

Minutes

Name of meeting	FULL COUNCIL
Date and time	WEDNESDAY, 2 SEPTEMBER 2015 COMMENCING AT 5.00 PM
Venue	COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT
Present	Cllrs Charles Chapman (Chairman), Jonathan Bacon, Julia Baker-Smith, Reg Barry, Bob Blezzard Ray Bloomfield, 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, Ian Ward, Ivor Warlow, Roger Whitby-Smith, Chris Whitehouse, Wayne Whittle
Apologies	Cllr Paul Bertie

25. **Minutes** ([Recording 1](#) and [2](#))

RESOLVED :

THAT the Minutes of the meeting held on [8 July 2015](#) be confirmed, subject to, Cllr Dave Stewart' declaration of interest, Minute 12, being amended to read as follows :

Councillor Dave Stewart declared an interest in Minute 17, as he had family members who worked in Island schools and 5 grandchildren who anticipate, in due course, going into the 11 - 16 and post 16 education system.

26. **Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Wayne Whittle declared an interest in Minute 37.

Councillors Julia Baker-Smith, Bob Blezzard, Jonathan Gilbey, Alan Hollands, Julie Jones-Evans, Gordon Kendall, Geoff Lumley, Richard Priest, Shirley Smart, Ivor Warlow and Wayne Whittle declared an interest in Minute 33, as they were members of the Isle of Wight Pension Scheme.

Councillor Roger Whitby-Smith declared an interest in Minute 33, as he was on the Isle of Wight Pension Board.

27. Public Question Time

Questions were put to the Chairman as follows :

Name	Subject	Comment
Simon Cooke of Ryde	Asked a question about alleged comments made by Cllr Stubbings re the CQC and the hospital crisis.	The Executive Member indicated he had made no comment at all.
	Supplementary - asked about the ongoing serious case review, relating to his mother.	The Executive Member asked that Mr Cooke contacted him directly.
Stuart Blackmore of Ventnor	Asked a question relating to integrated transport.	The Leader advised there was an item on the agenda relating to that, which would be debated later in the evening.
	Supplementary – would the leader confirm he had recently met with Nicholas Finney?	The Leader indicated he had met with him the previous evening.

28. Chairman's Report

A [written report](#) had been circulated for information. The Chairman made specific reference to the events to mark the fact that the Queen will become the longest reigning monarch and he thanked the Isle of Wight County Press for their support to mark this occasion.

29. Budget Review

Members were provided with an update by the Leader of the council of the Authorities overall budget and financial position and the development of the administration's priorities which set out the broad framework for achieving an updated Medium-Term Financial and Budget Strategy for 2016/17 and subsequent future years.

The main areas of potential underachievement of savings were outlined along with a number of possible areas for potential budget reductions.

The following amendment to the motion was then moved by Councillor Dave Stewart and duly seconded :

That Full Council considers the overall financial position of the Council set out in the report and notes option (a).

A named vote was taken the result of which was as follows:

For (17)

Councillors David Eccles, Conrad Gauntlett, Jonathan Gilbey, John Hobart, Richard Hollis, Stuart Hutchinson, Julie Jones-Evans, John Nicholson, Graham Perks, Daryll Pitcher, Matthew Price, Richard Priest, Bob Seely, Dave Stewart, Ian Ward, Chris Whitehouse, Wayne Whittle

Against (21)

Councillors Jonathan Bacon, Julia Baker-Smith, Reg Barry, Bob Blezzard, Ray Bloomfield, Rodney Downer, Paul Fuller, Luisa Hillard, Alan Hollands, John Howe, Phil Jordan, Gordon Kendall, Geoff Lumley, John Medland, Lora Peacey-Wilcox, Colin Richards, Shirley Smart, Ian Stephens, Steve Stubbings, Ivor Warlow, Roger Whitby-Smith

Abstention (0)

The amendment fell.

