



Minutes

Name of meeting	FULL COUNCIL
Date and time	WEDNESDAY, 20 APRIL 2011 COMMENCING AT 6.00 PM
Venue	COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT
Present	Cllrs Ian Stephens (Chairman), Barry Abraham, Jonathan Bacon, Reg Barry, George Brown, George Cameron, Vanessa Churchman, Dawn Cousins, Rodney Downer, Stuart Dyer, Paul Fuller Edward Giles, John Hobart, John Howe, Heather Humby, Tim Hunter-Henderson, David Knowles, Geoff Lumley, Roger Mazillius, Lora Peacey-Wilcox, David Pugh, Colin Richards, Susan Scoccia, Andy Sutton, Arthur Taylor, Gary Taylor, Ian Ward, Jerry White, David Williams
Apologies	Cllrs Peter Bingham, Roger Dixcey, Richard Hollis, Julie Jones-Evans, Patrick Joyce, Margaret Webster, Chris Welsford, David Whittaker, Wayne Whittle

Prior to the start of the meeting the Chairman called for a minute's silence in remembrance of the passing of Councillor Ivan Bulwer. Personal tributes were made to Councillor Bulwer.

The Chairman also announced the death of former Councillor, Tony Mundy.

71. [Minutes](#)

RESOLVED :

THAT the Minutes of the meeting held on [16 March 2011](#) be confirmed.

72. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations received at this stage.

73. [Public Question Time](#)

Questions were put to the Chairman as follows :

Name	Subject	Comment
Ms Jackie Hawkins, Newport	Would the Council be making good use of the new permissions with regard to inconsiderate parking in order to make walking a safer and more pleasant experience?	The Cabinet Member provided a written response which was available on the following link (<u>PQ 12/11</u>)

Name	Subject	Comment
Stephen Goodman	<p>Why the Chief Fire Officer only reported to the Strategic Director of Economy and Environment, what qualified a single unelected official to act alone as the Island's Fire Authority</p> <p>A supplementary – The Chief Fire Officer had to report to the Strategic Director alone, was that true?</p>	<p>The Cabinet Member indicated that the body sat here tonight was the Fire Authority, it was not the Strategic Director of Economy and Environment, or the Chief Fire Officer, it was the Corporate Body of the Council.</p> <p>The Cabinet Member advised that although the Chief Fire Officer reported to the Strategic Director, any advice was then given to the Council. It was the Council who made any decisions, not the Chief Fire Officer or the Strategic Director.</p>
John Wortham of Brighstone	<p>Was £700,000 per annum being spent on 13 staff monitoring the PFI value for money?</p> <p>A supplementary – £260m PFI grant was doubling in cash terms over 25 years. Would the Council's contribution therefore not rise rather than reduce?</p>	<p>The Cabinet Member advised that the highways PFI was the biggest engineering project the Island had ever seen and adequate staff were required.</p> <p>The Cabinet Member indicated that there would be inflation over the 25 years of the project, and that the Council's contribution would be subject to inflation as would all other Council budgets, regardless of PFI.</p>
Simon Haytach	<p>Since the PFI was announced there had been cut backs and financial burdens now being realised, was that why the council passed such a devastating budget.</p> <p>A supplementary – why wasn't the same vision used when squandering council reserves.</p>	<p>The Leader advised that the budget was debated on 23 February and the council had delivered a balanced budget.</p> <p>The Leader advised the council had made appropriate use of their reserves. There had been inappropriately high reserves when the Conservatives took control.</p>

74. **Chairman's Report**

A [written report](#) had been circulated for information. The Chairman advised members that Bereavement Services had won the top award from the Isle of Wight Society with regard to Ryde Cemetery.

75. **Adoption of Isle of Wight Council Revised Statement of Licensing Policy 2011 - 2014**

The Cabinet Member for Fire and Community Safety advised members that under the Licensing Act 2003, a local authority was required to update its policy every three years. There had been little change to the previous policy with the removal of outdated legislation and the incorporation of the Equalities Act 2010.

The document had been subject to a 28 day consultation period with Hampshire Constabulary submitting relevant representations. The Licensing and General Purposes Committee considered the draft policy at their meeting on 28 March 2011. After making minor amendments the Licensing and General Purposes Committee had resolved that the policy be approved and submitted to Full Council for adoption.

