

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, 23rd April, 2019 at 7.00 pm

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

Apologies for Absence:- Councillors Chaudhry, Mann, Qaseem, Rana, Rasib, Shah and Usmani.

66. Declarations of Interest

None received.

67. To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Council meetings held on 29th January 2019 and 21 February 2019

Resolved – That the minutes of the Council meetings held on 29 January 2019 and 21 February 2019 be approved as a correct record.

68. To receive the Mayor's Communications.

The Mayor conveyed his best wishes to those members who were seeking re-election and thanked those who would be standing down, for their service and commitment to the Council.

Members were informed of the Charity Walk the Mayor would be undertaking on Saturday, 4th May as part of the Rotary Club's 'Slough Together Walk'.

It was noted that an end of office 'Thank You' event had been arranged in the Mayor's Parlour on Tuesday, 14th May at 7.00pm to which all Members were invited and a formal invitation would be sent in due course.

69. Questions from Electors under Procedure Rule 9.

An Elector question had been received and tabled. The Elector was not present and a written copy of the reply would be sent.

70. Petition - New Home for Slough Gymnastics Club

The Mayor invited Ms Amy Jones, the petition organiser to address the meeting.

Following completion of the subsequent debate,

It was moved by Councillor Anderson,

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“That the Council continue to assist Slough Gymnastics Club in it’s search for new premises and that the matter be referred to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, in the new municipal year, to examine options for suitable premises.”

The recommendation was put to the vote and carried unanimously.

Resolved - That the Council continue to assist Slough Gymnastics Club in it’s search for new premises and that the matter be referred to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, in the new municipal year, to examine options for suitable premises.

71. Recommendation of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee from its meeting held on 11th April 2019

It was moved by Councillor Arvind Dhaliwal,
Seconded by Councillor S Parmar,

“That the Annual Scrutiny Report 2018/19 be endorsed.”

The recommendation was put to the vote and carried unanimously.

Resolved – That the Annual Scrutiny Report 2018/19 be endorsed.

72. To consider Motions submitted under procedure Rule 14.

A) Section 21 of the Housing Act 1998

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

“This Council notes that eviction from the private rented sector is the largest single reason for homelessness in the UK and therefore calls upon the Government to abolish Section 21 of the Housing Act 1988 which allows landlords to evict tenants without a reason.”

The motion was put to the vote and carried with 26 votes for and 5 abstentions.

Resolved - This Council notes that eviction from the private rented sector is the largest single reason for homelessness in the UK and therefore calls upon the Government to abolish Section 21 of the Housing Act 1988 which allows landlords to evict tenants without a reason.

B) Bus Lane Use

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

“This Council resolves that licenced private hire vehicles can use normal (with-flow) bus lanes in Slough while they are operating – carrying a

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passenger(s) or on the way to pick up a pre-booked customer(s) - in the same way that taxis can use our bus lanes to ease traffic congestion and air pollution within the borough.”

It was moved by Councillor Anderson, as an amendment,
Seconded by Councillor Carter,

“This Council resolves that officers are requested to investigate and report to Overview and Scrutiny Committee the feasibility of licenced private hire vehicles using normal (with-flow) bus lanes in Slough while they are operating – carrying a passenger(s) or on the way to pick up a pre-booked customer(s) - in the same way that taxis can use our bus lanes to ease traffic congestion and air pollution within the Borough; providing they meet EU omission standards of Euro 5 Petrol, Euro 6 Diesel or electric.”

The amendment was put to the vote and the substantive motion was carried unanimously.

(Councillor Dar abstained from voting on the above item)

Resolved - This Council resolves that officers are requested to investigate and report to Overview and Scrutiny Committee that licenced private hire vehicles can use normal (with-flow) bus lanes in Slough while they are operating – carrying a passenger(s) or on the way to pick up a pre-booked customer(s) - in the same way that taxis can use our bus lanes to ease traffic congestion and air pollution within the Borough; providing they meet EU omission standards of Euro 5 Petrol, Euro 6 Diesel or electric.

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

None received within the relevant timeframe.

74. Vote of Thanks

Councillor S Parmar moved and Councillor Swindlehurst seconded a vote of thanks to the Deputy Mayor for her services during the municipal year.

The Mayor thanked all who had provided him with help and support throughout the year, including the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Cheema. The Mayor also thanked all staff in the Mayoral Office, Facilities and other council departments who had supported him.

Councillor Sadiq moved and Councillor Hussain seconded a vote of thanks to the retiring Mayor for his service during the past municipal year. A number of other Members added their thanks to the Mayor.

Chair

(Note: The Meeting opened at 7.00 pm and closed at 8.41 pm)