
SOUTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
20 NOVEMBER 2013

Present:

The Mayor, Councillor White
The Sheriff, Councillor Mrs Blatchford
Councillors Baillie, Barnes-Andrews, Bogle, Burke, Chaloner, Claisse, Cunio, Daunt, Fitzhenry, Furnell, Hammond, Hannides, B Harris, L Harris, Kaur, Inglis, Jeffery, Keogh, Kolker, Laming, Letts, Lewzey, Lloyd, Mead, Mintoff, Morrell, Moulton, Noon, Norris, Dr Paffey, Parnell, Payne, Pope, Rayment, Shields, Smith, Spicer, Stevens, Thomas, Thorpe, Tucker, Turner, Vassiliou, Vinson and Whitbread

64. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor McEwing.

65. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE MAYOR AND LEADER

(i) German Students

The Mayor welcomed the German students from the University of Hof.

(ii) FSB Award Certificate Presentation

Mr Webb, from the Federation of Small Businesses, presented the Council with the award for the Most Innovative Small Business Friendly Programme Award for work undertaken to promote street markets throughout the City.

(iii) City Deal

The Leader of the Council presented the signed City Deal document to the Mayor.

(iv) National Skills Academy for Construction

The Mayor presented Denise Edghill and Andy Tickner with the overall award for the National Skills Academy for Construction, which had been awarded to Council by the Construction Industry Training Board.

(v) Transport Award – Transport City of the Year

The Mayor presented the Transport Team with the award for the top local authority award for Transport City of the Year, as part of the National Transport Awards.

It was also noted that the Council had also received a commendation for front line employee of the year, for having sustainable transport recognised as a viable option for children in social services.

66. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 18th September, 2013 be approved and signed as a correct record.

67. DEPUTATIONS, PETITIONS AND PUBLIC QUESTIONS

- (i) The Council received and noted a deputation from Mr Grace concerning the state of repair to Bellemoor Road.
- (ii) The Council received and noted a deputation from Mr Chaffey concerning the Council budget.

68. EXECUTIVE BUSINESS

The report of the Leader of the Council was submitted setting out the details of the business undertaken by the Executive.

The Leader and the Cabinet made statements and responded to Questions.

The following questions were then submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11.1.

1. HMO Registration Scheme

Question from Councillor Furnell to Councillor Payne.

Can the Cabinet Member give me a timescale as to when he will be able to ascertain the results of the pilot for the HMO registration scheme?

Answer

Houses in Multiple Occupation in the Bargate, Bevois, Portswood and Swaythling wards were legally designated to be subject to additional licensing requirements from 1st July 2013 for five years. The scheme will be evaluated by 30th June 2016 with the intention of making further designations as appropriate across the City.

2. Art Sales

Question from Councillor Vinson to Councillor Letts.

Will the Leader please inform Council as to any response he has received to his joint letter with Croydon Council to the Minister for the Arts regarding the sale of works of art?

Answer

The reply letter from the Minister had been circulated to Councillors Hannides and Vinson. It stated that there was no change in the current policy.

3. Peer Review

Question from Councillor Vinson to Councillor Letts.

What does the Leader regard as most helpful advice in the recent Peer Review Report?

Answer

The item was discussed at Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee, where it was agreed that processes needed to be simplified in order to maximise time for service delivery. And also increase the capacity to take risk and allow all levels officers to make decisions. There would be a Peoples Panel established to engage in the community.

4. Supermarket Levy

Question from Councillor Vinson to Councillor Tucker.

Has the Cabinet Member considered following the example of Dover, Gloucester and Leeds Councils in considering a levy on supermarkets to generate funds to support smaller retailers?

Answer

I am not at present considering investigating a levy on supermarkets. Such a levy under the Sustainable Communities Act, 2007 would have to be approved by the Secretary of State.

This type of levy, if introduced, could not be restricted to supermarkets alone and would have to apply to all large format stores with a Rateable Value of £500,000 or more, for example, department stores. At least 27 Southampton businesses, mostly in West Quay or the city centre, would be affected by such a proposal. The 8.5% levy could be a disincentive for large retail operators to be attracted to Southampton or to remain through periods of difficult trading. It could also make it more difficult to establish future Business Improvement Districts as these are also levy funded at 1-2% of Rateable Value.

Supermarkets provide a popular service to many Southampton residents, both in the city centre and in our main district centres. They are also significant employers of local people and in the case of Morrisons are playing an important role in two regeneration projects in the City, at East Street and at Centenary Quay.

Based on initial research I am not aware of any English council that has introduced such a measure as yet. Gloucester, Leeds and Reading are amongst Councils that have rejected or decided to defer any further consideration of such a measure. Dover and Torbay are the only Councils known to have passed a resolution to approach the Secretary of State for consent.

5. Evening Parking Charges

Question from Councillor Fitzhenry to Councillor Rayment.

Why have you introduced evening parking charges?

Answer

The flat rate evening charge is being introduced to assist in prioritising parking in the city centre and I am satisfied this remains a fair and reasonable proposal to ensure that the highway is adequately managed and controlled.

The City centre has been transformed by the growth in residential development, evening retail and leisure activities. The change in the pattern of parking means that demand for parking in the evening in some areas is twice the day time demand, with overnight parking levels by residents remaining relatively low.

Hence the view that the day time economy is helping to fund the night-time economy and important services such as CCTV on which it depends.

The Council also has an established sustainable travel policy which was introduced in the 2006-11 Transport Plan and stated:

Within the City, town and district centres, the emphasis will be on maintaining the approach which requires users of parking facilities to pay a rate that reflects the value of the facility provided, and which also acts as an incentive to consider the use of other modes of travel.

