

Minutes of the **Council**
of the **Test Valley Borough Council**
held in Main Hall, Crosfield Hall, Broadwater Road, Romsey, Hampshire, SO51 8GL
on 4 September 2019 at 5.30 pm

Attendance:

Councillor M Hatley (Chairman)

Councillor M Cooper (Vice-Chairman)

Councillor N Adams-King
Councillor I Andersen
Councillor G Bailey
Councillor D Baverstock
Councillor C Borg-Neal
Councillor Z Brooks
Councillor P Bundy
Councillor S Cross
Councillor N Daas
Councillor C Donnelly
Councillor D Drew
Councillor A Dowden
Councillor C Dowden
Councillor C Ecclestone
Councillor K Farrer
Councillor A Finlay
Councillor M Flood

Councillor S Gidley
Councillor V Harber
Councillor I Jeffrey
Councillor A Johnston
Councillor L Lashbrook
Councillor P Lashbrook
Councillor N Matthews
Councillor K North
Councillor P North
Councillor J Parker
Councillor T Tasker
Councillor R Rowles
Councillor C Thom
Councillor A Ward
Councillor A Warnes
Councillor A Watts

Also in attendance

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors N Anderdon, T Burley, J Burnage, D Coole, K Hamilton, N Lodge and R Meyer

123

Prayers

Prayers were led by Reverend Thomas Wharton.

124

Apologies

Resolved:

That the apologies of Councillors Anderdon, Burley, Burnage Coole, Hamilton, Lodge and Meyer be noted.

125

Public Participation

In accordance with Council's Procedure Rules, 3 members of the public were invited to address Council in relation to item 10, Notice of Motion - Rule 12, consideration of

a motion in relation to the declaration of a 'Climate Emergency'. Ms Overton-Hore, Ms Taylor and Ms Dryden spoke on the item in that order.

126 To approve the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 26 June 2019

Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 26 June 2019 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

127 Mayor's Announcements

The Worshipful the Mayor was delighted to congratulate both Councillor Tasker (formerly Preston) on her recent marriage, and Councillor Harber (formerly Thorp) on her marriage at the start of the summer.

The Worshipful the Mayor advised that he would be travelling to Goch over the coming weekend on behalf of the Andover Town Twinning Association.

The Worshipful the Mayor mentioned that he would be hosting a Mayors Charity Murder Mystery Evening at Crosfield Hall on Friday 13 March 2020, all Councillors were invited to attend.

128 Notice of Motion - Rule 12

Council considered the following motion moved by Councillor North and Seconded by Councillor Celia Dowden:

- i. 'That the Council declare a 'Climate Emergency' and commit to investigating clear and effective options to become a carbon-neutral organisation.
- ii. That the Council invite the Overview & Scrutiny Committee to establish a cross-party working group comprising Council Officers and Members (including the Environmental Portfolio Holder), with a remit to draw together the existing work of the Council in reducing the impacts of climate change and develop an action plan that identifies the steps the Council can take to achieve carbon neutrality as quickly as possible.
- iii. That the working group be requested to provide their draft recommendations within six months.
- iv. That the Council work with our communities and partners to identify opportunities for making the Borough carbon neutral.'

The motion was passed.

129 To receive and adopt Committee reports

Minutes of Meetings

Resolved:

That the minutes of the following Committees and Cabinet meetings be received.

Cabinet - 12 June 2019

Overview & Scrutiny Committee – 19 June 2019

Northern Area Planning Committee – 20 June 2019

Southern Area Planning Committee – 25 June 2019

Cabinet – 10 July 2019

Northern Area Planning Committee – 11 July 2019

Southern Area Planning Committee – 16 July 2019

Overview & Scrutiny Committee – 17 July 2019

Licensing Committee – 18 July 2019

General Purposes Committee – 30 July 2019

Northern Area Planning Committee – 22 August 2019

Southern Area Planning Committee – 27 August 2019

To adopt Recommendations from the following:

Cabinet – 10 July 2019

Resolved:

- 1. That the Revised Ampfield Village Design Statement (attached as Annex 1), as altered, be adopted as a Supplementary Planning Document to provide design guidance for the Parish of Ampfield.*
- 2. That the additional comment received on 4 July 2019 be noted and added to the schedule of responses.*
- 3. That the Head of Planning Policy, in consultation with the Planning Portfolio Holder be delegated to carry out amendments of a minor nature to improve the presentation of the document and correct any typographical errors.*

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Questions under Rule 11.1

There were no questions under rule 11.1.

