



# Minutes

Name of meeting	<b>FULL COUNCIL</b>
Date and time	<b>WEDNESDAY, 17 JULY 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, 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, Gordon Kendall, Geoff Lumley, John Medland, John Nicholson, Lora Peacey-Wilcox, Graham Perks, 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	Cllr Ray Bloomfield

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34. [Minutes](#)

RESOLVED :

THAT the Minutes of the meeting held on [19 June 2013](#) be confirmed, subject to Minute 23, Cllr Dave Stewart's question being re-worded to read:

Would the leader agree with me that the cross chamber engagement that we've had, has been a benefit to the council in terms of services thus far.

35. [Declarations of Interest](#)

There were no declarations received at this stage.

36. [Chairman's Report](#)

A written report had been circulated for information.

37. **Root and Branch Service Review**

Members were advised of the proposed process for undertaking a root and branch service review of Council services in order for the Council to develop its future policies, plans and service strategies that would be needed to deliver the priorities of the Council within the resources that would be available.

A Service and Budget Review Steering Group had been formed to include the Leader, Deputy Leader, Cabinet Members, Chair and Vice Chair of Overview and Scrutiny and would be supported by the Directors Team. It was proposed that the Chairman of the Employment Sub Committee should also be included on the Steering Group.

It was intended that the Steering Group would oversee the root and branch service reviews and the development of the budget strategy. Progress reports would be made to Overview and Scrutiny and to Full Council.

There was some discussion around the Framework for Change document and whether the timelines would be deliverable.

**RESOLVED :**

- (I) THAT the Chairman of the Employment Sub Committee be included as part of the Service and Budget Review Steering Group.
- (II) THAT the Framework for Change attached at Appendix C (attached to and forming part of these minutes) be used as a basis for developing the Council's approach to its Corporate Plan.
- (III) THAT the root and branch review of services and budget strategy development be managed through a Service and Budget Steering Group in accordance with the Terms of Reference set out in Appendix A (attached to and forming part of these minutes) and the process set out in Appendix B (attached to and forming part of these minutes).

38. **Constitutional Issues**

The Council considered a report covering a number of constitutional items. A revised list of recommendations had been circulated prior to the meeting.

Council agreed to deal with each recommendation in turn.

- (a) **Voting/Non-Voting Co-opted Member of Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

Following the debate at the last meeting of the Council members considered co-opting a voting member of the Isle of Wight Association of Local Councils (IWALC) to the Overview and Scrutiny.

It was explained that a co-opted member could be granted the right to vote providing a suitable scheme was adopted by the Isle of Wight

Council. It was suggested that the appointed member must represent their Parish or Town Council on IWALC and could not be a serving member or an officer of the Isle of Wight Council. It was noted there would not be an allowance for this position.

RESOLVED :

THAT the Isle of Wight Association of Local Councils be invited to appoint a co-opted voting member to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in accordance with the scheme as set out in Appendix 1 (attached to and forming part of these minutes) (which would be amended to reflect that it was to be a voting position).

(b) Changes to Public Question Time

Following a question raised at the last meeting, members gave consideration to changing the arrangements for public question time. Current arrangements allowed for up to a maximum of 15 minutes at the beginning of all Council committees.

It was suggested that up to 15 minutes each be allowed for written and oral questions.

RESOLVED :

THAT public question time for Council and Cabinet be amended so as to allow up to 15 minutes for written questions and up to 15 minutes for oral questions.

(c) Appointment to Outside Bodies

All members had been written to seeking nominations to various outside bodies.

RESOLVED:

- (I) THAT where the number of members had volunteered to serve on outside bodies matched, or was less than, the number of places available (as set out in the Appendix attached to and forming part of these minutes) then those members be appointed.
- (II) THAT Councillor Luisa Hillard be appointed to the Southern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority.
- (III) THAT Councillors Reg Barry, Bob Blezzard and Ian Ward be appointed to South east Employers and that Councillor Steve Stubbings be appointed as deputy.
- (IV) THAT Councillors Paul Fuller and John Hobart be appointed to the IW AONB Partnership Steering Committee.

