

**WINCHESTER CITY COUNCIL**

At an Ordinary Meeting of the Council held in the Guildhall, Winchester on 8 January 2014.

Attendance:

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

Councillors:

Achwal (P)	Mason (P)
Banister (P)	Mather (P)
Berry E	Maynard (P)
Berry J (P)	McLean (P)
Bodtger (P)	Miller (P)
Byrnes (P)	Nelmes (P)
Chamberlain (P)	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 (P)	Verney (P)
Izard (P)	Warwick (P)
Johnston (P)	Weir (P)
Laming (P)	Weston (P)
Learney (P)	Witt (P)
Lipscomb (P)	Wood
Mason (P)	Wright (P)

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1. **MINUTES**

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on 6 November 2013 be approved and adopted.

## 2. **COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR**

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:-

Dr Keith Ridge of Kings Worthy – awarded a CBE for services to the Pharmacy Profession and to Patients.

Mr Richard Harwood, QC of Winchester – awarded an OBE for services to Planning and Environment Law Decision-making.

Professor Peter Sonksen of Upham – awarded an OBE for services to Anti-Doping in Sports.

Mrs Alexandra Day of Soberton – awarded an MBE for services to Adult Education.

Mrs Patricia Spiers of Winchester – awarded a BEM for services to the community in Winchester.

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 2013/14. The event would be held in the Bapsy Hall, Guildhall on Thursday 27 March 2014 at 6.30pm.

The Mayor also announced that a Private View of the Mayor's Choice would be held at City Space on Tuesday 18 February 2014 from 6.30pm. Invitations would be issued shortly. The exhibition was to run from Saturday 15 February until Sunday 16 March 2014.

Finally, the Mayor welcomed David Blakemore to the meeting and congratulated him on his promotion to the new post of Democratic Services Manager. Mr Blakemore would be covering Council meetings as part of his new duties.

## 3. **COMMUNICATION FROM THE LEADER**

In the absence of the Leader, Councillor Humby reported on the recent letting of Avalon House to Southern Health Trust. It was expected that refurbishment works to the building would commence in the spring.

Councillor Humby then commended officers for their work in achieving successful reaccreditation of Purple Flag status. This demonstrated a safe and effective management of the evening economy in Winchester town centre.

#### 4. **DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

Having regard to their roles as Hampshire County Councillors, Councillors Humby, Huxstep, Mather, Stallard and Tod each declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in any matter on the agenda which may have a County Council involvement. Councillor Godfrey made the same declaration due to his role as a County Council employee. However, as there was no material conflict of interest, they all remained in the room under the dispensation granted on behalf of the Standards Committee, to participate and vote in all such matters.

Councillors J Berry, Green and Scott each declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in respect of agenda item 6 (b) Housing Revenue Account – 2014/15 Rent Setting and Budget Options/Business Plan Options (Report CAB2535(HSG) refers) due to them being tenants of Winchester City Council. However, as there was no material conflict of interest, they all remained in the room under the dispensation granted on behalf of the Standards Committee, to participate and vote with regard to that item.

Councillor J Berry also declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in respect of agenda item 6 (a) Adoption of Revised Winchester District Community Strategy 2010 – 2020 (Report CAB2533 refers) due to her employment as a part time Community Officer at the Winnall Community Association. However, as there was no material conflict of interest, she remained in the room under the dispensation granted by the Monitoring Officer in consultation with the Chairman of the Standards Committee, to participate and vote with regard to that item.

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

##### 1. Biffa Refuse Calendar

The Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhoods and Environment, Councillor Warwick, answered questions from Councillors Henry and McLean.

##### 2. Leaf Clearance in Colden Common

The Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhoods and Environment, Councillor Warwick, answered a question from Councillor Mason.

##### 3. Council Tax Reduction Scheme and Parish Precepts

The Portfolio Holder for Finance and Organisational Development, Councillor Godfrey, answered a question from Councillor Gemmell.

##### 4. Property Services Procedures

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

5. Local Government Finance Settlement for 2014/15

The Portfolio Holder for Finance and Organisational Development, Councillor Godfrey, answered a question from Councillor Sanders.

6. Parking Charges

The Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhoods and Environment, Councillor Warwick, answered a question from Councillor Byrnes.

7. Street Cleansing and bin emptying at Christmas in centre of Winchester

The Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhoods and Environment, Councillor Warwick, answered a question from Councillor Rutter.

8. Power Cuts

The Portfolio Holder for Business Services, Councillor Miller, answered a question from Councillor Ruffell.

9. River Park Leisure Centre Replacement

On behalf of Councillor Wood, Councillor Humby answered a question from Councillor Hutchison.

10. Welfare Reform

The Portfolio Holder for Economic Development, Councillor Humby, answered a question from Councillor J Berry.

11. Avalon House Leased

The Portfolio Holder for Business Services, Councillor Miller, answered a question from Councillor Gottlieb.

12. Affordable Housing Policies

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

13. Press Comments and the Christmas Market

The Portfolio Holder for Economic Development, Councillor Humby, answered a question from Councillor Southgate.

14. Tackling Homelessness – Gold Standard Scheme

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

## 6. **CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDED MINUTES**

### Cabinet – 4 December 2013

#### Adoption of Revised Winchester District Community Strategy 2010-2020

The Deputy Leader, Councillor Humby, advised that Report CL90 proposed to amend paragraph 2.5 of the Strategy in response to consultation responses with regard to Stanmore and Winnall. It also set out the Portfolio Plans 2014/15. He explained that the information in Cabinet Recommended Minute 373 should be noted and therefore moved that Recommendations 1 - 4 in Report CL90, be approved and adopted. This was seconded by Councillor Coates and became the Revised Original Motion.

