

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held at the  
Town Hall Chapel Road Worthing**

**16 December 2014**

The Mayor, Councillor Vic Walker  
The Deputy Mayor, Councillor Michael Donin

Councillor Noel Atkins	Councillor Heather Mercer
Councillor Roy Barraclough	Councillor Sean McDonald
Councillor Keith Bickers	Councillor Louise Murphy
Councillor Joan Bradley	Councillor Mark Nolan
Councillor Callum Buxton	Councillor Roger Oakley
*Councillor Michael Cloake	Councillor Luke Proudfoot
Councillor Edward Crouch	Councillor Clive Roberts
Councillor James Doyle	Councillor Elizabeth Sparkes
Councillor Graham Fabes	Councillor Keith Sunderland
Councillor Norah Fisher	Councillor Bob Smytherman
Councillor Diane Guest	Councillor Victoria Taylor
Councillor Paul High	Councillor Hazel Thorpe
Councillor Paul Howard	Councillor Bryan Turner
Councillor Daniel Humphreys	Councillor Val Turner
Councillor Charles James	Councillor Vicki Vaughan
Councillor Susan Jelliss	Councillor Vino Vinojan
Councillor Kevin Jenkins	Councillor Paul Yallop
Councillor Mary Lermite	

\*=absent

Councillor Smytherman arrived at 7.07pm during the item 'Council Tax Support Scheme 2015/15'.

**C/038/14-15 Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Cloake and Smytherman.

**C/039/14-15 Declarations of Interest**

Members were invited to make any declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests, the following were declared:

Paul Yallop – pecuniary interest in item (Shared Legal Service) on the report of the Leader, as a non-executive Director of iESE

Val Turner – personal interest as a Governor on the Western Sussex Hospital Trust

**C/040/14-15 Questions and Statements from the public**

No Members of the public had registered to speak however the Mayor invited those present to ask any question they may have, to leave their name and address and a response would be provided within three working days.

No questions were asked.

## **C/041/14-15 Minutes**

**Resolved** that the minutes of the Meeting of the Council on 21 October 2014 be approved as a correct record and that they be signed by the Mayor.

## **C/042/14-15 Announcements by the Mayor, Leader, Executive Members, Head of Paid Service**

The Mayor introduced and welcomed Mr Peter Webb, Managing Director of Electronic Temperature Instruments Ltd (ETI) who were based at Unit S, Dominion Way, Worthing. ETI were recently presented with the Queen's Award for Enterprise by the Lord Lieutenant Mrs Susan Pyper for continuing its outstanding overseas earnings growth and increasing its exports to 45% of total turnover. In 2012 the company received the Queen's Award for International Trade.

Founded in 1983, Electronic Temperature Instruments Ltd manufactures, calibrates, services and repairs digital thermometers and other measurement instruments. It now had representation in over 80 countries and sales accounts in a further 20 countries. Electronic Temperature Instruments worked closely with UK Trade & Investment to find routes into key emerging export markets, marketing its products as innovative, British made premium quality and further enhanced by local repair and calibration services delivered by global representatives.

Mr Webb addressed Council thanking the Mayor for his words of introduction, saying how proud he was to be part of the Borough of Worthing.

The Mayor proposed that the Council places on record its congratulations to ETI for winning the Award. The Leader seconded the proposal. The Executive Member for Regeneration commented on ETI, its supply chain management and how it was supportive to its employees. The Leader thanked Mr Webb for his role in developing the business community in Worthing.

**Resolved** the Council placed on record its congratulations to ETI for its success in being presented with the Queen's Award for Enterprise.

The Mayor announced that he had pleasure in present the Council's Vote of Thanks to the past Mayoress, Councillor Norah Fisher; Councillor Fisher was unable to be present at the last meeting when the presentation was made to Councillor Smytherman. Councillor Fisher thank those present for the support she had received during her recent ill-health.

Members were reminded that the Mayor's Carol Service was on Sunday 21 December at 6 pm at St. Paul's Centre, Chapel Road. Light refreshments would be available after the Service.

There were two Mayoral Charity Events coming up Christmas Carols and refreshments at the Arlington Hotel, Steyne Gardens on Friday 19 December from 11 am to 12 noon. Tickets £7.50 per person available from Indigo Restaurant and Dinner at Ecclesden Manor, Angmering on Saturday 10 January 2015 from 7 pm canapes on arrival, dinner at 8 pm black tie. Tickets @ £50 per person.

The Leader announced that he had been involved in ongoing discussions on the marketing of the Union Street Car Park jointly with the Sussex Police Crime Commissioner (SPCC); he gave a background briefing and progress that had been made to the bidding stage. He was disappointed to hear that the SPCC had decided to sell her part of the car park to one

of the bidders without reference back to the Borough Council; he had written the previous Friday (12<sup>th</sup>) to the SPCC but had not received a response, he undertook to keep Council informed.

Executive Members had no announcements

The Head of Paid Service had no announcements

### **C/043/14-15 Items raised under the urgency provisions**

There were no urgent items for Council.