- (V) THAT Councillor Phil Jordan be appointed to Community Action IOW, Board of Trustees.
- (VI) THAT Councillor Paul Bertie be appointed to Island Youth Water Activities Centre.
- (VII) THAT Councillor Paul Fuller be appointed to Solent Forum.
- (VIII) THAT Councillor Jonathan Bacon be appointed to Southern Regional Flood and Coastal Committee.
- (IX) THAT Councillor Phil Jordan be appointed to SCOPAC (Standing Conference of problems Associated with the Coastline) and Councillor Reg Barry be appointed as deputy.
- (X) THAT Councillors Paul Fuller and John Medland be appointed to IW Local Access Forum.

39. **Reports Cabinet 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 Gauntlett	Asked for an update on the contract with Southern Vectis in relation to the community bus scheme.	The Leader advised his meeting with Southern Vectis had been cancelled. He would provide an update.
	Relating to an employment matter.	Cllr Gauntlett was advised of the process to raise such an issue.
Cllr Seely	Registered an interest in the being updated on the community bus scheme.	The Leader would discuss with him outside of the meeting.
Cllr Jones-Evans	Asked for an update with regard to the meeting with Michael Fallon MP on EU Structural Funds and Assisted Area Status.	The Leader indicated mapping of the Assisted Area Status would be undertaken within the next few months.
Cllr Seely	Was there any chance of the Island being under south west regional area rather than the south east?	The Leader advised that the Island was linked with the nearest piece of land, which was Hampshire.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Cllr Pitcher	Would the Leader agree that the Island needed to obtain whatever funding was possible?	The Leader indicated if there any way to get funding to Isle of Wight then he did not mind if the classification stayed as it was.

(ii) **The Deputy Leader**

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

(iii) **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 Whitehouse	Asked about the cabinet members meeting with the Minister for Schools.	The Cabinet Member advised that he had endorsed the agreement with Hampshire CC and recognised the challenges on the Isle of Wight. The Ofsted report was expected within the coming weeks.
Cllr Seely	Was the Cabinet Member aware of the interest Brighstone school governors had with regard to capital funding analysis.	The Cabinet Member was aware and consultation was going forward with colleagues from Hampshire.

(iv) **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 Jones-Evans	How were aspirations from the Framework for Change document to be embedded into policies?	The Cabinet Member indicated the document was an aspirational one; aims would be developed as far as possible. The policy related to the area action plans.

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

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

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

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

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

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 Hutchinson	Asked that when superfast broadband was introduced, rural areas should not be forgotten.	The Cabinet Member advised that all areas would be included.
CLlr Stewart	Would the cabinet member provide an update on the Guildhall at the next meeting?	The Cabinet Member indicated she was anxious to get the issue of the Guildhall sorted. She would provide an update at the next meeting.
CLlr Hollis	Asked about the proposed breakwater for Cowes.	The Cabinet Member advised she had a meeting with the Harbour Commissioner in the next few days and would report back on that.

(viii) **Cabinet Member for Resources**

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

(ix) **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 Jones-Evans	Was there a timeline for the feasibility study for the abattoir?	The Cabinet Member advised that preliminary questions were being asked.

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

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

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

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

This Council believes that the impact of the Government cuts upon ordinary people has simply not been fair. Whilst we recognise that many of these impacts have been due to the actions of Government in cutting grants to local authorities like the Isle of Wight Council, we believe this Council should have done more since 2010 to speak up for alternative policy options to the austerity approach prescribed by Westminster.

With national unemployment at 2.5 million, economic growth stagnant across the country, and frontline public services strapped for resources, we believe this Council should take a formal stand on this issue – and the introduction of a Financial Transaction Tax (FTT, aka *Robin Hood Tax*) is an important way of doing this.

An FTT would raise up to £20bn a year in the UK. It would see the financial sector help clear up the mess it caused, rather than ordinary people paying with their jobs, frozen or lower wages, and declining public services. Local government has felt the cuts more than most, and should be at the forefront of the fight back against these centrally imposed measures.

This Council calls on the Government to introduce an FTT. In doing so, we would be making a real and popular policy suggestion that would help combat austerity both within our own local area and beyond.

The motion was seconded. Following debate the motion was put to the vote and it was lost.

Immediately following the vote, Councillor Julia Baker-Smith asked that it be recorded she voted in favour of the motion.

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

An amendment to the original motion was circulated.

