

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Council held in the Council Chamber at the
Town Hall Chapel Road Worthing on**

17 July 2018

The Mayor, Councillor Paul Baker
The Deputy Mayor, Councillor Hazel Thorpe

Councillor Noel Atkins	Councillor Heather Mercer
*Councillor Antony Baker	Councillor Nigel Morgan
Councillor Roy Barracough	Councillor Richard Mulholland
Councillor Mike Barrett	Councillor Louise Murphy
Councillor Keith Bickers	Councillor Clive Roberts
Councillor Beccy Cooper	Councillor Jane Sim
Councillor Edward Crouch	Councillor Bob Smytherman
Councillor Jim Deen	*Councillor Elizabeth Sparkes
Councillor Alex Harman	*Councillor Bryan Turner
*Councillor Karen Harman	*Councillor Val Turner
*Councillor Lionel Harman	Councillor Nicola Waight
Councillor Joshua High	Councillor Steve Waight
Councillor Paul High	Councillor Paul Westover
Councillor Margaret Howard	Councillor Steve Wills
Councillor Daniel Humphreys	Councillor Mark Withers
Councillor Charles James	Councillor Tom Wye
Councillor Kevin Jenkins	Councillor Paul Yallop
Councillor Sean McDonald	

*=absent

C/012/18-19 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from both the Chief Executive and Councillors Antony Baker, Karen Harman, Lionel Harman, Elizabeth Sparkes, Bryan Turner and Val Turner.

C/013/18-19 Declarations of Interest

Members were invited to make any declarations of interest on items on the agenda, none were made at this point; however, during the item 'Recommendations from the Executive and Committees to Council' Councillor Alex Harman declared an interest in item 7D(ii)(B) as an employee of Overline, and during consideration of the item 'Leader's Report', Councillor Murphy declared an interest as a Non-Executive Director of Worthing Homes.

C/014/18-19 Questions from the public

The Mayor announced that there were 4 registered questions for the meeting.

Ms Bickers asked a question regarding the funding provided by the Council, to Worthing Homes, for the provision of affordable housing for local residents. Clarification was sought regarding the amount of funding provided and progress to date.

The Executive Member for Customer Services advised that the Council had provided a loan to Worthing Homes for the purpose of providing affordable homes in the Borough. The legal agreement specified that the loan could only be used for affordable homes within the Borough and it was secured on property owned by Worthing Homes.

The funding was paid in two tranches, the first in April 2017 and the second in February 2018. The loan was used to finance 46 new homes in the West Durrington area.

The loan would be repaid in 10 years time and Worthing Homes pay interest on the loan. In addition, a payment of £160,000 had been agreed in order to enable a new scheme to be developed to help prevent homelessness in Worthing.

Ms Bickers asked a supplementary question regarding the target for new affordable homes over the next five years.

The Executive Member for Customer Services agreed to provide a written response to the question.

Ms Bickers asked a question regarding the legal position of private personal trainers using Council equipment (callisthenics equipment at Windsor Lawns) to deliver services and making a living from it.

The Executive Member for Digital and Environmental Services replied that there were currently 12 private personal trainers/ boot camps operating in the parks and open spaces in Worthing. Some of these operators do use the range of outdoor gym equipment that the Council provides, including the recently installed callisthenics equipment at Windsor Lawns.

The Council welcomed this activity as it contributed towards Platforms for Our Places, Platforms of Our Social Economies and Stewarding our Natural Resources. The Council's investment, provided an opportunity for our local community to actively improve their health and wellbeing by using the range of facilities on offer in our parks and open spaces.

The land at Windsor Lawns came within the definition of Open Space under the Open Spaces Act 1906, which required the Council to administer the land "under proper control and regulation". We therefore grant concession licences to allow such activity allowing us to retain some control over the use of the land and ensure that licensees have obtained relevant insurances and qualifications.

All of the private operators pay an annual fee to the Council for the use of our facilities which goes towards subsidising the range of events and activities that the Council puts on annually in Worthing.

They must also provide evidence of their public liability insurance and adhere with the terms and conditions of their Condition to Hire set by the Council.

Mr Field questioned the use of resources to fund new paving and the removal of the bandstand in the montague area and for the painting of the Grafton.

The Executive Member for Regeneration replied that the funding of new paving and removal of the bandstand in the montague area was the remit of West Sussex County Council. The painting of the Grafton was undertaken last year as part of an art project which was partially funded by ECE and Worthing Borough Council. The Grafton is due to be repainted as part of the Council's ongoing responsibility to maintain it.

