



# Minutes

Name of meeting	<b>FULL COUNCIL</b>
Date and time	<b>WEDNESDAY, 27 FEBRUARY 2013 COMMENCING AT 5.00 PM</b>
Venue	<b>COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT</b>
Present	Cllrs Susan Scoccia (Chairman), Barry Abraham, Jonathan Bacon, Reg Barry, Peter Bingham, George Brown, George Cameron, Vanessa Churchman, Dawn Cousins, Roger Dixcey, Rodney Downer, Paul Fuller, Edward Giles, John Hobart, Richard Hollis, John Howe, Heather Humby, Stuart Hutchinson, Julie Jones-Evans, Geoff Lumley, Roger Mazillius, David Pugh, Colin Richards, Ian Stephens, David Stewart, Andy Sutton, Arthur Taylor, Gary Taylor, Ian Ward, Ivor Warlow, Margaret Webster, Chris Welsford, Jerry White, Wayne Whittle, David Whittaker, David Williams
Apologies	Cllrs Tim Hunter-Henderson, Patrick Joyce, David Knowles, Lora Peacey-Wilcox

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34. [Minutes](#)

**RESOLVED :**

THAT the Minutes of the meeting held on [16 January 2013](#) be confirmed.

35. [Declarations of Interest](#)

There were no declarations received at this stage.

36. [Public Question Time](#)

Questions were put to the Chairman as follows :

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Alexander ? of Shanklin	Asked how did the Council ensure that Youth Council elections were publicised and held democratically?	The Leader indicated that the elections were publicised through all secondary schools and safeguards would be put in place for future elections.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Sam Frampton of Ventnor	How much control did the Council have with respect to public transport fares, eg Southern Vectis?	The Cabinet Member advised that Southern Vectis was a private company and it was a matter for them to decide.
Roi Milburn of Ryde	What action would the Council take to support the police with regard to law and disorder if future occasions arose?	The Cabinet Member advised the Council were working with and would continue working with the police.

37. **Chairman's Report**

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

38. **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 Labour 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 to up to 40 minutes, Group leaders (or their nominees) and representative of the Labour party to up to 15 minutes.

39. **Medium Term Budget Strategy 2013/14-2015/16 and Council Tax Setting 2013/14**

Council had received a report from the Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Resources on the 2013/14 - 2015/16 Budget Strategy and Council Tax Setting Report.

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.

The following motion was moved and seconded :

**THAT COUNCIL**

- (a) Considered the Equality Impact Assessment as set out in Appendix 9, attached to and forming part of these minutes, and the results of the budget consultation exercises (as previously reported to Council) and

whether the budget proposals were consistent with them and that any potential adverse impacts were understood and that appropriate mitigating actions were proposed to be taken.

- (b) Considered the overall financial and budget position facing the Council in 2013/14 and future years and agreed an overall Budget and Council Tax Strategy and in particular:
- (i) The updated Medium-Term Financial Strategy as set out in Appendix 1 attached to and forming part of these minutes;
  - (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) Acceptance of the Council Tax Freeze Grant and consequent setting of the Isle of Wight Council element of council tax for 2013/14 at the same level as for 2010/11, 2011/12 and 2012/13;
  - (v) The schedule of savings set out in Appendix 6 attached to and forming part of these minutes;
  - (vi) The allocation of £100k from the net savings in 2012/13 as a reserve to support the implementation of the post-Ofsted Improvement Plan for Children's Safeguarding;
  - (vii) Confirmed that General Fund balances should not be used for any element of recurring expenditure in 2013/14 due to the future financial challenges the Council faces;
  - (viii) Agreed to the deletion of the post of Chief Executive with effect from 31 March 2013 and the appointment of the Strategic Director of Resources as Acting Head of Paid Service and Chief Officer with effect from 1 April 2013 until such time as new senior management arrangements were agreed for implementation through decisions made by Annual Council on 15 May 2013;
  - (ix) Agreed that the Head of Financial Management was appointed as Section 151 Officer for the period referred to in (viii) above, after which time it will revert to the Strategic Director of Resources;
  - (x) Agreed that the Deputy Director of Resources (Corporate Governance) and Monitoring Officer be appointed to act as Returning Officer for the Local Elections in May 2013 and be authorised to agree fees and charges for election staff (as recommended by the Joint Working Party of Chief Executives and District Secretaries throughout Hampshire and the Isle of Wight) and to fulfil the role of Electoral Registration Officer for the Isle of Wight (for the period referred to in (viii) above) and be permitted to

appoint Deputies to act on all matters relating to Electoral Registration as considered appropriate.

