

WINCHESTER CITY COUNCIL

At an Ordinary Meeting of the Council held in the Guildhall, Winchester on 20 July 2011.

Attendance:

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

Councillors:

Achwal (P)	Love (P)
Banister (P)	Mason (P)
Beckett (P)	Mather (P)
Berry (P)	Maynard (P)
Bodtger (P)	McLean (P)
Chamberlain (P)	Mitchell (P)
Clear (P)	Nelmes (P)
Coates (P)	Newman-McKie (P)
Collin (P)	Pearce (P)
Cook (P)	Pearson (P)
Cooper (P)	Phillips (P)
Evans (P)	Pines (P)
Gemmell (P)	Power (P)
Godfrey (P)	Prowse (P)
Gottlieb (P)	Read (P)
Hammerton (P)	Ruffell (P)
Henry (P)	Rutter (P)
Higgins (P)	Sanders (P)
Hiscock (P)	Scott (P)
Humby (P)	Stallard (P)
Hutchison (P)	Tait (P)
Huxstep (P)	Thompson (P)
Izard (P)	Verney (P)
Jackson (P)	Warwick (P)
Jefferies (P)	Weston (P)
Johnston (P)	Witt (P)
Laming (P)	Wood (P)
Learney (P)	Wright (P)

1. **MINUTES**

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on 6 April 2011 and the Annual Meeting of the Council held on 18 May 2011 be approved and adopted.

2. **COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR**

The Mayor announced that he had sent letters of congratulation to the following people who lived or worked in the District, regarding their inclusion in the Queen's Birthday Honours List:-

Mr Gerard Basset – awarded an OBE for services to the hospitality industry.

Prof Jose Chambers – awarded an MBE for services to Higher Education.

Prof Thomas James – awarded an MBE for services to Higher Education.

Ms Sarah Lloyd (Alresford) – awarded an MBE for services to the community.

Dr Martin Read (Bishops Waltham) – awarded a CBE for services to the Public Sector and to Business.

Mrs Lorraine Riley – awarded an MVO (Member of the Victorian Order) for services as Clerk to the Lord Lieutenant of Hampshire.

Mr Victor Wakeling (Alresford) - awarded a CBE for services to Sports Broadcasting.

Mr Colin Firth (former resident) – awarded a CBE for services to acting.

The Mayor then announced with regret the passing of former Admiral of the Fleet, Sir Henry Leach, who had lived in Wonston for many years. A letter of condolence had been sent on behalf of the Council and the Mayor was present at the memorial service.

The Mayor had also attended the funeral of former Mayor David Ball, who died in May. Mr Ball was Mayor in 1976-77 and represented St Bartholomew Ward until his retirement from office in 1981. Members stood for a few moments in silent tribute to his memory.

Finally, the Mayor reminded the meeting about the annual cricket match between The Mayor's XI v The Staff XI, which would be held on Friday 5 August 2011 (2pm) at the Littleton Cricket Ground.

3. **QUESTIONS UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 14**

1. Flyers placed on cars in Council car parks

The Portfolio Holder for Environment and Transport, Councillor Weston, answered a question from Councillor Evans.

2. Waste Recycling Targets

The Portfolio Holder for Environment and Transport, Councillor Weston, answered a question from Councillor Hutchinson.

3. Proposed Changes to Planning Fees

The Portfolio Holder for Planning and Enforcement, Councillor Humby, answered a question from Councillor Ruffell.

4. Issues with Travellers

The Portfolio Holder for Planning and Enforcement, Councillor Humby, answered a question from Councillor Mason.

5. Performance of the Planning Management Team

The Portfolio Holder for Planning and Enforcement, Councillor Humby, answered a question from Councillor Mather.

6. Cost of Winchester Residents Parking Scheme

The Portfolio Holder for Environment and Transport, Councillor Weston, answered a question from Councillor Maynard.

7. Refurbishment of St Maurice's Covert

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Beckett, answered a question from Councillor Tait.

8. Air Quality

The Portfolio Holder for Environment and Transport, Councillor Weston, answered a question from Councillor Learney.

9. Review of Parking Charges

The Portfolio Holder for Finance and Estates, Councillor Wood, answered a question from Councillor Hiscock.

