

Minutes

Name of meeting	FULL COUNCIL
Date and time	WEDNESDAY, 19 JULY 2017 COMMENCING AT 6.00 PM
Venue	COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT
Present	Cllrs Lora Peacey-Wilcox (Chairman), Barry Abraham, Debbie Andre, Adrian Axford, Julia Baker-Smith, Reg Barry, Paul Bertie, Michael Beston, Paul Brading, Geoff Brodie, George Cameron, Charles Chapman Rodney Downer, Andrew Garratt, John Hobart, Stuart Hutchinson, Julie Jones-Evans, John Kilpatrick, Michael Lilley, Karl Love, Clare Mosdell, Michael Murwill, John Nicholson, Tig Outlaw, Gary Peace, Matthew Price, Chris Quirk, Bob Seely, Shirley Smart, Dave Stewart, Ian Ward, Chris Whitehouse, Wayne Whittle
Apologies	Cllrs Vanessa Churchman, Paul Fuller, John Howe, John Medland, Graham Perks, Brian Tyndall

15. [Minutes](#)

RESOLVED:

THAT the Minutes of the meetings held on [17 May 2017](#) be confirmed.

16. [Declarations of Interest](#)

Cllr Brodie declared an interest in Minute 20, as he knew Mr Ken Hicks personally and would therefore not take part in the debate around the appointment of designated independent person for dealing with complaints.

17. [Public Question Time](#)

Questions were put to the Chairman as follows :

Name	Subject	Comment
Dave Miller of Cowes	Car Park Machines.	The Cabinet Member provided a written response which was available on the following link (<u>PQ 12/17</u>)
Mrs J Pierotti of East Cowes	Was not in attendance to ask her question.	The Cabinet Member provided a written response which was available on the following link (<u>PQ 13/17</u>)

Name	Subject	Comment
Mrs A Booth of Ryde	Cowes floating bridge	The Cabinet Member provided a written response which was available on the following link (PQ 14/17)
Philippe Wines of Newport	Was not in attendance to ask his question.	The Cabinet Member provided a written response which was available on the following link (PQ 15/17)
Paola Wines of Newport	Was not in attendance to ask her question.	The Cabinet Member provided a written response which was available on the following link (PQ 16/17)
Ms D Tanner of East Cowes	Cowes floating bridge	The Cabinet Member provided a written response which was available on the following link (PQ 17/17)
Lois Prior of Newport	Asked why the floating bridge was to be audited through PriceWaterhouseCooper.	The Leader indicated he had set up a review group that was made up of the portfolio holder together with leader and deputy leader. The PWC review would be one part of the evidence/information that would feed into their review.
	Supplementary - Who would be doing the review?	The Leader advised the review would be undertaken by Cabinet members and then taken back to the Scrutiny Committee.
Cameron Palin of East Cowes	Asked if the floating bridge was fit for purpose?	The Leader indicated he had noted his question.
	Supplementary - would there be an independent engineering audit?	The Leader reiterated he would aim to consider all the relevant points raised by residents.
Erni Elisa of East Cowes	Was if it was true the floating bridge to be signed off on Thursday, 20 July 2017?	The Leader advised it was not true.

Name	Subject	Comment
	Supplementary - asked about the press release.	The Leader reiterated that the floating bridge would not be signed off and completed on Thursday, 20 July 2017.
Jason Mack of Ventnor	Free School move - was disappointed that certain aspects of the move to the new premises had not been completed.	The Leader asked that he be given the detail and would then provide a response.
	Supplementary - raised a point regarding a ransom strip.	The Leader indicated a response would be provided.
Jason Mack of Ventnor	Asked who was responsible for closing the road after the house fall in Ventnor?	The Leader advised the road was closed for safety and wellbeing of residents on the council's instruction to Island Roads.
	Supplementary - asked if diversion signs could be put in place.	The Leader advised that the Head of Place would be asked to address the issue

(During the discussion Councillor Shirley Smart declared an interest as she had a business in Ventnor)

18. **Chairman's Report**

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

The Chairman indicated she had attended the Pride Event in Ryde recently and it had been a truly wonderful event with all involved being congratulated on its success.

19. **To elect a Chairman of the Audit Committee for the ensuing year.**

The names of Councillor Adrian Axford and Councillor Reg Barry were separately moved and seconded as nominations for Chairman of the Audit Committee. A vote was then taken, the result of which was as follows:

RESOLVED :

THAT Councillor Adrian Axford be elected Chairman of the Audit Committee for the ensuing year.

