



# Minutes

Name of meeting	<b>FULL COUNCIL</b>
Date and time	<b>WEDNESDAY, 15 JUNE 2016 COMMENCING AT 6.00 PM</b>
Venue	<b>COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT</b>
Present	Cllrs Charles Chapman (Chairman), Jonathan Bacon, Julia Baker-Smith, Reg Barry, Paul Bertie, Bob Blezzard, Ray Bloomfield, Rodney Downer, David Eccles, Paul Fuller, Conrad Gauntlett, Jonathan Gilbey, Luisa Hillard, John Hobart, Alan Hollands, Richard Hollis, John Howe, Julie Jones-Evans, Phil Jordan, Geoff Lumley, John Medland, John Nicholson, Lora Peacey-Wilcox, Graham Perks, Daryll Pitcher, Matthew Price, Richard Priest, Colin Richards, Bob Seely, Shirley Smart, Dave Stewart, Steve Stubbings, Ian Ward, Ivor Warlow, Roger Whitby-Smith, Chris Whitehouse, Wayne Whittle
Apologies	Cllrs Stuart Hutchinson, Gordon Kendall, Ian Stephens

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10. [Minutes](#)

Page A6, in relation to the item around Committee Structure and Appointments, Cllr Stewart was listed as both voting for and abstaining.

**RESOLVED:**

THAT, subject to the above being corrected, the Minutes of the meeting held on [25 May 2016](#) be confirmed.

11. [Declarations of Interest](#)

Cllr Perks declared a personal interest as he was a local business man.

The Monitoring Officer advised all members that a dispensation had been granted to allow members to participate in any debate, speak and vote on members' allowances and pensions.

12. [Public Question Time](#)

Questions were put to the Chairman as follows:

Name	Subject	Comment
Carl Feeney, PRO-Link	Will the Isle of Wight Council formally agree to support a study that will provide expert information on how to proceed?	The Executive Member provided a written response which was available on the following link ( <a href="#">PQ 08/16</a> )
David Walter, Secretary, Wellow Residents' Group	Would the Council please disclose the relevant, vocational, formal professional qualifications including Full Membership of Professional and Chartered Institutions, held by principal staff in the following service areas:  a) Planning b) Environmental Health c) Buildings Control	The Executive Member provided a written response which was available on the following link ( <a href="#">PQ 09/16</a> )
Stuart Blackmore, Ventnor	Public Money for Christopher Garnett for Transport Infrastructure Taskforce	A written response to be provided
Kate Smith, Island Resident	Recent High Court Case on term time holidays	The Chair of Scrutiny shared concerns and agreed that the Island should be working towards attaining good standards in all schools.  Cllr Whitehouse agreed issues needed to be addressed.

13. [Chairman's Report](#)

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

It was noted that there would be a vigil for those that lost their lives in the Orlando shootings of 12 June 2016 in St Thomas' Square Newport on Friday, 17 June 2016 at 8.00pm.

14. [Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel on the Members' Allowances Scheme 2016/17](#)

The Chairman of the Independent Remuneration Panel, Mr Max Morrison, presented the report. Consideration was given to the recommendations made

by the Independent Remuneration Panel with regard to the Members' Allowance Scheme.

It was noted that members should only receive one of the SRA's identified in the report and it was down to the individual to choose which one he or she should accept.

Concerns were raised by some members that a rise in some of the allowances was being proposed at a time when the council was facing difficult financial challenges and as such Councillor Blezzard proposed two amendments to the recommendation of the report.

The first amendment proposed that the Special Responsibility Allowance (SRA) for 2016 – 2017 remained unchanged from the previous year with the exception that the SRA for Executive Secretary be deleted and that the Chair of the Children's Committee receive the same SRA as that of Select Committee Chairs.

