

COUNCIL

Date and Time: Thursday, 29 June 2017 at 7.00 pm

Place: Council Chamber, Civic Offices, Fleet

Present:

COUNCILLORS –

Crisp - (Chairman)

Ambler	Crampton	Morris
Axam	Crookes	Neighbour
Bailey	Dickens	Oliver
Billings	Forster	Parker
Blewett	Gray	Radley (Jenny)
Burchfield	Gorys	Renshaw
Clarke	Harward	Southern
Cockarill	Kennett	Wheale
Collett	Makepeace-Browne	Wright

Officers Present:

Patricia Hughes	Joint Chief Executive
Gill Chapman	Committee Services

11 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 25 May 2017 were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

12 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies had been received from Councillors Butler, Kinnell, Leeson, Radley (James) and Woods.

13 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None declared.

14 COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 12 – QUESTIONS BY THE PUBLIC

Questions from the public are detailed in Appendix A.

15 COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 14 – QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

Questions from Councillors are detailed in Appendix B.

16 CHAIRMANS ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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| 29 June 2017 | High Sheriff of Hampshire event at the National Motor Museum Beaulieu |
| 3 June 2017 | Hart Lions Centenary Buffet Lunch at Church on the Heath, Elvetham Heath |
| 5 June 2017 | Lord Lieutenant Reception for New Mayors/Chairmen at Serle's House, Winchester |
| 28 June 2017 | Lions Club of Fleet, handover at Oak Park Golf Club, Crondall |

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

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| 4 June 2017 | Countryside Department's Wildlife Day at Fleet Pond |
| 13 June 2017 | South East Reserve Forces' & Cadets Association – Armed Forces Briefing at National Oceanography Centre, Southampton |
| 14 June 2017 | Rotary Kid's Out – Aldershot Rugby Stadium, Aldershot |
| 26 June 2017 | Lord-Lieutenant of Hampshire presentation of Queen's Award for Enterprise, Tempcover, Fleet |

The Chairman added that he had received some nominations for his seven charity fundraising approach, but was still looking for nominations for Hartley Wintney, Odiham and Hook. Councillor Parker put forward Fleet Phoenix for Fleet.

Councillor Crookes commented on the attendance by the Vice Chairman of the Queens Enterprise award, and hoped that the Council would continue to support the Inspire business awards which Tempcover had received an award from.

17 CABINET MEMBERS ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Cabinet and senior officers held an away day on Tuesday, 27 June. We spent the day discussing the year ahead and looking at the Corporate Plan. Several things will evolve from those discussions and details will come out in good time.

The Cabinet Member for Services, **Councillor Radley** reported:

Members will be pleased to note that the first two car parks (Victoria Road & Gurkha Square) have been fitted out with our new payment machines. These allow 3 methods of payment; the traditional pay & display, a self service pay on exit and the ability to pre-pay using a mobile phone.

The roll out shall continue across the district over the next few months, with Blackwater being next to benefit from this innovative system.

Councillor Forster asked if there had been proper testing of the system and what it consisted of, as his experience had been that the roll out of the payment machines had not been successful, eg some people had been double charged, no assistance at times etc.

In Councillor Radley's absence, Councillor Neighbour agreed to forward a response to the question.

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

A reminder to members about the email that you have received encouraging people to take part in the NHS Primary Care survey. This is for anyone who has a GP in Aldershot, Farnborough, Farnham, Fleet or Yateley.

This survey will inform a national project called 'extended hours in primary care' led by NHS looking at the availability of GP services between 8am and 8pm on weekdays and at certain times during the weekend.

The survey has been divided into five local areas and people are asked to complete the survey which lists the GP surgery they are registered with. This survey will be live until 23 July and I would encourage interested members to complete it.

On Tuesday 18 July from 6pm to 8pm there is a Hart Club Development Forum. The location for this is the Hart Leisure centre,

This is a networking and information event for sports clubs, sports coaches/ volunteers, with presentations from Energise Me and Hart Voluntary Action on:

- Top Tips on Fundraising
- Recruiting and Retaining Volunteers

This is an opportunity for attendees to have their say on future training and development sessions specifically for Hart sports clubs.

