



**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 24 JUNE 2015 AT 6.00PM**

- PRESENT : The Mayor (Councillor P Budge)
The Deputy Mayor (Councillor Tupper)
Councillors Apel, P M Budge, Dignum, M Evans, P Evans, Galloway,
Holman, Keyworth, Kilby, Macey, Plowman, Scicluna and Sharp
- APOLOGIES : Councillors Bell, Dempster, Joy, T French and J French,
- IN ATTENDANCE : Town Clerk, Finance Manager and Macebearer

10 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Council held on 20 May 2015, having been printed and circulated be approved, adopted and signed as a correct record.

11 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

(i) Councillor Tony French MBE.

The Council joined with the Mayor in expressing their warm congratulations to Councillor Tony French upon the award of an MBE in the Birthday Honours List 2015.

(ii) Mayoral Engagements.

The Mayor gave a brief account of the many engagements he and the Mayoress had attended since his election in May. These included the Buckingham Palace Garden Party, Royal Sussex Regimental Association Luncheon, three arts exhibitions, the Royal Artillery Cocktail Party, Thorney Island, the Dragon Boat Race and Chairing the Friends of Ravenna AGM.

12 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

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

13 MINUTES OF MEETINGS

(a) Planning & Conservation Committee

It was moved by Councillor Kilby, as Chairman of the Committee, that the Minutes of the meetings held on 29 April 2015 be approved and adopted.

It was RESOLVED that the original motion put by Councillor Kilby, that the Minutes of the meeting held on 29 April 2015 be approved and adopted.

(b) Planning & Conservation Committee

It was moved by Councillor Kilby, as Chairman of the Committee, that the Minutes of the meetings held on 27 May 2015 be approved and adopted.

It was RESOLVED that the original motion put by Councillor Kilby, that the Minutes of the meeting held on 27 May 2015 be approved and adopted.

(c) Community Affairs Committee

It was moved by Councillor P Evans, Chairman of the Committee, that the Minutes of Meeting held on 1 June 2015 be approved and adopted.

Councillor P Evans said how impressed he was with the number of attendees at the Committee's meeting who represented a wide section of community interests. He commended the report given by PC Dave Phillips, which confirmed what a safe place Chichester was to both live and work. The website of the Community Wardens was also commended.

A meeting of the Working Party established to consider future grant policy would be reporting back to the next meeting of the Committee.

With regard to Outside Body appointments, it was noted that, in order to provide continuity of service, former City Councillor Mr Michael Woolley would serve out his three year term of appointment ending next year.

A number of administrative corrections to the attendance list of the minutes would be made at the next meeting.

It was RESOLVED that the original motion put by Councillor P Evans, that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 1 June 2015 be approved and adopted.

(d) Finance Committee

It was moved by Councillor Dignum, Chairman of the Committee, that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 9 June 2015 be approved and adopted.

Councillor Dignum asked the Council to note that a meeting of the Property Sub Committee would be held shortly and would be dealing with a number of important issues.

Councillor Dignum asked the Council to record their thanks to Mrs Kim Martin for the valuable work she had done towards the closure of the final accounts.

Concerning Minute 4(a), Murray Club, Councillor Plowman thanked both the Council and officers for their support and he gave details of the various events taking place in commemoration of Admiral Murray.

With regard to Minute 11, Budget Policy, Councillor Dignum confirmed that the aspiration to achieve a 0% precept increase over the four year term of the new administration would, of course, be subject to no material adverse change in circumstances.

With regard to Minute 13, the Property Manager would be preparing a second application for funding from the New Homes Bonus in respect of the Litten Gardens sculpture. The fine detail of the collection policy for the Keats statue would be discussed further at the next meeting of the Finance Committee.

Henty Field, Minute 15 was raised and the Town Clerk said that following the City Council's decision in December 2014, various statutory processes in connection with the disposal of School Playing Field land had now been completed by the County Council and the Lease and Side Letter were expected to be received shortly.

Minute 6 Statement of Accounts 2014/2015

Recommendation to Full Council that the Statement of Accounts 2014/2015 be approved and signed.