A further amendment to the motion was then moved by Councillor Geoff Lumley and duly seconded :

Paragraph 87 (iv)

In defence of residents already badly affected by economically misguided and, austerity-driven Government grant cuts to this Council, we agree to **remove** the following items from Appendix F:

- Concessionary Fares - discretionary element, allowing those with a disability to travel at any time and the local islander card scheme;
- Any further reductions in the Supporting People budget;
- Re-alignment of community service provision;
- Fire and Rescue Service - possible closure of a Fire Station;
- Changes to local Council Tax support scheme - reduction in discretionary benefits.

until (in accordance with the option at Paragraph 79 (b)) any loss of savings from these removed proposals has been examined for alternative savings, as part of the work being undertaken by the new cross-Group forums. An update report to be made to the October 2015 Full Council, for further decision.

Additionally, we agree to remove 'Other staffing reductions' until we are assured such unidentified job losses will not inflict more pain on vulnerable people who need our services. Such assurance to be available for the October 2015 Full Council.

Delete from Paragraph 87 (vi)

“and in particular not to have meetings in October 2015 and April 2016”.

There was some discussion around the changes to the local council tax support scheme, there was a statutory timetable, and there was need to start the consultation.

As a consequence and at the request of the Leader Councillor Lumley agreed to the removal of ‘Changes to local Council Tax support scheme - reduction in discretionary benefits’ from his amendment.

A named vote was taken the result of which was as follows:

For (33)

Councillors Jonathan Bacon, Julia Baker-Smith, Reg Barry, Bob Blezzard, Ray Bloomfield, 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, Lora Peacey-Wilcox, Matthew Price, Richard Priest, Colin Richards, Bob Seely, Shirley Smart, Ian Stephens, Steve Stubbings, Ian Ward, Ivor Warlow, Roger Whitby-Smith, Wayne Whittle

Against (3)

Councillors Julie Jones-Evans, Graham Perks, Daryll Pitcher

Abstention (1)

Councillor Dave Stewart

It was therefore, agreed the following be included as part of the substantive motion:

Paragraph 87 (iv)

In defence of residents already badly affected by economically misguided and, austerity-driven Government grant cuts to this Council, we agree to **remove** the following items from Appendix F:

- Concessionary Fares - discretionary element, allowing those with a disability to travel at any time and the local islander card scheme;
- Any further reductions in the Supporting People budget;
- Re-alignment of community service provision;
- Fire and Rescue Service - possible closure of a Fire Station;

until (in accordance with the option at Paragraph 79 (b)) any loss of savings from these removed proposals has been examined for

alternative savings, as part of the work being undertaken by the new cross-Group forums. An update report to be made to the October 2015 Full Council, for further decision.

Additionally, we agree to remove 'Other staffing reductions' until we are assured such unidentified job losses will not inflict more pain on vulnerable people who need our services. Such assurance to be available for the October 2015 Full Council.

Delete from Paragraph 87 (vi)

“and in particular not to have meetings in October 2015 and April 2016”.

Following further debate the Chairman agreed to take the named vote on each recommendation separately, the results of which were as follows:

Recommendation (i) The overall approach to engaging with the Government as set out in Paragraphs 52-56.

For (37)

Councillors Jonathan Bacon, Julia Baker-Smith, Reg Barry, Bob Blezzard, Ray Bloomfield, 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, Ian Ward, Ivor Warlow, Roger Whitby-Smith, Wayne Whittle

Against (0)

Abstentions (0)

Recommendation (ii) The in - year budget savings and development of further budget savings options set out in paragraph 57.

For (35)

Councillors Jonathan Bacon, Julia Baker-Smith, Reg Barry, Bob Blezzard, Ray Bloomfield, 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, Matthew Price, Richard Priest, Colin Richards, Bob Seely, Shirley Smart, Ian Stephens, Dave Stewart, Steve Stubbings, Ian Ward, Ivor Warlow, Roger Whitby-Smith, Wayne Whittle

Abstention (2)

Councillors Graham Perks, Daryll Pitcher

Against (0)

Recommendation (iii) To undertake focus groups, Island-wide events and online surveys for October and November to involve residents, business, voluntary sector, other organisations and staff in a conversation about the savings options open to the Council and resource allocation as well as the appetite for a council tax increase above the capping level.

