

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Council
held in the Queen Elizabeth II Room
at the Shoreham Centre, Pond Road, Shoreham-by-Sea**

14 December 2017

Councillor Peter Metcalfe - Chairman
Councillor Joss Loader - Vice-Chairman

Councillor Carol Albury	Councillor Emma Evans
Councillor Carson Albury	Councillor Jim Funnell
Councillor Les Alden	Councillor Paul Graysmark
Councillor George Barton	^Councillor Liz Haywood
Councillor Ken Bishop	Councillor Emily Hilditch
Councillor Ann Bridges	Councillor Barry Mear
Councillor Brian Boggis	Councillor Robin Monk
Councillor Kevin Boram	Councillor Neil Parkin
Councillor Clive Burghard	Councillor Geoff Patmore
Councillor James Butcher	^Councillor Lyn Phillips
Councillor Lee Cowen	Councillor David Simmons
Councillor Stephen Chipp	*Councillor Ben Stride
Councillor Brian Coomber	Councillor Sami Zeglam
Councillor Angus Dunn	

* = Absent

^ Left the meeting during the adjournment which commenced at 8.47pm after the Executive recommendation and debate on the Local Plan.

C/034/17-18 Apologies for absence

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Stride.

C/035/17-18 Declarations of Interest

Members were invited to make any declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests, Councillor Joss Loader declared a personal interest that she was a member of ARAC in her capacity as Chairman of the Shoreham Beach Residents Association.

No other declarations were made.

C/036/17-18 Questions from members of the Public

There were 8 registered questions from 6 members of the public.

Question 1 Andrew Bradbury to the Executive Member for Regeneration

The Adur Local Plan (ALP) has allocated greenfield sites for delivery of 1,080 dwellings (New Monks Farm 600 dwellings: West Sompting 480 dwellings) in the period to 2031. What assurance can the Executive give to existing and the then increased number of residents within Adur that such expansion of the built up area will meet the requirements of the Government's Clean Growth Strategy (BEIS 12/10/2017) and deliver reduction in harmful emissions within Adur by 2032 from business and the public sector by 30%, from transport by 29% and from housing by 19% against today's levels?

Furthermore, in considering development applications within the ALP timespan will you guarantee:

1. commercial regeneration which maximises the potential for a wide spectrum of employment opportunities and local economic growth in the limited number of sites available: specifically for new enterprise and skilled work,
2. infrastructure improvement which reduces road congestion and air pollution and is bold in its vision for mobility and health by prioritising new and safe walk and cycle routes, alongside accessible public transport, with particular attention to intersections with existing main roads,
3. schools, health services (e.g. GP surgeries), play areas and parks which are responsive to the demographic changes planned for and meet the highest standards for a built environment which we can be proud of?

Response by Councillor Boggis:

The Local Plan in conjunction with other Council policies and strategies, and through collaboration with our partners and the local community is committed to sustainable development and reducing harmful emissions. The Plan sets the policy framework for new development to reduce emissions with the specific mitigation measures being secured through individual planning applications.

I can also reassure you that the Local Plan also provides the clear policy framework to assess future planning applications and ensure the delivery of new skilled jobs, community and infrastructure improvements. I would encourage you to read the detailed policies of the Plan and the Infrastructure Delivery Plan on our website which provides detailed guidance on the infrastructure necessary to support new development.

Policy 35 of the Local Plan states that where there are significant levels of increased pollution that cannot be mitigated, development will be refused. (This previously read 'resisted' - but a Main Modification by the Inspector rewording this to 'refused').

Through the Adur Local Plan provides for a wide spectrum of employment opportunities and local economic growth for a range of skills. In preparing this Plan the Council has worked closely with infrastructure and service providers to ensure that relevant policies ensure that development only comes forward with appropriate infrastructure improvements and/or provides contributions towards necessary improvements.

On a supplementary question :

Will Adur Council commit to local targets for reduction in harmful emissions by businesses, transport and housing in line with the declaration on Locally Determined Contributions to National targets at the COP23 Climate Summit in Bonn in November 2017?

Councillor Boggis undertook to respond in writing.

Questioner No 2 was not present at the meeting therefore her question was not put to Council.

