

MINUTES OF COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

At a Meeting of the Council for the Borough of Slough held at The Curve, William Street, Slough, SL1 1XY on Tuesday, 27th November, 2018 at 7.00 pm

Present:- The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor Sohal), in the chair; Councillors Anderson, B Bains, R Bains, Bedi, Brooker, Carter, Chaudhry, Cheema, Dar, Davis, Amarpreet Dhaliwal, Arvind Dhaliwal, M Holledge, N Holledge, Hussain (until 8.46pm), Kelly, Mann, Matloob, Nazir, Pantelic, D Parmar, S Parmar, Plenty, Qaseem, Rasib, Sabah, Sadiq, A Sandhu, R Sandhu, Sharif, Smith, Strutton, Swindlehurst and Wright.

Apologies for Absence:- Councillors Ali, Minhas, Rana and Usmani.

38. Declarations of Interest

Agenda Item 6: Community Governance Review

- Councillor Smith declared he was a Parish Councillor on Colnbrook with Poyle Parish Council
- Councillors Anderson and Carter declared that they were Parish Councillors on Britwell Parish Council.
- Councillor Sohal declared that he was a Parish Councillor on Wexham Court Parish Council.

Agenda Item 7: School Cuts Motion

- Councillor Brooker declared that he was a Governor at Churchmead Secondary School and Ryvers Primary School.
- Councillor Amarpreet Dhaliwal declared that he was a Governor at Khalsa Primary School.
- Councillor Kelly declared that he was employed by a Slough Academy and would leave the meeting during consideration of the item.

39. To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Council held on 27 September 2018

Resolved - That the minutes of the Council meeting held on 27th September 2018 be approved as a correct record.

40. To receive the Mayor's Communications.

The Mayor thanked all Members who attended the events arranged throughout the Borough for Remembrance Sunday and the WW1 Centenary Beacon Lighting. The efforts made to mark these important occasions were very well received by both the organisations involved and the public. The Mayor thanked his Chaplain, Linda Hillier and the Communications Team for all their help, assistance and support at these very special events.

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The Christmas Lights Switch-On took place on Saturday, 17th November in the Town Square and the event attracted an enthusiastic crowd who enjoyed the entertainment and firework display.

Members were reminded that the Launch of the Mayor's Tree Planting Project took place on Friday, 23rd November where eighteen trees were successfully planted. Phase 2 of the project was underway with suitable locations across the Borough being identified.

Details of the launch of the new Hestia Domestic Abuse Service in Slough were outlined and it was noted that the launch was due to take at The Curve commencing at 12.30pm.

The Mayor invited all Members to his Christmas Celebration Evening in the Mayor's Parlour on Thursday, 20th December and further details would be circulated in due course.

41. Questions from Electors under Procedure Rule 9.

The Mayor advised that six questions had been received. Four Electors were in attendance and a written copy of the replies would be sent to all the Electors.

42. Recommendation of the Licensing Committee from its meeting held on 18th October 2018

It was moved by Councillor Davis,
Seconded by Councillor Mann,

"That the Gambling Act 2005 Statement of Principles Policy (as amended 2018) be adopted as the Council's Gambling Policy."

The recommendation was put to the vote and carried unanimously.

Resolved - That the Gambling Act 2005 Statement of Principles Policy (as amended 2018) be adopted as the Council's Gambling Policy.

43. Community Governance Review of Parish Council Arrangements within the Borough of Slough

The Mayor advised that since the publication of the agenda, additional information had been received from Britwell Parish Council, Wexham Court Parish Council and Berkshire Association of Local Councils, which had been tabled for Members consideration.

Mr Isernia speaking on behalf of Britwell Parish Council, Councillor Fayyaz and Mr Jabble representing Wexham Court Parish Council were given an opportunity to address the meeting for a maximum of five minutes each.

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

“Britwell Parish Council

1. That the results of the advisory postal poll, the representations made by Britwell Parish Council and the written responses received during the consultation be noted.
2. That in light of the response to the consultation and findings of the Review as set out at paragraph 5.14 of this report, an extraordinary meeting of the Council be called on 18th December, 2018 to determine the abolition of Britwell Parish Council with effect from 1st April, 2019.
3. That, in the event recommendations 1 and 2 above are approved, the Director of Finance and Resources be requested to prepare:
 - a report to include how the facilities and services provided or supported by Britwell Parish Council will be supported and developed in the event of their abolition;
 - a draft order for the abolition of the Britwell Parish Council and the Civil Parish to take effect on 1st April, 2019, and
 - a timetable of consequential actions.