- (xi) That officer's work up initial options for dealing with the significant budget gaps projected for 2014/15 and that these be included in a Budget Review report to Cabinet in July 2013, followed by a further report to Council in September 2013.
- (c) Considered and approved the overall budget requirement and level of Council Tax for 2013/14 being:
  - (i) that element agreed by Council for the Isle of Wight Council for 2013/14; plus
  - (ii) the notified police precept for 2013/14; plus
  - (iii) the notified Parish and Town Council precepts for 2013/14.
- (d) Agreed the formal Budget and Council Tax resolutions as set out in Appendices 10A, 10B and 10C attached to and forming part of these minutes.

At the conclusion of the debate in accordance with Procedure Rule 17(5) a recorded vote was requested the result of which was as follows:

For (23)

Cllrs Barry Abraham, Peter Bingham, George Brown, George Cameron, Dawn Cousins, Roger Dixcey, Edward Giles, John Hobart, Richard Hollis, Stuart Hutchinson, Julie Jones-Evans, Roger Mazillius, David Pugh, Susan Scoccia, Dave Stewart, Andy Sutton, Arthur Taylor, Gary Taylor, Ian Ward, Margaret Webster, Jerry White, Wayne Whittle, David Williams

Against (12)

Cllrs Jonathan Bacon, Reg Barry, Vanessa Churchman, Rodney Downer, Paul Fuller, John Howe, Heather Humby, Geoff Lumley, Colin Richards, Ian Stephens, Ivor Warlow, Chris Welsford

Abstentions (1)

Cllr David Whittaker

RESOLVED :

THAT COUNCIL

- (a) Considered the Equality Impact Assessment as set out in Appendix 9, attached to and forming part of these minutes, and the results of the budget consultation exercises (as previously reported to Council) and whether the budget proposals were consistent with them and that any potential adverse impacts

were understood and that appropriate mitigating actions were proposed to be taken.

- (b) Considered the overall financial and budget position facing the Council in 2013/14 and future years and agreed an overall Budget and Council Tax Strategy and in particular:
- (i) The updated Medium-Term Financial Strategy as set out in Appendix 1 attached to and forming part of these minutes;
  - (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) Acceptance of the Council Tax Freeze Grant and consequent setting of the Isle of Wight Council element of council tax for 2013/14 at the same level as for 2010/11, 2011/12 and 2012/13;
  - (v) The schedule of savings set out in Appendix 6 attached to and forming part of these minutes;
  - (vi) The allocation of £100k from the net savings in 2012/13 as a reserve to support the implementation of the post-Ofsted Improvement Plan for Children's Safeguarding;
  - (vii) Confirmed that General Fund balances should not be used for any element of recurring expenditure in 2013/14 due to the future financial challenges the Council faces;
  - (viii) Agreed to the deletion of the post of Chief Executive with effect from 31 March 2013 and the appointment of the Strategic Director of Resources as Acting Head of Paid Service and Chief Officer with effect from 1 April 2013 until such time as new senior management arrangements were agreed for implementation through decisions made by Annual Council on 15 May 2013;
  - (ix) Agreed that the Head of Financial Management was appointed as Section 151 Officer for the period referred to in (viii) above, after which time it will revert to the Strategic Director of Resources;
  - (x) Agreed that the Deputy Director of Resources (Corporate Governance) and Monitoring Officer be appointed to act as Returning Officer for the Local Elections in May 2013 and be authorised to agree fees and charges for election

staff (as recommended by the Joint Working Party of Chief Executives and District Secretaries throughout Hampshire and the Isle of Wight) and to fulfil the role of Electoral Registration Officer for the Isle of Wight (for the period referred to in (viii) above) and be permitted to appoint Deputies to act on all matters relating to Electoral Registration as considered appropriate.

- (xi) That officer's work up initial options for dealing with the significant budget gaps projected for 2014/15 and that these be included in a Budget Review report to Cabinet in July 2013, followed by a further report to Council in September 2013.
- (c) Considered and approved the overall budget requirement and level of Council Tax for 2013/14 being:
  - (i) that element agreed by Council for the Isle of Wight Council for 2013/14; plus
  - (ii) the notified police precept for 2013/14; plus
  - (iii) the notified Parish and Town Council precepts for 2013/14.
- (d) Agreed the formal Budget and Council Tax resolutions as set out in Appendices 10A, 10B and 10C attached to and forming part of these minutes.

