



# Minutes

Name of meeting	<b>FULL COUNCIL</b>
Date and time	<b>WEDNESDAY, 15 OCTOBER 2014 COMMENCING AT 6.00 PM</b>
Venue	<b>COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT</b>
Present	Cllrs Ian Ward (Chairman), Jonathan Bacon, Julia Baker-Smith, Reg Barry, Paul Bertie, Bob Blezzard, Charles Chapman, Rodney Downer, David Eccles, Paul Fuller, Conrad Gauntlett, Jonathan Gilbey, Luisa Hillard, John Hobart, Alan Hollands, Richard Hollis, John Howe, Stuart Hutchinson, Julie Jones-Evans, Phil Jordan, Geoff Lumley, John Medland, John Nicholson, Lora Peacey-Wilcox, Daryll Pitcher, Matthew Price, Richard Priest, Colin Richards, Bob Seely, Shirley Smart, Ian Stephens, Dave Stewart, Steve Stubbings, Ivor Warlow, Roger Whitby-Smith, Chris Whitehouse, Wayne Whittle
Apologies	Cllrs Ray Bloomfield, Gordon Kendall, Graham Perks

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34. [Minutes](#)

**RESOLVED** :

THAT the Minutes of the meeting held on [17 September 2014](#) be confirmed.

35. [Declarations of Interest](#)

Councillor Julie Jones-Evans declared an interest in Minute 39, as she was the chairman of the federation of small businesses.

Councillor Wayne Whittle declared an interest in Minute 39, as he was a member of Ryde Business Forum and Ryde Business Association.

Councillor Julia Baker-Smith declared an interest in Minute 39, as she was a member of the chamber of commerce and a small business owner.

Councillor Lora Peacey-Wilcox declared an interest in Minute 39, as she was a small business owner.

36. **Public Question Time**

Questions were put to the Chairman as follows :

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Harry Rees of Ventnor	In light of the answers given by the minister to our MP regarding the recent adjournment debate. Did the Leader agree this offered a further opportunity for a complete root and branch review of how the Island was portrayed statistically within the UK and Europe?	The Leader advised that work was already underway in this regard, including the establishment of an infrastructure group to study all facets of Island transport including cross Solent travel, rail, bus and freight including strategic analysis.
Mr Simon Cooke	Noting members were due to consider a motion regarding the living wage, would members be mindful of those working in private care homes and in particular those on zero hour contracts or with no certainty of working hours. With a concern introduction of a living wage could reduce staffing levels further?	The Chairman stated that members would take the comments into account.

37. **Chairman's Report**

A written report had been circulated for information.

38. **Election of Chairman for Planning Committee**

The names of Councillors Richard Hollis, Bob Blezzard and Julia Baker-Smith were proposed and seconded.

It was proposed that each nominee be given an opportunity to address Council for up to two minutes prior to the vote being taken.

**RESOLVED:**

THAT each member be given two minutes to address Council regarding their nomination.

The chairman explained the voting procedure that would be followed. Prior to the vote being taken Councillor Blezzard withdrew his nomination.

A named vote was taken the result of which was as follows:

**Councillor Richard Hollis:**

For (17)

Councillors Paul Bertie, David Eccles, Conrad Gauntlett, Jonathan Gilbey, John Hobart, Richard Hollis, Stuart Hutchinson, Julie Jones-Evans, John Nicholson, Daryll Pitcher, Matthew Price, Richard Priest, Bob Seely, Dave Stewart, Ian Ward, Chris Whitehouse, Wayne Whittle

**Councillor Julia Baker-Smith:**

For (18)

Councillors Jonathan Bacon, Julia Baker-Smith, Reg Barry, Rodney Downer, Paul Fuller, Luisa Hillard, Alan Hollands, John Howe, Phil Jordan, Geoff Lumley, John Medland, Lora Peacey-Wilcox, Colin Richards, Shirley Smart, Ian Stephens, Steve Stubbings, Ivor Warlow, Roger Whitby-Smith

Abstentions (2)

Councillors Bob Blezzard, Charles Chapman

RESOLVED :

THAT Councillor Julia Baker-Smith be elected Chairman of the Planning Committee for the ensuing year.

39. **Corporate Peer Challenge**

The Leader introduced the report, which contained the outcomes of the peer review conducted by the Local Government Association (LGA) in April 2014. He explained the rationale for inviting the review of the council, acknowledging that both strengths and weaknesses had been identified. Members sought assurances that areas highlighted as a concern would be addressed and asked for details of the process for monitoring.

Members noted the proposed action plan which formed part of the review, the Leader confirmed that this would continue to be scrutinised through regular review.

An amendment was moved as follows:

That Option b) - To consider the issues identified in the corporate peer review and agree the proposed action plan set out in Appendix C.

be replaced with

Option c) - To consider the issues identified in the corporate peer review and agree changes to the proposed action plan set out in Appendix C.