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Questions under Rule 11.2

Councillor Celia Dowden submitted a question asking the Leader ‘Would the leader inform the council of the progress made “to create a detached youth worker project to properly support young people and discourage anti social behaviour” as stated in Conservative literature delivered throughout areas of Test Valley during the May 2019 election’.

Councillor North responded by advising that the statement was made by candidates local to the Romsey area during the election campaigning and that it was not part of a wider Conservative manifesto. Councillor North suggested that should local Members wish to bring forward such a proposal, the Council would consider this in the usual manner.

Councillor Thom submitted a question asking the Leader ‘The Government have stated we will leave the European Union on the 31st October with or without a deal. Following direction from the new Local Government Minister, I would like to know if we have appointed a designated Brexit lead officer, with clear responsibilities and lines of accountability, and will the Leader inform us of the Council’s plan?’

Councillor North responded by confirming that the Council had appointed a designated Brexit lead officer in accordance with the request from the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, and that the officer’s lines of accountability were clear, as the officer was the Chief Executive. The Council’s action planning was based on advice from central government and upon the Council’s own Brexit Risk Assessment.

Councillor Ecclestone submitted a question asking the Finance Portfolio Holder ‘The redrawing of the boundaries of Andover Town saw a significant transfer of rateable households from Smannell, Abbots Ann and Enham to Andover.

Please advise:

- The number of households transferred as of May 2019
- The expected number of households in the transferred areas by 2024
- The amount of Andover Levy expected to be raised from the transferred households in the period 2019-20
- The expected increase in costs to the Borough from this transfer of residences (considering that the residences transferred were not paying any Levy before).
- The net financial effect for TVBC
- Is the Levy expected to be lowered in light of any net positive effect (i.e. more income over more expenses)?

Councillor Flood responded with the requested figures, setting out that the number of households transferred was 2,229 with the Council having no reliable estimate available of the expected number of households by 2024. The net additional

expenditure from the transfer was £19,996 and it had been agreed at Council on 25 February 2019 that the Levy would not be increased to cover the full additional costs.

Councillor Ecclestone submitted a question asking the Community and Leisure Portfolio Holder 'To please advise:

- Numbers provided to the Town Clerk of Andover indicate that that the cemeteries "service" provided to Andover residents registered a positive balance of GBP39,840 in the period 2018-19, being the excess of income received over the costs of provision of the service. This was contraed against the Andover Levy.
- Does the cemetery in question (e.g. Charlton) have a balance sheet and earnings statement available for councillors?
- Under the Parish Councils and Burial Authorities (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1970 s.1. the responsibility for providing cemeteries to the residents of the town lies with the Andover Town Council.
- Why was this new cemetery/crematorium developed without being offered to the Andover Town Council?
- What will be the likely financial effect of Andover Town Council developing its own cemetery trust, either on its own account or in partnership with one or more neighbouring parishes?

Councillor Ward responded by advising that the cemetery in question did not have a separate balance sheet as all Council services and functions were aggregated into one General Fund. Councillor Ward confirmed that Section 1 of the Parish Councils and Burial Authorities (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1970, did not give responsibility for providing cemeteries to the residents of Andover to Andover Town Council and that the crematorium at Charlton park was developed and owned by a private company. It would be for Andover Town Council to assess the financial effect as it would depend on a number of variables that only the Town Council would know.

132 **Change to the membership of the Council's Licensing Committee**

Consideration was given to the report of the Corporate Portfolio Holder which sought to make a change to the membership of the Council's Licensing Committee.

Councillor Harber was appointed to the Council's Licencing Committee on 13 May 2019. The Council's Licencing Committee dealt with (amongst other matters) licensing functions under the Licensing Act 2003. Councillor Harber was Licensee of two hostelrys in the Andover area. Councillor Harber identified that this had scope to put her in a position of conflict sufficient to impede her effective membership of the Licensing Committee.

Accordingly it was proposed that Councillor Rowles be appointed in Councillor Harber's place on the Council's Licencing Committee.

Resolved:

That Councillor Victoria Harber is replaced by Councillor Richard Rowles as a member of the Council's Licencing Committee.

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Amendment to the Council's Constitution

Consideration was given to a report of the Corporate Portfolio Holder which set out changes made to the Council's Constitution by the Council's Monitoring Officer under delegated powers due to recent organisational changes.

The changes made to the Constitution were; an amendment to the Delegations to the Head of Revenues to reflect the change from two Acting Heads of Revenues to one Head of Revenues, and the change of the Economic Development Service from Estates to Planning Policy.

Resolved:

That Council notes the changes to the Council's Constitution set out in this report.

(The meeting terminated at 7.10 pm)