

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

Remote Meeting via Zoom

17 September 2020

*Stephen Chipp (Chairman)
Joss Loader (Vice Chairman)

Adur District Council:

Carol Albury
Catherine Arnold
Kevin Boram
Ann Bridges
Paul Mansfield
Debs Stainforth

Worthing Borough Council:

Keith Bickers
Karen Harman
Margaret Howard
Charles James
Richard Nowak
Jane Sim
*Bob Smytherman
Carl Walker

***Absent**

JOSC/22/20-21 Declaration of Interests

Councillor Kevin Boram declared an interest as a member of West Sussex County Council

JOSC/23/20-21 Substitute Members

Councillor Hazel Thorpe declared her substitution for Councillor Bob Smytherman

JOSC/24/20-21 Confirmation of Minutes

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting of the 23 July 2020 be approved as a correct record and be signed by the Chairman

JOSC/25/20-21 Public Question Time

A Member of the public asked the following question: It has been clear for some years among residents that Worthing Town Centre is in decline. The empty shops and sparse social spaces suggest our current approach to regeneration is failing. Everyone can see this. Will we now see a move away from big ticket developments that lie in eternal limbo like Portland Road and Teville Gate toward supporting smaller regeneration projects to

revamp a post-retail town centre? Members were told that the Council had been focusing on a number of initiatives to support the town centre. Outside of the major sites referenced there had been ongoing maintenance of our seafront and town centre which supports the overall look and feel. Not all of this was in the Council's control as WSCC and the TCI also have a responsibility for the look and feel of our town centre spaces. The town centre delivery was complex as 99% of the commercial buildings in the town centre are privately owned, and therefore have the challenge of attracting new retail / uses with their commercial agents. The Council was stepping in and assisting in the process to stimulate the market - the new HISBE store in Portland Road is a good example whereby the Council have supported their move from Brighton. In terms of the major schemes, there was a focus on these as we believe these will create a step change for the town centre. Portland Road public realm scheme, which was back on track and would be delivered in 2021, will create a step change in appearance.

A Member of the public asked the following question: In the recent Which survey of people who had visited Worthing, we were rated 2/5 for attractions and we lay near the bottom of the table for national seaside towns. What regeneration is now in place to remedy visitor's experience when they come to Worthing? The Exec Member told the committee that the survey was conducted over the winter 19/20. There had been other seaside towns that had a higher percentage because so few people had responded. The Exec Member asked people to ask themselves was Worthing a seaside town or a town by the sea, a holiday destination or a short staycation or day trip location. Worthing did not traditionally have a long two week vacation industry and whatever was put into the town needed to address the needs of the type of visitor who came. The traditional visitor base was from Guilford and south London area. One of the highest scores from the quoted survey was connected to the seafront which scored 4 out of 5 stars. The Council worked hard to enhance the seafront with such things as the observation wheel and the outside circus, along with concessions and accessibility. It was remarked that if compared with other West Sussex Coastal towns (in the survey) Worthing was only marginally behind other big seaside towns such as Brighton and ahead of Towns such as Bognor and Littlehampton. It was acknowledged that there was a lot of work to be done but the Exec Member did not see the pessimistic outlook put by the questioner.

A Member of the Public asked the following question: As education liaison what are your thoughts as the A27 route being deemed a safe route to walk to school from Shoreham to Lancing, as assessed by the West Sussex transport team?

We believe that it is not safe due to speeding traffic, narrow pavements, high pollution levels, difficult crossings and lack of crash barriers, but that the risks have increased further due to additional works traffic for the Monks farm development, the difficulty of social distancing on narrow pavements and the increased risk of pollution on children's health due to Covid 19. What can you do to assist us with progressing this with WSCC officers? The Executive Member stated that he did not believe that the route was totally unsafe but there was no question that it could be made safer. With the Development of new monks farm there would be safer routes built. There were significant improvements being made to the road as part of the New Monks Farm Development and there were further plans associated with improvement if the A27 that would improve things further. The Council did understand that improvements could be made and these matters were being taken up with the relevant authorities Highways England and West Sussex County Council.

