

**Minutes of a Meeting of the
Joint Overview & Scrutiny Committee of
Adur District and Worthing Borough Councils**

Gordon Room, Worthing Town Hall

21 January 2016

Roy Barraclough (Chairman)
Keith Bickers (Vice Chairman)

Adur District Council:

*James Butcher
Stephen Chipp
Ken Bishop
Ann Bridges
*Liz Haywood
Rod Hotton
*Emily Hilditch
Liza McKinney

Worthing Borough Council:

Charles James
*Mary Lermite
Nigel Morgan
*Luke Proudfoot
Vino Vinojan
Keith Sunderland

*Absent

JOSC/15-16/39	Declarations of Interest/Substitutions
Councillor Vino Vinojan declared a pecuniary interest in any matters concerning the Taxi Marshalling service should the subject be raised.	
JOSC/15-16/40	Minutes
Resolved that the Minutes of the Committee held on 26 November 2015 be approved as the correct record and be signed by the Chairman.	
JOSC/15-16/41	Public Question Time
Anne Saunders asked the following question: I note that in the JOSC work programme to be discussed at Item 12 tonight, the CVS Commissioning item for Adur and Worthing is listed as Date TBC. What timetable does the Executive Member propose to discuss this item now that the proposals from the various bidders are available. The Chairman stated that The tender process regarding the award of the contract had been completed, however a decision on the matter would not be made until the expiry of the 28 day period for key decisions which ended on the 5 February. It would be inappropriate for the Executive Members	

to comment on the timetable details of the tender process until the decision had been published and call-in period expired.

JOSC/15-16/42	Items Raised Under Urgency Provisions
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There were no urgent items.

JOSC/15-16/43	Consideration of any matter referred to the Committee in relation to a call-in of a decision
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There were no items.

JOSC/15-16/44	Interview with the Executive Members for Health and Wellbeing
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Before the Committee was a report by the Director for Digital and Resources, a copy of which had been circulated to all Members and a copy of which is attached to the signed copy of these minutes as item 6. As part of the current Work Programme, the Committee had agreed to interview Executive Members on their portfolio responsibilities and priorities for 2015-16.

The Executive Members gave an outline of the work currently being undertaken under their portfolios.

A Member asked the Worthing Executive Member the following question: 'The East Worthing area has lost a number of care home places over the past two years. What plans are in place to try to replace these or help affected staff find alternative employment?' The Executive Member explained that the question was more in relation to the responsibilities of West Sussex County Council, however, the Committee was informed that the Care Quality Commission had introduced standards that homes in East Worthing could not meet because of the nature of the buildings in which they were situated. Looking forward, the Executive Member stated that the issue of care homes could be raised when large developments were being planned.

The Adur Executive Member was asked about the 'New year, New you' event that had recently taken place in the Shoreham Centre. The Executive Member lauded the event and explained how the event had been a useful occasion where links had been made and understanding of various issues had been increased.

The Adur Executive Member was asked about Loan Sharks. Members were informed about assistance from the CAB that residents could access to help manage debt and also about the West Sussex Credit Union's offer of loans without punitive interest rates.

The Adur Executive Member was asked about play streets activities and explained that residents arranged for the activities and that the Council helped facilitate any initiative.

A Member asked about the quality of food inspections being undertaken. The Adur Executive Member recalled his experience of attending inspections and his observation that they were carried out with professionalism and that even a small premises could take several hours to assess. In summary he told the committee that he was satisfied with the level of inspections and believed that the service was doing a very good job.

A Member asked about the future of PCSOs. Members were told that there would be changes to the way that PCSOs were organised and that it was planned that they would be multi-ward based. Members were told that the Panel responsible for scrutinising the work of the Police and Crime Commissioner was due to meet to discuss upcoming plans for the way the Police would be changed. Members were informed about the intention for police to work 'without borders' within Sussex.

The Committee discussed participatory budgeting and community grants and were provided with examples of the way that these were used.

Resolved: that the Executive Member interviews be noted

JOSC/15-16/45

Interview with the Chairman of the Adur and Worthing Safer Communities Partnership - Councillor David Simmons

Before the Committee was a report by the Director of Digital and Resources, a copy of which had been circulated to all Members and a copy of which is attached to a signed copy of these minutes as item 7. As part of the current Work Programme, the Committee have agreed to interview the Chairman of the Adur and Worthing Safer Communities Partnership (A&WSCP or SCP) on the work of the Partnership.

The Chairman of the Adur and Worthing Safer Communities partnership gave a presentation to the Committee which is summarised by slides used at the meeting and attached to a signed copy of these minutes.

A Member asked for 'killed and seriously injured' figures and was told that they had not been received yet but would be sent on following the meeting.

The Committee discussed the issue of cyclists on pavements and the danger that they posed to pedestrians.

