



Minutes

Name of meeting	FULL COUNCIL
Date and time	WEDNESDAY, 26 FEBRUARY 2014 COMMENCING AT 5.00 PM
Venue	COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT
Present	Cllrs Ian Ward (Chairman), Jonathan Bacon, Julia Baker-Smith, Reg Barry, Paul Bertie, Bob Blezzard, Ray Bloomfield, Charles Chapman, 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, Ivor Warlow, Roger Whitby-Smith, Chris Whitehouse, Wayne Whittle

42. [Minutes](#)

RESOLVED :

THAT the Minutes of the meeting held on [15 January 2014](#) be confirmed.

43. [Declarations of Interest](#)

Councillor Steve Stubbings declared a personal interest in Agenda item 9, as he was a Ventnor Town Councillor.

Councillors Jon Gilbey, Graham Perks, Daryll Pitcher, Shirley Smart, Ian Stephens and Wayne Whittle declared pecuniary interests in Minute 49, as they had business which may be affected with regard to free car parking element of the budget.

Councillor John Howe declared a personal interest in Minute 46, Totland Sea Wall, as he was the local councillor.

Councillor Alan Hollands declared a pecuniary interest in Minute 49, as he was a taxi licence holder.

Councillor Paul Fuller declared a personal interest in Minute 49, as his wife had a street trading licence.

44. **Public Question Time** ([Recording 1](#) and [2](#))

Questions were put to the Chairman as follows :

Name	Subject	Comment
Mrs June Elford of Carisbrooke	Mrs Elford was not in attendance.	The Cabinet Member provided a written response which was available on the following link (PQ 08/14)
Mr David Walters of Wellow	Asked a question in relation to the Economic Development Plan 2011 - 14	The Cabinet Member indicated a response would be provided.
Mr Matthew Martin of Cowes	How much grant money had the Island lost out on in the last 10 years through not having a Community Grants and Funding Officer?	The Leader advised he was not sure he was able to find that information, but would see what could be found out.
	Supplementary - Would the Council employ an Advisory officer to deal with grant funding?	The Leader advised it would be reviewed.
Mr Mark Chiverton of Ryde	Asked for an explanation in the difference between cuts and re-engineering	The Leader indicated that cuts were cuts and re-engineering was a re-shaping of the service.
	Supplementary - Many council staff expressed dismay and disappointment about the recent press comments by the local MP which seemed to deny the need for more resources for the Isle of Wight Council. What steps was the council taking to ensure the MP understood the magnitude of the local problem and to persuade him to take that up with central government?	The Leader advised there were ongoing meetings and dialogue with the MP.
Cllr Blackmore of Ventnor Town Council	Asked a question with regard to Salisbury Gardens, Ventnor.	The Leader provided a response.

45. **Chairman's Report**

A written report had been circulated for information.

The Chairman advised members that the 1 August 2014 was the 100th anniversary of the start of World War 1. A service of commemoration was to be held during August 2014 at Newport Minster.

46. **To receive a petition 'To Save Our Totland Sea Wall'**

Caroline Dudley gave a brief outline of the petition, highlighting several points of interest. The local member, Councillor John Howe, also gave a brief speech about the problems relating to the sea wall.

Members discussed various aspects of the issues raised, including the approximate £2m cost to the council for the works to the sea wall. It was understood there was a possibility of European funding being available, which may cover approximately $\frac{1}{3}$ of the cost. It was believed that the potential works would be viewed in the round of how capital spending would be allocated and a report would be presented to Cabinet in due course.

RESOLVED :

THAT a report be presented to cabinet in due course.

47. **Reports of the Head of Human Resources**

(a) **Employee Appeal Arrangements**

Members were advised that at its meeting of 13 January 2014, the Employment Committee had made a recommendation that the council's constitution be amended so that a panel of elected members may hear employee appeals in the case of dismissals that arose out of disciplinary or capability proceedings.

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

For (36)

Councillors Jonathan Bacon, Julia Baker-Smith, Reg Barry, Paul Bertie, Bob Blezzard, Ray Bloomfield, Charles Chapman, Rodney Downer, David Eccles, Paul Fuller, Conrad Gauntlett, 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, Dave Stewart, Steve Stubbings, Ivor Warlow, Roger Whitby-Smith, Chris Whitehouse, Wayne Whittle

Abstention (3)

Councillors Richard Hollis, Stuart Hutchinson, Julie Jones-Evans

RESOLVED :

THAT the Employment Committee's recommendation at its meeting of 13 January 2014, for the council's constitution to be amended to make provision for a panel of elected members to hear employee appeals in the case of dismissals that arise out of disciplinary or capability proceedings be endorsed.