There being no seconder the amendment fell.

At the conclusion of the debate, the Chairman agreed to a request that a separate vote be taken on each proposal, the result of which was as follows:

**OPTION B**

To consider the issues identified in the corporate peer review and agree the proposed action plan set out in Appendix C.

For (31)

Councillors Jonathan Bacon, Julia Baker-Smith, Paul Bertie,  
Charles Chapman, Rodney Downer, David Eccles, Paul Fuller,  
Conrad Gauntlett, Jonathan Gilbey, Luisa Hillard, John Hobart, Alan Hollands,  
John Howe, Stuart Hutchinson, Phil Jordan, Geoff Lumley, John Medland,  
John Nicholson, Lora Peacey-Wilcox, Daryll Pitcher, Matthew Price,  
Richard Priest, Colin Richards, Bob Seely, Shirley Smart, Ian Stephens,  
Steve Stubbings, Ivor Warlow, Roger Whitby-Smith, Chris Whitehouse,  
Wayne Whittle

Against (3)

Councillors Reg Barry, Bob Blezzard, Richard Hollis

**RESOLVED** :

THAT the issues identified in the corporate peer review be considered and the proposed action plan set out in Appendix C (attached to and forming part of these minutes) be agreed.

**OPTION D**

To agree to the setting aside of resources to fund external support to deliver savings required and that a one off budget of £250,000 be created to fund additional resource requirements, initially from reserves and balances but in effect will be an invest to save from the savings generated.

For (28)

Councillors Jonathan Bacon, Julia Baker-Smith, Paul Bertie,  
Charles Chapman, Rodney Downer, David Eccles, Paul Fuller,  
Conrad Gauntlett, Luisa Hillard, John Hobart, Alan Hollands, John Howe,  
Stuart Hutchinson, Phil Jordan, Geoff Lumley, John Medland, John Nicholson,  
Lora Peacey-Wilcox, Matthew Price, Colin Richards, Bob Seely,  
Shirley Smart, Ian Stephens, Steve Stubbings, Ivor Warlow,  
Roger Whitby-Smith, Chris Whitehouse, Wayne Whittle

Against (6)

Councillors Reg Barry, Bob Blezzard, Jonathan Gilbey, Richard Hollis, Daryll Pitcher, Richard Priest

RESOLVED :

THAT the setting aside of resources to fund external support to deliver savings required be agreed and that a one off budget of £250,000 be created to fund additional resource requirements, initially from reserves and balances but in effect would be an invest to save from the savings generated.

40. [Polling Districts and Places Review 2014](#)

The Executive Member for Children's Services and Corporate Governance introduced the report and a summary of the recommendation.

RESOLVED :

THAT the Isle of Wight Council adopts the scheme of polling districts and polling places as set out in Appendix B (attached to and forming part of these minutes). To be effective for the purposes of proceedings preliminary or relating to any election to be held after 1 December 2014. This scheme includes the division of the "Osborne" polling district to create two smaller polling districts.

41. [Senior Officer Structure - Head of Adult Social Care](#)

The Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Adult Social Care and Community Wellbeing presented the report. Members voiced concern regarding the appointment on an interim basis. The Executive Member stated this had been deemed prudent when considering the future integration of health and social care with the Clinical Commissioning Group and IOWNHS, which would include the sharing of management functions.

RESOLVED :

THAT the Council endorse the recommendations of the Employment Committee and agreed that:

- i) THAT the post of Head of Adult Social Care and Community Well-being not be replaced and the various roles relating to housing and community well-being be dealt with as part of the wider restructure of the council;
- ii) THAT the continuing resource needed to lead and manage Adult Social Care; support the development and implementation of the integration agenda and prepare for the Care Act and budget plans be provided by extending the contract with Martin Elliott who is currently the interim Head of Adult Social Care (through an agency) for six months;
- iii) THAT Martin Elliott, as interim Head of Adult Social Care, be designated as the Council's Director of Adult Social Services.

## 42. Executive

### Reports of the Executive Members

#### (i) The Leader

A [written report](#) had been circulated for information.

Councillor Seely withdrew the four written questions he had previously submitted.

Oral questions were put to the Leader as follows :

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Cllr Whittle	Could the Leader confirm if free parking would be authorised during small business Saturday this year?  Supplementary - Business Associations on the Island wanted to advertise this so early notice would be appreciated. It was important that any restrictions were clarified.	The Leader requested the Executive Member for Economy and Tourism respond. Cllr Smart stated that no decision had yet been made but they would be recommending free parking from midday onwards in long stay car parks.
Cllr Lumley	Would the Leader accept his apology for the comments he had made at the meeting of Full Council on 16 July 2014?	The Leader indicated that he accepted the apology, understanding they were made in the heat of debate.

