
SOUTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
18 MARCH 2015

Present:

The Mayor, Councillor Mrs Blatchford
The Sheriff, Councillor Norris
Councillors Baillie, Bogle, Burke, Chaloner, Chamberlain, Claisse, Coombs, Daunt, Denness, Fitzhenry, Galton, Hammond, Hannides, B Harris, L Harris, Hecks, Inglis, Jeffery, Kaur, Keogh (minute 86 onwards), Letts, Lewzey (minutes 83 - 90 only), Lloyd, McEwing, Mintoff, Morrell (minutes 83 - 90 only), Moulton (minutes 86 - 90 only), Noon, O'Neill, Dr Paffey, Painton, Parnell, Payne, Pope (minutes 83 - 90 only), Rayment, Shields, Smith (minutes 83 -87, 88(b) - 90 only), Spicer, Stevens, Thomas (minutes 83 - 90 only), Thorpe, Tucker, Vassiliou, Whitbread and White

83. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillor Barnes-Andrews.

84. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Extraordinary Council and the Council meetings held on 19th November 2014, together with the minutes of the Council meeting held on the 11 February, 2015 be approved and signed as correct records.

85. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE MAYOR AND LEADER

(i) University of Hof

Members, I would like to welcome to the meeting today some German students from the University of Hof. They have visited the Mayor's Parlour and are seated in the Public Gallery to observe proceedings today.

(ii) Last meeting of the Municipal Year

The Mayor made reference to this being the last meeting of the municipal year and the last meeting before the elections in May. The Mayor took the opportunity to say goodbye to those councillors who would not be standing for re-election and to those who did, but did not retain their seat. On behalf of the Council, the Mayor thanked them for their hard work and the contribution they had made during their period in office.

86. DEPUTATIONS, PETITIONS AND PUBLIC QUESTIONS

- (i) The Council received and noted a deputation together with the submission of petitions from Mr Adrian Vinson concerning wheelie bins and fly tipping and Westridge Road toilets, Portswood.

- (ii) The Council received the following petitions. Rachel Hickman, Friends of Cobbett Road Library and Sarah Docherty, on behalf of Burgess Road Library were in attendance and in accordance with the Council's petition scheme addressed the meeting.
- (a) Sam Gould, Save Our Libraries - "We the undersigned petition the Council to maintain and develop Southampton libraries as centres for reading, learning and community activities and to save our libraries from the proposed closures, reduced opening hours and cuts to staff and resources."
 - (b) Rachel Hickman, Friends of Cobbett Road Library - "Keep Cobbett Road Library as part of the Southampton Library Service with a long term plan to safeguard it against future cuts, appreciating the amazing value it offers to the local community. Work with the local community to help keep the library innovative and offering more but not by Community Asset Transfer." and
 - (c) Bassett Green Primary School - "Burgess Road Library - Save our Library."

As the amalgamated petitions contained over 1,500 signatures, under the Council's Procedure Rules, the amalgamated petitions were a qualifying petition which must be debated at Council.

The Council agreed to bring forward item 6(d) on the Council agenda, the motion in the name of Councillor Baillie.

Councillor Baillie moved and Councillor O'Neil seconded:

"Council calls upon the Executive to ensure that all submitted suggestions and options regarding the now finished Library Consultation are fully, openly and thoroughly investigated, with special investigation and consideration given to the general positive physical & mental health improvements that a vibrant community centre such as Cobbett Road Library provides, taking particular advice from Southampton Public Health".

Amendment moved by Councillor Letts and seconded by Councillor Tucker:

In the second line, delete 'fully, openly and thoroughly'

In the third line, delete 'special investigation and'

Delete from fourth line 'community centre such as Cobbett Road Library provides, taking particular advice from Southampton Public Health.' Replace with 'library provides.'

Insert two new paragraphs at the start of the motion:

“Council welcomes the petitions regarding the future transformation of the Library Service and thanks all those who have signed them for doing so. Council recognises that this is an issue of concern to many.

Council acknowledges that the consultation period ended on the 6th March and as such the results of the consultation exercise need to be collated and reviewed. Consequently, these petitions will feed into the consultation process and which will inform the ultimate decision.”

Amended Motion to read:

“Council welcomes the petitions regarding the future transformation of the Library Service and thanks all those who have signed them for doing so. Council recognises that this is an issue of concern to many.

Council acknowledges that the consultation period ended on the 6th March and as such the results of the consultation exercise need to be collated and reviewed. Consequently, these petitions will feed into the consultation process and which will inform the ultimate decision.