10. JLS Concert at Matterley Bowl

The Portfolio Holder for Environment and Transport, Councillor Weston, answered a question from Councillor Cook.

11. VISA Programme Launch in Stanmore

The Portfolio Holder for Communities, Safety and Public Health, Councillor Cooper, answered a question from Councillor Thompson.

12. Aspirational Policies for Development Control

The Portfolio Holder for Environment and Transport, Councillor Weston, answered a question from Councillor Collin.

13. PV Cells for Council Housing

The Portfolio Holder for Strategic Housing and Landlord Services, Councillor Coates, answered a question from Councillor Banister.

14. Hat Fair – Litter and Signing Issues

The Portfolio Holder for Environment and Transport, Councillor Weston, answered a question from Councillor Jackson.

15. Projection Equipment in the Walton Suite

The Portfolio Holder for Administration, Innovation and Improvement, Councillor Godfrey, answered a question from Councillor Ruffell.

16. Silver Hill Development – Percentage of Affordable Housing

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Beckett, answered a question from Councillor Tait.

4. **CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDED MINUTES**

Cabinet – 6 July 2011

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 11 July 2011

Capital Expenditure Outturn 2010/11

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Beckett, moved that Recommended Minute 148 be approved and adopted.

RESOLVED:

1. That Recommended Minute 148 be approved and adopted.
2. That the Recommended Minute of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, as appended to Report CL71, be noted.

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 20 June 2011

Annual Scrutiny Report 2010/11

The Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Councillor Chamberlain, moved that Recommended Minute 113 be approved and adopted.

RESOLVED:

That Recommended Minute 113 be approved and adopted.

5. **NOTICE OF MOTION**

The following Notice of Motion had been submitted by Councillor Cook:-

"That this Council remove the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) designation from green field land when it can be demonstrated that it is in the public interest for such land to be used for public recreation or sport or where it can be demonstrated that such land is not required to meet the agreed housing targets."

The motion was seconded by Councillor Mitchell.

At the invitation of the Mayor, Councillor Cook addressed Council in support of his Motion and, in summary, made the following points:-

- (a) the SHLAA process of inviting landowners and developers to submit sites which they considered were suitable for development inevitably created 'hope value' and, consequently, purchase prices for those sites rose because of the expectation of gaining planning permission
- (b) that situation had occurred in New Alresford, where the price that the owner was seeking for land which the Town Council wanted to purchase as playing fields, had increased to an unaffordable level because of the owners perception of 'hope value' due to the SHLAA submission. Such a significant increase in price could also influence the City Council in considering a related Compulsory Purchase Order request, because apart from the cost of the CPO process itself, it was evident that the Town Council could not afford the land at anything approaching the 'hope value' figure.
- (c) advice from the Council's Head of Legal Services confirmed that the SHLAA process conferred no lawful designation or special status on suggested sites, merely a recognition that the land was potentially available for housing development. Therefore the Council could, if it so wished, remove that designation from the New Alresford site at this meeting.
- (d) the New Alresford case provided a good example of how this practice may impact on other areas of the District and therefore the Council should reconsider its position, with a view to removing the SHLAA designation in appropriate cases.

At this point, Councillor Power declared a personal and prejudicial interest in those matters raised by Councillor Cook which related to New Alresford Town Council and left the meeting for the remainder of this item.

During debate, the situation regarding New Alresford was noted, but it was generally agreed that the SHLAA designation process (which had to be undertaken as part of the South East Plan) was an important issue which needed to be considered in a District-wide context. How the Council moved from the SHLAA

'long list' of developer/landowner suggested sites for development to (if and when required) an acceptable short list, was a key aspect of an ongoing process which would inform the next stages of the Core Strategy.

At the conclusion of debate, the Council agreed that the matter would benefit from further clarification and therefore a report should be prepared for consideration by the Cabinet (LDF) Committee.

RESOLVED:

That the Notice of Motion be referred to a future meeting of the Cabinet (LDF) Committee for consideration, with a request that it make recommendations back to Council.

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

RESOLVED:

That Councillor Mitchell replace Councillor Evans on the Planning Development Control Committee as a full Member and Councillor Evans replace Councillor Mitchell as a deputy Member on the same Committee.

The meeting commenced at 7pm and concluded at 8.15pm.

The Mayor