20. **Appointment of Designated Independent Persons to assist In dealing with complaints against members and other appointments**

(Claire Shand left the room for the following item of business.)

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

At its meeting on 17 September 2014, the council appointed Mr Ken Hicks as a DIP for a three-year term of office. Approval was sought to extend that appointment for a further three years from 18 September 2017 until 17 September 2020.

It was noted that under the Act appointments of DIPs could only be made by the Full Council.

In April 2015 council appointed Mr Chris Mathews to the official post of returning officer and electoral registration officer for the council. As Mr Mathews was due to retire in early August, council was asked to approve the appointment of Claire Shand as returning officer and electoral registration officer for the council with effect from 1 August 2017. As required by legislation, the posts could only be made by Full Council.

The Leader passed on his thanks to Mr Chris Mathews for all he had done during his tenure as returning officer and electoral registration officer for the council.

RESOLVED:

- (i) THAT Ken Hicks be appointed as a designated independent person for a further period of three years until 17 September 2020.
- (ii) THAT Claire Shand be appointed as returning officer and electoral registration officer with effect from the 1 August 2017.

(Claire Shand re-entered the room.)

21. **Appointment process for Chief Fire Officer**

Due to the current Chief Fire Officer (CFO) formally tendering his notice a new CFO would need to be in place from January 2018.

At a meeting of the Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority (HFRA) held in June 2017, a Member Working Group was established to review and make recommendations to the Authority on an appropriate strategy and processes for recruiting a new Chief Officer. The Isle of Wight Council (IWC) was invited to appoint a member to the joint committee.

Members noted the subject of the report has been discussed with the chair of the Scrutiny Committee who supported the paper being brought to the July meeting of Council as he considered that it was better the IWC had involvement in the recruitment process than none at all.

RESOLVED :

THAT subject to a subsequent HFRA decision to agree to the formation of a Joint Appointment Committee at their meeting on 25th July 2017, Council resolves:

- (a) THAT the responsibility for appointing a new Chief Officer be delegated to a joint committee with HFRA comprising five members of HFRA and one member of IWC, pursuant to the terms of reference set out at Appendix 3 (attached to and forming part of these minutes);
- (b) THAT the Terms of Reference of the Joint Appointments Committee as set out at Appendix 3 (attached to and forming part of these minutes) be adopted and one member of IWC be appointed to the joint Committee.

22. To elect an Isle of Wight Councillor to the Joint Appointment Committee

Arising from the Minute 21, an Isle of Wight Councillor was required to be on the Joint Appointment Committee

Councillor Gary Peace was proposed and seconded as IWC member of the Joint Appointment Committee. There being no further nominations it was

RESOLVED :

THAT Councillor Gary Peace be elected the IWC member of the Joint Appointment Committee

23. Motions submitted under Procedure Rule 9 of the Council's Constitution

(a) **By Councillors Julie Jones-Evans and Karl Love**

That Full Council recommends to Cabinet that the Isle of Wight Council suspend, in light of the ongoing issues of the floating bridge, foot passenger charges for the foreseeable future and until such time that all the current issues have been fully resolved. This should be reviewed again after the recommendations of the public enquiry are submitted for reflection and discussion at full council.

The Chairman, upon advice from the Deputy Monitoring Officer confirmed that procedural rule 10 would be applied as this item would have the effect of materially increasing the expenditure upon a service. The motion would stand adjourned without discussion until the next ordinary meeting of the Council, and the Cabinet would consider whether it desired to report thereon back to the Full Council.

(b) [By Councillor Julia Baker-Smith](#)

Charging pedestrians on the floating bridge has had a significant impact upon many user groups but a particularly unfair impact on parents with children choosing healthy routes to school who are now being charged up to £3 per day in order to walk their children to school. This presents a potential and unnecessary barrier to low income families to maintaining school attendance. This Council resolves to ask the Cabinet to provide free travel for parents escorting their children to school where they live on the opposite side of the river to the school their child attends.

The Chairman, upon advice from the Deputy Monitoring Officer confirmed that procedural rule 10 would be applied as this item would have the effect of materially increasing the expenditure upon a service. The motion would stand adjourned without discussion until the next ordinary meeting of the Council, and the Cabinet would consider whether it desired to report thereon back to the Full Council.

(c) [By Councillor Rodney Downer](#)

Councillor Rodney Downer withdrew his motion.

CHAIRMAN