

**Minutes of a Meeting of the
Adur District Council**

16 December 2021

Harper Hall, Shoreham Centre, Shoreham-by-Sea

Councillor Stephen Chipp, Chairman
Councillor Ann Bridges, Vice-Chairman

Councillor Carol Albury	*Councillor Jim Funnell
Councillor Carson Albury	Councillor Jeremy Gardner
*Councillor Catherine Arnold	Councillor Joss Loader
Councillor Robina Baine	*Councillor Paul Mansfield
Councillor Vee Barton	Councillor Andy McGregor
Councillor Brian Boggis	Councillor Steve Neocleous
Councillor Kevin Boram	Councillor Carol O'Neal
Councillor Mandy Buxton	Councillor Joe Pannell
*Councillor Dave Collins	Councillor Neil Parkin
Councillor Lee Cowen	Councillor Sharon Sluman
Councillor Gabe Crisp	Councillor Deborah Stainforth
Councillor Angus Dunn	Councillor Rob Wilkinson
Councillor Tania Edwards	
Councillor Emma Evans	

* = Absent

c/38/21-22 Apologies for Absence

There were apologies for absence from Councillors Arnold, Collins, Funnell and Mansfield.

c/39/21-22 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest made.

c/40/21-22 Questions from the public

There were no questions from the public.

c/41/21-22 Confirmation of Minutes

Resolved, that the minutes of the meeting held on 28 October 2021 be approved as a correct record and be signed by the Chairman.

The Chairman made the following announcements

West Downs Neighbourhood Watch Task Force

In recognition of the sterling voluntary work that West Downs have undertaken on behalf of the people of Adur over the past years in connection with the Remembrance Services, I would like to formally recognise their contribution and I look forward in the new year to meeting the group and presenting them with a certificate of commendation. A special mention should be made of Terry Rickards who was a member of the West Down Task Force and a Worthing lollipop man who died suddenly last month. Terry was firmly committed to crime prevention, community and public safety and he was an enormous asset to communities in Sussex. He was greatly loved and liked and he will be sadly missed by the West Down team, family and friends.

MJ Awards

The Councils have received yet further national recognition after being Commended in the "Leadership in responding to the climate emergency" category at The MJ Awards 2021.

Last year Adur and Worthing were the only district councils in the country to be shortlisted for the local authority of the year award at what is the Oscars of local government awards. That was followed by a similar shortlisting in the LGC Awards.

This year's award recognises the work being done across the Councils to meet the global crisis, ensuring we become a carbon neutral organisation by 2030 and live in net zero communities by 2045.

Much of this was reflected in the recent ClimateActionAW campaign, which was featured across our social media channels to coincide with COP26.

I want to thank officers across the Councils for their ongoing hard work in this vital area and invite Paul Brewer, Director for Digital, Sustainability and Resources to collect the honour on their behalf.

Civic Events - November/December

12th November I attended the Adur and Worthing business awards. I presented the Leisure and Tourism award with the New leader of Worthing Borough Council Kevin Jenkins. The evening was absolutely fantastic with entertainment, lovely food and dancing at the close. Many congratulations to all Adur and Worthing Businesses that were nominated and won awards. I actually won the evening's charity prize draw which was for an exceptionally large bottle of Tattinger Champagne which I graciously (ahem) asked to be re-drawn.

14th November I laid wreaths for remembrance day first at 11am in Southwick with my Daughter aiding me and my Son being chosen from his Beavers troop to lay their wreath and carry the standard – proud Daddy moment. I then travelled to Lancing to lay the wreath and accept the salute before entering the Church for a lovely service. With family that have been in the Military this is one event that even prior to becoming a Cllr always means a lot to me.

4th December I attended, with my family, the Shoreham Wordfest Children's Poetry Book launch. This was at Ropetackle. We listened to several readings of local children who performed their poems which were also published in the book and I was able to personally give each of them a copy of the book. I have to say that the poems were genuinely excellent and very thought provoking. The people who organised the WordFest were also incredibly enthusiastic and Jon was absolutely amazing in freestyle rapping for minutes on end about anything that audience members shouted at him – very impressive! Following him on stage directly after was slightly daunting.

4th December I attended the Southwick Traders Christmas Market in Southwick Square and was delighted to walk around, again with my family, and support the local businesses. I even got to meet Father Christmas and Elvis! I was treated to some rock and roll whiskey glasses from a stall by my wife as an early Xmas gift and we supported other stalls - well my children helped me too – on our wanderings. It was great to see such a thriving and busy Square which obviously helps support the permanent businesses.