Question 3: Barb O’Kelly to the Executive Member for Regeneration

I speak on behalf of Adur Residents Environmental Action, an affiliation of 7 community groups who are greatly concerned about the impacts of the Adur Plan on health and quality of life, especially in light of the health professionals at a recent Government Committee inquiry stating that air pollution in the UK is a public health crisis.

Q.1 Air pollution levels across Adur, which are already above a safe level, are rising due to over 60,000 cars a day on the A 27 near the proposed New Monks Farm and over 16,000 cars between 7am and 7pm on the Shoreham High St. where vehicles pass through an AQMA which has been in place for 10 years.

Additional traffic and pollution from an IKEA (5,500 additional daily journeys) and other proposed developments, particularly those on the A259, will create further health risks for residents and commuters. The Plan for the Harbour states that reducing congestion on the A259 is essential for its development.

What conclusive, verifiable evidence can the Council provide that the proposed measures in their traffic reduction plan, the same measures proposed in 2013 will manage and alleviate the levels of traffic congestion and air pollution through the AQMA on the A259 where pollution levels have risen.

Question 4: Barb O’Kelly

Q2 Can you clarify how the crucial provision for the additional infrastructure of schools, doctors surgeries etc will be achieved?

Response by Councillor Boggis to question 1:

Levels of Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂) have actually reduced since Shoreham High Street was declared an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) in 2005. At that time the ‘Level of Exceedance’ (the maximum monitored/modelled concentration at a location of relevant exposure) was 42µg/m³ (micrograms per cubic meter). Last year it was 30µg/m³.

In 2018 we plan to publish a revised Air Quality Action Plan, and we will welcome public comments. This will provide us an opportunity to review the measure outlined in the 2007 Air Quality Action Plan delivered in partnership with West Sussex County Council.

The Adur Local Plan, being considered this evening clearly state: *'Where there are significant levels of pollution that cannot be mitigated, development will be refused.'*

Response by Councillor Boggis to question 2:

The Adur Infrastructure Delivery Plan 2016 (available on the Council's website) sets out the infrastructure required to support the development delivered through the Adur Local Plan, and identifies developer contributions and bodies responsible for delivery.

Improvements are secured through legal agreements with developers on individual planning applications or through agreements directly with service providers such as Southern Water.

The proposed strategic development sites will be required to deliver infrastructure on-site to serve their communities, and if appropriate, financial contributions for off-site facilities. For instance New Monks Farm strategic allocation requires the provision for education facilities.

On a supplementary question:

I have read the most recent air strategy report and the Adur Plan Environment report and have had a meeting with Nadeem Shad . From my reading there was evidence that nitrogen dioxide readings in many locations throughout Adur had marginally increased . How come your reply comes up with different information as you stated in your reply that there were no increases .

In formulating the reply to my supplementary question please refer to page 32 table A.3, S 17,18 and 19 of the Adur Plan environment Report . You will see that NO2 readings between 2015 and 2016 have risen .

On the same table refer to AD 1 which shows readings from the analyser on the Shoreham High St. . These are more accurate readings of NO 2 levels and show a distinct rise from 42.6 in 2014 to 48.3 in 2015. Readings have not been available since then as the machine has been broken.

I would be curious to know where the information was obtained that stated there had been no increase .

Councillor Boggis undertook to respond in writing.

Question 5 and 6: Bill Freeman to the Executive Member for Regeneration

Q1

We already have an intolerable situation with infrastructure sustainability – traffic gridlock, air pollution, drainage and sewerage issues – and the council is now planning to consider adoption of the Local Plan with revised policy wording on all major site allocations. Totally open ended words ‘minimum of.’ are proposed as a main modification for numbers of homes per site and areas of commercial development.

This wording is so open ended. *Witness* - development applications for

NMF – a staggering 250% increase to 35,000 sqm of retail area against the 10,000 sqm in the plan.

The Airport – unacceptable 66% increase in this commercial site area, 15,000 up to 25,000 sq m.

Free Wharf - local plan identifies 260 dwellings. The developer has submitted plans for 540 – another staggering increase of 100%.

and

Sompting - 520 proposed not 480 homes,

These are seriously large uplifts which the community knows will make our already creaking infrastructure impossibly and irretrievably unsustainable.