A variety of Season tickets are being offered which should help reduce the additional costs to residents in these areas. These will provide affordable and attractive parking options for residents below what might be deemed as market rates.

In addition, it is proposed to exclude Sunday from the Evening Charges and Restriction Period.

The proposals will allow the costs of the parking service to be recovered through the whole of the day and night. This then allows more flexible pricing practices including reduction in areas where there is an economic need e.g. East Street which will assist the economy in these areas.

6. Transport Policies

Question from Councillor Fitzhenry to Councillor Rayment.

What new policies does the Executive have to further assist the modal shift from private car to public transport?

Answer

Our policies continue to be supportive of a growth in public transport. We see this as necessary in order to be able to achieve the economic growth forecast in our strategic

plans in a sustainable way and in order to reduce carbon from transport. Some policies have been developed or enhanced though including:

- Actively seeking to decarbonise the bus fleets through conversion to lower usage fuel options. We recently won Government funding of £750k for a new innovative fly wheel technology that will be developed with Williams racing and the Go Ahead bus group who will also invest a similar amount of their own money. We expect this to reduce bus emissions by 25% on the 30 buses fitted as part of this “world-first” project;
- Capture the economic value of bus operations – by assisting the bus companies in identifying skills issues and apprenticeship options. We have identified a significant capacity constraint that is likely to face bus interchanges in the city centre at several key locations. We are developing proposals for enhanced interchange arrangement at Albion Place, the Station Quarter and the General Hospital;
- We are actively investigating the role the coach may play in the local transport strategy and are meeting with National Express Coaches on this issue;
- We are investigating the feasibility of a park and ride solution to the general hospital’s travel and access needs;
- We have conducted a study into bus services and improvements needed for the general hospital;
- The integration of rail operators including South West Trains into the smartcard scheme is moving forwards and should greatly enhance this scheme;
- We have been working with bus operators to develop a Southampton area smart ticket to be launched next summer after the launch of the south Hampshire smart “solent travelcard” in the spring;
- We are shortly to extend the “real time” bus information system to include First Group – this means the system will cover most operators in the city. We are due to have bus priority on many junctions throughout the city by spring;
- We are rolling out the legible cities format across the bus network improving bus stops shelters and timetable cases with improved information;
- We have installed “real-time” totems which give real time bus and rail departure information at various sites within the city, both sides of Southampton Central Station and Southampton University;
- We have just launched the MyJourney Journey planner which gives specific tailor made personalised travel information for all modes of travel within the City;
- In line with new housing targets for the region we will work with neighbouring local authorities and highways agency to look again at the eastern access corridor into the city and investigate how increasing travel demands can be accommodated. This may well form the basis of a future major transport scheme with the bus playing a key role.

7. Late Night Levy

Question from Councillor Vinson to Councillor Letts.

It was noted that this question was withdrawn by Councillor Vinson as there was a motion relating to it.

8. Utility Company Roadworks

Question from Councillor Vinson to Councillor Rayment.

Will the Cabinet Member be following the example of Surrey and East Sussex CCs in applying to the transport Secretary for the power to decide locally when utility companies can dig up their roads?

Answer

We already have an outline Business Case for the Permit Scheme project and are considering the options for implementing a scheme in the City. Officers are liaising with other authorities who have already implemented a scheme to see how they are operating and lessons they have learnt.

9. Bed and Breakfast Accommodation

Question from Councillor Turner to Councillor Payne.

How many families with children are currently housed in bed and breakfast accommodation for longer than one week?

Answer

As of 15th November there are three families who have been placed by Southampton's Homelessness Unit in B&Bs in the city who have been there for longer than a week. All three families have been determined to be intentionally homeless and the B&B is provided typically for a period of up to 28 days. We have offered assistance, by way the council's rent deposit scheme, towards finding alternative accommodation in the private rented sector so that they avoid actual rooflessness.

Please note that the local authority has a duty to keep B&B usage for families found to be homeless unintentionally, to a minimum and for no longer than six weeks which we always manage to achieve and in 2012/13 we only spent £26k on providing bed and breakfast accommodation. The Homelessness Strategy approved by Cabinet last month maintains our commitment to "make only minimum use of bed and breakfast for families".

10. Young Carers

Question from Councillor Turner to Councillor Bogle.

What help are we as a Council able to offer to young carers, and how are they identified?

Answer

The City Council has a contract with Southampton Voluntary Services for the delivery of support services to children and young people aged 8 - 18 yrs who are caring for one or more family members, i.e. a sibling, parent or grandparent. The project provides these young carers with personal support and respite opportunities delivered through one to

one support at school and home, meetings in small groups and recreational activities. Children are primarily referred to the service, by schools or as a self (parent) referral.

For 2013/14 the contract value was reduced from £89,000 to £71,200 as part of broader savings requirements. A process is currently underway to re-commission the service in an integrated commissioning arrangement with Adult Services and Health. This alignment is reflected in a new Commissioning Carers Framework which is being drafted.

Some of the positive outcomes of this new integrated commissioning approach are:

- The pooled funding for the new arrangement commencing April 2014 will increase funding to £91,200 per annum.
- The number of children supported each year will increase from 160 to 200.
- The stronger integration with adult and health services will encourage more professionals working with families to refer children into the service.

Young Carers are currently identified and referred into support services through a range of sources according to those that best know them in identifying their responsibilities as a young carer. There is no wider blanket mechanism for identifying young carers without referral by a professional. It is anticipated that the latest commissioning process will improve overall identification through whole family assessments.

