



Minutes

Name of meeting	FULL COUNCIL
Date and time	WEDNESDAY, 18 JUNE 2014 COMMENCING AT 6.00 PM
Venue	COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT
Present	Cllrs Ian Ward (Chairman), Jonathan Bacon, Julia Baker-Smith, Reg Barry Paul Bertie, Bob Blezzard, Ray Bloomfield, Charles Chapman, David Eccles, Paul Fuller, Conrad Gauntlett, Jonathan Gilbey, Luisa Hillard, John Hobart, Alan Hollands, Richard Hollis, John Howe, Julie Jones-Evans, Phil Jordan, Gordon Kendall, 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, Roger Whitby-Smith, Chris Whitehouse, Wayne Whittle
Apologies	Cllrs Rodney Downer, Stuart Hutchinson, Graham Perks, Dave Stewart, Ivor Warlow

21. [Minutes](#)

RESOLVED :

THAT the Minutes of the meeting held on [21 May 2014](#) be confirmed, subject to

the insertion of the word 'independent' between 'previous' and 'administrations' in the question asked by Councillor Hollis in Minute 18 (i);

the supplementary question asked by Councillor Jones-Evans in Minute 18 (ix) should read 'officers had assured her and it was, she believed, in the budget report, that principle parks were to be maintained by the Isle of Wight Council and it would not be looked on for Town or Parish Councils to take on community areas.

22. [Declarations of Interest](#)

Councillor Chris Whitehouse declared a personal interest as he was the director of the National Obesity Awareness week.

Councillor Wayne Whittle declared a personal interest as he was on the Island Business Forum, Tourism Advisory Board and Ryde Business Association.

Councillor Bob Blezzard declared a personal interest in Minute 24 (ix) as his partner was employed by the Health Service and he was a member of the IW NHS Trust.

23. **[Election of Chairman for the Adult, Health and Community Wellbeing Executive Advisory Committee](#)**

In accordance with Procedure Rule 13 (2), the chairman allowed an item of urgent business to be taken. Due to Councillor Ivor Warlow having resigned his position as Chairman of the Adult, Health and Community Wellbeing Executive Advisory Committee a new chairman was needed.

Cllr Lora Peacey-Wilcox was proposed and seconded as Chairman of the Adult, Health and Community Wellbeing Executive Advisory Committee. There being no further nominations it was

RESOLVED :

THAT Cllr Lora Peacey-Wilcox be elected as Chairman of the Adult, Health and Community Wellbeing Executive Advisory Committee for the ensuing year.

24. **[Chairman's Report](#)**

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

25. **Reports of the Executive Members**

(i) **[The Leader](#)**

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

Written questions were put to the Leader as follows :

Name	Subject	Comment
Cllr Whitehouse	Would the Leader circulate copies of any formal written policy and budget representations made to the Solent LEP in relation to the policy of seeking assistance with meeting the costs of the Totland Bay landslip?	The Leader provided a written response which was available on the following link (MQ 04/14)
	Supplementary - Had the leader thought of writing to the Solent LEP to seek their assistance?	The Leader indicated he was seeking all avenues.

Name	Subject	Comment
Cllr Whitehouse	What were the policy objectives for the recent changes to the Council Constitution and in what demonstrable ways would he contend those policy objectives had been met by the introduction of Executive/Cabinet Advisory Committees.	The Leader provided a written response which was available on the following link (MQ 05/14)
	Supplementary -The conservatives could not serve on the Executive Advisory Committee's as the Constitution did not allow members to serve both Scrutiny and the Executive Advisory Committee's.	The Leader advised that he was not alone in dictating the Governance of the Council there was nothing to stop members who were not involved with Scrutiny being on the Executive Advisory Committee's.
Cllr Whittle	Whether, in accordance with previous decisions of Full Council, it was his policy to promptly establish, as proposed in a Scrutiny Committee Report, an Economic Development Forum, and what progress had he made to date in achieving his policy objectives for such a Forum?	The Leader provided a written response which was available on the following link (MQ 15/14)

Oral questions were put to the Leader as follows :

Name	Subject	Comment
Cllr Jones-Evans	How would the guidance on Assisted Area Status be disseminated down?	The Leader would provide a written response.
Cllr Lumley	How was it decided who would attend the Local Government Association Conference in July, as he had expressed an interest but had not had a response?	The Leader advised the e-mail may have been overlooked, but he was happy to discuss.

