

Hampshire

At a Meeting of Hampshire County Council held at The Castle,
Winchester on 15 July 2010.

Chairman:

p Councillor Carol Leversha

Vice-Chairman:

p Councillor Anna McNair Scott

Councillor:
p Frederick Allgood J.P.
p Mrs Charlotte Bailey
p Ian Beagley
p Ray Bolton
p Alan Broadhurst
p John Bryant
a Ann Buckley
p Rita Burgess
p Adam Carew
p Christopher Carter
p Keith Chapman
p Peter Chegwyn
p Vaughan Clarke
p Adrian Collett
p Brian Collin
a Mark Cooper
p Brian Dash
p Colin Davidovitz
p Phryn Dickens
p Alan Dowden
p Peter Edgar
p Dr. Ray Ellis
p Adrian Evans
p Keith Evans
p Liz Fairhurst
p Jane Frankum
p Mike Geddes
p Andrew Gibson
a Jonathan Glen
p Brian Gurden
a David Harrison
p Edward Heron
p Felicity Hindson
p Geoff Hockley
p Keith House
p Ronald Hussey
p Sam James
p Andrew Joy

Councillor:
p David Keast
p Mark Kemp-Gee
p Mel Kendal
p Roger Kimber
p David Kirk
p Tim Knight
p Rupert Kyrle
p Keith Mans
p Peter Kent Mason
p Alexis McEvoy
p Robin McIntosh
p Roz Muschamp
p Pam Mutton
p Eric Neal
p Sam Payne
p Frank Pearce
p Roy Perry
p Jackie Porter
p Roger Price, JP
p Jenny Radley
p Stephen Reid
p Alan Rice, TD
a Steve Rippon-Swaine
p Angela Roling
p David Simpson
p Margaret Snaith-Tempia
p Elaine Still
p Bruce Tennent
p Tom Thacker
p Christopher Thomas
p Ken Thornber, C.B.E.
p Marilyn Tucker
p John Wall
p Alan Weeks
p John K. West
p Patricia West
p Sharyn Wheale
p Seán D. T. Woodward

116. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Buckley, Cooper, Glen, Harrison, Rippon-Swaine and from Honorary Alderman Capt. Boyle.

117. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

All Members who believed they had a personal or prejudicial interest in any matter to be considered at the meeting were asked to declare that interest and, having regard to the circumstances described in paragraphs 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 of the County Council's Code of Conduct, to consider whether to leave the meeting whilst the matter is discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with paragraph 12 of the Code. The declaration should be made at the time of the relevant debate.

118. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the County Council held on 20 May 2010 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

119. DEPUTATIONS

The Council received a deputation from Mrs Christine Melsom of "Isitfair" in relation to Council Tax. Mrs Melsom also commented in respect of recent newspaper coverage relating to the remuneration of County Council Chief Officers.

120. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman welcomed Honorary Aldermen Patricia Banks, Michael Cartwright and Michael Woodhall.

The Chairman reported her attendance at the memorial service for Alan Bannon and James Shears on 14 July 2010 which was a fitting tribute to the two fire-fighters.

The Chairman welcomed the work being undertaken to enhance the life chances for children in the County Council's care and particularly drew Members' attention to the development of work experience and apprenticeships throughout the Council together with the efforts being made to increase the number of County Council foster carers. Members of the Children's and Families Advisory Panel had received a presentation from two Care Ambassadors on their experiences of being in care in Hampshire.

The Chairman confirmed that £2,858.94 had been raised for the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Air Ambulance at a Medieval Banquet

hosted by the Chairman. The amount raised had been matched by Barclays Bank therefore the Air Ambulance will receive a charitable donation of almost £6,000 as a result. The Chairman thanked everyone who attended. The Chairman was also pleased to report on the well attended County Service that she and the Leader had hosted in June, which had had the theme of 'Rural Hampshire'; expressed pleasure at having been able to attend both the recent Armed Forces Flag raising ceremony and also the Homecoming Parade and Remembrance Service for 11 Light Brigade and at having been able to meet The Princess Royal at a recent reception for the Mission to Seafarers. The Chairman was also looking forward to the opening of an exhibition of mouth and foot artists later in the day when she would be able to welcome the Countess of Wessex to the city. The Honorary Consul to Romania had also been a recent visitor to Winchester.

The Chairman paid tribute to two of the County Council's officers (Steve Pellatt and Steve Spender) who had received recognition in respect of their work in highways management and for the Institute of Highway Engineers.

The Chairman reported the sad passing of former County Councillor Jim Murray who was the Liberal Democrat representative for Fareham South East from 1986 to 1989 and again from 1993 to 2001. Following a minute's silence, Councillors Collett, Ellis, Kirk, Price, Margaret Snaith-Tempia, Patricia West and Woodward paid tribute to former Councillor Murray.