In 2012/13 78 of the 193 children and young people supported by SVS were new referrals. New referrals came from a range of agencies which had identified these needs, as set out below:

- 41 schools
- 9 Social Services (Adult and Children's)
- 5 Jigsaw
- 6 Brookvale / mental health services
- 3 Parents
- 5 Prevention and Inclusion team
- 2 Family Support worker
- 7 Others

11. Cobbett Road Library

Question from Councillor Baillie to Councillor Tucker.

Would you agree that Cobbett Road Library is an excellent example of a community library? and would you confirm that its future will be at least as bright as the two new libraries in Woolston.

Answer

All of our libraries are valuable community assets, and Cobbett Road library is no exception. The Friends of Cobbett Road Library play a vital role in making the most of an excellent community resource.

The future of all Libraries in the City will be considered in the Review announced in the recent budget papers. The Review will seek to draw best practice within the city and assess how the city's library service compares to other authorities which have had, and are currently having, to redesign their service because of unprecedented cuts from central government

12. Letting of Council Homes

Question from Councillor Baillie and Councillor Payne.

Since April 2013, what % of council homes have been let to people who have lived in Southampton for at least the preceding three years?

Answer

We do not currently record the length of residency in the city at the point of a council letting. However, data recorded for LACORE purposes show that of the 707 council homes let since April this year, 1.7% went to applicants not living in the city and the majority of those were people moving into older persons' accommodation.

13. Local Alcohol Action Area Project

Councillor Vinson to Councillor Shields

Will the Executive be applying to the Home Office to take part in its Local Alcohol Action Area project?

Answer

Following consultation with our partners, which included the police, it was decided not to apply to be a Local Alcohol Action Area. The City has already adopted a lot of what is now recognised as best practice, as indicated by our success in achieving the Baker Tilly Award for work on the Night Time Economy two years ago. Our programme of work on alcohol is comprehensive, new services are in place, and will be consolidated and improved through the current re-tendering exercise. Areas selected for this initiative will receive advice, support and access to mentoring, but no additional financial resources are provided. We are by no means complacent about our progress locally, and recognise that alcohol is a societal problem that will be with us for a very long time. We will continue to keep ourselves informed of best practice and new learning, and adapt and improve what we are doing locally, making the best possible use of our combined resources.

14. Cycling on Pavements and Parking on Double Yellow Lines

Councillor Vinson to Councillor Rayment

What actions have been taken in fulfilment of the Motion adopted by Council in March 2013 regarding cycling on pavements and parking on double yellow lines, what impact have these measures had, and how has this been measured?

Answer

Since the council motion on this issue we have raised antisocial cycling behaviour with the police. They have made this a Community Priority in Shirley and it has led to officers issuing fixed penalty notices to cyclists who have illegally cycled on footways. Other areas of the City have been targeted by the Police in previous years. This issue is however likely to persist because the police can not always be there.

The Council's Civil Enforcement Officers can issue Penalty Charge Notices (PCNs) where drivers park on double yellow lines. We are able to respond to requests to attend within resources available on any individual day. The police involvement in parking offences is restricted to a few instances where we are unable to issue a PCN, and we work closely with the Police in these instances

We have carried out many joint working operations with the police in the last year including outside schools, Newtown Nicholstown area, Shirley High Street, Woolston and International Way. Many of these initiatives are in response to residents concerns and have lead to the issue of many tickets for inconsiderate and illegal parking.

15. Parking in Shirley Road

Councillor Moulton to Councillor Rayment

Given the considerable problem of cars being parked on and crossing the pavement on Shirley Road, will the Cabinet Member ensure that the Council and Police work together to ensure enforcement is carried out, the legal position is communicated to businesses along Shirley Rd and that a campaign of communication is carried out?

Answer

The problem of pavement parking on Shirley Road is complicated because some businesses own a narrow strip of pavement immediately outside their property. Therefore vehicles can be parked legally on this private land and cannot be issued a parking ticket, even though they have driven over the public footway to get there.

We are able to issue parking tickets to motorists who park on the footway outside of these private areas, where there are yellow lines that prevent parking, as waiting restrictions apply to the pavement as well as the carriageway.

There is no general restriction on parking on the pavement, and it is difficult to prove the case of obstruction if there is enough width remaining to get past easily.

However, recent changes to the Traffic Signs Manual now provide the opportunity to ban footway parking on individual streets using a new Traffic Sign and Traffic Order, and I have instructed that Shirley Road be investigated for such measures.

The Police involvement in parking enforcement is minimal although officers will ensure that they are fully consulted over any proposals.

16. Financial Adjustments Relating to Residents' Parking

Councillor Moulton to Councillor Barnes-Andrews

What financial adjustments are proposed to the 14/15 General Fund budget with respect to residents' parking charges and night time city centre parking charges, compared with figures in the 13/14 budget?

Answer

The position with night time city centre parking charges was set out in the Cabinet report on 16th July. There was an anticipated shortfall in the current year of £230,000, based on an October implementation, to be managed within the overall bottom line as set out in the report. As implementation is now due in early January, the shortfall that needs to be managed is currently forecast at £280,000. For 2014/15, the forecast gap of £1.4M set out in the Executive's draft budget report includes the anticipated shortfall for 2014/15 of £300,000 for evening parking charges.

For residents' permits, the principle of a charge for first resident permits was agreed by Cabinet on 16th July, and for 2014/15 the anticipated income is estimated to be in line with the savings proposal of £130,000 agreed in the 2013/14 budget. As implementation is now due in early December, there will be an in year shortfall in 2013/14 of circa £77,000, and this is being managed within the Council's overall bottom line.