Council calls upon the Executive to ensure that all submitted suggestions and options regarding the now finished Library Consultation are investigated with consideration given to the general positive physical & mental health improvements that a vibrant library provides”.

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE AMENDMENT WAS DECLARED CARRIED

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

RESOLVED that the motion as amended be approved.

87. 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 Cabinet Member for Children’s Safeguarding referred to the recent publication of the Serious Case Review findings on the death of Blake Fowler and to the failings that the review had identified. On behalf of the Council, the Cabinet Member wished to place on record the Authority’s apologies for these failings and a reassurance that work was continuing to ensure that such failings would be rectified.

The following questions were then submitted in accordance with Council Procedural Rule 11.1:

1. **Use of Lettings Boards**

Question from Councillor Claisse to Councillor Letts

The North Southampton Community Forum recently wrote to you confirming that the Voluntary Code intended to restrict the use of lettings boards is not working. They also asked that a Regulation 7 Direction was introduced to significantly reduce the number of Lettings Boards. Will the Council introduce a Regulation 7 Direction to effectively address this persistent problem?

Answer

The Planning and Development Manager is currently exploring the feasibility of introducing a Regulation 7 Direction, as part of a comprehensive response to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Panel A's Inquiry into Maintaining Balanced Neighbourhoods Through Planning. It is expected that a recommendation as to whether or not to proceed will be made in the late summer. Any proposal for a Regulation 7 Direction would be subject to approval by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government.

In the meantime, within the HMO Licensing Area, the Planning and Environmental Health teams have increased the use of Section 225 Notices. These notices are served under the Town & Country Planning Act 1990 and require letting agents to remove "Let By" or incorrectly sited boards after a prescribed period, with the Council taking direct action to remove the boards if the agent fails to comply. In the event of direct action being taken, the Council will pursue reimbursement of the costs from the letting agent.

2. Congestion at the junction of Thomas Lewis Way and St. Denys Road

Question from Councillor Moulton to Councillor Rayment

What is the Cabinet Member doing to address the problem of congestion at the junction of Thomas Lewis Way and St. Denys Road at peak times?

Answer

A study has been undertaken to assess the traffic signal junction at Thomas Lewis Way and St Denys Road. The study did confirm the eastern arm (St Deny's Road) does become saturated as it receives a high volume of vehicle movements from each of the other arms. We are currently modelling an option to change the order that the arms of the junction get their green light to improve the flow of traffic through the junction. Whilst this could reduce the delays on St Deny's Road, there may be a negative impact on Thomas Lewis Way. Given the importance of Thomas Lewis Way as a key strategic route in and out of the City, any changes will need to be carefully considered.

We have assessed the St Deny's Road corridor during peak times and have met with bus operators to identify several potential improvements to improve journey times.

3. Itchen Bridge Tolls

Question from Councillor Moulton to Councillor Rayment

What was the income from the Itchen Bridge tolls in following months: January 2013, February 2013, January 2014, February 2014, January 2015, and February 2015?

Answer

The figures are as follows:-

January 2013 – £300,439.79, with 519,663 vehicle crossings

February 2013 – £247,048.10 with 496,255 vehicle crossings

January 2014 – £281,110.95 with 496,198 vehicle crossings (4.6% year on year decrease in vehicles)

February 2014 – £215,388.52 with 445,224 vehicle crossings (10.3% year on year decrease)

January 2015 – £286,020.90 with 527,149 vehicle crossings (6.2% year on year increase in vehicles) (1.5% increase in traffic in two years)

February 2015 – £247,248.79 with 503,155 vehicle crossings (13% year on year increase in vehicles) (1.4% increase in traffic in two years)

4. Affordable Homes

Question from Councillor Baillie to Councillor Payne

How many affordable homes has your Administration built since May 2012 in schemes that were entirely your own?

Answer

Working with Housing Associations 907 new affordable homes will have been provided between 1 April 2012 and 31 March 2015. In addition there are currently a further 315 new homes on site being built that will complete post March 2015.

54 units of council accommodation are currently being built at Erskine Court to provide Extra Care housing. Currently, these are due for completion in June 2016. Further council housing is expected to follow once the authority launches its own development company, scheduled in April 2015.

In addition 11 HRA-funded properties have been developed at Selborne House in Harefield, six at Oatlands House in Shirley, and two further properties have been acquired (at Hollybrook Lodge opposite the General Hospital and Blakeney Road in Millbrook). More are set to follow using Right to Buy receipts under the Existing Satisfactory Purchase Scheme approved at full council in February 2015.