Councillor High had been advised by the Highways Manager that the drain gullies in montague place were due to be inspected as a matter of urgency.

Ms Fraser asked what preparations the Council had made for the potential impact of Universal Credit on residents of Worthing Homes or in private rented or short term Council accommodation, given that

- two thirds of disabled people are not paid on time or in full
- half of housing associations report an increase in the number of foodbank vouchers when UC is rolled out in their area
- 73% of tenants on UC fall into debt compared to 29% of all tenants.

The Leader of the Council replied that Members of the Council had been briefed on the impacts of both Universal Credit and the Homelessness Reduction Act, advising that Universal Credit would be delivered by the Department for Work & Pensions through local job centres. Applications for Universal Credit would be processed online and therefore the Council's IT Junctions would provide support to the local community, helping residents by enabling them to get online.

Ms Fraser asked a supplementary question, requesting the Council call on the Minister to stop the roll out of Universal Credit due to the problems experienced elsewhere.

The Leader of the Council replied that the Council could request that but the rubicon had already been crossed and there was no stopping the roll out now and going back. What the Council continued to do was engage with cross council and cross party meetings to put pressure on ministers and review roll out.

The Mayor invited those in the public gallery to ask questions, advising that responses would be provided either verbally or in writing within 3 working days.

Ms Weare asked a question regarding the lack of provision of paddling pools in the Borough.

The Leader of the Council replied that in his experience, children loved the splash pad, there was ongoing investment to renew playgrounds across the Borough and the cost and maintenance of the splash pad was preferable to that of a paddling pool.

The Leader also advised that he would be happy to discuss the matter further with Ms Weare, following the meeting.

C/015/18-19 Confirmation of Minutes

Resolved that the minutes of the Council meeting held on the 18 May 2018 be approved as a correct record and be signed by the Mayor.

C/016/18-19 Announcements by the Mayor, Leader, Executive Members, Head of Paid Service

The Mayor informed Council that since the Annual Full Council Meeting in May, he had attended many events as Mayor accompanied by the Mayoress.

Highlights included:

The Civic Service held at St George's Church which was well attended and conducted by Rev Brian Penfold. Many thanks to the church for hosting this event and for generously splitting the collection equally between the church and the Mayor's charities.

The Mayor's first act of remembrance was to attend the HMS Hood Service on the 24 May 2018 where he placed a wreath on the war memorial outside the Town Hall and welcomed veterans back to the Mayor's Parlour.

June saw the town twinning visit of a group from Le Pays d'Olonne including their Mayor. A reception was held at the Town Hall with refreshments provided by the Worthing Twinning Association.

The annual London Taxi Benevolent Association trip to Worthing was held on the 12 June 2018 and was a wonderful event. The Mayor had the pleasure of welcoming the veterans to the town and stated that it had been most gratifying to receive such lovely comments from them about Worthing.

The Mayor advised that the Children's Parade just gets bigger and better each year and with a Harry Potter theme was truly magical. The work that went into the production of the floats was a credit to the children, teachers and parents making for a truly wonderful occasion.

On the 1st of July the annual West Sussex Armed Forces Drumhead Service was held in the Steyne. The Mayor had the pleasure of hosting the Lord Lieutenant of Sussex, the High Sheriff of West Sussex, MP's, Civic Dignitaries and local councillors at the service, but above all the veterans parading so proudly. We owe them such a debt of gratitude and will never forget them.

The parade and meeting of the Sussex Freemasons Provincial Lodge was recently held at the Assembly Hall. A collection was taken and a cheque for £1,500 had been presented to the Mayor for the Mayoral Charities.

Finally, the Worthing Royal Naval Association Sea Sunday was held on the pier on the 15 July 2018 where the Mayor took a salute from the veterans.

There has, of course been many other fantastic events and the Mayor counted himself so lucky to be able to represent the town at these.

The Mayor advised of a couple of upcoming Mayors Charity events coming which he hoped would get support from the members:

On the 3rd August, The Mayor was hosting a Mayor's Summer Dining Evening event at Tides Restaurant in Goring 7pm for 7:30pm at a cost of £25 per head.

On the 4th August The Mayor would be holding a Mayor's Charity Car Wash between 10am to 4pm on the ground floor of the Guildbourne Car Park. The Mayor was grateful for the support of the Adur and Worthing Youth Council who would be washing cars in exchange for donations to the Mayor's charities.

