



# Minutes

Name of meeting	<b>FULL COUNCIL</b>
Date and time	<b>WEDNESDAY, 16 OCTOBER 2013 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, Ray Bloomfield, Charles Chapman, Rodney Downer, David Eccles, Paul Fuller, Conrad Gauntlett, Jonathan Gilbey, Luisa Hillard, John Hobart, Alan Hollands, Richard Hollis, John Howe, Stuart Hutchinson, Phil Jordan, Gordon Kendall, Geoff Lumley, John Medland, John Nicholson, 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 Julie Jones-Evans, Lora Peacey-Wilcox, Graham Perks

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42. [Minutes](#)

RESOLVED :

THAT the Minutes of the meeting held on [18 September 2013](#) be confirmed, subject to adding Councillor Whitby-Smith to those declaring an interest in knowing Mr Ken Hicks.

43. [Declarations of Interest](#)

There were no declarations received at this stage.

44. [Public Question Time](#)

There were no public questions.

45. [Chairman's Report](#)

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

46. **Adoption of the Localisation of Council Tax Support Scheme**

Members were advised that as of the 1 April 2013 the previous national Council Tax benefit Scheme was replaced by a Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme. This was agreed by Council at its meeting of 16 January 2013 to be implemented from 1 April 2013.

Members raised concerns regarding future budget pressures relating to the cost of recovering any monies owed if residents defaulted on payments.

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, Charles Chapman, Rodney Downer, David Eccles, Conrad Gauntlett, Jonathan Gilbey, Luisa Hillard, John Hobart, Alan Hollands, Richard Hollis, John Howe, Stuart Hutchinson, Phil Jordan, Gordon Kendall, Geoff Lumley, John Medland, John Nicholson, 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

**RESOLVED :**

THAT after considering the updated Equality Impact Assessment and the Local Council Tax Support Scheme experience to date Council agree that the scheme for 2014/15 be that agreed by Council on 16 January 2013.

47. **Designation of Director of Adult Social Services**

Following the entering into a strategic partnership with Hampshire County Council for the leadership and management of Children's Services from 1 July 2013 the Strategic Director of Community Wellbeing and Social Care's responsibilities and job description needed to be changed.

It was clear that with both the current and anticipated future change this would inevitably mean that a post of strategic director of community wellbeing and social care was no longer required and would result in the management of Adult Social Care and other areas needing to be restructured and changed.

In consultation with the strategic director over those issues it was believed that in the interests of the Council and the service areas affected that rather than reconfigure the post it would be better to delete the post and agree early release from the post to allow the transitions to be undertaken. Consequently the strategic director would be leaving on 31 October 2013 giving rise to the need in the interim to designate an officer to fulfil the statutory role of Director of Adult Social Services.

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, Charles Chapman, Rodney Downer, David Eccles, Conrad Gauntlett, Jonathan Gilbey, Luisa Hillard, John Hobart, Alan Hollands, Richard Hollis, John Howe, Stuart Hutchinson, Phil Jordan, Gordon Kendall, Geoff Lumley, John Medland, John Nicholson, 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

RESOLVED :

THAT the Head of Commissioning Community Wellbeing (Mark Howell) be designated as the statutory director of adult social services on an interim basis from 1 November 2013.

48. [Audit Committee Annual Report 2012/13](#)

Members were told that the report had been approved at a meeting of the Audit Committee on 27 June 2013. It was noted that in line with best practice in other sectors, an annual report to Full Council should be prepared that set out the committee's work and performance during the year, including how it had met its terms of reference.

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, Charles Chapman, Rodney Downer, David Eccles, Conrad Gauntlett, Jonathan Gilbey, Luisa Hillard, John Hobart, Alan Hollands, Richard Hollis, John Howe, Stuart Hutchinson, Phil Jordan, Gordon Kendall, Geoff Lumley, John Medland, John Nicholson, 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

RESOLVED :

THAT the report be noted.

