

## 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, 24th April, 2018 at 7.00 pm

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

**Apologies for Absence:-** Councillor R Sandhu.

### 73. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Bal declared that his daughter worked at Slough Borough Council.

Councillor Pantelic declared that she was appointed as a stakeholder Governor for Frimley Health Foundation NHS Trust.

Councillor Rasib declared that his daughter worked at Slough Borough Council.

### 74. To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Council held on 30 January 2018 and 22 February 2018

**Resolved** – That the minutes of the meetings held on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2018 and 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2018 be approved as a correct record.

### 75. To receive the Mayor's Communications.

This was the last full Council Meeting at which the Mayor would preside and she conveyed her thanks to her Chaplain, the Reverend Linda Hillier who had attended Council meetings during the year. It was noted that Reverend Hillier had taken up her duties as the Mayor's Chaplain in 2009. The Mayor expressed her thanks for her help and support, particularly when she was so busy helping the community.

The Mayor also expressed her appreciation to the Mayor's Executive Assistant, Suzanne Mason, for her professionalism and efficiency; which had contributed towards her carrying out her Mayoral duties effectively and ensured that it had been a successful year.

The Mayor conveyed her best wishes to those members seeking re-election in the forthcoming local elections and thanked those members who were standing down for their commitment and service to Slough Borough Council and to the people of Slough.

**76. Questions from Electors under Procedure Rule 9.**

Two questions had been received from residents and tabled on blue paper. Both the electors were in attendance and asked supplementary questions following a response to their original question. Copies of the questions and replies would be forwarded to the questioners.

**77. Recommendations of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee from its meeting held on 12th April 2018**

**A) Annual Scrutiny Report 2017/18**

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

“That the Annual Scrutiny Report 2017/18 be endorsed.”

The recommendation was put to the vote and carried unanimously.

**Resolved** - That the Annual Scrutiny Report 2017/18 be endorsed.

**B) Votes at 16**

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

“That the Council resolve to support the principle of reducing the national voting age to 16; take an active leadership role in any appropriate campaign(s) to further this objective; and requests scrutiny to establish a task and finish group to examine and propose practical measures to improve the security of the ballot, including potentially voter identification, and promote youth participation.”

The recommendation was put to the vote and carried unanimously.

**Resolved** - That the Council supports the principle of reducing the national voting age to 16; take an active leadership role in any appropriate campaign(s) to further this objective; and requests scrutiny to establish a task and finish group to examine and propose practical measures to improve the security of the ballot, including potentially voter identification, and promote youth participation.

**78. Shared Legal Service with London Borough of Harrow**

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

“a) From 01 June 2018 until expiry or termination of the agreement to delegate to the London Borough of Harrow the discharge of the Council’s function in respect of the delivery of legal services in accordance with s101 and s113 of the Local Government Act 1972 and the Local Government (Arrangements for the Discharge of Functions) (England) Regulations 2012, such discharge of function to include the duties set out in Recommendation (b) below.

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- b) From 01 June 2018 until expiry or termination of the agreement to authorise the Head of Legal, London Borough of Harrow to institute, defend or participate in any legal proceedings in accordance with s222 and s223 of the Local Government Act 1972 and sign documents on behalf of the Council.
- c) That the Constitution be revised in Article 14(3); Article 14(4); Part 3.6 Scheme of Delegation to Officers Section 1 paragraphs 1.3 and 1.4 and Section 2 paragraph 2e; Part 4.6 Financial Procedure Rules paragraphs 16.7, 16.68 and 16.81(d); to give authority to the London Borough of Harrow Head of Legal to act on behalf of Slough Borough Council as specified therein.
- d) That the Constitution be revised in Article 14(5); Part 4.6 Financial Procedure Rules paragraphs 16.39, 16.45 (b), 16.45(d), 16.46, 16.49, 16.76, 16.81(a) and 16.81(c); and Part 5.4 Member and Officer Relations Code paragraph 16(b) and Appendix 1 paragraph 8 by the deletion of reference to Head of Legal Services to be substituted by Service Lead Governance;
- e) That the constitution be revised to remove any further references within it to the Head of Legal Services by substituting these with the Service Lead Governance.
- f) That the Service Lead Governance be instructed to make the necessary changes to the Constitution.
- g) The delegation in (a) above shall not prevent the Council from continuing to discharge those legal services functions that have been identified as being excluded from the terms of the Agreement and/or where it is not desirable for any reason for such functions to be discharged by the London Borough of Harrow.”