A named vote on the first amendment was then taken:

For (24)

Councillors Jonathan Bacon, Paul Bertie, Bob Blezzard, Ray Bloomfield, Rodney Downer, David Eccles, Conrad Gauntlett, Jonathan Gilbey, John Hobart, Richard Hollis, Julie Jones-Evans, John Nicholson, Graham Perks, Daryll Pitcher, Matthew Price, Richard Priest, Colin Richards, Bob Seely, Dave Stewart, Steve Stubbings, Ian Ward, Ivor Warlow, Chris Whitehouse, Wayne Whittle

Against (8)

Councillors Paul Fuller, Luisa Hillard, John Howe, Phil Jordan, John Medland, Alan Hollands, Geoff Lumley, Reg Barry

Abstention (4)

Councillors Lora Peacey-Wilcox, Julia Baker-Smith, Shirley Smart, Roger Whitby-Smith

The second amendment proposed that the following text be added at the end of the recommendation:

"This principle shall apply to any councillor who receives a payment for a role which he / she plays on any other outside body (for example the Local Government Association) where he or she is able to undertake that role by virtue of being a member of the Isle of Wight Council, is allowed by law."

After a further debate, a named vote was taken on the second amendment:

For (16)

Councillors Paul Bertie, Bob Blezzard, Ray Bloomfield, David Eccles, Jonathan Gilbey, Julie Jones-Evans, John Nicholson, Graham Perks, Daryll Pitcher, Matthew Price, Richard Priest, Bob Seely, Dave Stewart, Ian Ward, Chris Whitehouse, Wayne Whittle

Against (17)

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, Steve Stubbings, Ivor Warlow, Roger Whitby-Smith

Abstention (3)

Councillors Conrad Gauntlett, John Hobart, Richard Hollis

The amendment fell.

At the conclusion of the debate a named vote was the taken on the substantive recommendations of the report as amended, the result of which was as follows:

For (28)

Councillors Jonathan Bacon, Paul Bertie, Bob Blezzard, Ray Bloomfield, Rodney Downer, David Eccles, Conrad Gauntlett, Jonathan Gilbey, Luisa Hillard, John Hobart, Richard Hollis, John Howe, Julie Jones-Evans, John Medland, John Nicholson, Graham Perks, Daryll Pitcher, Matthew Price, Richard Priest, Colin Richards, Bob Seely, Shirley Smart, Dave Stewart, Steve Stubbings, Ian Ward, Ivor Warlow, Chris Whitehouse, Wayne Whittle

Against (5)

Councillors Reg Barry, Paul Fuller, Phil Jordan, Alan Hollands, Geoff Lumley

Abstention (3)

Councillors Julia Baker-Smith, Lora Peacey-Wilcox, Roger Whitby-Smith

RESOLVED:

- (i) THAT the special responsibility Allowances for 2016/17 remain unchanged from 2015/16 with the exception that the SRA for Executive Secretary be deleted and that the Chair of the Children's Committee receives the same SRA as that of a Select Committee Chair.
- (ii) THAT the process for the distribution of the on Island travel lump sum be left unchanged. This is currently based on the distribution of a lump

sum divided between the members on the basis of a formula reflecting distance of county hall from their homes and office they hold. However, the panel will continue to keep this under review in future reports.

- (iii) THAT all other allowances (for example those for co-opted members and child allowance) remain unchanged.

15. **Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Service Strategic Partnership Annual Report 2016**

Members were given an update on the first year progress of the strategic partnership between Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority (HFRA) and Isle of Wight Fire Authority (IWFA). The partnership was being delivered through the “Delivering Differently in Partnership” (project). It was noted that the first year of the project had delivered savings to the Isle of Wight Council.

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

For (35)

Councillors Jonathan Bacon, Julia Baker-Smith, Reg Barry, Paul Bertie, Bob Blezzard, Ray Bloomfield, David Eccles, Paul Fuller, Conrad Gauntlett, Jonathan Gilbey, Luisa Hillard, John Hobart, Alan Hollands, Richard Hollis, John Howe, Julie Jones-Evans, Phil Jordan, Geoff Lumley, John Medland, John Nicholson, Lora Peacey-Wilcox, Graham Perks, Daryll Pitcher, Matthew Price, Richard Priest, Colin Richards, Bob Seely, Shirley Smart, Dave Stewart, Steve Stubbings, Ian Ward, Ivor Warlow, Roger Whitby-Smith, Chris Whitehouse, Wayne Whittle

Against (0)

Abstention (0)

**RESOLVED:**

THAT the partnership continues in accordance with the current project plan subject to the change control mechanisms referred to in the strategic partnership agreement.

16. **Pension Fund - Pooling of Investments**

Members were advised of the actions undertaken by the Isle of Wight Council Pension Fund (the fund) to date in fulfilling the government’s requirement for the pooling of Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) investment assets, and the further actions required to complete the final submission to government on 15 July 2016.