Councillor Dignum proposed and was duly seconded and it was RESOLVED that the Statement of Accounts 2014/2105 be approved and signed by the Mayor, as Chairman of the City Council and the Town Clerk

Minute 7 Audit Commission Annual Return for Year Ended 31 March 2015

Recommendation to Full Council that the Audit Commission Annual Return for Year Ended 31 March 2015 be approved and signed

Councillor Dignum proposed and was duly seconded and it was RESOLVED that the Audit Commission Annual Return for Year Ended 31 March 2015 be approved and signed by the Mayor as Chairman of the City Council and the Town Clerk.

Minute 8 Appointment of Internal Auditor

Recommendation to Full Council that the appointment of Mr Stephen James as the City Council's Internal Auditor continue for the financial year ending 31 March 2016 and that the Audit Plan 2015/2016 and the Audit Terms of Reference be approved.

Councillor Dignum proposed and was duly seconded and it was RESOLVED that the appointment of Mr Stephen James as the City Council's Internal Auditor continue for the financial year ending 31 March 2016 and that the Audit Plan 2015/2016 and the Audit Terms of Reference be approved

It was further RESOLVED that the original motion put by Councillor Dignum, that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 9 June 2015 be approved and adopted.

14 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

The Mayor said how important it was for there to be regular reports on both Outside Body appointments and Ward Reports as they represented a wide range matters going on in the City.

Councillor Scicluna reported upon the forthcoming Festival of Chichester event involving the Friends of Ravenna, Chartres and Valletta being held in the Old Court Room and the very interesting talk to be given by Simon Higlett on theatre interior design.

Councillor P Evans reported upon the meeting he had attended of the Chichester BID and how impressed he was with their aims and aspirations. He also thanked City Councillor Macey for the work he had done as the past representative of the City Council on BID.

Councillor Plowman reported on the work of Dears Charity, he also reported upon a forthcoming meeting of the Goodwood Airfield Consultative Committee on the CDC Local Plan and 400m boundary between proposed housing development and the airfield.

15 WARD REPORTS FROM CHICHESTER CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Councillors Apel, Kilby and Galloway commented upon the value of 'Ward Walkabouts' being furthered by Chichester District Council. In response to issues raised about parking, Councillor M Evans reported upon work of the County Council's Local Committee, South, who had introduced Emergency Traffic Regulation Orders in parts of Chichester East Ward.

Councillor Galloway commented upon various matters being pursued by the Whyke Residents Association including concerns about the Grove Road bridge, the Roman Amphitheatre Play ground was being refurbished by Chichester District Council and the Roman Amphitheatre Interpretation Board was being updated and a possible New Homes Bonus application being investigated.

Councillor Dignum reminded Councillors about the forthcoming meeting of the City Council to determine New Homes Bonus applications and he emphasised the amount of money available to the City under the New Homes Bonus this year.

The Mayor considered that the maintenance of grass verges in the City was important and that pressure should be brought to bear on those responsible.

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

Councillor Apel commented upon the significant increases in service charges by Hyde Martlet which were to be the subject of further discussion with Hyde Martlet.

Councillor Plowman said that the Manager of the Novium Museum was very keen to formalise an arrangement with the City Council about joint Tourist Information facilities in view of the amount of 'Tourist Information Centre' business dealt with by the City Council.

County Councillor Oakley said that he had obtained clarification from West Sussex Council officers that Section 106 monies could be used towards management support costs; in response to a question from Councillor Dignum, Councillor Oakley said that this would permit the engagement of third parties to assist City Council officers.

County Councillor Oakley also said that work would be commencing in October to cure long standing flooding problems at Bognor Road, west of Florence Road.

Emergency Traffic Regulation Orders had been introduced to deal with dangerous parking in Palmers Field Avenue, Swanfield Road, Bradshaw Road and Spitalfield Lane.

The Boundary Commission for England were 'minded' to recommend that West Sussex Council increase from 69 to 70 Councillors, this would still mean 10 Chichester Ward members.

17 QUESTIONS

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

However, prior to closing the meeting the Mayor thanked the staff for their support during some challenging times in office due to ill health and other personal circumstances.

18 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 6.47pm.