The motion was seconded. Following debate the motion was put to the vote and it was:

RESOLVED :

THAT it be noted that Council officers are studying and reporting back to Councillors on best practice options and ideas to enable the Isle of Wight to use the Island Roads PFI as an environmental and social good. In particular, for the Isle of Wight Council is studying best practise by county councils such as Devon in fields of:

- (i) Improving visibility for road users;
- (ii) Verge-cutting policies to encourage wildflower growth;
- (iii) Potential cost savings;
- (iv) Litter collection on roads;
- (v) Wildflower planting and special protection sites;
- (vi) Potential support from environmental charities and other organisations such as the Millennium Seedbank and the UK Native Seed Hub;
- (vii) Lighting, light pollution, Dark Sky awards and tourism benefits;
- (viii) Speed limits;
- (ix) 'Quiet Roads';
- (x) Rural signage and road clutter;
- (xi) Hedge management and the impact of stewardship schemes on roadside management and localised flooding.

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

For the furtherance of transparency and accountability, this Council agrees that all votes be named votes, other than those relating to procedural matters relating to the conduct of the business of the meeting, and votes on whether to accept amendments to motions (unless 4 members demand in accordance with existing procedure rule 17(5))

An amendment to the motion was proposed and seconded as follows :

For the furtherance of transparency and accountability, this Council agrees that all votes of full council be named votes, other than those relating to procedural matters relating to the conduct of the business of the meeting, and votes on whether to

accept amendments to motions (unless 4 members demand in accordance with existing procedure rule 17(5)).

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

At the conclusion of the debate in accordance with Procedure Rule 17(5) a recorded vote was requested the result of which was as follows:

For (21)

Councillors Jonathan Bacon, Julia Baker-Smith, Bob Blezzard, Charles Chapman, Rodney Downer, Paul Fuller, Jon Gilbey, Luisa Hillard, Alan Hollands, John Howe, Phil Jordan, Geoff Lumley, John Medland, Daryll Pitcher, Matthew Price, Richard Priest, Shirley Smart. Ian Stephens, Steve Stubbings, Ivor Warlow, Roger Whitby-Smtih

Against (15)

Councillors Reg Barry, Paul Bertie, David Eccles, Conrad Gauntlett, John Hobart, Richard Hollis, Stuart Hutchinson, Julie Jones-Evans, Gordon Kendall, John Nicholson, Lora Peacey-Wilcox, Colin Richards, Bob Seely, Dave Stewart, Chris Whitehouse

Abstention (1)

Councillor Graham Perks

RESOLVED :

For the furtherance of transparency and accountability, this Council agrees that all votes of full council be named votes, other than those relating to procedural matters relating to the conduct of the business of the meeting, and votes on whether to accept amendments to motions (unless 4 members demand in accordance with existing procedure rule 17(5)).

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

This motion calls on council officers, the council leader and the ruling group to ensure that priority is given at full council meetings for discussion and debate of issues of direct importance to the people of the Isle of Wight.

An amendment to the motion was proposed and seconded as follows :

This Council has confidence in the Council Chairman and officers to ensure that priorities given at full council meetings for discussion and debate are issues of importance to the people of the Isle of Wight.

Following debate the motion was put to the vote and was lost.

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

For (20)

Councillors Jonathan Bacon, Paul Bertie, Rodney Downer, David Eccles, Paul Fuller, Conrad Gauntlett, Jon Gilbey, John Hobart, Richard Hollis, Stuart Hutchinson, Julie Jones-Evans, John Nicholson, Graham Perks, Matthew Price, Richard Priest, Bob Seely, Dave Stewart, Ivor Warlow, Roger Whitby-Smith Chris Whitehouse

Against (15)

Councillors Julia Baker-Smith, Reg Barry, Bob Blezzard, Alan Hollands, John Howe, Phil Jordan, Gordon Kendall, Geoff Lumley, John Medland, Lora Peacey-Wilcox, Daryll Pitcher, Colin Richards, Shirley Smart, Ian Stephens, Steve Stubbings

Abstentions (2)

Councillors Charles Chapman, Luisa Hillard

RESOLVED :

This motion calls on council officers, the council leader and the ruling group to ensure that priority is given at full council meetings for discussion and debate of issues of direct importance to the people of the Isle of Wight.

CHAIRMAN