My question is – if you have concerns for the quality of life of the community here will you please confirm reassurances that a full and comprehensive debate will be taken this evening – to vote on a motion to refuse the inclusion of the words ‘minimum of’ and to reinstate with the words ‘no more than’ or ‘up to’ the qualified number of homes and square metres of business development as quoted in the plan before you.

Response by Councilor Boggis :

We are not here to consider individual planning applications but whether the Adur Local Plan provides an appropriate planning framework to guide future development in the Plan area for the next 15 years.

To be clear it was the Inspector appointed to assess the Plan that recommended inclusion of the word ‘minimum’ to ensure the most effective use of land given our significant housing shortfall of over 3,000 homes. The Inspector felt that there were sufficient safeguards in the policies for the strategic housing allocations to resist inappropriate development. The Plan would not have been found sound without this modification.

Question 2

There are great concerns that the proposed commercial development on the Airport will be the death knell to the existence of this much valued and treasured, asset.

The Government Inspector's decision refers to potential landscaping impacts of the 15,000 sqm of business development on the airport. He highlights there's no boundary as a 'safeguarding' area to ensure safe passage of taxiing aeroplanes, particularly in respect of wingspan.

He agrees with the Council that visually it's a particularly sensitive location. The site is clearly seen from several viewpoints and any size increase (a vastly bigger development has now been submitted) is likely to have significant visual consequences because of the flatness of the land around
- and it may be difficult to mitigate for this.

My question is:- With all these issues of landscaping and the imposition on runway operation could the authority reassess the location of this development and its position on the airport ? More logically it should surely be within the brownfield areas on the already built up southern perimeter where there is neither landscaping nor operational issues. We request that the council please review this, this evening.

Response by Councillor Boggis:

The Airport has consistently argued that the commercial allocation will help the long term viability of the airport. Earlier versions of the Plan had looked at alternative locations for the commercial development including closer to the existing terminal buildings. However, representations from agents representing the airport resulted in the development area being relocated closer to Ricardos.

Question 7: Catherine Arnold to the Executive Member for Regeneration

Question regarding the Howard Kent Site : "what harbour-master, environment conditions have changed considerably from the last attempt to build on this site, to now deem it to be suitable and accepted as part of the ALP?"

Response by Councillor Boggis:

The Adur Local Plan identifies the Western Harbour Arm as a broad location for new residential and commercial development, with the Joint Area Action Plan (JAAP) providing detailed guidance and development management policies.

The submission version of the JAAP is currently out for consultation until the 22nd December 2017 and in terms of the Harbour Master's concerns includes the following,

"A particular consideration here is the potential navigational impact of residential development. Discussions will be required with Shoreham Port Authority at an early point in the design process to ensure navigational issues are addressed."

The developer of the Howard Kent site is aware of the previous refusal of planning permission on the site and has entered into detailed discussions with the Port Authority to try and address the concerns of the Harbour Master.

On a supplementary question:

Given that Adur Community Infrastructure Study of 2009 identified a need for a 2FE new secondary school in Adur by 2018 - based on current movement and population numbers (before Adur Local Plan was anywhere near being finalised). Can the councillors show how (with which data) they will deal with the additional secondary school need of places – assuming all of the agreed combined developments within Adur Local Plan go ahead?”

Councillor Boggis undertook to respond in writing.

Question 8 from Catherine Glynn-Davies to the Executive Member for Regeneration

What pressure is being brought to bear upon WSCC and Highways England to ensure that the road infrastructure necessary to support a building programme as described in <https://www.adur-worthing.gov.uk/media/media.138939.en.pdf> is in place to support this ambitious building programme?

On a recent visit to West Street in Sompting, Bob Lanzer, cabinet minister for Highways and Infrastructure at WSCC, described the congestion on this narrow residential road as 'intimidating'

I understand from the amended plan that road improvements, upgrades, amenities etc are to be paid for out of developers contributions. What has been done or is being proposed to properly assess the impact of development on communities in Coastal Sussex, and in particular, the residents of Sompting. Are the impact assessment in place and available for public scrutiny?

The ALP sets out the need for 'safe and improved pedestrian cycle and equestrian access to South Downs National Park via A27' from Lancing, but does not describe any plans to provide similar access from Sompting. Indeed, the 70mph national speed limit precludes an opportunity for pedestrians/cyclists/equestrians to safely cross from Sompting to South Downs except via Busticle Lane or Lyons Farm crossings, despite the Parish Church being situated to the north and at least three historic Rights of Way across the A27. The plan should and must see solutions to through traffic and access to the Downs from Sompting similar to those proposed in Lancing. What reassurances can I offer to the people of Sompting?

