



Meeting of the Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held in The Chamber, Pelham House, St Andrew's Lane, Lewes on Thursday, 19 July 2012 at 2.30pm

Present:

Councillor I A Nicholson (Chair)

Councillors R E Allen, G R Amy, R Blackman, C A Bowers, J L Carr, M P Chartier, M A Cutress, D R Edmunds, I Eiloart, P Gander; P F Gardiner, S J Gauntlett, J V Harris, J M Harrison-Hicks, P A Howson, A T Jones, C S Lambert, J N MacCleary, R Main, R K Maskell, E C Merry, C R O'Keeffe, R Robertson, E E J Russell, S Saunders, H J F Sheppard, A X Smith, J Stockdale, and B M Warren.

Apologies received:

Councillors S Adeniji, C J Butler, S B Davy, P L Franklin, D M Gray, B W Groves, S J Osborne, J V S Page, C Sugarman and I J White.

	Minutes	Action
46	Minutes The Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held on 9 May 2012 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.	
47	To Receive any Announcements From the Chair of the Council, Leader of the Council, Members of the Cabinet or the Chief Executive (i) <u>Urgent Item</u> The Chair advised that he had agreed, in accordance with Section 100B(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972, that the Recommendation of the Cabinet at its meeting held on 12 July 2012, as set out in Minute 32 relating to the Finance Update, which was	

circulated to all members of the Council on 16 July 2012 under cover of Council Document B, be considered as a matter of urgency in order that a decision thereon could be taken based on the most up to date information which was available.

(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 9 May 2012.

The Chair drew the Council's attention to the events which had marked the arrival of the Olympic Torch in Lewes on 17 July 2012 and congratulated the Officers for all their hard work that had helped to make the events such a great success.

(iii) Green Flag Awards

Councillor Robertson reported that the Council had recently been given two Green Flag Awards in respect of the Castle Hill Local Nature Reserve, Newhaven, and the Lewes Railway Land Local Nature Reserve. The Awards were hosted by a consortium on behalf of the Department for Communities and Local Government and recognised well managed, high-quality green spaces.

48 **Petition**

The Chair of the Council received a petition from Samuel Chumbley that contained 886 signatures relating to the provision of a skatepark at Walmer Green Recreation Park, Seaford.

Mr Chumbley briefly addressed the Council on the subject matter of the petition and the number of signatures.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 12(a), the petition would be referred to a future meeting of Cabinet.

DPES

49 **Urgent Decisions taken by the Cabinet or Cabinet Members**

Urgent Decisions taken by the Leader of the Council

In accordance with Scrutiny Procedure Rule 17, the Corporate Head of Legal and Democratic Services reported details of urgent decisions that had been taken by the Leader of the Council since the Annual Meeting of the

Council on 9 May 2012, which were not subject to the call-in procedure, together with the reason for such urgency, as follows:

On 18 May 2012 - relating to Unit 1B Drove Road, Newhaven - Proposed Underlease of Part of Unit 1B and use of Remainder of Unit which were urgent as it was necessary for them to be taken "within a reasonable amount of time" of the request for the Underlease.

On 1 June 2012 - relating to the sale of recreation field and informal open space at Robinson Road, Newhaven, which was urgent as the prospective buyer had stated that completion needed to take place no later than 22 June 2012 subject to statutory procedures relating to the sale of open space land.

On 20 June 2012 - relating to the Council submitting bids at the auction for the sale of The Crest, Newhaven, which was urgent as the property was being sold by auction on 21 June 2012.

On 25 June 2012 - relating to delegating, to the Corporate Head – Housing Services, in consultation with the Director of Finance and the Cabinet Member for Finance, the authority to sign an agreement with the Government to retain Right To Buy receipts to fund the development of new affordable homes.

That decision was urgent as the Council was required to sign the agreement for receipts arising from the first quarter of this financial year by 27 June 2012.

On 25 June 2012 - relating to the sale of public open space land at Lewes Road, Newhaven, comprising a Recreation Ground and informal open space which was urgent as the buyer had a deadline to meet, the original of which had passed on 22 June 2012.

On 28 June 2012 - relating to negotiations in respect of the purchase of The Crest, Newhaven, which was urgent as the Council was negotiating for the purchase of the premises as it had not been sold at the auction on 21 June 2012.

50 Recommendations from Cabinet

Unreserved Item

Finance Update (Minute 32)

The Chair of the Council, Councillor Nicholson, moved, and Councillor Howson seconded, the motion that the recommendation of Cabinet held on 12 July 2012 contained in Minute 32 relating to the Finance Update, be received and adopted.

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

Resolved:

50.1 Accordingly.

DF

Reserved Item

Independent Remuneration Panel – Members’ Allowances (Minute 25)

The Deputy Leader of the Council, Councillor Jones, moved, and Councillor Robertson seconded, the motion that the recommendation of Cabinet held on 30 May 2012 contained in Minute 25 relating to Independent Remuneration Panel – Members’ Allowances, be received and adopted.

In response to a Councillor’s question, the Corporate Head – Legal and Democratic Services explained that, with regard to reference to “the Council” in the text set out in the sixth paragraph of Minute 25 which read “.....should be deleted. However, following a request from the Council, the Panel had reconvened on 9 February 2012 to reconsider that", such reference had not related to a request by full Council but, instead, had related to a request that had been made by the Council’s Officers.

The motion was put to the meeting and the vote thereon was recorded in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 17 as follows:

For the Motion:

Councillors R Blackman, D R Edmunds, P Gander; J V Harris, J M Harrison-Hicks, P A Howson, A T Jones, R K Maskell, E C Merry, I A Nicholson, C R O’Keeffe, R Robertson, E E J Russell, H J F Sheppard, A X Smith, and B M Warren (16).

Against the Motion:

Councillors R E Allen, G R Amy, C A Bowers, J L Carr, M P Chartier, M A Cutress, I Eiloart, P F Gardiner, S J Gauntlett, C S Lambert, J N MacCleary, S Saunders and J Stockdale (13).

Abstained:

Councillor R Main (1).

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

Resolved:

50.2 Accordingly.

CHLDS

51 Recommendations from the Standards Committee

The Deputy Leader of the Council, Councillor Jones, moved, and Councillor Robertson seconded, the motion that recommendations 4.2 and 4.4 of the Standards Committee at its meeting held on 11 June 2012 contained in Minute 4 relating to the Code of Conduct for Lewes District Council, be received and adopted.

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

Resolved:

51.1 Accordingly.

SCO/
CHLDS

52 Reporting Back on Meetings of Outside Bodies

Councillors provided feedback on meetings which they had attended as the Council's representatives on outside bodies as follows:

<u>Councillor</u>	<u>Outside Body</u>
Councillor Smith	<u>Community Safety Partnership</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Proposals by East Sussex County Council to reduce the provision of existing street lighting in some parts of the District during parts of the night.
Councillor Jones	<u>South Downs National Park Authority</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The State of the National Park Report; - Planning issues in respect of the National Park Authority's IDOX computerised planning system; and - The South Downs Forum.
Councillor Merry	<u>Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The launch, by NHS Sussex, of its "Shaping our Future" public consultation on the future provision of stroke, general surgery and orthopaedic services in East Sussex, in particular at the District General Hospital,

CouncillorOutside Body

Eastbourne, which was attended by residents of the District, and at the Conquest Hospital, Hastings.

Councillor Nicholson

East Sussex Health and Well-Being Board

- Ways in which the Council's work might link with that of the East Sussex Health and Well-Being Board and the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee in respect of the future provision and delivery of health services in East Sussex.

The meeting ended at 3.22pm

I A Nicholson
Chair