Members noted the progress made to date in complying with the requirements for the pooling of investments, and the future actions that were required in order to complete the project.

Some concerns were raised around a reduction in local choice of fund investment managers.

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

For (31)

Councillors Jonathan Bacon, Julia Baker-Smith, Reg Barry, Bob Blezzard, Ray Bloomfield, Rodney Downer, David Eccles, Paul Fuller, Conrad Gauntlett, Jonathan Gilbey, Luisa Hillard, John Hobart, Alan Hollands, Richard Hollis, John Howe, Julie Jones-Evans, Phil Jordan, Geoff Lumley, John Medland, Lora Peacey-Wilcox, Matthew Price, Richard Priest, Colin Richards, Shirley Smart, Dave Stewart, Steve Stubbings, Ian Ward, Ivor Warlow, Roger Whitby-Smith, Chris Whitehouse, Wayne Whittle

Against (0)

Abstention (2)

Councillors Graham Perks, Daryll Pitcher

RESOLVED:

THAT the progress made to date in complying with the requirements for the pooling of investments, and the actions required in future to complete the project be noted.

## 17. **Executive**

### (a) **Recommendations from the Executive**

#### [Considerations for a Referendum on Devolution](#)

At the previous ordinary meeting of Full Council on 16 March 2016, Councillor Daryl Pitcher submitted a motion that Council agrees that a referendum of Island residents is held on any agreed or imposed devolution deal with Hampshire local authorities, once the details are known - particularly the financial redistribution and governance elements.

Such a referendum would allow local residents to have a say in a major change in the Islands constitutional affairs who should be fully supportive of any such deal.

At the meeting of Executive, members recommended the following amendment to all members of the council:

- (i) The Executive has the final responsibility for deciding whether to hold a referendum on this issue but notes that as there is no allowance in the council's budget framework for a referendum, Full Council must consider allocating the appropriate level of

money to fund this additional and unplanned expenditure if a referendum is to take place.

- (ii) The Executive is committed to acting in accordance with the resolution of the March meeting of Full Council that, 'the fullest possible consultation with the Isle of Wight community, including consideration of a referendum on any devolution deal document that the council is considering accepting'.
- (iii) In the current circumstances the Executive agrees to defer any final decision on whether to hold a referendum on a devolution deal until such time as there is a final devolution deal available for consideration.

An amendment was proposed that:

In the current circumstances Full Council agrees to defer any final decision on whether to hold a referendum on a devolution deal until such time as there is a final devolution deal available for consideration.

Following discussions, members then took a named vote the result of which was as follows:

For (13)

Councillors Jonathan Bacon, Julia Baker-Smith, Reg Barry, Paul Fuller, Luisa Hillard, Phil Jordan, John Medland, Lora Peacey-Wilcox, Colin Richards, Shirley Smart, Steve Stubbings, Ivor Warlow, Roger Whitby-Smith

Against (22)

Councillors Paul Bertie, Bob Blezzard, Ray Bloomfield, David Eccles, Conrad Gauntlett, Jonathan Gilbey, John Hobart, Richard Hollis, John Howe, Alan Hollands, Julie Jones-Evans, Geoff Lumley, John Nicholson, Graham Perks, Daryll Pitcher, Matthew Price, Richard Priest, Bob Seely, Dave Stewart, Ian Ward, Chris Whitehouse, Wayne Whittle

Abstention (0)

The amended recommendation fell

Members then discussed the original motion submitted from Councillor Pitcher on holding a referendum on any future devolution deal.

It was noted that should members agree to hold a referendum, they should be mindful that such an operation had not been budgeted for and resources would need to be identified to facilitate such a process.