17. City Patrol

Councillor Moulton to Councillor Rayment

What work has been carried out by the City Patrol service over the past two years. Can the Cabinet Member please break down the work they do and the volumes associated with each activity?

Answer

City Patrol deal with a range of environmental crimes, including littering; fly tipping; bins on pavements; distribution of handbills; dog fouling; fly posting; graffiti; stray dogs; repair and sale of vehicles on the highway; removal of abandoned vehicles.

The City Patrol database records complaints which are investigated. Some complaints are resolved without investigation, so are not recorded on the database.

The database breaks down activities as follows:

- **General cases** (which includes littering, bins on pavements, distribution of handbills dog fouling, fly posting, graffiti; and repair or sale of vehicles on the highway);
- **Fly tipping and;**
- **Abandoned Vehicles.**

The volume of work carried out by City Patrol against these activities is as follows:

- **From 1 April 2011 to 31 March 2012**
- **914** general cases
- **282** cases of fly tipping and
- **453** abandoned vehicles.

From 1 April 2012 to 31 March 2013

- **1,068** general cases
- **504** cases of fly tipping and
- **370** abandoned vehicles.

18. Introductory Period for Council Tenancies

Councillor Baillie to Councillor Payne

Taking new SCC tenancies from April 2012, what % of tenants have failed the one year introductory period?

Answer

In the financial year April 2012 to April 2013 six Council Tenants were evicted for failing to manage their introductory tenancy which equates to 0.8% of all introductory tenancies in that period. Five of these were for rent arrears and one was for antisocial behaviour.

For both rent arrears and anti social behaviour our emphasis is always on early intervention, and eviction is the last resort which helps keep the numbers low.

With antisocial behaviour we continue to work with partner agencies such as the New Forest Assessment Centre to support families where needed.

For rent arrears we provide a number of solutions for tenants who may be struggling such as budgeting advice, help claiming benefits, and agreeing sustainable repayment plans. We anticipate seeing similar volumes this financial year.

For secure tenancies last year, two families were evicted for ASB and there were fifty evictions (virtually all single people) for rent arrears. These figures are both low given the size of our housing stock.

19. Affordable Rent

Councillor Baillie to Councillor Payne

How will you ensure that SCC tenants in new build properties who pay Affordable Rent pay the same rent for the same property?

Answer

The national policy for delivering new social housing is for affordable rents to be charged. It is also stipulated that affordable rents are based on up to 80% market rent set at the time of completion of the new home.

New build properties of the same size, in the same location, completed at the same time will have the same rent. Within a large development completed over a significant number of years, tenants could be paying different rents for the same size property, depending on how the rental market varies during the intervening period.

20. Speed Limit in Malmesbury Rd

Councillor Moulton to Councillor Rayment

In light of the overwhelming demand for a 20mph speed limit in Malmesbury Rd, will the Cabinet Member introduce this as an urgent priority?

Answer

No.

We are acutely aware of the many demands for 20mph schemes but there is limited evidence to suggest they will be effective in Southampton or based on the location of road casualties and incidents that one area should be treated differently to another.

As a result Southampton City Council will be building its evidence base on this issue by piloting the introducing a new 20 mph speed limit in the Maybush area in the west of the city. The pilot, which will be specifically within the Lower Brownhill Road, Green Lane and Wimpson Road areas commenced on 18 November. The pilot will help determine if such schemes produce real benefits either in road safety, modal shift or the quality of life for our residents.

Once the pilot has run its course we will use evidence gathered to inform the Council's policy. The pilot will conclude in Summer of 2014.

In the meantime the Council and Police operate a "community speedwatch" scheme. Any areas interested in investigating this option should contact the Council's Road Safety Officer in the first instance. This does require that those wishing to take part are prepared to volunteer to assist in speed monitoring and enforcement activities.

21. Tudor House Museum

Councillor Daunt to Councillor Tucker

Can the Cabinet Member please explain the logic behind cutting the opening hours for and therefore the public access to the Tudor House Museum given that Southampton City Council has, in recent years, spent several million pounds renovating this site of significant historical interest

Answer

The decision to reduce the opening hours at Tudor House has not been made lightly. However, because central government has cut crucial funding to the Council, all services are required to contribute to meeting the budget deficit that the Council faces. Regrettably, this includes museums and a reduction in opening hours will reduce the operating costs of Tudor House.

It is common practice across the Cultural Sector for museums to be closed on Mondays. Weekends provide the greatest footfall and income generation, and so remaining open on these days reflects customer preference. Closing at 3.00pm on the weekdays enables School and group visits to take place with minimal interruption to normal patterns of use.

The changes in opening hours will not remove the opportunity to visit the Museum for the majority of visitors, and subsequently we do not anticipate that any reduction in visitor numbers will reflect the loss of opening hours.

22. Fix Penalty Notices

What powers do the Council have for taking enforcement action / issuing Fix Penalty Notices to people who spit in the street?

Answer

The Environmental Protection Act 1990 provides the local authority with the power to take action against a person depositing 'litter' in a public place. The definition of 'litter' may be extended to include spit, so creating an offence where a person spits in a public place.

The local authority can prosecute a person who deposits litter in a public place; or alternatively may issue a fixed penalty notice (currently £75).

69. MOTIONS

(a) **Late Night Levy**

Councillor Letts moved and Councillor Kaur seconded:-

"Council notes the cost both in financial and social terms of the late night economy in the City Centre.

