



# Minutes

Name of meeting	<b>FULL COUNCIL</b>
Date and time	<b>WEDNESDAY, 20 JANUARY 2016 COMMENCING AT 6.00 PM</b>
Venue	<b>COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT</b>
Present	Cllrs Charles Chapman (Chairman), Jonathan Bacon, Julia Baker-Smith, Reg Barry, Paul Bertie, 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, 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 Ray Bloomfield

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34. [Minutes](#)

**RESOLVED :**

THAT the Minutes of the meeting held on [25 November 2015](#) be confirmed.

35. [Declarations of Interest](#)

The Monitoring Officer reminded members they could take part in the debate and vote on the motion relating to fracking, as the motion was around the process of any application and not on the merits of an application, without the risk of having a pre-determined view.

Councillor Jonathan Gilbey declared an interest in minute number 38 as he had fruit machines on his business premises.

Councillor Roger Whitby-Smith declared an interest in minute number 43(a) as he was a private landlord.

Councillor Julia Baker-Smith declared a pecuniary interest in minute number 39. She left the chamber during the discussion and voting thereon.

Councillor Colin Richards declared a pecuniary interest in minute number 43(b) as he was a land owner. He was not present during the discussion and voting thereon.

Councillor Shirley Smart declared an interest in minute number 43(a) as she was a private landlord.

Councillor Graham Perks declared an interest in minute number 43(a) as he owned a business in Ventnor.

Councillor Julie Jones-Evans declared an interest in minute number 43(a).

Councillor Wayne Whittle declared an interest in minute number 43(a) as he owned a business in Ryde.

36. **Public Question Time**

Questions were put to the Chairman as follows :

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Mark Chiverton of Ryde	Asked a question relating to budget cuts.	The Leader provided a response.
	Asked a supplementary question regarding the consequences of the transfer of the road crossing patrol function for schools.	The Leader provided a response.

37. **Chairman's Report**

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

38. **Adoption of the revised Policy Statement of Principles Under Section 349 of the Gambling Act 2005**

Members were advised that under Section 349 of the Gambling Act 2005, a licensing authority was required to determine its policy with respect to the exercise of its licensing functions every three years, and to publish a statement of the principles it proposed to apply.

The previous policy ran from 31 January 2013 and was due to expire on 31 January 2016. At a meeting of the Licensing Committee held on 14 December 2015, the Committee considered the draft statement of licensing principles and resolved that the policy be approved and recommended to Full Council for adoption.

Members questioned whether there was any potential for income generation in relation to the policy and were advised that this was not the intention of the Licensing department.

At the conclusion of the debate, a vote was taken by a show of hands and it was

**RESOLVED:**

THAT the draft revised Policy Statement of Licensing Principles 2016 - 2019, be adopted and come into effect from 31 January 2016.

39. **Local Council Tax Support Scheme 2016/17**

Prior to discussion, members raised concerns regarding the appropriateness of considering this item ahead of the meeting of Full Council on 24 February 2016 in which the budget and council tax level for 2016/17 would be set. Although the concern was noted, members were reminded that it was a statutory requirement that the final decision on the local Council Tax Support (CTS) Scheme be made by 31 January 2016 in advance of the budget setting meeting.

Members were reminded that the government had transferred responsibility for the provision of council tax support to individual councils. A £2.534 million reduction in the council's revenue support grant was proposed for 2016/17. This had been announced on 17 December 2015 in the Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement.

The recommended scheme for 2016/17 and the financial consequences of that were summarised, with a particular focus on a saving of £410,000 which would be achieved through removal of the blanket protection for certain claimants. Members were advised that the recommended scheme incorporated changes which were largely consistent with the results of the consultation, and the importance of having due regard to the changes and implications prior to making a decision was emphasised.

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

That recommendation 5 (v), 'To remove the blanket protection (to a maximum of 100 per cent of council tax liability) given to applicants with certain benefits and to replace it with a targeted (Exceptional Hardship Fund) scheme that would require individual applications and take into account individual circumstances including the claimant's income and essential outgoings (as set out in Appendix 4a). The Exceptional Hardship Fund to be allocated £204,000 of the potential savings.' be deleted.

