

## **Extract from the Joint Governance Committee - 30 July 2020**

### **JGC/023/20-21      Worthing Borough Council Petition Scheme**

#### **Summary of discussion**

The Committee was informed that at the Annual Meeting of Worthing Borough Council on 26th May 2020, a resolution was made by the Council referring the Petition Scheme to the Joint Governance Committee for consideration.

*Worthing Borough Council agreed to refer the following proposed amendment to the Borough Council of Worthing Petition Scheme, clause 6(2), to the Joint Governance Committee for consideration:- Lines 9 to 12 of the Petition Scheme, clause 6(2), be amended to read as follows: The Petition Organiser will be given five minutes to read the petition at the meeting and make any representations, 'before Members discuss the petition', in accordance with Council's Standing Orders as contained in Part 4 of the Constitution. At the end of the discussion and before any proposition is voted on, the Petition Organiser will be given 3 minutes (maximum) to make a closing statement.*

The report requested that the Joint Governance Committee consider the Worthing Borough Council Petition Scheme and recommend any amendments to the Full Council for adoption into the Constitution.

Members generally expressed support for the motion and expressed support for the proposed change being echoed in the Adur District Council Petition Scheme.

It was proposed by Councillor Hazel Thorpe and seconded by Councillor Steve Waight, that the Borough Council of Worthing Petition Scheme be amended as suggested. This was agreed on a vote: 8 in favour, 0 against, 7 abstentions.

#### **Decision,**

The Joint Governance Committee reviewed the provisions of both the Adur District and Worthing Borough Council Petition Schemes and recommended that both Adur District Council and Worthing Borough Council approve an amendment to paragraph 6.2 of their respective Petition Schemes to include the following

*Following the debate by Councillors, the Petition Organiser will be given a further opportunity to address the Council and shall have a maximum of 3 minutes to make a closing statement.*