JOSC/26/20-21 Items Raised Under Urgency Provisions

There were no urgent items

JOSC/27/20-21 Consideration of any matter referred to the Committee in relation to a call-in of a decision

There were no call-ins

JOSC/28/20-21 Executive Members for Regeneration interview

The Committee had before it a report attached as item 7, a copy of which had been circulated to all Members, a copy of which is attached to a signed copy of these minutes. The report before members set out background information on the Portfolios of the Adur and Worthing Executive Members for Regeneration to enable the Committee to consider and question the Executive Members on issues within their portfolios and any other issues which the Executive Members are involved in connected with the work of the Councils and the Adur and Worthing communities.

A Member asked the following question: Residents keep asking me when the planters, you have said will be placed in Montague Place to break up the empty space and make it look a more attractive area, will be installed. When will this happen? Members were told that the planters had arrived at the end of the previous week and the Council was just agreeing the planting mix to ensure these are sustainable in a coastal location, with our contractor. It was expected that these would be placed in Montague Place and Montague Street West in the proceeding couple of weeks.

A Member asked the following question: Shoreham traders are concerned that the decision to block-off parking bays in the town centre to assist with social distancing is seriously damaging trade. Do you support the suspension of the bays and are there any timescales for reinstatement as nearby towns, such as Steyning, have no suspended parking in place? Members were told that The Safer Town Centres actions were taken following emergency measures mandates from central government. The details of these mandates were available and open to public scrutiny. There was an expectation that Local Authorities act swiftly to protect Public Health. A stakeholder consultation with businesses regarding the proposals. West Sussex County Council as the highways authority approved the emergency bay suspensions and road closures. I am sure you can appreciate the measures in relation to road closures and bay suspensions were not taken lightly, the emergency measures, across Adur & Worthing. In response to comments raised by businesses and members of the public, Officers have critically analysed the road closure. We have given a lot of thought to aspects around deliveries / loading and unloading and access rights, whilst retaining safe (socially distanced) outdoor seating areas. The road closures and bay suspensions are reviewed on a weekly basis and will be critically reviewed on Monday 21st September.

Were Adur District and/or Worthing Borough Council, part of the 68 Councils that participated in the Dept. Transport's survey last year – on Parking on the Pavement? If not, why not and if it did so what were the outcomes for Worthing in particular? The issue has been reinstated and the Government are now proposing 3 options: a. Improving the Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) process, under which local authorities can already prohibit pavement parking. b. A legislative change to allow local authorities with civil parking enforcement powers to enforce against 'unnecessary obstruction of the

pavement'. c. A legislative change to introduce a London-style pavement parking prohibition throughout England. Members were told that the Executive Member did not believe the council responded to the survey. Ultimately, the decision to enforce pavement parking is a decision for West Sussex County Council as the highways authority. West Sussex make the traffic regulation orders and would be the decision makers on which road(s) were to be exempted, however if the Council were to be approached by West Sussex as part of a consultation then it would respond.

A Member asked the following question: Over a year ago we did a walk around Lancing, looking at the major areas that are desperately in need of regeneration...in particular this was Queensway that was in need of resurfacing and regeneration (this was considered when first updated to be the jewel in the crown of Lancing.). Could you please tell me what is happening about the resurfacing and generating business to come to this area..? The area above the Co Op store that had planning permission passed to extend up, and so redo the overhang that is so desperately in need of repair. And finally Alma Street , with the burnt out remains of the old laundry ...We are in Lancing desperately needing regeneration for the village .. Could you please tell me what we can expect to see on these sites in the near future..? Members were told that The Exec Member had completed the walk around last year, which included representatives from Lancing Parish Council and Lancing Traders Association. It highlighted a number of key areas which we have now progressed. The resurfacing at Queensway will begin next week, Monday 21st September, and will last for 5 weeks. We felt it important the Council step in and deliver this to ensure the overall look and feel of this area is maintained (and not tarmaced). We're delighted this will be delivered. We have made all the businesses and residents aware of these works, whilst we hope the end result will attract further businesses to the area. For the Parade, planning enforcement have successfully worked with the owner to reinstate the 'Queens Parade' lettering. Planning enforcement officers are now in dialogue with the owner regarding the rest of the building. The Old Laundry was in private ownership and the authority was in dialogue with the owner to see if the Council could intervene or assist in the regeneration of this area.