#### (ii) The Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Adult Social Care and Community Wellbeing

The Executive Member offered his apologies to Cllr Blezzard in regard to the advice he had previously provided in relation to the training grant for town and parish councils. He clarified the training was to be delivered by the council and in fact there would not be any financial assistance.

A [written report](#) had been circulated for information.

(iii) [Executive Member for Children's Services and Corporate Governance](#)

The Executive Member highlighted the recent completion of an inspection by Ofsted, stating that the outcome would be published on 18 November 2014. He wished to pay tribute to the commitment of staff and the efforts made to assist with the inspection. He had also raised awareness of the need for more foster carers to found.

A [written report](#) had been circulated for information.

Oral questions were put to the Executive Member as follows:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Cllr Whitehouse	Following the recent meeting of the schools education and attainment support panel, could the executive member advise on the policy and timescales for addressing 11-16 and post 16 capacity issues?	The Executive Member stated that work was in progress to publically consult on the matter. Acknowledging this was a difficult subject he indicated that the final report would contain a preferred recommendation, adding all responses to the consultation would be taken into account.
	Supplementary – Concern was raised that parents were currently applying for admission to secondary schools which could impact on their decision.	The Executive Member advised he was not able to provide any indication of the final recommendation at this time and offered to continue to engage with Cllr Whitehouse on the matter.
Cllr Downer	Would the Executive Member consider using his discretion regarding the home to school transport policy for those pupils who did not wish to attend the Free School, where this was their nearest school?	The Executive Member said that the policy had been agreed in September 2014, including the removal of any discretionary elements. He advised that the policy met with the statutory duties in regard to school transport and any deviation would come at a cost, highlighting the budget was already overspent.

Cllr Lumley	Would the Executive Member exercise their discretion for parents who did not wish their children to attend a Free School?	The Executive Member reiterated that any decision would be discretionary and advised the agreed policy met with guidance from the Department For Education (DFE), removing inequity.
	Supplementary - Would the executive Member re-look at this, as there were some objections.	The Executive Member agreed to take the comments into account.

(iv) **Executive Member for Planning and Licensing**

A [written report](#) had been circulated for information.

Oral questions were put to the Executive Member as follows :

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Cllr Seely	Would the Executive Member agree that the delivery of the superior scheme regarding the Premier Inn at Merrie Gardens, through renegotiating with officers is an exception to the rule, with many developers attempting to challenge council policies rather than work with officers?	The Executive Member stated that he encouraged pre application advice being sought with officers to discuss concerns. The Premier Inn application demonstrated a positive way forward.

(v) **Executive Member for Human Resources and Organisational Change**

A [written report](#) had been circulated for information.

Oral questions were put to the Leader in the absence of the Executive Member as follows :

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Cllr Blezzard	What progress had been made on amending the senior management structure and what progress had been made on the creation of principal staff to cover absence and leave?	The Leader confirmed Cllr Kendall was working on these areas and re-evaluating the HR structure. He offered to provide a more detailed written response.

(vi) **Executive Member for Fire and Rescue Services and Public Health and Safety**

A [written report](#) had been circulated for information.

Oral questions were put to the Executive Member as follows :

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Cllr Whittle	Welcomed the progress made in regard to the outfall pipe in Ryde. He understood a new flood group that had been established in Ryde, would he be able to attend.	Cllr Whittle was advised that a Ryde surface water management group had been formed and he would need to approach them direct.
Cllr Blezzard	Noted there was no reference in the report to the Morton Road flood situation.	The Executive Member would provide a written response.
Cllr Nicholson	Asked if the executive member was aware of the growing dissatisfaction with the lack of responses to residents' concerns regarding ongoing work schedules and disruption caused by Island Roads?	The Executive Member stated he was meeting with the contract manager the following week, with further meetings booked to raise concerns.
Cllr Seely	Would the executive member raise concerns with Island Roads in regard to the redressing of many minor Island roads, which resulted in a substantial drop in levels at the curb side?	The Executive member said he was happy to do so.
Cllr Barry	Had lessons been learnt from the Highways PFI contract when considering the waste contract and could members be more involved?	It was highlighted that the Highways contract had been unique and could not be compared with the waste contract. Indeed lessons could be learnt and members had received a briefing on the waste contract.

Cllr Barry	Supplementary - There was a lack of information provided at that briefing and assurances had been given under the Highways contract which had not been delivered.	The Executive Member stated those were the types of issues with the contract he wished to raise.
Cllr Whitby-Smith	Could the executive member advise when work on local highway schemes or projects would commence?	The Executive Member said he could not, although a report was scheduled to be brought forward to enable the approval of £100,000 to deliver local schemes.

(vii) **Executive Member for Economy and Tourism**

The Executive Member advised members on the progress made in responding to questions posed at the last meeting and in particular those from Cllrs Hutchinson and Whittle.

