoare, Hollingbery, Johnston and Rees

Local Economy Scrutiny Panel

Anthony, Bennetts, Berry, Cook, Darbyshire, Godfrey, Goodall, Love, Pines Sutton and Stallard

Deputies:

Chapman, Davies, Hammerton and Johnston

Resources Scrutiny Panel

Clohosey, Cooper, Darbyshire, Davies, Higgins, Hoare, Hollingbery, Jeffs, Mitchell, Pearce and Verney

Deputies:

de Peyer, Goodall, Johnston and Wright

3. That the terms of reference for the Scrutiny Panels be approved and adopted as set out in Appendix A of Report CL27 and amended above.

1. That, having regard to the similar levels of responsibility and role content between chairmen of the former Performance Improvement Committee and the new Scrutiny Panels, the Members Allowances Scheme (Special Responsibility Allowance – Band 7) be amended by deletion of words ‘Chairmen of Performance Improvement Committees (5)’ and insertion of the words ‘Chairmen of Scrutiny Panels.’

With regard to the appointment of Chairmen of the Panels, it was reported that the Liberal Democrat Group had withdrawn their nominations for Chairman.

It was also reported that the Conservative Group had made the following nominations for Chairmen:

Social Issues – Councillor Coates
Environment – Councillor Pearson
Local Economy – Councillor Stallard
Resources – Councillor Hollingbery

RESOLVED:

That the following appointments to Chairmen of Scrutiny Panels be made:

Councillor Hammerton – Social Issues Scrutiny Panel
Councillor Pearson – Environment Scrutiny Panel
Councillor Stallard – Local Economy Scrutiny Panel
Councillor Hollingbery – Resources Scrutiny Panel

153. **APPOINTMENTS TO BODIES SET UP BY THE COUNCIL**

RESOLVED:

That the following membership change be agreed:-

Planning Development Control Committee – Councillor Chapman to replace Councillor Tait

NB: Deputy Member for the Conservative Group to be appointed at the next meeting of Council on 20 July 2005

The meeting commenced at 7.00pm and concluded at 9.35pm

The Mayor