



**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF MEETING OF THE
COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHICHESTER HELD IN THE ASSEMBLY ROOM
AT THE COUNCIL HOUSE, NORTH STREET, CHICHESTER
ON WEDNESDAY 10 SEPTEMBER 2014 AT 6.00PM**

- PRESENT : The Mayor (Councillor Hughes)
The Deputy Mayor (Councillor Siggs)
Councillors Apel, Budge, Campling, P Dignum, T Dignum, Evans, French,
Garrett, Holman, Macey, Plowman, Rankin, Scicluna, Shone and Woolley
- APOLOGIES : Councillors Bell, Chaplin and Smith
Mayor's Chaplain
- IN ATTENDANCE : Town Clerk, Administration Manager and Macebearer

21 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Special Meeting of Council held on 19 August 2014 having been printed and circulated be approved, adopted and signed as a correct record with the following amendment :

Minute 19 : remove the word 'Annual' in the first line of the paragraph.

22 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

(i) Mayoral Wine Tasting Evening

The Mayor advised that another Mayoral Charity Wine Tasting Evening would be held on Friday 24 October 2014 in the Assembly Room and hoped members would support this event.

23 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions from members of the public being residents in the City pursuant to Standing Order 27.

24 PRESENTATION OF GRANT CHEQUES

The Mayor presented Grant cheques to the following and a photograph was taken of the Mayor with the recipients :

- Arun Speakers Club (Chichester)	£250
- Chichester & Bognor Branch MS Society	£600
- Chichester City Band	£2,500
- City Angels	£5,000
- Friends of Chartres	£1,000

- Friends of Priory Park	£300
- Italy Star Association	£2,000
- Lifecentre	£2,000
- Murray Club	£250
- New Park Community & Arts Association	£5,000
- Options Pregnancy Counselling Services (Chichester)	£800
- Outset Youth Action	£1,000
- St Wilfrid's Hospice	£3,444
- SAGE Counselling	£1,000
- South Downs Planetarium	£4,650
- Sussex Otters Swimming Club	£500
- Taste & Savour Ltd	£2,000
- Transition Chichester	£1,000
- Voluntary Action Arun & Chichester	£1,000

25 MINUTES OF MEETINGS

(a) Planning & Conservation Committee

It was moved by Councillor Woolley, as Chairman of the Committee, that the Minutes of the meeting held on 2 July 2014 be approved and adopted.

It was RESOLVED that the original motion put by Councillor Woolley, that the Minutes of the meeting held on 2 July 2014 be approved and adopted.

(b) Special Community Affairs Committee

It was moved by Councillor Apel, as Chairman of the Committee, that the Minutes of the Special meeting held on 21 July 2014 be approved and adopted.

It was RESOLVED that the original motion put by Councillor Apel, that the Minutes of the Special meeting held on 21 July 2014 be approved and adopted.

(c) Planning & Conservation Committee

It was moved by Councillor Woolley, as Chairman of the Committee, that the Minutes of the meeting held on 30 July 2014 be approved and adopted.

It was RESOLVED that the original motion put by Councillor Woolley, that the Minutes of the meeting held on 30 July 2014 be approved and adopted.

(d) Community Affairs Committee

It was moved by Councillor Apel, as Chairman of the Committee, that the Minutes of the meeting held on 4 August 2014 be approved and adopted.

It was RESOLVED that the original motion put by Councillor Apel, that the Minutes of the meeting held on 4 August 2014 be approved and adopted.

(e) Finance Committee

It was moved by Councillor Plowman, Chairman of the Committee, that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 12 August 2014 be approved and adopted.

Councillor Campling commented on Minute 17 Henty Field and said that although he was pleased the City Council would be taking on the lease for Henty Field he felt that this was just transferring the problem of the site being a potential development site to the next generation to deal with in the future. The lease was not in perpetuity and provided, at best, protection from development for 25 years.

Both Councillors Evans and T Dignum commented on the value of the land and the intent of West Sussex County Council not to develop Henty Field in the short to medium term.

The Town Clerk advised that a meeting between City Council and West Sussex County Council officers would be taking place on Thursday 11 September 2014 to discuss an increase of the current offer of £5,000 from the County Council. It was hoped that the offer could be more in line with the monies the City Council has received from the County Council for benches and bus shelters.