Thanks to HVA for organising this event and Everyone Active for hosting it and providing refreshments.

More information and booking link is available on the HVA website in the 'What's On' section. http://www.hartvolaction.org.uk/whats-on/?event_id=11261

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

I have already mentioned some of the actions that have been taken following the fire at Grenfell Tower.

Within a couple of days of the disaster as the enormity of what had happened became clear we offered support to colleagues at Kensington & Chelsea by making available 2 temporary accommodation placements in Hart for displaced households in units that were void at that time. I was naturally happy to agree to this offer being made and I can report that it was ultimately not required.

Our Housing teams delivered a very positive, well attended and engaging "Housing Forum" on Friday, 23 June. In addition to local members the event attracted interest from Registered Housing Providers, neighbouring authorities, parishes, statutory agencies and voluntary groups. The two main areas discussed were preventing homelessness and the delivery of affordable housing now and in the future.

The housing service will be drawing together and sharing the feedback, and this will help us to hone an effective Preventing Homelessness Strategy to direct our services from the end of the year.

I would like to extend my personal thanks particularly to Katy Herrington for all of her hard work in organising what was a really effective event, and also to Nicola Harpham, Alison Smithen and Vicky Atkinson, who actively supported the planning, preparation and execution of the forum.

Part of the Forum included an update on the Homelessness Prevention Trailblazer work that our Officers are leading across Hart and Rushmoor. The work is attracting interest from other areas and the team will be attending the national NPSS conference next week where they are delivering a workshop on our early learning experiences.

Finally I have some excellent news to share: Members may be aware that we have been working towards national Gold Standard accreditation in front line housing options service delivery. I am very pleased to announce that we were notified a few days ago that we have achieved our ambition, becoming one of just 9 local authorities across England to have achieved this accolade.

This is a fantastic achievement and one that reflects very well on the Council as a whole.

I would like to thank everyone involved in our Housing Service over recent years and in particular Kelly Watts, Kate Layzell, Claire Boxall, Natasha Summers, Gemma Watts, Penny Saunders, and Dan Fullbrook for their time and commitment to the process, and above all to Phil Turner for leading the team to this fantastic achievement.

Cllr Gorys asked if the Council was aware of the return of the known rough sleeper in Fleet high street. The Portfolio Holder assured him that he would make sure that the relevant officers had been made aware, and that officers were looking to the wider public to help. He added that one of the criteria of the gold standard accreditation is the service provided for the homeless, and to provide a home to avoid people sleeping on the street.

The Cabinet Member for Planning, **Councillor Cockarill** reported:

I would like to confirm that the consultation on the draft Local Plan closed on 9th June and thank all who responded.

I confirm that there will be no Local Plan Steering Group meetings before September. The next big job will be to consider the responses to the consultation. Officers will have to collate and consider those responses, so the next meeting will be at least September.

I would ask that Members direct any questions they have regarding the Local Plan and the consultation to me rather than directly to the officers. Want to make sure

that we get the work done as soon as possible and rather not bog our planning team down with questions, put them together and get answers out to you.

I would advise Members that the Netherhouse Moor Copse (Grove Farm) inquiry starts on 18 July. As soon as we have anything to report from that we will let you know.

The Cabinet Member for Regulatory and Community Safety, **Councillor Collett** reported:

Think Safe Child Safety Event - The Community Safety Team will be holding their annual "Think Safe" child safety event from 10th to 14th July. This event sees year 6 pupils take part in a wide range of safety scenarios including Stranger Danger, Fire Safety, Trading Standards, Cyber Safety, Dog Safety, Healthy Relationships and Range Safety, which is how to behave on local army land and what to do if you find any ordnance etc. The event takes place at the St. John's Ambulance Centre in Hawley Lane, just over the border in Farnborough. If any Councillors would like to attend during this week please get in touch with David Lipscombe in the Community Safety Team.

