



**Winchester**  
City Council

**EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING – 20 August 2018**

**Question under Council Procedure Rule 14**

**QUESTION 1**

From: Councillor Murphy

To: The Portfolio Holder for Environment

“To ask the Portfolio Holder for the Environment when she expects to be in a position to start kerbside glass recycling and could she provide an update on the current waste tender situation with East Hampshire District Council?”

**Reply**

“As was reported to Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet earlier in the year, our decision about arrangements for waste collection services could not be taken until East Hampshire District Council reached its own conclusion about the joint contract arrangements. A confidential report on this matter is currently being prepared for The Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 3 September and Cabinet on 19 September, which will consider the available options and recommend a course of action. As this will be a confidential report, I would not wish to discuss the likely content any further tonight, but councillors will only have to wait until the end of the week for the report to be provided to them.”



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**QUESTION 2**

From: Councillor Read

To: The Portfolio Holder for Built Environment

“The updated NPPF has now been published, what impact will this have on our Local Plan Launch?”

Reply

“The revised NPPF was published at the same time the Council commenced consultation on the scope and content of its new Local Plan covering the period up to 2036. The Council will be required to adhere to the revised guidance set out in the NPPF, which includes a number of references to local plans.

However, the local plan launch consultation does not refer to any specific development documents, emerging policies or proposals as these will follow later in the plan making process. At this early stage of local plan preparation the purpose of the consultation is to identify any key issues that will need further investigation as the plan moves forward whether this be in the form of gathering specialist evidence or stakeholder/community engagement.

The commencement of work on the Local Plan 2036 at the same time as the publication of new Government guidance is timely because it will enable us develop a plan which reflects the most up-to-date national planning policy.”



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**QUESTION 3**

From: Councillor Hutchison

To: The Portfolio Holder for Estates, Cllr Miller

“For the last two years there has been a clash of dates between the Winchester Farmers’ Market and the Criterium CycleFest; this year on 10 June. Whilst recognizing that the Criterium Event is popular it is unsatisfactory for it to lead to the cancellation of the Farmers’ Market at a time of the year when producers have fresh local produce that needs to be sold. Cancelling the market at this time of the year is bad for their businesses while it is also thoroughly unsatisfactory for people who rely on the Farmers’ Market to buy fresh local produce as an important part of their regular shopping. The market only takes place every two-three weeks so planning is essential; if one is cancelled it means that there is a gap of one month for this much appreciated fresh produce. I have received many complaints about these cancellations.

Can the Portfolio Holder please confirm that this clash will not occur again in 2019, or subsequent years? Can he please also confirm that all those involved in planning events in the High Street: Market Manager, Traffic Engineers, and others, work together to ensure that these clashes do not occur and the Farmers’ Market can be given the security of knowing that the bi-monthly market will indeed always take place in Central Winchester on regular dates?”

**Reply**

“No, I cannot confirm that any event on the High Street including the Criterium and Cyclefest event will not clash with the Hampshire’s Farmers’ Markets. What I can confirm is that the Council will use their reasonable endeavours to ensure that the HFM organisers are informed of any event on the High Street with as much notice as possible.

For this year’s Criterium and Cyclefest event, the HFM were notified on 13 July 2017 and for next year’s Criterium and Cyclefest event, the HFM were notified on 7 July 2018 that the High Street is not available on 9 June 2019. At the same time the Council offered the HFM organisers four

alternative Sundays which they considered at their Board meeting this week and have since confirmed to Estates that they will take advantage of an extra market on 22 December 2019.

As the HFM could not have a Winchester Market on 10 June this year, they held an Open Farm Sunday at Broughton therefore any fresh produce would not have been wasted and next year the HFM intend to do the same again. The Head of Sport & Physical Activity has offered to advertise this venue on the Winchester Criterium and Cyclefest which the HFM has accepted and will be in touch in due course.

The Criterium Race is also the British Cycling Regional Championships which needs to take place in June prior to the National Championships held in July.

The Sport & Physical Activity team in organising the Criterium and Cyclefest has to work with other large events planned for the City including Race for Life, Clarendon Way Walk and events planned by Winchester Cathedral and in recent years the most appropriate date has been the second Sunday in June.

The HFM and indeed the Council's Sunday Antiques and Art Markets operate twice monthly. Both the HFM organisers and the Councils Market Managers were made aware that re-locating to the High Street meant that some Sunday Markets would be prevented or disrupted by large events that take place on the High Street (including such events as the Criterium and Cyclefest, Law Sunday, Remembrance Sunday, Freedom and Military Parades).

Strictly speaking the HFM is not cancelled, the HFM will not include a market for the 9 June next year in Winchester giving them time to select an alternative venue on this date as they did this year on 10 June at Broughton and to give the Farmers plenty of notice."



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**QUESTION 4**

From: Councillor McLean

To: The Portfolio Holder for Estates

“How much has the council carbon emissions reduced since 2009/10 and is the council making good progress towards its target of a 20% reduction on its 2015/16 levels by 20/21?”

**Reply**

“The latest report regarding the Council’s carbon footprint covers the period for 2016/17. I am pleased to say that this report shows that carbon footprint for that year represented a 9.1% reduction on the previous year and is some 22.5% below the baseline year of 2009/10.

