

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
HELD ON 12 FEBRUARY 2014 AT 6pm**

Attendance:

The Mayor (Councillor Beavis) (P) (in the Chair);

The Deputy Mayor (Councillor Ronayne) (P);

Councillors Allen (P), Ms Ballard (P), Burgess (P), Carter CK (P), Carter CR (P), Chegwyn (P), Mrs Cully (P), Ms Diffey (P), Edgar (P), Farr (P) Forder, Foster-Reed (P), Geddes, Gill (P), Hazel (P), Henshaw (P), Mrs Hook (P), Hook (P), Hylands (P), Jacobs (P), Jessop (P), Kimber (P), Lane (P), Langdon (P), Mrs. Morgan (P), Murphy (P), Philpott (P), Ronayne (P), Scard (P), Mrs Searle (P), Mrs Wright (P) and Wright (P).

Also in Attendance:

Honorary Alderman Foster, O'Neil and Mrs Whitbread.

ONE MINUTES SILENCE

In order to express their sympathy regarding the recent death of Honorary Alderman, Tony Herridge a former Mayor of the Borough and Councillor, Members of the Council stood in silent tribute for one minute.

The Mayor advised that the funeral would take place on Tuesday, 18th February, 12.15pm at Holy Trinity Church, Gosport.

APOLOGIES

An apology for inability to attend the meeting was submitted on behalf of Councillor Forder.

MINUTES

COUNCIL RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Council held on 18 December 2013, be confirmed as a true and correct record and signed.

MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

- (I) The Mayor referred to a departing letter from Lieutenant Colonel Steve Archer expressing his gratitude and appreciation to Members and Officers of the Council whilst he was Commanding Officer of 33 Field Hospital.

QUESTIONS PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER 3.4

Question No 1 standing in the name of Councillor Mrs Cully in respect of the current position of any discussion between the Council Officers and the Police regarding accommodation for the service if the Police Station is closed was answered by the Chairman of the Policy & Organisation Board

Question No 1 standing in the name of Councillor Chegwyn on a request for a report on the recent Gosport Business & Employment Fair was answered by the Chairman of the Economic Development Board.

Question No 2 standing in the name of Councillor Chegwyn on the question asked at the last Council Meeting, how much of the sum paid by the Council to the Performing Rights Society relating to the 2012 Gosport Festival on Walpole Park has so far been repaid to the Council by the Directors of the Company that organised that commercial event was answered by the Chairman of the Community Board.

Question No 3 standing in the name of Councillor Chegwyn on what applications have so far been received by the Council from Mr David Smith, Mr Paul Cobb and their respective Companies to stage a Festival on Walpole Park in July or August this year, and on what dates? Has the Council accepted their applications and, if so, what fees have been paid to the Council by the Applicants was answered by the Chairman of the Community Board.

Question No 1 standing in the name of Councillor Hook on how many bags of excess waste, on a weekly average were not collected since Christmas 2013 and how many were not collected last week was answered by Chairman of the Community Board.

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COUNCIL BOARDS

Business Plan update and Council Dwelling Rents 2014/2015

Consideration was given to a recommendation by the Community Board at its meeting held on 10th February 2014.

COUNCIL RESOLVED: That:

- a) **the revised HRA Business Plan (Appendix A) and associated 2013/14 Revised Budget and 2014/15 Budget (Appendix B) is agreed.**
 - b) **in line with national guidelines the average weekly Council Dwelling rent increases on average by £4.20 per week.**
 - c) **the increase in rent for older style garages is increased in line with dwelling rents, as agreed in the Garage Renewal Strategy.**
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COUNCIL BUDGET 2014/15

Consideration was given to a Report by the Borough Treasurer which outlined the financial situation of the Council's General Fund in the current year and, after consideration of the main factors affecting the outlook for 2014/15 including Exchequer support and Reserve levels, recommended a budget level for that year.

It was recommended that the Council approve:

- 1) A revised 2013/14 budget totalling £10,284,090 and a budget for 2014/15 totalling £9,828,790.

It was requisitioned that voting on Recommendation 1 take place. Voting was thereupon taken and the names of the Members voting for and against the Recommendation and those abstaining were read to the Council:

FOR THE RECOMMENDATION: The Mayor, Deputy Mayor, and Councillors Allen, Burgess, Carter CK, Carter CR, Dickson, Edgar, Geddes, Gill, Hazel, Henshaw, Mrs Hook, Hook, Jacobs, Jessop, Kimber, Lane, Langdon, Mrs Morgan, Murphy, Philpott, Scard, **(23)**

AGAINST THE RECOMMENDATION: (0)

ABSTENTIONS: Councillors Ms Ballard, Chegwyn, Mrs Cully, Mrs Diffey, Farr, Foster-Reed, Hylands, Mrs Searle, Mrs Wright, Wright **(10)**

COUNCIL RESOLVED: That the recommendation be approved.