Response by Councillor Boggis:

ADC has worked with both WSCC (the highways authority) and Highways England (responsible for the Strategic Road Network throughout the development of the Local Plan; the transport studies which form part of the evidence base to the Local Plan, and are available on the Council's website) were carried out with input from WSCC, as were the assessment of costs for mitigations of key junctions

The Adur Local Plan Second Addendum: Revised Reissue study (September 2016) identifies a range of mitigations; these are reflected in the Adur Infrastructure Delivery Plan referred to previously.

In addition, it should be remembered that when planning applications for these sites are submitted, a full Transport Assessment will be required to look at access onto,

and impact on local roads, and off-site impacts on existing junctions along the A27 including Dankton lane, and will need to demonstrate how the development will deliver any necessary mitigation measures.

Please be aware that an emerging study being carried out by WSCC (Shoreham Area Sustainable Transport Package Study Phase 2) will include development of options for a grade-separated crossing over the A27 at Sompting.

Councillor Boggis responded to a supplementary question on migration from London and Brighton to the District.

C/037/17-18 Confirmation of Minutes

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Council on 2 November 2017 be approved as a correct record and they be signed by the Chairman.

C/038/17-18 Announcements by the Chairman, Leader, Executive Members and / or Head of Paid Service

The Chairman informed Council that it had been a pleasure to present long service awards to Dave Dance, Mark Quartly, Phill Stevens and on behalf of the Council thank them for their twenty five years dedication. He had attended the AGM of the NSPCC National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children at Arundel Castle which was very interesting and informative. The visit to the recycling centre in Ford was also extremely worthwhile and inspection trips are available and very worthwhile, he encouraged Members to visit themselves. The Chairman also had a wonderful evening at North Lancing Community Carol Service, an event open to all Councillors to attend and thanked Councillors Carson and Carol Albury for their work with this event.

There were no Leader, Executive or Chief Executive announcements.

Councillor Evans thanked all those involved with the hard work for the light up Shoreham event which had been a great success.

C/039/17-18 Items Raised Under Urgency Provisions

There were no items under the urgency provisions for Council..

C/040/17-18 Recommendations from the Executive and Committees to Council

Council had before it recommendations from the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee, The Executive and two meetings of the Joint Strategic Committee on various dates. Extracts of these minutes had been circulated, together with updates, and are attached to the minutes as items 7 A to 7 D.

(A) Joint Strategic Committee - 7 November 2017

Temporary Accommodation Placement and Procurement Policy

The Leader presented the recommendation from the Committee on page 7, it was seconded by Councillor Carson Albury.

There were no speakers on the item.

On a vote: For 28, Against 0, Abstain 0

Resolved that the Temporary Accommodation Placement and Procurement Policy be adopted, subject to the outcome of the consultation process.

(B) Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee - 30 November 2017

The Chairman of the Joint Committee presented the recommendation from his Committee on new page 2 the agenda. It was seconded by Councillor Bridges.

There were no speakers on the item. On a vote: For 28, Against 0, Abstain 0

Resolved that Council note the changes made to the Work Programme since it was agreed in April 2017.

(C) Executive - 4 December 2017

The Leader presented the recommendation from the meeting of the Executive on new page 4 of the agenda. It was seconded by Councillor Dunn.

Adoption of the Adur Local Plan

The Leader introduced the recommendation from the Executive's meeting held on 4 December, copies had been circulated to all members with the Local Plan documents being available on the Council's website and, for Members, copies in the Adur Room at the Shoreham Centre.

The Leader explained that the adoption of a local plan was one of the occasions when the Council would make a decision that would have a real and lasting effect on Adur and its communities for decades and generations to follow. Entrusted by our community to make decisions in the best interest of the District based on evidence, weighing up of competing views and positions. Mentioning the concerns expressed by Councillors about the local plan the Leader stated that he too would like less development but in weighing up the different views believed that the Plan before Council was the best option for Adur's future.