Name	Subject	Comment
Cllr Whittle	Believed the current form of governance should be reviewed.	The Leader indicated that governance was always under review.
Cllr Hollis	The redevelopment of the Red Funnel marshalling yard was to be next door to the new marina, would you agree the last place anyone would want to stay was next door to a marshalling yard?	The Leader indicated he would look at the site plans outside of the meeting.
Cllr Bloomfield	Why were the Solent LEP minutes not available on line?	The Leader believed the Solent LEP should provide a link.

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

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

Written questions were put to the Deputy Leader as follows :

Name	Subject	Comment
Cllr Whitehouse	What progress had been made to date with the implementation of the policy to integrate adult social care and mental health care; and what success he had measured for that policy, with particular reference to policies for suicide reduction?	The Deputy Leader provided a written response which was available on the following link (<u>MQ 06/14</u>)

Oral questions were put to the Deputy Leader as follows :

Name	Subject	Comment
Cllr Jones-Evans	Devolution to town and parish councils was there to be some movement on that?	The Deputy Leader indicated that all town and parish councils had been visited by Isle of Wight Council officers.
	Supplementary - There was a meeting in January, need facts and figures.	The Deputy Leader advised he would contact the officers involved.

Name	Subject	Comment
Cllr Lumley	Could the Deputy Leader confirm representation's had been made to the Managing Director to free up resource to ensure devolution and services to town and parish councils could be achieved.	The Deputy Leader advised the Managing Director had taken it very seriously and a member of staff was to be made available.
	Supplementary - The representations grew from family of local authorities on the Isle of Wight.	The Deputy Leader agreed.
Cllr Whittle	If the Isle of Wight Council was to stop paying for services there would be some pressure on town and parish councils as there was less than 10 months to go.	The Deputy Leader indicated there was pressure on?
Cllr Jones-Evans	The Adult Social Care team had relocated, how did they interact with the Children's Services Team?	The Deputy Leader advised there had always been difficulty in transition.

(iii) **Executive Member for Corporate Governance, Planning and Regulatory Services**

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

The Executive Member indicated that a review on the petition scheme was currently being worked on and it was anticipated a report would be brought to the July 2014 meeting of Council. He also advised there was a possibility of issuing a urgent works notice on the former Frank James Hospital building, although there was still some question with regard to the ownership.

Written questions were put to the Executive Member as follows :

Name	Subject	Comment
Cllr Whitehouse	Was the Executive Member yet able to publish his policy	The Executive Member provided a written response which was

Name	Subject	Comment
	proposals for the introduction of charges for advice provided to those submitting commercial planning applications as promoted by the Conservative Group at the budget setting meeting in March?	available on the following link (MQ 07/14)
	Supplementary - there was some frustration that nothing would come to committee before September 2014.	The Executive Member indicated he wanted to make sure it was right before it came to Council.

Oral questions were put to the Executive Member as follows :

Name	Subject	Comment
Cllr Blezzard	Was there any progress with resolving the issue of the Savoy Court, Sandown.	The Executive Member advised that potential action was taking place, relevant letters had been sent.
Cllr Seely	Should all parishes develop a Neighbourhood Development Plan	The Executive Member advised that Neighbourhood Development Plans were not for every community, each town/parish council should look to what was appropriate for them.
	Supplementary - Should introduce a best practice book and have officers visit.	The Executive Member indicated he had visited some town and parish council's and offered any advice he could.

(iv) [Executive Member for Human Resources, Organisational Change and Exchequer Services](#)

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

Written questions were put to the Executive Member as follows :

Name	Subject	Comment
Cllr Whitehouse	In the recent round of redundancies arising from Council budget decisions, how many Civil Enforcement (Parking) Officers was it decided to let go, and how many of their managers, leaving how many CEOs and how many managers remaining in post in that section once the budget enforced reductions had been implemented?	The Executive Member provided a written response which was available on the following link (MQ 08/14)

Oral questions were put to the Executive Member as follows :

Name	Subject	Comment
Cllr Bloomfield	How much time was spent by council staff on union work?	The Executive Member would provide a written response.

