

# FAREHAM

## BOROUGH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Council

**Date:** Thursday, 14 December 2017

**Venue:** Council Chamber - Civic Offices

**PRESENT:**

G Fazackarley  
(Mayor)

Mrs S M Bayford  
(Deputy Mayor)

**Councillors:** K A Barton, B Bayford, Miss S M Bell, F Birkett, Mrs M Brady, Mrs P M Bryant, J E Butts, T M Cartwright, MBE, Mrs L E Clubley, S Cunningham, P J Davies, Mrs T L Ellis, J M Englefield, K D Evans, M J Ford, JP, J S Forrest, Miss T G Harper, Mrs C Heneghan, Mrs C L A Hockley, L Keeble, A Mandry, Mrs K Mandry, S D Martin, Ms S Pankhurst, R H Price, JP, D L Steadman, Mrs K K Trott, N J Walker and S D T Woodward



**1. PRAYERS**

The meeting opened with prayers led by Reverend Ian Meredith of St. Mary's Church, Portchester.

**2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies given for this meeting.

**3. MINUTES**

RESOLVED that the Mayor be authorised to sign as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 12 October 2017.

**4. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor welcomed Councillor Jim Forrest to this Council meeting following his election as ward Councillor at the recent Stubbington by-Election.

The Mayor announced that his next Tea Party will be on Thursday 01 February 2018 where his guest speaker will be Brian Jerrard who will give a talk on the Kings and Queens of Portchester. This talk will start at 2.30pm in the Mayor's Parlour and tickets cost £4 each. 00000

On Saturday 03 February at the Palmerston Indoors Bowls Club, there will be a Quiz Night. Tickets for this popular event cost £15 and include a two course meal.

**5. EXECUTIVE LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Draft Local Plan Consultation

The Executive Leader provided Members with an update on the status of the consultation on the Draft Local Plan which closed on the 8th of December. The Council received approximately 2,500 responses although at this early stage we are unable to specify how many of these are validly submitted as there may be duplicate submissions. Officers are now looking carefully at all responses in detail to assess whether they object to or support particular aspects of the Draft Local Plan.

In addition to the consultation responses, a number of petitions have been received regarding the building of new homes around the borough.

Two separate petitions have been submitted regarding development sites in Portchester.

The first of these was a paper petition of 471 signatures which came in on the 9<sup>th</sup> of October prior to the Executive when the consultation start on the draft

local plan was approved. In conjunction with this was an online petition hosted by an external site containing 262 signatures. As Officers are unable to view the names and addresses of these signatories, that number cannot be verified. The second Portchester petition contains 240 signatures from a combined paper and ePetition on the Council's website.

There is a paper petition containing over 1,000 signatures, still to be verified, which the Executive Leader submitted at the Council meeting regarding opposition to housing development in Warsash, Locks Heath, Park Gate and Titchfield Common.

Two ePetitions have been received regarding the proposed development sites in Warsash, Locks Heath, Park Gate and Titchfield Common; one in favour of development which contains 26 electronic signatures and the other opposed to development containing 1,415 electronic signatures.

One ePetition has been received objecting to the housing allocation in Wallington containing 122 electronic signatures.

As with the consultation responses, Officers are now working to verify the signatures to ensure that we are able to report valid numbers. In each case, the petitioners have been contacted to confirm that the petitions will be submitted as part of the Draft Local Plan consultation. Any petition containing more than 1,500 verified signatures will be debated when the decision to adopt the Local Plan comes to Council in due course.

#### Southampton and Fareham Legal Services Partnership

The Executive Leader shared the excellent news that the Southampton and Fareham Legal Services Partnership has won a national award at the Lawyers in Local Government Annual Awards 2017.

The partnership was awarded Project Team of the Year and was applauded for the work carried out on Welborne Garden Village, Solent Airport at Daedalus and Holly Hill Leisure Centre.

Overall, the partnership was nominated for awards across 5 different categories and was Highly Commended for Junior Lawyer of the Year and Commended in the other 3 categories: Legal Team of the Year, Place Team of the Year and Legal Professional of the Year (Sarita Riley).

This fantastic success is a testament to the dedicated hard work of our colleagues in Southampton's Legal team who work alongside Fareham's Officers to produce great results.

The Executive Leader presented the award to the Mayor.

