

16 OCTOBER 2017

NEW FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the New Forest District Council held in the Council Chamber, Appletree Court, Lyndhurst on Monday, 16 October 2017

- * Cllr Mrs C V Ward (Chairman)
- * Cllr M J Kendal (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors:

- * A R Alvey
- * Mrs D E Andrews
- * W G Andrews
- * P J Armstrong
- * G C Beck
- Mrs S V Beeton
- * Mrs S M Bennison
- * J E Binns
- * G R Blunden
- * D A Britton
- * Mrs D M Brooks
- * Mrs F Carpenter
- * Mrs L D Cerasoli
- S J Clarke
- * Mrs J L Cleary
- * I C Coombes
- * Ms K V Crisell
- * S P Davies
- * A H G Davis
- * W H Dow
- * Ms L C Ford
- R L Frampton
- * A T Glass
- * L E Harris
- * M R Harris
- * D Harrison
- * J D Heron
- * E J Heron
- Mrs A J Hoare

Councillors:

- * Mrs M D Holding
- Mrs P Jackman
- * Mrs E L Lane
- Mrs P J Lovelace
- * B D Lucas
- * Mrs R Matcham
- * Mrs A E McEvoy
- * A D O'Sullivan
- * J M Olliff-Cooper
- * N S Penman
- * A K Penson
- * D M S Poole
- * L R Puttock
- * B Rickman
- * W S Rippon-Swaine
- Mrs A M Rostand
- * D J Russell
- * Miss A Sevier
- M A Steele
- * M H Thierry
- * Mrs B J Thorne
- * D B Tipp
- * D N Tungate
- * A S Wade
- * R A Wappet
- J G Ward
- * M L White
- * C A Wise
- * Mrs P A Wyeth

*Present

Officers Attending:

R Jackson, Miss G O'Rourke, Mrs R Rutins and Ms M Stephens

Apologies:

Cllrs Mrs Beeton, Clarke, Mrs Hoare, Mrs Jackman, Mrs Rostand and Steele

29 MINUTES**RESOLVED:**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 11 September 2017 be signed by Chairman as a correct record.

30 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

31 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**St Barbe's Museum, Lymington**

The Chairman had had the pleasure of attending the re-launch of the recently refurbished museum. The museum re-development had included the addition of a third gallery. The gallery was now considered the flagship gallery in the County, with the modern facilities enabling the display of a wide range of collection.

Ringwood Health & Leisure Centre

The Chairman, along with other members of the Council, had attended the re-launch of the Leisure Centre following major refurbishment. The cast of the popular 1990s sitcom 'The Brittas Empire', which was largely filmed at Ringwood Health and Leisure Centre had also attended.

Other Events The Chairman Had Attended:

- The Solent Music Festival held at St Thomas Church, Lymington. She encouraged members to support the event in future.
- The Solent Scout Regatta held at Blashford Lakes where she awarded 24 prizes.
- The Avon Tyrrell Activity Centre where she witnessed many young people having a great day out.
- The Lord Lieutenant's award ceremony for the South East region. She was pleased to announce that a young cadet from Holbury had won one of the prestigious awards.

Chairman's Volunteers' Awards 2017

The nomination period for this year's volunteers' awards would open the following day, 17 October. The closing date for nominations was noon on 24 November, with the award ceremony being held on 11 December at Appletree Court.

Chairman's Charity Dinner

The Chairman thanked members who had purchased tickets for the event. All tickets had now been sold.

32 LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Leader of the Council reported that the Council had recently participated in the Local Government Association Peer Challenge. This had provided a unique opportunity to learn from other local authorities. The Leader of the Council had enjoyed sharing thoughts with Cllr Andrew Proctor, the Leader of Broadlands District Council, one of the Peer Review team members.

The review team had requested that their thanks be passed to the members and staff who had taken part in the process. The team had enjoyed the busy four days spent with the Council and thanked everyone for making them feel welcome.

The Council had received some positive messages that would help the Council move forward. The detailed report was expected in two-three weeks' time. Once received, the Leader of the Council, together with the Cabinet and the Chief Executive, would develop a response to any recommendations. This would be shared with staff and members by December, with the report being published on the Council's website.

33 REPORT OF THE CABINET

The Leader of the Council, as Chairman of the Cabinet, presented the report of the meeting held on 4 October 2017.

He reported that the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan had been reviewed at the October Cabinet meeting. The Cabinet recommended that the Council provide additional funds of £250,000 to support the transition required to deliver local services against the financial challenges currently faced.

Recognising that some local businesses were also facing a challenging financial climate, the Cabinet had agreed, in principle, to support policies for further rate relief to public houses and small businesses. The Cabinet had also ensured that the Council had budgets available to support council taxpayers who were experiencing the most hardship.

The Cabinet had also agreed a draft Housing Strategy for wider consultation. The Leader requested that all members look closely at this document. The actions arising from the strategy would contribute towards the Council's corporate priority of providing "more homes for local people".

On the motion that the report be received and recommendation be adopted, it was:

RESOLVED:

That the report be received and the recommendation be adopted.

34 QUESTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDER 22

There were none.

35 QUESTIONS TO PORTFOLIO HOLDERS UNDER STANDING ORDER 22A

There were none.

36 MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES AND PANELS

There were no changes.

CHAIRMAN