- 2) The Pay Policy Statement (Appendix 3) and Member's Allowances Scheme (Appendix 4) for 2014/15.

It was requisitioned that voting on Recommendation 2 take place. Voting was thereupon taken and the names of the Members voting for and against the Recommendation and those abstaining were read to the Council:

FOR THE RECOMMENDATION: Councillors Allen, Burgess, Carter CK, Carter CR, Dickson, Edgar, Geddes, Gill, Hazel, Henshaw, Mrs Hook, Hook, Jacobs, Jessop, Langdon, Mrs Morgan, Murphy, Philpott, Scard **(19)**

AGAINST THE RECOMMENDATION: Councillors Ms Ballard, Chegwyn, Mrs Cully, Ms Diffey, Foster-Reed, Hylands **(6)**

ABSTENTIONS: The Mayor, The Deputy Mayor, and Councillors Farr, Kimber, Lane, Mrs Searle, Mrs Wright, Wright **(8)**

COUNCIL RESOLVED: That the recommendation be approved.

- 3) The proposed additions to the Discretionary Rate Relief Policy as detailed in Appendix 5.

It was requisitioned that voting on Recommendation 3 take place. Voting was thereupon taken and the names of the Members voting for and against the Recommendation and those abstaining were read to the Council:

FOR THE RECOMMENDATION: The Mayor, The Deputy Mayor, Councillors Allen, Ballard, Burgess, Carter CK, Carter CR, Chegwyn, Cully, Ms Diffey, Dickson, Edgar, Farr, Foster-Reed, Geddes, Gill, Hazel, Henshaw, Mrs Hook, Hook, Hylands, Jacobs, Jessop, Kimber, Lane, Langdon, Mrs Morgan, Murphy, Philpott, Scard, Mrs Searle, Mrs Wright, Wright **(33)**

AGAINST THE RECOMMENDATION: (0)

ABSTENTIONS: (0)

COUNCIL RESOLVED: That the recommendation be approved.

- 4) The delegation to the Borough Treasurer in the Constitution be amended to make explicit reference to the completion of the NNDR 1 Return as detailed in paragraph 3.8.

It was requisitioned that voting on Recommendation 4 take place. Voting was thereupon taken and the names of the Members voting for and against the Recommendation and those abstaining were read to the Council:

FOR THE RECOMMENDATION: The Mayor, The Deputy Mayor, Councillors Allen, Ballard, Burgess, Carter CK, Carter CR, Chegwyn, Cully, Ms Diffey, Dickson, Edgar, Farr, Foster-Reed, Geddes, Gill, Hazel, Henshaw, Mrs Hook, Hook, Hylands, Jacobs, Jessop, Kimber, Lane, Langdon, Mrs Morgan, Murphy, Philpott, Scard, Mrs Searle, Mrs Wright, Wright **(33)**

AGAINST THE RECOMMENDATION: (0)

ABSTENTIONS: (0)

COUNCIL RESOLVED: That the recommendation be approved.

The Council wished to put on record its thanks to the Borough Treasurer, Financial Services Manager and Head of Accountancy for their hard work in preparing the Budget for 2014/15

TREASURY MANAGEMENT & PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS 2014/15

Consideration was given to a Report by the Borough Treasurer which outlined the Council's prudential indicators for 2014/15 to 2016/17, together with the expected treasury operations for this period, fulfilling a key legislative requirement.

COUNCIL RESOLVED: That the following be approved:

- a) The Treasury Management Strategy, as identified in 1.3
 - b) The Prudential Indicators, as identified in 1.4
 - c) The Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) policy statement set out in 2.2
 - d) The Annual Investment Strategy (paragraph 2.7.2)
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PART II MINUTES

COUNCIL RESOLVED: That the following Part II Minutes be received.

Economic Development Board: 6 February 2014 (Minute No.38-40)

ELECTION OF MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR 2014-2015

The Council was informed that in accordance with Standing Order 2.4 the Borough Solicitor and Deputy Chief Executive had written to Group Leaders and Members of the Council to invite Member nominations for the selection of Mayor-Elect and Deputy Mayor-Elect for the next Municipal Year.

It was reported that one nomination had been received Councillor W L Ronayne for Mayor-Elect and one nomination Councillor K C Farr for Deputy Mayor-Elect for the 2014-2015 Municipal Year. The Council accordingly approved the nominations.

The meeting ended at 20:02pm