(b) [Appointment of Head of Paid Service](#)

At its meeting of 19 June 2013, Full Council agreed that the strategic director for resources should be appointed to the post of managing director and the statutory function of head of paid service for a period to the 1 April 2014.

At its meeting of 13 January 2014, the Employment Committee recommended that the current managing director and strategic director for resources appointment as head of paid service to be extended until 1 April 2015, on a revised salary level.

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

For (39)

Councillors Jonathan Bacon, Julia Baker-Smith, Reg Barry,
Paul Bertie, Bob Blezzard, Ray Bloomfield, Charles Chapman,
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,
Ivor Warlow, Roger Whitby-Smith, Chris Whitehouse, Wayne Whittle

RESOLVED :

THAT the appointment of Dave Burbage, the managing director and director of resources as head of paid service be extended until 1 April 2015, on a revised salary level as set out in paragraph 7 of the report (attached to and forming part of these minutes) be endorsed.

(c) [Pay Policy](#)

There was a continued legislative requirement under the Localism Act 2011 to establish and publish a pay policy statement which was to be

approved before the 31 March each year by Full Council. Further revisions had been made to reflect the up to date position with regard to the council's pay and reward arrangements. In addition to the statutory guidance, consideration has also been given to the inclusion of detail relating to pay and reward for the whole workforce to offer greater openness and transparency in pay related decisions.

At its meeting of 13 January 2014, the Employment Committee considered and approved the proposed updates and amendments to the council's pay policy statement.

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

For (39)

Councillors Jonathan Bacon, Julia Baker-Smith, Reg Barry, Paul Bertie, Bob Blezzard, Ray Bloomfield, Charles Chapman, 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, Ivor Warlow, Roger Whitby-Smith, Chris Whitehouse, Wayne Whittle

RESOLVED :

THAT the pay policy statement for 2014/15 be adopted.

48. Suspension of Council Procedure Rule 14(4)

A proposal to suspend Council Procedure Rule 14(4) was proposed and seconded, which would extend the time limit on speeches from the Leader of the Council and Group Leaders. This would also include the representative of the Liberal Democrat party. Following the vote it was

RESOLVED:

THAT Procedure Rule 14(4) be partially suspended for the duration of the following item of business to increase the time limit on speeches from the Leader of the Council and Group leaders (or their nominees) and representative of the Liberal Democrat party to up to 15 minutes.

49. [Medium Term Budget Strategy 2014/15 - 2016/17 and Council Tax Setting 2014/15](#)

Council had received a report from the Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Resources on the 2014/15 - 2016/17 Budget Strategy and Council Tax Setting Report. A number of amendments were received from other members and these were all debated.

The Leader spoke on the budget proposals recommended by the Cabinet.

The Leaders of the other groups then spoke in turn on the budget proposals.

Other members of the council also made comment on the budget proposals.

All parties then summed up.

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 to allow for the completion of the budget item.

A short adjournment was held to enable group leaders to come to a consensus in regard of the budget proposals. Upon reconvening

The following motion was moved and seconded :

THAT COUNCIL

- (a) THAT the Equality Impact Assessment set out in Appendix 9 (attached to and forming part of these minutes) is considered to be consistent with the budget proposals and any potential adverse impacts are understood.
- (b) THAT appropriate mitigating actions are proposed to be taken and that it recommends to Council they are considered when making its decisions.
- (c) THAT the overall financial and budget position the Council faces in 2014/15 and future years be considered.
- (d) THAT an overall budget and Council Tax strategy be approved, in particular:
 - (i) The updated Medium-Term Financial Strategy as set out in Appendix 1 to the report;
 - (ii) The overall Capital Programme as set out in Appendix 4 (attached to and forming part of these minutes);
 - (iii) The Treasury Management Strategy, Investment Strategy, Borrowing Strategy, Minimum Revenue Provision and Prudential Indicators as set out in Appendix 5 (attached to and forming part of these minutes);