## 49. Reports of the Cabinet Members

### (i) The Leader

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 Bloomfield	Would there be flexibility on the PFI budget?	The Leader advised that there would be some areas that changed and savings may be found.
	Supplementary - Would the savings be spent on the PFI?	The Leader indicated that had a saving been found it would be dealt with appropriately.
Cllr Seely	Asked if savings within PFI would make up the shortfall elsewhere in the budget or go back to PFI to be used on highway safety?	The Leader advised that any money would be utilised appropriately.
	Supplementary - If there were savings could 5% - 10% be put aside for road safety programmes.	The Leader indicated he would take on board all concerns to utilise any funds available.
Cllr Nicholson	What policy would be in place by Island Roads to ensure equestrian safety?	The Leader advised that the matter would be investigated and a response would be provided.
Cllr Stewart	Would any savings with regard to the PFI figures be considered at Overview and Scrutiny?	The Leader said it was not for him to put forward to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee but the figures would be made available of requested.
Cllr Whittle	Would the PFI contract take the original form as we had finally got money going to roads, would savings be used for another service?	The Leader advised that the elements required under the contract would be addressed, although the original proposals had been amended, he would ensure the council got value for money.
Cllr Gauntlett	The PFI was a fixed period price contract; could there be additional costs some years?	The Leader indicated there was a 5% variation either way he would provide a written response with regard to the figures.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Cllr Fuller	The PFI was to be discussed at the November meeting of Economy and Environment Scrutiny Panel.	The Leader supported this.

(ii) **The Deputy Leader**

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

Oral questions were put to the Deputy Leader as follows :

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Cllr Hillard	Asked for more information regarding the outcome of the work that had been undertaken with the Citizens Advice Bureau?	The Deputy Leader advised he would work with the Citizens Advice Bureau and other organisations to help Island residents who used pay day loan companies. A report would be brought to Council in due course.
Cllr Lumley	Asked for an assurance that the Credit Union would be involved?	The Deputy Leader indicated they would be involved.
Cllr Stewart	Asked for an outline to some of the findings to the Root and Branch to date?	The Deputy Leader advised that the root and branch review had not yet been completed.
	Supplementary – Asked what the impact would be regarding the two senior officer leaving the Council at the end of November?	The Deputy Leader advised he didn't yet know what the impact would be but was happy to give an update in due course.
Cllr Seely	Raised concerns that by attacking pay day loan companies it may make the problem worse?	The Deputy Leader indicated that everything would be fully considered. It was hoped residents would be lead in a better direction and educated on financial matters.

(iii) **Cabinet Member for Planning and Regulatory**

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

Oral questions were put to the Cabinet Member as follows :

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Cllr Nicholson	Would building control questions be included within the planning questionnaire?	The Cabinet Member advised that the questionnaire hadn't included Building Control although it could be added.
Cllr Downer	With regard to changes in Scrap Metal Regulations how would the Local Authority police this?	The Cabinet Member informed that the legislation had come in hastily and there had been some confusion surrounding it, a written response would be provided.

(iv) **Cabinet Member for Public Protection**

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

Oral questions were put to the Cabinet Member as follows :

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Cllr Lumley	Had the Authority made representations to the government regarding the fire fighters dispute?	The Cabinet Member indicated that no formal representation had been made although discussions had taken place with the Fire Brigade union on the Island.
Cllr Pitcher	Had resources in the schools been taken into consideration with the promotion of school meals?	The Cabinet Member advised that it would be a question for Cllr Priest.
Cllr Blezzard	Having attended a member's information seminar on Health Impact Assessment he was disappointed that only one member of the opposition had been in attendance.	The Cabinet Member thanked those who had attended the seminar.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Cllr Nicholson	Asked what the policy was for dealing with the irresponsible use and promotion of alcohol?	The Cabinet Member advised that the Public Health team had a specific budget for dealing with drug and alcohol abuse a written answer would be provided.

(v) **Cabinet Member for Tourism and Economy**

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

(vi) **Cabinet Member for Resources**

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

Oral questions were put to the Cabinet Member as follows :

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Cllr Whittle	Local residents had raised concerns regarding the ability to park while resurfacing had been undertaken; they had been expected to pay in the local car park.	The Cabinet Member advised that the local residents should approach Island Roads.
Cllr Stewart	How were the waiting times for people contacting the call centre being addressed?	The Cabinet Member advised that information was included within his report; a visit to the call centre had been arranged.
Cllr Hollis	Could Island Roads staff go incognito on some occasions?	The Cabinet Member advised that the issue would need to be put to Island Roads.
Cllr Seely	Could consideration be given to painting solid white lines on dangerous roads	The Cabinet Member informed that the white lines currently being painted were a road safety initiative of which the Council had a duty of care to undertake.

