



Meeting of the Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held in The Council Chamber, County Hall, St Annes Crescent, Lewes on Thursday, 23 April 2015 at 2.38pm

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, S B Davy, A Dean, I Eiloart, P L Franklin, P Gander, S J Gauntlett, D M Gray, 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, S J Osborne, R Robertson, E E J Russell, H J F Sheppard, A X Smith, J Stockdale and I J White.

Apologies received:

Councillors C J Butler, D R Edmunds, P F Gardiner, B W Groves, S Saunders and C Sugarman.

Minutes

137 Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 25 February 2015 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

138 Councillor R Robertson

Councillor Robertson reported that, in light of the current Purdah period which was in place in advance of the forthcoming elections to the Council, he wished to vacate his seat in the Council Chamber and, instead, to occupy a seat in the public gallery for the remainder of the Meeting as he was concerned that he risked breaking the Purdah rules during the

Action

deliberations at the Meeting. Therefore, Councillor Robertson vacated his seat in the Council Chamber and, instead, occupied a seat in the public gallery.

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

Chair of the Council's Engagements

The Council received the list of the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Council's engagements carried out since the Meeting of the Council held on 25 February 2015.

140 Written Questions from Councillors

Councillor Stockdale asked a question of the Cabinet Member for Corporate Services, Councillor Smith, relating to the Council's Council Tax collection methods with particular regard to those people who were in receipt of Council Tax Support. A document which set out details of the question was circulated to Councillors at the Meeting and was also made available to those attending the meeting (a copy of which is contained in the Minute Book).

An oral reply to the question was given at the meeting by Councillor Smith.

141 Ward Issues

A Ward issue was raised by Councillor Gander on the following subject:

<u>Councillor/Ward</u>	<u>Ward Issue Concerning</u>	
Councillor Gander – Ouse Valley and Ringmer Ward	<p>Councillor Gander had received complaints from some of his constituents relating to the amount of litter and rubbish etc which could be seen on the verges of the A26 road between Beddingham and Newhaven and on parts of the A27 which were located in his Ward. He suggested that most of that litter and rubbish etc had fallen from the backs of lorries, the drivers of which had not correctly fitted suitable netting to their vehicles which was designed to prevent such material from escaping whilst it was in transit.</p> <p><u>Suggested action to be taken by the Council:</u> That the Council write to East Sussex County Council requesting it to encourage lorry drivers to correctly fit suitable netting to the backs of their vehicles in order to prevent litter and rubbish etc from escaping whilst those vehicles were in transit</p>	DSD

<u>Councillor/Ward</u>	<u>Ward Issue Concerning</u>	
	and further request that it undertake a 'litter-pick' of the verges alongside the A26 road between Beddingham and Newhaven and along parts of the A27 which were located in Ouse Valley and Ringmer Ward.	

142 Notices of Motion

The Chair reported that a Notice of Motion had been submitted under Council Procedure Rule 13 by Councillor O'Keeffe relating to enhancing and improved management of the natural environment.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 13, Councillor O'Keeffe moved, and Councillor Dean seconded, the Notice of Motion as follows:

"This Council notes that a thriving natural environment (natural capital) in Lewes District is of great value in providing

- significant health benefits to individual residents and the community as a whole
- multiple benefits through ecosystem services for example flood risk reduction, delivery of clean air, micro climate regulation, accessible nature, for the District's economy.

The Council therefore resolves to take advantage of any appropriate opportunity within Lewes District to be respectful of and where possible work with others to enhance these natural systems, for example through the improvement of green infrastructure (GI) and ecological networks in our stewardship of areas such as our nature reserves and other open spaces that we may have responsibility for, and in stewardship of our housing stock and other buildings.

As a Council we will look to give weight to environmental management and community aspirations together with economic issues in the decision making process so as to embed GI network delivery into the delivery of the Core Strategy and Forward Plan for the District."

With the agreement of Council and of her seconder, Councillor O'Keeffe agreed to the amendment of her Notice of Motion as follows:

".....embed GI network delivery into the implementation of the Core Strategy....."

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

Resolved:

142.1 Accordingly.

DSD

143 Changes to Memberships

The Chair of the Council moved, and Councillor Howson seconded, the motion that the recommendations contained in Report No 58/15 relating to Changes to Memberships, be received and adopted.

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

Resolved:

143.1 Accordingly.

ADCS

144 Electoral Review Update

The Chair of the Council moved, and Councillor Howson seconded, the motion that the recommendations contained in Report No 59/15 relating to the Electoral Review Update, be received and adopted.

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

Resolved:

144.1 Accordingly.

ADCS

145 Reporting Back on Meetings of Outside Bodies

Councillor Stockdale reported that he had recently attended a meeting of the Lewes Town Partnership (LTP) upon which he had been appointed to serve as the Council's representative.

The LTP had been established as part of the Local Strategic Partnership which had subsequently been disbanded. Consequently, the LTP was currently funded by Lewes Town Council. In light of those events, Councillor Stockdale felt that, in future, there was no longer a need for the Council to appoint a representative to serve on the LTP.

Resolved:

145.1 That the oral Report of Councillor Stockdale relating to a meeting of the Lewes Town Partnership which he had attended as the Council's representative, be received and noted.

ADCS

146 Thanks

The Chair of the Council reported that this was the final Meeting of the current Administration. Therefore, he thanked all Members of the Council for the work that they had undertaken for the Council and for their local communities over the last four years. He extended his best wishes to all those Councillors who were not standing at next month's elections to the

new Council. Furthermore, he wished those Councillors who were putting themselves forward for re-election to form the next Council, all the good things that they wished for themselves.

Councillor Howson, on behalf of the Council, thanked the Chair of the Council for his chairing of Council Meetings over the past year.

The meeting ended at 2.59pm.

I A Nicholson
Chair