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

For (13)

Councillors Bob Blezzard, Rodney Downer, Paul Fuller, Conrad Gauntlett,  
John Hobart, Alan Hollands, Julie Jones-Evans, Geoff Lumley,

Graham Perks, Matthew Price, Ian Stephens, Steve Stubbings,  
Chris Whitehouse

Against (20)

Councillors Jonathan Bacon, Reg Barry, Paul Bertie, David Eccles, Jonathan Gilbey, Richard Hollis, Stewart Hutchinson, Phil Jordan, Gordon Kendall, John Medland, Lora Peacey-Wilcox, Daryll Pitcher, Richard Priest, Bob Seely, Shirley Smart, Dave Stewart, Ian Ward, Ivor Warlow, Roger Whitby-Smith, Wayne Whittle.

Abstention (4)

Councillors Luisa Hillard, John Howe, John Nicholson, Colin Richards.

The amendment fell.

Members then discussed the original proposal. At the conclusion of the debate, a named vote was taken the result of which was as follows:

For (26)

Councillors Jonathan Bacon, Reg Barry, Paul Bertie, Rodney Downer, David Eccles, Paul Fuller, Jonathan Gilbey, Richard Hollis, John Howe, Stuart Hutchinson, Phil Jordan, Gordon Kendall, John Medland, Lora Peacey-Wilcox, Graham Perks, Daryll Pitcher, Richard Priest, Colin Richards, Bob Seely, Shirley Smart, Ian Stephens, Dave Stewart, Ian Ward, Ivor Warlow, Roger Whitby-Smith, Wayne Whittle.

Against (8)

Councillors Bob Blezzard, Conrad Gauntlett, John Hobart, Alan Hollands, Julie Jones-Evans, Geoff Lumley, Matthew Price, Chris Whitehouse.

Abstention (3)

Councillors Luisa Hillard, John Nicholson, Steve Stubbings.

RESOLVED :

THAT the local Council Tax Reduction scheme for 2016/17 be adopted as set out in the report and the CTS scheme policy as set out in Appendix 4 as follows:

- (i) Not to change the support of a maximum 80 per cent of council tax liability for working age claimants.
- (ii) Not to support those claimants that are deemed to hold capital over a certain level (reducing the current capital level from £16,000 to £6,000)
- (iii) Continue to give protection to families with children and working age vulnerable by still disregarding child benefit, war pensions and other related income categories.

- (iv) Continue the incentive for work by not increasing the taper by which additional income over the applicable is taken into account (retained at 20p for each £1 of income over the applicable amount).
- (v) To remove the blanket protection (to a maximum of 100 per cent of council tax liability) given to applicants with certain benefits and to replace it with a targeted (Exceptional Hardship Fund) scheme that would require individual applications and take into account individual circumstances including the claimant's income and essential outgoings (as set out in Appendix 4a). The Exceptional Hardship Fund to be allocated £204,000 of the potential savings.
- (vi) To continue to preserve certain enhancements to disabled claimants, partners and dependent children through the continued granting of additional disability premiums and the disregard of disability living allowances and personal independence payments as income.
- (vii) Mirror some amendments to the Housing Benefit national scheme that are due to come into effect during 2016/17 (Limiting backdating to one calendar month and remove Family Premium from 1 May 2016).
- (viii) Fully implement the minimum living wage (floor) for self-employed claimants after a start-up period of one year.

40. [Comprehensive Spending Review and Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement 2016/17 and impact on the Medium-Term Budget Strategy](#)

Members were reminded that the Council was required to save a minimum of £17.386 million in its current spending plans in order to set a lawful and balanced budget for 2016/17.

Members were advised that proposals within the report were based on a presumed increase in Council Tax of 3.75 per cent which was assumed by the government in the Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement 2016/17. Potential savings had been drawn from areas where the Council did not have a legal duty to provide a service.

Members were advised that the final settlement would be known on 11 February 2016, but it was rare for the government to ever change their position.