The Mayor informed the Council of a sad bereavement. Brian Fullick, who founded the Broadwater Community Association, had sadly passed away following a long fight against cancer. The Mayor wished to place on record the Council's thanks for all of Brian's work in the community and condolences to his family.

The Mayor presented a Vote of Thanks to past mayor Councillor Alex Harman.

The Executive Member for Regeneration announced that the first Worthing Pride had been celebrated in the Town on Saturday 14 June 2018. The parade had been well attended and brought out the best in Worthing and spoke volumes of where Worthing had come.

No other announcements were made.

C/017/18-19 Items raised under the urgency provisions

There were no items under the urgency provisions for Council.

* *Councillor Clive Roberts left the meeting at 7.11pm.*

C/018/18-19 Recommendations from the Executive and Committees to Council

Council had before it recommendations from the Joint Overview & Scrutiny Committee, the Joint Governance Committee and the Joint Strategic Committee. Extracts of these minutes had been circulated and were attached to the minutes as items 7A, 7B, 7C and & 7D(i) to (vi).

Item A Joint Overview & Scrutiny Committee - 22 March 2018 Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2018/19

The Joint Chairman presented the recommendation from the Joint Overview & Scrutiny Committee, to approve the Work Programme for 2018/19.

The proposal was seconded by Cllr Bickers.

On a vote: For 28, Against 0, Abstain 2

Resolved that Worthing Borough Council approved the work programme for 2018/19.

Item B Joint Governance Committee - 31 May 2018
Whistleblowing Policy

The Joint Vice-Chairman presented the recommendation from the Joint Governance Committee meeting held on the 31 May 2018, to adopt the Whistleblowing Protocol as part of the Constitution.

The proposal was seconded by Councillor Steve Waight.

On a vote: For 29, Against 0, Abstain 1

Resolved that the Council approved, subject to consultation with Unison, the adoption of the Whistleblowing Protocol as part of the Constitution.

Item C Joint Overview & Scrutiny Committee 21 June 2018
JOSC Annual Report 2017/18

The Joint Chairman presented the recommendation from the Joint Overview & Scrutiny Committee, to approve the Annual Report for 2017/18.

The proposal was seconded by Cllr Keith Bickers.

A Member noted that there were no call-in reviews on the Scrutiny work programme. This precipitated a debate amongst members concerning the use and function of call-in.

Another Member welcomed the inclusion of Executive Member interviews on the work programme and thanked the Committee for it's work.

On a vote: For 23, Against 5, Abstain 2

Resolved that the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee annual report for 2017/18 be approved.

Item D(i) Joint Strategic Committee 10 July 2018
Mid Term Review and Refresh of Platforms for our Places Programme of Commitments

The Leader presented the recommendation from the Joint Strategic Committee, which was seconded by Councillor Kevin Jenkins. The recommendation was for Council to approve the proposed refreshed commitments and incorporation.

Members debated the future provision of affordable housing in the Borough through the Platforms for our Places Programme of Commitments.

On a vote: For 23, Against 5, Abstain 2

Resolved that the Council

- a. noted the overall capital final outturn for 2017/18;
- b. agreed the net carry over of General Fund Capital underspends for Worthing Borough Council as detailed in paragraph 5.7;
- c. approved the financing of the Worthing Borough Council 2017/18 Capital Investment Programme, including the use of capital receipts as set out in paragraphs 5.9 and 5.10;
- d. approved the amendment and addition of new schemes funded from underspend as summarised in paragraph 5.11.

**Item D(ii) Joint Strategic Committee 10 July 2018
Financial Performance 2017/18 - (B) Revenue Outturn**

The Leader presented the recommendation from the Joint Strategic Committee meeting held on the 10 July, which was seconded by Councillor Kevin Jenkins.

The revenue financial monitoring position for the end of the 2017/18 financial year was welcomed in the Chamber.

On a vote: For 27, Against 0, Abstain 2

Resolved that the Council

- a. noted the overall final outturn for 2017/18;
- b. agreed to the net carry over of an approval to use reserves where the original approval for 2017/18 was not utilised in-year as set out in paragraph 6.2 (General Fund) totalling:
 - i. Worthing Borough Council £10,000
- c. approved the net appropriations to General Fund Reserves in the year as detailed in paragraph 6.3 totalling:
 - ii. Worthing Borough Council £1,315,127
- d. agreed the net carry over of revenue budget to 2018/19 funded from reserves as detailed in paragraph 6.1:
 - ii. Worthing Borough Council £231,330
- e. approved the establishment of a new Business Rates Smoothing Reserve for Worthing Borough Council as detailed in paragraph 4.12; to earmark funds to address the timing difference between the Business Rates income received in the General Fund in year (net of reliefs), and the grant income paid from Central Government to reimburse lost revenue as a consequence of Government policy decisions on reliefs.