- (iv) To note that due to the very significant level of savings required for 2015/16 that serious consideration be given to holding a council tax referendum for that year at the appropriate time;
 - (v) The schedule of savings set out in Appendix 6 (attached to and forming part of these minutes) as amended by points (e) to (h) below;
 - (vi) That £150,000 is allocated to support young people into pre-apprenticeships and apprenticeship and older people (over 50's) to start up their own businesses;
 - (vii) That an Island wide residents parking permit be introduced from 1 April 2014 on the basis set out in Annexe B of Appendix 6 (attached to and forming part of these minutes);
 - (viii) That the proposed level of fees and charges for 2014/15 in relation to recreation, leisure and public spaces are introduced as set out in Annexe E of Appendix 6 (attached to and forming part of these minutes);
 - (ix) The senior management structure as set out in Annexe C and D of Appendix 6 (attached to and forming part of these minutes) and the appointment and designation of the following statutory Officer roles:
 - (1) Nominated Director of Social Services - Mark Howell
Head of Adult Social Care and Community Wellbeing;
 - (2) Monitoring officer - Davina Fiore Head of Corporate Governance and Monitoring Officer;
 - (3) Chief Finance Officer and Section 151 Officer - Stuart Fraser, Head of Finance and Section 151 Officer;
 - (x) THAT the head of corporate governance and monitoring officer is appointed to act as the returning officer and electoral registration officer for all relevant elections;
 - (xi) That the service and budget review steering group be tasked with undertaking a continuous process of monitoring the achievement of the 2014/15 budget savings and developing and progressing savings for 2015/16 and future years;
 - (xii) To carry out appropriate consultation exercises in relation to the charging proposals for the Cowes chain ferry and in relation to the fairer charging disregards.
- (e) THAT Full Council agrees to increase Council Tax for 2014/15 by 1.99%, the proceeds of which increase (circa £500,000 plus) will be used for reducing some of the savings (as set out in Paper E, Appendix 6 attached to and forming part of these minutes) that have the most unacceptable impacts on residents.

The retention of beach safety equipment (£20k savings)

A year delay (minimum) in pedestrian charges on the Cowes chain ferry/floating bridge (£100k savings) to allow for further consultation into and investigation of the viability of such charges.

- (f) THAT the School Crossing Staff be retained.
- (g) THAT the Empty Homes Officer duplicate post, be removed from the list of savings, but changed to an Administrative position.
- (h) THAT the proposed reduction of £25,000 in relation to the support to the Lord Lieutenant be not proceeded with at this stage.
- (i) THAT the Council Tax Freeze Grant for 2014/15 be declined and instead agree to the setting of the Isle of Wight Council element of council tax for 2014/15 at a level 1.99% higher than the amount for 2013/14;
- (j) THAT Council consider and approve the overall budget requirement and level of Council Tax for 2014-15 being:
 - (1) that element agreed by Council for the Isle of Wight Council for 2014-15; plus
 - (2) the notified precept for 2014-15 from the Police and Crime Commissioner for Hampshire; plus
 - (3) the notified precepts for 2014-15 from Parish and Town Councils.
- (k) THAT the formal Budget and Council Tax resolutions as set out in Appendices 10A, 10B and 10C (attached to and forming part of these minutes) be agreed.

Procedure Rule 26

A proposal to extend the meeting to allow for the completion of the budget item was proposed and seconded.

RESOLVED:

THAT the meeting be extended to allow for the completion of the budget item.

The following amendment to the motion was then moved and seconded :

THAT COUNCIL

Review how union facilities were paid for.

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

For (13)

Councillors Paul Bertie, Ray Bloomfield, David Eccles, Conrad Gauntlett, John Hobart, Richard Hollis, Stuart Hutchinson, Julie Jones-Evans, John Nicholson, Graham Perks, Daryll Pitcher, Bob Seely, Dave Stewart,

Against (23)

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

Abstention (1)

Councillor Matthew Price

The amendment fell and a vote was taken on the substantive motion the result of which was as follows:

For (30)

Councillors Jonathan Bacon, Julia Baker-Smith, Reg Barry, Bob Blezzard, Charles Chapman, Rodney Downer, David Eccles, Paul Fuller, Conrad Gauntlett, Jonathan Gilbey, Luisa Hillard, 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 (6)

Councillors Ray Bloomfield, John Hobart, Richard Hollis, Julie Jones-Evans, Graham Perks, Daryll Pitcher

Abstention (1)

Councillor Paul Bertie

RESOLVED :

- (a) THAT the Equality Impact Assessment set out in Appendix 9 (attached to and forming part of these minutes) is considered to be consistent with the budget proposals and any potential adverse impacts are understood.