5. Regeneration Scheme in Townhill Park

Question from Councillor Baillie to Councillor Payne

Exactly when did you realise that you could not afford your method of financing the regeneration scheme in Townhill Park?

Answer

No such point was ever reached.

In summer 2014 the council reviewed all delivery options for Townhill Park, including some that weren't widely known in 2011/12, including a Development Company (DevCo).

Further work was requested on the DevCo model and by November 2014 – when questions were tabled on estate regeneration delivery models at full council – this was the preferred option.

This has subsequently led to the council seeking to create a DevCo, which will come before the cabinet in April 2015 to outline its principles for citywide development, not just Townhill Park. As for Townhill Park, a specific paper is expected later this year on the back of the DevCo being established.

The delivery model approved by full council in November 2012 remains workable, and could still deliver a significant regeneration at Townhill Park within the current £62m Housing Revenue Account budget. However, the DevCo model is likely to be more flexible and able to generate more investment and is therefore the preferred option.

Additional investment means that the regeneration could, in fact, be expanded from its original brief and made more ambitious. This could include extra homes on top of those originally envisaged (potentially 689 instead of 675), the addition of roof gardens to improve the quality of the new blocks, and extra parking in response to feedback at public consultations.

6. Library Consultation

Question from Councillor Baillie to Councillor Barnes-Andrews (Councillor Letts responded in the absence of Councillor Barnes-Andrews).

Do you regret that so many members of the public have been misled over your Library Consultation?

Answer

The Library Consultation has been a comprehensive and robust exercise; I have no reason to believe that any members of the public have been misled.

7. Care Orders

Question from Councillor Parnell to Councillor Chaloner

How many cases are under review where parents and grandparents believe that their children have been unfairly taken into care and in some case visiting has been denied?

Answer

Our care proceedings with families are operated through the Family Law Courts – proceedings within which parents and where appropriate grandparents and

other family members can be actively involved and where party to the proceedings represented by their own legal representative. At each hearing the case is reviewed. There are at present no formal appeals in place.

The court always assigns an independent social worker from CAFCASS – whose role it is to advise the judge of the children's best interests.

The first principle for the Local Authority, is the welfare of the children, but we must also, and we do, ensure that wherever it is safe and possible to do so, children are brought up within their own immediate or extended family.

We have significant numbers of children who are formally cared for within their wider family network and we are required by Case Law to assess any family members who might be suitable long term carers for all children prior to any plan for adoption outside of the family.

We have a detailed statutory complaint procedure that grandparents can access and do and the courts can order assessments of grandparents where they consider that to be in the children's best interests.

Where a case is presented with a disagreement in relation to grandparent contact etc (sometimes the parents refuse contact at that remains their legal prerogative where they have parental responsibility) we pass grandparents details of support organisations (family rights group, grandparents association etc.) who may assist them in their concern.

8 Litter in Freemantle

Question from Councillor Moulton to Councillor Rayment

Given the ongoing problems of litter in Freemantle Ward will the Cabinet Member ensure that more bins are provided in litter hot spots?

Answer

The street cleansing service recognises the importance of adequate provision of street litter bins in encouraging the responsible disposal of litter and helping keep the city's streets clean.

In order to make the best use of resources, street bin provision is generally targeted on known litter 'hot spots' and areas of high public footfall. New sites where bins might be situated in order to help ameliorate local litter problems are either suggested by the district street cleansing team based on their operational experience, or by local residents or resident groups.

Requests for new bin sites across the city are grouped and periodically assessed by the street cleansing team against available budgets, as it is more economic to procure and install new bins in batches rather than as 'one off' items. The bin installation budget must also provide for the repair, renovation and replacement of the existing bin stocks, so once these requirements are taken into account only limited funds are available for the purchase and installation of new stocks. It is therefore important to assess new bin requests from across the city on a firm evidential base, and prioritise areas of greatest demonstrated need.

It is important that new requests are accompanied by robust supporting evidence, to help the service area effectively prioritise available budgets, and ensure new provision targets the areas of greatest need.

9 Council accommodation in Townhill Park

Question from Councillor Moulton to Councillor Payne

How long ago was it that tenants were moved out of Council accommodation in Townhill Park as part of the Estate Regeneration Programme, how many tenants were moved and what is the total lost rental income since that date?

