

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council

Date: Thursday, 26 July 2018

Venue: Council Chamber - Civic Offices

PRESENT:

Mrs S M Bayford
(Mayor)

Mrs P M Bryant
(Deputy Mayor)

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



1. PRAYERS

The meeting was opened with Prayers led by Reverend Gavin Foster of St. John's Church, Locks Heath.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mrs C Heneghan.

3. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the Mayor be authorised to sign as a correct record the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council held on the 14 June 2018 and the Council Meeting held on the 14 June 2018.

4. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor announced that the final tickets are now on sale for a visit to Windsor Castle and St. George's Chapel on Saturday 22 September. Tickets are £40 and sales close this week. The cost includes coach travel to the Castle and entrance fees.

On Sunday 30 September in Ferneham Hall, there will be a matinee concert featuring The Royal Marines Association Concert Band and The Military Wives Choir. This performance will commemorate the end of World War 1. Tickets can be purchased from Ferneham Hall or online.

The Mayor gave her thanks to Councillor Mike Ford who recently completed a charity bike ride from Lands' End to John O'Groats in fifteen days.

The Mayor gave her congratulations to everyone involved in the Fareham in Bloom garden visit that she attended on Sunday.

The Mayor announced that her next tea party will take place on Thursday 6 September where Matt Wakefield will give a talk on Fareham In Bloom. This will start at 2.30pm in the Mayor's Parlour and tickets are available at £4 each.

5. EXECUTIVE LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIDL Planning Application Judicial Review:

The Executive Leader announced that the claim for Judicial Review against the Council has been refused and an Award of Costs for £5,000 made in the Council's favour.

Daedalus Award:

The Executive Leader announced that the Council has recently won two awards at the South Coast Property Awards: Development of the Year and Business Park Innovation of the Year.

The Development of the Year Award recognises new developments at Faraday Business Park that match industry standards and add value to the region.

The Award for Business Park Innovation of the Year recognises the role Solent Airport at Daedalus plays in the region's economy celebrating its achievement to create a sustainable environment.

Since taking ownership of the airport in 2015, the Council has invested over £30m in providing industry-leading office and workshop space within the Fareham Innovation Centre as well as bespoke industrial units and 11 new hangers for business and general aviation use, unique to the south coast.

The Mayor accepted these Awards from the Executive Leader.

Titchfield Park Naming Result:

The Executive Leader announced that 2535 residents had taken part in the Titchfield Park naming consultation with Abbey Meadows being the clear winner, having received 1857 votes. In second place was Meon Meadow with 472 votes, and third was Tannery Meadows with 206 votes.

Alternative names had been suggested which included those of a historical nature relating to Titchfield Abbey, Henry V, Margaret of Anjou, William Shakespeare and Peter Des Roche (Bishop of Winchester). Some other popular names which had boosted publicity included Parky McParkface, Abbey View Meadows and Meon View Meadows.

Some residents commented on the current pathways around the park, whether dog owners would be encouraged to have dogs on leads near the play areas and the need for more dog waste bins.

Rough Sleeping Conference and Fareham StreetAid:

The Executive Leader announced that the rough sleeping conference held earlier in the month had been arranged by the Council to bring together key agencies who work in partnership to provide help and support to rough sleepers. The aim of the conference was to share information and identify strategies that will further support the work of the agencies and to launch 'Fareham StreetAid' which is a new initiative through which joint communications can be published.

The Executive Leader stated that a series of key messages will be developed to support the work of all the agencies and help members of the public who either feel intimidated by being asked for money by rough sleepers, or would like to find a way to help, but are not sure of the best way to do this. The primary aim of Fareham StreetAid is to help vulnerable people off the streets rather than helping them to live on the streets.

National Planning Policy Framework:

The Executive Leader announced that on the 24 July the finalised version of the revised National Planning Policy Framework had been issued by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.

The Executive Leader explained that this is a vast suite of documents with a lot of information in it and, because of the complexities, he has asked officers to prepare a full Members' briefing to go through what the changes will mean for Fareham once they are in a position to do so.

The Executive Leader outlined some headline statistics: namely what the Council's new housing requirement number will be, what the impact is on the Council's five-year housing land supply and, importantly, what the impact will be on the Council's draft Local Plan.

Turning first to numbers, the Executive Leader stated that under the previous system, housing requirement was determined by Objectively Assessed Need and the Council's annual requirement was 420 dwellings per annum.