A Member asked the following question: What are now the main highlights and challenges around regeneration in Worthing? Members were told that main highlights included Integrated Health Centre, Beales (residential units and new retail), Public realm improvements, Teville Gate planning permission, Continued construction of gigabit fibre during the lockdown period, which has now passed 9,000 homes in Worthing and will move to the town centre in the spring/summer next year to support the implementation of Citizen WiFi. Main challenges included confidence of the private sector to invest (post pandemic) and Reluctance from commercial landlords to engage (as they hold the majority of the property in our town centres).

A Member asked the following question: Education liaison is under your portfolio, can you tell me how much discussion has gone on with yourself and David Etherton of St Mary's & St Nics who states that WSCC school need modelling methods are incorrect. He has data that shows we are at shortage for primary provision within Adur, parents are increasingly sending their children further to secondary schools, due to mass development and impacting traffic congestion. Are you involved in these discussions and what are your thoughts ? The Executive Member stated that through discussions with local heads he was aware that there was a concern that figures used by West Sussex County Council lacked soundness. However, West Sussex was the education authority and the Council could not make them do anything and West Sussex would make decisions based upon their modelling.

A Member asked the following question: What are your biggest achievements since taking over your portfolio and what plans do you have for the future of Adur, medium and long term? The Exec Member told members that the building of the Brighton and Hove Training ground provided an additional economic impact of £23m. In terms of ambition for the future it was explained by the Executive Member that there be a balance in the future by providing housing along with an infrastructure that allowed everyone to enjoy the natural assets of the area.

A Member asked the following question: A number of major developments are being delivered in Adur, some of which are complex. Could the Executive Member outline the capabilities and resources available to ensure that adequate building control is exercised. The Planning & Development team includes a pro-active building control service that engages pro-actively with development teams to ensure that high standards are maintained. The team has recently improved its efficiency by going almost entirely paperless - something that has helped significantly during the pandemic. Developers report that the team is through, robust but also customer friendly and helps find solutions when problems do occur on site.

A Member asked the following question: Re the Broadwater Road cycle lane and the public concerns - As a Council that declared a climate emergency in July 2019 and committed to reducing pollution in our town and the need to bring the public along with any decisions made, what plans are in place to review this hugely unpopular route and are there any plans to consider the secondary route listed as 311 in the report? Members were told that West Sussex County was the responsibility and that there was currently a consultation being carried out about the Broadwater section. The Executive Member highlighted support for the scheme including supportive letters in the Herald. It was remarked that it was good to see increased use of the route but it was fair to say that the jury was out on it. The route in question had been well consulted on for a number of years. In relation to 311 the Executive Member was not aware of any plans to explore those routes as it stood.

A Member asked the following question: Is ADC planning to continue with the concessions scheme which has allowed street trading at key locations in Adur (including the cycleway on Shoreham Beach), allowing pop-up businesses to compete with our permanent traders but without incurring any fixed, year-round costs? Members were told that the concessions / street trading scheme has been around for the last few years, and has proved successful in places such as Southwick Square (and has been welcomed by the local traders as they create additional footfall). The Executive Member would ask Officers to review the scheme taking on board comments about local businesses being made aware of how to bid for the concessions.

A Member asked the following question: Public Electric charging points – whereabouts are they – is there a map indicating where the public can use them and when will they be in full operation, and what impact will they have on the Council's budget? Members were told that Adur & Worthing Councils has delivered electric vehicle charge points in public car parks at 4 locations across Adur and Worthing. These can be found on the councils 'Electric Vehicle charging' webpage, but can also be found on commercial websites that map charge points nationally such as Pod Point, ZapMap ChargeMap and others. These maps identify other charge points in locations such as supermarkets and garage forecourts. Under the West Sussex EV Network that is planned to be delivered from late 2020 onwards, the locations of charge points will be mapped in the same way

as above. The councils currently profit share with the installers on those EV charge points it has commissioned. A small income is received annually. The councils will also receive a small income for sites on council owned land under the West Sussex EV Network. More points were planned for the future.

