

WINCHESTER CITY COUNCIL

At an Ordinary Meeting of the Council as held in the Guildhall, Winchester on 10 January 2018.

Attendance:

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

Councillors:

| | |
|---------------|--------------|
| Achwal (P) | Huxstep (P) |
| Ashton (P) | Izard (P) |
| Bell (P) | Jefferies |
| Bentote (P) | Laming (P) |
| Berry (P) | Learney (P) |
| Brook (P) | Mather (P) |
| Burns (P) | Miller (P) |
| Byrnes | Pearson (P) |
| Clear | Porter (P) |
| Cook (P) | Prince (P) |
| Cutler (P) | Read (P) |
| Elks (P) | Ruffell (P) |
| Evans (P) | Rutter (P) |
| Gemmell (P) | Scott (P) |
| Godfrey (P) | Stallard (P) |
| Gottlieb (P) | Tait (P) |
| Green (P) | Thacker (P) |
| Griffiths (P) | Thompson (P) |
| Hiscock (P) | Tod (P) |
| Horrill (P) | Warwick (P) |
| Humby (P) | Weir (P) |
| Hutchison (P) | Weston (P) |

1. **MINUTES**

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Council held on 21 November 2017 be approved and adopted.

2. **COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR AND THE LEADER**

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

- Professor Joy Carter – Vice Chancellor of Winchester University, has become a Commander of the Order of the British Empire

- Captain Martin Phipps from Swanmore, for his services to UK Exports has become a Member of the Order of the British Empire. Captain Phipps is a Harbour Master employed by ABP (Associated British Ports) in Southampton.
- Allan Reid from Winchester, for his services to the community in Winchester has become a Member of the Order of the British Empire.
- Jonathan Spencer from Winchester for his services to Woodlands, Nature Conservation and the Environment has become a Member of the Order of the British Empire. Mr Spencer is the Head of Planning and Environment at Forest Enterprise England.
- Michael Woodall from Stockbridge for his services to the community in Hampshire has become a Medallist of the Order of the British Empire. Mr Woodall is a Hampshire County Councillor, former Chairman of Hampshire County Council and Honorary Alderman.

The Mayor also announced that following the retirement of the Vice Lord-Lieutenant of Hampshire, the new Vice Lord-Lieutenant was Rear Admiral Iain Henderson CB CBE DL from Droxford.

The Mayor also mentioned his forthcoming charity event which was a curry lunch at Gandhi's restaurant on Saturday 20 January. He also reported that the launch of the annual Mayor's Awards was to take place on Wednesday 21 March at Winchester Science Centre and also that his Mayor's Choice Private View was to be on Wednesday 28 February at 6pm in City Space, Winchester Discovery Centre.

The Leader referred to a workshop on the City of Winchester Movement Strategy on Tuesday 20 February. All Members were invited and she encouraged cross party attendance to help inform this important piece of work. The Leader also reminded that the next meeting of Cabinet 'on the road' was at the Alresford Recreation Centre at 4.30pm on Wednesday 17 January.

3. **THE MAKING OR TERMINATION OF APPOINTMENTS TO BODIES SET UP BY THE COUNCIL**

RESOLVED:

For the Personnel Committee, Councillor Thacker to be replaced by Councillor Berry who was currently a deputy member of that Committee. Councillor Berry to be replaced as deputy member by Councillor Gemmell.

4. **DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS ETC**

There were no declarations made.

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

11 Questions were asked by Members, which are set out in full on the Council's website, together with responses from the relevant Portfolio Holder. The Mayor allowed time for supplementary Questions to be asked and responded to.

6. **MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES – ADOPTION OF SCHEME**

(Report CL138 refers)

The Council noted that having regard to the earlier discussions of the Independent Remuneration Panel's recommendations at The Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet, it should refer to recommendations of Report CL138 on pages 1 and 2. These should be accepted if the Council wished to adopt the Members' Allowances scheme as recommended by the Panel, as set out. Recommendation 3 on page 3 provided an opportunity for the Council to propose an alternative scheme, should this be a majority proposal.

The Portfolio Holder for Professional Services, Councillor Godfrey, firstly introduced Report CL138 and then moved that Recommendations 1 and 2 in report be approved and adopted, subject to a proposed amendment, which was seconded by the Leader, Councillor Horrill.