(v) [Executive Member for Fire and Rescue Services and Public Health/Safety](#)

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

Written questions were put to the Executive Member as follows :

Name	Subject	Comment
Cllr Gauntlett	What was the policy on securing access for the Council's civil enforcement officers, Shop Watch and other agencies to the CCTV monitoring now operated by Island Roads? When did he anticipate achieving his policy objectives, and at what budget cost?	The Executive Member provided a written response which was available on the following link (MQ 03/14)

Name	Subject	Comment
Cllr Whitehouse	What policy and practical steps had he taken to date to reduce the prevalence of obesity on the Island; and what success had he measured in terms of achieving the objectives of those policies and with what budget implications?	The Executive Member provided a written response which was available on the following link (MQ 09/14)

Oral questions were put to the Executive Member as follows :

Name	Subject	Comment
Cllr Hollis	What steps were being taken to ensure short measuring or passing off did not take place in licensed establishments on the island.	The Executive Member would provide a written response.
Cllr Whittle	Some had been stopped from putting up plastic flood gates by Southern Water, had that been overcome yet?	The Executive Member advised it would continue to be worked on and would try and influence Southern Water's approach to flooding issues.
Cllr Jones-Evans	The music from the Isle of Wight Festival had seemed louder than usual, were there results from noise monitoring	The Executive Member would provide a written response.

(vi) **[Executive Member for Economy and Tourism](#)**

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

Written questions were put to the Executive Member as follows :

Name	Subject	Comment
Cllr Whitehouse	What was the Executive Member's policy for support and encouragement to date for the important work of the recently launched Island Business Forum;	The Executive Member provided a written response which was available on the following link (MQ 10/14)

Name	Subject	Comment
	what policy and budget support and encouragement had been given to date; and what were her policies for the future development of that Forum?	
	Supplementary - if invited to meet with them would the Executive Member accept that invitation?	The Executive Member indicated she would consider an invitation.

Oral questions were put to the Executive Member as follows :

Name	Subject	Comment
Cllr Bertie	Would the executive member agree that Portsmouth City Council should be congratulated on giving planning permission to Ben Ainslie's plans to build an America's Cup HQ in Portsmouth and would consideration be given to a plan to somehow link with Portsmouth so that the Isle of Wight could benefit from the massive boost to the Solent area, which was likely to be in the region of £100m.	The Executive Member indicated she would indeed consider it and looked forward to working with Cllr Bertie.
Cllr Seely	Would the executive member give an assurance she would do everything she could to help support the West Wight Sport Centre?	The Executive Member advised she was to meet with David Thornton the following day and would raise the matter with him.
Cllr Jones-Evans	Were there any moves in the pipeline to trim the library service?	The Executive Member indicated the service would be looked at as a whole; there were currently no plans to trim the service.

(vii) **Executive Member for Finance and PFI Contract**

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

Written questions were put to the Executive Member as follows :

Name	Subject	Comment
	What were the principles of his policies that would inform his response to the request from the Committee of the Victoria Recreation Ground and Pavilion, Newport, for assistance with the cost of maintaining Isle of Wight Council property assets; and what were the budgetary implications of his proposed policy response	The Executive Member provided a written response which was available on the following link (MQ 11/14)
Cllr Whitehouse	Supplementary - Would the Executive Member make it his policy to suspend the introduction of changes to the budget's parking charges regime until such point as a full strategic review of parking policy has been undertaken as proposed by the Conservative Group of Councillors in the March budget setting meeting and subsequently.	The Executive Member provided a written response which was available on the following link (MQ 12/14)
	Supplementary - Asked for a yes or no response.	The Executive Member advised he wasn't his decision but that of the committee. He would provide a written response.

