

WINCHESTER CITY COUNCIL

At an Ordinary Meeting of the Council held in the Guildhall, Winchester on 9 January 2013

Attendance:

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

Councillors:

Achwal (P)	Mason (P)
Banister (P)	Mather (P)
Berry E (P)	Maynard (P)
Berry J (P)	McLean (P)
Bodtger (P)	Miller (P)
Byrnes (P)	Nelmes (P)
Chamberlain	Newman-McKie (P)
Clear (P)	Pearce (P)
Coates (P)	Phillips (P)
Collin (P)	Pines (P)
Cook (P)	Power (P)
Cutler (P)	Prowse (P)
Evans (P)	Read (P)
Gemmell (P)	Ruffell (P)
Godfrey (P)	Rutter (P)
Gottlieb (P)	Sanders (P)
Green (P)	Scott (P)
Henry (P)	Southgate (P)
Hiscock (P)	Stallard (P)
Humby (P)	Tait (P)
Hutchison (P)	Tod (P)
Huxstep	Verney (P)
Izard (P)	Warwick (P)
Jeffs (P)	Weir (P)
Johnston (P)	Weston (P)
Laming (P)	Witt (P)
Learney (P)	Wood (P)
Lipscomb (P)	Wright (P)

1. **MINUTES**

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on 7 November 2012 be approved and adopted subject to, in Minute 356.2, second paragraph of the supporting remarks (line 5), the words '70 miles long' should be deleted and replaced by the words 'a round trip of 70 miles'.

2. **COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR**

The Mayor reported that he had written letters of congratulation to the following people who lived or worked in the District, to congratulate them on their awards in the New Year's Honours List:-

Mrs Hermione Goulding of Winchester - awarded a BEM for Services to Charity and the Community in Winchester.

Mrs Lucie-Jane Lewis - awarded an MBE for her services to Naomi House in Sutton Scotney.

Inspector Julie Fry of Hampshire Police – awarded an MBE for her services to equality within the Police Service.

The Mayor then informed the meeting that he would be pleased to receive Member's nominations for people who deserved to be recognised for the work they performed for our community, through the Mayor's Awards for 2012/13. A press release to promote awareness of the award would be made later in the week.

Finally, the Mayor reported that he had accepted an indoor bowls match challenge from the Riverside Bowling Club and Members were needed to make up the Mayor's team. The match would take place on Saturday 9 February 2013 and interested Members should inform Cllr Izard.

3. **COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE LEADER**

The Leader reported on the various events that would be organised by the City and County Councils, together with many other local groups, to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of the First World War. A memorial would be erected in the Great Hall, in honour of the many thousands of troops who were accommodated at Morn Hill, before embarking for France. An information board would also be placed on Morn Hill itself. Members would be kept informed as details of future events became available.

The Leader then referred to a press article which inferred that the City Council was making a substantial surplus out of its car parks. He informed the meeting that the statement was untrue and based on a misinterpretation of information contained in the Council's returns to the DCLG. He also added that the Council did not make a profit on penalty charge tickets and had one of the lowest rates of appeal against tickets in the country. Further details could be made available to any interested Members.

Finally, the Leader and Members congratulated all those officers from the Council and Sustrans who had been responsible for the excellent work in bringing the Hockley Viaduct back into public use. The route would be opened during February 2013 and would be a major addition to the attractions of the area.

4. **COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

The Chief Executive reported that the Council had received a re-accreditation of its Customer Service Excellence award, following an inspection just before Christmas. The Council congratulated all staff on this achievement, particularly the Customer Services Manager (Paul Wood) who had overseen the process.

5. **DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

Councillors Collin, Mason and Stallard declared disclosable pecuniary interests in respect of all matters occurring under Item 6 which may involve the County Council, as they were County Councillors. Councillor Godfrey made the same declaration but as a County Council employee. However, as there would be no material conflict of interest, they would all remain in the room, speak and vote under the dispensation granted on behalf of the Standards Committee.

