



**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 1 FEBRUARY 2017 AT 6.00PM**

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

55 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 14 December 2016 and the Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on 11 January 2017, having been printed and circulated be approved, adopted and signed as a correct record.

56 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

(i) Major Tim Peake

The Mayor said that on Friday 27 January, he had met Major Tim Peake, CMG at The Novium, when Tim had met pupils from his former schools and viewed the very impressive exhibition about Tim's achievements. He had presented Tim with a formal invitation to remind him that the City awaited his return on a date in the near future at which the Freedom of the City would be presented. The point was made that some residents were confused about Tim's recent visit and thought the Freedom of the City had already been presented and clarification would be given in a press article. The Town Clerk said that the European Space Agency had advised him - and written confirmation was being obtained - that Tim Peake would prefer there not to be a Freedom Parade through the City. The Town Clerk had made contact with Andrew Knight, whose son, Rufus, had previously made the suggestion of a 'ticker tape' parade to alert him of this.

(ii) Holocaust Memorial Day, 27 January 2017

The Mayor congratulated Councillors Apel and Bell for their achievements on this hugely significant and meaningful occasion that had raised over £4000. It was hoped that the organisers would apply to the City Council for a discretionary grant next year.

57 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

A resident of Kings Avenue asked several questions about the A27 that the Mayor said would be answered under the relevant minute of the Planning and Conservation Committee.

(a) Planning & Conservation Committee

It was moved by Councillor Keyworth, as Chairman of the Committee, that the Minutes of the meeting held on 21 December 2016 be approved and adopted.

It was RESOLVED that the original motion put by Councillor Keyworth, that the Minutes of the meeting held on 21 December 2016 be approved and adopted.

(b) Community Affairs Committee

It was moved by Councillor Galloway, as Chairman of the Committee, that the Minutes of the meeting held on 9 January 2017 be approved and adopted.

Minute 44 - Brewery Field, Councillor Plowman asked what progress had been made about a proposal to rename the field 'Rooth Field' in memory of the late Tim Rooth. The Town Clerk said that a formal decision from the Friends of Brewery Field was awaited, but initial soundings were that a memorial bench and a cameo about Tim Rooth on an interpretation board were considered to be more appropriate.

Minute 48 - NHS Sustainability and Transformation Plans, Councillor Joy had been unable to attend the last meeting of the Committee to present this item

It was RESOLVED that the original motion put by Councillor Galloway, that the Minutes of the meeting held on 9 January 2017 be approved and adopted.

(c) Finance Committee

It was moved by Councillor Dignum, as Chairman of the Committee, that the Minutes of the meeting held on 17 January 2017 be approved and adopted excluding the Recommendation in Minutes 71 and 73 which would be discussed separately.

Councillor Dignum referred to minute 31(d) of the Property Sub Committee as it related to another matter concerning the Portico, namely sketch plans being requested from Richard Glover, architect. The Mayor agreed that it would be appropriate for a discussion to take place on the action of the Council in recent months to prohibit rough sleeping under the Portico due to threats made to staff and the recent associated publicity. Councillor Apel, who along with Councillor Bell, was a Trustee of Stonepillow, said that she had spoken to the Chief Executive of Stonepillow who would be meeting with City Councillors shortly to talk about the work of Stonepillow. There was a 30% increase in people sleeping out in the City and a recent violent incident showed the vulnerability of sleeping in the City Centre. In accordance with the statement recently issued by the City Council on this subject, it was imperative for all parties, not just the Councils and Stonepillow, to drive forward a solution.

Councillor Dignum confirmed that Chichester District Council had a responsibility for what was defined a 'statutory homelessness'

Councillor Bell, in response to a point made by Councillor Sharp, who said that residents in her Ward considered the prohibition of sleeping notices 'cruel', disagreed entirely with this view as the notices did not impose fines nor threaten prosecution. He expanded upon the work of Stonepillow and recent changes that meant a local solution to the problem was required even more.

The Town Clerk said that prior to prohibition being introduced, the Front of House Staff had told him that no-one had called into the offices whilst the sleepers were in residence to acknowledge or support the City Council's tolerance. He also added that the CCTV had been used to alert the Police to a particular occasion in the small hours when one of the sleepers was receiving unwarranted attention from a group of individuals.

Councillor Apel left the meeting at 6.40pm.

In respect of Minute 77, Mayoral Charity Monies 2012/2013 - second paragraph, end of second line, an amendment would be need to change 'was' to 'was not'.

In Minute 78, Keats Sculpture - Update, Councillor Plowman was pleased to confirm that £20,000 from Section 106 monies would be made available to support the production of the sculpture.

It was RESOLVED that the original motion put by Councillor Dignum, that the Minutes of the meeting held on 17 January 2017 be approved and adopted excluding the Recommendation in Minutes 71 and 73 which would be discussed separately.

Councillor Dignum drew the Council's attention to the following Recommendation:

Minute 71 - Revenue Budget Monitoring Report to November 2016

It was proposed, seconded and RECOMMENDED to Full Council that any residual money (if any) from the Discretionary Grant Budget 2016/2017 be used for public realm projects.

