

COUNCIL

Date and Time: Thursday, 28 March 2019 at 7.00 pm

Place: Council Chamber, Civic Offices, Fleet

Present:

COUNCILLORS –

Makepeace-Browne - (Chairman)

Ambler	Crisp	Kennett
Bailey	Crookes	Kinnell
Blewett	Delaney	Neighbour
Burchfield	Dickens	Oliver
Butler	Drage	Parker
Clarke	Forster	Quarterman
Cockarill	Gray	Radley
Collings	Gorys	Wright
Crampton		

Officers Present:

Daryl Phillips	Joint Chief Executive
Gill Chapman	Committee Services

94 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 28 February 2019 were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

95 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Axam, Renshaw, Southern, Wheale and Worlock.

96 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Drage declared that he was a paid employee of Sky.

97 PRESENTATION – SKY OCEAN RESCUE

Fiona Ball gave a presentation on the work of Sky Ocean Rescue, using the channel to increase awareness of the condition of ocean health, and the risk of non-recyclable plastics to our seas. Sky, as a large, global business, can publicise and discourage the use of single use plastics, eg working with sports organisations to use a reusable cup at stadiums instead of single use plastics for beer and soft drinks. Small actions can make a substantial amount of difference, eg deposit return schemes, tools, use of alternatives, etc.

Questions were around acting now, the global problem, publicising problems and potential solutions, and the responsibilities of larger organisations in global issues.

Members thanked Fiona for the insight into Sky Ocean Rescue's work. Hart being the first Council working with Sky on this, Members looked forward to help to set the agenda.

98 COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 12 – QUESTIONS BY THE PUBLIC

Details of questions received are set out in Appendix I attached to these Minutes.

99 COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 14 – QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

No questions had been received.

100 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman had attended the following events on behalf of the Council.

4 March	All Saints Church Fashion Show Fundraiser
7 March	Mayor of Havant Civic Day – Havant Offices, Havant
8 March	OT Practice Limited opening in Hook
10 March	Thanksgiving Service for Freemasons at Winchester Cathedral
20 March	Mayor Eastleigh – Hampshire Constabulary/Hants Fire & Rescue/South Central Ambulance Service Emergency Services Exhibition Day at Southern Support & training HQ, Hamble-le-Rice
22 March	Mayor Eastleigh Charity Dinner at Botley Park Hotel, Botley
24 March	Mayor Test Valley - Fizz, Cream Tea, Daffodils and Dance Band, Houghton Lodge Orangery, Nr Stockbridge

In light of Councillor Morris' recent resignation, the Chairman thanked him for his sterling work for the Council. Members paid tribute to his work and efforts for the residents and the Council, and wished him well for the future.

The Chairman announced that, with the end of her term in sight, a Raffle would be held through April, and encouraged officers and Councillors to participate. Pre-meeting farewells would be made before the April Council meeting.

101 CABINET MEMBERS ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Leader of the Council, **Councillor Neighbour**, announced

I would like to thank all the members and officers who were so kind last week after I was not well.

The Cabinet Member for Contracts and Community Services, **Councillor Radley**, reported that Everyone Active were optimistic that the teaching pool would be ready to be open to the public from tomorrow afternoon.

The Cabinet member for Partnerships, **Councillor Ambler**, reported:

At the Ageing Well meeting on 1 March we had a very interesting presentation from Hart Voluntary Action on their latest major project, Making Connections Home from Hospital Service. This project has been commissioned jointly by North East Hampshire and Farnham CCG and HCC Adults' Health and Care. It is for adult patients registered with a North East Hampshire GP practice, and provides support for up to 6 weeks for clients who have been identified by hospital or adult services staff as needing low-level support to settle back at home. HVA are to be commended for successfully bidding for, and getting the service up and running in a very tight timescale.

Autism Friendly Fleet have two events coming up to promote World Autism Awareness Week, 1-7 April. They will be at Hart Leisure Centre on Saturday, 30 March from 10am to 4pm with a stand and a cake sale. They will also be at Hart House, Fleet on Tuesday, 2 April 10am to 12pm for a drop in coffee morning. Drinks and cakes will be available to purchase.

The Cabinet Member for Housing, **Councillor Bailey**, reported:

Last Tuesday I attended the popular shared ownership event held in partnership with Rushmoor Borough Council. Over 320 residents attended, highlighting the continuing demand for shared ownership.

Hart have been successful in a joint bid with Rushmoor, Winchester and Basingstoke and Deane councils in securing £240,000 financing to support those facing rough sleeping and single people challenged with being homeless.

After a query from Members, Councillor Bailey agreed to circulate the number of Hart residents who attended the shared ownership event.