For (37)

Councillors Jonathan Bacon, Julia Baker-Smith, Reg Barry, Bob Blezzard, Ray Bloomfield, 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, Ian Ward, Ivor Warlow, Roger Whitby-Smith, Wayne Whittle

Against (0)

Abstention (0)

Recommendation (iv) In defence of residents already badly affected by economically misguided and, austerity-driven Government grant cuts to this Council, we agree to **remove** the following items from Appendix F:

- Concessionary Fares - discretionary element, allowing those with a disability to travel at any time and the local islander card scheme;
- Any further reductions in the Supporting People budget;
- Re-alignment of community service provision;
- Fire and Rescue Service - possible closure of a Fire Station;

until (in accordance with the option at Paragraph 79 (b)) any loss of savings from these removed proposals has been examined for alternative savings, as part of the work being undertaken by the new cross-Group forums. An update report to be made to the October 2015 Full Council, for further decision.

Additionally, we agree to remove 'Other staffing reductions' until we are assured such unidentified job losses will not inflict more pain on vulnerable people who need our services. Such assurance to be available for the October 2015 Full Council.

For (35)

Councillors Jonathan Bacon, Julia Baker-Smith, Reg Barry, Bob Blezzard, Ray Bloomfield, 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, Matthew Price, Richard Priest, Colin Richards, Bob Seely, Shirley Smart, Ian Stephens, Dave Stewart, Steve Stubbings, Ian Ward, Ivor Warlow, Roger Whitby-Smith, Wayne Whittle

Abstention (2)

Councillor Graham Perks, Daryll Pitcher

Against (0)

Recommendation (v) That the available capital receipt generated from the ASDA scheme is used proactively to reduce revenue costs and/or generate revenue income.

For (35)

Councillors Jonathan Bacon, Julia Baker-Smith, Reg Barry, Bob Blezzard, Ray Bloomfield, 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, Lora Peacey-Wilcox, Graham Perks, Daryll Pitcher, Richard Priest, Colin Richards, Bob Seely, Shirley Smart, Ian Stephens, Dave Stewart, Steve Stubbings, Ian Ward, Ivor Warlow, Roger Whitby-Smith, Wayne Whittle

Against (2)

Councillors Julie Jones-Evans, Matthew Price

Abstention (0)

Recommendation (vii) To reaffirm the budget decisions made at Full Council on 25 February 2015 in respect of subsidised and community bus services.

For (19)

Councillors Jonathan Bacon, Julia Baker-Smith, Reg Barry, Rodney Downer, Paul Fuller, Luisa Hillard, Alan Hollands, John Howe, Phil Jordan, Gordon Kendall, Geoff Lumley, John Medland, Lora Peacey-Wilcox, Colin Richards, Shirley Smart, Ian Stephens, Steve Stubbings, Ivor Warlow, Roger Whitby-Smith

Against (17)

Councillors Bob Blezzard, Ray Bloomfield, David Eccles, Conrad Gauntlett, Jonathan Gilbey, John Hobart, Richard Hollis, Stuart Hutchinson, Julie Jones-Evans, John Nicholson, Graham Perks, Daryll Pitcher, Matthew Price, Richard Priest, Bob Seely, Dave Stewart, Wayne Whittle

Abstention (1)

Councillor Ian Ward

RESOLVED :

THAT the overall approach and strategy as set out in the report (as attached to and forming part of these minutes) as the basis for achieving a balanced budget in 2016/17 be agreed, ie