A Member asked the following question: We have obviously all been affected by Covid 19, do you feel that the various regeneration projects in Adur have been adversely affected by this pandemic, do you feel these are now getting back on track, and what help have we as a Council been able to contribute to these difficult times? Members were told that Obviously there was a pause in many construction projects for several months during lockdown, but it is pleasing to note that construction activity is now well and truly back under way in Adur. At Free Wharf the additional cranes signal progress on creating the necessary flood defences for work on the new homes and commercial space to begin; Ropetackle North is nearing completion; and extensive work is underway at New Monks Farm - including, I am delighted to say - new houses emerging from their foundations.

A Member asked the following question: The Grimsey Review outlines the importance of letting local people be empowered to redesign the high street and a reduction of reliance on cars as well as a huge expansion of green space. How does this fit in relation to Worthing town centre regeneration? Members were told that The town centre is already blessed with good green (parks) and blue (seafront) spaces and we're certainly looking at how we develop these further for the benefit of our residents and visitors. This need to work with our major sites to ensure the whole town develops. The public realm programme was an example of where we're looking to reduce the dominance of the car through greater pedestrianised areas. This will start with the construction of Portland Road next year with Railway Approach to follow. The car parking strategy aimed to encourage people to walk further and differentiate between short stay and long stay. Post lockdown, we did ask the question (through an open survey) of how people are experiencing the town centre and what improvements they would like to see. These results are being analysed. We are looking at further community consultation to look at how we look at designing the 'places in between' to be relevant for today's consumer. It should be noted the Council couldn't be the only contributor and will need to work with partners to effect this change.

A Member asked the following question: If we look at the list of responsible areas under your portfolio, 11 of the 21 of them note Tourism, Streetscene, Cultural etc under Worthing only. Do we not feel that the time has come to look at this across Adur. Post the Bill Grimsey event in May 2019 - what is the specific vision for cross Adur tourism for harnessing our natural, historical and commercial assets? The Council are already looking at these elements, including streetscene improvements through the capital programme. The work in Lancing, notably the works starting in Queensway next week, highlights this. We know that our high streets are changing, and there is a need to work with partners to diversify our offers. An important part of that is the cultural element and we have a number of prized assets across the District which we know also draws visitors who in turn benefit from our other assets including The Perch, Shoreham Fort and of course our Farmers Market. There were natural advantages offered by access to the Downs, the beach and the Adur River Valley. Our work with street wayfinding (lamp post banners) supports these assets to encourage people into our places.

A Member asked the following question: The Executive Member will recall that significant work has been completed to develop High Street and Night Time Economy strategies.

Could the Executive Member set out the steps taken to revise these strategies in the light of the impact of Covid. Members were told that the Council are now delivering on the 'And Then' document which gives clear direction for our priorities over the next 6 - 9 months. Whilst it didn't specifically reference high street or night time economies, the work in supporting our businesses was crucial. The Councils had already issued over £11m of Covid support funding to over 900 businesses, the majority of these are hospitality and leisure (supporting the night time economy). The Council had also just launched the Small Business Growth Grant. Other actions being implemented included creating safe places and building visitor confidence for residents and visitors to return to our high street. The #WelcomeBack campaign was one element of efforts to support town and village centres. Through Safe Towns work there had been swiftly delivered a system to cater for pavement licences (to allow alfresco dining) and provide direct advice / guidance to businesses on our high street post lockdown.

A Member asked the following question: Is there strong, current data on how residents are experiencing the town centre offer and if so could we get a sense of what residents are saying? Members were told that the Councils recently ran a very successful campaign throughout August known as #WelcomeBackAW, which encouraged people to return to town centres post-lockdown while highlighting COVID-safe best practice from more than a dozen businesses. Around 55% wanted to come back although were cautious. Initial feedback had been excellent with more than 105,000 people seeing the campaign online in four weeks. Worthing currently has a 97% return to traffic and 94% spend (pre covid comparison).

A Member asked the following question: With land drainage and infrastructure under your remit, how can we be sure that future development is assessed more accurately for foul water, given the new pre-approval planning applications coming? Members were told that under the prior approval regime, these matters could not normally be considered, they would remain subject to other legislation such as Building Regulations and the responsibility of the sewage undertaker.

