

Full Council

Minutes of meeting held in Court Room at Eastbourne Town Hall, Grove Road, BN21 4UG on 14 November 2018 at 6.00 pm

Present:

Councillor Gill Mattock (Mayor)

Councillors Kathy Ballard (Deputy Mayor), Margaret Bannister, Colin Belsey, Sammy Choudhury, Janet Coles, Penny di Cara, Jonathan Dow, Tony Freebody, Pat Hearn, Stephen Holt, Gordon Jenkins, Paul Metcalfe, Md. Harun Miah, Colin Murdoch, Jim Murray, Margaret Robinson, Pat Rodohan, Dean Sabri, Alan Shuttleworth, Robert Smart, Barry Taylor, Troy Tester, David Tutt, John Ungar and Steve Wallis

Officers in attendance:

Robert Cottrill (Chief Executive), Homira Javadi (Chief Finance Officer), Peter Finnis (Assistant Director for Corporate Governance) and Simon Russell (Committee and Civic Services Manager)

30 Minutes of the meeting held on 18 July 2018

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 July 2018 were presented and the Mayor was authorised to sign them as a correct record.

31 Declarations of interests by members

There were none.

32 Mayor's announcements

The Mayor thanked all Members of the Council who attended and supported her at the extremely moving Service of Remembrance on Sunday, a particularly poignant occasion this year, the centenary of the Armistice. The Mayor went on to attend a further service of Remembrance at Chichester Cathedral, and ended a reflective day at the beacon lighting ceremony at Butts Brow. She particularly thanked her Deputy, Cllr Kathy Ballard, for standing in so ably during the many Remembrance events to which she was invited.

She paid tribute to the Heritage team, led by Jo Seaman, for their Eastbourne Remembers project which brought to life the stories of ordinary people in

extraordinary times in several innovative ways, most particularly the pavement posters which elicited a comment from a friend living in Suffolk.

The Mayor also mentioned Danny Negus, Tom Bacon, Andy Bacon, Henry Dunn and Andy Meed, members of the Devonshire Park Ground staff, who recently won the Professional Tennis Courts Grounds Team of the Year award at the prestigious Institute of Groundsmanship Industry Awards. She congratulated them on their well-deserved success.

Looking back to the summer, the Mayor was delighted to host a special Thank You lunch for her Charity Committee and several specially nominated local charity volunteers, at the Airbourne Departure Lounge. Despite the weather preventing many real aircraft from flying, a hastily assembled Mayor's Squadron bravely put on an alternative paper aeroplane display for other guests, to the hummed accompaniment of the Dambusters.

The Mayor had continued to enjoy a number of varied engagements, supporting local charities and organisations. She had been serenaded by a local meningitis fundraising group and a Singing Waiter, played sound tennis with blind sportspeople, found herself stranded in a broken down lifeboat, and had lunch with HRH the Duchess of Gloucester.

The presentation of trophies had been a regular and enjoyable fixture in the Mayor's diary, including those of the County Cup tennis tournament, the Beachy Head Marathon, and indeed to her own chauffeur at the Eastbourne Bowls Tournament.

The Mayor's love of walking was well known and she had joined a number of sponsored walks including a Beat the Streets Celebration walk along the seafront. She was apparently now referred to by some as "The Walking Mayor", an epithet which she embraced when she and some of the more daring members of her Charity Committee undertook a sponsored twilight clamber over the roof of the O2 Arena. The group lived to tell the tale, and were delighted to raise over £2000 for the Mayor's Charities.

The Mayor would be dusting off her sari for her Bollywood Extravaganza on Friday, to which all were cordially invited. The evening promised to be a colourful celebration of all things Bollywood, with fabulous food, dancing, the opportunity to win some very exciting raffle and auction prizes, and a special musical performance by our own former Deputy Mayor, Cllr Miah.

The Charity Committee was also working on a second rebranded version of the Mayor's Ball, which would take place in April 2019. Details would be shared in the New Year.

The Mayor's Charity Inspirational Women Cream Teas continued to go from strength to strength, and some remarkable guests were already booked for 2019. The final Cream Tea of this year took place at Christ Church on Wednesday 5th December, and would feature Freya Wynne-Jones, a young

opera singer, who the Mayor hoped to persuade to give a special performance on the day.

Future fundraising events included the SEA Exhibition taking place this weekend, a Christmas Fundraising evening, a film screening at the Towner Gallery, Quiz Nights, and a Folk Music Night. Details would be circulated soon, and more information could be sought from the Mayor's Office.

33 Chief Finance Officer

The Mayor and the Council welcomed Homira Javadi, Chief Finance Officer to her first meeting of the Council.

34 Notification of apologies for absence

An apology for absence was reported from Councillor Swansborough.

35 Scrutiny annual programme 2018-2019

The matter was proposed by Councillor di Cara on behalf of the Scrutiny Committee and seconded by Councillor Sabri.

Councillor di Cara addressed the Council and advised that the item relating to the A27, that was scheduled for the Scrutiny Committee on the 3 December would remain on the programme but be deferred to a later date.

Resolved: (Unanimously)

That the Scrutiny Committee's annual work programme be approved for 2018/19.