Answer

A staged decant model for Townhill Park was devised with the Council's Housing Needs team to manage the process more strategically and to minimise impact on the Housing Register.

The Council is nearing the end of the first of the three phases in that process, which comprises eight blocks. There are currently three tenants and two leaseholders still in residence in phase one, with all other flats now empty.

Figures for Townhill Park phase one:

Decants start: April 2013

First demolitions due: By end of 2015, (2 years 8 months)

Flats in decant process: 136

Estimated lost rental income: £545,117

Estimate lost rental income per flat: £4,008

For comparison, ahead of Townhill Park phase one, the Exford Drive regeneration was the largest scheme of its kind tackled by the council.

Figures for Exford Drive:

Decants start: February 2009

First demolitions: May 2013 (4 years 3 months)

Flats in decant process: 93

Estimated lost rental income: £560,000

Estimate lost rental income per flat: £6,021

Note - The rental figures above are an estimate as the true rent for each unit stops being calculated by Finance once the property is shown as pending demolition. Finance have arrived at the figures shown by applying retrospectively RPI plus 0.5 only to earlier rent for such units

88. MOTIONS

(a) Western approach to City

Councillor Moulton moved and Councillor Galton seconded:

“Council recognises the benefits that the Western Docks bring to the local, regional and national economy but also notes the impact that increasing amounts of docks related traffic and industry is having on neighbouring residential communities on the west of the City.

Council calls upon the Executive to work with council officers and ABP in drawing up plans to improve the appearance of the western approach to the City; to develop a green corridor with a programme of tree planting along the boundary of the docks. Council notes the opportunities presented by the refresh of the Council's Local Plan to address this matter. Council also notes the evidence that has been presented to the scrutiny inquiry into air quality, which highlights the benefits that greening this part of the City would bring; as well as improving the aesthetic appearance of the area, it would also help improve local air quality by absorbing pollution.

Furthermore Council notes the many benefits that trees can bring communities more broadly; including reducing ground maintenance budgets, helping to maintain climate equilibrium, improving water quality in rivers and streams, assisting with combating flooding, supporting a wide range of wildlife and providing health and wellbeing benefits.

This Council therefore pledges to explore broader opportunities for increased tree planting on Council owned land, and to give consideration and encouragement to initiatives that encourage tree planting elsewhere in the City”.

Amendment moved by Councillor Shields and seconded by Councillor Hammond:

In the second paragraph after ‘green corridor’ delete ‘with a’

Replace with ‘which may include’

New sentence to read:

; to develop a green corridor which may include a programme of tree planting along the boundary of the docks.

Amended Motion to read:

“Council recognises the benefits that the Western Docks bring to the local, regional and national economy but also notes the impact that increasing amounts of docks related traffic and industry is having on neighbouring residential communities on the west of the City.

Council calls upon the Executive to work with council officers and ABP in drawing up plans to improve the appearance of the western approach to the City; to develop a green corridor which may include a programme of tree planting along the boundary of the docks. Council notes the opportunities presented by the refresh of the Council's Local Plan to address this matter. Council also notes the evidence that has been presented to the scrutiny inquiry into air quality, which highlights the benefits that greening this part of the City would bring; as

well as improving the aesthetic appearance of the area, it would also help improve local air quality by absorbing pollution.

Furthermore Council notes the many benefits that trees can bring communities more broadly; including reducing ground maintenance budgets, helping to maintain climate equilibrium, improving water quality in rivers and streams, assisting with combating flooding, supporting a wide range of wildlife and providing health and wellbeing benefits.

This Council therefore pledges to explore broader opportunities for increased tree planting on Council owned land, and to give consideration and encouragement to initiatives that encourage tree planting elsewhere in the City”.

With the consent of the meeting, Councillor Moulton moved an alteration to the amendment in the name of Councillor Shield which was seconded by Councillor Letts:

In 2nd paragraph add after ‘tree planting’ ‘along with a range of other measures’

Altered amended motion to read

“Council recognises the benefits that the Western Docks bring to the local, regional and national economy but also notes the impact that increasing amounts of docks related traffic and industry is having on neighbouring residential communities on the west of the City.

Council calls upon the Executive to work with council officers and ABP in drawing up plans to improve the appearance of the western approach to the City; to develop a green corridor which may include a programme of tree planting along with a range of other measures along the boundary of the docks. Council notes the opportunities presented by the refresh of the Council's Local Plan to address this matter. Council also notes the evidence that has been presented to the scrutiny inquiry into air quality, which highlights the benefits that greening this part of the City would bring; as well as improving the aesthetic appearance of the area, it would also help improve local air quality by absorbing pollution.

