



# Minutes

Name of meeting	<b>FULL COUNCIL</b>
Date and time	<b>WEDNESDAY, 25 NOVEMBER 2015 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, 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, Matthew Price, Richard Priest, Colin Richards, Shirley Smart, Ian Stephens, Dave Stewart, Steve Stubbings, Ian Ward, Ivor Warlow, Roger Whitby-Smith, Chris Whitehouse, Wayne Whittle
Apologies	Cllrs Julie Jones-Evans, Daryll Pitcher, Bob Seely

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34. [Minutes](#)

RESOLVED :

THAT the Minutes of the meeting held on [14 October 2015](#) be confirmed.

35. **Declarations of Interest**

Cllrs Jonathan Bacon, Julia Baker-Smith, Reg Barry, Bob Blezzard, Ray Bloomfield, Rodney Downer, Paul Fuller, Jonathan Gilbey, Luisa Hillard, John Hobart, John Howe, Gordon Kendall, Geoff Lumley, John Medland, John Nicholson, Lora Peacey-Wilcox, Matthew Price, Richard Priest, Colin Richards, Shirley Smart, Ian Stephens, Steve Stubbings, Ian Ward, Ivor Warlow, Wayne Whittle declared an interest in Minute 41 (d) as they were members of either a town or parish council.

36. [Public Question Time](#)

Questions were put to the Chairman as follows :

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Mike Starke of Chale Green	Appointment of the Isle of Wight Council Chief Executive.	The Leader provided a response.

37. **Chairman's Report**

A written report had been circulated for information.

38. **Appointment of Chief Executive**

Cllr Lumley, as chair of the Employment Sub Committee, reminded council that at its meeting of 2 September 2015, it was agreed to initiate a recruitment campaign for the appointment of a new chief executive. The salary was advertised at a minimum of £125,000 per annum, with on-costs equated to £168,717.

There had been 26 applications, after evaluation and long listing this was reduced to eight. The Employment Sub Committee then met and produced a short list of three. Unfortunately, two days prior to the appointment process one of the candidates withdrew. At the end of a two day appointment process the Employment Sub Committee recommended that Mr John Metcalfe be appointed to the post of Chief Executive, and Cllr Lumley formally moved this recommendation, which was seconded.

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, Ray Bloomfield, Rodney Downer, David Eccles, Paul Fuller, Jonathan Gilbey, Luisa Hillard, John Hobart, Alan Hollands, John Howe, Stuart Hutchinson, Phil Jordan, Geoff Lumley, John Medland, John Nicholson, Lora Peacey-Wilcox, Matthew Price, Richard Priest, Colin Richards, Shirley Smart, Ian Stephens, Dave Stewart, Steve Stubbings, Ian Ward, Ivor Warlow, Roger Whitby-Smith, Wayne Whittle

Against (1)

Councillor Gordon Kendall

Abstention (4)

Councillors Conrad Gauntlett, Richard Hollis, Graham Perks, Chris Whitehouse

RESOLVED :

THAT Mr John Metcalfe be appointed as the Council's Chief Executive and be appointed at the advertised salary of £125,000 per annum.

39. **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.

The Leader advised members that a comprehensive business case for Carisbrooke College had been accepted by the Department for Education. The final announcement was being agreed and work would start early next year.

He also advised that issues regarding devolution were still being worked through, and it was unlikely that a meeting of the Full Council would be required in December 2015.

Written questions were put to the Leader as follows :

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Cllr Whitehouse	What was the total cost to the Council of the preparation, publishing and distribution of the advertorial on education published with the County Press newspaper on Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> November?	The Leader provided a written response which was available on the following link ( <a href="#">MQ 15/15</a> ).
	What had been the total expenditure upon advertising, promotion and other purposes in : a. The County Press, b. Isle of Wight Radio, c. On The Wight, d. Island Echo, e. other publications in each of the last 5 years?	The Leader provided a written response which was available on the following link ( <a href="#">MQ 15/15</a> ). The Leader advised that he would send a link to general cost information to Cllr Whitehouse and all other members.

Oral questions were put to the Leader as follows :

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Cllr Whitehouse	Would the Leader reconsider his assurance that the compliance of the advertorial on education with the code of practice on local authority publicity was properly assessed before it went ahead, and was he aware that the code of practice specifically required statements to be balanced and not misleading, that it warned of the dangers of advertorials looking like publications, and that it should be clearly identified as an advertisement?	The Leader responded that the code of practice was considered with every publication that was put out by the Council through the communications department.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Cllr Perks	Was there any movement concerning the ground at Ventnor industrial estate being sold to Cheetah Marine?	The Leader would provide a written response.
Cllr Perks	Could a response be provided within the next few days due to the issue being on the agenda for the next Executive meeting?	The Leader assured that an answer would be provided as soon as possible.
Cllr Priest	Would the Leader share my concerns about the report he put forward regarding school attendance figures recently and the backward direction of the attendance figures on the Island?	The Leader explained that attendance on the Island remained a concern which he wished to deal with and that it was being looked into by the Children's Committee.

