

## Council Meeting

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Council held in The Chamber, Pelham House, St Andrew's Lane, Lewes on Wednesday, 25 July 2007 at 2.30pm.**

### Present:

Councillor M P Chartier (Chair)

Councillors R E Allen, P L Bennett, C P Bishop, C A Bowers, C J Butler, E N Collicot, S B Davy, A C De Vecchi, J H Freeman, P Gander, P F Gardiner, D M Gray, B W Groves, L M Hallett, J M Harrison-Hicks, T M Hawthorne, P A Howson, A T Jones, C S Lambert, J N MacCleary, R Main, R Maskell, K D Mayers, D H Mitchell, I A Nicholson, C R O'Keeffe, R Robertson, E E J Russell, S Saunders, J Sheppard, R Sinclair, I J White and R L Worthington

### Apologies Received:

Councillors S T Bratchie, M A Cutress, J F Daly, I Eiloart, J V S Page, D O Rogers OBE and C Sugarman

## Minutes

### 61 Minutes

The Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held on 23 May 2007 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair subject to the amendment of the text of Resolution 6.6 to read ".....If at least five members of the Committee.....".

### 62 Declaration of Interest

Councillor Davy declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 12 (Notices of Motion).

### 63 To Receive any Announcements From the Chair of the Council, Leader of the Council, Members of the Cabinet or the Chief Executive

#### (i) Urgent Item

The Chair reported that he had agreed, in accordance with Section

Action

100B(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972, that Minute 49 and associated Report No 138/07 from the meeting of the Cabinet held on 23 July 2007 entitled "Fit for the Future' – Consultation Response to East Sussex Downs and Weald Primary Care Trust", which had been circulated to all members of the Council on 24 July 2007, be considered as a matter of urgency under Agenda item 12, in order that the Council can take its decision relating to proposals by the East Sussex Primary Care Trust for the future shape of health services across East Sussex in the light of the Council's consideration of the two Notices of Motion that had been received under Agenda Item 12;

(ii) Chair of the Council's Engagements

The Council received the list of the Chair of the Council's engagements carried out since the Annual Meeting of the Council held on 23 May 2007;

(iii) Proposed Stadium at Falmer

The Chair reported that, following the decision of the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government to grant planning permission for the proposed stadium at Falmer, the Council would, over the following ten days, consult its legal representatives in order to consider any response it might wish to make to that decision; and

(iv) Flooding in Parts of Western England

The Chair, on behalf of the Council, expressed commiserations to the many people who had been affected by flooding which had occurred in some western counties of England. He paid tribute to the emergency and rescue services, and the local authorities and agencies, who were involved in the rescue and clear-up operations.

## 64 Ward Issues

Ward issues were raised by Councillors on the following subjects:

<u>Councillor/Ward</u>	<u>Ward Issue Concerning</u>
Councillor Davy - Chailey and Wivelsfield Ward.	Improvements which were being implemented in respect of the service provision and vehicles that operated on the No 31 bus route between Uckfield and Bolnore Village, near Haywards Heath.
Councillor Jones - Ditchling and Westmeston Ward.	Damage, and associated problems, which had been caused by a group of Travellers who had recently set-up an unauthorised encampment on Chailey Common, the costs which had been incurred by a

local farmer who grazed that land and the subsequent clean-up of the area which had been undertaken by local residents and the Council.

Councillor Chartier  
– Lewes Castle  
Ward.

The trimming of dangerous overgrown tree branches which were overhanging the pavement in The Avenue, Lewes.

Following consideration of the above it was

Resolved:

- 64.1** That the Director of Planning and Environmental Services be requested to establish the ownership of the trees' and take appropriate action to ensure that the dangerous overgrown tree branches which are overhanging the pavement in The Avenue, Lewes, are pruned and made safe.

DPES

## **65 Urgent Decision Taken by the Cabinet**

In accordance with Scrutiny Procedure Rule 17, the Head of Democratic Services reported details of an urgent decision that had been taken by the Cabinet at its meeting on 6 June 2007, which was not subject to the call-in procedure, together with the reasons for such urgency, as follows:

### Cabinet – 6 June 2007

The Cabinet had agreed that Resolution 23.1 of its meeting held on 6 June 2007 relating to the construction of an all weather pitch at the Downs Leisure Centre, Seaford, was urgent in order that the proposal could be progressed at the earliest opportunity in order to minimise disruption to users of the facility and to reduce the revenue impact upon the Council and the Wave Leisure Trust.

Resolved:

- 65.1** That details of the urgent decision that had been taken by the Cabinet at its meeting on 6 June 2007 be received and noted.