Council requests the Head of Legal, HR and Democratic Services begin the process of statutory consultation required prior to Council deciding whether to bring in a Late Night Levy. This Levy should it be brought in would be used to

contribute towards the costs of keeping those using the night time economy safe.”

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE MOTION WAS DECLARED CARRIED

RESOLVED that the motion be approved.

(b) On Street Parking Charges

Councillor Moulton moved and Councillor Smith seconded:-

“This Council notes that it is contrary to the general duty under s120 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1994 to raise on street parking charges for the sole intended purpose of helping to close the Council’s budget gap. Council further notes that last year the on street parking account generated a surplus of over £1m and that over a quarter of this was not even spent in 2012/13. Furthermore Council notes that the accumulated surplus for the on street parking account was over £1.7m as of 1st April 2013.

In light of this and the overwhelming public hostility to increases in residents’ parking charges and night time parking charges, and the fact they will hit both struggling families and businesses, Council calls on the Executive to abandon both of these tax increases.”

Amendment moved by Councillor Turner and seconded by Councillor Vinson:-

Second paragraph, third line delete “both of these tax increases”

Second paragraph, third line after “Council calls on the Executive to abandon “ insert “charging for the first permit in Residents' Parking Zones and modify the proposed evening parking charges to £1 for any period between 6.00p.m. and 8.00a.m.”

AMENDED MOTION TO READ

“This Council notes that it is contrary to the general duty under s120 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1994 to raise on street parking charges for the sole intended purpose of helping to close the Council’s budget gap. Council further notes that last year the on street parking account generated a surplus of over £1m and that over a quarter of this was not even spent in 2012/13. Furthermore Council notes that the accumulated surplus for the on street parking account was over £1.7m as of 1st April 2013

In light of this and the overwhelming public hostility to increases in residents’ parking charges and night time parking charges, and the fact they will hit both struggling families and businesses, Council calls on the Executive to abandon 'charging for the first permit in Residents' Parking Zones and modify the proposed evening parking charges to £1 for any period between 6.00p.m. and 8.00a.m.”

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE AMENDMENT WAS DECLARED LOST

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE MOTION AS SUBMITTED WAS DECLARED LOST

RESOLVED that the motion be not approved.

(c) The Arts Complex

Councillor Hannides moved and Councillor Moulton seconded:-

“Following the recent commencement of works to build the Arts Complex, the Council acknowledges the positive and constructive approach taken by the Executive in facilitating the delivery of the next phase of the city's flag ship cultural quarter development.

The Council notes there are substantial capital pressures that support the development of the Arts Complex and further resolves to urge the Executive to raise much needed funds through the sale of high value items from the city council's art collection. In so doing it should also be guided by the following principles:

- De-accessioning is compliant with the terms of the relevant Bequests.
- The items do not form part of the Gallery's core collection as presently defined.
- The Gallery's national collection status is retained.”

Amendment moved by Councillor Vinson and seconded by Councillor Turner:

“First paragraph, third line delete “Executive” replace with “all political groups”

Delete second paragraph and bullet points and replace with new paragraphs

“Council notes that the New Arts Complex is fully funded within the Capital programme.

Council reaffirms its opposition to the sale of works of art from the City's collections”

AMENDED MOTION TO READ

“Following the recent commencement of works to build the Arts Complex, the Council acknowledges the positive and constructive approach taken by all political groups in facilitating the delivery of the next phase of the city's flag ship cultural quarter development.

Council notes that the New Arts Complex is fully funded within the Capital programme.

Council reaffirms its opposition to the sale of works of art from the City's collections.”

Further Amendment moved by Councillor Tucker and seconded by Councillor Lloyd:

“Second paragraph, first line after “Council notes” delete remaining text

Second paragraph first line after “Council notes” insert

“that the Arts Complex is fully funded within the currently agreed capital programme. However, Council is aware that a new roof will be required on the Art Gallery at the start of 2015 at a cost close to £1,400,000.”

Add additional paragraph 3

“Council calls on the Executive to engage and work with the Chipperfield Advisory Committee and other associated parties to raise funds to pay for the new roof during the course of 2014. As a last resort, the roof may have to be funded through the sale of art.”

AMENDED MOTION TO READ

“Following the recent commencement of works to build the Arts Complex, the Council acknowledges the positive and constructive approach taken by the Executive in facilitating the delivery of the next phase of the city's flag ship cultural quarter development.

The Council notes that the Arts Complex is fully funded within the currently agreed capital programme. However, Council is aware that a new roof will be required on the Art Gallery at the start of 2015 at a cost close to £1,400,000.

Council calls on the Executive to engage and work with the Chipperfield Advisory Committee and other associated parties to raise funds to pay for the new roof during the course of 2014. As a last resort, the roof may have to be funded through the sale of art.”

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE AMENDMENT IN THE NAME OF COUNCILLOR TUCKER WAS DECLARED CARRIED

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE AMENDMENT IN THE NAME OF COUNCILLOR VINSON WAS DECLARED LOST

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE MOTION AS AMENDED WAS DECLARED CARRIED

RESOLVED that the motion as amended by Councillor Tucker be approved.

(d) **Government Cuts in Local Authority Funding**

Councillor Morrell moved and Councillor Thomas seconded:-

“This Council deplores the dire financial straits into which it has been driven by the government’s cuts in local authority funding. Before even last year’s budget the Leader of the Council, Councillor Simon Letts described the axing of services and jobs as equivalent to "removing limbs", and now the council is confronted with making even more cuts amounting to £60 million over the next three years on top of the £57 million cut over the last three years.

