

20 MAY 2019

**NEW FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Minutes of a meeting of the New Forest District Council held in the Council Chamber, Appletree Court, Lyndhurst on Monday, 20 May 2019

- \* Cllr Mel Kendal (Chairman)
- \* Cllr Allan Glass (Vice-Chairman)

**Councillors:**

- \* Alan Alvey
- \* Diane Andrews
- \* Ann Bellows
- \* Sue Bennison
- \* Geoffrey Blunden
- \* Hilary Brand
- \* Alex Brunsdon
- \* Fran Carpenter
- \* Louise Cerasoli
- \* Mark Clark
- \* Rebecca Clark
- \* Steve Clarke
- \* Jill Cleary
- Anne Corbridge
- \* Keith Craze
- \* Kate Crisell
- \* Jack Davies
- \* Steve Davies
- \* Arthur Davis
- \* Sandra Delemare
- \* Philip Dowd
- \* Jan Duke
- \* Barry Dunning
- \* Jacqui England
- \* Andrew Gossage
- \* Michael Harris
- David Harrison
- \* David Hawkins
- \* Edward Heron
- \* Jeremy Heron

**Councillors:**

- \* Alison Hoare
- Maureen Holding
- \* Christine Hopkins
- \* Mahmoud Kangarani
- \* Joshua Kidd
- \* Emma Lane
- \* Martyn Levitt
- \* Alexis McEvoy
- Ian Murray
- \* Alan O'Sullivan
- Stephanie Osborne
- \* Neville Penman
- \* Caroline Rackham
- \* Alvin Reid
- \* Joe Reilly
- \* Barry Rickman
- \* Tony Ring
- \* Steve Rippon-Swaine
- \* David Russell
- \* Ann Sevier
- \* Mark Steele
- \* Michael Thierry
- \* Beverley Thorne
- \* Derek Tipp
- \* Neil Tungate
- \* Alex Wade
- \* Malcolm Wade
- \* Christine Ward
- \* John Ward

\*Present

**Officers Attending:**

Bob Jackson, Grainne O'Rourke, Manjit Sandhu, Jo McClay, Matt Wisdom, Sara Hamilton, Andy Rogers and Karen Wardle.

**Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Corbridge, Harrison, Holding, Murray and Osborne.

**1 MINUTES**

**RESOLVED:**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 15 April 2019, be confirmed.

**2 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

There were no declarations of any disclosable pecuniary interests, or any other interests by Members.

**3 VOTE OF THANKS TO THE OUTGOING CHAIRMAN**

The Leader of the Council proposed that a vote of thanks be extended to the outgoing Chairman, Cllr Kendal, for the admirable way in which he had carried out the duties of Chairman during the past year. The motion was seconded by Cllr E Heron.

Other Members of the Council spoke in support of the motion, in recognition of the 24 years of service Cllr Kendal had given to the New Forest District, alongside the charity work and fair way Council meetings had been chaired during the past year.

**RESOLVED:**

That the thanks of this Council be extended to Cllr Kendal for the admirable way in which he has carried out the duties of Chairman during the past year.

**4 OUTGOING CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT**

The Chairman thanked Members for their kind words and reported on the charity work undertaken in the past year for the Oakhaven Hospice in Totton. A final figure of £19,741 was raised and the Chairman invited the Chief Executive of Oakhaven Hospice, Andrew Ryde to say a few words.

Mr Ryde expressed sincere thanks to the Chairman and the Council for the level of support during the past year. The Council noted that Oakhaven Hospice expanded into Totton in April 2018 which had resulted in an approximate increase of 30% to the overall activity of the charity.

The Chairman expressed his thanks to Members and Officers for their support and assistance and spoke fondly of a number of highlights including work with the MENCAP Society and civic events such as Remembrance Day and the visit of Princess Anne to Calshot.

**5 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

Cllr Harris moved that Cllr Glass be elected Chairman of the Council for the ensuing year. The motion was seconded by Cllr Andrews.

**RESOLVED:**

That Cllr Glass be elected Chairman of the Council for the 2019/20 municipal year, until his successor is elected at the Annual Council meeting in May 2020.