(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.

Oral questions were put to the Deputy Leader as follows :

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Cllr Nicholson	Given the dire situation and state of the Island's social care services, did the Deputy Leader share my deep concern and could he reassure me on what was being done to remedy the situation and the plans which were being formed to prevent such a situation in the future?	The Deputy Leader explained that he shared Cllr Nicholson's concerns, that the Council's performance was at a high level and that he understood that the recently published report relating to the provision of care services on the Island did not reflect well. The Deputy Leader advised that roughly two thirds of inspections referred to within that report were conducted prior to the introduction of the new Care Quality Commission (CQC) inspection regime in May 2014, which showed that some of the information reported was historic and did not reflect

Name	Subject	Comment
Cllr Lumley	<p>Could I have an early response to the situation the Council would be in as a result of today's Government announcements regarding a 2% increase in Council Tax payments rather than an increase in grant income to the authority to address social care problems?</p>	<p>the current position. The Deputy Leader advised that the Council and its partners across the system were making every effort to ensure that that particular result was not replicated in the future. The Deputy Leader advised that there was a new regime in place to assist care homes in ensuring their readiness for CQC inspections, which he believed would make a quick and substantial difference to the performance of the homes on the Island. The Deputy Leader explained that he shared Cllr Lumley's concerns and hoped that some of the money allocated to the NHS might find its way around the system.</p>

(iii) [Executive Member for Regeneration, Economy and Public Transport](#)

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

Written questions were put to the Executive Member as follows :

Name	Subject	Comment
Cllr Jones-Evans	<p>Cllr Jones-Evans was not in attendance to ask her question.</p>	<p>The Executive Member advised that a written response was available on the following link <a href="#"><u>(MQ 14/15)</u></a>.</p>

Oral questions were put to the Executive Member as follows :

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Cllr Stewart	Were you aware of the impact of the Red Funnel Solent Local Enterprise Partnership funding agreement on local businesses, and were there any steps being taken to address this with local residents?	The Executive Member explained that meetings have taken place with local members and East Cowes Town Council members and further meetings would be held for updates.
Cllr Stewart	What were we doing to encourage businesses and people in the area not to leave the Island?	The Executive Member advised that regular meetings were being held with local business people and another meeting was due to be held early in the new year.

(iv) **Executive Member for Sustainability and Organisational Change**

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 Gilbey	The waste contract stipulated that from 31 January 2016, clear bags would no longer be free and would need to be purchased at a cost to Island residents; this had not been communicated very well?	The Executive Member advised that from 31 January 2016, clear bags would no longer be supplied and residents would not be able to purchase them from the Council. The Executive Member explained that residents would have the option to put their recycling waste directly into recycling bins or purchase their own white bags.

(v) **Executive Member for Tourism, Culture and Heritage**

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

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

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

The Executive Member emphasised the importance of the current consultation on area action plans and invited members to engage with this.

Oral questions were put to the Executive Member as follows :

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Cllr Whitehouse	Would you circulate the register of orphaned assets on the Island, as residents should manage these?	The Executive Member advised that the issue of Taylor Road needed to be dealt with, and he would welcome the opportunity to talk to local members to discuss issues in their areas.
Cllr Whitehouse	In relation to my specific point, would you prepare and circulate the register of orphan assets?	The Executive Member advised that he would discuss this further to understand whether it was achievable.
Cllr Hollis	At a recent medina valley action plan briefing, I was told that the new policy for Medina Valley would be for mixed development and that this would be Councillor-led. What was the thought in destroying the previous policy to protect areas which were for marine employment?	The Executive Member advised that the water frontage was important, and that he had been involved in a meeting with the local member and businesses in Cowes about how the areas can be protected. He explained that there would be further meetings with businesses in Cowes to develop this, and reminded members that they could safeguard their local economies through representation in the current consultation.
Cllr Hollis	The previous policy focused on looking after the area. What has changed from the previous policy?	The Executive Member explained that nothing had changed as the consultation period was still running, and the consultation was the start of a process to look at updating the policy.