This Council rejects the government's argument for cutting local authority spending. It is the bankers and the super-rich, who created the world financial crisis, who should be made to pay, not ordinary people and council workers in Southampton.

This Council demands from the government the funding needed to maintain services. As a first step to mobilising support for the Council's stand, public and private-sector trades unions, community, tenants, youth and pensioners groups from across the City will be invited to a pre-budget conference to discuss the real budget needs of the City.

Hilary Benn, Shadow Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government will be invited to Southampton to explain to the conference how a future Labour government will resolve the local authority budget crisis.

This Council will invite other Labour authorities in the region - Oxford, Reading and Slough - and beyond, to join it in a campaign to defend jobs and services."

Amendment moved by Councillor Vinson and seconded by Councillor Turner:

"First paragraph insert before "this Council"

"While accepting that Local Government must bear a share of the measures necessary to restore the national economy after the crisis brought about by international financial and economic circumstances, bankers and previous governments"

First paragraph delete after this Council "deplores the dire financial straits into which it has been driven by the"

First paragraph first line after "this Council" insert "believes that"

First paragraph after "Local" Insert "government has been called upon to bear a disproportionate share of the burden, such that now the council is confronted with making even more cuts amounting to £60 million over the next three years on top of the £57 million cut over the last three years."

Third paragraph first line replace "demands" with "seeks"

Third paragraph first line after "maintain" insert "key"

Third paragraph second line delete "As a first step to mobilising support for the Council's stand, public and private-sector trades unions, community, tenants, youth and pensioners groups from across the City will be invited to a pre-budget conference to discuss the real budget needs of the City."

Forth paragraph delete

Fifth paragraph first line delete "Labour"

Fifth paragraph first line delete "Oxford, Reading and Slough"

Fifth paragraph second line insert "essential" in front of "services"

AMENDED MOTION TO READ

'While accepting that Local Government must bear a share of the measures necessary to restore the national economy after the crisis brought about by international financial and economic circumstances, bankers and previous governments, this Council believes that Local Government has been called upon to bear a disproportionate share of the burden, such that now the council is confronted with making even more cuts amounting to £60 million over the next three years on top of the £57 million cut over the last three years.

This Council seeks from the Government the funding needed to maintain key services.

This Council will invite other authorities in the region and beyond, to join it in a campaign to defend essential jobs and services”

Further Amendment moved by Councillor Letts and seconded by Councillor Barnes-Andrews:

“Third paragraph second line delete all after “ services” add

“Council notes the success of the Councils redeployment policy which has kept compulsory redundancies to a minimum. Council further notes the successful bids under this administration in areas such as Transport, Waste and Skills which have brought extra resources to this City.

Council would like to put on record its thanks to our officers across many areas who have worked on this years budget and brought forward proposals which minimise charging increases and service cuts.

Council calls on the Leader to continue to work with other similar Councils through the LGA and the Key Cities grouping to lobby government in an attempt to secure a better funding deal for urban local authorities”

AMENDED MOTION TO READ

“This Council deplores the dire financial straits into which it has been driven by the government’s cuts in local authority funding. Before even last year’s budget the Leader of the Council, Councillor Simon Letts described the axing of services and jobs as equivalent to "removing limbs", and now the council is confronted with making even more cuts amounting to £60 million over the next three years on top of the £57 million cut over the last three years.

This Council rejects the government’s argument for cutting local authority spending. It is the bankers and the super-rich, who created the world financial crisis, who should be made to pay, not ordinary people and council workers in Southampton.

This Council demands from the government the funding needed to maintain services.

Council notes the success of the Councils redeployment policy which has kept compulsory redundancies to a minimum. Council further notes the successful bids under this administration in areas such as Transport, Waste and Skills which have brought extra resources to this City.

Council would like to put on record its thanks to our officers across many areas who have worked on this years budget and brought forward proposals which minimise charging increases and service cuts.

Council calls on the Leader to continue to work with other similar Councils through the LGA and the Key Cities grouping to lobby government in an attempt to secure a better funding deal for urban local authorities.”

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE AMENDMENT IN THE NAME OF COUNCILLOR LETTS WAS DECLARED CARRIED

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE AMENDMENT IN THE NAME OF COUNCILLOR VINSON WAS DECLARED LOST

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE MOTION AS AMENDED WAS DECLARED CARRIED

RESOLVED that the motion as amended by Councillor Letts be approved.

(e) Sixth Form Colleges – VAT

Councillor Kaur moved and Councillor Paffey seconded:-

“The Council calls on the Chancellor of the Exchequer in the forthcoming Autumn Statement to announce plans to allow Sixth Form Colleges to reclaim VAT on their purchases in the same way that Academy and local authority School Sixth forms can. This would create a level playing field between such institutions in Southampton and provide both Richard Taunton and Itchen sixth form colleges with additional funding of up to potentially £300,000 to pursue their missions in raising and supporting the ambitions of the most disadvantaged students in our City.”

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE MOTION WAS DECLARED CARRIED

RESOLVED that the motion be approved.

(f) Councillor Tax Benefit – Urgent Motion

Group leaders agreed to hear the motion.

Councillor Vinson moved and Councillor Turner seconded:-

“Mindful of the implications for many of Southampton’s poorest citizens, this Council agrees that Southampton’s Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2014 should be amended, subject to the consultation and publication requirements of the Local Government Finance Act 1992(as amended) and final decision to be made by a special meeting of Full Council in January 2014 following consideration of

the consultation exercises, such that, in order to give these households time to adjust and to minimise the accumulation of Council tax arrears, the baseline reduction applied in the calculation will be reduced as follows:

2014/15 – 12.5%

2015/16 – 18%

2016/17 – 25%

and also that the current Discretionary Fund to deal with cases of exceptional hardship be continued.