Cllr Glass signed the declaration of acceptance of office, which was formally witnessed by the Monitoring Officer. He was then invested with the Chain and Badge of Office before taking the chair.

**6 ADDRESS BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL**

The Chairman thanked Members of the Council for electing him and in doing so paid tribute to the outgoing Chairman, Cllr Kendal and his wife for their year in office.

He announced that his charities for the year would be New Forest Disability Information Service and Solent Dolphins.

**7 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN**

Cllr Glass moved that Cllr Tipp be elected Vice-Chairman of the Council for the ensuing year. The motion was seconded by Cllr Russell.

**RESOLVED:**

That Cllr Tipp be elected Vice-Chairman of the Council for the 2019/20 municipal year, until his successor is elected at the Annual Council meeting in May 2020.

Cllr Tipp signed the declaration of acceptance of office, which was formally witnessed by the Monitoring Officer. He was then invested with the Chain and Badge of Office.

**8 APPOINTMENT OF LEADER OF THE COUNCIL**

Cllr E Heron moved that Cllr Rickman be appointed Leader of the Council for the four year period until May 2023. The motion was seconded by Cllr Cleary.

**RESOLVED:**

That Cllr Rickman be appointed Leader of the Council for the four year period until May 2023.

**9 APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET PORTFOLIO HOLDERS**

The Leader of the Council informed the Council that:-

(a) He had appointed Cllr E Heron as Deputy Leader of the Council and Vice-Chairman of the Cabinet.

(b) The Cabinet Portfolio Holders and their respective Portfolios would be as follows:-

1 – Leader and Corporate Affairs – Cllr Rickman

2 – Deputy Leader and Planning and Infrastructure – Cllr E Heron

3 – Housing Services – Cllr Cleary

4 – Community Affairs – Cllr Andrews

5 – Finance, Investment and Corporate Services – Cllr J Heron

6 – Leisure and Wellbeing – Cllr Steele

7 – Environment and Regulatory Services – Cllr Hoare

8 – Economic Development – Cllr Harris

- (c) The full content of each Portfolio would be circulated to all Members in due course.

**RESOLVED:**

That the Monitoring Officer be authorised to make any consequential changes to the Constitution arising from the above.

**10 ELECTIONS 2 MAY 2019 - REPORT OF THE RETURNING OFFICER**

**RESOLVED:**

That the report of the Returning Officer on the elections held on Thursday 2 May 2019, be received and noted.

**11 POLITICAL BALANCE OF THE COUNCIL**

**RESOLVED:**

That the political balance of the Council following the District Elections held on Thursday 2 May 2019, be noted as follows:-

Conservative Group 46 (76.7%)

Liberal Democrat Group 13 (21.67%)

Independent 1

**12 COMMITTEE AND PANEL STRUCTURE**

Cllr Glass moved the recommendations for the Council's new Committee and Panel structure. Cllr Tipp seconded the motion.

**RESOLVED:**

- (a) That the following Committees and Panels and the number of seats on each body, be approved:-

<b>Committee/Panel</b>	<b>Number of Seats</b>
Appeals Committee	20
Audit Committee	8
General Purposes and Licensing Committee	15
HR Committee	8
Planning Committee	20

Community and Leisure Overview and Scrutiny Panel	10
Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Panel	10
Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel	10
Housing Overview and Scrutiny Panel	10

- (b) That the terms of reference of the HR Committee and minor amendments to the General Purposes and Licensing Committee, as circulated with the agenda, be approved.
- (c) That the Monitoring Officer be authorised to make any consequential changes to the Constitution arising from the above.

### **13 ALLOCATION OF SEATS AND APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES AND PANELS**

Cllr Glass moved the adoption of the recommendations contained within the report by the Democratic Services Manager, which asked the Council to make appointments to committees and panels in accordance with the principles for the allocation of seats to political groups as set out in Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, except in those cases where it is decided, without any Member voting against, not to apply the principles of proportionality. Cllr McEvoy seconded the motion.