Resolved: That the interview be noted

JOSC/15-16/46

Adur and Worthing Fuel Poverty Action Plan - Annual Update Report

Before the Committee was a report by the Director for Digital and Resources, a copy of which had been circulated to all Members and a copy of which is attached to a signed copy of these minutes as item 8. The report set out the progress with the implementation of the recommendations from the joint Overview and Scrutiny review

of Fuel Poverty which was undertaken by the joint Adur and Worthing Overview and Scrutiny Working Group in 2010. Regular reports had been provided to the Committee since 2010.

The Committee discussed changes to regulations around solar panels and how it had affected plans regarding the installation of Solar PV Panels. The Director for Communities informed Members that the change to reduction in tariff feed had been frustrating.

The Committee discussed the installation of gas to the Test Road area of Sompting and if it had brought about problems of condensation in properties that had not previously had gas central heating installed. The Director for Communities related that there would be a need to assess the benefits of the scheme and address issues of condensation etc.

A Member asked if work was being undertaken to make sure that private rented properties were being kept up to a reasonable standard. The Director for Communities informed Members that it worked with private sector landlords to make sure that properties were being maintained to the correct standard. In some exceptional cases the Council had taken enforcement action but it preferred to work with landlords.

Resolved: that the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee notes the progress in implementing the recommendations from the Fuel Poverty Overview and Scrutiny review and recommends the Fuel Poverty Action Plan to the Executive Members for Wellbeing.

JOSC/15-16/47

The “Surf’s Up” Programme a 12 month update report

Before the Committee was a report by the Chief Executive, a copy of which had been circulated to all Members and a copy of which is attached to a signed copy of these minutes as item 9. The paper updated Members on progress against the commitments set out in “Surf’s Up” (a 24 month programme of activity approved by the Joint Strategic Committee on 2 December 2014). It provided an opportunity at the mid-point of that programme to take stock of progress and identify what is working well, what is not, and where challenges remain.

The Chief Executive presented the report to the Committee and set out the Council’s progress under the three ‘wave catchers’: ‘Supporting the Wealth Generators’, ‘Cultivating Enterprising Communities’ and ‘Becoming Adaptive Councils’.

A Member asked if a time would come when subsidies to Worthing Theatres would cease. The Chief Executive told Members that a recent study found that for every £1 spent on the theatres and additional £7 was spent in the local economy. The Area needed a strong cultural offer which provided a strong leveraging effect. Members were provided with figures that showed a year on year reduction in the overspend on the budget but were reminded that this should be balanced against the fact that the

budget had also been reduced which demonstrated a reduction in the spend on theatres and the museum.

A Member asked if the council was able to put an emphasis on providing properties for the rental market. The Chief Executive stated that it was important that when planning for development all types of tenure should be considered. Members were told that recently the council had provided a £10m loan to Worthing homes and had begun to develop early ideas to create a housing investment fund within the Greater Brighton authority.

A Member asked about the progress of plans to create a memorial for the Shoreham Air Disaster. The Chief Executive relayed that the issue was being handled sensitively with the families of the victims being consulted.

Resolved: that the report be noted

JOSC/15-16/48

Digital Strategy & Programme Update

Before the Committee was a report by the Director for Digital and Resources, a copy of which had been circulated to all Members and a copy of which is attached to a signed copy of these minutes as item 9. The report to Committee provided an update on progress with the digital programme which was approved in December 2014. A wide range of highly innovative work had been undertaken at high pace since January 2015, concrete change had been delivered, leading to annual savings of £200k from 2016/17, meeting the 2016/17 target set by the Joint Strategic Committee.

The Head of Digital and Resources introduced the report to the Committee and told Members of the significant progress that had been made since the last update and the national plaudits and awards with regards to the Councils' digital work.

A Member asked about how apps developed by the Council were tested. The Head of Digital and Design advised that each bit of tech was thoroughly tested by colleagues from CenSus with outside consultants being used where necessary. Members were also told of ongoing work on the information governance improvement plan.

A Member questioned the policy to allow people to choose the apps they wanted to download on their iPads and Smartphones. The Head of Digital and Design advised that the Council had chosen the policy to let people choose the tools that they needed to do their jobs. The Council was able to monitor the apps that were being downloaded. Members were told that the issue of security training would be looked at.