- (b) THAT appropriate mitigating actions are proposed to be taken and that it recommends to Council they are considered when making its decisions.
- (c) THAT the overall financial and budget position the Council faces in 2014/15 and future years be considered.
- (d) THAT an overall budget and Council Tax strategy be approved, in particular:
 - (i) The updated Medium-Term Financial Strategy as set out in Appendix 1 to the report;
 - (ii) The overall Capital Programme as set out in Appendix 4 (attached to and forming part of these minutes);
 - (iii) The Treasury Management Strategy, Investment Strategy, Borrowing Strategy, Minimum Revenue Provision and Prudential Indicators as set out in Appendix 5 (attached to and forming part of these minutes);
 - (iv) To note that due to the very significant level of savings required for 2015/16 that serious consideration be given to holding a council tax referendum for that year at the appropriate time;
 - (v) The schedule of savings set out in Appendix 6 (attached to and forming part of these minutes);
 - (vi) That £150,000 is allocated to support young people into pre-apprenticeships and apprenticeship and older people (over 50's) to start up their own businesses;
 - (vii) That an Island wide residents parking permit be introduced from 1 April 2014 on the basis set out in Annexe B of Appendix 6 (attached to and forming part of these minutes);
 - (viii) That the proposed level of fees and charges for 2014/15 in relation to recreation, leisure and public spaces are introduced as set out in Annexe E of Appendix 6 (attached to and forming part of these minutes);
 - (ix) The senior management structure as set out in Annexe C and D of Appendix 6 (attached to and forming part of these minutes) and the appointment and designation of the following statutory Officer roles:
 - (1) Nominated Director of Social Services - Mark Howell Head of Adult Social Care and Community Wellbeing;
 - (2) Monitoring officer - Davina Fiore Head of Corporate Governance and Monitoring Officer;

- (3) Chief Finance Officer and Section 151 Officer - Stuart Fraser, Head of Finance and Section 151 Officer;
- (x) THAT the head of corporate governance and monitoring officer is appointed to act as the returning officer and electoral registration officer for all relevant elections;
- (xi) That the service and budget review steering group be tasked with undertaking a continuous process of monitoring the achievement of the 2014/15 budget savings and developing and progressing savings for 2015/16 and future years;
- (xii) To carry out appropriate consultation exercises in relation to the charging proposals for the Cowes chain ferry and in relation to the fairer charging disregards.
- (e) THAT Full Council agrees to increase Council Tax for 2014/15 by 1.99%, the proceeds of which increase (circa £500,000 plus) will be used for reducing some of the savings (as set out in Paper E, Appendix 6 attached to and forming part of these minutes) that have the most unacceptable impacts on residents.

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A year delay (minimum) in pedestrian charges on the Cowes chain ferry/floating bridge (£100k savings) to allow for further consultation into and investigation of the viability of such charges.

- (f) THAT the School Crossing Staff be retained.
- (g) THAT the Empty Homes Officer duplicate post, be removed from the list of savings, but changed to an Administrative position.
- (h) THAT the proposed reduction of £25,000 in relation to the support to the Lord Lieutenant be not proceeded with at this stage.
- (i) THAT the Council Tax Freeze Grant for 2014/15 be declined and instead agree to the setting of the Isle of Wight Council element of council tax for 2014/15 at a level 1.99% higher than the amount for 2013/14;
- (j) THAT Council consider and approve the overall budget requirement and level of Council Tax for 2014-15 being:
 - (1) that element agreed by Council for the Isle of Wight Council for 2014-15; plus
 - (2) the notified precept for 2014-15 from the Police and Crime Commissioner for Hampshire; plus
 - (3) the notified precepts for 2014-15 from Parish and Town Councils.

- (k) THAT the formal Budget and Council Tax resolutions as set out in Appendices 10A, 10B and 10C (attached to and forming part of these minutes) be agreed.

CHAIRMAN