Furthermore Council notes the many benefits that trees can bring communities more broadly; including reducing ground maintenance budgets, helping to maintain climate equilibrium, improving water quality in rivers and streams, assisting with combating flooding, supporting a wide range of wildlife and providing health and wellbeing benefits.

This Council therefore pledges to explore broader opportunities for increased tree planting on Council owned land, and to give consideration and encouragement to initiatives that encourage tree planting elsewhere in the City”.

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE ALTERED AMENDMENT WAS DECLARED CARRIED

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

RESOLVED that the motion as altered and amended be approved.

NOTE: Councillor Burke declared a personal interest in the above matter, in view of his employment by the Company referred to in the motion and remained in the meeting during the consideration of the matter.

(b) Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation

Councillor Hecks moved and Councillor White seconded:

“Every year in the United Kingdom there are more than 30,000 ‘out of hospital’ cardiac arrests. Of those 30,000 less than 10% of patients survive; that is 27,000 potentially avoidable deaths. Contrast that with Norway where survival rates of 1 in 4 – 25% - significantly more than in the UK. One primary reason for that substantially greater survival rate is that in Norway training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation [CPR] is compulsory in all secondary schools. This means that many more bystanders have the knowledge to assist in an emergency prior to the arrival of the emergency services.

CPR training is simple and takes less than 30 minutes. The British Heart Foundation [BHF] has launching its ‘Nation of Lifesavers’ campaign to make CPR training a part of the curriculum in every secondary school and college. Free training kits are available and no direct teacher involvement is required, the training being essentially led by a video presentation. There is thus no financial resource requirement from the school’s budget, only a single half hour out of teaching time per year.

Council therefore RESOLVES to support the British Heart Foundation’s ‘Nation of Lifesavers’ campaign by encouraging all secondary schools and colleges within Southampton to implement the BHF’s campaign by including CPR training within the curriculum”.

Amendment moved by Councillor Shields and seconded by Councillor Jeffery:

ADD at the end:

Council recognises the need to train people – particularly young people - in the skills needed to step in and help in an emergency. Council proposes, therefore, to explore options for the introduction of a Southampton ‘heart-safe’ programme that would include:

1. working in partnership with local community and voluntary organisations to provide support for schools and young people so that by the time every child leaves school they will have had access to emergency first aid training for Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and the use of defibrillators.
2. working in partnership with local businesses, identify opportunities for locating AEDs in major public venues and supporting local fundraising efforts to provide them to schools and sports clubs.

Amended Motion to read:

“Every year in the United Kingdom there are more than 30,000 ‘out of hospital’ cardiac arrests. Of those 30,000 less than 10% of patients survive; that is 27,000 potentially avoidable deaths. Contrast that with Norway where survival rates of 1 in 4 – 25% - significantly more than in the UK. One primary reason for that substantially greater survival rate is that in Norway training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation [CPR] is compulsory in all secondary schools. This means that many more bystanders have the knowledge to assist in an emergency prior to the arrival of the emergency services.

CPR training is simple and takes less than 30 minutes. The British Heart Foundation [BHF] has launching its ‘Nation of Lifesavers’ campaign to make CPR training a part of the curriculum in every secondary school and college. Free training kits are available and no direct teacher involvement is required, the training being essentially led by a video presentation. There is thus no financial resource requirement from the school’s budget, only a single half hour out of teaching time per year.

Council therefore RESOLVES to support the British Heart Foundation’s ‘Nation of Lifesavers’ campaign by encouraging all secondary schools and colleges within Southampton to implement the BHF’s campaign by including CPR training within the curriculum.

Council recognises the need to train people – particularly young people - in the skills needed to step in and help in an emergency. Council proposes, therefore, to explore options for the introduction of a Southampton ‘heart-safe’ programme that would include:

1. working in partnership with local community and voluntary organisations to provide support for schools and young people so that by the time every child leaves school they will have had access to emergency first aid training for Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and the use of defibrillators.
2. working in partnership with local businesses, identify opportunities for locating AEDs in major public venues and supporting local fundraising efforts to provide them to schools and sports clubs”.

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE AMENDMENT WAS DECLARED CARRIED

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

RESOLVED that the motion as amended be approved.