#### 40. **Cabinet**

##### **Reports of the Cabinet Members**

(i) **[The Leader and Cabinet Member for Resources](#)**

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

Oral questions were put to the Leader as follows :

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Cllr Reg Barry	What arrangements were in place for Registrars during the Isle of Wight Festival?	The Leader advised they would be brought into County hall, as in previous years.

(ii) **[The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for the Economy and Regulatory Services](#)**

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

Oral questions were put to the Cabinet Member as follows :

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Cllr Rodney Downer	Why wasn't the Council taking part in the horse meat testing programme?	The Cabinet Member advised this was being undertaken.

(iii) **Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

A [written report](#) had been circulated for information. The Chairman advised that the local member had not been involved in the recommendation with regard to the advertisement of a traffic order to amend flows in Chapel Street, Newport, as had been indicated within her written report.

(iv) **Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Housing**

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

Oral questions were put to the Cabinet Member as follows :

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Cllr Arthur Taylor	Would the Local Mortgage Assistance Scheme be restricted to bona fide island residents or key workers?	The Cabinet Member advised the Council was working with a private sector provider for islanders.
Cllr Roger Mazillius	Offered his congratulations with regard to the re-organisation of Wight Care.	The Cabinet Member indicated he was happy with the way Wight Care was operating.
Cllr Chris Welsford	How many people were on the housing register? How did the Council intend to give 3,500 homes when the proposals were for only 254 affordable housing units?	The Cabinet Member indicated that anyone could ask to be put on the housing register, each category was then categorised. There were approximately 500 who were most in need.

(v) **Cabinet Member for Children's Services and Education**

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

Oral questions were put to the Cabinet Member as follows :

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Cllr Geoff Lumley	Who was accountable for what had been happening in Children's Services.	The Cabinet Member indicated she was accountable for Children's

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Comment</b>
	Was it the Cabinet member or the officers being forced out?	Services and education. As to people being forced out she indicated that was not true and had no evidence to show that people were being forced out.
Cllr Chris Welsford	When would the Council know the outcome of the OFSTED report relating to Sandown Academy?	The Cabinet Member advised that the academy were not obliged to share their reports with the Council, although she indicated that support and help had been offered.
Cllr Ian Stephens	Was there a legislative timescale which the Council had to adhere to?	The Cabinet Member advised that the Council had to act swiftly to review the situation and put in whatever was felt needed.
	Supplementary – Was the Council acting legally within guidelines and framework. He wanted reassurance that the Council would not be left open to legal challenge?	The Cabinet Member did not believe that was the case as there was guidance in place and she was confident what was being done was within legal parameters.
Cllr John Howe	Would the other secondary schools be as good as Christ the King College when they had been open for the same length of time?	The Cabinet Member indicated that the new system would produce results in the years to come.

(vi) **Suspension of Procedure Rule 26**

A proposal to suspend Council Procedure Rule 26 was proposed and seconded, which would extend the meeting by up to one hour. Following the vote it was

**RESOLVED:**

THAT the meeting be extended by up to one hour.

(vii) [Cabinet Member for Procurement, Fire, Highways and Transport](#)

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

Oral questions were put to the Cabinet Member as follows :

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Cllr Jerry White	What was the reduction in landfill since the new waste collection contract was implemented?	The Cabinet Member would provide a written response.
Cllr Roger Mazillius	Was the Cabinet Member satisfied with the new regulations governing Cowes chain ferry?	The Cabinet Member advised he was not responsible it came within the remit of Cowes Harbour Commission.
Cllr David Williams	Asked about the safety of the footpath by Hope Beach, Shanklin after the recent cliff falls and landslides. Were there any grants that were accessible to the Council to help with remedial works?	The Cabinet Member believed an expert in civil engineering would be required, he provide a written response.
Cllr Chris Welsford	How did the Council reconcile the need for retained firefighters when the council were unable to agree to their own employees release within working hours?	The Cabinet Member advised it was council policy, but it was possible the policy could be amended.
Cllr John Howe	Assurance that during the time of PFI someone would be monitoring their performance.	The Cabinet Member indicated that a team was place whose job was to monitor performance. There would also be an independent assessor.

(viii) [Cabinet Member for Public Health, Community Safety and Local Services](#)

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

The Cabinet Member advised that a Drug and Alcohol Services stakeholder day was to be held on 28 February 2013.

A meeting of the Police and Crime Panel was due to be held in the Council Chamber, County Hall, Newport on 1 March 2013.

Oral questions were put to the Cabinet Member as follows :

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Cllr Roger Mazillius	Would any trade representatives be attending the Drug and Alcohol Services day?	The Cabinet Member advised he was unsure.

CHAIRMAN