

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

19 December 2019

QE2 Room, Shoreham Centre, Shoreham-by-Sea

Councillor George Barton, Chairman
Councillor Andy McGregor, Vice-Chairman

Councillor Carson Albury	Councillor Brian Coomber
Councillor Carol Albury	Councillor Lee Cowen
Councillor Catherine Arnold	Councillor Angus Dunn
Councillor David Balfe	Councillor Emma Evans
Councillor Pat Beresford	Councillor Liz Haywood
Councillor Brian Boggis	Councillor Joss Loader
Councillor Kevin Boram	Councillor Paul Mansfield
Councillor Ann Bridges	Councillor Lavinia O'Connor
Councillor Clive Burghard	Councillor Neil Parkin
Councillor Stephen Chipp	Councillor David Simmons
Councillor Dave Collins	Councillor Debs Stainforth

Absent

Councillor Les Alden, Councillor Barry Mear, Councillor Peter Metcalfe, Councillor Robin Monk and Councillor Sami Zeglam

c/36/19-20 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received by Councillors Les Alden, Peter Metcalfe, Robin Monk and Sami Zeglam.

c/37/19-20 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest made.

c/38/19-20 Questions from the public

There were no questions from the public.

c/39/19-20 Confirmation of Minutes

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting held on 31 October 2019 be approved as a correct record and be signed by the Chairman.

c/40/19-20

**Announcements by the Chairman, Leader of the Council,
Executive Members and / or Head of Paid Service**

The Chairman of the Council welcomed the new Leader of the Labour Group and offered a speedy recovery to Councillor Alden. The Chairman gave an update on the visits he had made since the last meeting of Council.

The Leader informed the Council of a Christmas sock appeal being arranged by Councillor Mansfield.

The Executive Member for the Environment congratulated Officers on a well organised Christmas shopping event.

c/41/19-20

Items raised under urgency provisions

The Chairman informed the Council that there were no matters of urgency to be considered.

c/42/19-20

**Recommendations from the Executive and Committees to
Council**

A) Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2019/20 - Update

The Chairman of the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee introduced the recommendation to the Council.

On a vote the recommendation was approved

Resolved: that the Council notes the changes to the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme.

B) Governance Arrangements for Charitable Trusts in Adur and Worthing

The Chairman of the Joint Governance Committee introduced the recommendations to the Councils

On a vote the recommendations were approved

Resolved:

i) that the Joint Strategic Committee be delegated the authority to act on behalf of Adur District Council as sole charity trustee of Adur Recreation Ground and Southwick Green, in all Executive matters relating to the operation of the Trusts.

ii) that the Joint Governance Committee be delegated the authority to act on behalf of Adur District Council as sole charity trustee of Adur Recreation Ground and Southwick Green, in all non-Executive matters other than those requiring Charity Commission consent or notification, and that they be required to bring an annual report to full Council each year on activity during the previous year.

ii) that the Scheme of Delegations to Officers be amended to delegate authority to the Council's Head of Environmental Services to act on behalf of Adur District Council as

sole charity Trustee of Adur Recreation Ground and Southwick Green in respect of all day to day management activities and administrative matters.

C) Scheme of Allowances for Adur District Council 2020/21 - 2022/23

The Chairman of the Joint Governance Committee introduced the recommendation to the Councils and answered a question on options put forward by the Joint Independent Remuneration Panel and the Joint Governance Committee

The Council debated the matter and on a vote the recommendations were approved

Resolved:

i) that the basic allowance be referenced to the outcome of the Officers' NJC Pay bargaining agreement for a period of two years until March 2022/2023;

ii) that the Special Responsibility Allowance for Chairmen of the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Joint Governance Committee be raised in line with what is offered at Worthing; and

iii) that an additional 1% increase be added for 2020/21

D) Platforms for our Places - Going Further (2020/2022) : Unlocking the Power of People, Communities and our Local Geographies

The Leader introduced the recommendations to the Council

The council debated the recommendations. Comments were made that the document was technical in nature and could be difficult to understand by members of the public. The Leader told the council that he would discuss the feasibility of a simplified document with officers.

Resolved: that Platforms for our Places: Going Further be approved as a key core strategic document for the next three years.

E) Financially Sustainable Councils: Update to the 2020/21 - 2024/25 budget forecast and savings proposals for 20/21

The Leader introduced the recommendation to the Council and was asked about the high financial risk faced by the authorities every year. The Leader told the Council that the authority met its financial challenges every year by producing a balanced budget.

The recommendations were moved, seconded debated and on a vote were approved

Resolved: that both Adur District Council approve the use of capital flexibilities to fund the costs associated with delivering the initiatives outlined in Appendix 4.