Colnbrook with Poyle Parish Council

1. That the written responses received in relation to Colnbrook with Poyle Parish Council be noted.
2. That the results of the advisory postal poll on whether the parish council is effective and engages effectively with local people be noted.
3. That the parish council be urged to give consideration to the views expressed via the poll and improve its engagement with local people with an emphasis on the Westfield/Brands Hill area (PD CPA), where the poll demonstrated lower levels of public support.
4. That the borough council will review the parish’s performance again toward the end of its next term of office and reserves the right to test public opinion in a further advisory postal poll if it is not satisfied that it is engaging widely with local people.

Wexham Court Parish Council

1. That the results of the advisory postal poll, the written responses received during the consultation and the audit report of the governance arrangements of the Parish be noted.
2. That in light of the response to the consultation and findings of the Review as set out at paragraph 5.31 of this report, an extraordinary meeting of the Council be called on 18th December, 2018 to determine the abolition of Wexham Court Parish Council with effect from 1st April, 2019.

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3. That, in the event recommendations 1 and 2 above are approved, the Director of Finance and Resources be requested to prepare:
 - a report to include how the facilities and services provided or supported by Wexham Court Parish Council will be supported and developed in the event of their abolition;
 - a draft order for the abolition of the Wexham Court Parish Council and the Civil Parish to take effect on 1st April, 2019, and
 - a timetable of consequential actions.”

Britwell Parish Council

The recommendations were put to the vote and carried by 29 votes for, 4 votes against and 2 abstentions.

Resolved -

1. That the results of the advisory postal poll, the representations made by Britwell Parish Council and the written responses received during the consultation be noted.
2. That in light of the response to the consultation and findings of the Review as set out at paragraph 5.14 of this report, an extraordinary meeting of the Council be called on 18th December, 2018 to determine the abolition of Britwell Parish Council with effect from 1st April, 2019.
3. That the Director of Finance and Resources be requested to prepare:
 - a report to include how the facilities and services provided or supported by Britwell Parish Council will be supported and developed in the event of their abolition;
 - a draft order for the abolition of the Britwell Parish Council and the Civil Parish to take effect on 1st April, 2019, and
 - a timetable of consequential actions.

Colnbrook with Poyle Parish Council

The recommendations were put to the vote and carried by 30 votes for and 5 abstentions.

Resolved –

1. That the written responses received in relation to Colnbrook with Poyle Parish Council be noted.
2. That the results of the advisory postal poll on whether the parish council is effective and engages effectively with local people be noted.
3. That the parish council be urged to give consideration to the views expressed via the poll and improve its engagement with local people with an emphasis on the Westfield/Brands Hill area (PD CPA), where the poll demonstrated lower levels of public support.

4. That the borough council will review the parish's performance again toward the end of its next term of office and reserves the right to test public opinion in a further advisory postal poll if it is not satisfied that it is engaging widely with local people.

Wexham Court Parish Council

The recommendations were put to the vote and carried by 30 votes for, 1 against and 3 abstentions.

Resolved –

1. That the results of the advisory postal poll, the written responses received during the consultation and the audit report of the governance arrangements of the Parish be noted.
2. That in light of the response to the consultation and findings of the Review as set out at paragraph 5.31 of this report, an extraordinary meeting of the Council be called on 18th December, 2018 to determine the abolition of Wexham Court Parish Council with effect from 1st April, 2019.
3. That the Director of Finance and Resources be requested to prepare:
 - a report to include how the facilities and services provided or supported by Wexham Court Parish Council will be supported and developed in the event of their abolition;
 - a draft order for the abolition of the Wexham Court Parish Council and the Civil Parish to take effect on 1st April, 2019, and
 - a timetable of consequential actions.

44. To consider Motions submitted under procedure Rule 14.

(Councillor Kelly left the meeting)

A) School Cuts

It was moved by Councillor Sadiq,
Seconded by Councillor Pantelic,

“With the Government declaring austerity over this Council sees no reason why Slough children and young people must continue to suffer and our schools continue to face severe pressure to fund basic provision. Therefore this Council calls upon the Government to

- Address the £321 per pupil cut to Slough Schools when it belatedly reviews the Schools Funding Formula in 2021.
- Restore to the 62% cut in funding for youth services.”