In presenting the motion, Councillor Bacon amended recommendation 1 so that it read:-

- '1. Acknowledges the overall approach and strategy as set out in this report as the basis for finalising the budget strategy for 2016/17 and 2017/18'.

The following amendments were moved by Councillor Stewart and duly seconded :

- '1. Notes the overall approach and strategy as set out in this report as the basis for finalising the budget strategy for 2016/17 and 2017/18'.
- '2. Notes the budget for 2016/17 be developed on the basis of a Council Tax increase of 3.99% and use of £4 million of available reserves with final agreement being made at Full Council in February 2016'.
- '3. Agrees in principle the use of the Asda capital receipt as set out in Appendix C'.

Members were advised that figures pertaining to the proposed budget savings had been available since December 2015, and the potential consequences of not setting a balanced budget were outlined.

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

**Amendment to recommendation (1)** THAT the overall approach and strategy as set out in the report (attached to and forming part of these minutes) as the basis for finalising the budget strategy for 2016/17 to 2017/18 be noted.

For (19)

Councillors Paul Bertie, Bob Blezzard, 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 (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.

Abstention (0)

Due to the equality in the number of votes, the Chairman used his casting vote under procedure rule 17 (2), against the amendment.

The amendment fell.

**Amendment to recommendation (2)** THAT it be noted that the budget for 2016/17 be developed on the basis of a Council Tax increase of 3.99% and use of £4 million of available reserves with final agreement being made at Full Council in February 2016.

For (19)

Councillors Paul Bertie, Bob Blezzard, 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 (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.

Abstention (0)

Due to the equality in the number of votes, the Chairman used his casting vote under procedure rule 17 (2), in support of the amendment.

**Amendment to recommendation (3)** THAT the use of the Asda receipt as set out in Appendix C (attached to and forming part of these minutes) be agreed in principle.

For (18)

Councillors Paul Bertie, 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 (20)

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

Abstention (0)

The amendment fell.

Members were advised that a public consultation meeting was due to be held at Medina Theatre on 25 January 2016 in which all members of the public and councillors were invited to attend.

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

THAT the updated financial position facing the Council over the next two financial years be considered and:

**Recommendation (1)** THAT the overall approach and strategy as set out in this report as the basis for finalising the budget strategy for 2016/17 to 2017/18 be acknowledged.

For (37)

Councillors Jonathan Bacon, Julia Baker-Smith, Reg Barry, Paul Bertie, 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, 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 (1)

Councillor Chris Whitehouse.

**Recommendation (2)** THAT it be noted that the budget for 2016/17 be developed on the basis of a Council Tax increase of 3.99% and use of £4 million of available reserves with final agreement being made at Full Council in February 2016.

For (37)

Councillors Jonathan Bacon, Julia Baker-Smith, Reg Barry, Paul Bertie, 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, 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 (1)

Councillor Chris Whitehouse.

**Recommendation (3)** THAT the use of the Asda receipt as set out in Appendix C be agreed.

For (24)

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

Against (10)

Councillors Paul Bertie, Bob Blezzard, David Eccles, Conrad Gauntlett, Jonathan Gilbey, Richard Hollis, Julie Jones-Evans, Graham Perks, Daryll Pitcher, Richard Priest.

Abstention (4)

Councillors Bob Seely, Dave Stewart, Ian Ward, Chris Whitehouse.

RESOLVED :

**Recommendation (1)** THAT the overall approach and strategy as set out in this report as the basis for finalising the budget strategy for 2016/17 to 2017/18 be acknowledged.

**Recommendation (2)** THAT it be noted that the budget for 2016/17 be developed on the basis of a Council Tax increase of 3.99% and use of £4 million of available reserves with final agreement being made at Full Council in February 2016.

**Recommendation (3)** THAT the use of the Asda receipt as set out in Appendix C be agreed.

41. **Reports of the Executive Members**

- (i) [The Leader and Executive Member for Children's Services and Lead Member for Resources](#)

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

(ii) [The Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Adult Social Care, Integration, Human Resources and Corporate Governance](#)

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

(iii) [Executive Member for Sustainability and Organisational Change](#)

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

(iv) [Executive Member for Tourism, Culture and Heritage](#)

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

Oral questions were put to the Executive Member as follows :

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Cllr Jones-Evans	A question was asked around potential grant funding in relation to Visit Britain.	The Executive Member provided a response.
	A supplementary question was asked in relation to the timeframe for grant funding.	The Executive Member provided a response.
Cllr Nicholson	A question was asked in relation to the 'beer and buses' event.	The Executive Member provided a response.
	A supplementary question was asked as to whether members would promote the event.	The Executive Member provided a response.