It was RESOLVED that the original motion put by Councillor Plowman, that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 12 August 2014 be approved and adopted.

(f) Business Review Committee

It was moved by Councillor Plowman, as Chairman of the Committee, that the Minutes of the meeting held on 14 August 2014 be approved and adopted.

Councillor Rankin commented on Minute 18 Business Plan, and asked when a revised version of this Plan would be circulated. The Chairman advised that he and the Officers would be meeting shortly to revise the Business Plan and it would be ready for consideration at the next meeting of the Business Review Committee in October.

It was RESOLVED that the original motion put by Councillor Plowman, that the Minutes of the meeting held on 14 August 2014 be approved and adopted.

(g) Community Affairs Committee

It was moved by Councillor Apel, as Chairman of the Committee, that the Minutes of the Special Meeting held on 19 August 2014 be approved and adopted.

Councillor Scicluna declared a Personal Interest in the European Walled Towns as Vice-President.

Councillor Scicluna reported that the European Walled Towns Symposium held in Chichester between Tuesday 2 September and Saturday 6 September 2014 had been successful and inspiring for those delegates that had attended although the number of delegates attending was lower than originally anticipated. Councillor Scicluna thanked members and officers for their input into the Symposium.

Councillor French said that Councillor Scicluna had done an admirable job of hosting the Symposium in the absence of the President of the European Walled Towns, Joe Spiteri.

Councillor French advised that he had prepared preliminary accounts for the Symposium which should show a surplus of in the region of £3,000.

It was RESOLVED that the original motion put by Councillor Siggs, that the Minutes of the Special Meeting held on 19 August 2014 be approved and adopted.

(h) Planning & Conservation Committee

It was moved by Councillor Woolley, as Chairman of the Committee, that the Minutes of the meeting held on 27 August 2014 be approved and adopted.

It was RESOLVED that the original motion put by Councillor Woolley, that the Minutes of the meeting held on 27 August 2014 be approved and adopted.

26 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Councillor P Dignum as the City Council's representative on the Oxmarket Centre of Arts, reported on the recent Annual General Meeting that had been held and that the new Chairman was Richard Shaw who had outlined his proposals for future developments for art at the Oxmarket and increasing publicity for the centre.

Councillor Apel, as a City Angel, reported on the decrease of admissions to Accident and Emergency on Friday and Saturday nights due to the City Angels and that there had been a decrease in incidents involving the police.

27 WARD REPORTS FROM CHICHESTER CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Councillor P Dignum, as a South Ward member, gave a brief update on the recent changes at Whyke Estate Community Association (WECA) following the resignation of the Chairman. It was noted that the recent New Homes Bonus Application submitted by WECA and supported by Chichester City Council had been withdrawn so that WECA could reconsider a number of aspects of the proposal. The MUGA lighting at Whyke was appreciated by those using the multi-use game area.

Councillor Scicluna, as a South Ward member, advised that decaying trees would be removed by West Sussex County Council on the junction of Cleveland Road and Whyke Road and that the residents wished for the trees to be replaced. Councillor Scicluna would be advising the residents of how this could be achieved.

Councillor T Dignum, as a North Ward member, reported that the pavement on the B2178 between Brandy Hole Copse and Pine Grove had been extended to Salthill Road.

Councillor Plowman, as a West Ward member, reminded members of the timetable for the Local Plan Examination by Inspector.

Councillor Budge, as North Ward member, reported that the new season of the Chichester Rugby Club and begun with a win for the home team.

The Mayor, as an East Ward member, reported on the success of the Community Centre at Swanfield and the activities being provided for residents of the area.

28 REPORTS FROM CHICHESTER DISTRICT AND WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL'S WARD MEMBERS

West Sussex County Councillor, Margaret Evans, reported on the collecting of slow-worms at Whyke Road Bridge, the review of parking in the South Ward and particularly highlighted the work that resident Geoff King had carried out in connection with this and that West Sussex County Council had set-up a link on their website to enable residents to have their say on how County Council money should be expended.

Chichester District Councillor, Simon Oakley, reported on the parking review in East Ward and other highway matters affected by the development at Barnfield Drive and also the hope that rainwater gullies would be cleared by West Sussex County Council at various locations around the City.