F) Investing for the Future: Capital Programme 2020/21 to 2022/23

The Leader of introduced the recommendation to the Council and answered a question in relation to investments made by Adur District Council. The recommendation was moved seconded and approved by vote

Resolved: recommended the 2021/22 and 2022/23 Programmes for approval by the Adur and Worthing Councils on the 19 December 2019 and 17 December 2019 respectively.

G) Mid year Review of Treasury Management 2019-20, Adur District Council and Worthing Borough Council

The Leader introduced the recommendations to the Council. There being no questions the recommendation was moved seconded and approved by vote.

Resolved: that Adur District Council approves the proposed amendment of the Treasury Management Strategy Statement as set out in paragraph 6.4 of the report.

c/43/19-20 Notification of a Change to the Political Makeup of the Council

Before the Council was a report by the Director for Communities, 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 8

The report before members set out the formation of a new independent alliance and a number of changes to positions within the political decision making structure of the Council. There were a number of changes subsequent to publication of the report including the need to appoint to the Licensing Committee and a further change to the membership of the Planning Committee.

The Leader of the Council proposed the recommendations as set out in the report and included an additional proposal to change the membership of the Licensing Committee which was seconded

The new Leader of the Labour group lauded the previous Leader and proposed an amendment to the Planning Committee which was seconded and approved

The Substantive motion was approved

Resolved:

- i) That the Council notes the revised political balance of the Council;
- ii) That the Council makes appointments to Committees as set out in the appendix to these minutes;
- iii) That the Council makes appointments to the positions of Vice-Chairmen as set out in the appendix to these minutes;
- iv) That the Council appoints to the position of the Leader of the Main Opposition as set out in the appendix to these minutes;
- v) That the Council appoints to the position of the Leader of the Main Opposition as set out in the appendix to these minutes;

c/44/19-20 Report of the Leader on decisions taken by the Executive

Before the Committee was a report by the Director of Communities, 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 decisions made by the Executive since the last meeting of Council.

The Executive Member for Regeneration informed the Council of decisions being taken in relation to Carbon Reduction

The Executive Member for Wellbeing informed the Council about work with young people and developments concerning Eastbrook Manor.

Executive Members were asked questions in relation to the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan, Income generated from new streams, responses to JOSOC reports and content of Housing Policy documents.

c/45/19-20 Members question time under Council Procedure Rule 12

Councillor Lee Cowen asked the following question: Since the Council has committed to recognising the climate emergency and initiated a Carbon Reduction Plan to work towards carbon neutrality by 2030, would the leader of the council consider a change in name for the role of 'Adur executive member for environment' to 'Adur Executive Member for Environment and Climate Change'?

The Leader told the Council that he would not change the title of the portfolio as the importance of the climate change issue was one that spread across portfolios but would be primarily led by the Leader.

c/46/19-20 Motion on Notice

Before the Council was a Motion received from Councillor Neil Parkin and seconded by Councillor Angus Dunn.

This Council declared a Climate Emergency in July 2019 and has worked hard to create a robust Carbon Reduction Plan to work towards carbon neutrality for the Council by 2030. The Council has created a new Sustainable AW Framework to steer and guide a range of activities so that Council, businesses, community groups and individuals can work well together to take this agenda forward. We are putting our own house in order.

This Council now calls upon the Trustees of the West Sussex County Council Local Authority Pension Fund (of which the Councils employees are members) to divest that fund of all investments in fossil fuel stocks, equities and funds and it instructs the Councils Chief Executive to write to the Trustees of the fund with a copy of this Motion on Notice and asking them to take action.

Members debated the motion and on a vote the motion was carried

Resolved: This Council declared a Climate Emergency in July 2019 and has worked hard to create a robust Carbon Reduction Plan to work towards carbon neutrality for the Council by 2030. The Council has created a new Sustainable AW Framework to steer and guide a range of activities so that Council, businesses, community groups and individuals can work well together to take this agenda forward. We are putting our own house in order.

This Council now calls upon the Trustees of the West Sussex County Council Local Authority Pension Fund (of which the Councils employees are members) to divest that fund of all investments in fossil fuel stocks, equities and funds and it instructs the Councils Chief Executive to write to the Trustees of the fund with a copy of this Motion on Notice and asking them to take action.

APPENDIX

Committee	Councillor
Adur Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Councillor Joss Loader
Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Councillor Joss Loader
Adur Planning Committee	Councillor Joss Loader replacing Councillor Dave Collins
Adur Planning Committee	Councillor David Balfe replaces Councillor Les Alden
Adur Licensing Committee	Councillor Dave Collins replaces Councillor Robin Monk

Committee Position	Councillor
Vice Chair of the Joint Governance Committee	Councillor Andy McGregor
Vice Chair of the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Councillor Joss Loader
Vice Chair of the Adur Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Councillor Joss Loader

Main Opposition Change	Councillor
Leader of the Main Opposition	Councillor Lee Cowen

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.30 pm, having commenced at 7.00 pm

Chairman