Oral questions were put to the Executive Member as follows :

Name	Subject	Comment
Cllr Lumley	Was the council gathering information on the number of complaints	The Executive Member advised there were mechanisms in place to

Name	Subject	Comment
	received and by Island Roads for non delivery of highways improvements and maintenance? Was the Council monitoring performance?	deal with those complaints.
Cllr Jones-Evans	Licensing of tables, chairs and planters was transferred to Island Roads, how many licenses were currently in place.	The Executive Member advised it was being worked through licensing.
	Supplementary - how many responses had been received to the Parking Places Order?	The Executive Member indicated he would know the number the following day.
Cllr Blezzard	Asked a question in relation to parking machine maintenance.	The Executive Member assured the member there would be no difference to the present arrangement.
	Supplementary - Up to 28 days was unacceptable, a shorter timescale was needed.	The Executive Member advised 28 days was the maximum time.
Cllr Bloomfield	Did the Executive Member have an update on free parking?	The Executive Member stated that information was still being collected and anticipated something would be put in place over the Christmas period.
Cllr Baker-Smith	Who authorised the 20p increase in vehicle charges on the Cowes floating bridge?	The Executive Member reminded members that the agreement was to postpone an increase in passenger charges, not vehicle.

(viii) **[Executive Member for Sustainability](#)**

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

Oral questions were put to the Executive Member as follows :

Name	Subject	Comment
Cllr Bloomfield	Asked about the feasibility study for the establishment of an abattoir.	The Executive Member advised it had been investigated with partners with mixed responses from farmers.

(ix) **Chairman of Scrutiny Committee**

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

Written questions were put to the Chairman as follows :

Name	Subject	Comment
Cllr Lumley	What is his policy in relation to the attendance of Hampshire Officers at meetings of the Scrutiny Panel at which significant policy and budget papers are on the agenda in relation to children's services and education policy and budget issues?	The Chairman provided a written response which was available on the following link (MQ 13/14)

Oral questions were put to the Chairman as follows :

Name	Subject	Comment
Cllr Whittle	The last scrutiny meeting could have gone on for three hours, had a job to fit everything into one meeting.	The Chairman believed elected members needed some discipline, at the last meeting time was spent going through reports which weren't important.
Cllr Stephens	Scrutinising executive reports before they went to Executive was damaging the opportunity to get to the nub of things.	The Chairman indicated that by necessity the first year had been pre-scrutiny and it put the spotlight on executive members. A lot of work went on behind the scenes.
Cllr Jones-Evans	In relation to background work, what support could members have from officers?	The Chairman reminded members there was not the resources available that there used to be, but there was a very effective scrutiny officer.

(x) **Executive Member for Children's Services and Education**

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

Written questions were put to the Executive Member as follows :

Name	Subject	Comment
Cllr Whitehouse	What was his policy on the tone with which engagement by Hampshire Officers with the Senior Leadership Teams of schools on the Island should be conducted, and whether he was satisfied that his policies were being upheld?	The Executive Member provided a written response which was available on the following link (MQ 14/14)

Oral questions were put to the Executive Member as follows :

Name	Subject	Comment
Cllr Jones-Evans	What was the purpose of your meeting with Lord Nash and Andrew Turner, what were your policy and budget objectives for that meeting and what progress was made towards achieving those objectives?	The Executive Member indicated it was overall a monitoring report. There was recognition of work being undertaken. Many schools were in special measures and more vigorous action should have been undertaken. He recognised the work that had been undertaken.
Cllr Jones-Evans	How did the minister see things, was he impressed with the overall success and the direction of travel our school were going into and were there any schools that we needed to be worried about?	The Executive Member suggested that those questions could be asked when the minister visited the Island.
Cllr Howe	A number of schools and children's centres had been visited and there had been a lot of enthusiasm from staff.	The Executive Member believed the visits made across the Island fully reflected that. He indicated that 12 months into the partnership with Hampshire it was still early days. The situation with regard to surplus school

Name	Subject	Comment
Cllr Jordan	There were nine senior schools maintained by the council and in view of the 3,000 surplus places, there was only a need for five schools, which four schools would it be possible to close if adopted the conservative education policy?	places needed to be addressed. The Executive Member recognised there were nine secondary providers, a decision to reduce that number was not something that would be undertaken by this side of the chamber. It was important that everyone be informed as to how we dealt with surplus places given the situation inherited 12 months ago.
Cllr Seely	With regard to the surplus places, were you implying that the council would be providing financial support to, for example Church of England Primary Schools, who were being forced to take in more pupils?	The Executive Member advised that there had not been any assessment of surplus places for the last six years.

CHAIRMAN