Resolved: that the report be noted

JOSC/15-16/49	Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee - New ways of Working
<p>Before the Committee was a report by the Director for Digital and Resources, a copy of which had been circulated to all Members and a copy of which is attached to a signed copy of these minutes as item 10. The report outlined the proposed new ways of working for the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JOSC) which, if approved, are to be implemented in full from the start of the 2016/17 Municipal Year.</p> <p>The Committee endorsed the report and emphasised the importance of Scrutiny in an Executive and Leader model. Members asserted the impartial / Apolitical nature of the Committee and the ability of all members to have their request for items judged equally.</p> <p>Resolved: That the Committee approve the proposed new ways of working as set out in the appendix to this report to be implemented in full with effect from the start of the next Municipal Year 2016/17.</p>	
JOSC/15-16/50	Adur and Worthing Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme – 2015/16
<p>Before the Committee was a report by the Director for Digital and Resources, a copy of which had been circulated to all Members and a copy of which is attached to a signed copy of these minutes as item 11. The report outlined progress on the work contained in the 2015/16 Work Programme.</p> <p>The Committee discussed forthcoming items for the Work Programme.</p> <p>Resolved: That the notes the progress in implementing the Work Programme for 2015/16</p>	

The meeting was declared closed by the Chairman at 8.52pm it having commenced at 6.30pm.

Chairman

Adur & Worthing

SAFER

Communities Partnership

**Partnership
priorities
2016/17**

VULNERABILITY

Tackle key drivers to protect & build resilience

**REDUCE ANTI-SOCIAL
BEHAVIOUR**

ALCOHOL & DRUGS

Managing harm and behaviour caused by such use

**MAKE OUR ROADS
SAFER**

**EMERGING/EVOLVING
CRIME**

Tackle & reduce the impact

VULNERABILITY

Tackle key drivers to protect & build resilience



Focus on Child Sexual Exploitation
Human Trafficking
Serious sexual offences
Repeat / Vulnerable Victims
Community Tensions

ACTION POINTS

- Increase awareness of issues that affect vulnerable people – Behind Closed Doors event
- Co-ordinate locally the work around Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)
- Raise awareness of human trafficking and CSE through training of front line workers
- Identify pathways for support for those who have experienced vulnerability or those who are reporting
- Produce and 'E-Safety' policy and deliver training to front line workers

REDUCE ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Focus on young people addressing disorder and supporting positive requirements

ACTION POINTS

- Deliver prevention & intervention to tackle and reduce Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)
- Co-ordinate enforcement activity across multi-agency remits
- Review the Early Intervention Project (EIP)
- Review the Designated Public Place's Order considering the need for utilising new legislation around Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO)
- Raise awareness of Community Trigger for persistent ASB & Hate incidents
- Target support to reduce harm for the most vulnerable victims and witnesses
- Reduce youth crime and ASB in families being managed through the 'Think Family' programme
- Develop a local network of stakeholders to share ASB expertise & practical implementation of problem solving

ALCOHOL & DRUGS

Managing harm and behaviour
caused by such use



Focus on young people and the street
community

ACTION POINTS

- Extend existing services for alcohol to include drugs across both Adur & Worthing
- Embed commissioned Tier2 services for young people to deliver interventions to help them make informed decisions in order to reduce risk and harm
- Support test purchase operations to address sale of New Psychoactive Substances (NPS)
- Work with licensees to implement 'Enough is enough campaign'
- Build on & develop the strategic approach to the street community
- Commissioning a female outreach worker to address the dangers faced by women in the street community
- Commission a pilot programme promoting abstinence and developing skills / tools to recognise and control addictive behaviours
- Support the Public Health Plan to influence the number, nature, suitability and activity of premises licensed to sell alcohol

MAKE OUR ROADS SAFER

Focus on road traffic deaths, serious
injuries, targeting high risk groups, e.g.
cyclists, those who drive after drinking
or taking drugs

ACTION POINTS

- Support and empower neighbourhood panels to address road safety issues that affect their place
- Develop and deliver a drink / drive morning after campaign
- Raise awareness of drugged driving
- Support the 'Safe Drive, Stay Alive' campaign
- Deliver a twilight campaign focussing on young people and cyclists
- Support local businesses to comply with their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) objectives around road safety and staff

EMERGING/EVOLVING CRIME

Tackle & reduce the impact

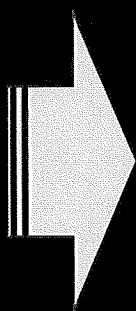


Focus on domestic burglary, theft from person, theft of cycles, cyber crime and business crime

ACTION POINTS

- Proactively plan and deliver initiatives / projects at key peak seasonal times to address priority crime e.g. Op. Tinsell
- Tactically respond to emerging issues utilising a multi-agency response
- Involve the local community in problem solving with a particular focus on young people
- Understand how crime affects business and implement initiatives to address the issues to build economic resilience
- Develop an understanding of issues affecting our community in the digital world e.g. IT junctions
- Deliver training to young people through our front line worker about cybercrime and e-safety

Risks



- New policing model
- Internal financial constraints
- Lack of or reduction of external funding
- Availability of resources
- Short termism
- Breakdown of partnership involvement / support
- Failure to link effectively to other departments
- New Police Commissioner

Questions?