- (i) THAT the overall approach to engaging with the Government as set out in Paragraphs 52-56 of the report (attached to and forming part of these minutes);
- (ii) THAT the in - year budget savings and development of further budget savings options set out in paragraph 57 of the report (attached to and forming part of these minutes);
- (iii) THAT focus groups, Island-wide events and online surveys for October and November to involve residents, business, voluntary sector, other organisations and staff in a conversation about the savings options open to the Council be undertaken and resource allocation as well as the appetite for a council tax increase above the capping level.
- (iv) THAT in defence of residents already badly affected by economically misguided and, austerity-driven Government grant cuts to this Council, we agree to **remove** the following items from Appendix F of the report (attached to and forming part of these minutes);
 - Concessionary Fares - discretionary element, allowing those with a disability to travel at any time and the local islander card scheme;
 - Any further reductions in the Supporting People budget;
 - Re-alignment of community service provision;
 - Fire and Rescue Service - possible closure of a Fire Station;

until (in accordance with the option at Paragraph 79 (b)) any loss of savings from these removed proposals has been examined for alternative savings, as part of the work being undertaken by the new cross-Group forums. An update report to be made to the October 2015 Full Council, for further decision.

Additionally, we agree to remove 'Other staffing reductions' until we are assured such unidentified job losses will not inflict more pain on vulnerable people who need our services. Such assurance to be available for the October 2015 Full Council.

- (v) THAT the available capital receipt generated from the ASDA scheme is used proactively to reduce revenue costs and/or generate revenue income.
- (vi) THAT the budget decisions made at Full Council on 25 February 2015 in respect of subsidised and community bus services be reaffirmed.

30. **Hampshire and Isle of Wight Devolution Deal**

Members were reminded that at its meeting of the 8 July 2015, consideration was given to a motion which supported the development of a proposal for the creation of a Combined Authority to include 15 local authorities across Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.

Members were told it was not about giving up the Island's status, but about localising control of finances, so that services would be directed locally with less interference from central government.

The core idea was that the proposed combined authorities would give up their government grants and retain the business rates generated by the entire area with equitable distribution. Therefore the control of monies would rest locally.

Council was told the aim was to achieve economic growth. Members were told if it got to the point where it appeared a deal would not work, the Council would pull out.

There were some concerns relating to what the Island would actually get on a day to day basis.

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, Bob Blezzard,
Ray Bloomfield, 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, Matthew Price, Richard Priest, Colin Richards, Bob Seely, Shirley Smart, Ian Stephens, Dave Stewart, Steve Stubbings, Ian Ward, Ivor Warlow, Roger Whitby-Smith, Wayne Whittle

Against (2)

Councillors Graham Perks, Daryll Pitcher

Abstention (0)

RESOLVED :

- (a) THAT the prospectus for a devolution deal for Hampshire and Isle of Wight as the basis for negotiation with government be supported.
- (b) THAT the final devolution deal must ensure the financial security of Isle of Wight and availability of public services to its communities be confirmed.
- (c) THAT at this stage the council is making no commitment beyond continued involvement in the development of a potential deal, be noted.

31. Exclusion of Public and Press

RESOLVED:

THAT under Section 100(A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business, namely Minute number 32, on the grounds that there was likely to be disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 1 and 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act and in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

32. Appointment of Managing Director

At its meeting of the 17 August 2015, the Employment Committee considered a number of options with regard to the future appointment to the post of managing director.

The following recommendations from the Employment Committee were duly moved and seconded:

- a) a replacement to the existing post of managing director (to be renamed chief executive) should be agreed and a recruitment campaign be initiated as soon as possible;
- b) a politically proportionate employment sub-committee be established to manage the formal appointment process, consisting of the Leader, Deputy Leader and the other members of the Employment Committee;

- c) a minimum salary of £125,000 for the post be agreed and that Full Council determine where the resultant savings are to be secured or accept that the additional costs incurred by this decision will add to the existing budget gap.

