



**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF MEETING OF THE
COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHICHESTER HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER
AT THE COUNCIL HOUSE, NORTH STREET, CHICHESTER
ON WEDNESDAY 2 DECEMBER 2015 AT 6.00PM**

- PRESENT : The Mayor (Councillor P Budge)
The Deputy Mayor (Councillor Tupper)
Councillors Apel, Bell, Dignum, M Evans, P Evans, T French, Galloway,
Keyworth, Kilby, Plowman, Scicluna and Sharp
- APOLOGIES : Councillors P M Budge, Dempster, J French and Holman
- ABSENT : Councillors Joy and Macey
- IN ATTENDANCE : Town Clerk, Administration Manager, Mayor's Chaplain and Macebearer

During Prayers a Minutes Silence was observed for Mick Shone, former Mayor and City Councillor, who passed away on 12 November 2015 and whose funeral service was taking place on 3 December 2015.

37 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting of Council held on 9 September 2015 and the Minutes of the Council-in-Committee Meeting held on 7 October 2015, having been printed and circulated be approved, adopted and signed as a correct record.

38 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayoral Engagements

The Mayor advised that since the last Council Meeting he had undertaken many Mayoral engagements including opening the new Whyke Bridge over the A27, opening the Memorial Garden at Whyke, visiting Stonepillow's 'Sleep Out', attending Trafalgar Night at Whale Island, an Indian 'Navratri' event, hosting many foreign student groups visiting the City and had laid crosses at the War Graves in Portfield Cemetery.

39 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The following question had been received by Michael Woolley, a resident of the City.

Mr Mayor,

I was disappointed to see that the Council has taken down the portrait of Bishop Bell, a distinguished Freeman of this City, and wonder if you can arrange for it to be displayed again?

I am aware of course of the recent allegation against him but would remind you that this has not been proved in open court, and indeed it is not clear to the public what he is supposed to have done. Those that know cannot or will not say which is not how justice should be done.

What is known and is clear is Bishop Bell's very distinguished work in the matter of Anglo-German relations and reconciliation. I put it to you Mr Mayor, Councillors, that this reconciliation work should be celebrated by this Council. By displaying the portrait again this Council would be making it clear that, whatever the truth of the accusation against him, there was a great deal to respect and celebrate in the life and achievement of Bishop George Bell.

The Mayor asked Councillor Dignum to respond as Chairman of the Finance Committee and Property Sub-Committee. To prevent any 'knee-jerk' damage to the portrait and the area where the portrait was hung, the City Council had removed the portrait to which was currently stored with the other paintings in the City Council's property that are not displayed. When more information had been received from the Cathedral, the Property Sub-Committee, who had in the past proposed that the Council's holding of paintings be rotated, would then discuss whether the portrait would be displayed again at the Council House.

It was noted that Bishop Bell's name would remain on the Honorary Freedom Board and that Bell Close in Parklands would remain.

Mr Woolley thanked the Mayor and Councillors for their answer to his question.

40 MINUTES OF MEETINGS

(a) Planning & Conservation Committee

It was moved by Councillor Kilby, as Chairman of the Committee, that the Minutes of the meeting held on 30 September 2015 be approved and adopted.

It was RESOLVED that the original motion put by Councillor Kilby, that the Minutes of the meeting held on 30 September 2015 be approved and adopted.

(b) Finance Committee

It was moved by Councillor Dignum, Chairman of the Committee, that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 20 October 2015 be approved and adopted including the following Recommendation :

Minute 49 Chichester City Band

It was RECOMMENDED to Full Council that the City Council become a Chichester City Band Gold Level Sponsor at a cost of £300 per annum (reviewed each year in the budget process) and that this was an exceptional case and that this would not prejudice the City Band from applying for future Discretionary Grants.

Councillor Dignum commented on the Personnel Sub-Committee Minutes of 14 October 2015 (Minute 54(a) refers) and the Staff Structure Review.

It was RESOLVED that the original motion put by Councillor Dignum, that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 20 October 2015 be approved and adopted including the Recommendation in Minute 49.

(c) Planning & Conservation Committee

It was moved by Councillor Kilby, as Chairman of the Committee, that the Minutes of the meeting held on 21 October 2015 be approved and adopted.

It was RESOLVED that the original motion put by Councillor Kilby, that the Minutes of the meeting held on 21 October 2015 be approved and adopted.

(d) Community Affairs Committee

It was moved by Councillor P Evans, Chairman of the Committee, that the Minutes of Meeting held on 26 October 2015 be approved and adopted.

Councillor P Evans updated members on matters relating to the Chichester Traders Market and Consultation (Minute 33), proposed Gala in 2016 (Minute 35), replanting of Cathedral Beds and Schools Competition (Minute 38).

Councillor Dignum, as Leader of Chichester District Council, advised that the District Council Cabinet had approved obtaining tenders for a traders market in the City Centre precinct on Wednesdays, commencing April 2016; a review would be carried out after a year's trial.

