



Minutes

Name of meeting	FULL COUNCIL
Date and time	WEDNESDAY, 15 JANUARY 2020 COMMENCING AT 5:00 PM
Venue	COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT
Present	Cllrs George Cameron, (Chairman), Barry Abraham, Debbie Andre, Adrian Axford, Reg Barry, Paul Bertie, Michael Beston, Paul Brading Geoff Brodie, Charles Chapman, Rodney Downer, Paul Fuller, Andrew Garratt, Steven Hastings, Stephen Hendry, John Hobart, John Howe, Stuart Hutchinson, Julie Jones-Evans, John Kilpatrick, Michael Lilley, John Medland, Clare Mosdell, Michael Murwill, John Nicholson, Tig Outlaw, Gary Peace, Lora Peacey-Wilcox, Matthew Price, Chris Quirk, Shirley Smart, Ian Stephens, Dave Stewart, Brian Tyndall, Ian Ward, Wayne Whittle
Apologies	Cllrs Vanessa Churchman (other council business), Richard Hollis, Karl Love, Graham Perks

The chairman advised members of the passing of former councillor, Ron Smith, who had served as an Isle of Wight Councillor for many years.

40. [Minutes](#)

RESOLVED:

THAT the Minutes of the meeting held on 20 November 2019 be confirmed.

41. [Declarations of Interest](#)

There were no declarations received at this stage.

42. [Public Question Time](#)

Oral questions were put to the Chairman as follows:

Name	Subject	Comment
Kaitlyn Large and Rory May-Cunningham of Barton Primary School, Newport	In light of the recent bush fires in Australia, what do the Council plan to do to fight climate change, reduce emissions, and encourage use of sustainable transport?	The Leader advised that the Council had declared a climate emergency and has been recognised by Friends of the Earth for the work being done as an authority. The Leader

Name	Subject	Comment
Tanya Rebel, Cowes	What are the consequences should a councillor fail to meet their duty of care to protect residents from wireless radiation?	gave examples of ongoing work, including; use of green electric suppliers, recycling waste in a way that put the Isle of Wight in the top 10% of the country, purchasing electric cars, and offering free parking to residents who do the same. The Leader advised that all Councillors are elected by ballot and residents have the power to elect those they feel represent them.
Cameron Palin, East Cowes	A supplementary question was asked regarding the Council's duty to protect its residents from pollution.	The Leader advised that the Council are delivering on its plan to protect residents from environmental issues.
Cameron Palin, East Cowes	When would the outcome of the concessionary travel scheme consultation be publicised?	The Cabinet Member for Infrastructure and Transport advised that the results were being analysed and would report back when possible.
Henriette Burns, Sandown	A supplementary question was asked regarding the impact on disabled residents and whether the IW CCG/ IW NHS Trust were consulted.	It was advised that Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Housing Needs was in constant contact with health partners.
Henriette Burns, Sandown	What is the Council's duty of care to protect residents from 5G and smog?	The Cabinet Member for Public Protection would provide a response.
Henriette Burns, Sandown	A supplementary question was asked regarding the impact of 5G and smog from neighbouring cities.	The Leader advised that the Council are advised on this by Public Health.
Michael Smith, Newport	Would the investment in Islandline still go ahead although the company could be nationalised?	The Leader advised that the MP was in communication with ministers, and that the Council, Solent Local Enterprise Partnership, and Government have publicly committed to their contributions.

43. Chairman's Official Announcements

Members noted the written report which had been circulated for information.

RESOLVED:

THAT the Chairman's official announcements be noted.

44. Leaders Update Report

The Leader presented the written report which had been circulated for information, and highlighted three key points;

- Following correspondence with ministers, members would be meeting with colleagues in Government to move forward efforts around the Island Deal.
- The Isle of Wight Pension Fund had won the small fund (under £2.5bn) award at the LAPF Investment Awards. The Isle of Wight Pension Fund Committee, its chairman, and officers were thanked for their efforts.
- The Isle of Wight had been offered the opportunity to host the final stages of the Tour of Britain in 2021. This was supported by the Corporate Scrutiny Committee, and the Cabinet had approved the decision to procure a third-party company to secure the sponsorship funds necessary to cover the costs associated with hosting the event.

Members sought reassurance of the Leaders confidence in the delivery of the Island Deal and queried a potential rise in council tax. Questions were raised regarding the Councils involvement in VE Day celebrations and the efforts of town and parish councils. Discussion took place regarding the Housing Needs Assessment and the need for members to complete this and urge their residents to do so.

RESOLVED:

THAT the Leader's update be noted.

45. Review of Political Proportionality and Allocation of Seats on Committees

The Chairman presented the report of the Monitoring Officer which outlined the legal requirements and guidance of allocating seats to political groups and provided a course of action when vacant seats remain unfilled. It was necessary to review the allocation of seats on committees following recent changes in the number of seats held by political groups on the council.

The following recommendation was proposed by the chairman and seconded;

- (i) To accept the calculations relating to the determination of the aggregate number of committee places available to members of the council.
- (ii) To appoint members to serve on those committees in accordance with the agreed scheme of committee places, until the next occasion membership is

reviewed under the provisions of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989. Appointments by political groups will be undertaken in the normal way with the respective group leaders notifying the monitoring officer of the wishes of each group.

- (iii) To allocate seats to those members not in a political group, Councillor Ian Stephens and Councillor Graham Perks to the following seats:

Committee	Seats
Appeals Committee	1
Licensing Committee	2
Planning Committee	1

- (iv) To agree that regulation 15 of the Local Government (Committee and Political Groups) Regulations 1990 be utilised and that the authority or committee make appointments to seats which remain vacant three weeks after the group leader has been notified of the vacancy.

Following debate, the proposer and seconder agreed to withdraw the proposal. It was subsequently proposed that the recommendation be withdrawn, and a revised report be considered at a later date. A vote was taken and the result of which were as follows;

For (33) Against (2) Abstain (1)

RESOLVED:

THAT the proposals be withdrawn, and a revised report be considered at a later date.

46. Members Question Time of the Leader

No questions were received.

CHAIRMAN