On Monday 6th December I should have attended the WSCC and Fire and Rescue Service Carol Service. Sadly due to Covid concerns this event was cancelled so I was unable to attend.

Friday 10th December. Met with Executive Member Emma Evans to view window displays in Shoreham for the Light up Shoreham event. I was joined by the ever so quiet Bob Smytherman in full town cryer garb, and my family, for a walk around the very bustling event and attempt the trail (not very successfully sadly with my children!). Bob and I were welcomed to join a sea shanty group which included lots of excellently choreographed moves!

The Leader announced that Cllr Williams would replace Cllr Funnell on the Joint Governance Committee and proposed that Cllr Loader be appointed to a vacancy as the WSCC HASC representative this proposal was seconded and on a vote was approved.

c/43/21-22 Items raised under urgency provisions

The Chairman announced that there were no urgent items.

c/44/21-22 Returning Officer's Return of Persons Elected on 2 December 2021

Resolved: the Council noted the returning officers return of person elected in the by-election held on the 2 December 2021 for the Hillside ward vacancy, that being Councillor Leila Williams.

c/45/21-22 Recommendations from the Executive and Committees to Council

8a) Joint Senior Staff Committee - 29 July 2021

Joint Governance Committee Appointments: Parish Councillors

Salary review and proposed recruitment process for the Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer

The Leader introduced the recommendation to the Council. Members were told that an amendment to the recommendation was being proposed due to a delay in the meeting of the job evaluation panel. Therefore members were asked to approve the following recommendation: 'That the Council approves a proposed remuneration of up to £80,794.00 subject to further approval from the job evaluation panel'. The proposal was seconded and debated. On a vote it was:

Resolved, That the Council approved a proposed remuneration of up to £80,794.00 subject to further approval from the job evaluation panel.

8b) Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee - 25 November 2021

Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme for 2021/22

The Chairman of the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee introduced the recommendation to the Committee which was seconded and debated. On a vote it was,

Resolved, That the Council noted the changes made to the JOSC Work Programme since it was agreed by both Councils in April 2021.

Item 8c Joint Strategic Committee - 7 December 2021

Investing in our Places - Capital Programme 2022/21 to 2024/25

The Leader of the Council introduced the motion which was seconded and debated. On a vote it was,

Resolved, That the full programme detailed at Appendices 5 and 6 be approved

Item 8d Joint Strategic Committee - 7 December 2021

Council Tax Support Schemes for 2022/23

The Leader of the Council introduced the motion which was seconded and debated. On a vote it was

Resolved, that the Council Tax Support scheme for Adur District Council in respect of working age customers for 2022/23

- i) Should be based upon the scheme for 2021/22 with no restrictions; and
 - ii) No other changes should be made beyond necessary technical amendments required to keep the scheme consistent with the national rules in respect of Housing Benefit.
- The Leader introduced the recommendation to the Council. Members were told that an amendment to the recommendation was being proposed due to a delay in the meeting of the job evaluation panel. Therefore members were asked to approve the following recommendation: 'That the Council approves a proposed remuneration of up to £80,794.00 subject to further approval from the job evaluation panel'. The proposal was seconded and debated. On a vote it was:

c/46/21-22 Report of the Leader on decisions taken by the Executive

The report before members set out the decisions made by the Executive since the last meeting of Council.

Questions were received in relation to the newly appointed transition manager and the previous management of Adur Homes properties

c/47/21-22 Members question time under Council Procedure Rule 12

There were no questions.

c/48/21-22 Motion on Notice

Before the Committee was a report by the Interim Director for Communities, which had been circulated to all members and a copy of which is attached to the signed version of these minutes.

The motion on compulsory voter identification was proposed by Councillor Lee Cowen and seconded by Councillor Jeremy Gardner. The motion was debated. Supporting arguments as summarised, included the cost of identification alienating certain sections of society, a predicted drop in voter turnout. It was put forward that voter fraud was not a significant problem and the proposal to introduce compulsory voter ID was 'like a sledgehammer to crack a nut'. Those arguments against the motion as summarised, disputed figures put forward in the motion, provided arguments that there was a problem with voter fraud and that claims of a lack of affordable identification were overstated.

The motion was voted on and it was

Resolved, that the motion be not supported

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.10 pm, having commenced at 7.00 pm

Chairman