Cllr Glass asked the Council to consider whether it wished to allocate a seat(s) to the Member not aligned to a political group on such Committee(s) as the Council wished to determine. The wishes of the political groups were tabled at the meeting.

#### **RESOLVED:**

That Members be appointed to the Committees and Panels as set out in table 4.2 of the report, giving effect to the wishes of the political groups, for the four year period commencing 20 May 2019. The wishes of the political groups, as tabled, are attached to these minutes.

### **14 APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT PERSONS**

Cllr Glass moved the re-appointment of Mr David Hewitt and Mr David Nottage as Independent Persons for the purposes of Section 28(7) of the Localism Act 2011. Cllr Carpenter seconded the motion.

#### **RESOLVED:**

That Mr David Hewitt and Mr David Nottage be re-appointed to serve as Independent Persons for the purposes of Section 28(7) of the Localism Act 2011 for a four year period commencing 20 May 2019.

### **15 NOTICE OF MOTION**

In accordance with Standing Order 21, Cllr M Wade moved the following motion:-

Council notes:

1. Humans have already caused irreversible climate change, the impacts of which are being felt around the world. Global temperatures have already increased by 1 degree Celsius from pre-industrial levels. Atmospheric CO2

levels are above 400 parts per million (ppm). The latest report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in October 2018 gave us 12 years to implement changes to keep global warming to a maximum of 1.5 degrees in order to avoid widespread drought, food scarcity, heat related deaths and loss of biodiversity including insects and vital food crop pollinators.

2. At present the world is on track to overshoot the Paris Agreement's 1.5°C limit before 2050. In order to reduce the chance of runaway global warming and limit the effects of climate breakdown, it is imperative that we as a species reduce our CO<sub>2</sub>eq (carbon equivalent) emissions from their current 6.5 tonnes per person per year to less than 2 tonnes as soon as possible.
3. Individuals cannot be expected to make this reduction on their own. Society needs to change its laws, taxation, and infrastructure to make low carbon living easier and the new norm.
4. Carbon emissions result from both production and consumption.
5. New Forest District Council has already made some positive progress, but this is not enough. More can and must be done. The Independent Panel on Climate Change in its Oct. 2018 report was very clear that action from all parts of society is necessary and local government has a responsibility to lead the way.
6. Councils around the world are responding by declaring a 'Climate Emergency' and taking action to address this emergency.

Council believes that:

1. All levels of government (national, regional and local) have a duty to limit the negative impacts of climate breakdown. Local councils that recognise this should not wait for their national governments to change their policies.
2. The New Forest is a unique environment and this district council has a duty to protect it. The consequences of global temperature rising above 1.5°C are potentially so severe that preventing this from happening must be a number one priority.
3. Bold local climate action can deliver economic and social benefits in terms of new green jobs, economic savings and market opportunities, as well as much improved well-being for New Forest residents – for example through reducing fuel poverty and energy bills, encouraging healthy, active travel and improving green spaces and access to nature.

This Council therefore calls on the Cabinet to:

1. Declare a 'Climate Emergency';
2. Pledge to make the New Forest district carbon neutral by 2030, taking into account both production and consumption emissions;
3. Report to full Council within six months setting out the immediate actions the Council will take to address this emergency and a plan to measure annual countywide progress towards meeting the 2030 target.
4. Work with partners across the district and the region to deliver this new goal through all relevant strategies and plans and drawing on local and global best practice.
5. Actively lobby the Government to provide the additional powers and resources needed to meet the 2030 target.

Cllr J Davies seconded the motion.

Cllr Glass confirmed that, in accordance with Standing Order 41, the motion should stand referred to the Cabinet, or such Committees or Panels as the Council may determine. In view of the subject matter, Cllr Glass moved that the motion be referred to the next Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel. Cllr Cleary seconded the motion.

**RESOLVED:**

That the motion be referred to the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel at 2.00 pm on Thursday 13 June 2019.