The Leader highlighted that by not agreeing the Local Plan it would not stop the New Monks Farm proposals pointing out that there was no IKEA contained in the Plan. Also by not agreeing the Plan it would not stop 400 homes in Sompting. By not agreeing the Plan the District would lose nearly 200 affordable homes, at the same time opening the doors to developments at New Salts Farm and Old Salts Farm; 600 extra houses in Sompting together with developments in Steyning Road and Mill Hill that the Council would be unable to control.

The Leader reminded Council that whilst the focus had been on housing, the Local Plan was much more than this - it contained details of how the Council planned for the community as a whole - how places are made available for jobs, for young people to learn with extra school places, extra public spaces, how the environment would be protected and the case to the Government to fund roads and flood defences.

The Inspector had concluded that the Plan was sound, commending it for balancing housing need with protecting the environment and the character of the District. The Plan made an allowance for 3,718 homes - significantly lower than the 325 per annum of objectively assessed need. Without the Plan the Council would have no way to stop developers making it harder to stop development at Mill Hill, the gap in Sompting and keeping the distinct communities of Lancing and Shoreham.

Addressing Air Quality issues, the Leader mentioned that he was just as concerned as those at the meeting as he suffered from Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease; the Local Plan put policies in place to resist development that would significantly increase levels of pollution that could not be satisfactorily mitigated. A recent development across West Sussex had been a countywide Air management plan with Districts and the County working together.

Adur needed the right investment in infrastructure, highlighting the recent rejection (along with Worthing Borough) of the Highways England proposals for improvements between Worthing and Lancing on the A27.

The Leader suggested that energy should be invested in calling for more investment rather than stopping new homes being built with access to developer contributions to the District's infrastructure needs. It was the role of Members of the Planning Committee to look at the merits of each Planning application - taking into account planning matters of air quality, infrastructure provision and affordable housing.

Council was being asked to agree the development of the District over the next 15 years, the Plan provided clarity, reduced the risk of planning by appeal, defended the community against inappropriate development and put forward the case for investment. After 7 years, many views and opinions given by submissions and consultation, extensive analysis it was now time for elected members to make a decision and ensure development in Adur was delivered in the right place at the right time.

The Leader of the Opposition addressed Council on the issues of flooding and flood plan protection. Speaking on the history of the adoption of the Local Plan since 2014 he highlighted a number of areas of concern including the inconsistency of boundary information at the New Salts Farm development; the replacing of 'up to' with 'minimum of' to push through housing development.

He proposed an amendment that 'minimum of' be replaced by 'up to' in the Local Plan. This was seconded by Councillor Monk.

Members then discussed accepting this amendment, with discussion focusing on whether officers or the Inspector had made the change. The Adur Planning Policy Manager addressed Council to clarify that the wording 'minimum of' had been proposed by the

Inspector in his 'Preliminary Findings' (May 2017) which indicated a number of changes which he felt should be addressed through Main Modifications to ensure soundness. (The Main Modifications were subsequently published by the Council for consultation in June 2017).

The Solicitor to the Council clarified to Council before the vote that the proposal was a significant change, if accepted the Local Plan could not be adopted at the meeting that evening.

On a vote on the amendment there were:

For 11, Against 16, Abstentions 1

Returning to the main debate, speakers supported the recommendation explaining that the housing provision in the Plan was important to meet the District's needs and support those needing to get on the housing ladder with affordable homes. Currently there was a lack of housing supply.

Councillor Cowen proposed that until the necessary infrastructure was in place the adoption of the Local Plan be deferred. This was seconded by the Leader of the Labour Group.

Members rose to speak for or against the amendment citing issues of flooding and housing need in their arguments.

On a vote on the amendment there were:

For 11, Against 17, Absentions 0

Returning to the main debate, a number of Councillors stood to oppose the adoption of the Plan explaining that their vote would be representative of those who had voted for them; expressing concern about out of area migration to the District; the capacity of the District to have the necessary support infrastructure (medical or educational) to support housing expansion. Other Councillors supported the Local Plan and looked forward to the Council building more social housing.

Following the right of reply by the Leader; the Leader - supported by 5 councillors called for a recorded vote.