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

1. Leaf Clearance by Contractors

The Portfolio Holder for Planning and Transport, Councillor Weston, answered a question from Councillor Mason.

2. MP response to Council representations to the Boundary Commission

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Wood, answered a question from Councillor Power.

3. Blocked Drains

The Portfolio Holder for Planning and Transport, Councillor Weston, answered a question from Councillor E Berry.

4. Survey re. Yew Tree Drive, Whiteley

The Portfolio Holder for Planning and Transport, Councillor Weston, answered a question from Councillor Achwal.

5. Cost of holding last Council Meeting

The Portfolio Holder for Finance and Administration, Councillor Godfrey, answered a question from Councillor Verney.

6. Recent Notice of Motion re Planning Matters

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Wood, answered a question from Councillor Rutter.

7. Ward Business – Involvement of non-Ward Members

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Wood, answered a question from Councillor Green.

8. Discretionary Housing Payments

The Portfolio Holder for Finance and Administration, Councillor Godfrey, answered a question from Councillor J Berry.

9. New Homes Delivery Programme

The Portfolio Holder for New Homes Delivery, Councillor Tait, answered a question from Councillor Gottlieb.

10. Updated list of Recycling Banks on the Council's Website

The Portfolio Holder for Planning and Transport, Councillor Weston, answered a question from Councillor Tod.

11. Play Facilities in the Erskine Road area

The Portfolio Holder for Culture, Heritage and Sport, Councillor Stallard, answered a question from Councillor Hutchison.

12. Changes to Housing Benefit Payments

The Portfolio Holder for Housing, Councillor Coates, answered a question from Councillor Pines.

13. Officer availability over holiday periods

The Portfolio Holder for Planning and Transport, Councillor Weston, answered a question from Councillor Gemmell.

14. Proportion of Privately Owned Homes on Council Estates

The Portfolio Holder for Housing, Councillor Coates, answered a question from Councillor Power.

15. The Winchester Covenant - Progress

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Wood, answered a question from Councillor Green.

16. 'To Honour a Promise' – First World War Commemorations

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Wood, answered a question from Councillor Gottlieb.

7. **CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDED MINUTES**

Cabinet (Housing) Committee – 10 December 2012

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 10 December 2012

Housing Revenue Account – 2013/14 Rent Setting and Budget/Business Plan Options

RESOLVED:

1. That the Recommended Minute of the Cabinet (Housing) Committee be approved and adopted.
2. That Recommended Minute 434 of The Overview and Scrutiny Committee be noted.

Cabinet – 5 December 2012

Localisation of Council Tax Support and Council Tax Changes

It was proposed by Councillor Godfrey and seconded by Councillor Wood that the updated recommendations set out in Report CL81 be approved and adopted.

RESOLVED:

1. That the recommendations set out in Report CL81 be approved and adopted.
2. That Recommended Minute 420 of Cabinet be noted.

Cabinet – 5 December 2012

Council Tax Base 2013/14

It was proposed by Councillor Godfrey and seconded by Councillor Wood that the updated recommendations set out in Report CL82 be approved and adopted.

RESOLVED:

1. That the recommendations set out in Report CL82 be approved and adopted.
2. That Recommended Minute 421 of Cabinet be noted.

Cabinet – 14 November 2012

Planning Development Control Committee – 27 November 2012

Operation of the Planning Development Control Committee – Informal Policy Group – Final Report

Amendment (1) Councillor Humby (2) Councillor Jeffs

'That the Recommended Minute of Cabinet be amended by deletion of the words 'to 9 Members' in line 4, and insertion of the words 'to up to 10 Members'

Amendment carried

Substantive Motion carried.

RESOLVED:

1. That Recommended Minute 371 of Cabinet, as amended, be approved and adopted.
2. That Recommended Minute 385 of the Planning Development Control Committee be noted.

The meeting commenced at 7pm and concluded at 9.05pm.

The Mayor