Reason for decision:

Decision is in accordance with scrutiny procedure rule 7.1.

36 Polling districts and polling places review

The matter was proposed by Councillor Tutt and seconded by Councillor Shuttleworth.

Resolved: (Unanimously)

(1) That the Acting Returning Officer's proposals as set out at appendix 1 of the report be approved.

(2) That the Electoral and Print Services Manager, on behalf of the Acting Returning Officer and Electoral Registration Officer, be authorised to implement the Council's decision in respect of the review.

Reasons for decision:

To fulfil the statutory duty in respect of periodic review of polling districts and polling places.

37 Standards - Appointment of independent persons

The matter was proposed by Councillor Sabri and seconded by Councillor Tutt.

Resolved: (Unanimously)

(1) That Mr Neal Robinson and Mr Vic Kempner be confirmed as interim Independent Standards Persons across both Eastbourne Borough and Lewes District Councils until July 2019.

(2) That an updated recruitment be held in 2019 to confirm two appointments for the next 4 years with aligned job descriptions and remuneration packages across both Councils.

(3) That the specific remuneration of the Independent Persons appointed by the Councils be delegated to the Monitoring Officers.

Reasons for decision:

(1) To provide each Council with sufficient Independent Person cover.

(2) To align the terms, across both Councils, on which Independent Persons are engaged.

38 Draft calendar of meetings 2019/20

The Council considered the draft calendar of meetings for 2019/20. It was proposed by Councillor Tutt and seconded by Councillor Metcalfe.

Resolved: (Unanimously)

That the draft calendar of meetings for 2019/20 be approved, subject to final ratification at the Council's next annual meeting.

Reason for decision:

To facilitate the running of the Council's business in the municipal year 2019/2020.

39 Pavements

Councillor Rodohan moved and Councillor Ballard seconded a notice of motion:

“Given the deplorable state of pavements in Eastbourne which have continued to deteriorate over many years this Council calls on East Sussex County Council to allocate at least 50% of the surplus funds from Eastbourne Controlled Parking Scheme to a rolling Annual Programme of Improvements to pavements in Eastbourne commencing in 2019/20”

Marie Hennelly addressed the Council in support of the motion.

Resolved: (By 25 votes with 1 abstention)

That the motion be approved.

40 People's Vote

Councillor Wallis moved and Councillor Wallis seconded a notion of motion:

“This council respects the result of the 2016 referendum and acknowledges that there was a small majority in favour of leaving the European Union. However, this council also acknowledges that the terms of the United Kingdom leaving the European Union did not form part of the 2016 campaign. Therefore this council calls upon the government to hold a ‘People’s Vote’ on the final terms and agreement on the UK leaving the EU. We urge this ‘People’s Vote’ for the following reasons:

(1) There is now a greater understanding of the consequences of the UK leaving the EU.

(2) There is clear, cross political party, cross community support for a ‘People’s Vote’ on the final terms of the UK’s departure from the EU in March 2019.”

Paula Welch and Martin Jones (both in support) and Jane Lamb (against) addressed the Council on the motion.

Councillors Wallis and Taylor requested a named vote on the motion, in accordance with the council procedure rules.

Named voting record for the proposed motion:

For: Councillors Bannister, Choudhury, Coles, Dow, Hearn, Holt, Miah, Murray, Robinson, Rodohan, Sabri, Shuttleworth, Tester, Tutt, Ungar and Wallis **(16)**

Against: Councillors Belsey, di Cara, Freebody, Jenkins, Metcalfe, Murdoch, Smart and Taylor (**8**)

Abstentions: Councillors Ballard and Mattock (**2**)

Resolved: (By 16 votes to 8, with 2 abstentions)

That the motion be approved.

41 Discussion on minutes of council bodies

The minutes of the following Council bodies were submitted to the meeting.

| Committee | Date |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Planning Committee | 24 July 2018, 28 August 2018, 25 September 2018, 23 October 2018 |
| Audit and Governance Committee | 25 July 2018, 19 September 2018 |
| Conservation Area Advisory Group | 21 August 2018, 2 October 2018 |
| Scrutiny Committee | 3 September 2018 |
| Cabinet | 12 September 2018, 24 October 2018 |
| General Licensing Committee | 1 October 2018 |

In accordance with Council procedure rule 14, the following items were raised for discussion.

Audit and Governance Committee – 25 July 2018 – Minute 8 – Audit completion report – raised by Councillor di Cara

Planning Committee – 28 August 2018 – Minute 41 – Wish Tower Café, King Edwards Parade – raised by Councillor Taylor.

Scrutiny Committee – 3 September 2018 – Minute 11 – Minutes of the meeting held on 11 June 2018 – raised by Councillor Smart.

Cabinet – 12 September 2018 – Minute 30 – Corporate performance – quarter 1 2018/19 – raised by Councillor Freebody.

Cabinet - 24 October 2018 – Minute 40 – Joint transformation programme update – raised by Councillor di Cara

Resolved (Unanimously):

That the minutes of the above council bodies be accepted.

The meeting ended at 8.05 pm

Councillor Gill Mattock (Mayor)