## **6. EXECUTIVE MEMBERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### RSPCA Community Animal Welfare Awards

The Executive Member for Health and Public Protection announced he had attended an Awards Evening in London where the Council won their eighth

consecutive Gold Award for stray dogs. The Gold Award is in recognition of the overall service provision which covers:

- staff training in dog behaviour/dog handling
- procedures for protecting animal welfare needs when sick or injured animals come into Council care
- an out of hours service including access to kennels 24/7/365
- advice on the Law around dogs including micro-chipping
- collar tags and dogs to be kept under control
- and re-homing protocols to ensure new homes are found as quickly as possible where required

The Executive Member for Health and Public Protection congratulated all the Officers concerned for this excellent achievement.

#### Prosecution of One Stop Ltd

The Executive Member for Health and Public Protection announced that the Council has successfully prosecuted One Stop in Warsash for Health & Safety failings. They were found guilty and fined £250,000 and were also ordered to pay the Council's costs totalling £3,700.

This prosecution followed the Fareham & Gosport Environmental Partnership being notified of an accident at One Stop in September 2016, when a customer tripped over a pothole on the forecourt and sustained serious injuries.

The Executive Member for Health and Public Protection congratulated the Officers concerned in dealing robustly with this Health & Safety failure.

## **7. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no Declarations of Interest made at this meeting.

## **8. PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS**

The Executive Leader presented the Mayor with a Petition that he received last week. This Petition is opposing the building of 1,500 new homes in Warsash, Locks Heath, Park Gate and Titchfield and runs in conjunction with the on-line Petition on the Council's website.

The Executive Leader advised that this paper Petition comprises over 1,000 signatures and that Officers will now undertake the verification of signatures to ensure there are no duplication of signatures on the electronic and paper Petitions.

The Executive Leader advised the meeting that it would be usual for Ward Members to accept the Petition but as they both sit on the Planning Committee, it would have been inappropriate for them to accept a Petition of this nature, hence why he was presenting it.

**9. DEPUTATIONS**

There were no deputations given at this meeting.

**10. REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE**

(1) Minutes of meeting Monday, 9 October 2017 of Executive

The Council was reminded that the Minutes of the meeting of the Executive held on Monday, 9 October 2017 had been tabled and agreed at the last Council meeting held on 12 October 2017.

(2) Minutes of meeting Monday, 6 November 2017 of Executive

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Executive meeting held on Monday, 6 November 2017 be received.

(3) Minutes of meeting Monday, 4 December 2017 of Executive

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Executive meeting held on Monday, 4 December 2017 be received.

(4) Schedule of Individual Executive Member and Officer Delegated Decisions

RESOLVED that the Schedule of Individual Member and Officer Delegated Decisions be received.

**11. REPORT OF THE SCRUTINY BOARD**

(1) Minutes of meeting Monday, 23 October 2017 of Scrutiny Board

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Scrutiny Board held on Monday, 23 October 2017 be received.

(2) Minutes of meeting Thursday, 23 November 2017 of Scrutiny Board

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Scrutiny Board held on Thursday, 23 November 2017 be received.

**12. REPORTS OF OTHER COMMITTEES**

(1) Minutes of meeting Wednesday, 11 October 2017 of Planning Committee

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Planning Committee held on Wednesday, 11 October 2017 be received.

(2) Minutes of meeting Wednesday, 15 November 2017 of Planning Committee

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Planning Committee held on Wednesday, 15 November 2017 be received.

(3) Minutes of meeting Friday, 17 November 2017 of Planning Committee

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Planning Committee held on Wednesday, 17 November 2017 be received.

- (4) Minutes of meeting Monday, 27 November 2017 of Audit and Governance Committee

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Audit and Governance Committee held on Monday, 27 November 2017 be received.

- (5) Minutes of meeting Tuesday, 28 November 2017 of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs Committee

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Licensing and Regulatory Affairs Committee held on Tuesday, 28 November 2017 be received.

### 13. QUESTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDER 17.2

#### **Questions by Councillor P J Davies:**

Highlands Road shops

1. Is the Executive member aware that in this small parade of shops there are six takeaway establishments and that they generate large amounts of litter?
2. Is the member aware that although there are three litter bins and a wheelie bin adjacent to the Bottle Bank, the packaging from Saturday night 'meals' far exceeds the capacity of the bins.
3. Is the Executive member aware that on Sunday mornings all the bins are full and overflowing and litter is strewn on the ground?
4. Does the Executive member agree that there should be some kind of payment made by these takeaway establishments, to defray the additional costs incurred by the Council?

#### **Responses by the Executive Member for Streetscene:**

1. I am aware of the takeaway food establishments on the parade of shops on the Highlands Road and the potential for this type of business to generate litter.
2. I was not aware of any recent problems with the capacity of the bins at this location. My understanding is that there are in fact four bins located adjacent to the parade of shops and one bin on the opposite side of the road next to the bus shelter. There is also the wheelie bin that serves to collect boxes and bags from residents using the bottle bank.