Following further discussions, a named vote was taken on the original motion:

For (23)

Councillors Jonathan Bacon, Julia Baker-Smith, Bob Blezzard, Rodney Downer, Paul Fuller, Jonathan Gilbey, Luisa Hillard, Alan Hollands, John Howe, Phil Jordan, Geoff Lumley, John Medland, John Nicholson, Lora Peacey-Wilcox, Graham Perks, Daryll Pitcher, Matthew Price, Richard Priest, Colin Richards, Shirley Smart, Steve Stubbings, Ivor Warlow, Roger Whitby-Smith

Against (3)

Councillors Ray Bloomfield, John Hobart, Dave Stewart

Abstention (9)

Councillors Reg Barry, Paul Bertie, David Eccles, Conrad Gauntlett, Richard Hollis, Bob Seely, Ian Ward, Wayne Whittle, Julie Jones-Evans

RESOLVED:

THAT Council agrees that a referendum of Islanders will be held on any agreed or imposed devolution deal with Hampshire local authorities, once the details are known - particularly the financial redistribution and governance elements.

(b) **Reports of the Executive Members**

(i) **[The Leader and Executive Member for Resources, Organisational Change and Children's Services](#)**

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

Oral questions were put to the Leader as follows:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Cllr Whitby Smith	Home Educated Children on the Island	The Leader advised that 311 children were home educated on the Island who were subject to LA Inspection
Cllr Jones-Evans	When did council know of the visit from Secretary of State with regard to additional funding?	Council was aware of the visit on 24 May 2016 but was unable to confirm until 8 June 2016.
Cllr Pitcher	Possibility of Refugees arriving on coast from Europe – what plans were	A written response would be provided.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Comment</b>
	in place to provide assistance?	
Cllr Hollands	What Joint working with schools around families with troubled children was in place?	Family Liaison Officers provided assistance.

(ii) **[The Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Adult Social Care and Integration](#)**

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

No oral questions were put to the Deputy Leader

(iii) **[Executive Member for Planning and Housing](#)**

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 Jones-Evans	What was the current status around The Partnership for Urban South Hampshire (PUSH)	The council was still a member and intended to remain so
Cllr Stewart	How would the formation of a building control trading company be beneficial to the Island	To provide revenue benefits to the council.
Cllr Blezzard	Was the Planning meeting discussing the Advisory Service Peer Review constructive?	Yes
Cllr Seeley	When would the Housing Strategy be made available	An answer would be provided as soon as possible after the meeting

(iv) **[Executive Member Environment \(Sustainability\) and Local Engagement](#)**

A [written report](#) had been circulated for information. The Executive member announced that a small nominal amount of money would be released to various Town and Parish councils across the Island to assist in any repairs and restoration of public toilets.

Oral questions were put to the Executive Member as follows:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Cllr Price	Would all members receive briefing notes from the waste contractor Amey following the recent members information seminar	Copies would be provided
Cllr Price	Would Amey be less terse in future when addressing members	The Executive Member noted concerns and would expect them to be less abrupt.
Cllr Ward	Could the arrangements for waste collection around some flats and bedsits be looked into?	A meeting had taken place two weeks beforehand to address problems. Landlords could be approached to assist.
Cllr Ward	Can the situation around assisted services be clarified and confirm who was being assessed?	A written response would be provided.
Cllr Seeley	Could a timeframe for Amey to answer public enquiries be established?	Enquiries could be answered quicker by emailing the local member or the Executive member.
Cllr Jones-Evans	With regard to Public Toilets, could the freehold transfer documents be circulated to town and parish councils later than scheduled?	The Executive Member was keen to avoid any further delays.

(v) [Executive Member for Public Health, Public Protection and PFI](#)

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 Jones-Evans	What were the figures for Fire and Rescue false alarms	The Executive Member would provide a written response

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Cllr Richards	Could the policy of maintaining hedgerows be provided	A written response would be provided

(vi) [Executive Member for Public Transport, Tourism, Recreation and Heritage](#)

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 Jones- Evans	Could an update on the Infrastructure Task Group be provided?	The Executive Member would provide a written report.
Cllr Seeley	Hypothetically, could a feasibility study into a Fixed Link be agreed?	This can only be agreed once all the facts were known.
Cllr Hollands	Could a previous study into a fixed link be made available?	A written response would be provided after the meeting
Cllr Bloomfield	Was there any further names other than Mr Christopher Garnett considered for leading the Transport Infrastructure Taskforce	A written response would be provided after the meeting

(vii) [Executive Member for Regeneration, Economic Sustainability and Development](#)

Oral questions were put to the Leader of the Council who was responding on behalf of the Executive Member as follows:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Cllr Jones- Evans	Could an update on the Economic Development Board as well as access to minutes be provided	In the absence of the Executive Member, the Leader advised that a written response would be provided.
Cllr Jones- Evans	What were the benefits to local businesses of Assisted Area Status	In the absence of the Executive Member, the Leader advised that a written response would be provided.