Councillor Mans, in his capacity as a trustee of the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Air Ambulance, thanked the Chairman for the charitable donation that had been made which was most welcome.

121. **LEADER'S REPORT**

The Leader started his report by paying tribute to Jon Pittam, who had recently retired from his role of County Treasurer and in particular his impressive financial stewardship of the Council. The Leader then proposed to the Council conferring the status of Honorary Alderman to former County Councillor Susan Glasspool.

The Leader had pleasure in reporting that Paul Child, one of the County Council's social workers had recently been voted 'Council Worker of the Year' in a prestigious national award ceremony. Paul had been one of just three nominees to be nominated for bravery (his nomination coming following his intervention to prevent a 13 year old boy jumping from a motorway bridge). The Leader presented Paul with his award with Council members adding their own congratulations.

The Leader paid tribute to the soldiers of 11 Light Brigade who had been formally welcomed home to Winchester on 23 June 2010 by Her Royal Highness, the Duchess of Cornwall, after completing a tour of

duty in Afghanistan. The Brigade had paraded through the streets of Winchester and marched to the Cathedral for a private service of thanksgiving and remembrance in recognition of the contribution and sacrifice of service personnel and their families. The Leader drew to Members' attention the 'Silver Bull' that was on display which is the symbol of the Light Brigade and had been presented to the County Council by Brigadier Cowen.

It was with much pleasure that the Leader also reported that a Hampshire foster carer (Christine Gubbins), a Hampshire special needs teacher (Carol Foster) and one of the County Council's Honorary Aldermen (Liz Barron) had all received recognition in the Queen's Birthday's Honours. Andover Young Carers group had also been given the Queen's Award for Voluntary service, the MBE for volunteer groups.

The Leader congratulated the Corporate Communications Team for their work on producing 'Hampshire Now', the County Council's flagship magazine which had been shortlisted in the Good Communications Awards for both the 'Council publication of the year' and the 'Council publication journalism' categories.

Having concluded his report on matters of general interest, the Leader then made a statement in relation to the press coverage following the recent publication of the Council's Statement of Accounts detailing the levels of remuneration received by County Council Chief Officers in 2008/09 and 2009/10.

In summary, the Leader made clear that no 'bonus' schemes had ever existed for senior management staff. The Leader confirmed that discretionary, non contractual 'special recognition' payments had been made to the County Council's Chief Officers in 2008/09 specifically to reward achievement of Hampshire being rated the top performing County Council, obtaining an 'excellent' Audit Commission rating and £57 million of savings having been identified. These had not been repeated in 2009/10, despite a high level of performance having been maintained by the Council, save for one payment to a Chief Officer to recognise the additional work undertaken in the role of Deputy Chief Executive and two further awards of £1,000 each to two Chief Officers in recognition of specific work that will realise significant budget savings.

The Leader confirmed that the award of Honoraria to every level of staff, including the Chief Executive and Chief Officers, were part of National Agreements and Local Government Payment arrangements.

However, to help clarify matters, the Leader reminded the Council that authority to introduce a Special Recognition Scheme (SRS), as part of a new and more rational pay framework had been approved by the 'all party' Employment in Hampshire County Council Committee in 2005.

The annual cost for the SRS is to be no more than 0.5% of the annual base pay bill for each department. The number of special recognition awards for 2008/09 was significantly less than this figure at 0.2% on a base pay bill of £400 million. Furthermore, the Leader confirmed that whilst special recognition payments may be repeated, they are not guaranteed and recognised exceptional performance at every level of staff.

In concluding his statement, the Leader confirmed that in the event of the Policy and Resources Select Committee wishing to examine these matters, he would co-operate fully with their investigations.

122. QUESTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDER 20 (b) (i)

- a) The Leader, Executive Member for Policy and Resources, answered a question from Councillor Alan Weeks regarding the Coalition Government's offer to Councils to return to the 'committee system' and the possibility of changes to the County Council's current system of 'Leader and Cabinet' governance.
- b) The Leader, Executive Member for Policy and Resources, answered a question from Councillor Bruce Tennent on the distinction between bonuses, honoraria and special recognition payments, but pointed out that most of Councillor Tennent's question had been answered in his earlier statement.

The Chairman reported that Councillor Tennent had asked the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Select Committee to add matters raised in his question to the agenda for their meeting on 22 July 2010 and reminded Members that the Leader had indicated that he would co-operate fully in the event of the Policy and Resources Select Committee deciding that it wished to examine the matters raised in the question.