A Member asked the following question: Re Portland Road, the scheme that was put to consultation at £0.5 to £1m reached over £2.7m over a two year period without going back to JSC or full council for confirmation of changes. Can we be reassured that this increase in public money reflects the wishes of residents? Members were told that that the figure referred to alluded to indicative schemes and prices. The potential increase in costs related to groundworks and feedback from local businesses. Authorities were delegated to officers and members and the report was brought back to JSC in June to bring the scheme into the budget and the matter would be taken to the public realm board shortly.

A Member asked the following question: With charity shops closing in Lancing due to higher rents than Worthing on average, would we consider a purchase of Queens Parade, a system that has worked so successfully in Rustington and Southwick - another cashflow area for the council? Members were told that the Council were not aware that the site was on the market, but as members were aware, The Council had been considering a number of property interventions to support regeneration. In the meantime the Council had been working with the landowner to improve the appearance of the parade and help ensure that it looked tidy and welcoming.

A Member asked when road improvements at New Marks Farm were going to happen, when was IKEA coming and what was the status of the Withy patch. Members were told

that the road improvements would begin early next year and IKEA would come onto the site when that was complete. To the best of the Exec Member's knowledge the new site for the withy patch residents had been agreed.

Resolved: that the interview be noted

JOSC/29/20-21 Delivering 'Platforms for our Places: Going Further' - Progress report January to June 2020

Before the Committee was a report by the Director for Digital and Resources, attached as item 8. The report provided the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JOSC) with an overview of progress on the delivery of the commitments set out in Platforms for our Places: Going Further over the period January to June 2020.

The Chief Executive was present to answer questions

A Member asked the following question: The report outlines the important developments of The Downview scheme and Rowlands Road. With higher numbers in emergency accommodation and some forecasts suggesting circumstances that will further precipitate that, what moves are possible around meeting this need over the next 6-12 months? Members were told that Accommodating individuals at risk of sleeping rough this winter and preventing households from losing their homes as the furlough support comes to an end and the restrictions on evictions are lifted are likely to be some of the main challenges over the next 6 to 12 months. The Councils did not know what the exact impact would be, however some modelling had been done to get a rough idea and the Councils were erring on the side of caution. There could be no let up in the work being undergone about preventing homelessness. The Council had recently employed a homelessness prevention officer whose roll would be to liaise with the courts as and when evictions started to happen to see what interventions could be applied prior to eviction. Accommodation for the homeless over the winter: The Councils had submitted a bid for funding to the government's Next Steps Accommodation Programme (NSAP). If successful the bid could help with developing temporary accommodation, development of person centered needs, developing community support networks and how the remit of the opening doors scheme could be extended. The Authority had learned a lot from lockdown and would use this knowledge if another lockdown should occur. The Councils have been working with a multi-agency group and a service design agency to develop a plan for how different organisations work seamlessly together to identify people at early risk of debt across all housing tenure so that we can support them earlier. It is intended that this plan will be shared widely among various professionals. The Councils were trying to design one system on debt relief to simplify the system for users. The Housing Needs Team was building on its successful working relationship with the DWP and WSCC's Early Help Team, which had helped identify more vulnerable households at risk of homelessness through the teams physical presence at these agencies two days a week. The aim was to raise awareness of the end of furlough support and resumption of evictions among these agencies to ensure that they are able to identify those at risk of homelessness and continue to link them with the Housing Needs Team. A campaign was also being developed to raise awareness within the community on the risk of homelessness from debt and arrears and the support available. Private sector landlords will be encouraged to make contact with the Council as soon as their tenant falls into arrears. Work with the DWP since the outbreak of COVID has allowed us to support about 200 Adur Homes tenants to set up new Universal Credit claims.

A Member asked the following question: Can you tell me why only £10mn of the £17mn allocated in covid business grants to adur district council was spent? Members were told that the department responsible for giving the grant had overestimated the amount needed. Overall Adur District had paid under this scheme the Council has paid 911 grants worth £11m to businesses within Adur and 1,537 grants worth £19.2m to businesses within Worthing under the Government's main scheme. These grants had made a difference to those benefitting. Some businesses chose not to apply for funding as they continued to trade throughout the pandemic. The Councils heavily promoted the scheme by contacting those businesses that were eligible for funding by letter and phone; and by promoting the scheme via social media and the local press. 5% of the overall total on discretionary grants within an overall framework set by Government (£564,500 Adur £973,500 for Worthing). The Councils promoted these grants via local media, social media and via the Council's website. The Councils distributed the discretionary grants to 209 local businesses. The scheme closed at the end of August. Overall the Council received more funding than was necessary for the number of qualifying businesses and the balance is due to be repaid to BEIS by the end of September. Members should be aware that there was another scheme in the event of another lockdown.