(v) [Executive Member for Planning, Licensing, Public Realm and Local Engagement](#)

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

Oral questions were put to the Executive Member as follows :

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Cllr Whitehouse	A question was asked around whether a meeting could be arranged regarding Taylor Road.	The Executive Member provided a response.
Cllr Jones-Evans	A question was asked regarding the transfer of public assets to Town and	The Executive Member provided a response.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Comment</b>
	Parish Councils.	
	A question was asked as to why Council resources were being spent on unnecessary legal advice.	The Executive Member provided a response.
Cllr Blezzard	A question was asked with regard to the costs incurred to the Council as a result of the Blanchards appeal.	The Executive Member provided a response.
	A question was asked regarding if the Executive Member was still the Cowes Town Council representative on the Isle of Wight Association of Local Councils (IWALC).	The Executive Member provided a response.
	A question was asked regarding a potential conflict of interest in being that member.	The Executive Member provided a response.
Cllr Stewart	A question was asked with regard to expressing thanks to staff in the Executive Member's business area.	The Executive Member provided a response.
Cllr Hollis	A question was asked about whether it was policy to exclude members from meetings with relevant businesses in Medina Valley.	The Executive Member provided a response.

(vi) **Executive Member for Public Health, Public Protection and PFI**

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

Oral questions were put to the Executive Member as follows :

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Cllr Pitcher	A question was asked with regard to Island Roads' discretionary consultation policy in areas where statutory consultation did not apply.	The Executive Member provided a response.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Cllr Jones-Evans	A question was asked regarding whether members could see the consultants' report on car parking when it was published.	The Executive Member provided a response.
Cllr Perks	A question was asked about asking Island Roads to respond to a request to arrange a meeting in Ventnor.	The Executive Member provided a response.

(vii) **Executive Member for Regeneration, Economy and Public Transport**

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

Members were advised that the Isle of Wight Rural Small and Medium Sized Businesses (SME) Fund had been launched. Grants of between £2,500 and £10,000 were available and represented up to 50% of project costs to support small businesses. Relevant information would be provided to members.

Oral questions were put to the Executive Member as follows :

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Cllr Hollis	A question was asked regarding what was being done to ensure that industrial land in the Medina Valley would not be lost.	The Executive Member provided a response.
Cllr Baker-Smith	A question was asked in relation to how many members attended the meeting of the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) held on 20 January 2016.	The Executive Member provided a response.

42. **Report of the Scrutiny Committee Chairman**

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

Members were advised that a meeting of the Scrutiny Committee was due to be held on 21 January 2016 in which all members were invited to attend, and representatives from planning interests on the Island would be attending to answer questions. Members were also advised that a briefing had recently

been held with the adult social care management team, and their good work was noted.

Oral questions were put to the Chairman as follows :

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Cllr Stubbings	A question was asked when the Scrutiny Committee would report back on their investigations into the current state of adult social care on the Island.	The Chairman provided a response.

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

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

The following was moved by Cllr Lumley:

##### **Housing and Planning Bill**

Council notes:

- That the Housing and Planning Bill is currently being considered by Parliament, and if passed would threaten the provision of affordable homes for rent and buy through:
  - extending the right-to-buy to housing association tenants; and
  - undermining section 106 requirements on private developers to provide affordable homes.
- That there is no commitment in the Bill that affordable homes will be replaced like-for-like in the local area.
- That whilst any measures to help first-time buyers are welcome, the 'starter homes' proposals in the Bill will be unaffordable to families and young people on ordinary incomes in most parts of the country, and particularly the Isle of Wight; will not preserve the taxpayer investment; and will be built at the expense of genuinely-affordable homes to rent and buy.
- That the Bill undermines localism by taking 32 new wide and open-ended powers for the Secretary of State over councils and local communities, including the ability to override local plans.
- That the Bill, whilst introducing some welcome measures to get to grips with rogue private sector landlords, does not help with the high rents, poor conditions and insecurity affecting many of

England's 11m private renters – including one in four families with children – and does nothing to help arrest the recent rise in homelessness.