He explained that the new methodology is predominantly based on household projections in an area for the next 10 years and this figure is then uplifted to take account of the affordability relationship between house prices and local salaries. Having made that calculation, Fareham's new local housing need will increase by 124 dwellings per annum – from 420 to 544 dwellings.

In considering how this affects the Council's five-year housing land supply (5YHLS), the Executive Leader explained that the Council was getting very close to closing the gap on that and at the June Planning Committee, the figure was 4.65 years.

He further explained that, when calculating a 5YHLS figure, the Council is required to build in an additional 5% buffer, and take account of any past shortfall, for the next five years, so the Council was working to an annual number of 487 dwellings.

Under the new rules the Council will begin from the new figure of 544 dwellings per annum which, assuming a 5% buffer, increases to 571.

This means, for the time being, the Council's new position on 5YHLS is now back to between 3.5 and 4 years.

The Executive Leader stated that, unfortunately, this could all change again when the Housing Delivery Test is introduced in November 2018.

The Housing Delivery Test is a fundamental change and something we all need to understand.

The Executive Leader explained that whereas in the past the Council have only needed to demonstrate how it will meet its future requirements using its 5YHLS, under the new rules, the Council will have to prove whether it meets its new housing requirements over the previous three years. This means the Council will effectively have to look backwards as well as forwards.

He explained that if the Housing Delivery Test shows results below 95%, the Council must prepare an action plan to show how delivery can be increased. If it is below 85%, the Council would need to apply a 20% buffer rather than a 5% buffer to its 5YHLS requirement. This would effectively reduce its position to between 3 and 3.5 years.

It is anticipated that the result of our Housing Delivery Test, which will be in November 2018, will show that the Council delivery is less than 85%, hence it will need to prepare both a Housing Delivery Action Plan and increase its 5YHLS buffer from 5% to 20%.

This 20% increase would take our 5YHLS to 653 per annum for the next five years.

The Executive Leader explained that all of these changes will obviously also have an impact on our Draft Local Plan.

He stated that as Members are aware, the Council has consulted on its Draft Local Plan and usually the next stage would be a Publication Plan.

Explaining that the work the Council has done to date remains relevant, the Executive Leader stated that clearly the housing numbers the Council included are not now enough. The Council is looking at an additional 1500-2000 new dwellings on top of those already put forward in its Draft Local Plan. This means the Council will need to revise its Development Strategy and seek additional sites to make up those numbers and consult on both.

The Executive Leader stated, as an aside, the new framework requires at least 10% of the total requirement, that's approximately between 900 and 1000 houses, to be on sites of no larger than one hectare, so this will also need to be reflected in the Council's development strategy.

Effectively this amounts to a whole new stage in the process which the Council will need to implement before it can progress any further.

The Executive Leader stated that another area the Council will need to look at is the new 'Statement of Common Ground'.

He explained that, up until now, the Council has had a 'duty to cooperate' with neighbouring authorities who are unable to meet their housing requirements.

Under the new guidance, where there is a possible cross-boundary impact on for example housing need and the provision of infrastructure, there must be a Statement of Common Ground between relevant authorities. Statements of Common Ground should be agreed as soon as possible, certainly well before the Council can submit its emerging Local Plan so this will be something else that will need careful consideration.

The Executive Leader was pleased that support for Garden City Principles had again been included.

The Executive Leader stated that it is very disappointing to see that at the consultation stage the Council's was being given the largest increase in

housing numbers in Hampshire and that position appears to have worsened today.

The Executive Leader stated that he is working with Suella Braverman MP to meet the Secretary of State, James Brokenshire who has agreed to meet once the Council has ascertained the effects on Fareham.

6. EXECUTIVE MEMBERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS

Executive Member for Health and Public Protection

South Coast Property Awards:

The Executive Member for Health and Public Protection, in his role as Chairman of the Daedalus Working Group, reiterated the words of the Leader and wished to pass this congratulations to everyone involved in helping the Council to win this Award.

QA Hospital:

The Executive Member for Health and Public Protection announced that he had received a letter from Mark Cubbon, Chief Executive of QA Hospital, informing him of their proposal to re-develop the Emergency Department, (which dates back to 1979). Since then, demand for urgent care has grown. At the Department in 2010, there were 240 patients per day; by 2017 this had risen to 299 per day and now sits routinely at 324 patients per day, although on busy days, the department sees up to almost 400 patients.