Amendment (1) Godfrey (2) Horrill

Amend recommendation 2 v to read as follows:

"v. The SRAs for 2018/19 as set out on page 11 of the IRP's report to remain at their current levels, subject to any indexation."

Amendment carried.

Amendment (1) Tait (2) Mather

Amend recommendation 2 i to read as follows:

"i. The Basic Allowance for Members of Winchester City Council for the year 2018/19 to remain at its current level, subject to any indexation."

As more than a third of those indicated that it was their wish, the Mayor decided that a recorded vote be taken in respect of the Amendment.

Division Lists

The following Members voted in favour of the amendment:

Councillors Ashton, Berry, Brook, Cook, Gemmell, Godfrey, Griffiths, Horrill, Humby, Huxstep, Mather, McLean, Miller, Read, Stallard, Tait, Thacker, Warwick and Weston.

The following Members voted against the amendment:

Councillors Achwal, Bell, Bentote, Cutler, Elks, Evans, Green, Hiscock, Izard, Laming, Learney, Porter, Prince, Rutter, Scott, Thompson and Tod.

The following Members abstained from voting on the amendment:

Councillors Burns, Gottlieb, Hutchison, Pearson and Ruffell.

Amendment carried.

Referring to Recommendations 1 and 2 of Report CL138, the Council was advised that as the Members' Allowances Scheme as recommended by the by the Independent Remuneration Panel was to no longer to be adopted as set out, it should now instead refer to Recommendation 3 of Report CL138 to propose an alternative scheme, which, in affect, was the Substantive Motion (original Motion, as amended above).

Substantive Motion (original Motion, as amended) as set out below (as proposed by the Leader, Councillor Horrill and seconded by Councillor Humby), carried.

RESOLVED:

1. That following consideration of the report and recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP) and the comments of The Overview and Scrutiny Committee, authority be delegated to the Strategic Director: Resources to finalise a Members' Allowances Scheme to take effect from 1 April 2018, as set out below.
 - i. The Basic Allowance for Members of Winchester City Council for the year 2018/19 to remain at its current level, subject to any indexation
 - ii. The current Special Responsibility Allowance for the six Scrutiny Leads be withdrawn
 - iii. The qualifying criteria for a Group to be eligible to receive an SRA for the role of Other Opposition Group Leader should be reduced to 4 Members.

- iv. The qualifying criteria for a Group to be eligible to receive an SRA for the role of Group Manager should be reduced to 15 Members. These changes reflect the fall in the number of Council Members from 57 to 45.
- v. The SRAs for 2018/19 (as set out on page 11 of the IRP's report) to remain at their current levels, subject to any indexation
- vi. That specialist care provision should be reimbursed at cost upon production of receipts and that medical evidence that this type of care is required must also be provided and be approved by an appropriate officer of the Council.

Basic care provision e.g. short term child care should be reimbursed at the rate of the Living Wage as determined by the Living Wage Foundation. The current rate is £8.45 per hour for all workers over the age of eighteen; the rate is reviewed on an annual basis. Winchester City Council is a Living Wage Employer in accordance with the accreditation requirements of the Living Wage Foundation.

The Dependants' Carer' Allowance should also be better promoted and communicated by the Council and political parties to both prospective and newly elected Members.

- vii. The Council continue the current travel and subsistence allowances, including the approved duties and the terms and conditions for which they are claimable be maintained.
- viii. Any index linkage agreed should be in line with staff salary increases for a maximum of four years from 2018/2019 to 2022/ 2023.
- ix. The one SRA only rule per Member should continue to be implemented
- x. That no more than 50% of the Council Members (currently 22 in total) should receive an SRA at any one time

7. **CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDED MINUTES**

(a) **Cabinet – 6 December 2017**

**WINCHESTER DISTRICT TRAVELLER DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENT –
APPROVAL OF PLAN FOR PUBLICATION AND SUBMISSION FOR
EXAMINATION**

(Report CAB2965(LP) refers)

RESOLVED:

That the Recommended Minute of Cabinet held 6 December 2017 be approved and adopted.

The meeting commenced at 7pm and concluded at 9.35pm.

The Mayor