(c) My Journey Commuter Challenge

With the consent of the meeting, Councillor Keogh altered and moved and Councillor Hammond seconded:

Alteration in second paragraph, delete 20% and replace with 10%

Altered motion to read:

“The My Journey Commuter Challenge is an excellent initiative supported by Southampton City Council that seeks to encourage commuters in the month of May to use a mode of transport to and from work other than their car. This could be walking, cycling, or using the bus or train. Not only does this help reduce congestion and pollution in the City, it also delivers significant health benefits to the individual and supports the City Council’s pledge to achieve its modal shift away from cars to other more environment friendly modes of transport.

The Council calls upon the Executive to set a target of 10% for Southampton City Council to achieve for the My Journey Commuter Challenge in May 2015”.

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE ALTERED MOTION WAS CARRIED

RESOLVED that the altered motion be approved.

(d) Library Consultation

It was noted that the motion in the name of Councillor Baillie had been debated together with the petitions submitted concerning the future transformation of the Library Service (minute 86 (ii) refers).

(e) Regeneration of Southampton’s Council Estates:

Councillor Smith moved and Councillor Baillie seconded:

“Council expresses its profound disappointment that despite inheriting from the previous Conservative Administration, a forward thinking, and radical programme for the regeneration of Southampton’s Council Estates, very little progress has been made and in some respects the programme after 3 years of a Labour Administration has gone backwards. Given the huge transformational opportunity that has been wasted over the past 3 years by the current Administration and in particular the lack of clear direction and leadership shown by the Cabinet Member for Housing, Councillor Payne, Council calls for the immediate resignation of Cllr Payne and for new Cabinet leadership of the Housing and Sustainability portfolio”.

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE MOTION WAS DECLARED NOT CARRIED

RESOLVED that the motion be **not** approved.

89. 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.

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

It was noted that Councillor White had replaced Councillor Baillie on the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee.

91. CITY CENTRE ACTION PLAN: ADOPTION

The report of the Leader of the Council was submitted seeking adoption to the City Centre Action Plan (copy of the report circulated with the agenda and appended to signed minutes).

RESOLVED

- (i) that the City Centre Action Plan be adopted; and
- (ii) that the list of Local Plan Review policies that will be replaced by the City Centre Action Plan be endorsed

92. CORE STRATEGY PARTIAL REVIEW: ADOPTION

The report of the Leader of the Council was submitted seeking approval to the Core Strategy (copy of report circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).

RESOLVED that the Core Strategy Partial Review be adopted.

93. LOCALISM ACT 2011 - APPOINTMENT OF DESIGNATED INDEPENDENT PERSON (S) AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE INDEPENDENT MEMBERS

The report of the Head of Legal and Democratic Services was submitted regarding the need for independent members and the appointment of Designated Independent Persons (copy of report circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).

The Mayor, on behalf of the Council, paid tribute to the work of the Independent Members during their period of appointment.

RESOLVED

- (i) that one Designated Independent Person as required under S.28(7) Localism Act 2011 be appointed from 1st July 2015 for a term of 3 years;
- (ii) that the two independent member appointments to the Governance Committee cease on 20th May 2015 and it be noted that the appointment of independent members will end;
- (iii) that the current independent members, David Blake and Geoff Wilkinson be thanked for their work during the past three years; and
- (iv) that the Head of Legal and Democratic Services be granted delegated authority to carry out all actions to give effect to this resolution.

94. PAY POLICY STATEMENT 2015-16

The report of the Head of Strategic Human Resources was submitted detailing the Annual Pay Policy for the financial year 2015/16 (copy circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).

RESOLVED that the Southampton City Council Pay Policy Statement for 2015/16 be approved.

95. APPOINTMENT OF MONITORING OFFICER AND RECONFIRMATION OF RETURNING OFFICER AND ELECTORAL RETURNING OFFICER

The report of the Chief Executive was submitted detailing the appointment of Monitoring Officer and reconfirmation of Returning Officer and Electoral Returning Officer (copy of report circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).

On behalf of the Council, the Mayor thanked the Director, Place for his help, advice and support to the Council during his period as Monitoring Officer.

RESOLVED

- (i) that the Head of Legal and Democratic Services be appointed Monitoring Officer with effect from 18th March 2015; and
- (ii) that the Director, Place be appointed as the Returning Officer for local elections and Electoral Registration Officer and the Acting Returning Officer for UK Parliamentary Elections and European Elections.

96. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY: SUMMARY OF CALL IN ACTIVITY

The report of the Assistant Chief Executive was noted detailing the use of the call-in procedure since last reported to Council in September 2014 (copy of report circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).