It was further RESOLVED that any residual money (if any) from the Discretionary Grant Budget 2016/2017 be used for public realm projects.

Councillor Dignum drew the Council's attention to the following Recommendation:

Minute 73 - Investments

It was proposed, seconded and RECOMMENDED to Full Council that

- (i) the current City Council Investment Policy be suspended to enable investment in the Local Authority Property Fund and be updated accordingly (this would also include removing any reference to guidance by Chichester District Council); and
- (ii) that support be given to investing £390,000 with the Local Authority Property Fund if the City Council's criteria and paperwork is approved by the independent financial advisor.

It was further RESOLVED that

- (i) the current City Council Investment Policy be suspended to enable investment in the Local Authority Property Fund and be updated accordingly (this would also include removing any reference to guidance by Chichester District Council); and
- (ii) that support be given to investing £390,000 with the Local Authority Property Fund if the City Council's criteria and paperwork is approved by the independent financial advisor.

(d) Planning & Conservation Committee

It was moved by Councillor Keyworth, as Chairman of the Committee, that the Minutes of the meeting held on 18 January 2017 be approved and adopted excluding Minute 72 which would be discussed separately.

It was RESOLVED that the original motion put by Councillor Keyworth, that the Minutes of the meeting held on 18 January 2017 be approved and adopted excluding Minute 72 which would be discussed separately.

Councillor Keyworth drew the Council's attention to the following Recommendation:

Minute 72 - A27 Chichester By-Pass Improvement Scheme Consultation

After debate, it was proposed and seconded, (put to the vote) and RECOMMENDED that this item be deferred to the Full Council meeting on 1 February 2017 so that further information from these meetings could be fully considered.

The Council agreed that as what would flow from the debate was an addition to, rather than amendment of, the previous minute of the Committee on the A27 when Option 1A with specific conditions was supported by the City Council.

The Mayor then invited the resident of Kings Avenue to address the Council. The Mayor was asked to comment upon the recent meeting attended by Chairmen of Parish Councils and Andrew Tyrie MP and why no notes or public record of the meeting had been produced. The Mayor said that he could not answer the point about why no note of the meeting had been produced or circulated yet but the meeting had simply been an informal discussion between individuals.

Councillor Plowman left the meeting at 7.10pm

As to the position of the City Council in the light of recent events, it was proposed by Councillor French, duly seconded that a three way approach be adopted:

- that Highways England re-run the consultation;
- to include in that revised consultation other route options that had been previously discounted by them; and
- for Highways England to publish the results of the consultations carried out between July and September 2016.

This was put to a vote and declared carried with 5 votes in favour, 1 against and 3 abstentions.

It was further RESOLVED that with regard to the A27, the City Council request:

- that Highways England re-run the consultation;
- to include in that revised consultation other route options that had been previously discounted by Highways England; and
- for Highways England to publish the results of the consultations carried out between July and September 2016

59 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Councillor T French, as the City Council's representative on the St John's Chapel Trust, reported on key points of the discussion at the second meeting of the Trust.

Councillor Sharp, as the City Council's representative on the Oliver Whitby Foundation (C of E Only) reported that the Foundation had awarded a Scholarship to go to King Edward's School, Witley. The Foundation has now widened its remit to include girls.

Councillor Kilby left the meeting at 7.20pm

Councillor Tupper reported that a co-ordinator for the Arun Valley line of the Sussex Community Rail Partnership was needed.

60 WARD REPORTS FROM CHICHESTER CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Councillor Sharp, as a South Ward member, commented upon the new scheme operating under the Chichester Foodbank for pupils who have free school meals and to provide vouchers during the school holidays. This scheme has just started and not all schools are taking part yet but nearly 100 children were fed in the holidays in the city by Foodbank. She also thanked the Property Manager for assistance on two street lighting projects.

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

Councillor Simon Oakley, as a West Sussex County Councillor, said that parking issues in the East Ward were being addressed through a range of comprehensive range of solutions. Action was also being taken on highway drainage and soak away issues and various road markings improved.

The West Sussex County Council Precept would rise by 1.95% for general purposes and 2% for adult services.

Councillor Oakley hoped that everyone would join in with the Keep Britain Tidy weekend taking place from 3 to 5 March 2017.

In response to a question from Councillor Sharp, Councillor Oakley said that the Road Space Audit would be out for public comment soon.

Councillor Tupper raised an issue about salt being applied to the Stockbridge Road railway crossing - he suspected that this applied to other railway crossings in that West Sussex County Council salted the road but no-one appeared to salt the rubber pavement coverings adjacent to the road which were, of course, very slippery. Network Rail said that it was not their responsibility; it was suggested that this was a matter for Chichester District Council, but the point was made that the public footway was a West Sussex County Council matter. The Town Clerk would pursue this.

Councillor Bell left the meeting at 7.25pm.

62 QUESTIONS

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

63 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 7.30pm