The motion was put to the vote and carried with 27 votes for, 4 against and 3 abstentions.

Resolved - With the Government declaring austerity over this Council sees no reason why Slough children and young people must continue to suffer and our schools continue to face severe pressure to fund basic provision. Therefore this Council calls upon the Government to

- Address the £321 per pupil cut to Slough Schools when it belatedly reviews the Schools Funding Formula in 2021.
- Restore to the 62% cut in funding for youth services.

(Councillor Kelly re-joined the meeting)

B) Modern Slavery

It was moved by Councillor Mann,
Seconded by Councillor Strutton,

“This Council is committed to eradicating modern slavery and human trafficking in Slough and to raising awareness of modern slavery and human trafficking within our communities and with partners and stakeholders to help tackle this problem. The Council commends the work of the Safer Slough Partnership in developing and launching Slough’s Modern Slavery campaign and commits to continuing to

- Require its contractors & suppliers to comply fully with the Modern Slavery Act 2015, wherever it applies, with contract termination as a potential sanction for non-compliance.
- Train its corporate procurement team to understand modern slavery through the Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply’s (CIPS) course on Ethical Procurement and Supply, also train all its customer-facing staff to understand, detect and report modern slavery.

The Council commits to;

- Work closely with communities, partners and stakeholders to identify risks concerning modern slavery.
- Refer suspected cases of modern slavery to the national referral mechanism (NRM) - a victim identification and support process – to share information about potential victims and facilitate their access to advice, accommodation and support.

The Council will;

- Review the implementation of this commitment annually through its Overview and Scrutiny Committee.”

The motion was put to the vote and carried unanimously.

Resolved - This Council is committed to eradicating modern slavery and human trafficking in Slough and to raising awareness of modern slavery

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and human trafficking within our communities and with partners and stakeholders to help tackle this problem. The Council commends the work of the Safer Slough Partnership in developing and launching Slough's Modern Slavery campaign and commits to continuing to

- Require its contractors & suppliers to comply fully with the Modern Slavery Act 2015, wherever it applies, with contract termination as a potential sanction for non-compliance.
- Train its corporate procurement team to understand modern slavery through the Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply's (CIPS) course on Ethical Procurement and Supply, also train all its customer-facing staff to understand, detect and report modern slavery.

The Council commits to;

- Work closely with communities, partners and stakeholders to identify risks concerning modern slavery.
- Refer suspected cases of modern slavery to the national referral mechanism (NRM) - a victim identification and support process – to share information about potential victims and facilitate their access to advice, accommodation and support.

The Council will;

- Review the implementation of this commitment annually through its Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

C) Waste Recycling Rates

It was moved by Councillor Smith,

Seconded by Councillor Wright,

“This Council resolves to address its poor recycling rates with immediate effect by implementing a Waste Strategy that sets out a vision and framework to help:

- Increase its current 26.3% recycling rate to meet a target of 50% by 2020, as set out in the Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2011.
- Deliver a cost effective waste collection service.
- Deal sustainably with household waste without any recourse to landfill.”

It was moved by Councillor Anderson, as an amendment,

Seconded by Councillor Swindlehurst,

“This Council resolves to **improve** ~~address its poor~~ recycling rates in Slough with ~~immediate effect~~ by **continuing to** implementing a **its' 2015-30 Municipal Waste Strategy, which goes beyond the governments target to recycle 50% of waste, in committing to recycle 60% of Slough's waste and this Council recommits to its continue target of sending 0% waste to landfill.** ~~that sets out a vision and framework to help:~~”

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- ~~Increase its current 26.3% recycling rate to meet a target of 50% by 2020, as set out in the Waste (England and Wales) regulations 2011~~
- ~~Deliver a cost effective waste collection service~~
- ~~Deal sustainably with household waste without any recourse to landfill."~~

The amendment to the motion was put to the vote and carried by 26 votes for, 7 against and 1 abstention.

The amended motion was put to the vote and carried by 25 votes for and 8 abstentions.

Resolved - This Council resolves to improve recycling rates in Slough by continuing to implement its 2015-2030 Municipal Waste Strategy, which goes beyond the governments target to recycle 50% of waste in committing to recycle 60% of Slough's waste, and this Council recommits to its continuing target of sending 0% waste to landfill.

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

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

Chair

(Note: The Meeting opened at 7.00 pm and closed at 9.22 pm)