The recommendations were put to the vote and carried unanimously.

### **Resolved -**

- a) From 01 June 2018 until expiry or termination of the agreement to delegate to the London Borough of Harrow the discharge of the Council's function in respect of the delivery of legal services in accordance with s101 and s113 of the Local Government Act 1972 and the Local Government (Arrangements for the Discharge of Functions) (England) Regulations 2012, such discharge of function to include the duties set out in Recommendation (b) below.
- b) From 01 June 2018 until expiry or termination of the agreement to authorise the Head of Legal, London Borough of Harrow to institute, defend or participate in any legal proceedings in accordance with s222 and s223 of the Local Government Act 1972 and sign documents on behalf of the Council.
- c) That the Constitution be revised in Article 14(3); Article 14(4); Part 3.6 Scheme of Delegation to Officers Section 1 paragraphs 1.3 and 1.4 and Section 2 paragraph 2e; Part 4.6 Financial Procedure Rules paragraphs 16.7, 16.68 and 16.81(d); to give authority to the London Borough of Harrow

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Head of Legal to act on behalf of Slough Borough Council as specified therein.

- d) That the Constitution be revised in Article 14(5); Part 4.6 Financial Procedure Rules paragraphs 16.39, 16.45 (b), 16.45(d), 16.46, 16.49, 16.76, 16.81(a) and 16.81(c); and Part 5.4 Member and Officer Relations Code paragraph 16(b) and Appendix 1 paragraph 8 by the deletion of reference to Head of Legal Services to be substituted by Service Lead Governance;
- e) That the constitution be revised to remove any further references within it to the Head of Legal Services by substituting these with the Service Lead Governance.
- f) That the Service Lead Governance be instructed to make the necessary changes to the Constitution.
- g) The delegation in (a) above shall not prevent the Council from continuing to discharge those legal services functions that have been identified as being excluded from the terms of the Agreement and/or where it is not desirable for any reason for such functions to be discharged by the London Borough of Harrow.

## **79. Proposed Amendments to Terms of Reference of the Joint Parenting Panel and the Constitution of the Schools Forum**

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

- (a) "That the updated Terms of Reference of the Joint Parenting Panel as set out at Appendix A of the report be approved.
- (b) That the Constitution of the Schools Forum as set out at Appendix B of the report be approved."

The recommendations were put to the vote and carried unanimously.

### **Resolved -**

- (a) That the updated Terms of Reference of the Joint Parenting Panel as set out at Appendix A of the report be approved.
- (b) That the Constitution of the Schools Forum as set out at Appendix B of the report be approved.

## **80. Establishment of Trustee Committee**

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

- "(a) That a Committee of the Council comprising seven members be established to discharge the Council's duties as a corporate trustee of its charitable assets in accordance with the contents of this Report

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- (b) That allocation of seats, receipt of nominations of Members to serve on the Committee and appointments to the Committee be effected pursuant to Rule 1.2 of the Council Procedure Rules in Part 4.1 of the Constitution at the Council's Annual Meeting in accordance with the contents of this Report.
- (c) That Councillor Parmar be appointed in the meanwhile to prepare for the work of the Committee and the settling of any enabling documents in consultation with the Head of Democratic Services and the Service Lead Governance
- (d) That the Service Lead Governance be instructed to arrange for any necessary changes to the Constitution to be presented to Council for adoption at the Annual Meeting, following approval by the Monitoring Officer, to enable the work of the committee to begin as soon as possible; and
- (e) That induction be arranged for the members of the Committee in accordance with the contents of this Report following their appointment."

It was moved by Councillor Amarpreet Dhaliwal,  
Seconded by Councillor Bains,

- "(c) That Councillor Strutton be appointed in the meanwhile to prepare for the work of the Committee and the settling of any enabling documents in consultation with the Head of Democratic Services and the Service Lead Governance"

Recommendations (a), (b), (d) and (e) were put to the vote and agreed unanimously.

