



Minutes

Name of meeting	FULL COUNCIL
Date and time	WEDNESDAY, 18 SEPTEMBER 2013 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, 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, 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, Richard Priest

Members were advised that the motion submitted by Councillor Seely had been withdrawn prior to the commencement of the meeting.

34. [Minutes](#)

RESOLVED :

THAT the Minutes of the meeting held on [17 July 2013](#) be confirmed.

Arising from the minutes Councillor Blezzard asked if at some point the decision to not pay an allowance to the IWALC member on the Overview and Scrutiny Committee could be reviewed. The Chairman explained that advice would be provided to Councillor Blezzard on this.

35. [Declarations of Interest](#)

Councillors Jonathan Bacon, Paul Fuller, Gordon Kendall, Geoff Lumley and Shirley Smart all declared a personal interest in Minute 39, Appointment of Designated Independent Person, as they knew Mr Ken Hicks.

Councillor Bob Seely declared a personal interest Minute 41, the motion submitted by Councillor Hillard, as he was a member of the Beekeepers Association.

36. **Public Question Time**

An oral question was put to the Chairman as follows :

Name	Subject	Comment
Mrs Robinson of Newport	Asked what the plan was for the Riverside Centre and other community care centres.	The Leader advised that until the root and branch review was completed everything would be kept as it currently was.

37. **Chairman's Report**

A written report had been circulated for information.

38. **Isle of Wight Council Constitution Review**

Members were reminded that at the meeting of annual council in May 2013, it was agreed to establish a Constitution Working Party in order to consider proposed changes to the decision making process of the council.

A range of options were developed with recommendations on a preferred option.

An amendment was proposed as follows:

The council undertake consultation on the three options, through the council's web site and the parish and town councils from 19 September until 31 October and report the result of the consultation (and any views of the overview and scrutiny committee) back for a decision to be made on the future decision making structure to full council in November.

Following the debate on the amendment in accordance with Procedure Rule 17(5) as indicated by more than three members a named vote was undertaken on whether to accept the amendment. The result of which was as follows:

For (25)

Councillors Jonathan Bacon, Julia Baker-Smith, Paul Bertie, Bob Blezzard, Rodney Downer, David Eccles, Paul Fuller, Conrad Gauntlett, Jonathan Gilbey, Luisa Hillard, John Hobart, Richard Hollis, John Howe, Stuart Hutchinson, Phil Jordan, John Medland, John Nicholson, Lora Peacey-Wilcox, Graham Perks, Matthew Price, Bob Seely, Dave Stewart, Roger Whitby-Smith, Chris Whitehouse, Wayne Whittle

Against (11)

Councillors Reg Barry, Alan Hollands, Julie Jones-Evans, Gordon Kendall, Geoff Lumley, Daryll Pitcher, Colin Richards, Shirley Smart, Ian Stephens, Steve Stubbings, Ivor Warlow

Abstention (1)

Councillor Charles Chapman

The amendment was accepted. A named vote was then taken on the substantive motion, the result of which was as follows:

For (32)

Councillors Jonathan Bacon, Julia Baker-Smith, Bob Blezzard, 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, Graham Perks, Daryll Pitcher, Matthew Price, Colin Richards, Bob Seely, Shirley Smart, Dave Stewart, Steve Stubbings, Ivor Warlow, Roger Whitby-Smith, Chris Whitehouse, Wayne Whittle

Against (4)

Councillors Reg Barry, Paul Bertie, Gordon Kendall, Ian Stephens

Abstention (1)

Councillor Charles Chapman

RESOLVED :

THAT the council undertake consultation on the three options, through the council's web site and the parish and town councils from 19 September until 31 October and report the result of the consultation (and any views of the overview and scrutiny committee) back for a decision to be made on the future decision making structure to full council in November.

39. [To Approve the Appointment of a Designated Independent Person](#)

Members were advised that the Council were required to appoint Designated Independent Persons (DIPs) to assist in the handling of complaints against councillors.

At its meeting on 21 November 2012, Council appointed one DIP for a four year period. An advertisement was placed in the Isle of Wight County Press on 12 July 2013 inviting members of the public to apply. Two applications were received and interviews held.

Under the Act the appointments could only be made by the full Council and it was recommended that the appointment be for one year in the first instance.

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, 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, Colin Richards, Bob Seely, Shirley Smart, Ian Stephens, Dave Stewart, Steve Stubbings, Ivor Warlow, Roger Whitby-Smith, Chris Whitehouse, Wayne Whittle

Abstention (1)

Councillor Reg Barry

RESOLVED :

THAT Ken Hicks be appointed a Designated Independent Person for a period of one year.