#### RESOLVED:

1. That the responses received during the consultation period be noted.
2. That the Community Strategy 2010-2020 be adopted, as attached at Appendix 1 to Report CAB2533, and amended by paragraph 1.3 of Report CL90, subject to any final minor amendments to be undertaken by the Head of Policy, in consultation with the Leader of the Council.
3. That the Chief Operating Officer be given delegated authority to make the appropriate changes to the Constitution to give effect to the replacement of Change Plans with Portfolio Plans, as outlined in section 5 of Report CAB2533
4. That the Portfolio Plans for 2014/15 as set out in Appendix 1 to Report CL90 be adopted, subject to approval of the Council's budget in February 2014 and that the Head of Policy be given delegated authority in consultation with the Leader of the Council to make any consequential minor amends to ensure clarity and consistency.
5. That Cabinet Recommended Minute 373 of Cabinet be noted.

### Cabinet (Housing) Committee – 28 November 2013

#### Housing Revenue Account – 2014/15 Rent Setting And Budget Options/Business Plan Options

The Deputy Leader, Councillor Humby, moved that the Cabinet (Housing) Committee Recommended Minute be approved and adopted. The item was introduced by the Portfolio Holder for Housing, Councillor Coates.

Councillors J Berry and Pines asked that their abstention from voting be recorded in the Minutes.

RESOLVED:

That the Cabinet (Housing) Committee Recommended Minute be approved and adopted.

Cabinet (Local Development Framework) Committee – 27 November 2013  
Cabinet - 4 December 2013

Community Infrastructure Levy: Adoption of Draft Charging Schedule and Introduction of CIL Charge

The Deputy Leader, Councillor Humby, moved that Recommended Minute 379 be approved and adopted. The item was introduced by the Portfolio Holder for Built Environment, Councillor Weston.

Amendment (1) Councillor Learney      (2) Councillor Evans

“Add additional Recommendation

3. That to ensure local communities see the benefit of development in their areas, 25% of CIL receipts shall be allocated to the relevant Parish Council or the Winchester Town Account as appropriate”

Amendment lost.

Original Motion carried.

RESOLVED:

1. That Recommended Minute 379 be approved and adopted.
2. That Recommended Minute 394 be noted.

Cabinet – 4 December 2013

Governance Review – Impact of Local Government Boundary Commission  
Electoral Review – Options for the Council’s Electoral Cycle

Councillor Godfrey (Portfolio Holder for Finance & Organisational Development) moved that Recommended Minute 383 be approved and adopted, subject to a proposed amendment and set out below:

“Delete existing recommendation 1 and replace with the following:

1. That statutory consultation under S 33 Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 be undertaken on a possible change to whole Council elections for implementation in 2016.
2. That in undertaking the consultation it be made clear that the Council has not at this stage expressed a preference as to whether to make a change to whole Council elections every four years or to retain the existing system of elections by thirds.

Then re-number existing recommendation 2 as recommendation 3, retaining the existing wording”.

The amendment seconded by the Deputy Leader, Councillor Humby and become the Revised Original Motion.

Revised Original Motion carried.

RESOLVED:

That Recommended Minute 383, as amended, be approved and adopted.

Cabinet – 11 September 2013

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 23 September 2013

Review of Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2014/15

The Deputy Leader, Councillor Humby, explained that the information in Recommended Minutes 205 and 240 should be noted and therefore moved that the Recommendations 1 - 4 in Report CL91 be approved and adopted. This amendment was seconded by Councillor Godfrey and became the Revised Original Motion.

RESOLVED:

1. That the local Council Tax Reduction Scheme as set out in the Report CAB 2509 be adopted as follows:
  - (i) base the local Council Tax Reduction (CTR) Scheme for 2014/15 on the scheme adopted for 2013/14;
  - (ii) increase components in the CTR calculation in line with the increases the DWP & DCLG provide for in the Housing Benefit Regulations 2006 (as amended) and the Council Tax Reduction Scheme (Prescribed Requirements) Regulations 2012 for 2014/15;

(iii) increase income disregards for working age claimants further so that single claimants have the first £20 of earned income disregarded and others have the first £50 of earned income disregarded (single claimants who are disabled or lone parents will be eligible for the £50 disregard);

(iv) continue to disregard 100% of certain payments (for working age and pensioner age customers) made under the War Pension and Armed Forces Compensation Scheme.

2. That the local Council Tax Reduction Scheme, as previously circulated electronically to all Members, be approved.

3. That the Head of Revenues be authorised to finalise the figures annotated with an asterisk in the Scheme to correspond with the uprated amounts the DWP & DCLG provide for in the Housing Benefit Regulations 2006 (as amended) and the Council Tax Reduction Scheme (Prescribed Requirements) Regulations 2012 when they are published.

4. That the Head of Revenues be authorised to make minor editing amendments to the local Council Tax Reduction Scheme, as necessary, in light of legislative change to Council Tax Reduction, welfare benefits and other related legislation.

5. That the effect of the changes outlined above are reviewed in one year's time with a view to considering whether any further alterations are required.

6. That Recommended Minute 205 and 240 be noted.

The meeting commenced at 7pm and concluded at 10.30pm.

The Mayor