I asked the Head of Streetscene to arrange for the weekend street cleansing duty team to visit the location on Sunday mornings and to monitor the situation over the coming weeks. This will ensure that the bins are emptied and allow an assessment to be made of any requirement for additional capacity.

3. I made a visit to the parade of shops on Highlands Road at midnight on Saturday 9 December. The wheelie bin that services the bottle bank was full of carrier bags but there was no evidence of takeaway cartons.

The Head of Streetscene sent me photos of the bins taken on the morning of Sunday 3 December and the situation was similar. The bottle bank bin was full, as was the bin by the newsagent. There is some evidence of takeaway food containers but this did not constitute most of the waste in the bins.

On both occasions, there was no evidence of litter being strewn on the ground.

4. The weekend street cleansing duty team will continue to visit the location on Sunday mornings for the foreseeable future and empty the bins. This will enable the bin capacity and extent of any littering to be monitored which will then help us to determine if any additional capacity is required.

If, as has been suggested, the packaging from the takeaway food establishments is the significant source of any littering my preference would be to approach the establishments with a view to discussing ways in which we can tackle the problem together.

I understand that we already have a good relationship with these businesses and therefore feel working with them to resolve any problems with litter would be more effective than pursuing financial reimbursement for the Council.

**Questions by Councillor R H Price, JP:**

I understand that a meeting regarding Planning took place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2017 at the Solent Hotel, therefore will the Executive Leader respond to the following,

5. Which officers and elected members attended the event?
6. Who paid for the Reception and Dinner?
7. Who were the invited guest by name and organisation and who attended?
8. What were the issues discussed?
9. What were the outcomes?
10. What did Fareham Officers and Members agree to do?

**Verbal Responses by the Executive Leader:**

5. I refer Cllr Price to the public decision made by the Chief Executive Officer on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2017, where it clearly states the attendees,

being the Executive Leader, Executive Member for Planning and Development, Executive Member for Health and Public Protection and the Director of Finance and Resources. I note that Cllr Price took no interest in the item then and did not attend the decision-making meeting.

6. Again as set out in the public decision considered by the Chief Executive Officer on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2017, there was no cost to the Council to attend the dinner.
7. Yet again as set out in the public decision report considered by the Chief Executive Officer on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2017, the dinner was attended by senior representatives of companies developing and investing in property, real estate, housing and infrastructure who have current or future business interests in the Fareham area.

I do not understand why the Councillor could not simply read the decision report that was sent to him rather than ask questions now over two months later.

8. The event provided a platform to set out the Council's vision, ambitions and priorities for the Borough and meet business leaders in an informal atmosphere. It was an opportunity to showcase the Borough of Fareham, in terms of our plans for Welborne, Solent Airport @ Daedalus, the regeneration visions for Fareham and Portchester and our approach to service delivery. I thought it would be helpful to share with all Councillors the document we gave to all attendees so there was no ambiguity about the message being conveyed.

Equally, it was an opportunity for development interests to explain some of the challenges they face in bringing sites to market. It is fair to say that they were all arguments that have been well rehearsed in the past; issues such as the shortage of skilled labour in the region, the cost of land and the limited opportunities for new development, development viability, planning restrictions, etc.

9. There were no specific actions that were taken away on either part, but overall, the outcome was a mutual understanding of each other's issues. What was recognised was the urgent need for housing and that continued dialogue is very important, if we want good quality schemes to come forward and move through the planning system with the minimum of delay, (whether that be through pre-application planning advice to ensure schemes reflect the planning policies of the Council or through public consultation ensuring that schemes reflect the needs of the local community).
10. There were no specific actions agreed.

**Questions by Councillor M Brady:**

11. Residents continue to raise concerns over the Fareham Community Hospital GP Triaging Hub that those who have mobility problems find it



difficult to get there. Therefore, what can Fareham Borough Council do to facilitate the provision of a bus service to the Fareham Community Hospital, particularly as it is our aspiration to increase the use of the facility?

12. Please can the Executive update us on what progress is being made with the studies of traffic flow and vehicle characteristics that Health & Public Protection PDR Committee members were advised are being undertaken as a first step to addressing the improvements we have been mandated to make to our air quality?