A Member asked the following question: Covid is having a clear impact on our community's well-being and also a significant impact on the provision of sports and leisure facilities. What steps are being taken to ensure that Adur has appropriate sports and well-being facilities for a fit and healthy community? Members were told that It was regrettable that the former Trust (Adur Community Leisure) providing leisure services in Adur went into insolvency - and sadly, it was not an uncommon story. Members would be aware that at the recent Joint Strategic Committee Meeting, councillors resolved to look for an operator with suitable experience and financial backing to get the leisure facilities in Adur up and running again as soon as possible. At the same time, The Councils had begun a piece of work to help us understand the new importance of leisure as part of leading healthier lifestyles that support our well-being. This work will reflect on the impact of Covid on all of our lifestyles and what opportunities there are to help people be more active in their day to day lives. This work would inform our longer term approach to identifying new opportunities for leisure activities to support local communities.

A Member asked the following question: Re housing, our focus is on the urgent development of a move on approach and establishing housing first. Can you talk a little more about the 'move on' approach and what kind of non-housing support is currently available for residents with multiple complex needs housed by the council in temporary/emergency accommodation? Members were told that Move on will be through a variety of approaches dependent on the person's needs and to make best use of limited housing stock. The NSAP bid Phase One (this year) put forward a proposal for an enhanced package for single people to be better able to access the private rented sector via our Opening Doors scheme, The aim was to provide suitable long term accommodation and support move on from supported accommodation to increase throughput and the number of people able to access supported accommodation provision. As part of the work arising from the West Sussex Covid Response Group, the Councils were part of the Registered Providers (RPs) working group which has secured support for Housing First models and a more flexible approach to this previously excluded client group. The Councils now had an annual allocation of social housing from our Housing Register in our new Allocations Policy for people in the Single Person's Pathway to support move on from supported accommodation and Turning Tides

Housing First pilot. Through the Multi-Disadvantage working group (part of the West Sussex Covid Response Group), we are also developing our approach with partners such as Sussex Partnership Trust and Adult Social Care to improve the Housing Options for this client group. Winter Planning was underway with all of the Councils partners and would be looking at how the Authorities could mobilise community support to support and develop community connections to improve the prospect of sustaining accommodation. The Councils Rough Sleeper Initiative award and grant funds a variety of support roles including Complex Need Workers, Mental Health Support Worker and Letting Support Workers. The Housing Needs Team had Landlord Support and Resettlement Assistants and we are co-commissioning a floating support service with West Sussex County Councils and all West Sussex Districts and Boroughs, for which the tender process is about to commence. For Phase Two of the NSAP bid The Councils were developing appraisal options for a site for both supported and self-contained accommodation for our complex need clients as well as looking at development opportunities within existing provision to improve housing options and be suitable in the new context of Covid19.

A Member asked the following question: Agenda Page 24 of the Platforms report talks of the preventing homelessness amongst 16/17YR olds and care leavers, can you talk us through those plans please? Members were told that the Housing Needs Team were part of the MHCLG and WSCC working group supporting 16/17 year olds and care leavers who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. The Authorities were able to provide suitable accommodation in supported accommodation and Temporary Access Beds should a young person present to us homeless and in need of housing. Officers now carried out joint assessment with WSCC to identify the issues which have either triggered homelessness or the risk of homelessness. This ensured that the young person and their family receive appropriate and coordinated support from both the organisations and can make informed decisions in relation to their options. Young people and their families/carers/advocates had the opportunity to talk through their circumstances and make informed choices about their options with a focus on mediation and resolution. The Councils' allocation policy awards Band A to care leavers, which ensures access to long term affordable housing. Our co-location with the Early Help team enables us to provide early support and advice when there are issues with a young person within the family home that could result in homelessness.