There was some discussion with regard to the issue of Temporary Event Notices. It was noted that at the present time only the Police were able to object to them. It was believed that the government would be looking at that anomaly in the future.

The Cabinet Member indicated he had asked officers to provide a list of all applications similar to that currently provided by the Planning Department, and this was to include Temporary Event Notices.

RESOLVED :

THAT Statement of Licensing Policy 2011 – 2014 be adopted.

76. **Cabinet**

Reports of the Cabinet Members

(i) **The Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance, Governance and School Improvement**

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

An oral question was put to the Leader as follows :

Name	Subject	Comment
Councillor Vanessa Churchman	A news item indicated that the Isle of Wight Council was one of several councils taking action into the cancellation of the Building Schools for the Future programme	The Leader advised that the Government had determined that money that was provided for schools across the country through the Dedicated Grant and other

Name	Subject	Comment
		funding should be top sliced to fund the Governments Academy programme. Money was to be top sliced from all Local Education Authorities irrespective of whether they had academies or not. He believed academies should be funded centrally and not through top slicing. The Local Government Association was sending a pre action letter to the Government, on behalf of a number of Local Authorities setting out their concerns and seeking a response. There had to date been no financial commitment by the Isle of Wight Council in this regard.

(ii) [The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for the Economy, Tourism, Leisure, Planning and Property](#)

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

Oral questions were put to the Leader as follows :

Name	Subject	Comment
Councillor Lora Peacey-Wilcox	Had there been clauses included in the sale of the shop at the floating bridge?	The Cabinet Member would provide a written response.
Councillor Geoff Lumley	Rejection of the Council's bid to the Regional Growth Fund regarding tidal energy testing, would the Cabinet Member share the feedback with Members when it was received?	The Cabinet Member advised that it was a knockback that the funds had not been granted. There was a need to understand how to get to 2 nd round. Feedback from government has been requested and will be circulated by the cabinet member once received.
	Unemployment on the Isle of Wight – could you advise how you would deliver sustainable employment on the Island in the months to come.	The Cabinet Member advised that the figures continued to worsen in the 18 – 24 age group, although job opportunities

Name	Subject	Comment
	A supplementary – Would you accept the view of many people that the Government’s reassessment of people on long term incapacity benefit would lead to a significant increase in the jobless totals for the Isle of Wight.	for older residents were increasing. The council would continue to pursue inward investment. The Cabinet Member indicated he would provide a written response.
(iii)	<u>Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee</u>	
	A written report had been circulated for information.	
(iv)	<u>Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Housing</u>	
	A written report had been circulated for information.	
(v)	<u>Cabinet Member for Children’s Services</u>	
	A written report had been circulated for information.	
(vi)	<u>Cabinet Member for the Environment, Transport and Corporate Services</u>	
	A written report had been circulated for information.	

Oral questions were put to the Leader as follows :

Name	Subject	Comment
Councillor John Howe	What could councillors do to help with the issue of pavement parking?	The Cabinet Members indicated that yellow lines cover pavements as well as roads. Any information on pavement parking should be directed to Enterprise House.
Councillor Rodney Downer	There was £800,000 for pothole repairs, were they to be properly inspected and was there any money in the budget for quartering?	The Cabinet Member indicated that pothole repairs would be inspected by highways and he would provide a written response in regard to quartering.
Councillor Colin Richards	Asked a question in relation traffic wardens.	The Cabinet Member indicated he would provide a written

Name	Subject	Comment
Councillor Geoff Lumley	Was it possible to introduce a by-law with regard to pavement parking?	response. The Cabinet Member advised he would make enquiries to see if it was feasible for a by-law.
Councillor David Pugh	Pavement parking was authorised in some areas on the Island, could consideration be given to allowing pavement parking where appropriate?	The Cabinet Member advised it could be appropriate in certain areas.

(vii) **Cabinet Member for Major Projects, Performance and Customer Services**

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

(viii) **Cabinet Member for Fire and Community Safety**

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

The Cabinet Member asked Mr Goodman to e-mail his question and invited him to a meeting with himself and the Chief Fire Officer.

CHAIRMAN