(vii) **Cabinet Member for Sustainability**

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

Oral questions were put to the Cabinet Member as follows :

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Cllr Hollis	What steps were being taken to ensure the Oyster beds in the Solent were not being fished?	The Cabinet Member advised that it was not a council matter but it should be raised with the Southern Offshore Fisheries, as they were the enforcement body.
Cllr Seely	Was there a council policy that dealt with snares?	The Cabinet Member advised that snares were not allowed on council land but lack of resources restricted enforcement.
Cllr Stubbings	Asked if the outcome of the Coastal Communities fund bid would be brought to council?	The Cabinet Member indicated that the outcome was expected in December 2013.

(viii) **Chairman of Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

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	Asked if the Chairman's attendance at the Root and Branch review meetings had been useful?	The Chairman advised they had been useful and his comments had been considered.
Cllr Stephens	Asked if the Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed that in setting up the Property Disposal and Capital programme Sub Committee was a step in the right direction to unclog Overview and Scrutiny meetings?	The Chairman indicated he did agree and had been fully consulted.
Cllr Stewart	Asked for confirmation that two Overview and Scrutiny Committee members could attend the Sub Committee?	The Chairman advised that two members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee had agreed to feed in informally to Sub Committee.



(ix) **Cabinet Member for Children's Services**

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

Oral questions were put to the Cabinet Member as follows :

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Cllr Stewart	Having attended a presentation from Hampshire County Council regarding future school places and numbers how was this being addressed?	The Cabinet Member advised that the figures should have been shared previously; there was no immediate need to go through a re-structure.
Cllr Whitehouse	Would school facilities be available for community use in the future?	The Cabinet Member advised that it was vital for community to share the resource.
Cllr Pitcher	If there was uplift in school meals would there be a resources issue?	The Cabinet Member indicated that schools were independent and were responsible for their own budgets.

(x) **Cabinet Member for Health, Community and Adult Wellbeing**

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

Oral questions were put to the Cabinet Member as follows :

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Cllr Nicholson	Asked if the islands alternative complimentary treatment community would be included in policy	The Cabinet Member advised that it could be included in either the Health and Wellbeing Strategy or My Life A Full Life scheme.

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

(a) **By Councillor Jonathan Bacon**

This Council is deeply concerned about further cuts to ferry services recently announced by Wightlink and the corresponding reduction in the service provided to Island Residents and visitors which has a direct impact upon the economy of the Island. As the Local Transport Authority the Council notes with regret that Wightlink failed to consult or engage with the Council or other

Island stakeholders about their proposals. The Council is also very concerned about the levels of fares for crossings by motor vehicle on ferry services, which inhibits the ability of Island residents to travel for work, family, health and social reasons and again impacts greatly upon the economy of the Island and the quality of life for Island residents as well as having a direct effect on the tourist trade which is essential for the Island.

This Council resolves to take all possible steps it can to address this situation and, in addition, to support the Island's Member of Parliament in any steps he may be seeking to take in respect of this issue, in particular raising the matter with the Office of Fair Trading.

Councillor Barry proposed an amendment to the motion as follows:

Council requests that the Chairman of Scrutiny should establish an on-going inquiry into the issues of Cross Solent travel, fully consulting all users, ferry operators, and all other interested parties. The Panel's remit should be to examine the current issues facing both users and operators, and to establish with operators what actions could be directly implemented to improve the situation. the Panel should have access, within an agreed budget to independent expert examination and analysis of the situation. The Member of Parliament should be invited to take a co-opted place on the Panel for the purposes of the investigation.

There being no seconder the amendment fell.

A further amendment to the motion was proposed by Councillor Stephens and seconded as follows:

This Council is deeply concerned about further cuts to ferry services recently announced by Wightlink and the corresponding reduction in the service provided to Island Residents and visitors which has a direct impact upon the economy of the Island. As the Local Transport Authority the Council notes with regret that Wightlink failed to consult or engage with the Council or other Island stakeholders about their proposals. The Council is also very concerned about the levels of fares for crossings by motor vehicle on ferry services, which inhibits the ability of Island residents to travel for work, family, health and social reasons and again impacts greatly upon the economy of the Island and the quality of life for Island residents as well as having a direct effect on the tourist trade which is essential for the Island.

This Council resolves to take all possible steps it can to address this situation and, in addition, to support the Island's Member of Parliament.

Councillor Bacon advised that he accepted the amendment to his motion.

A further amendment was proposed by Councillor Stewart and seconded as follows:

.. and as an initial step the Isle of Wight Council invite senior representatives from each of the ferry companies to attend an appropriate scrutiny panel to present and explain their position and take questions from the panel on behalf of the island community.