Recommendation (c) Councillor Parmar was put to the vote and carried by 31 votes for, 8 votes against and 1 abstention.

## **Resolved -**

- (a) That a Committee of the Council comprising seven members be established to discharge the Council's duties as a corporate trustee of its charitable assets in accordance with the contents of this Report
- (b) That allocation of seats, receipt of nominations of Members to serve on the Committee and appointments to the Committee be effected pursuant to Rule 1.2 of the Council Procedure Rules in Part 4.1 of the Constitution at the Council's Annual Meeting in accordance with the contents of this Report.
- (c) That Councillor Parmar be appointed in the meanwhile to prepare for the work of the Committee and the settling of any enabling documents in consultation with the Head of Democratic Services and the Service Lead Governance
- (d) That the Service Lead Governance be instructed to arrange for any necessary changes to the Constitution to be presented to Council for

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adoption at the Annual Meeting, following approval by the Monitoring Officer, to enable the work of the committee to begin as soon as possible; and

- (e) That induction be arranged for the members of the Committee in accordance with the contents of this Report following their appointment.

### **81. To consider Motions submitted under procedure Rule 14.**

#### **A) Sponsorship and Donations**

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

“This Council resolves to ensure that all sponsorships for products, events and services are fully transparent to elected members and the public so that all donations are accountable, thereby, this Council will no longer accept blind donations.”

The motion was put to the vote and lost by 7 votes for, 30 against and 2 abstentions.

**Resolved** – The motion was lost.

#### **B) Funding of health services**

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

“This Council believes that Government thinking is misplaced in trying to pass on the costs of funding health services to Councils, service users and local taxpayers.

This Council therefore calls upon the Government to;

- Scrap NHS hospital car parking charges which are onerous and ever more costly for sick and vulnerable patients and their visiting friends and relatives.
- Provide adequate national funding for Adult Social Care as this Council believes the 3% Health and Social Care precept, levied at a local level, is nothing more than a cost shunting exercise.”

It was moved by Councillor Bains, as an amendment,  
Seconded by Councillor Strutton,

“This Council **endeavours to reduce** ~~believes that Government thinking is misplaced in trying to pass on~~ the costs of funding health services to Councils, service users and local taxpayers.

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This Council therefore calls upon the Government to;

- **Support Conservative MP for Harlow, Robert Halfon's 'Hospital Car Parking Charges (Abolition) Bill - 2nd reading' in the House of Commons on 11<sup>th</sup> May 2018 to scrap NHS hospital car parking charges which are onerous and ever more costly for sick and vulnerable patients and their visiting friends and relatives.**
- **Provide adequate national funding for Adult Social Care as this Council believes the 3% Health and Social Care precept, levied at a local level, is nothing more than a cost shunting exercise."**

The amendment was put to the vote with 8 votes for, 31 against and 1 abstention. The amendment to the motion was lost.

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

### **Resolved –**

This Council believes that Government thinking is misplaced in trying to pass on the costs of funding health services to Councils, service users and local taxpayers.

This Council therefore calls upon the Government to;

- Scrap NHS hospital car parking charges which are onerous and ever more costly for sick and vulnerable patients and their visiting friends and relatives.
- Provide adequate national funding for Adult Social Care as this Council believes the 3% Health and Social Care precept, levied at a local level, is nothing more than a cost shunting exercise.

### **82. To note Questions from Members under Procedure Rule 10 (as tabled).**

Three Member questions had been received, copies of which and replies had been tabled at the meeting.

### **83. Vote of Thanks**

The Mayor thanked all who had provided her with help and support throughout the year, including the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Sohal, the Mayor's Chaplain, the Reverend Linda Hillier and his wife and family for their encouragement and support throughout the year.

The Mayor also thanked all staff in the Mayoral Office, Facilities and other council departments who had supported her.

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

The Deputy Mayor was also thanked for his services during the municipal year.

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Chair

(Note: The Meeting opened at 6.30 pm and closed at 9.41 pm)