

MINUTES OF COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

At a Meeting of the Council for the Borough of Slough held at The Venue - The Curve, William Street, Slough, SL1 1XY on Tuesday, 29th January, 2019 at 7.00 pm

Present:- The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor Sohal), in the chair; Councillors Ali, Bedi, Brooker, Carter, Chaudhry, Cheema, Dar, Davis, Amarpreet Dhaliwal, Arvind Dhaliwal, M Holledge, N Holledge, Hussain, Kelly, Mann, Matloob, Minhas, Nazir, Pantelic, D Parmar, S Parmar, Plenty, Qaseem, Rana, Rasib, Sabah, Sadiq, A Sandhu, R Sandhu, Shah(from 7.32pm), Sharif, Smith, Strutton, Swindlehurst, Usmani and Wright

Apologies for Absence:- Councillors Anderson, R Bains and Sarfraz.

50. Declarations of Interest

None received.

51. To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Council meetings held on 27th November 2018 and 18th December 2018

Resolved – That the minutes of the Council meetings held on 27th November 2018 and 18th December 2018 be approved as a correct record.

52. To receive the Mayor's Communications.

None.

53. Questions from Electors under Procedure Rule 9.

Two questions were received and the Electors were present and asked a supplementary question. A written copy of the replies would be sent to the Electors.

54. Recommendations of the Cabinet from its meeting held on 21st January 2019

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

“That the

- (a) Council house dwelling rents for 2019/20 to **decrease by 1%** over the 2018/19 rent with effect from Monday 1st April 2019. This is in line with current government guidelines and legislation.

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- (b) Garage rents, heating, utility and ancillary charges to **increase by 2.4%** with effect from Monday 1st April 2019. This is based upon the September CPI figure.
- (c) Service charges to **increase by 2.4%** with effect from Monday 1st April 2019. This is based upon the September CPI figure.
- (d) 'Other committee' property rents to increase by 2.4% from Monday 1st April 2019 in line with the September CPI figure.
- (e) Properties leased from James Elliman Homes to increase by 2.4% from Monday 1st April 2019 in line with the September CPI figure; currently, these are Pendeen Court and 81-83 High Street used as emergency and temporary accommodation for homeless households."

The recommendations were put to the vote and carried unanimously.

Resolved – That the

- (a) Council house dwelling rents for 2019/20 to **decrease by 1%** over the 2018/19 rent with effect from Monday 1st April 2019. This is in line with current government guidelines and legislation.
- (b) Garage rents, heating, utility and ancillary charges to **increase by 2.4%** with effect from Monday 1st April 2019. This is based upon the September CPI figure.
- (c) Service charges to **increase by 2.4%** with effect from Monday 1st April 2019. This is based upon the September CPI figure.
- (d) 'Other committee' property rents to increase by 2.4% from Monday 1st April 2019 in line with the September CPI figure.
- (e) Properties leased from James Elliman Homes to increase by 2.4% from Monday 1st April 2019 in line with the September CPI figure; currently, these are Pendeen Court and 81-83 High Street used as emergency and temporary accommodation for homeless households.

55. Calendar of Meetings 2019/2020

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

- “ (a) That the calendar of meetings for the period May 2019 to May 2020 be approved, subject to Labour Group meetings being amended accordingly.
- (b) That the date for Annual Council meeting be agreed as Thursday 16th May, 2019.
- (c) That the Head of Democratic Services be authorised to make amendments to the calendar resulting from any constitutional

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changes that may be agreed, in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution.”

The recommendations were put to the vote and carried unanimously.

Resolved –

- (a) That the calendar of meetings for the period May 2019 to May 2020 be approved, subject to Labour Group meetings being amended accordingly.
- (b) That the date for Annual Council meeting be agreed as Thursday 16th May, 2019.
- (c) That the Head of Democratic Services be authorised to make amendments to the calendar resulting from any constitutional changes that may be agreed, in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution.

56. To consider Motions submitted under procedure Rule 14.

A) EU Settled Status

The Mayor advised that in accordance with Procedure Rule 16.8 Councillor Swindlehurst intended, with the consent of the Council, to alter the motion of which he gave notice. The Mayor put this to the vote and it was agreed unanimously.

It was moved by Councillor Swindlehurst, as an altered motion,
Seconded by Councillor Pantelic,

“Given the current uncertainties about the arrangements for the UK’s departure from the EU and the workforce issues flagged up in Slough Borough Council’s Brexit Impact Assessment, this Council resolves to ~~reimburse the EU Settled Status fee~~ **provide support and assistance** for the Council’s directly employed EU nationals applying for settled status.”

It was moved by Councillor Kelly, as an amendment,
Seconded by Councillor Smith,

“Given the current ~~uncertainties about the~~ arrangements for the UK’s departure from the EU ~~and the workforce issues flagged up in Slough Borough Council’s Brexit Impact Assessment~~, this Council resolves to ~~reimburse the EU Settled Status fee for the Council’s directly employed EU nationals applying for settled status~~ **set up a scheme that would support Slough’s Looked After Children who are EU nationals and vulnerable residents in need of 1 to 1 assistance when completing their applications for EU Settled Status. In addition, SBC will provide facilities in libraries and community hubs for EU national residents to apply for settled status on android devices.**”

(Councillor Shah joined the meeting)

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Following discussion regarding the amendment to the altered motion,

It was moved by Councillor Smith, as a joint motion,
Seconded by Councillor Swindlehurst,

“Given the current uncertainties about the arrangements for the UK’s departure from the EU and the workforce issues flagged up in Slough Borough Council’s Brexit Impact Assessment, this Council resolves to provide support and assistance for the Council’s directly employed EU nationals, Slough’s Looked After Children who are EU nationals and vulnerable Slough residents in need of one to one assistance when completing their applications for EU settled status.”

The joint motion was put to the vote and carried unanimously.

Resolved - Given the current uncertainties about the arrangements for the UK’s departure from the EU and the workforce issues flagged up in Slough Borough Council’s Brexit Impact Assessment, this Council resolves to provide support and assistance for the Council’s directly employed EU nationals, Slough’s Looked After Children who are EU nationals and vulnerable Slough residents in need of one to one assistance when completing their applications for EU settled status.

B) Concessionary Bus Travel

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

“This Council resolves to reinstate its previous arrangement, prior to 1 April 2015, of concessionary bus travel for elderly and disabled passengers in the Slough Borough Council area before 9.30am and after 11pm on weekdays including holders of companion passes wishing to take a companion with them for free when travelling on buses in the Slough Borough Council area.”

The motion was put to the vote and lost by 6 votes for, 31 against and 1 abstention.

Resolved – That the motion not be carried.

57. 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 7.59 pm)