The proposal for re-development (which it is hoped would be operational by February 2021) would deliver an innovative clinical model for the delivery of urgent care. The redesigned service will provide a single point of access for all adult emergencies and in doing so will deliver benefits to patients.

The project also aligns with their recent published five-year strategy "Working Together" which they commit to addressing some of the organisation's changes. The scheme will require significant capital investment and they believe they have a strong case to secure the full funding. The first stage is to submit their outline business case which is on track for early September.

The Chief Executive of the QA Hospital has promised to keep the Executive Member for Health and Public Protection updated on this Project's progress and he feels encouraged that this will make a huge difference in the future.

Access All Areas:

The Executive Member for Health and Public Protection announced that all Members will be aware that Access All Areas started this week at Portchester, and at Salterns with various activities provided. This carries on for the next four weeks, ending on the 23 August. At present, 1000 youngsters have signed up which is very encouraging as it gives them the opportunity to try different experiences. A free bus service is also provided to all the venues. The Executive Member for Health and Public Protection gave his thanks to the Leisure and Community Manager and her team for putting on an excellent programme.

7. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest made at this meeting.

8. PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS

There were no petitions presented at this meeting.

(1) Petition : Cashless Payment Parking Systems

The Mayor announced that a Petition had been received on the 11 April 2018 calling for the Council “to replace the cash payment parking machines with cashless payment parking systems. We feel that this is a reasonable expectation, given the prevalence of persistent passive aggressive begging next to the current cash payment parking machines”. This Petition received 1810 signatures.

Councillor S D T Woodward proposed a Motion, as follows:

“I fully support the sentiment of this petition as it correctly identifies where issues have arisen in recent months with the car park cash machines having been targeted by groups and individuals carrying out begging activities. The Council has recognised this problem and has instigated a number of initiatives to tackle this problem. Most notably, an upgrade programme commenced earlier this year to modernise the car park ticket machines by ensuring that they can accept contactless and card payments as well as cash. It is important to recognise that 80% of the income to the car park tickets machines is still cash payments which suggests that the majority of people using the car parks would not want to or be able to use a card only option.

The underlying problem of begging around Council car parks links to one of the key priorities of the Council which is tackling rough sleeping.

In light of this, I therefore propose that the Council does not replace the cash payment parking machines for card only at this time and that we continue to monitor the situation with the aforementioned activities”.

Having duly been seconded by Councillor T Cartwright and following a debate, the Motion was carried unanimously.

9. DEPUTATIONS

There were no deputations given at this meeting.

10. REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE

(1) Minutes of meeting Monday, 9 July 2018 of Executive

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Executive meeting held on Monday, 9 July 2018 be received.

- (2) Schedule of Individual Executive Member and Officer Delegated Decisions

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

11. REPORT OF THE SCRUTINY BOARD

- (1) Minutes of meeting Thursday, 28 June 2018 of Scrutiny Board

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Scrutiny Board held on Thursday, 28 June 2018 be received.

12. REPORTS OF OTHER COMMITTEES

- (1) Minutes of meeting Wednesday, 23 May 2018 of Planning Committee

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on Wednesday, 23 May 2018 be received.

- (2) Minutes of meeting Wednesday, 20 June 2018 of Planning Committee

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on Wednesday, 20 June 2018 be received.

- (3) Minutes of meeting Tuesday, 19 June 2018 of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs Committee

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Licensing and Regulatory Affairs Committee held on Tuesday, 19 June 2018 be received.

- (4) Minutes of meeting Monday, 25 June 2018 of Appeals Committee

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Appeals Committee held on Monday, 25 June 2018 be received.

13. QUESTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDER 17.2

There were no Questions submitted to this meeting.

14. MOTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDER 15

There were no Motions made to this meeting.

15. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES

There were no changes to the appointments to committees made.

16. APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

- (1) Earl of Southampton Trust

In considering this item, it was AGREED that Mrs Knight and Councillor Mrs C L A Hockley be re-appointed on the Charity's Board of Trustees for a further 4 year term of office when the current appointment ends in September 2018.

(2) Nomination of a governor to the Corporation of Barton Peveril Sixth Form College

Following nomination by Councillor S D T Woodward, and having been duly seconded, it was AGREED that Councillor K D Evans be nominated to put forward an expression of interest for the position of Governor to the Corporation of Barton Peveril Sixth Form College.

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