Community Safety Education Officer - We have now filled our vacant Community Safety Education Officer post, recruiting Sarah Lambert into this role. Sarah will be heading out into Hart's senior schools in the new school year to teach children on a variety of subjects, including anti-social behaviour, drugs, alcohol, cyber safety, Prevent and more.

Challenge & Change - As part of our Challenge & Change youth diversion project, which works in partnership with Her Majesty's Prison Coldingley, Community Safety are hoping to hold an open day with the Prison in the near future, which members would be welcome to attend if they are interested. Further updates will be provided as and when available.

Eat well and stay safe this summer - The Council supported the national Food Safety Week from 19th to 25th June to help encourage safe eating this summer. There are an estimated one million cases of food poisoning every year and research shows that people put themselves at risk with poor food safety behaviours. For example, a recent survey carried out by the Food Standards Agency showed that:

- 48% of people reported that they never check their fridge temperature;
- 37% said they did not know what the fridge temperature should be (the answer is below 5 degrees);
- 58% thought the method for defrosting meat or fish was leaving it at room temperature;
- 19% admitted that they eat burgers when pink or when there are red/pink juices.

The Food Safety Week focussed on promoting good food hygiene, focusing on the '4 C's', Chilling, Cooking, Cleaning and avoiding Cross-contamination, which can all help prevent most forms of food-borne disease and could therefore help reduce the number of food poisoning cases. Members can find out more about food safety and

the 4 C's by downloading the 'Definitive guide to safe summer food' online via www.food.gov.uk.

Football in the Community - With the school summer holidays fast approaching, I would remind members of the opportunities for our young people to get involved with two different football schemes.

The Aldershot Town Football in the Community Trust are running courses throughout August – at Oakley Park here in Fleet from 1st to 3rd, 15th to 17th and 29th to 31st August, from 10am to 3pm each day, plus at various locations in Rushmoor on other dates. The coaching, which is managed by FA qualified staff, is for those between five and 14 years old and costs £15 a day or £40 a week. Full details can be found on the Trust's website.

The other scheme provides a free opportunity for 11-19 year olds to develop their skills each Tuesday at the Everest Community Academy in Basingstoke. It is supported by Reading Football Club and Hampshire Constabulary, and young people can just turn up and play.

CCTV - Finally, the work of our joint CCTV team takes place day after day, often with very little publicity. I thought it would be good just to give you a few snapshots of what they have been doing here in Hart in the last few weeks.

- Footage was provided to help deal with a burglary in Hartley Wintney;
- Police were called to assist one of our litter enforcement officers after a member of the public refused to give their details;
- Two people were arrested and footage was produced to assist with a public order incident in Upper Street / Fleet Road here in Fleet;
- Police were called to a public order incident in Yateley which had been spotted and monitored by the CCTV team.

It's not all about enforcement however:

- The team recently helped locate a high risk missing person, who I'm glad to report is now safe and well;
- They also monitored an unmanned vehicle recently, where the window had been left wide open, making sure it was safe until the owner returned and drove it away, almost certainly totally unaware of the service that had been provided!

The Cabinet Member for Leisure and Countryside Services, **Councillor Kinnell** sent a report in her absence:

In my capacity as Fairtrade Champion, I attended the Fairtrade Celebration event at the Harlington Centre on 14 June. We were fortunate to have Adam Gardner, the Communities Campaigns Manager from the Fairtrade Foundation at the event to explain why Fairtrade is such an effective way of addressing global poverty permanently and Steve Brown, who inspired and motivated the community of Odiham, to achieve Fairtrade Village Status. It was an interesting, informative and enjoyable evening which will hopefully inspire those in attendance to join the relaunched Fairtrade Steering Group and to attend Fairtrade events.

On 4 June, the Council's fifth Wildlife Day was held at Fleet Pond. Hosted by our Countryside Rangers and the Fleet Pond Society, there were various stalls providing a variety of crafts and activities, various demonstrations, pond dipping and bug hunting. The new T Jetty was also officially opened at the event. The day, which had the highest number of visitors than ever before, provided a great opportunity for the whole family to enjoy free activities whilst learning about the importance of local wildlife in Hart.