- c) The Leader, Executive Member for Policy and Resources, answered a question from Councillor Keith House in respect of past media interviews. In doing so, the Leader referred Councillor House to the statement he had made earlier in the meeting and also his answer to Councillor Tennent's question.

A request by Councillor House for an emergency debate in respect of the matters raised in questions b) and c) above was noted. The Chairman ruled that the full report of the Leader earlier in the proceedings together with his willingness to attend a Policy and Resources Select Committee meeting were sufficient to address the matter.

123. APPOINTMENTS

A list detailing proposed changes to representation on Committees and

outside bodies was circulated and accordingly it was

Ordered:

- a) Councillor Ray Bolton to be appointed to the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee to fill a Conservative Group vacancy
- b) Councillor Roz Muschamp to be appointed as the Vice Chairman of the Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE) to fill the current vacancy
- c) Councillor Liz Fairhurst to be appointed to replace Councillor Andrew Joy on the Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE)
- d) Councillor Michael Geddes to be appointed to the Safe and Healthy People Select Committee to replace Councillor Anna McNair Scott
- e) Councillor Andrew Gibson to be appointed to the Children and Young People Select Committee to replace Anna McNair Scott
- f) Councillor Eric Neal to replace Councillor Carol Leversha on the Audit Committee
- g) Councillor Eric Neal be appointed to the Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority to replace Councillor Patricia West
- h) The Deputy Leader, Councillor Roy Perry to be re-appointed for 2010/11 to the Partnership for Urban South Hampshire (PUSH) Joint Committee
- i) Councillor Ray Ellis to be re-appointed as the County Council's representative on the Local Government Association Rural Commission

124. **2009/10 END OF YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT**

The Council considered the report of the Assistant County Treasurer (Item 9 in the Minute Book).

Members noted that spending against cash-limited budgets in the 2009/10 financial year was £311,000 below the cash limit for the year. As a result of management action, savings of £5 million on other budgets (primarily a saving against the waste management contract contingency) and corporate provision made for potential Children's Services overspending, it had been possible to increase balances by £6.151 million. This figure would be transferred to the Corporate Policy Reserve in 2010/11 to cover potential budget gaps in 2011/12 and 2012/13.

The County Council's capital financing requirement had increased by

only £2.2million in 2009/10 and the overall level of external borrowing had fallen by £16.5million. Long term loans taken out in 2009/10 had been £3 million lower than assumed in 2008/09. It was also noted that Operation Restore would see the investment of £100 million to improve the resilience of Hampshire's roads. Notwithstanding the long term uncertainty regarding the future level of central government support and the implications of equal pay negotiations, Members welcomed the Council's overall favourable financial position.

RESOLVED

That the annual report on the exercise of treasury management functions and the accompanying prudential and financial health indicators be approved.

125. **SOUTH DOWNS NATIONAL PARK SCHEME OF PLANNING DELEGATION**

Councillor Felicity Hindson declared a personal, non-prejudicial interest as a member of both the shadow South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA) and also the South Downs Joint Committee. Councillor Mark Kemp-Gee also declared a personal, non-prejudicial interest as a member of the South Downs Joint Committee.

The Council considered the report of the Chief Executive and the accompanying reports of the Director of Environment and the Head of Planning and Development (Item 10 in the Minute Book).

Members noted that although there continued to be a degree of uncertainty regarding the level of financial support that would be made available to the South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA) upon its formal establishment next year, the shadow SDNPA had already resolved to enter into a three year agency agreement with the current local planning authorities for the delivery of planning services within the SDNPA area. Only those applications deemed to be 'significant' would be reserved by the SDNPA to deal with itself.

Members welcomed the broad principles of the report. They also accepted that it would be extremely important, particularly for those County Council members whose divisions fell within the SDNPA boundaries, to inform themselves as to the detail of the planning applications that had been submitted to the SDNPA so that they could continue to represent local community interests. This would especially be so in the case of any applications deemed significant and which were thereby reserved to be dealt with by the SDNPA itself.

Councillor Felicity Hindson, the County Council's representative on the SDNPA was invited to update Members briefly and would be the first point of contact for any Member queries.

RESOLVED

That:

- (1) the County Council enter any required statement of intent and agency agreement with the South Downs National Park Authority under Section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972 for the delivery of those planning services currently carried out by the County Council within that part of Hampshire that is within the South Downs National Park;
- (2) the Director of Environment and the Chief Executive be authorised to negotiate the details associated with the agreements and to conclude such agreements accordingly.

126. REVISION OF THE STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT APPLICABLE TO THE PREPARATION OF THE HAMPSHIRE MINERALS AND WASTE DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

The Council considered the report of the Chief Executive and the accompanying report of the Director of Environment (Item 11 in the Minute Book).