(vii) **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 Whitby-Smith	Did the Executive Member consider three members of emergency planning staff to be sufficient?	The Executive Member advised that the emergency team was suitably staffed.
Cllr Bloomfield	With regard to the references to the counter terrorism strategy, how would the duty be complied with and who would provide a written response to this?	The Executive Member informed that he would provide a written response, as the information could not be disclosed in this meeting.
Cllr Priest	With regard to an update on the progress with the car parking strategy, were we keeping to the original timetable and the £30,000 budget, could we have reassurance of business engagement, and could we have a report to evaluate the cost of the PFI consultancy?	The Executive Member explained that a strategy would be created after the consultation had ended, but this would not be in place for budget finalisations in 2016. Information regarding the £30,000 budget could not be divulged.
Cllr Whitehouse	Could you point me in the direction of where the £300,000 agreed spend for the Atkins contract was agreed at Full Council?	The Executive Member advised that this was an officer decision, and part of a legal process.
Cllr Lumley	Could you assure that you will not allow this to continue for too long, and would you agree that writing your own report has improved how information has been presented to us?	The Executive Member advised that he was mindful of working to a timetable to ensure a quick outcome.

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

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

The Chairman advised that following concerns raised regarding the provision of adult social care services, the Scrutiny Committee would be undertaking

scrutiny on this in conjunction with the Audit Committee. Further details would be available at the meeting of the Scrutiny Committee on 3 December 2015.

Oral questions were put to the Chairman as follows :

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Cllr Lumley	As it was my understanding that adult social care issues would be considered by a Scrutiny Sub Committee, why was it still being considered by the Scrutiny Committee?	The Chairman advised that adult social care was a huge area of the budget.

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

(a) [By Councillor Charles Chapman](#)

**THAT Whereas** the Isle Wight Troop, part of 266 Port Squadron, 165 Port and Maritime Regiment, Royal Logistic Corps has achieved honour and renown in support of the life and community of the Isle of Wight.

**And Whereas** a bond of friendship has existed between the soldiers of the Isle Wight Troop, 165 Port and Maritime Regiment, Royal Logistic Corps and the people of the Island for many years, and to commemorate the centenary of the Gallipoli campaign and recognise the sacrifices Islanders made during the First World War, and in recognition of the distinguished record of the regiment and its eminent service to Queen and country, the Isle of Wight Council in accordance with Section 249 (5) of the Local Government Act 1972 hereby admits to the honorary freedom of the Isle of Wight the officers, warrant officers, non-commissioned officers and serving soldiers in the Isle Wight Troop, 165 Port and Maritime Regiment , Royal Logistic Corps and confers upon the Isle Wight Troop, 165 Port and Maritime Regiment, Royal Logistic Corps the right, honour and distinction of marching through the streets of the Island on all ceremonial occasions with swords drawn, bayonets fixed, drums beating, bands playing and colours flying.

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, Bob Blezzard, Ray Bloomfield, Rodney Downer, Paul Fuller, 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, Matthew Price, Richard Priest,

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

Against (0)

Abstention (0)

RESOLVED :

THAT **Whereas** the Isle Wight Troop, part of 266 Port Squadron, 165 Port and Maritime Regiment, Royal Logistic Corps has achieved honour and renown in support of the life and community of the Isle of Wight.

**And Whereas** a bond of friendship has existed between the soldiers of the Isle Wight Troop, 165 Port and Maritime Regiment, Royal Logistic Corps and the people of the Island for many years, and to commemorate the centenary of the Gallipoli campaign and recognise the sacrifices Islanders made during the First World War, and in recognition of the distinguished record of the regiment and its eminent service to Queen and country, the Isle of Wight Council in accordance with Section 249 (5) of the Local Government Act 1972 hereby admits to the honorary freedom of the Isle of Wight the officers, warrant officers, non-commissioned officers and serving soldiers in the Isle Wight Troop, 165 Port and Maritime Regiment , Royal Logistic Corps and confers upon the Isle Wight Troop, 165 Port and Maritime Regiment, Royal Logistic Corps the right, honour and distinction of marching through the streets of the Island on all ceremonial occasions with swords drawn, bayonets fixed, drums beating, bands playing and colours flying.

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

"Council agrees to require the Planning Committee to review the CODE OF PRACTICE FOR MEMBERS AND OFFICERS DEALING WITH PLANNING MATTERS by way of considering deleting the final sentence of para 17 (d) and replacing it with:

'Where there is disagreement between the local Member and the Head of Planning, a Planning Sub-Committee is established (consisting of the Chair and Vice Chair of Planning Committee together with the local Member, advised by the Head of Planning) to determine whether the reason(s) for requesting call-in to Planning Committee is/are relevant and material to the consideration of the application.' "

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

Council requires the Planning Committee to review the code of practice for members and officers dealing with planning matters.

Councillor Lumley advised that he accepted the amendment to his motion.

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

For (32)

Councillors Jonathan Bacon, Julia Baker-Smith, Reg Barry, Ray Bloomfield, Rodney Downer, Paul Fuller, 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, Matthew Price, Richard Priest, Colin Richards, Shirley Smart, Ian Stephens, Dave Stewart, Steve Stubbings, Ian Ward, Ivor Warlow, Roger Whitby-Smith, Chris Whitehouse, Wayne Whittle

Against (1)

Councillor Bob Blezzard

Abstention (0)

RESOLVED :

THAT Council requires the Planning Committee to review the code of practice for members and officers dealing with planning matters.