The Cabinet Member for Planning Services, **Councillor Cockarill**, announced:

The planning appeal at Owens Farm, Hook, for 700 homes plus supporting infrastructure was withdrawn on Friday, 22 March, halfway through the inquiry hearings. This is a fantastic result for the Council and for all those that were concerned about this proposal which was totally contrary to the Submission Local Plan. I congratulate the Planning team for their efforts but we are also very grateful for the support given to us by Hook Parish Council and local residents. It certainly was partnership working and more importantly, it shows clearly the benefit of having a well advanced local plan, which the Council now has in light of the inspector's recommendations which were agreed by Cabinet on 14 March 2019.

The outcome of another large appeal - 700 dwellings at Pale Lane, Fleet, is still awaited. The hearings were held in January 2019 and the inquiry was adjourned in anticipation of the local plan Inspector's letter. The Council made submissions following receipt of the letter and we hope that the outcome will be another positive one for the Council. The Pale Lane Inspector will make recommendations to the Secretary of State who will make the decision.

As for the local plan, the next stage will be a six week consultation on Modifications to the Plan. This will set out the changes deemed necessary to make the plan

'sound'. The consultation will take place hopefully sometime in April 2019. Hopefully the Inspector will then be able to quickly finalise his report to enable us to be able to adopt the Plan later this summer.

The Cabinet Member for Regulatory Services, **Councillor Kinnell**, reported:

The Council has been working with partners including the Police, Hampshire County Council and Natural England for some time, to seek to resolve matters at the Scrap Metal dealer and Motor salvage business located at Totters Lane, Hartley Wintney.

The business was carrying out unlicensed dismantling of vehicles which encroached onto the public highway and the adjacent Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

I'm pleased to be able to advise you that Hart District Council has been successful in its recent application for a 'Site Closure Order', the first of its kind, under the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013. We were also awarded full costs.

The order was granted at Basingstoke Magistrates court on the 14 March following a failure to comply with a closure notice issued by the Council's Environmental Health team in April 2017.

Some of the finer points of the court Order still need to be finalised, as this is a new area of law with no current precedents. It is however anticipated that the Order will provide a direct requirement to clear the land (including the SSSI) of all vehicles and parts. There will be a significant financial payment required to be paid by Mr Ball to the courts, which will also hopefully provide a robust financial insurance against a future non-compliance, and open up the potential option to undertake works in default at his expense.

This is an excellent result for Hart and the local residents who were impacted, and I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the EH officers involved in this case.

102 JOINT CHIEF EXECUTIVES' REPORT

The Joint Chief Executive reported that the elections team were getting ready for the local elections, with nominations closing next week. The uncertainty around Brexit and the European Elections scheduled for the end of May was bringing its own challenges as arrangements were still having to be made, eg halls for polling stations, printing of ballot papers etc. Standard practices had to be ongoing, which may cause some interest from residents, and until the UK side of the European Elections are called a halt, arrangements have to carry on.

103 MINUTES OF COMMITTEES

Meeting	Date
Overview and Scrutiny (draft)	19 February 2019

No questions asked.

Standards (draft)

6 March 2019

Minute 7 – Code of Conduct Complaints Form and Guidance.

Councillor Clarke put the recommendation, seconded by Councillor Kennett. After a vote it was

RESOLVED

That the Monitoring Officer be delegated authority to update the Form and Guidance as per the recommendations of the Committee.

Minute 8 – Members' Code of Conduct Update

Councillor Clarke put the recommendation, seconded by Councillor Kennett. After a vote it was

RESOLVED

That the updated Members' Code of Conduct be adopted.

Cabinet (draft)

7 March 2019

No questions asked.

Cabinet (draft)

14 March 2019

Councillor Burchfield raised a point about a question he asked at Cabinet, and asked why it was not reflected in the minutes. The Leader agreed to address this matter when the minutes were reviewed at the next Cabinet meeting.

Planning (draft)

13 March 2019

No questions asked.

104 OUTSIDE BODIES - FEEDBACK FROM MEMBERS

Councillor Parker, had attended the spring meeting of HLOWLA, the minutes of which he would circulate to Members.

105 NOTICE OF MOTIONS

The following Motion to Council had been moved by **Councillor Radley**:

“This Council wishes a prompt review of car parking charges across the district to bring in free 30 or 60 minute parking in a way that is cost neutral to the car parking budget. The 30 or 60 mins free parking is important to help our district wide retailers and therefore cost neutrality is vital in order to make the scheme sustainable in more challenging budget years. The parking review needs to take into account the effect of Hampshire County Council's alarming proposal to introduce on street parking meters in urban areas. The parking review must therefore

also consider how best to protect residents ability to park in their own neighbourhoods. A holistic approach is needed to get a balanced parking strategy which works across the board.”

Councillor Radley introduced the motion, which was seconded by Councillor Oliver.

Members debated the motion. Issues considered included cost neutrality, longer dwell time, the draft service plan, the plans of Hampshire County Council, de-politicising parking, and a sustainable solution.