Council resolves:

- To analyse and report on the likely impact of the extension of right-to-buy, the undermining of Section 106 requirements, and the 'starter homes' requirement on the local availability of affordable homes.
- To analyse and report on any further likely impacts of the Bill on the local area.
- To use this information to:
  - support the Leader of the Council in writing to the Secretary of State with our concerns about the Bill;
  - set up an urgent meeting between the Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive with the Island's MP to raise our concerns;
  - make public our concerns, including by publishing the above information on the council's website and through the local press.

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

For (30)

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

Against (2)

Councillors Richard Hollis, Graham Perks.

Abstention (3)

Councillors Paul Bertie, Daryll Pitcher, Ian Ward.

RESOLVED :

- (i) THAT Council notes that the Housing and Planning Bill is currently being considered by Parliament, and if passed would

threaten the provision of affordable homes for rent and buy through:

- extending the right-to-buy to housing association tenants; and undermining section 106 requirements on private developers to provide affordable homes.
- That there is no commitment in the Bill that affordable homes will be replaced like-for-like in the local area.
- That whilst any measures to help first-time buyers are welcome, the 'starter homes' proposals in the Bill will be unaffordable to families and young people on ordinary incomes in most parts of the country, and particularly the Isle of Wight; will not preserve the taxpayer investment; and will be built at the expense of genuinely-affordable homes to rent and buy.
- That the Bill undermines localism by taking 32 new wide and open-ended powers for the Secretary of State over councils and local communities, including the ability to override local plans.
- That the Bill, whilst introducing some welcome measures to get to grips with rogue private sector landlords, does not help with the high rents, poor conditions and insecurity affecting many of England's 11m private renters – including one in four families with children – and does nothing to help arrest the recent rise in homelessness.

(ii) THAT Council resolves:

- To analyse and report on the likely impact of the extension of right-to-buy, the undermining of Section 106 requirements, and the 'starter homes' requirement on the local availability of affordable homes.
- To analyse and report on any further likely impacts of the Bill on the local area.
- To use this information to:
  - support the Leader of the Council in writing to the Secretary of State with our concerns about the Bill;
  - set up an urgent meeting between the Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive with the Island's MP to raise our concerns;
  - make public our concerns, including by publishing the above information on the council's website and through the local press.

Councillor Colin Richards declared a pecuniary interest in the following item and left the room during its consideration.

(b) [By Councillor John Medland](#)

- (i) The Isle of Wight Council notes that on December 17<sup>th</sup> 2015 five zones of the Isle of Wight considered for oil and gas extraction were all granted as open for conventional exploration licences and do not preclude unconventional drilling in the form of fracking.
- (ii) The Council recognises that there is widespread public concern over the use of unconventional oil and gas extraction through fracking in terms of its potential environmental effects and implications on climate change in relation to the Eco-Island policy pursued by this Council since 2008, but also recognises that as a planning authority the council is unable to express opposition to the principal of fracking as this would suggest predetermination.
- (iii) Council notes that for any application relating to the operations identified above to be successful on the Isle of Wight it would be required to satisfy, and not negatively impact upon all relevant policy requirements of the Island Plan, including, but not limited to:
  - SP4- Tourism
  - SP5- Environment
  - SP6- Renewables
  - SP9- Minerals
  - DM2- Design quality
  - DM8- Economic development
  - DM11- Historic and built environment
  - DM12- Landscape, seascape biodiversity and Geodiversity.
  - DM13- Green Infrastructure
  - DM14- Flood Risk
  - DM16- Renewables
- (iv) Council further notes that fracking applications made in Lancashire and West Sussex have been refused by their principal authorities but before going to the planning inspectorate have been diverted to the Secretary of State for the Department of Communities and Local Government for a final decision. Lancashire County Council has in turn queried this process on the basis that the Government has a clear policy in favour of fracking and should therefore unable to take such planning decisions as there is a clear issue of predetermination by the Secretary of State. This Council fully supports these concerns as raised by Lancashire Council.

