

Minutes of the **Council**
of the **Test Valley Borough Council**
held in Crosfield Hall, Broadwater Road, Romsey, Hampshire SO51 8GL
on 29 January 2020 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 T Burley
Councillor J Burnage
Councillor D Coole
Councillor S Cross
Councillor N Daas
Councillor C Donnelly
Councillor A Dowden
Councillor C Dowden
Councillor C Ecclestone
Councillor A Finlay

Councillor M Flood
Councillor N Gwynne
Councillor V Harber
Councillor I Jeffrey
Councillor A Johnston
Councillor L Lashbrook
Councillor P Lashbrook
Councillor N Lodge
Councillor N Matthews
Councillor R Meyer
Councillor K North
Councillor P North
Councillor J Parker
Councillor R Rowles
Councillor T Tasker
Councillor C Thom
Councillor A Warnes

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors D Drew, S Gidley, A Ward and A Watts

The Mayor took a moment to remember former Councillor Tony Gentle who had passed away and Councillor Nigel Anderdon who had also sadly passed away. The Mayor asked that Members include them and their families in their thoughts and prayers and held a minutes silence.

289

Prayers

Prayers were led by Reverend Thomas Wharton.

290

Public Participation

No members of the public registered to speak.

291

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

292 To approve the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 20 November 2019

Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 20 November 2019 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

293 Mayor's Announcements

The Worshipful the Mayor thanked those Councillors who had attended the Mayor's Charity Appeal Chinese New Year celebration held on Tuesday 28 January at the Green Dragon in Andover which had been very successful.

The Worshipful the Mayor advised that he would be hosting a murder mystery evening on 8 February at Crosfield Hall, Romsey and that the event was now sold out.

The Worshipful the Mayor reflected on events he had attended on Monday 27 January to mark Holocaust Memorial Day. The Mayor had attended a service at Romsey Abbey hosted by Romsey Abbey Primary School and planted a memorial tree in Beech Hurst Park.

294 To receive and adopt Committee reports

294.1 Minutes of Meetings:

Resolved:

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

General Purposes Committee – 6 November 2019

Cabinet – 6 November 2019

Overview & Scrutiny Committee – 13 November 2019

Southern Area Planning Committee – 19 November 2019

Licensing Committee – 21 November 2019

Northern Area Planning Committee – 5 December 2019

Southern Area Planning Committee – 10 December 2019

Overview & Scrutiny Committee – 11 December 2019

Cabinet – 18 December 2019

Northern Area Planning Committee – 2 January 2020

Cabinet – 15 January 2020

Overview & Scrutiny Committee – 22 January 2020

Southern Area Planning Committee – 28 January 2020

294.2 To adopt Recommendations from the following:

294.2.1 Licensing Committee – 21 November 2019

294.2.1.1 **Schedule of Delegation for Officers of the Legal and Democratic Service**

Resolved:

That the post holders of the Legal and Democratic Service, listed in the Annex to the report be authorised to enter premises and carry out any act included in the legislation made there under, and any amendments thereto.

294.2.2 Cabinet - 18 December 2019

294.2.2.1 **Council Tax Support Scheme 2020/21**

Resolved:

That with effect from 1 April 2020 the following changes be made to the Council's Council Tax Support Scheme.

- 1. That a fixed reduction of £4 per week should be introduced for non-dependant adults living in a property.**
- 2. That eligibility for Council Tax Scheme was restricted to applicants with less than £6,000 of eligible capital.**
- 3. That the Second Adult Rebate is removed from the Council's Council Tax Support Scheme.**
- 4. That extended payments were removed from the Council's Council Tax Support Scheme.**

294.2.2.2 **Council Tax Premiums on Long-Term Empty Properties**

Resolved:

That with effect from 1 April 2020, the Council increases the Council Tax premium charged on long-term empty and substantially unfurnished properties in accordance with the amounts and effective dates shown in paragraph 3.1 of the report.

294.2.2.3 **Council Tax Discount for Care Leavers**

Resolved:

That the Council introduces a Council Tax discount for care leavers with effect from 1 April 2020.

- **That care leavers living alone be awarded 100% relief until their 25th birthday.**
- **That care leavers living with other adults be disregarded for Council Tax purposes until their 25th birthday.**

294.2.3 Cabinet – 15 January 2020

294.3.3.1 **Test Valley Local Development Scheme (2020)**

Resolved:

1. **That the Test Valley Local Development Scheme (2020), as an Annex to the report, be approved.**
2. **That the Head of Planning Policy and Economic Development, in consultation with the Planning Portfolio Holder, be authorised to make changes of a minor nature to improve the presentation of the Test Valley Local Development Scheme (2020) and correct typographical errors prior to publication.**

295

Questions under Rule 11.1

There were no questions under procedure rule 11.1.

296

Questions under Rule 11.2

There were no questions under procedure rule 11.2.

297

Notice of Motion - Rule 12

Council considered the following motion moved by Councillor Celia Dowden and seconded by Councillor Warnes:

'That the Council adopt the Motor Neurone Disease Charter (MND). The Leader signs the Council up to the MND Charter and the Council formally commits to ensuring the council services are to be delivered in accordance with this Charter.

For further information about the Charter please visit: <https://www.mndcharter.org/>'

The Motion was passed.

298

Appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies

Council considered a report of the Corporate Portfolio Holder which gave details of vacancies on a number of the Council's Committees and Outside Bodies following the death of Councillor Anderdon.

Resolved:

- 1. That Councillor Jeffrey be appointed to the Southern Area Planning Committee.**
- 2. That Councillor Burley be appointed to the Licensing Committee.**
- 3. That Councillor Alan Dowden be appointed as the deputy Council representative to the Southampton International Airport Consultative Committee.**
- 4. That Councillor Finlay be appointed as the Council representative to the Lee Liaison Panel (Chilworth, Nursling and Rownhams).**

299

Estates Property Matters

Council considered a report of the Finance Portfolio Holder which gave details of the approval of a property investments by the cross-party Member Panel.

Council has delegated authority to the Head of Property and Asset Management, in consultation with a Member Panel, to purchase property investments where the timing of the normal Council approval process would reduce the Council's ability to complete the purchase.

Resolved:

That the decision to approve the purchase of the properties identified in the Confidential Annexes be noted.

300

Exclusion of the Public

Resolved:

That, pursuant to Regulation 4 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012, the public be excluded from the meeting for the consideration of the following report(s) on the following matters on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the following Paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, indicated below. The public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information for the reason given below:

7.2.3.2 Property Matters

Paragraph 1 and 3

It is considered that this report contains exempt information within the meaning of paragraph 1 and 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended. It is further considered that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information because the information relates to the financial or business affairs of the Council and third parties who are necessarily identified, which information is commercially sensitive and which by its disclosure would have an adverse effect upon the interests of those third parties and the Council as they seek to settle agreed terms of business.

301

7.2.3.2 Property Matters

Council considered a report of the Planning Portfolio Holder which presented details of a property matter as recommended by Cabinet at its meeting on 15 January 2020.

Resolved:

- 1. That the Head of Legal and Democratic Services and the Head of Property and Asset Management be authorised to take such steps as may be necessary to implement Option 3 contained in this report.**
- 2. That £25,000 be allocated from the New Homes Bonus reserve for the purposes of carrying out the steps identified in this report in order to implement Option 3.**

(The meeting terminated at 6.34 pm)