A [written report](#) had been circulated for information.

Oral questions were put to the Executive Member as follows :

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Cllr Whittle	Asked if user statistics were available from ferry operators, in order to monitor the market and were the terms of reference of the economic development board available?	The Executive Member agreed that the figures had historically been supplied, although there was no obligation for the companies to supply them. The terms of reference were in the stages of being established and would be supplied in due course.

(viii) **Executive Member for Sustainability**

An update was provided regarding the outcome of a bid to form part of the smart systems and heat project, it being unsuccessful at the final stage, owing to concerns regarding capacity and the ability to match fund.

A [written report](#) had been circulated for information.

Oral questions were put to the Executive Member as follows :

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Cllr Lumley	Reference had been made regarding the tendering	The Executive Member advised that the project

Name	Subject	Comment
	process for the waste contract being closed, was that the same for the contract process?	was a legacy from the previous administration, with considerable progress already made. She explained that the project was designed to deliver outcomes and not specify how they were achieved to encourage innovation from bidders. It would also incorporate realistic targets in order to avoid bonus payments.
	Supplementary – Concern legacy project, was there any scope to make amendments to avoid a poor contract?	The Executive Member shared the concerns although assurances had been given that the maximum benefits were being sought, including social and community benefits and cost savings. There was a possibility that changing the terms of the contract could lead to unsuccessful bidders lodging a judicial review.
Cllr Blezzard	How did the approach to reducing beach cleaning align with the sustainability element of the portfolio?	The Executive Member responded that sustainability was a subjective matter, suggesting perhaps the member was confusing it with public health.
Cllr Barry	If the waste contract had already been fixed. What was the purpose of consulting now?  Supplementary –It was likely that residents request larger bins	The Executive Member clarified that the contract specified outcomes and residents views were being gathered to ascertain what elements or issues were important in order for bidders to tailor services to achieve those outcomes. Council had a responsibility to reduce the amount of waste produced, working with manufacturers and

Name	Subject	Comment
		encouraging recycling. Larger waste bins would therefore be counterproductive.

43. [Report of the Scrutiny Committee Chairman](#)

A [written report](#) had been circulated for information.

Oral questions were put to the Chairman as follows :

Name	Subject	Comment
Cllr Baker-Smith	Considering the fees and charges working party was due to meet shortly, would it have revised and up to date ticket sale figures for the floating bridge to consider?	The Chairman agreed to follow the request up and supply the figures.

44. **Motion submitted under Procedure Rule 10 of the Council's Constitution**

(a) [By Councillor Geoff Lumley](#)

It was noted that the motion had been deferred from the previous council meeting.

An amendment to the motion was proposed to allow flexibility until the final number of select committees was determined. Councillor Lumley agreed to the amendment.

During the debate it was confirmed that Council had only agreed to the creation of select committees, with no agreement on the reporting route for the committee chair reports. The reporting mechanism would be determined through discussions of the constitution working party.

**RESOLVED:**

THAT Council agrees that it should receive appropriately regular written reports from the following committee Chairs:

Children's Services Select Committee;  
Economy, Environment, Transport and Tourism Select Committee;

*or from those determined by the constitutional working party.*

Audit Committee;

Employment Committee;

Health and Wellbeing Board.

(b) By Councillor Geoff Lumley

Councillor Lumley indicated that he wished to clarify the motion required the Council to work towards ensuring all of its employees were paid at least the Living Wage.

At the conclusion of the debate a named vote was taken the result of which was as follows:

For (27)

Councillors Jonathan Bacon, Julia Baker-Smith, Reg Barry, Bob Blezzard, Charles Chapman, Rodney Downer, David Eccles, Paul Fuller, Jonathan Gilbey, Luisa Hillard, John Hobart, Alan Hollands, John Howe, Phil Jordan, Geoff Lumley, John Medland, Matthew Price, Richard Priest, Colin Richards, Bob Seely, Shirley Smart, Ian Stephens, Steve Stubbings, Ian Ward, Ivor Warlow, Roger Whitby-Smith, Wayne Whittle

Abstentions (6)

Cllr Paul Bertie, Richard Hollis, Stuart Hutchinson, John Nicholson, Daryll Pitcher, Chris Whitehouse

RESOLVED:

Council agrees that to boost the low wage economy under which the Island suffers it will set a beacon example to all employers and aspire to ensure all of its employees are paid at least the Living Wage level (currently just £7.65 per hour) by 2017. It will also endeavour to ensure by 2017 that it only does business with outside contractors (eg. care homes) that are also paying the Living Wage. From October 2015 reports will be made to the Executive on a six-monthly basis as to how this aspiration was progressing.

(c) By Councillor Chris Whitehouse

Councillor Whitehouse had withdrawn his motion.

CHAIRMAN