Item D(iii) Joint Strategic Committee 10 July 2018
Achieving Financial Sustainability - Budget Strategy for 2019/20 and beyond

The Leader presented the recommendation from the Joint Strategic Committee meeting held on the 10 July 2018, which was seconded by Councillor Keith Bickers.

The recommendation was for Council to approve the Budget Strategy for 2019/20 as outlined in section 10 of the report.

The Budget Strategy was debated in the Chamber.

On a vote: For 23, Against 0, Abstain 7

Resolved that the Council approved the Budget Strategy for 2019/20, as outlined in Section 10 of the report.

Item D(iv) Joint Strategic Committee 10 July 2018
Investing for the future - our Capital Strategy 2019/22

The Leader presented the recommendation from the Joint Strategic Committee meeting held on the 10 July 2018, which was seconded by Councillor Kevin Jenkins.

The Council was asked to approve the Capital Strategy for 2019/22 which outlined the Council's approach to capital investment and how the Council ensured that capital investment was directed to the Council's Priorities. It also set out the basis for prioritisation of capital bids included in the 3 Year Capital Investment Programme and the monitoring of the programme.

On a vote: For 23, Against 0, Abstain 6

Resolved that the Council approved the Capital Strategy for 2019/22.

* Councillor Heather Mercer left the meeting at 8.25pm.

Item D(v) Joint Strategic Committee 10 July 2018
Commercial Property Investment Strategy

The Leader presented the recommendation from the Joint Strategic Committee meeting held on the 10 July 2018, which was seconded by Councillor Keith Bickers.

The recommendation was for Council to approve the proposed Property Investment Strategy.

Members acknowledged that there were associated risks whilst reaffirming their commitment to the Strategy.

On a vote: For 23, Against 0, Abstain 6

Resolved that the Council approved the adoption of the Commercial Property Investment Strategy.

**Item D(vi) Joint Strategic Committee 10 July 2018
Durrington Cemetery - Extending Capacity**

The Leader presented the recommendation from the Joint Strategic Committee meeting held on the 10 July 2018, which was seconded by Councillor Edward Crouch.

The proposals were welcomed in the Chamber.

On a vote: For 27, Against 0, Abstain 2

Resolved that the Council

- approved additional funds of £640,000, to be funded from additional Prudential Borrowing;
- delegated to the Director of Communities, in consultation with the Worthing Borough Council Executive Member for Digital and the Environment, the authority to approve the final procurement and award of contract up to a value of £850,000 to be allocated from the capital programme to ensure the restrictive timescales can be realised.

C/019/18-19 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, on pages 29-35.

Questions were asked in relation to the Worthing Theatres & Museum Strategic Future Options decision and the Application for Voluntary and Compulsory Redundancies decision.

C/020/18-19 Members Questions under Council Procedure Rule (CPR) 12

The Mayor announced that the Proper Officer had received 12 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. Questions will be asked in rotation around the Groups represented in the Chamber, there is 30 minutes allowed for questions. There were 5 rotations of speakers possible, at the end of 30 minutes the Mayor explained that he would extend the time to the end of the current rotation of speakers.

The Mayor announced that the following Councillors had submitted questions:

Councillors Mulholland, Barrett, Deen, Cooper, Withers x 3, Yallop x 2, Harman, McDonald and James.

The order would be

First rotation: Councillor Mulholland, Councillor Withers Question 1, Councillor Yallop Question 1

Second rotation: Councillor Barrett, Councillor Withers Question 2, Councillor Yallop Question 2

Third rotation: Councillor Deen, Councillor Withers Question 3, Councillor Harman

Fourth rotation: Councillor Cooper, Councillor McDonald

Fifth rotation: Councillor James

First Rotation:

Question from Councillor Mulholland to the Leader

'With regard to moving Stagecoach from their current position on the seafront, there has been a shameful lack of engagement from them in negotiations to date. It appears that they are putting their own interests above those of the community who they are reliant upon for business. As a Council representing the interests of the people who elect us, will the Leader of the Council agree with me that Stagecoach are holding up the development of Worthing and should reconsider their lacklustre approach to this important issue, or risk facing a public outcry if they do not?'