Following debate Councillor Bacon advised that he accepted the amendment to his amended motion.

The amended motion then became the substantive motion to which the council gave consideration, 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, Charles Chapman, Rodney Downer, David Eccles, Paul Fuller, Conrad Gauntlett, Jonathan Gilbey, Luisa Hillard, John Hobart, Alan Hollands, Richard Hollis, John Howe, Stuart Hutchinson, Phil Jordan, Gordon Kendall, Geoff Lumley, John Medland, John Nicholson, Daryll Pitcher, Matthew Price, Richard Priest, Colin Richards, Bob Seely, Shirley Smart, Ian Stephens, Dave Stewart, Ivor Warlow, Roger Whitby-Smith, Chris Whitehouse, Wayne Whittle

Against (1)

Councillor Steve Stubbings

RESOLVED :

THAT this Council is deeply concerned about further cuts to ferry services recently announced by Wightlink and the corresponding reduction in the service provided to Island Residents and visitors which has a direct impact upon the economy of the Island. As the Local Transport Authority the Council notes with regret that Wightlink failed to consult or engage with the Council or other Island stakeholders about their proposals. The Council is also very concerned about the levels of fares for crossings by motor vehicle on ferry services, which inhibits the ability of Island residents to travel for work, family, health and social reasons and again impacts greatly upon the economy of the Island and the quality of life for Island residents as well as having a direct effect on the tourist trade which is essential for the Island.

This Council resolves to take all possible steps it can to address this situation and in addition, to support the Island's Member of Parliament and as an initial step the Isle of Wight Council invite

senior representatives from each of the ferry companies to attend an appropriate scrutiny panel to present and explain their position and take questions from the panel on behalf of the island community.

(b) By Councillor Conrad Gauntlett

That Civic Regalia (chains of office, maces, robes etc.) previously owned by the former municipal boroughs of Ryde and Newport and now held by the Isle of Wight Council be offered to Ryde Town Council and Newport Parish Council respectively at nil consideration under asset transfer arrangements.

An amendment to the motion was proposed as follows:

That Civic Regalia (chains of office, maces, robes etc.) previously owned by the former municipal boroughs of Ryde and Newport and now owned by the Isle of Wight Council be offered for loan to Ryde Town Council and Newport Parish Council respectively on the understanding that they become custodians of these aspects of Island history. Therefore, they will be responsible for the secure storage, curation, insurance, all to National Museum standards and acceptance of all associated costs, following written agreement.

Councillor Gauntlett advised that he accepted the amendment to his motion.

The motion was seconded. At the conclusion of the debate a named vote was taken the result of which was as follows:

For (34)

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

Against (1)

Councillor Richard Hollis

Abstention (1)

Councillor Roger Whitby-Smith

RESOLVED :

THAT Civic Regalia (chains of office, maces, robes etc.) previously owned by the former municipal boroughs of Ryde and Newport and now owned by the Isle of Wight Council be offered for loan to Ryde Town Council and Newport Parish Council respectively on the understanding that they become custodians of these aspects of Island history. Therefore, they will be responsible for the secure storage, curation, insurance, all to National Museum standards and acceptance of all associated costs, following written agreement.

(c) [By Councillor Bob Seely](#)

The Council congratulates Visit Isle of Wight, the Island's Destination Management Organisation, on its work in highlighting the Island as a tourist destination, and calls for the Council and Visit Isle of Wight to develop ways of seeking greater input from town and parish councils, in order to strengthen the work of Visit Isle of Wight and to support Island businesses.

The motion was seconded. At the conclusion of the debate a named vote was taken the result of which was as follows:

For (36)

Councillors Jonathan Bacon, Julia Baker-Smith, Reg Barry, Paul Bertie, Bob Blezzard, Ray Bloomfield, Charles Chapman, Rodney Downer, David Eccles, Paul Fuller, Conrad Gauntlett, Jonathan Gilbey, Luisa Hillard, John Hobart, Alan Hollands, Richard Hollis, John Howe, Stuart Hutchinson, Phil Jordan, Gordon Kendall, Geoff Lumley, John Medland, John Nicholson, 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

RESOLVED :

THAT the Council congratulates Visit Isle of Wight, the Island's Destination Management Organisation, on its work in highlighting the Island as a tourist destination, and calls for the Council and Visit Isle of Wight to develop ways of seeking greater input from town and parish councils, in order to strengthen the work of Visit Isle of Wight and to support Island businesses.