- (v) Given the special circumstances of the Isle of Wight, the complex geological structure of the Island, the potential implications of the activities listed above, the extent and intensity of environmental conservation status on the landscape and coastline and importance of such to the wider tourism economy this Council resolves:
- (1) To request that a planning performance agreement to be entered into by any developer wishing to undertake such activities including agreement to waive existing time limits for determination in order to ensure full consideration of impacts as required by the policies set out at (iii) above;
  - (2) To require any application, and all elements of the application including all matters relating to the policies set out at (iii) above, to be determined by the Council's Planning Committee in accordance with the constitution as this Council deems that any such application would have Island-wide significance
  - (3) In the event of a refusal of any such application by the Planning Committee, to request that any Appeal that might follow be determined by a body that has not predetermined or could be seen as having predetermined any issues in relation to the application.

**44. Procedure Rule 26**

A proposal to extend the meeting by up to 30 minutes was proposed and seconded.

RESOLVED :

THAT the meeting be extended by up to 30 minutes.

**45. Motions submitted under Procedure Rule 10 of the Council's Constitution cont'd**

By Councillor John Medland

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

For (22)

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

Against (3)

Councillors Richard Hollis, Graham Perks, Daryll Pitcher.

Abstention (5)

Councillors Paul Bertie, David Eccles, Bob Seely, Dave Stewart, Ian Ward.

RESOLVED :

- (i) THAT the Isle of Wight Council notes that on December 17<sup>th</sup> 2015 five zones of the Isle of Wight considered for oil and gas extraction were all granted as open for conventional exploration licences and do not preclude unconventional drilling in the form of fracking.
- (ii) THAT the Council recognises that there is widespread public concern over the use of unconventional oil and gas extraction through fracking in terms of its potential environmental effects and implications on climate change in relation to the Eco-Island policy pursued by this Council since 2008, but also recognises that as a planning authority the council is unable to express opposition to the principal of fracking as this would suggest predetermination.
- (iii) THAT the Council notes that for any application relating to the operations identified above to be successful on the Isle of Wight it would be required to satisfy, and not negatively impact upon all relevant policy requirements of the Island Plan, including, but not limited to:
  - SP4- Tourism
  - SP5- Environment
  - SP6- Renewables
  - SP9- Minerals
  - DM2- Design quality
  - DM8- Economic development
  - DM11- Historic and built environment
  - DM12- Landscape, seascape biodiversity and Geodiversity.
  - DM13- Green Infrastructure
  - DM14- Flood Risk
  - DM16- Renewables
- (iv) THAT the Council further notes that fracking applications made in Lancashire and West Sussex have been refused by their principal authorities but before going to the planning inspectorate have been diverted to the Secretary of State for the Department of Communities and Local Government for a final decision. Lancashire County Council has in turn queried this process on the basis that the Government has a clear policy in favour of fracking and should therefore unable to take such planning decisions as there is a clear issue of predetermination by the Secretary of State. This Council fully supports these concerns as raised by Lancashire Council.

- (v) THAT given the special circumstances of the Isle of Wight, the complex geological structure of the Island, the potential implications of the activities listed above, the extent and intensity of environmental conservation status on the landscape and coastline and importance of such to the wider tourism economy this Council resolves:
- (1) To request that a planning performance agreement to be entered into by any developer wishing to undertake such activities including agreement to waive existing time limits for determination in order to ensure full consideration of impacts as required by the policies set out at (iii) above;
  - (2) To require any application, and all elements of the application including all matters relating to the policies set out at (iii) above, to be determined by the Council's Planning Committee in accordance with the constitution as this Council deems that any such application would have Island-wide significance
  - (3) In the event of a refusal of any such application by the Planning Committee, to request that any Appeal that might follow be determined by a body that has not predetermined or could be seen as having predetermined any issues in relation to the application.

CHAIRMAN