The following amendment was then moved by Councillor Jonathan Bacon and duly seconded :

Delete the words:

‘(c) a minimum salary of £125,000 for the post be agreed’

and replace with

‘(c) an appropriate salary to be agreed on appointment’

The full recommendation (c) to read:

- (c) an appropriate salary to be agreed on appointment and that Full Council determine where the resultant savings are to be secured or accept that the additional costs incurred by this decision will add to the existing budget gap.

Following a debate a named vote on the amendment was taken the result of which was as follows:

For (14)

Councillors Jonathan Bacon, Julia Baker-Smith, Reg Barry, Rodney Downer, Paul Fuller, Gordon Kendall, John Medland, Lora Peacey-Wilcox, Colin Richards, Bob Seely, Shirley Smart, Ian Stephens, Ivor Warlow, Roger Whitby-Smith

Against (19)

Councillors Bob Blezzard, Ray Bloomfield, David Eccles, Conrad Gauntlett, Jonathan Gilbey, John Hobart, Alan Hollands, Richard Hollis, Stuart Hutchinson, Julie Jones-Evans, Geoff Lumley, John Nicholson, Graham Perks, Daryll Pitcher, Matthew Price, Richard Priest, Dave Stewart, Ian Ward, Wayne Whittle

Abstention (3)

Councillors John Howe, Phil Jordan, Steve Stubbings,

The amendment fell.

33. **Procedure Rule 26**

A proposal to extend the meeting by up to one hour was proposed and seconded.

RESOLVED :

THAT the meeting be extended by up to one hour.

34. **Appointment of Managing Director** contd

The motion was further debated with four options being considered, along with details of their anticipated benefits and potential disadvantages.

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

For (26)

Councillors Julia Baker-Smith, Bob Blezzard, Ray Bloomfield, David Eccles, Conrad Gauntlett, Luisa Hillard, John Hobart, Richard Hollis, John Howe, Stuart Hutchinson, Julie Jones-Evans, Jonathan Gilbey, Alan Hollands, Phil Jordan, Gordon Kendall, Geoff Lumley, John Nicholson, Graham Perks, Daryll Pitcher, Matthew Price, Richard Priest, Bob Seely, Dave Stewart, Ian Ward, Ivor Warlow, Wayne Whittle

Against (11)

Councillors Jonathan Bacon, Reg Barry, Rodney Downer, Paul Fuller, John Medland, Lora Peacey-Wilcox, Colin Richards, Shirley Smart, Ian Stephens, Steve Stubbings, Roger Whitby-Smith

RESOLVED :

- a) THAT a replacement to the existing post of managing director (to be renamed chief executive) be agreed and a recruitment campaign be initiated as soon as possible;
- b) THAT a politically proportionate employment sub-committee be established to manage the formal appointment process, consisting of the Leader, Deputy Leader and the other members of the Employment Committee;
- c) THAT a minimum salary of £125,000 for the post be agreed and that Full Council determine where the resultant savings are to be secured or accept that the additional costs incurred by this decision will add to the existing budget gap.

35. Isle of Wight Pension Board

Members were reminded that at its meeting of 21 January 2015 the terms of reference for the Isle of Wight Pension Board were agreed, although, as the regulations had not been finalised they were in draft form.

At the inaugural meeting of the Isle of Wight Pension Board held on 14 August 2015, members considered the terms of reference and proposed the following changes to paragraph 3:

- (a) The Pension Board should consist of four rather than five members.
- (b) The following references to an independent member should be removed from the terms of reference:
 - (i) 1 independent member appointed by the Council's Audit Committee and who is not a member of the Pension Committee. Such a person can be either an elected member or a non-voting co-opted member.
 - (ii) For the purposes of the Pension Board, the independent member will be classed as voting.
 - (iii) The removal of the independent member requires the consent of the Scheme Manager.
- (c) The terminology in paragraph three of the terms of reference be changed to state the employer representative shall be an elected member rather than an officer of the Isle of Wight Council.