Councillor Oakley also reported on the resurfacing project at Pound Farm Road to Florence Road Pavilion which was being overseen by Chichester City Council but funded from West Sussex County Council's Section 106 monies.

29 STREET LIGHTING SURVEY

The Town Clerk introduced this item and welcomed Peter Atkins, West Sussex County Council Highways Specialist Services Manager and Rob Jones from Scottish and Southern Energy to the meeting. The Town Clerk's report had been circulated with the Agenda which was based on the responses that had been received following the public consultation on Street Lighting that the City Council had undertaken on behalf of West Sussex County Council. There had been over 100 responses. The CCAAC comments related to street lights in the Conservation Area.

Councillor Woolley said that from the responses received the consensus of opinion was that the street lights be switched off after a certain time. However consideration should be given to those areas that had requested lighting remain on, eg. Litten Terrace.

Councillor Plowman explained that it appeared that the responses fell into two categories, those that wanted the lights kept on for safety reasons and those that wanted lights switched off as sleeping patterns were interrupted by the new lights. Councillor Plowman said that he had carried out some research in other parts of the country and that it appeared there was no conclusive evidence that matters of crime and traffic were not affected by streetlights being on or off. Mr Atkins agreed with this statement.

Councillor Shone said that the comment from the Chichester Society that a part-night lighting arrangement should be reviewed in a year should be encouraged. Councillor Shone added that routes from the City Centre to the estates in the City were vulnerable to anti-social behaviour however, the lights being on or off would not deter such behaviour. It was noted that comments from the Police and Community Wardens was still awaited and Councillor Shone suggested the matter being deferred until this information had been received.

Councillor Evans commented that the new style of lighting was more contained (less light spillage) and that they were more cost efficient as there was a lower energy usage and a lower number of units required. Councillor Evans asked Mr Atkins for assurance that residents who had been affected by the positioning of new lighting columns outside their properties could request the lights be shielded. Mr Atkins gave assurance that any resident experiencing light pollution into their property could request a shield being fitted to the lights.

Councillor Scicluna said that the Whyke Road Residents' Association preference was for part-night lighting.

Although a view from the Police and Community Wardens was important, members agreed that the matter should not be deferred but their comments could still be taken into consideration.

Councillor Shone asked Mr Atkins about the lighting at T-junctions and was advised that all main road intersections and junctions would remain lit but would the lighting would be dimmed.

Mr Atkins advised that the lighting columns timer switch did not enable the lights to be switched off at a specific time, the sensor in the lights are activated when a certain degree of darkness is reached or when a certain degree of lightness is reached.

Mr Atkins added that if there were any areas of the City that were of concern to the Police and these had been forwarded to the County Council, then positive consideration would be given to their requests.

Mr Atkins said that if an annual review is carried out then any changes to the lighting, for example if the lights were to revert to all-night, this would incur costs and would have to be funded.

It was proposed, seconded and duly RESOLVED that part-night lighting be introduced to the City with the exception of College Lane, twittens, Litten Terrace where all night lighting remains and any pathways or areas the Police may be concerned about.

This Resolution would be forwarded to West Sussex County Council for action in conjunction with SSE Contracting.

30 THE OPENNESS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT BODIES REGULATIONS 2014

The Town Clerk introduced this item and his report had been circulated with the Agenda. The report contained a draft policy for consideration by the Council on recording and filming City Council's meetings. This was in the light of the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 amending the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

This matter was being brought direct to Full Council for a decision as opposed to each Committee; it was noted that Standing Orders would also need amending.

Members discussed the filming of Council meetings and felt that this inevitable in today's social media world. However Councillor Plowman requested that Item 7 of the draft policy the following words be added at the end "or if the Chairman believes the filming is having a detrimental effect on the meeting and its proceedings".

Councillor T Dignum commented on Item 36 of NALC's Legal Topic Note 5 about the filming of members of public and children and vulnerable adults. The Town Clerk said that it may be the case that at the start of each Committee meeting the Chairman asks if any filming is to take place.

It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED that the draft policy be accepted and Standing Orders amended accordingly.

31 QUESTIONS

There were no questions from members of the Council pursuant to Standing Order 24.

32 COMMON SEAL

RESOLVED that the Common Seal be affixed to any documents necessary to give effect to the resolutions passed at this meeting.

The meeting closed at 7.45pm.