These figures illustrate therefore that the Council is making good progress in reducing its carbon footprint with the aim of achieving a 20% reduction by 2020/21 relative to 2015/16 levels.”



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**QUESTION 5**

From: Councillor Mather

To: The Portfolio Holder for Environment

“Please can we have an update on the Movement Strategy?”

**Reply**

“We are making good progress on the Movement Strategy. I can confirm that considerable work has already been carried out on the project including extensive public consultation which attracted more than 1300 responses last year, a phone survey of Winchester residents, a members seminar earlier this year and several stakeholder workshops which, along with the traffic and other information gathered by the County Council, is informing the development of high level options for changing the way the city works in transport terms.

The next phase of the project is to start modelling high level options and Hampshire County Council’s officers are working closing with their consultant, Atkins, to complete this work. It will involve using both a local micro-simulation model built specifically for the city centre as part of the project and Hampshire’s own Sub-Regional Traffic Model. This will enable us to explore and understand how certain changes would effect movement in and around Winchester.

Once the modelling has finished we will prepare a draft strategy which will identify proposed high level options to improve how Winchester performs in relation to all forms of transport and this in turn should provide wider opportunities to enhance the city including its public realm.

The intention is to have an open consultation of a draft document in the autumn with a member briefing beforehand. Officers are also planning to organise a drop in session for parish councils and other interest groups.

Once the feedback from the consultation has been considered the aim is to adopt a final version of the strategy in early 2019.”



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**QUESTION 6**

From: Councillor Berry

To: The Portfolio Holder for Business Partnerships, Cllr Humby

“Please could the Portfolio Holder give us an update on the refurbishment of the tourist information centre?”

**Reply**

“The refurbishment of the Tourist Information Centre (TIC) was completed in May and there was a soft opening to allow new systems and services to be tested and adapted. The official opening was held on 12 July 2018, with a celebration for residents and visitors in the afternoon and a business and partners reception in the evening, attended by over 100 people and officially opened by Mark Smith, Chair of Tourism South East.

Feedback from customers and businesses is that the new TIC is welcoming, light, airy, professional, modern and a huge improvement on the previous offer.

The TIC now incorporates an extended retail offer, box office for ticket sales, information desks with tablets for people to self search. There are also new TV screens to advertise events, festivals, products on sale in the TIC, businesses and attractions. The screens have already generated an additional £496 in income and the team is working on securing further advertising on these screens. Marwell has expressed an interest in booking space for the next 12 months.

Working with our contacts at the South Downs National Park, there is also a dedicated ‘South Downs National Park’ area with a map of the SDNP and film footage.

New uniforms make the information assistants easier to identify and present a professional image of the service.

Early signs show that the new TIC has welcomed more visitors who are spending longer in the TIC as they browse the wider range of gifts and leaflets. Spend has also increased.

Since the beginning of the year we have earned £342 from accommodation bookings from 21 separate bookings.

The team started to sell tickets from the new box office in January and to date have sold almost 2,000 tickets for over 50 events and tours. The direct income from commission for ticket sales is £3,950.

Feedback from the initial public consultation last year suggested that locals would like to see more local produce on offer. A wider range of local food and produce is now available including best sellers - Charlotte Brown's Preserves, Mrs B's Bees (honey), Winchester Distillery Gin and Long Barn Lavender as well as Chococo Chocolate and Hambledon Vineyard sparkling wine. As part of the 'Tasty Tuesdays' initiative for Hampshire Food Festival in July, local suppliers came in to offer free tastings of some products.

The Art Deco and Winchester Line Art ranges both sell strongly and these items have been restocked for the third time since opening at the end of April. Books are a strong seller too.

The team is also supporting the City's Independent businesses and was the location for the launch event of their 'Indie Trail' on the 4 August – visitors can collect their trail map and prize from the 'pop-up play shop' in the TIC throughout August.

In September the TIC will be 'dressed' with Heritage Open Days (HOD) bunting and there will be a voting booth as many of the events are themed around the suffragettes in line with this year's theme 'Extraordinary Women'. Visitors and residents without access to internet will also be able to purchase tickets in person for HOD events.

Looking forward to the busy Christmas season, the Charity Christmas Cards will also return later in the year."





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**QUESTION 7**

From: Councillor Scott

To: The Leader with Portfolio Holder for Housing Services, Cllr Horrill

“How many residents have moved into Chesil Lodge to date?”

**Reply**

“To date 26 residents have moved into Chesil Lodge with a further 4 residents due to move in shortly. Understandably, demand for the scheme is very high and the Council is actively working with Hampshire County Council to ensure that all remaining units are occupied by applicants who have an assessed care need over the forthcoming weeks. Rather than fill Chesil Lodge with residents with no or just low care needs, time is being taken to ensure those who really need the support of 24/7 on-site care get priority for housing. Overall we anticipate a balance with a third of residents having high care needs, a third medium care needs and a third low care needs.

The two market sale flats sold very quickly and 5 of the 6 shared ownership flats are now occupied. The 6<sup>th</sup> one is sold subject to contract.

The integral Day Centre managed by Hampshire County Council is now fully operational Monday to Friday, replacing the outdated facilities in Kingsworthy.

I have also now been notified that Chesil Lodge has been shortlisted for the National Inside Housing Development Awards to be announced later in the year. I’m sure this will be the first of many such nominations.”