40. **Cabinet**

(a) **Recommendation from the Cabinet**

Budget Review

Members were updated of the councils overall budget and financial position and the development of the new administration's priorities which set out the broad framework for achieving an updated Medium-Term Financial and Budget Strategy for 2014/15 and future years.

It was estimated that over four financial years 2011/12 - 2014/15 the loss of grant would be £23.6m with further reductions expected for 2015/2016.

In respect of the revenue outturn position for 2012/2013, there had been a net saving of £3.417m, of which £2.95m had been set aside to fund approved expenditure.

The overall reserves and General Fund Balances position was good but the budget monitoring position for 2013/14 indicated a potential overspend of £3.2m. Action would therefore need to be taken to ensure that the 2013/14 budget was not exceeded.

Island residents would be consulted and informed on the council's future plans to tackle the financial challenges ahead. It was proposed a road show could travel to as many parts of the Island for that purpose.

The chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee reported that the budget situation had been noted at its meeting held on 12 September 2013 and had agreed with the recommendations.

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

For (37)

Councillors 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, Colin Richards, Bob Seely, Shirley Smart, Ian Stephens, Dave Stewart, Steve Stubbings, Ivor Warlow, Roger Whitby-Smith, Chris Whitehouse, Wayne Whittle

RESOLVED :

- (i) THAT the overall approach and strategy as set out in the report, attached to and forming part of these minutes, as the basis for developing the Budget Strategy for 2014/15 and the Medium-Term Financial Strategy.
- (ii) THAT public; stakeholder; partner agency, engagement events on the financial challenge facing the Council to raise awareness and get initial feedback and ideas on potential budget options be undertaken, followed by a budget consultation exercise in December 2013/January 2014 on budget options being considered.
- (iii) THAT £150k be allocated from general fund balances to continue to deliver a number of programmes under the "Islework" banner until 31 March 2014 be agreed.

(b) **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 :

Name	Subject	Comment
Cllr Whitehouse	Cabinet members attending scrutiny panel meetings.	The Leader indicated that cabinet members wouldn't attend scrutiny panel meetings unless they were invited.

Name	Subject	Comment
	Supplementary - he believed it was a constitutional obligation for cabinet members to attend.	The Leader noted his comments.
Cllr Barry	What had happened to the picture of Sir Godfrey Baring?	The Leader indicated he didn't know.
Cllr Lumley	Cabinet members always attended the overview and scrutiny committee meetings; it was at the direction of the chair that cabinet members be asked to attend.	The Leader agreed that cabinet members should wait to be invited.

(ii) **The Deputy Leader**

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

Oral questions were put to the Deputy Leader as follows :

Name	Subject	Comment
Cllr Stewart	The Deputy Leader's report was just a brief resume, what was the value of the report?	The Deputy Leader indicated he would take on board what Cllr Stewart had said, but he spent more time actually working.
Cllr Hollis	You have AWALC in Paragraph 3 of your report, should it be IWALC.	The Deputy Leader agreed it should read IWALC.
Cllr Seely	Asked for an update on assets and community bids.	The Deputy Leader advised he didn't have a specific update but would advise the member in due course.
Cllr Jones-Evans	Which external bodies was the deputy leader working with?	The Deputy Leader advised he was working with the Chamber of Commerce and a number of small businesses.

(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 :

Name	Subject	Comment
Cllr Whittle	Would any new or current street trading applications be held over until the consultation had taken place?	The Cabinet Member indicated he would have to take advice on that but didn't think the council would be in a position to halt any applications. The consultation was to take place during October and would be considered at Licensing Committee later in the year.
Cllr Stewart	Had some issues around planning from residents, would there be a review and update with regard to planning officers?	The Cabinet Member advised that would be dealt with as part of the root and branch review. The Cabinet Member told members he would be attending planning officer's team meetings over the next six weeks.
Cllr Seely	Asked about development pressures around AONB.	The Cabinet Member indicated he would provide a written response.
Cllr Jones-Evans	Would best practice from other authorities be used as part of the street trading review?	The Cabinet Member said yes.
Cllr Hollis	Had there been a change in policy relating to the Planning Committee as it appeared most applications were being dealt with under delegated powers?	The Cabinet Member indicated there had not been any change, but applications would not be sent to the Planning Committee if there was no reason to do so. He also told members that the number of planning applications had been down in the last few months.

(iv) [Cabinet Member for Health, Community and Adult Wellbeing](#)

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

(v) [Cabinet Member for Public Protection](#)

A [written report](#) had been circulated for information. Members were advised the Fire Service strike was to take place on Wednesday, 25 September 2013 commencing at 2.00 pm for a four hour period. Contingency plans were in place.