Councillor Kilby commented on Minute 37(i), Chichester Vision Steering Group, and commented that the first meeting had taken place and the next meeting would be on 7 January 2016.

Councillor Plowman advised that Councillor Joy was now unable to take his place on the Chichester City Council Chichester Vision Working Group and therefore Councillor Plowman would resume his membership of the Working Group.

It was RESOLVED that the original motion put by Councillor P Evans, that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 26 October 2015 be approved and adopted.

(e) Planning & Conservation Committee

It was moved by Councillor Kilby, as Chairman of the Committee, that the Minutes of the meeting held on 18 November 2015 be approved and adopted.

Councillor Kilby thanked Councillor Sharp for her informative presentation on the initiative 'Car Free Day' (Minute 56 refers) and advised members that the Committee had discussed planning applications relating to the White House Farm development and the development at Westhampnett.

Councillor Bell said that the last line of the Recommendation for White House Farm should read '*The possible routing of the A27 Chichester-by-Pass to the North West of the City has been clarified.*' ie. replace the word 'proposed'.

It was RESOLVED that the original motion put by Councillor Kilby, that the Minutes of the meeting held on 18 November 2015 be approved and adopted.

(f) Finance Committee

It was moved by Councillor Dignum, Chairman of the Committee, that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 24 November 2015 be approved and adopted and that the Recommendation contained within Minute 59 be considered separately.

It was RESOLVED that the original motion put by Councillor Dignum, that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 24 November 2015 be approved and adopted and the Recommendation in Minute 59 be considered separately.

Councillor Scicluna said that the item in Minute 59 relating to the contingency amount of £20,000 being available from the Discretionary Grant budget should read '*... a contingency amount of up to £20,000 would be available for public realm projects ...*' Members agreed with the addition of the word.

Councillor Dignum commented on the key matters of the 2016/2017 Budget and asked for the following Recommendation to be considered :

Minute 59 Budget 2016/2017

It was RECOMMENDED to full Council that the City Council's Budget for 2016/2017 be £725,000 resulting in a Precept Demand of £509,315 and a Band D Council Tax Payment of £48.30. After taking the tax base (10,545.40 Band D equivalent properties) into account there would be a zero percentage increase. Should there be any further changes to the Council Tax Grant or the Tax Base figures previously notified, then the deficit will be taken from the General Reserve budget.

Councillor P Evans thanked all those involved with producing a fair and balanced budget for 2016/2017.

The Recommendation was proposed, seconded and it was therefore RESOLVED that the City Council's Budget for 2016/2017 be £725,000 resulting in a Precept Demand of £509,315 and a Band D Council Tax Payment of £48.30. After taking the tax base (10,545.40 Band D equivalent properties) into account there would be a zero percentage increase. Should there be any further changes to the Council Tax Grant or the Tax Base figures previously notified, then the deficit will be taken from the General Reserve budget.

Councillor Plowman commented on the success of the New Homes Bonus Allocations over the past three years and was subsequently advised that the parish allocations for the 2016 Scheme would be reduced. It was noted that the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) would be available for infrastructure projects; 15% of the CIL would be available for Chichester City Council.

41 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Councillor Sharp, as the City Council's representative on the Oliver Whitby Foundation, said it was the intention of the foundation to allocate grants to girls and that this would be publicised.

Councillor Sharp, as the City Council's representative on the Chichester Information Shop for Young People, passed on the Information Shop's gratitude to the City Council for the Discretionary Grant received earlier in the year.

Councillor Plowman, as the City Council's representative on Goodwood Motor Circuit Consultative Committee, explained that Goodwood were continuing to ensure that a 400m barrier between the circuit and any new development is maintained.

42 WARD REPORTS FROM CHICHESTER CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Councillor Scicluna, South Ward member, advised that planters had been placed at Whyke Lane/Cleveland Road area after removal of the cherry trees and Chichester District Council had provided another planter for Velyn Avenue.

Councillor Bell, West Ward member, said the West Sussex County Council's new cycleways at Northgate gyratory were more dangerous than the previous cycle lanes that went round the gyratory.

Councillor Sharp, South Ward member, advised that ChiCycle had lined up three of the UK's leading cycle infrastructure professionals to come to Chichester and run a Workshop to learn how to design high-quality cycle infrastructure on Saturday 19 March 2016. There was also a meeting on Friday 18 March 2016 that Members could attend in advance of the Workshop.

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

Councillor Plowman, as a Chichester District Councillor, reported on the recently approved planning application for St Wilfrid's Hospice to relocate to Bosham.

Councillor M Evans, as a West Sussex County Councillor, advised there was a Secamb (South East Coast Ambulance) meeting at West Sussex County Council on Friday 4 December 2015. Councillor Evans also reminded members to get their flu jabs.

Councillor Simon Oakley, Chichester District and West Sussex County Councillor, spoke on highway soakaways, the review West Sussex County Council were taking in connection with allocating Section 106 monies and that Chichester District Council would be handing back to developers £25,000 of Section 106 monies as the work allocated for this money had not been carried out.

44 QUESTIONS

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

45 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 7.15pm.