This Council also agrees that should this motion be adopted, provision for the additional cost of the revised scheme must be made in the 2014/15 budget (and subsequent budgets) agreed by Full Council at its meeting on 12th February 2014.”

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE MOTION WAS DECLARED LOST

RESOLVED that the motion be not approved.

(g) Portsmouth Dockyard – Urgent Motion

Group leaders agreed to hear the motion.

Councillor Letts moved and Councillor Smith seconded:-

“This Council calls on Government to immediately suspend the decision to end shipbuilding in Portsmouth ahead of a Cabinet Office review into all of the options available, and to:

1. Endorse a ‘three Yard solution’ as being most appropriate for strategic, political and economic reasons;
2. Ensure remaining work to be done in Portsmouth on the Royal Navy’s new aircraft carriers stays with the city’s shipbuilders (Blocks UB07, UB014, LB05);
3. Build at least one of the navy’s new Offshore Patrol Vessels in Portsmouth, and guarantee future work in the form of sections of the upcoming Type 26 frigates;
4. Give a public assurance that the MoD-owned land currently in use for shipbuilding at Portsmouth Naval Base will remain available to support that work;
5. Appoint a named minister to act as a single point of contact for discussions between city leaders, unions, BAE Systems, other interested parties, and your government;
6. Adopt a ‘workshare’ approach and retain the existing proportion of Type 23 work in Portsmouth;

7. Undertake maintenance and preparation work, such as the fabrication of necessary caissons in Portsmouth rather than in Holland as previously;
8. Visit Portsmouth as soon as possible, with defence secretary Philip Hammond and the appointed minister, to discuss options going forward.

These views to be communicated by the Leader of the Council to the Prime Minister.”

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY DECLARED CARRIED

RESOLVED that the motion be approved.

70. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS TO THE CHAIRS OF COMMITTEES OR THE MAYOR

It was noted that no questions to the Chairs of Committees or the Mayor had been received.

71. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES, SUB-COMMITTEES AND OTHER BODIES

The following changes were noted:-

- (i) Councillor Laming was being replaced by Councillor Whitbread on the Licensing Committee; and
- (ii) Councillors Daunt and Parnell were being replaced by Councillors Claisse and Les Harris on Scrutiny Panel A.

72. CHANGES TO THE COUNCIL'S CONSTITUTION - COUNCIL PETITION SCHEME

The report of the Director of Corporate Services was submitted seeking approval for changes to the Council's Petition Scheme.

RESOLVED

- (i) that the changes to the Constitution as set out in the report be approved; and
- (ii) that the Head of Legal and Democratic Services be authorised to make changes to the Council's Petition Scheme.

73. SCRAP METAL DEALER LICENSING

The report of Head of Legal and Democratic Services was submitted concerning the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013 and scrap metal dealer licensing.

RESOLVED that the function of registration of scrap metal dealers be delegated to the Licensing Committee once the power to do so has become available.

74. REFURBISHMENT OF 315 COXFORD ROAD

Report of the Cabinet Member for Children's Services was submitted concerning the refurbishment of 315 Coxford Road.

RESOLVED that in accordance with Financial Procedure Rules, to add a sum of £247,000, funded from Council resources, to the Children's Services Capital Programme for works at the 315 Coxford Road.

75. DEVELOPMENT OF SITES IN LORDSHILL

The report of the Leader of the Council was submitted concerning the disposal of three development sites in Lordshill related to the refurbishment works at the Oaklands Pool.

RESOLVED that in accordance with Financial Procedure Rules, to add an additional sum of £412,000 to the Economic Development and Leisure Capital programme for refurbishment works at Oaklands swimming pool to be funded from Council resources.

76. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC - CONFIDENTIAL PAPERS INCLUDED IN THE FOLLOWING ITEM

RESOLVED that in accordance with the Council's Constitution, specifically the Access to Information Procedure Rules contained within the Constitution, the press and public be excluded from the meeting in respect of any consideration of the confidential appendix to the following matter.

Confidential appendix 1 contains information deemed to be exempt from general publication based on Category 3 of paragraph 10.4 of the Council's Access to Information Procedure Rules.

It is not in the public interest to disclose this information because publication of this information may be to the Council's financial detriment.

77. THORNHILL DISTRICT ENERGY SCHEME

The report of the Cabinet Member for Housing and Sustainability was submitted concerning the next phase of the Thornhill District Energy Scheme.

RESOLVED

- (i) That the financial recommendations set out in the confidential appendix to the report to deliver a district energy scheme, insulation and other associated measures for the suitable homes in Thornhill be approved;
- (ii) That authority be delegated to the Director, Place, after consultation with the Head of Legal and Democratic Services to enter into negotiations with the preferred Energy Company Obligation delivery partner to design and build a suitable scheme that represents the best value for the respective residents of Thornhill, and for the Council;
- (iii) That authority be delegated to the Director Place, after consultation with Chief Financial Officer, the Director of Corporate Services, Head of Housing

Services and the Cabinet Members for Resources and Housing and Sustainability, to review the progress with the resolutions of the risks identified in this report and take a final decision whether to proceed with the scheme or whether a further report should be submitted to Cabinet or Council as appropriate; and

- (iv) That subject to the outcome of recommendation (iii) above that authority be delegated to the Head of Legal and Democratic Services to agree and sign the relevant contracts and; to delegate authority to the Director ,Place, after consultation with the Head of Legal and Democratic Services to take any other action necessary to implement the scheme.

78. TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY AND PRUDENTIAL LIMITS MID YEAR REVIEW

Report of the Head of Finance and IT (Chief Financial Officer) was submitted concerning the review of the indicators that relate to the Treasury Management Strategy.

RESOLVED

- (i) That any changes to the Council's Prudential Indicators as detailed within the report be approved;
- (ii) That delegated authority be continued to the Chief Financial Officer, following consultation with the Cabinet Member for Resources, to approve any changes to the Prudential Indicators or borrowing limits that would aid good treasury management. For example increase the percentage for variable rate borrowing to take advantage of the depressed market for short term rates. Any amendments to be reported as part of quarterly financial and performance monitoring and in revisions to this strategy;
- (iii) That it be noted that the continued proactive approach to Treasury Management has led to reductions in borrowing costs and safeguarded investment income; and
- (iv) That the action taken in response to the down rating of the Authority's Bankers, (the Co-operative Bank), as set out in more detail in Confidential Appendix 1 to the report be noted.

79. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC - CONFIDENTIAL PAPERS INCLUDED IN THE FOLLOWING ITEM

RESOLVED that in accordance with the Council's Constitution, specifically the Access to Information Procedure Rules contained within the Constitution, the press and public be excluded from the meeting in respect of any consideration of the confidential appendix to the following matter.

The confidential report contains information deemed to be exempt from general publication based on Category 3 of paragraph 10.4 of the Council's Access to Information Procedure Rules.

It is not in the public interest to disclose this information because this information relates to the project costs and commercial contracts between third parties which are commercially sensitive.

80. SOUTHAMPTON NEW ARTS COMPLEX

Confidential report of the Chief Executive was submitted concerning the decision relating to Southampton's New Arts Complex, which had been made to ensure that the project progressed in line with Arts Council funding commitments.

RESOLVED

- (i) That the decisions taken by the Chief Executive on 21st October 2013 using powers under 1.1.3 (e) of the Officer Scheme of Delegation and the reasons for taking them, be noted;
- (ii) That it be noted that since the Chief Executive's decision, the required stopping up order was granted by the Magistrate's court on November 5th and that registration of this title has been confirmed by the Land Registry. This now enables the Council to prove clean title to Grosvenor; and
- (iii) That authority be delegated to the Chief Financial Officer to draw down a sum of up to £100k from contingencies should funding be required to fund either the Pre-Let issue or the Sewer issue set out in the report

81. WATERMARK WEST QUAY AND REGIONAL GROWTH FUND

Report of the Cabinet Member for Economy and Leisure was submitted concerning Watermark WestQuay and the Regional Growth Fund.

RESOLVED

- (i) That approval be delegated to the Chief Financial Officer to enter into an agreement with the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills to receive Regional Growth Fund (RGF) grant to unlock the regeneration of Watermark WestQuay and for the Council to act as Lead Accountable Body;
- (ii) That if the application is successful, to accept the grant set out in the Confidential Appendix 1 to the report, from the Regional Growth Fund;
- (iii) That in accordance with Financial Procedure Rules, to add a sum set out in Confidential Appendix 1 to the report, to the Economic Development & Leisure capital programme for the regeneration of Watermark WestQuay;
- (iv) That in accordance with Financial Procedure Rules, to approve capital expenditure in 2014/15 and as set out in Confidential Appendix 1 to the report from the Economic Development & Leisure capital programme to award a capital grant for the regeneration of Watermark WestQuay; and

- (v) That approval be delegated to the Director of Environment & Economy to enter into a grant agreement with Hammerson to distribute RGF resources for the Watermark WestQuay scheme and to take all ancillary actions to give effect to this resolution.

82. STRATEGIC SERVICES PARTNERSHIP (SSP) CONTRACT - PROPOSED CONTRACT EXTENSION

The report of the Leader of the Council was submitted seeking approval for a proposed contract extension of the Strategic Service Contract.

RESOLVED

- (i) That the Consultation process that was followed as outlined in paragraph 59 and Appendix 4 of the report be noted;
- (ii) That the Equality and Safety Impact Assessment process that was followed as set out in paragraph 60 and Appendix 3 of the report be noted;
- (iii) That the extension of the SSP contract with Capita Business Services Limited be approved as a Policy Framework decision, for five years, so that its expiry date becomes 30 September 2022 (extended from 30 September 2017), subject to the changes to the contract described in the report being made simultaneously, (except for that relating to sub-£100,000 spend being brought within the Procurement Services).
- (iv) That the Executive be recommended to implement the Policy Framework decision to extend the SSP contract by five years;
- (v) That the introduction of an IT Development Reserve to smooth the cost of future capital expenditure needed to maintain the desktop estate and associated hardware on an ongoing basis, thereby enabling effective planning to be undertaken over the medium term be approved;
- (vi) That the introduction of a Pension Reserve to manage expenditure associated with employers' pension contributions payable to the Hampshire Pension Fund for TUPE staff over the term of the contract and smooth the impact on the General Fund revenue budget in any one year be approved;
- (vii) That the governance arrangements set out in Appendix 2 to the report (in so far as they are matters for Full Council) be approved;
- (viii) That it be noted that the changes made during final negotiations as set out in Appendix 1 to the report, have taken into account the recommendations of Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee which met on 16 October 2013.
- (ix) That the Director of Corporate Services, together with the Chief Financial Officer and the Head of Legal and Democratic Services be granted delegated authority to take any further action necessary to give effect to the decisions of

Full Council in relation to this matter; and

- (x) That these decisions would form an addendum to the Council's Policy Framework be noted.