On a recorded vote the following is recorded:

Voting for the recommendation:

Councillors Carol Albury, Carson Albury, Barton, Boggis, Boram, Butcher, Chipp, Coomber, Dunn, Evans, Funnell, Hilditch, Loader, Metcalfe, Parkin

(16)

Voting against the recommendation:

Councillors Alden, Bishop, Burghard, Cowen, Graysmark, Haywood, Mear, Monk, Patmore, Phillips, Seglam

(11)

Abstaining from voting: Councillor Bridges

(1)

Resolved that that the Adur Local Plan and Policies Map (amended to include all Main Modifications and Minor Modifications) be adopted and published (including any consequential and other appropriate minor amendments) in accordance with Regulation 26 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 and Section 23(2) and (3) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended by s112(3) of the Localism Act 2011).

At 8.47pm at the end of the item, the Chairman called a 5 minute adjournment; the meeting recommenced at 8.55pm

(D) Joint Strategic Committee - 5 December 2017

The Leader of the Council presented the Committee's recommendations on new pages 5 - 14 of the agenda.

(i) Mid year review of Treasury Management 2017/18, Adur District and Worthing Borough Council

The recommendation was seconded by Councillor Dunn.

There were no speakers on the item.

On a vote For 26 Against 0 Abstentions 0

Resolved that Council approved increases in the Prudential Indicator limits for the Operational Boundaries and the Authorised Limits for borrowing, due to the approved strategies for additional expenditure on the purchase of strategic property.

(ii) Sustainable Councils: 5 Year Forecast 2018/19 - 2022-23 and savings proposals

The recommendation was seconded by Councillor Dunn.

On a vote For 26 Against 0 Abstentions 0

Resolved Council approved the use of the following capital receipts to fund redundancy costs associated with the savings proposals outlined in appendix 3:

- Adur: £14,000

(iii) Investing in Service Delivery: Capital Investment Programme 2018/19 to 2020/21

The recommendation was seconded by Councillor Dunn.

There were no speakers on the item.

On a vote For 26 Against 0 Abstentions 0

Resolved that Council approved the programmes as detailed in Appendices 8 and 9.

(iv) Business Rates Discretionary Relief

The recommendation was seconded by Councillor Chipp.

There were no speakers on the item.

On a vote For 26 Against 0 Abstentions 0

Resolved that Council

1. agreed that Option 4 (including pubs) be approved as the rules to be applied to the discretionary award schemes for Adur District Council for 2017/18;
2. agreed that the criteria detailed in paragraphs 5.6 and 5.7 of the report should be approved as the rules to be applied to the discretionary award schemes for Adur District Council for 2018/19, 2019/20 and 2020/21.

(v) Council Tax Support Schemes for 2018/19

The recommendation was seconded by Councillor Alden.

Council noted the proposal which was a continuation of the current scheme to support those in need. It was mentioned that since 2013/14 when the Council could have its own benefit scheme the Council had adopted this support scheme however there was a cost to the Council of £540K per year which was included in the Council Tax paid by other residents.

On a vote For 26 Against 0 Abstentions 0

Resolved that Council approved

1. the Council Tax Support scheme for Adur District Council in respect of working age customers for 2018/19 be based upon the scheme for 2017/18 with no restrictions;
2. That no other changes should be made beyond necessary technical amendments required to keep the scheme consistent with the national rules in respect of Housing Benefit;

3. A further public consultation should be conducted during the summer of 2018 to inform the decision in respect of the scheme to be implemented in respect of 2019/20.

(vi) Delivering our Housing Strategy - the draft Adur and Worthing Community Homelessness Strategy

The recommendation was seconded by Councillor Dunn.

Questions and comments were made about the strategy, staffing proposals to support homelessness, the building by the Council of more homes.

On a vote For 26 Against 0 Abstentions 0

Resolved that Council approved the adoption of the Community Homelessness Strategy.

C/041/17-18 Report of the Leader on decisions taken by the Executive

The Leader of the Council presented his report on decisions taken by the Executive since the last ordinary meeting of the Council; which were detailed in Item 8.

No questions were asked of the Executive.

C/042/17-18 Members Questions under Council Procedure Rule 12

The Chairman announced that the Proper Officer had received 4 questions from Members under CPR 12, which would be asked in accordance with the Rule, one supplementary question may be asked which must arise out of the original question or the reply.