### **C/044/14-15 Recommendations from the Executive and other committees to Council**

Council had before it recommendations from the Joint Strategic Committee on 2 December as detailed on pages 5 to 13 of the Council agenda. Items 7A(i) to 7A (v) which had been circulated to all members and are attached to the signed copy of the minutes.

#### **A (i) Capital Investment Programme 2017/18**

The Leader presented the Committee's recommendation on pages 5-6 of the agenda; the recommendation was seconded by Councillor Humphreys.

The Leader mentioned that one of the schemes being funded in the programme was 'changing places' toilet facilities, the project had received partnership finance through crowd funding and Worthing Scope.

On a vote the following was noted: For: 33 Against: 0 Abstention 2

**Resolved** that the 3 Year Capital Investment Programme be approved.

#### **A (ii) Getting into Shape – organisational changes 2015**

The Leader presented the Committee's recommendation on pages 7-8 of the agenda; the recommendation was seconded by Councillor Roberts.

On a vote the following was noted: For: 33 Against: 0 Abstention 2

**Resolved** that

- i) £370,000 be released from the Capacity Issues Reserves to fund the departure costs associated with the management restructure split as follows:
  - Adur £166,500
  - Worthing £203,500
- ii) the Chief Executive's proposals in respect of the appointment, management and organisation of the Council's officers be noted;

#### **A (iii) Investing in technology**

The Leader presented the Committee's recommendation on pages 9-10 of the agenda; the recommendation was seconded by Councillor Sunderland.

In introducing the item to Council the Leader commented on the exciting opportunity afforded by the proposals.

On a vote the following was noted: For: 33 Against: Abstention: 2

**Resolved** that both Councils approve the release of funding from the Capacity Issues Reserves as follows:

- Adur District Council £249,560
- Worthing Borough Council £374,340

#### **A (iv) Council Tax Support Scheme 2015/16**

The Leader presented the Committee's recommendation on pages 11-12 of the agenda; the recommendation was seconded by Councillor Bickers.

The Leader mentioned the public consultation exercise the results of which had been taken into account by the Committee when making its recommendation.

Concern was expressed by speakers that a number of residents would suffer hardship finding the extra £20 per month as required by this scheme.

On a vote the following was noted: For: 26 Against: 7 Abstention: 3

**Resolved** that

- (i) Option 2 for the Council Tax Support scheme for 2015/16 be approved;
- (ii) the preferred option should form the basis of the scheme for 2016/17 and 2017/18 subject to consultation and formal approval in each year;

#### **A (v) National Network of Coastal Monitoring**

The Leader presented the Committee's recommendation on page 13 of the agenda; the recommendation was seconded by Councillor Bryan Turner.

On a vote the following was noted: For: 33 Against: 0 Abstention 2

**Resolved** that the Revenue Budget be amended to include the expenditure and funding as detailed in paragraph 7.3 of the report.

#### **C/045/14-15 Leader's Report on decisions taken by the Executive**

The Mayor invited the Leader of the Council to present his report on decisions taken by the Executive since the last meeting of the Council; these were contained in Item 8 to the minutes and were detailed on pages 15-21 on the agenda.

The Leader informed Council that it had been a busy time highlighting matters progressed by the Executive including, the West Sussex Credit Union, protecting the Borough's interests at Shoreham Airport, moving forwards with the Leisure Trust and the Surf's Up organisational changes.

On a question the Deputy Leader confirmed that he would ensure that the responses to the public questions asked regarding the Shared Legal Service were forwarded to Councillor Thorpe.

(the Leader left the meeting during the question and answer session on the Shared Legal Service)

### **C/46/14-15 Members Questions under Council Procedure Rule 12**

Due notice having been given to the Proper Officer, the following question was put:

Councillor Ed Crouch to Councillor Val Turner, Executive Member for Health and Wellbeing

"Will the cabinet member for wellbeing join me in supporting the Breastfeeding Welcome Scheme for Worthing and commit to signing up all council offices and leisure facilities to the scheme as well as encouraging local businesses to do the same?"

Councillor Val Turner responded:

"The Director of Customer Services is currently reviewing guidelines suggested by public health and will commit to the scheme with appropriate publicity by the end of January. In addition the New Head of Customer Services will be reviewing all customer service training provision to ensure that the appropriate training is provided at induction".

### **C/47/14-15 Motions on Notice Council Procedure Rule 14**

Council had before it a Notice of Motion that had been accepted by the Director for Communities, a copy of which was circulated and attached to the minutes as item 10.

The Mayor advised that once proposed and seconded the Motion would be referred to the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee in January for determination, the proposer was advised that they could attend the meeting to answer questions and hear the debate.

Councillor Thorpe proposed the Motion 'Dare to Care'; it was seconded by Councillor Fisher.

**Resolved** that the Notice of Motion be forwarded to the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 22 January 2015.

The Mayor declared the meeting closed at 19.25 pm, it having commenced at 18.30pm.

Mayor