RESOLVED :

THAT the following changes, to paragraph 3, of the Isle of Wight Pension Board terms of reference be agreed:

- (a) The Pension Board should consist of four rather than five members.
- (b) The following references to an independent member should be removed from the terms of reference:
 - (i) 1 independent member appointed by the Council's Audit Committee and who is not a member of the Pension Committee. Such a person can be either an elected member or a non-voting co-opted member.
 - (ii) For the purposes of the Pension Board, the independent member will be classed as voting.
 - (iii) The removal of the independent member requires the consent of the Scheme Manager.

- (c) The terminology in paragraph three of the terms of reference be changed to state the employer representative shall be an elected member rather than an officer of the Isle of Wight Council.

36. Reports of the Executive Members and Chair of Scrutiny

Given the time and the amount of business still to be discussed the Chairman indicated that the Executive and Chair of Scrutiny reports be taken as read.

37. Reports of Committee Chairmen

(i) Audit Committee

A written report had been circulated for information.

(ii) Children's Services Select Committee

A written report had been circulated for information.

(iii) Economy and Tourism Select Committee

A written report had been circulated for information.

(iv) Environment and Transport Select Committee

A written report had been circulated for information.

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

[By Councillor Ray Bloomfield](#)

That Council:

- (i) Notes that the next South Western rail franchise period will commence in 2017, two years earlier than had been anticipated.
- (ii) Further notes that the proposed "Island Infrastructure Taskforce" (as agreed by Full Council in November 2014) has not secured any funding from government, and therefore has not been established.
- (iii) In light of (i) and (ii) above, reaches a view that Island Line should remain as a fully integral part of the South Western rail franchise for the entire duration of its post-2017 period.

- (iv) Makes representations to the Department of Transport (DfT) stating this unequivocal view, and urges them to ensure that the franchise specification invites bidders to set out how they would invest in, maintain and improve the service throughout this time.
- (v) Calls on the DfT to ensure that, as part of the forthcoming public consultation process about the new franchise, at least one formal consultation session is held on the Isle of Wight.
- (vi) Agrees that a longer-term look at the Island's strategic transport needs - including that of subsequent operational arrangements for rail travel (for beyond the next franchise period) - are looked at when resources allow for, particularly if external funds can be secured to support this work.

At the conclusion of the debate a named vote was taken

For (31)

Councillors Jonathan Bacon, Julia Baker-Smith, Reg Barry, Bob Blezzard, Ray Bloomfield, Rodney Downer, David Eccles, Paul Fuller, Jonathan Gilbey, Luisa Hillard, John Hobart, Alan Hollands, John Howe, 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, Steve Stubbings, Ian Ward, Ivor Warlow, Roger Whitby-Smith

Abstentions (2)

Councillors Stuart Hutchinson, Dave Stewart

RESOLVED :

THAT Council:

- (i) Notes that the next South Western rail franchise period will commence in 2017, two years earlier than had been anticipated.
- (ii) Further notes that the proposed "Island Infrastructure Taskforce" (as agreed by Full Council in November 2014) has not secured any funding from government, and therefore has not been established.
- (iii) In light of (i) and (ii) above, reaches a view that Island Line should remain as a fully integral part of the South Western rail franchise for the entire duration of its post-2017 period.
- (iv) Makes representations to the Department of Transport (DfT) stating this unequivocal view, and urges them to ensure that the franchise specification invites bidders to set out how they would invest in, maintain and improve the service throughout this time.

- (v) Calls on the DfT to ensure that, as part of the forthcoming public consultation process about the new franchise, at least one formal consultation session is held on the Isle of Wight.
- (vi) Agrees that a longer-term look at the Island's strategic transport needs - including that of subsequent operational arrangements for rail travel (for beyond the next franchise period) - are looked at when resources allow for, particularly if external funds can be secured to support this work.

CHAIRMAN