

MINUTES OF COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

At a Meeting of the Council for the Borough of Slough held at The Curve - William Street, Slough, Berkshire, SL1 1XY on Tuesday, 30th January, 2018 at 7.00 pm

Present:- The Worshipful the Mayor (Shah), in the chair; Councillors Ajaib, Anderson, Bains (from 7.27pm), Bedi, Brooker, Carter, Chahal, Chaudhry, Cheema, Chohan, Coad, Dar, Davis, Amarpreet Dhaliwal, Arvind Dhaliwal, M Holledge, N Holledge, Hussain, Kelly, Mann, Matloob, Munawar, Nazir, Pantelic, Parmar, Plenty, Qaseem, Rana, Rasib, Sadiq, A Sandhu, R Sandhu, Sarfraz, Sharif, Smith, Sohal, Strutton, Swindlehurst, Usmani and Wright

Apologies for Absence:- Councillor Bal

51. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Munawar declared that his son worked for arvato.

52. To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Council meetings held on 28th November 2017 and 19th December 2017

Resolved – That the Part I minutes of the meetings held on 28th November 2017 and 19th December 2017 be approved as a correct record.

53. To receive the Mayor's Communications.

None.

54. Questions from Electors under Procedure Rule 9.

The Mayor advised that three questions had been received from residents, copies of which had been tabled. Two of the electors were in attendance and asked supplementary questions following the response to their original question. Copies of the questions and replies would be forwarded to the questioners.

55. Recommendations of the Cabinet from its meeting held on 22nd January 2018

It was moved by Councillor Nazir,
Seconded by Councillor Swindlehurst,

- “ (a) That Council house dwelling rents for 2018/19 **decrease by 1%** over the 2017/18 rent with effect from Monday 2nd April 2018. This is in line with current government guidelines and legislation.

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- (b) That Garage rents, heating, utility and ancillary charges **increase by 3.0%** with effect from Monday 2nd April 2018. This is based upon the September CPI figure.
- (c) That Service charges **increase by 3.0%** with effect from Monday 2nd April 2018. This is based upon the September CPI figure.
- (d) That 'Other committee' property rents increase by an average of 3.0% from Monday 2nd April 2018 in line with the September CPI figure."

The recommendations were put to the vote and agreed unanimously.

Resolved –

- (a) That Council house dwelling rents for 2018/19 **decrease by 1%** over the 2017/18 rent with effect from Monday 2nd April 2018. This was in line with current government guidelines and legislation.
- (b) That Garage rents, heating, utility and ancillary charges **increase by 3.0%** with effect from Monday 2nd April 2018. This was based upon the September CPI figure.
- (c) That Service charges **increase by 3.0%** with effect from Monday 2nd April 2018. This was based upon the September CPI figure.
- (d) That 'Other committee' property rents increase by an average of 3.0% from Monday 2nd April 2018 in line with the September CPI figure.

56. Appointment of Interim Chief Executive (Head of Paid Service)

Item Withdrawn.

57. Appointment Process for Chief Executive (Head of Paid Service)

It was moved by Councillor Swindlehurst,
Seconded by Councillor Hussain,

- “(a) That the outcome of the independent review conducted by the CIPD attached at Appendix 1 to the report be noted;
- (b) That the job description, person specification, terms and conditions (as attached at Appendices to the report) as set out at Appendix 2 and 3 be approved; and
 - (c) That the appointment process set out in paragraph 5.7 of the report be noted.”

The recommendations were put to the vote and agreed unanimously.

Resolved –

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- (a) That the outcome of the independent review conducted by the CIPD attached at Appendix 1 to the report be noted;
- (b) That the job description, person specification, terms and conditions (as attached at Appendices to the report) as set out at Appendix 2 and 3 be approved; and
- (c) That the appointment process set out in paragraph 5.7 of the report be noted.

58. Appointment to Committees, Panels and Outside Bodies.

It was moved by Councillor Swindlehurst,
Seconded by Councillor Hussain,

- (a) "That Councillors Bedi, Amarpreet Dhaliwal, Arvind Dhaliwal, Pantelic and Sharif be appointed to the Investigating and Disciplinary Committee; and Councillors Brooker, Davis, Mann, Plenty and Smith be appointed to the Appeals Committee.
- (b) That appointments of Louis Lee, David Comben and Murray Litvak to the Independent Panel be noted.
- (c) That the requirement for political proportionality, as set out in the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, be waived with regard to the Joint Parenting Panel and that Councillor Coad be appointed to the vacancy on the Panel.
- (d) That the appointment of Councillor Swindlehurst to the Employment & Appeals Committee, made under Council Procedure Rules Part 4.1, Paragraph 1.2 (vi), be noted.
- (e) That the Lead Member for Health & Social Care, Councillor Pantelic, be appointed as the Council's Outside Body representative on Berkshire Healthcare Foundation Trust.
- (f) That the revised proportionality and entitlement to committee seats as set out in Appendix 1 to the report be noted and Councillor Coad be appointed to the Audit and Corporate Governance Committee and Councillor Munawar be appointed to the Licensing Committee."

The recommendations were put to the vote and agreed unanimously.