1. Question from Councillor Sami Zeglam to the Executive Member for Customer Services

Given that as far back as 2009, when the skate park was opened, assurances were given that the skate park was continually monitored by CCTV from the Adur Civic Centre as protection for the young people using it. With the Civic Centre now demolished how does the Council intend to go about ensuring responsibility to monitor this site with CCTV?

Response by Councillor Evans:

None of the Adur District Council provided skate parks or play areas are presently monitored, this site was an exception given its location next to a former civic building which had CCTV already installed.

Council Officers have a close working relationship with the Skate User Group which is active on site and also reports any isolated incidents that occur to the local Joint Action Group meeting that both the Council and Sussex Police participate.

2. Question from Councillor Sami Zeglam to the Executive Member for Health and Wellbeing

With evidence emerging to suggest numerous simple and cost effective options are available to help tackle pollution concerns, including planting vegetation to help reduce concentrations and therefore exposure to air pollution, how does the Council plan to tackle growing pollution challenges within Adur?

Response by Councillor Simmons:

The Council currently works in partnership with West Sussex County Council in the delivery of the 2007 Air Quality Action Plan.

A revised Plan will be published in 2018, which will be open to public consultation. We also work with partners at WSCC and other Sussex Local Authorities through the Sussex-air partnership to coordinate initiatives aimed at reducing exposure to poor air quality (such as air-alert - <http://www.airalert.info/Sussex/>) or to access grant funding where available.

The Adur Local Plan, states that new development shall facilitate and promote the use of sustainable alternatives to the private car, and provide or contribute to the necessary infrastructure to serve the development and to mitigate against any adverse impacts to an acceptable level. It also states that new development should contribute to the mitigation of air pollution, particularly in Air Quality Management Areas, states that air quality assessments may be required; and encourages development to incorporate facilities for electric vehicle charging points.

In terms of mitigation, whilst there are some innovative solutions employed worldwide, certain mitigation may work in one area but not necessarily in another. Much of the mitigation is not under the direct control of the District Council, for example most traffic mitigation measures must come through the County Council. This makes our partnership working even more crucial.

Most do not come cheaply either - this is why we have to rely on Government grants and developers' contributions, there are no other sources of funding available to us.

For example with respect to planting, there is some evidence emerging to suggest that vegetation can assist in reducing pollutant concentrations. However our often harsh coastal environment can affect the selection of plant species and therefore the effectiveness of them to bring about a meaningful reduction in pollution. Nevertheless examination of appropriate vegetation is something we will consider when we revise our action plan.

3. Question from Councillor Sami Zeglam to the Executive Member for Health and Wellbeing

Given the responsibility the Council has for the implementation of the Adur Local Plan and its legal obligation to manage and monitor air pollution, with the enormous future

consequences for all Adur residents if it continues to rise, how does Adur Council plan to monitor air pollution consistently and accurately?

Response by Councillor Simmons:

The Council plans to reinstate the continuous monitoring station in Shoreham High Street in early 2018. This will use a replacement continuous Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂) monitoring unit and the original Particulate (PM₁₀) monitoring unit used in the previous cabinet.

We will also continue with our diffusion tubes at various sites around the District. These tubes are a recognised method of monitoring for NO₂ and most Authorities use them as they are cheap compared to the large cost of continuous monitoring (which also has an ongoing service and maintenance cost).

We also review their locations on an annual basis.

The Council reviews monitoring locations at the end of every year to ensure we are monitoring in the correct locations, taking into account potential developments and hotspots.

In choosing locations the Council considers:

- national guidance on site selection,
- traffic hotspots not previously monitored,
- the distance of receptors from the carriageway (homes, schools etc),
- the geography of the locality (how open is it, street canyons, etc), and
- the location and size of developments that we are aware of.

○

4. Question from Councillor Brian Coomber to the Chairman of the Council

Chairman Angie Mills working with myself, introduced the Annual Chairman's Carol Service. This has continued successfully for over 10 years in a variety of churches across Adur, involving many groups both young and old, from within the District. Currently I cannot find any reference to this Annual event for 2017. Perhaps the Chairman can explain what has happened.

Response by the Chairman:

The Chairman indicated that in the past few years there had been little interest in the Annual Carol Service, particularly by Members; he was not holding a Service for 2017.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.40 pm having commenced at 7pm.

Chairman