## **66 Recommendation From the Cabinet Held on 6 June 2007**

The Chair moved, and Councillor Collicot seconded, the motion that the recommendation of the Cabinet held on 6 June 2007 contained in Minute 25 relating to the Environmental Health Commercial Team's Service Plan

2007/08, be received and adopted.

The motion was put to the meeting, Declared Carried, and it was

Resolved:

**66.1** Accordingly.

DPES

**67 Recommendations From the Scrutiny Committee**

The Chair of the Scrutiny Committee, Councillor Russell moved, and Councillor Groves seconded, the motion that the recommendations of the Scrutiny Committee held on 21 June 2007 contained in Minute 6 relating to the Committee's Work Programme 2007/08, be received and adopted.

The motion was put to the meeting, Declared Carried, and it was

Resolved:

Accordingly.

DPES

**68 Notices of Motion and Resolution From the Cabinet Held on 23 July 2007**

**(a) The Chair of the Council reported that a Notice of Motion had been submitted under Council Procedure Rule 13 by Councillor De Vecchi relating to proposals to downgrade the services available to the residents of Lewes District either at the Princess Royal Hospital, Haywards Heath or the Eastbourne District General Hospital, and the associated consultation process.**

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 13, Councillor De Vecchi moved, and Councillor Collicot seconded, the Notice of Motion as follows:

"That this Council strongly opposes any proposals to downgrade the services available to the residents of Lewes District either at the Princess Royal Hospital, Haywards Heath or the Eastbourne District General Hospital.

The Council further contends that the consultation process was deeply flawed. Residents should have been offered a coterminous or "joined-up" opportunity to comment on the future options affecting the delivery of their health services in both East and West Sussex, simultaneously."

The motion was put to the meeting, Declared Carried, and it was

Resolved:

**68.1** Accordingly.

DPES

**(b) The Chair of the Council reported that a Notice of Motion had been submitted under Council Procedure Rule 13 by Councillor Davy relating to the consultation which was being undertaken by the Brighton and Hove/West Sussex Primary Care Trusts' proposals for the provision of health care in the area, in particular, the provision of services at the Princess Royal Hospital, Haywards Heath.**

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 13, Councillor Davy moved, and Councillor Nicholson seconded, the Notice of Motion as follows:

"That the Council respond to the Brighton and Hove/West Sussex Primary Care Trusts' consultation which was launched on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> June for 18 weeks. The Trust is suggesting three options relating to the provision of health care in the area. However, consultation can disregard all of those options. The Council, which represents the people of Lewes District, is legally entitled to put forward a completely new and different option namely:

'Option 4 - That the Princess Royal Hospital, Haywards Heath, retains full Obstetrics, thus ensuring the retention of an Accident and Emergency facility and the Intensive Care Unit'."

Councillor O'Keeffe moved, and Councillor Freeman seconded, an amendment as follows:

"That the words 'thus ensuring the retention of' be deleted from the second paragraph of the Notice of Motion."

With the consent of Council, and of her seconder, Councillor Davy agreed to the amendment.

Councillor Gardiner moved, and Councillor De Vecchi seconded, an amendment as follows:

"That the words ', pending further information,' be inserted after the word 'That' at the beginning of the first paragraph of the Notice of Motion."

With the consent of Council, and of her seconder, Councillor Davy agreed to the amendment.

The substantive motion was put to the meeting, Declared Carried, and it was

Resolved:

**68.2** Accordingly.

DPES

**(c) Resolution From the Cabinet Held on 23 July 2007**

The Lead Councillor for Environment, Councillor Collict moved, and Councillor Davy seconded, the motion that, with regard to the recommendations set out in Report No 138/07 entitled “‘Fit for the Future’ – Consultation Response to East Sussex Downs and Weald Primary Care Trust”:

- (a) the basis of existing proposals of the Primary Care Trust, and the consultation arrangements in place, as detailed in the Report, be noted;
- (b) the Council’s response to the Trust be in accordance with the text set out in Appendix C to the Report ; and
- (c) the Director of Planning and Environmental Services be authorised to:
  - (i) seek a meeting with the Strategic Health Authority about the cumulative impact of the various Primary Care Trusts’ proposals; and
  - (ii) send details of the agreed Notices of Motion, as referred to in 68.1 and 68.2 above, to the appropriate Primary Care Trust’s in order to form part of the Council’s response to their respective consultations.

The motion was put to the meeting, Declared Carried, and it was

Resolved:

**68.3** Accordingly.

*(Note: Councillor Davy declared a personal interest in this item and took part in the consideration, discussion and voting thereon.)*

The meeting ended at 3.54pm.

M P Chartier  
Chair

DPES