(c) [By Councillor Dave Stewart](#)

In the light of recent events in France this council undertakes to actively engage with the Hampshire Police and Crime Commissioner, and Hampshire Police to ensure our council members and our wider community are made fully aware of the PREVENT agenda, and that our emergency planning arrangements and local contingency plans are reviewed to ensure we, as a community, are equipped to respond to a terrorist attack or similar incident.

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

Against (0)

Abstention (0)

RESOLVED :

THAT in the light of recent events in France this council undertakes to actively engage with the Hampshire Police and Crime Commissioner, and Hampshire Police to ensure our council members and our wider community are made fully aware of the PREVENT agenda, and that our emergency planning arrangements and local contingency plans are reviewed to ensure we, as a community, are equipped to respond to a terrorist attack or similar incident.

(d) [By Councillor Bob Blezzard](#)

### **Council Tax Support Grant**

The Isle of Wight Council agrees to continue paying town and parish councils their due proportion of the council tax support grant received from the Government in accordance with the formula used since the current arrangements were introduced in 2013.

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

No member of this council, who is also a member of a town or parish council should vote on this motion.

The Deputy Monitoring Officer gave an explanation of an amendment. He advised it should not negate the motion, nor have the effect of introducing a new subject into the motion. Additionally it was not for the council to restrict the voting ability of members. Therefore, he did not believe what had Councillor Barry had proposed was an amendment. The Chairman therefore declined to accept the amendment as a valid amendment.

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

For (32)

Councillors Jonathan Bacon, Julia Baker-Smith, Bob Blezzard, Ray Bloomfield, Rodney Downer, Paul Fuller, 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, Matthew Price, Richard Priest, Colin Richards, Shirley Smart, Ian Stephens, Dave Stewart, Steve Stubbings, Ian Ward, Ivor Warlow, Roger Whitby-Smith, Chris Whitehouse, Wayne Whittle

Against (1)

Councillor Reg Barry

Abstention (0)

RESOLVED :

THAT the Isle of Wight Council agrees to continue paying town and parish councils their due proportion of the council tax support grant received from the Government in accordance with the formula used since the current arrangements were introduced in 2013.

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

Council notes that this administration has a positive relationship with its recognised trade unions and that the October Executive confirmed the Employment Committee's recommendations that the 'check off' elements of the Government's Trade Union Bill be opposed.

Council believes that the TU Bill overall will damage relations between employers and their staff across the UK. The Bill has already been widely condemned by human rights organisations as a major threat to civil liberties in Britain.

Council also believes that the TU Bill is at odds with the Government's moves to devolve power to the regions of Britain, such as that for the Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. It is the council's view that taking on responsibility for improving public services and growing local economies means working in partnership with our own workforce. We fail to understand why the Government wishes to tell us how we manage our relations with the trade unions that represent our workforce.

Council, therefore, agrees to oppose the Trade Union Bill overall, and communicate that opposition to Government and our MP.

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

For (23)

Councillors Jonathan Bacon, Julia Baker-Smith, Reg Barry, Bob Blezzard, Rodney Downer, Paul Fuller, Jonathan Gilbey, Luisa Hillard, Alan Hollands, John Howe, Phil Jordan, Gordon Kendall, Geoff Lumley, John Medland, Lora Peacey-Wilcox, Graham Perks,

Richard Priest, Colin Richards, Shirley Smart, Ian Stephens, Steve Stubbings, Ivor Warlow, Roger Whitby-Smith

Against (10)

Councillors Ray Bloomfield, John Hobart, Richard Hollis, Stuart Hutchinson, John Nicholson, Matthew Price, Dave Stewart, Ian Ward, Chris Whitehouse, Wayne Whittle

Abstention (0)

RESOLVED :

THAT Council notes that this administration has a positive relationship with its recognised trade unions and that the October Executive confirmed the Employment Committee's recommendations that the 'check off' elements of the Government's Trade Union Bill be opposed.

Council believes that the TU Bill overall will damage relations between employers and their staff across the UK. The Bill has already been widely condemned by human rights organisations as a major threat to civil liberties in Britain.

Council also believes that the TU Bill is at odds with the Government's moves to devolve power to the regions of Britain, such as that for the Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. It is the council's view that taking on responsibility for improving public services and growing local economies means working in partnership with our own workforce. We fail to understand why the Government wishes to tell us how we manage our relations with the trade unions that represent our workforce.

Council, therefore, agrees to oppose the Trade Union Bill overall, and communicate that opposition to Government and our MP.

CHAIRMAN