A Member asked the following question: What is the Chief Executive's view as to what Adur's town centre will look like after the pandemic given the way that we now appear to work and live? Members were told that the Town Centres within the Adur District were diverse and the purpose they would serve would depend on their underlying asset. Covid was a catalysing virus and had sped up some trends already underway such as the reduction of high street retail. There might be significant opportunities for Adur and Worthing where people would want to work from an office in Adur and Worthing rather than London. The Chief Executive did not know what the outcome would be, it was believed that retail was not dead and buried but would be changing. The councils work on broadband and public wifi were important and the geographical assets were also of great importance. Access to transport infrastructure was also a great benefit of the area.

A Member asked the following question: The report mentioned that 'Time for Worthing' will be re energised to compete for essential inward investment. How will this brand lead to investment and what degree and level of investment is anticipated? Members were told that Time for Worthing has been established to raise the profile of our place and challenge for the investor pound. The brand was launched in February and, unfortunately, the progress around inward investment was delayed due to the pandemic.

However, we have a number of plays, through Time for Worthing, that sees us 'acting' to respond to the challenge post pandemic: 1)Capitalising on work life balance - a number of reports post lockdown indicated Worthing as one (of few) good destinations for this. We currently have advertising running up to London Victoria to encourage business our way. Messaging is Find The Balance. This is being supported by a social media campaign. 2)Understanding new inward investment tactics - in light of the pandemic, and the direct investment market (foreign and domestic), we are analysing how we step into this space and what tactics we will deploy to attract this investment. 3) Showcasing what we have (to attract others) - we also need to celebrate who's already in our place and use them as levers to create greater awareness. We have a number of business spotlights in place, with more planned, that highlights the businesses and investment that is already coming into Worthing. 4) Directly talking to investors - next week (24th September), we're part of a virtual SiteMatch event with 3Fox International. The event brings Worthing directly in front of investors and developers to show what is on offer. The Time for Worthing Management Board (a partnership board) have set KPI's to track the success of the brand, which included investment or business gain.

A Member asked the following question: Agenda Page 32 talks about relationships between our Councils and WSCC on the cycle lanes, these don't appear to have been as smooth as stated. Particularly on comms to the community, what lessons learnt are there here – WSCC for example did not communicate to schools impacted. The Chief Executive told members that the temporary lanes were not in place by June (when the report was produced). There were a lot of lessons to be learned and feedback would be provided to West sussex County Council on how the process could be done differently. There were concerns that the temporary cycle routes could damage the implementation of the good work carried out by the LCWIP which had been thoroughly consulted upon.

A Member asked about how members could be more involved and informed about the work of housing needs and was told that the question would be taken away and thought about.

A Member asked about water security and any discussions being had with Southern Water. The Chief Executive explained that there would be a problem in the long term and that Southern Water was doing good work around leaks. The work was being completed on a sub-regional basis and the Greater Brighton Area board was leading on some work on this.

Resolved: that the report and interview be noted, that a further update report be provided.

JOSC/30/20-21 JOSC Working Group on review of Climate Change issues

Before the Committee was a report by the Director for Digital and Resources, a copy of which had been circulated to all members, a copy of which is attached to the signed copy of these minutes as item 9. The report before members set out the recommendations from the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JOSC) Working Group which was created as part of the JOSC Work Programme to review climate change issues in Adur and Worthing.

The Chair of the Working Group introduced the recommendations.

The Members debated the working group. A Member told the Committee that the report from the working group contained factual inaccuracies and moved that the report be taken to the Joint Strategic Committee but that it be not endorsed by the Joint Strategic Committee. The proposal was seconded debated and on a vote was approved

Resolved: that the working group report be sent to the Joint Strategic Committee with a note that the Committee did not endorse the working group report

JOSC/31/20-21 Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme for 2020/21

The Committee had a report before it attached as item 11, a copy of which had been circulated to all Members, a copy of which is attached to a signed copy of these minutes.

Members were given an update on the current status of the Work Programme and some minor amendments to it

Resolved: that the report and progress of the Work Programme be noted

JOSC/32/20-21 JOSC Working Group on the review of the Adur Homes Repairs and Maintenance Service

The Chairman asked the Committee to move this item to the next meeting due to the absence of the Working Group Chairman. This was agreed by the Committee

Resolved: that the item be moved to the October meeting

The meeting was declared closed by the Chairman at 9.45 pm, it having commenced at 6.30 pm

Chairman