**16 MEETING DATES FOR THE 2019/20 MUNICIPAL YEAR**

**RESOLVED:**

That the following Council meeting dates for the 2019/20 Municipal Year, all commencing at 6.30 pm, be noted:-

8 July 2019  
9 September 2019  
14 October 2019  
9 December 2019  
24 February 2019  
6 April 2020

CHAIRMAN

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## **APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES AND PANELS – WISHES OF THE POLITICAL GROUPS**

### **APPEALS COMMITTEE (20 members)**

#### **Conservative (16)**

##### **Councillors:**

Alan Alvey  
Diane Andrews  
Ann Bellows  
Sue Bennison  
Fran Carpenter  
Steve Clarke  
Keith Craze  
Barry Dunning  
David Hawkins  
Maureen Holding  
Alexis McEvoy  
Neville Penman  
Alvin Reid  
Bev Thorne  
Derek Tipp  
Neil Tungate

#### **Liberal Democrats (4)**

##### **Councillors:**

Alex Brunsdon  
Mark Clark  
Phil Dowd  
Sandra Delemare

### **AUDIT COMMITTEE (8 members)**

#### **Conservative (6)**

##### **Councillors:**

Alan Alvey  
Emma Lane  
Martyn Levitt  
Alan O'Sullivan  
Ann Sevier  
John Ward

#### **Liberal Democrats (2)**

##### **Councillors:**

Hilary Brand  
Matt Kangarani

### **GENERAL PURPOSES AND LICENSING COMMITTEE (15 members)**

#### **Conservative (12)**

##### **Councillors:**

Ann Bellows  
Geoff Blunden  
Steve Clarke  
Keith Craze  
Steve Davies  
Arthur Davis  
Barry Dunning  
David Hawkins  
Alvin Reid  
Joe Reilly  
Neil Tungate  
John Ward

#### **Liberal Democrats (3)**

##### **Councillors:**

Rebecca Clark  
Jack Davies  
David Harrison

**PLANNING COMMITTEE (20 members)**

**Conservative (16)**

**Councillors:**

Sue Bennison  
Fran Carpenter  
Anne Corbridge  
Kate Crisell  
Arthur Davis  
Janette Duke  
Barry Dunning  
Allan Glass  
David Hawkins  
Maureen Holding  
Christine Hopkins  
Joe Reilly  
Tony Ring  
Ann Sevier  
Bev Thorne  
Christine Ward

**Liberal Democrats (4)**

**Councillors:**

Hilary Brand  
Rebecca Clark  
Matt Kangarani  
Malcolm Wade

**COMMUNITY AND LEISURE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL (10 members)**

**Conservative (8)**

**Councillors:**

Geoff Blunden  
Steve Clarke  
Keith Craze  
Arthur Davis  
Barry Dunning  
David Hawkins  
Neville Penman  
David Russell

**Liberal Democrats (2)**

**Councillors:**

Caroline Rackham  
Alex Wade

**CORPORATE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL (10 members)**

**Conservative (8)**

**Councillors:**

Alan Alvey  
Fran Carpenter  
Keith Craze  
Martyn Levitt  
Alexis McEvoy  
Alan O'Sullivan  
Bev Thorne  
Derek Tipp

**Liberal Democrats (2)**

**Councillors:**

Sandra Delemare  
Matt Kangarani

**ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL (10 members)**

**Conservative (8)**

**Councillors:**

Ann Bellows  
Sue Bennison  
Geoff Blunden  
Allan Glass  
Andrew Gossage  
Tony Ring  
Steve Rippon-Swaine  
Derek Tipp

**Liberal Democrats (2)**

**Councillors:**

Stephanie Osborne  
Malcolm Wade

**HOUSING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL (10 members)**

**Conservative (8)**

**Councillors:**

Anne Corbridge  
Kate Crisell  
Steve Davies  
Andrew Gossage  
Joshua Kidd  
Ian Murray  
Ann Sevier  
Christine Ward

**Liberal Democrats (2)**

**Councillors:**

Jack Davies  
Caroline Rackham

**HR COMMITTEE (8 members)**

**Conservative (6)**

**Councillors:**

Kate Crisell  
Michael Harris  
Maureen Holding  
Barry Rickman  
Mark Steele  
John Ward

**Liberal Democrats (2)**

**Councillors:**

Hilary Brand  
Matt Kangarani

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