**Responses by the Executive Member for Health and Public Protection:**

11. Firstly, it is important to highlight that the benefits of Fareham Community Hospital, often allowing access to same day appointments, in addition to those services provided by local surgeries is welcomed. Fareham Borough Council will approach First on this concerning issue, as they operate the majority of bus services in Fareham. We are aware however that a new route (or amendments to routes) are often based on economic viability of the route and delays in service times for varying existing routes, unless the route is subsidised through external funding which comes from Hampshire County Council (as the Public Transport Authority). It is for that reason we will also approach Hampshire County Council, although we are also aware that their capacity to subsidise or fund community transport has been increasingly more constrained in recent years. Furthermore, we would also like to have a dialogue with relevant contacts at the Fareham Community Hospital whose services could be more readily accessed if local bus services could be improved.
12. Since the Compliance Directive was issued on the 27th July 2017, Officers from both County and Fareham have been working tirelessly to undertake the work required to comply with that Directive. The process that the Council must follow has been prescribed by the Joint Air Quality Unit (JAQU) (DFT & DEFRA). The implications of the Compliance Directive was reported to the Executive at its meeting of 9 October 2017.

As a reminder the project first of all must establish if the National Pollution Climate Model (computer program), has correctly identified the traffic from the A32 as non compliant in Air quality terms. The first deliverable was a traffic survey this was successfully scoped, procured and delivered (took place for one week, week commencing 4/12/17). On the 1/11/17 I made an individual member decision (public report and meeting) to authorise the spend 94k of the initial JAQU grant funding to enable the traffic survey to be undertaken.

There is a lot of work that must now be undertaken to establish if a problem exists and if so what might resolve it, the council has met the first project milestone and is working hard to meet the rest.

A further report is going to the meeting of the Executive of 8/1/18, to enable the further work to be undertaken to try to meet the 31/03/18

deadline to produce and submit an Initial Plan (long list of options for improvement, if necessary) and to approve some of the further work required as we would then be looking towards the next deadline of 31st December 2018, Executive reports as necessary will be produced in the meantime.

#### **14. MOTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDER 15**

There were no motions received at this meeting however an update was given on a previous motion which had been put by Councillor R H Price, JP at the July Council meeting. This motion was regarding the consultation of the Fire Service for planning applications in light of the Grenfell Tower fire disaster.

The motion had been deferred to allow the Planning Committee to consider a detailed report before making recommendations to Council. This report had been considered by the Planning Committee on the 15 November and it was confirmed that this item is on this meeting Agenda at item 18.

#### **15. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES**

The Council considered a report by the Head of Democratic Services on the Allocation of Seats to Committees and tabled item of Committee Nominations.

Having been duly seconded by Councillor T M Cartwright, it was RESOLVED that the Council approves:

- (a) the allocation of seats, as set out in Appendix A for the remainder of the municipal year 2017-18; and
- (b) the nominations of the political groups to seats on committees, along with the nominations of deputies and the appointment of Chairman and Vice-Chairman for each committee for the remainder of the municipal year 2017-18, as set out in Appendix B, which had been tabled at the meeting.

#### **16. APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES**

- (1) Crofton Community Association

In considering the appointment of a Deputy Managing Trustee to the Crofton Community Association, it was AGREED the Councillor J Forrest be appointed as Deputy Managing Trustee for the municipal year 2017/18.

- (2) Hammond Memorial Hall Trust

In considering the appointment of an Ex Officio Trustee to the Hammond Memorial Hall, it was AGREED the Councillor J Forrest be appointed as an Ex Officio Trustee for the municipal year 2017/18.

#### **17. COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT SCHEME 2018/19**

The Council considered a report by the Managing Director of Fareham Housing.

Having duly been seconded by Councillor T M Cartwright, it was RESOLVED that the Council approves:

- (a) the Council Tax Support Scheme; and
- (b) that delegated authority is given to the Managing Director of Fareham Housing to make any necessary minor amendments and to publish the final scheme prior to 01 April 2018.

**18. CONSULTING WITH HAMPSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS.**

The Council considered a report by the Director of Planning and Regulation on Consulting with Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service on Planning Applications.

Having duly been seconded by Councillor T M Cartwright, it was RESOLVED that the Council:

- (a) consults with Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service on Planning Applications for schools, hotels, high risk office blocks, high rise housing, large development sites and National Health buildings with immediate effect; and
- (b) writes to the Local Government Association and the Secretary of State for the Department for the Communities and Local Government recommending that existing legislation should be changed to make it mandatory of local authorities to consult with fire authorities on the application types as set out in paragraph (a) above.

**19. CORPORATE STRATEGY 2017-2023**

The Council considered a report by the Director of Finance and Resources on the Corporate Strategy 2017-2023.

Having duly been seconded by Councillor T M Cartwright and debated, it was RESOLVED that the Council:

- (a) notes the results of the Draft Corporate Strategy consultation; and
- (b) approves the Corporate Strategy 2017-2023.

(The meeting started at 6.00 pm  
and ended at 6.50 pm).