Resolved -

- (a) That Councillors Bedi, Amarpreet Dhaliwal, Arvind Dhaliwal, Pantelic and Sharif be appointed to the Investigating and Disciplinary Committee; and Councillors Brooker, Davis, Mann, Plenty and Smith be appointed to the Appeals Committee.
- (b) That appointments of Louis Lee, David Comben and Murray Litvak to the Independent Panel be noted.

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- (c) That the requirement for political proportionality, as set out in the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, be waived with regard to the Joint Parenting Panel and that Councillor Coad be appointed to the vacancy on the Panel.

(Note: No Member voted against recommendation C)

- (d) That the appointment of Councillor Swindlehurst to the Employment & Appeals Committee, made under Council Procedure Rules Part 4.1, Paragraph 1.2 (vi), be noted.
- (e) That the Lead Member for Health & Social Care, Councillor Pantelic, be appointed as the Council's Outside Body representative on Berkshire Healthcare Foundation Trust.
- (f) That the revised proportionality and entitlement to committee seats as set out in Appendix 1 to the report be noted and Councillor Coad be appointed to the Audit and Corporate Governance Committee and Councillor Munawar be appointed to the Licensing Committee.

59. Consent for Alterations - Kashmiri Karahi Restaurant, Salt Hill Park, Slough

It was moved by Councillor Swindlehurst,
Seconded by Councillor Hussain,

“That the Council enter into a Licence for Alterations with Kashmiri Karahi Restaurant (KKR) for the construction of a conservatory at KKR, Salt Hill Park.”

The recommendation was put to the vote and carried by 31 votes for, 8 votes against and 2 abstentions.

Resolved - That the Council enter into a Licence for Alterations with Kashmiri Karahi Restaurant (KKR) for the construction of a conservatory at KKR, Salt Hill Park.

60. To consider Motions submitted under procedure Rule 14.

Accommodation Facilities for Homelessness

Councillor Smith sought the consent of the meeting to Alter Motion A, a copy of which had been tabled. The Council's general assent was noted.

It was moved by Councillor Smith,
Seconded by Councillor Wright,

“This Council resolves to:

Enter into negotiations with London and Quadrant Housing Trust (L&Q) to:

- Explore the possibility of L&Q redeveloping part of the shared site of 50 and 52 Stoke Road, particularly the carpark area, to provide some

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additional specialist supported half-way-house type accommodation for needy and vulnerable clients in Slough on the path toward independent living.

- Rename the resultant complex of buildings and facilities the Darren Morris Centre, in memory of the work and commitment of a councillor who died in-service a year ago striving in a non-partisan manner to help citizens such as these.”

The motion was put to the vote and carried unanimously.

Resolved –

This Council resolves to:

Enter into negotiations with London and Quadrant Housing Trust (L&Q) to:

- Explore the possibility of L&Q redeveloping part of the shared site of 50 and 52 Stoke Road, particularly the carpark area, to provide some additional specialist supported half-way-house type accommodation for needy and vulnerable clients in Slough on the path toward independent living.
- Rename the resultant complex of buildings and facilities the Darren Morris Centre, in memory of the work and commitment of a councillor who died in-service a year ago striving in a non-partisan manner to help citizens such as these.

Homelessness

Councillor Swindlehurst sought the consent of the meeting to Alter Motion B, a copy of which had been tabled. The Council’s general assent was noted.

It was moved by Councillor Swindlehurst,
Seconded by Councillor Nazir,

“The Council believes more action is required to prevent homelessness, the Council therefore calls upon the Government to:

- Provide adequate funding to enable councils to successful implement the Homelessness Reduction Act;
- Ensure that changes to the way supported housing is funding meet the needs that councils have identified;
- Reform the legal framework for assured shorthold tenancies to give those renting privately greater security and certainty.

Further this Council urgently resolves to step up our efforts locally to help prevent homelessness in Slough, support action to help people stay in their homes and provide additional funding to boost the supply of temporary accommodation in Slough.”

The motion was put to the vote and carried unanimously.

Resolved –

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The Council believes more action is required to prevent homelessness, the Council therefore calls upon the Government to:

- Provide adequate funding to enable councils to successfully implement the Homelessness Reduction Act;
- Ensure that changes to the way supported housing is funded meet the needs that councils have identified;
- Reform the legal framework for assured shorthold tenancies to give those renting privately greater security and certainty.

Further this Council urgently resolves to step up our efforts locally to help prevent homelessness in Slough, support action to help people stay in their homes and provide additional funding to boost the supply of temporary accommodation in Slough.

61. To note Questions from Members under Procedure Rule 10 (as tabled).

A Member question had been received, copy of which and reply, was tabled at the meeting.

62. Exclusion of the Press and Public

The Leader of the Council sought the meeting's agreement not to exclude the Press and Public, if Members were minded to approve the Part II minutes of the meetings held on 28th November 2017 and 19th December 2017. Members agreed to approve the minutes and the meeting remained in Part I.

63. Part II Minutes - 28th November and 19th December 2017

Resolved – That the Part II minutes of the meetings held on 28th November 2017 and 19th December 2017 be approved as a correct record.

Chair

(Note: The Meeting opened at 7.00 pm and closed at 8.05 pm)