And finally, we have begun the road works at Bramshot Farm Country Park, which I anticipate will open to the public by the end of October of this year. I would ask Members to email me if they would like us to arrange a visit to the site before it opens to the Public.

Councillor Blewett left the meeting at 7.44pm and returned at 7.46pm during this item

The Cabinet Member for Contracts, **Councillor Oliver** reported:

Firstly I attended the Project Integra Strategic Board on 22 June. As members are aware this manages waste disposal and recycling across Hampshire. It also now has responsibility for implementing and monitoring Hampshire anti fly-tipping strategy. Of particular note is that we endorsed a recommendation that a new single Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) be evaluated, rather than refits of the two existing ones in 2018 (ours being at Alton). The main reasons being able to cope with future capacity from increased housing, expanding the range of materials to be recycled and not losing recycling revenue due to shut down of existing MRFs for an extended period. I and many of you will have been on the end of resident's complaints about the limited range of plastics they can put into their blue bins. This is a first step in being able to accept all plastic containers, tubs and trays and removing the confusion of items labelled as recyclable being treated by Hampshire as contamination.

Secondly, the appointment of an officer in Hampshire CC to coordinate Anti Fly-Tipping initiatives is nearing completion. I raised concerns with Project Integra and the HCC Portfolio holder as to why the strategy only addressed the issues of education and enforcement, when from its own and other's research the cost and availability of recycling facilities were a major cause of fly-tipping for both individuals and businesses. This is with the annual threat of Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) closures, reduced opening times and complex charging schemes that HCC put forward to meet its significant cost cutting targets resulting from the Central Government austerity programme. They are proposing a £1 charge for access to HWRCs for residents and are looking for all councils to support in writing and lobby DCLG to allow this charge. This could potentially raise up to £4M per year. If used to maintain and improve the HWRC network for the benefit of Hampshire residents and lift the threat of closures I believe that many in Hart would support it. If the revenue were just used as another form of taxation to bolster HCC central funds then I will not be supporting its introduction. I have asked for clarity on where this money will go.

Lastly, The waste collection retendering exercise is progressing well and tender responses are expected in on 5 July. During evaluation there will not be any announcements but it is expected that a short list of selected potential contractors (3) will be announced on 16 October. Those selected will then go through a

negotiation phase to provide their Best and Final offers to the Council in the first week of January 2018.

18 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

The Joint Chief Executive reported that the waste team would be very busy in the coming months evaluating the bids for the waste contract, and asked for Members' understanding during evaluation as key staff in the waste team would be closeted away.

19 MINUTES OF COMMITTEES

Meeting	Date
Overview and Scrutiny	18 April 2017
No questions asked.	
Planning	10 May 2017
No questions asked	
Planning	14 June 2017
No questions asked.	
Cabinet	1 June 2017

Councillor Burchfield asked why less than 50% of Cabinet members were present at this meeting, Councillor Neighbour replied that sometimes with holiday and other commitments, individual Councillors could not attend, and unfortunately this had been such an occasion.

Minute 8 - Odiham and North Warnborough Neighbourhood Plan – Bringing into Legal Force

Councillor Crookes thanked members of the team who had worked on the Neighbourhood Plan and had finally brought it to its successful conclusion. The team had faced a number of difficult obstacles and worked together to a successful outcome. He thanked Daryl Phillips and his team for their expert advice and congratulated everyone involved in the process. Councillor Neighbour added his, and Councillor James Radley's, thanks to the team, adding that both Winchfield and Odiham had set the bar quite high for Neighbourhood Plans.

RESOLVED

That under Section 38A(4) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 the Odiham and North Warnborough Neighbourhood Plan be 'made' (brought into legal force) to form part of the statutory Hart Development Plan with immediate effect.

Minute 9 - Food and Health & Safety Service Plan 2017-18

RESOLVED

That the Food and Health & Safety Service Plan 2017-18 (FHSSP) be adopted for the financial year 2017-18.

The meeting closed at 8.00 pm

QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mr Tristram Cary asked:

Can you give an indication on when the consultation comments will be made public?