An oral question was put to the Cabinet Member as follows :

Name	Subject	Comment
Cllr Jones-Evans	Correspondence received from the recent National Childhood Measurement Programme.	The Cabinet Member indicated he would take it up if details were provided to him.

(vi) [Cabinet Member for Tourism and Economy](#)

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

Oral questions were put to the Cabinet Member as follows :

Name	Subject	Comment
Cllr Stewart	Thanks to officer's who dealt with Bestival.	The Cabinet Member advised she would pass them on.
Cllr Whittle	Was it correct that 104,000 people had attended the Isle of Wight Festival spending £12.2m?	The Cabinet Member indicated the information had been passed to the council by the DMO, she would check the figures.
Cllr Seely	In relation to his withdrawn motion, stated he wanted to do what he could to ensure that the Broadband improvement scheme went through.	The Cabinet Member understood his concerns.
Cllr Jones-Evans	Would the council be continuing the leisure facilities service?	The Cabinet Member indicated it would be part of the root and branch review.

(vii) **Cabinet Member for Resources**

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

Oral questions were put to the Cabinet Member as follows :

Name	Subject	Comment
Cllr Gauntlett	Island Roads had an enquiry number system, could there be a dedicated administrative person for members of the council	The Cabinet Member indicated it could be looked, but he didn't think that there would be finances available.
Cllr Whittle	Asked if his area could be added to the road safety policy review.	The Cabinet Member advised it was important to look at areas where people wanted road speed changing.
	Supplementary - Asked how to feed into the process?	The Cabinet Member indicated he was happy to meet with Cllr Whittle.
Cllr Lumley	Asked why he hadn't been told about the dedicated administrative support relating to Island Roads.	The Cabinet Member indicated he would introduce Cllr Lumley to the people concerned.
Cllr Stewart	Could he be kept updated when the Undercliff was closed?	The Cabinet Member said yes.
Cllr Seely	Was there an anticipated completion date for the road safety policy review?	The Cabinet Member indicated he didn't want to commit to a particular timescale.

(viii) **Cabinet Member for Sustainability**

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

Oral questions were put to the Cabinet Member as follows :

Name	Subject	Comment
Cllr Whittle	Which car parks had the electric vehicle charging points?	The Cabinet Member would provide a written response.
Cllr Hollis	Would the council commit to a policy of using wool as an alternative material for	The Cabinet Member advised that discussions would have to be held with

Name	Subject	Comment
	insulation?	builders who believed that polystyrene was a more efficient insulation.
	Supplementary – would it be possible to check if wool was less efficient than polystyrene?	The Cabinet Member indicated it would.

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

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

Oral questions were put to the Chairman as follows :

Name	Subject	Comment
Cllr Whittle	If the option relating to Executive Advisory Committee's went ahead there would be 50% less scrutiny.	The Chair indicated the Advisory Committee's would have an element of scrutiny.
Cllr Stewart	Would the Chair consider ways that scrutiny could be look at the proposed governance changes?	The Chair advised there was an item on the next Overview and Scrutiny Committee agenda.

(x) **Deputy Cabinet Member for Children's Services**

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

Oral questions were put to the Cabinet Member as follows :

Name	Subject	Comment
Cllr Whitehouse	Could a member briefing be held on school numbers and demographics?	The Deputy Cabinet Member asked for that in writing and he would try and get a response.

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

By Councillor Luisa Hillard

The Isle of Wight Council supports the Friends of the Earth Bee Cause initiative, and will continue to ensure that where suitable, and not limiting community growing schemes, all planting undertaken within the parks and

gardens owned by the Council will support the lifestyle of bees and other pollinating insects.

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

For (33)

Councillors 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, John Howe, Stuart Hutchinson, Phil Jordan, Gordon Kendall, Geoff Lumley, John Medland, John Nicholson, Lora Peacey-Wilcox, Graham Perks, Matthew Price, Colin Richards, Bob Seely, Shirley Smart, Ian Stephens, Dave Stewart, Steve Stubbings, Ivor Warlow, Roger Whitby-Smith, Wayne Whittle

Abstention (2)

Councillors Daryll Pitcher, Chris Whitehouse

RESOLVED :

THAT the Isle of Wight Council supports the Friends of the Earth Bee Cause initiative, and will continue to ensure that where suitable, and not limiting community growing schemes, all planting undertaken within the parks and gardens owned by the Council will support the lifestyle of bees and other pollinating insects.

CHAIRMAN