Members noted that approving the recommend changes to the current Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) would ensure that the County Council's community engagement would be in full accordance with the latest government guidance.

RESOLVED

That:

- (1) the Addendum to the Statement of Community Involvement (attached as an appendix to the item 11 report) be adopted.
- (2) the Director of Environment, in consultation with the Executive Member for Environment, be granted delegated authority to make any further detailed and/or technical amendments to the Statement of Community Involvement Addendum that may be required to comply with new guidance or legislation, provided that these do not significantly change the scope, emphasis or opportunities for participation set out in the Statement of Community Involvement.

127. HAMPSHIRE POLICE AUTHORITY

No questions had been received pursuant to Standing Order 20(d). In presenting the report Councillor Collett, Vice-Chairman of Hampshire Police Authority, reported an amendment to paragraph 88 (1) that the Authority's Annual Meeting had been held on 15 June 2010.

The report of the Hampshire Police Authority was received.

128. HAMPSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

No questions had been received pursuant to Standing Order 20(e).
The report of the Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority was received.

129. CHANGES IN RESPONSIBILITY FOR EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS

The Council considered the report of the Chief Executive (Item 14 in the Minute Book) outlining changes in the responsibility for executive functions that had been determined by the Leader.

RESOLVED

That the changes in responsibility for executive functions outlined in Appendix 1 to these minutes be noted.

130. REPORTS FOR INFORMATION

The Council received the reports of the following Executive Members and Chairmen:

- a) The Cabinet/Leader:
 - * Response to the Secretary of State's proposed changes to Policy M3 (Primary Land-Won Aggregates and Sub-Regional Apportionment) of the South East Plan
 - * Approval to implement a policy to promote independence and choice in Adult Services following consultation.
- b) Executive Member for Environment:
 - * Environment Department Capital Programme 2009/10 Final position
- c) Executive Lead Member for Children's Services:
 - * School Term and Holiday Dates for 2011/2012

(With the permission of the Council the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services also gave a brief update on his understanding of the recent government announcements relating to 'Building Schools for the Future' (BSF) and the County Council's likelihood of wanting to participate in any replacement programme for BSF that the government introduced).

- d) Executive Member for Adult Social Care:
 - * Authority to tender for an Integrated Offender Management Service
 - * Response to Law Commission Consultation on Adult Social

Care

Amendments to Constitution
Part 2 Chapter 1.3: Responsibility for Executive Functions

Responsible person	Functions
<p>Leader and Executive Member for Policy and Resources</p>	<p>Chairing and managing the Executive and its work.</p> <p>Overall strategy, policy and co-ordination ‘across the board’, and the direction and utilisation of resources.</p> <p>Primary departmental links – Chief Executive’s, Finance, Property, Business and Regulatory, Human Resources.</p> <p>Service area responsibilities – services within the four departmental remit areas; except where any area has been specifically allocated within the remit of another Executive Member.</p> <p>Functional areas – policy framework; strategic overview; overall performance; budget strategy; and personnel policies, including strategy for pay and remuneration, asset management, and IT services.</p> <p>Approval of recommendations for expenditure from the HATs Community Budget on projects exceeding a limit of £25,000 per project per HAT, subject to not exceeding the approved limit for the respective HATs.</p> <p>Appointments to relevant outside bodies not on a proportional basis in consultation with the minority parties.</p>
<p>Executive Member for Communities</p>	<p>Approval of recommendations for expenditure from the HATs Community Budget on projects up to but not exceeding £25,000 per project per HAT, subject to not exceeding the approved limits for the respective HATs.</p> <p>Primary departmental link – Culture, Communities and Rural Affairs</p> <p>Service area responsibilities – services within the departmental remit areas relevant to HATs and Communities.</p> <p>Coordinating the work of HATs, individually and</p>

	<p>corporately, and reporting to the Executive Member P&R on progress by way of informal and formal reports and an annual report.</p> <p>Liaison with the 11 District Local Strategic Partnerships (LSPs) and reporting on these to Executive Member P&R. Agreeing 2010/11 funding allocations to LSPs.</p> <p>Developing and approving a community engagement strategy and coordinating the contributions from relevant service strategies.</p>
<p>Executive Member for Culture and Recreation.</p>	<p>Overall strategy and policy for libraries, museums, archives, arts, rights of way, outdoor activities, learning and leisure</p> <p>Primary departmental links – Culture, Communities and Rural Affairs</p> <p>Service area responsibilities – Culture and Recreation</p> <p>Functional areas – libraries, museums, archives and records, countryside and rights of way, sport and culture community support, recreation and all ancillary activities</p> <p>Appointments to relevant outside bodies not on a proportional basis in consultation with the minority parties.</p>