Councillor Cockarill responded:

We are currently working through the process of collating responses which will take time. We hope to be able to publish this information in the next couple of months.

Will the change in administration lead to a change in spatial strategy for the Local Plan?

Councillor Cockarill responded:

We will see what the consultation shows us. The aim of the exercise is to get a local plan through that is sound, and we need to take into account comments from the public, agencies etc, then Members will be informed and be able to decide how we go forward. It is still a little bit early to pre-empt.

Can you set out the timeline for the rest of the Local Plan process including the Reg 19 consultation and submission to the Inspector?

Councillor Cockarill responded:

The timeline we are currently working was set out by the previous administration, with Reg 19 at the end of this year and the Spring of 2018 to the examiner. We see no reason to change that timescale at this moment in time.

QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

Councillor Forster asked:

The Conservative administration had scheduled improvements including upgrading Fleet's Church Road car park before the Christmas shopping period, to benefit residents and businesses.

Can the portfolio holder for car parks confirm whether the Church Road refurbishment, resurfacing and layout improvements are on time as originally scheduled for autumn or if not when will they take place.

Councillor Neighbour responded on behalf of Councillor Radley:

It is typical of the Conservatives to take credit for the hard work that officers have been, and still are, investing in order to bring this project forward. The officer team remains the same as before, in fact the recent appointment of a highly capable project manager to this initiative has further bolstered resilience. There is no reason to suspect that the project will not be completed on time.

Councillor Forster asked a supplementary question:

Will residents be able to give feedback and influence any proposed changes if so when and how and when will the plans be published?

Councillor Neighbour responded on behalf of Councillor Radley:

This question will be forwarded to Councillor Radley for a written response.

Councillor Parker asked:

Following the election of the new Leader at the May Annual Council and understanding that it has taken a little time to bottom out the organisation of the new administration, will the Leader please advise the detail of the allocation of responsibilities to Cabinet Members.

Councillor Neighbour responded:

Thank you, I appreciate the time allowed to bottom out the responsibilities. There are still some things to sort out and we will publish this on the website next week.

Councillor Parker responded:

Thank you. I'm sure everyone would also appreciate an idea of the programme that the new administration will be looking at over the next year.

Councillor Neighbour responded:

The new administration considered the forward plans at the previously mentioned away day. The plans will evolve with the Cabinet work programme and the Corporate Plan reflecting this.

Councillor Gorys asked:

What has the Cabinet Member for Housing done to reassure Hart residents that flatted accommodation is fire safe in the light of the lessons being learned from the Grenfell House disaster?

Councillor Bailey responded:

I thank Councillor Gory's for raising what is an important issue. I am sure as a Council we would want to ass on our sympathies to all the families affected by the dreadful fire at Grenfell House. I was in Kensington yesterday and seeing the charred remains of the tower block brings home the real horror of what happened two weeks ago.

For residents living in tower blocks, particularly those which have had cladding this is a worrying time. In terms of our own residents in Hart I can confirm that we are not presently aware of any blocks, either private accommodation or industrial, that have aluminium or combustible cladding. Nor are we aware of any blocks of six stories or more in the area.

The Council has responded accordingly to a request for information from the DCLG regarding Council owned high rise buildings.

Hampshire County Council's Emergency Planning team has been co-ordinating discussions across the 11 districts and looking to its own property portfolio, and we will stay in touch with this county-wide work as it progresses. We have also contacted all Registered Provider partners locally and asked them to flag any relevant issues that they can identify within their own housing stock. To date, no areas of concern have been reported.

Even though we don't have high rise property in the district the disaster does serve as a reminder of the importance of good precautions for all households to minimise the risk of fire and what to do in an emergency.

We have a role to play in our involvement with private landlords through the 'Healthy Housing Rating System' and we are looking, in liaison with the statutory body with responsibility for fire safety, Hampshire Fire and Rescue, to include an article on fire safety in the next edition of Hart News.

Councillor Gorys added:

Those of us in Hart should not be complacent, and with all public or private buildings would seek reassurance that the process has been started and questions will not only be about flats, but schools, colleges and all buildings that may have used this cladding.