Response

The stagecoach site, as you've chosen to call it, is obviously an area of change in the current Local Plan. It will remain a site of change in the Local Plan moving forwards. The Stagecoach site is private property and it is not for the Council to tell them to sell their site.

Question from Councillor Withers to the Executive Member for Regeneration

'A constituent has pointed out that there should be a sign at the top/north end of George V Avenue pointing to the right to 'Goring shops' to encourage drivers/people to use local shops. In view of all we hear about the death of the High Street, is this something we should consider adding to the street furniture at this particular point? Is this an indication that a town wide review of signing needs to be done to encourage clearer directions for people and increased footfall in shopping areas?'

Response

- Town Centre footfall and vacancy data is held by the TCI. The Council attends this meeting, therefore is regularly updated on the levels in the town centre.
- The Council doesn't hold footfall information for Goring Road shops but vacancy rates are low.

- Wayfinding design is being considered as part of the Public Realm works in the town centre, however the same materials palette will be used as best practice for other shopping areas across the Borough.
- When identifying wayfinding locations the Council needs to investigate the landowner (e.g. West Sussex County Council) and work with said party to install under a mutual understanding, including future maintenance.

Question from Cllr Yallop to the Executive Member for Digital and Environmental Services

'The Executive Member is aware that there has been some community disappointment regarding regular technical failures of a major item of equipment installed as part of the 2010 West Park playground upgrade. Currently the iPlay unit has not been working for around two years and its removal from the park has been proposed. On speaking with local parents and their children there is a strong desire to bring forward the installation of outdoor gym equipment to compliment the other play items recently installed. In view of the significant community backing for this work would the Executive member consider bringing the scheme into the current municipal year?'

Response

I can confirm that the installation of the outdoor gym equipment at West Park is scheduled to take this year utilising 20k of funding from Worthing Borough Council's capital funding programme. Consultation with the local community is due to start at the end of July 2018 to gather their views on the type of outdoor gym equipment that they wish to be installed.

It is envisaged that the equipment will be in place before the end of this calendar year.

Second rotation:

Question from Councillor Barrett to the Executive Member for Regeneration:

Councillor Barrett chose not to ask his question.

Question from Councillor Withers to the Leader

'Does the council have a plan for reducing traffic flow in the Worthing area particularly at rush hour by encouraging more alternative transport for children to and from school other than parents' cars i.e. using group walking, school buses, minibuses, easier cycling for children, etc?'

Response:

West Sussex County Council (WSCC) does promote a number of initiatives to encourage more sustainable transport to local schools. WSCC has established a Safe and Sustainable Transport Group which aims to provide specialist guidance for Road Safety education, sustainable traveling choice and accessibility. A number of measures seek to encourage schools to adopt more sustainable transport one of

these is the Safer Routes to School and School Planning. These can help schools to address concerns focused on the journey to and from school. Through a coordinated approach, it aims to address a range of issues from inconsiderate parking behaviour to improved health and fitness. Other measures include School Travel Plans, Bikeability training schemes and providing safer school crossing points. More information is available on the WSCC website: <http://schools.westsussex.gov.uk/Services/3147>

The emerging Local Plan is also looking at sustainability issues and will look to encourage improved public realm and improvements to the cycle and pedestrian network. The Worthing Town Centre Public Realm Strategy is also developing a clear strategy for increasing road space for pedestrians and cyclists which will help to provide safer routes for local schools and promote more sustainable transport to reduce traffic and congestion. The Council will also work closely with the County Council to prepare a Worthing Sustainable Transport Package and of course work is underway to prepare a Local Cycling and Walking Investment Plan (**LCWIP**).

Question from Cllr Yallop to the Executive Member for Customer Services

'The Executive Member is aware that the western end of West Parade is in regular use as an unofficial camping site and that there is no sanitation for campers in this area. I reported these issues through the correct channels to WSCC in February this year but we are still finding regular overnight campers in this area which is advertised on a website called "wild camping" as a location where highway camping is often tolerated. Officers of WSCC have failed to take decisive action and thus local residents have been blighted by this issue for many months now. On one occasion WSCC refused to act because the occupants of a caravan claimed to be homeless which they said was a housing issue and the responsibility of WBC. How can do we clarify the difference between genuine homelessness and unauthorised encampments?'