After a suggestion from Members, Councillor Radley agreed to change the word ‘wishes’ to ‘requires’. The final Motion was therefore as follows:

“This Council requires a prompt review of car parking charges across the district to bring in free 30 or 60 minute parking in a way that is cost neutral to the car parking budget. The 30 or 60 mins free parking is important to help our district wide retailers and therefore cost neutrality is vital in order to make the scheme sustainable in more challenging budget years. The parking review needs to take into account the effect of Hampshire County Council's alarming proposal to introduce on street parking meters in urban areas. The parking review must therefore also consider how best to protect residents ability to park in their own neighbourhoods. A holistic approach is needed to get a balanced parking strategy which works across the board.”

A Recorded Vote was taken:

FOR the Motion:

Ambler, Bailey, Blewett, Butler, Clarke, Cockarill, Collings, Crisp, Delaney, Drage, Gray, Gorys, Kennett, Kinnell, Makepeace-Browne, Neighbour, Oliver, Parker, Quarterman, Radley, Wright

AGAINST the Motion:

Burchfield, Crampton, Dickens

ABSTENTIONS:

Crookes, Forster

The Motion was therefore **CARRIED**

The following Motion to Council had been moved by **Councillor Parker**:

“That this Council resolves to support business, particularly small businesses, in Hart by reviewing the parking charges regime in order to offer free short term parking up to one hour.”

Councillor Parker withdrew his motion.

I06 FEES AND EXPENSES FOR LOCAL ELECTIONS

Members considered the fees and expenses for local elections as detailed in the report.

DECISION

- 1 The Hampshire & Isle of Wight scale of election fees be approved
- 2 The Section 151 Officer be delegated authority to approve future local election fee recommendations from the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Election Fees Working Party.

The meeting closed at 8.55 pm

COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 12 – QUESTIONS BY THE PUBLIC

Mr Timothy Smart asked:

The draft Local Plan lacks any commitment to create a Master Plan for Fleet, despite evidence that Fleet is falling behind other comparable urban centres and is in need of regeneration. The Inspector is recommending that SS3 should be removed from the Local Plan at least until alternative strategies have been objectively assessed. My question is whether the Council will direct that the monies budgeted for work on SS3 should be reassigned to developing a plan for urban renewal across Hart and specifically a Master Plan for Fleet in accordance with the Inspector's letter.

Councillor Cockarill responded:

The premise of the question is based on something the Inspector did not say. For those who attended the hearings, they will recall that the Inspector has no criticism of the Council's approach to town centres. Indeed, at the examination he gave little airtime to the issue and in his recent letter he made no mention of regeneration.

The emerging local plan sets out an aspiration to look beyond the Plan period (2014-2032) to address the District's long-term housing and infrastructure needs. The Inspector has praised us for this aspiration, although he has been unconvinced by the specific approach we set out in the Draft Plan. The aspiration remains in the emerging Local Plan, however, to provide a strategic and visionary framework for future planning policies.

Hart has submitted a bid to the Government's 'Future High Street Fund', which is designed to help local authorities fund urban regeneration projects, primarily to re-vitalise shopping areas. The scheme is primarily intended to support 'shovel-ready' projects to get underway, however we are hoping to be awarded money to support the scoping and feasibility of a town centre regeneration project. One of the criteria of the fund is that such projects must have the support of the local community, most obviously through the Neighbourhood Plans process.

Mr Smart asked a supplementary question:

A group of residents are interested in helping Hart to move a plan for Fleet forward. What do you consider to be the next steps, as it is quite clear that the local planning inspector feels that this should be encouraged further.

Councillor Cockarill responded that not all plans seem to be supported by the local community, and that as yet there was no scheme to drive forward.

Mr Simon Brown asked:

In the Report and Executive Summary "Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study and Playing Pitch Strategy 2016-2032" the Cycling Facilities section prioritises a feasibility study into provision of BMX tracks and mountain biking trails. With cycling – and specifically mountain

biking – a popular sport in the District would the Leader please provide a brief update on progress of the study.

Councillor Radley responded for the Leader:

We have 2 schemes being developed at Hartland Park SANGs and a more complex version at Edenbrook.

Basic provision (a pump track) has been provided for Edenbrook but there is funding agreed for a larger facility in which we will be doing some consultation as to the nature of this provision. We expect to get ownership of the bike area at Edenbrook in the spring which will allow us to start to the consultation process in the summer.

Mr Brown asked a supplementary question:

With the emerging military training area restrictions, and civilians being squeezed into other areas, eg Fleet Pond, would Council debate this issue?

Councillor Radley responded that it was an important issue for Council to consider. He agreed to ask the Leader to write to the Commander of Aldershot Garrison expressing the Council's, and resident's, dismay at the Army's actions in closing off access to military land when not in use by military personnel.