18. **Report of the Scrutiny Committee Chairman**

A written report had been circulated for information.

Oral questions were put to the Chairman as follows:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Cllr Stubbings	Could findings of the Adult Social Care Task Group be provided at the July 2016 Scrutiny Committee	The Chairman advised that an update would be provided at the July Scrutiny Meeting and a final report would be made available during September 2016
Cllr Jones-Evans	Could the work of the Economic Development Board be looked at?	Yes, the Board would be specifically looked at.
Cllr Hollands	Could any more information be provided around the Cabinet Secretary visit in which he met Cllr Stewart and his party colleagues?	Cllr Stewart advised that he did not meet the minister in his role as Chair of Scrutiny but as Conservative Group Leader.

19. **Motions submitted under Procedure Rule 10 of the Council's Constitution**

(a) **By Councillor Conrad Gauntlett**

Following the outcome of the High Court hearing on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2016 concerning the enforcement of school attendance, it was made clear in the statement issued on behalf of the council's administration on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2016 that the administration would be pressing the Department for Education to urgently consider creating clear legislation on this matter for the benefit of parents, schools and local authorities alike.

The decision to challenge the magistrates' ruling in the Platt case by taking proceedings in the High Court has only resulted in greater uncertainty and has brought into question the policies of schools and local authorities across the country.

In view of the outcome of the high court hearing council recommends that the Executive take the following action:

1. Request the DfE to refund the Council's legal expenses and awarded costs in the Platt case as the appeal was made in an effort to clarify the legal position for the benefit of schools and local authorities throughout England.
2. Request the DfE to urgently introduce new legislation which defines 'regular' attendance whilst allowing head teachers greater flexibility in respect of approving term time absence where attendance has been 'regular' and attainment is good, recognising the link between attendance and educational attainment, but also the importance of family holidays and acknowledging that experiences outside school can also have an educational benefit and can be made more inclusive for the financially disadvantaged.
3. Arrange with all Island School Governors and Head Teachers to review the current school terms on the Island and explore whether these could be changed to provide opportunity for all parents to take holidays outside the current national timeframe which would be less expensive and could be beneficial for Island parents, teachers and most importantly children.

20. **Procedure Rule 26**

A proposal to extend the meeting by up to thirty minutes was proposed and seconded. This was voted on by a show of hands the result of which was as follows:

For – 23

Against – 4

**RESOLVED:**

THAT the meeting be extended by up to thirty minutes.

An amendment was proposed and seconded that each part of the motion from Cllr Gauntlett was voted on separately. This was voted on by a show of hands the result of which was as follows:

For – 14

Against – 20

The amendment fell.

A named vote was then taken on the full motion the result of which was as follows:

For (28)

Councillors Jonathan Bacon, Julia Baker-Smith, Paul Bertie, Bob Blezzard, Ray Bloomfield, Rodney Downer, David Eccles, Conrad Gauntlett, Jonathan Gilbey, Luisa Hillard, John Hobart, Richard Hollis, John Howe, Julie Jones-Evans, John Medland, John Nicholson, Graham Perks, Daryll Pitcher, Matthew Price, Richard Priest, Bob Seely, Shirley Smart, Dave Stewart, Ian Ward, Ivor Warlow, Roger Whitby-Smith, Chris Whitehouse, Wayne Whittle

Against (5)

Councillors Reg Barry, Alan Hollands, Phil Jordan, Geoff Lumley, Steve Stubbings,

Abstention (2)

Councillors Paul Fuller, Lora Peacey Wilcox,

(a) [By Councillor Dave Stewart](#)

This council recognises the importance of Mental Health to the overall Wellbeing of our Island Community and acknowledges the need to prioritise this subject as a key area of work for the council.

This council therefore requests that the Children's Committee and the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Sub Committee considers terms of reference of a role for a specific member to be appointed as Mental Health lead for Scrutiny. The expectation being that the role of the member would be to include reporting to Full Council on progress in this area of work in liaison with the Executive.

The motion was deferred to the Scrutiny Committee and the Health and Wellbeing Board by the Chairman without discussion for resolution.

CHAIRMAN