Response:

- It is the responsibility of WSCC to determine whether to take action regarding vehicles parked on the highway.
- Sussex Police can also take action if there is evidence anti-social behaviour or if the vehicle is found to be not taxed or insured. However recent vehicles involved have all found to be complying with road tax and insurance being in place.
- The Council's Communities and Wellbeing team will always respond when they receive a report of individuals living in vehicles. A member of our Outreach Team will visit the location and attempt to engage the individuals to see if they are living in the vehicle due to homelessness or due to a lifestyle choice.
- If there is an identifiable housing need, our outreach workers will link them in to services, both with Worthing Churches Homelessness Project and/or our own Housing Solutions Team to identify what support is available.
- If it is a lifestyle choice, the WSCC processes will apply.
- Our Officers continue to liaise with WSCC Officers when we are made aware to aid WSCC building up a picture of the levels of individuals living in vehicles on a Highway to support any action they may consider taking.

- There is however no easy solution short term solution to this issue, other than continuing to support the individuals through our Outreach workers and providing WSCC with all the information that we receive.

Third rotation:

Question from Councillor Deen to the Executive Member for Digital and Environmental Services

'Does the Cabinet member responsible for the environment agree that the parks, gardens and open spaces, particularly in the Central Ward area, are the 'front garden' of Worthing and a key part of the attraction of Worthing? If so, does he intend to reverse the cycle of cuts to staff and other resources of his predecessor which have left this important area of our offer to visitors and residents in a sadly neglected state?'

Response

Worthing Borough Council is committed to maintaining its parks and open spaces, as it fully recognises their importance and the vital role they play for both the local community and visitors to the area. Our grounds maintenance staff work tirelessly to maintain not just this Park plus all of the other green spaces across the Borough to achieve this aim.

With regards to the Central ward referenced, this contains the award winning Beach House Park which I'm pleased to announce has this week successfully retained for the 2nd year in succession the Green Flag Award, which is the externally accredited award administered by the Keep Britain Tidy Group for Parks and Open Spaces which recognises and rewards well managed sites. Worthing now holds 4 of these prestigious awards for its Parks.

Denton Gardens which will host shortly Worthing's Summer Cinema in its grounds is the greenspace which we have identified we will be submitting a first application for a Green Flag award later on this year.

Also in the Central ward is Homefield Park which this Summer will see significant investment by the Council in bringing the tennis court back into use, up to Lawn Tennis Association standards. This follows on from other large sums of investment made in recent years to upgrade the skateboard park and to provide outdoor gym equipment.

The Central ward is also blessed with two of our Parks where most of our outdoor events take place in Steyne Gardens and Beach House Grounds, where the local community comes together to enjoy the wide range of community and externally organised events provided.

Question from Councillor Withers to the Executive Member for Customer Services

"I am informed that there is no disabled parking for people in the Pier area. What are the council's plans for remedying this?"

Response:

West Sussex County Council as the Highways Authority are responsible for deciding where parking restrictions are placed. However I can confirm that blue badge holders are able to park on yellow lines along Marine Parade for up to three hours if it is safe to do so, and if it is not within 10 metres of a junction.

In addition the nearest available parking bays for disabled badge holders to access the Pier are in Montague Place and along Marine Parade.

Question from Councillor Harman to the Leader

“Recently, I attended a reception in the House of Lords hosted by Lord Kerslake. The reception was based around the importance of centres for young people, hosting a range of services from educational to leisure facilities at an affordable cost for the young people using the centre. This is something that I am sure many members will agree with me that whilst not the direct responsibility of WBC, would be beneficial for many residents of our borough and be a welcome addition to the town.

With this in mind, along with all of the very positive development of many key sites being delivered by this Conservative Council, Could the leader confirm whether we will work with our County Colleagues to consider such facility here in Worthing?”

Response:

The Leader advised that WSCC was the lead authority for the provision of youth services and that over recent months, as part of a JOSC working group, and in general terms officers from the council had good relationships with WSCC colleagues and continued to work closely to support the young people in our places.

WBC provided a huge range of support and activities for young people as part of its leisure offer whether this was via South Downs Leisure, the many clubs and groups that use our parks and open spaces and through the range of activities that were put on in our towns and places for families and young people e.g big screen, theatre.

Clearly however the Council will continue to work with WSCC on the potential to improve this offer as part of any development across/within Worthing.

The Mayor declared the meeting closed at 9.33pm, it having commenced at 6.30pm.

Mayor