

Minutes

of the Meeting of

The Council

Tuesday, 12th November 2019

held in the New Council Chamber, Town Hall.

Meeting Commenced: 6.00 pm Meeting Concluded: 7.00 pm

Councillors:

P David Shopland (Chairman)

A Richard Westwood (Vice Chairman)

P Marc Aplin

P Nigel Ashton

P Mike Bell

A Mike Bird

P Steve Bridger

P Peter Bryant

P Gill Bute

P Mark Canniford

A Ashley Cartman

P John Cato

P Caritas Charles

A Caroline Cherry

A James Clayton

A Sara Codling

P Andy Cole

P Peter Crew

P John Crockford-Hawley

P Ciaran Cronnelly

P Mark Crosby

P Donald Davies

P Paul Gardner

P Catherine Gibbons

P Hugh Gregor

P Wendy Griggs

P Ann Harley

P Karin Haverson

P Sandra Hearne

P David Hitchins

P Steve Hogg

P Nicola Holland

P Ruth Jacobs

P Huw James

P Patrick Keating

P John Ley-Morgan
P Stuart McQuillan
A Ian Parker
P Robert Payne
P Marcia Pepperall
P Bridget Petty
P Lisa Pilgrim
A Terry Porter
P Geoffrey Richardson
P Tim Snaden
P Mike Solomon
P James Tonkin
P Stuart Treadaway
P Richard Tucker
P Roz Willis

P: Present

A: Apologies for absence submitted

Officers in attendance: Jo Walker (Chief Executive), Lucy Shomali (Director of Development and Environment), Sheila Smith (Director of People and Communities), Nicholas Brain (Head of Legal and Democratic Services), Richard Penska (interim Director of Finance), Emma Diakou (Corporate Services), Sue Efford (Corporate Services), Paul Morris (Corporate Services), John Wilkinson (Corporate Services)

Prior to the start of the formal meeting the Chairman observed a minute's silence for those who had lost their lives in air raids in North Somerset.

**COU Public participation, petitions, and deputations (Standing Orders 2(vi)
90 and 17) (Agenda Item 1)**

It was noted that as this meeting was taking place in the pre-election period there would be no public participation.

**COU Petitions to be presented by Members: Councillor Payne – Dangerous
91 Parking on Beach Road (Agenda Item 3)**

Councillor Payne presented a petition signed by local residents on the matter of dangerous parking on Beach Road outside Etonhurst Flats. The petition highlighted the dangers resulting from changes to the parking bay outside the flats which had made the bay 'pay and display' and extended it by a car's length nearer to the drive entrance for the flats and sought the following action:

1. Parking area returned to cars only with specific bays to ensure correct parking;
2. Reduce the size of the area to be further from drive entrance;
3. Make the double yellow lines no loading or parking by anyone.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Payne for the petition which was referred to the appropriate Executive Member.

COU Declaration of disclosable pecuniary interest (Standing Order 37)
92 (Agenda Item 4)

None

COU Minutes of the meeting held on 24 September 2019 (Agenda Item 5)
93

Resolved: that the minutes be approved as a correct record.

COU Chairman's announcements (Agenda Item 8)
94

The Chairman congratulated the Carnival Committee on this year's excellent carnival and thanked the street cleaners for ensuring the streets were spotless again the following morning.

COU Leader's announcements (Agenda Item 9)
95

In noting this was the last Council meeting before the festive season the Leader wished everyone a happy Christmas.

He also extended his thanks to the Elections Team for all their work in preparing for the parliamentary election on 12 December 2019.

COU Forward Plan dated 1 November 2019 (Agenda Item 11)
96

Councillor Davies presented the Forward Plan.

Resolved: that the report be noted.

COU Report of the Community and Corporate Organisation Policy and
97 Scrutiny Panel (Agenda Item 12)

Councillor Bridger presented the report and highlighted the key areas of work the Panel had undertaken this year. He expressed his thanks to the Vice-Chairman and panel members for their work and to the scrutiny officer for her support to the Panel.

In responding to questions raised by members Councillor Bridger confirmed officers were looking at quantifying the cost benefits of reduced demand on medical and enforcement agencies arising from the Mavisbus to try and secure funding from partner agencies to safeguard future provision. He confirmed that street cleaning and drain clearance had yet to be addressed by the Panel and in response to comments regarding unintentional rewilding in some areas he reminded members that consultation on rewilding would be starting the following day and urged members to get involved. Regarding the reported misuse of Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs) in some local authority areas he advised that an all councillor briefing on PSPOs would be held shortly.

Resolved: that the report be noted.

COU Question Time (Standing Order 18) (Agenda Item 13)

98

Oral questions were directed to Members concerned and the summary notes and topics involved are contained in Appendix 1.

**COU Reports and matters referred from other Committees: Licensing
99 Committee 5 November 2019 – Mid-Year Report for the Administration
and Enforcement of all Licensing Regimes (Agenda Item 16)**

Councillor Solomon presented the reference from the Licensing Committee, published as a supplementary paper.

With reference to the associated costs of the Street Café Policy for small independent businesses and to opportunities for supporting and encouraging local businesses members noted that fees and charges would be considered as part of the budget process.

Motion: Moved by Councillor Solomon, seconded by Councillor Canniford and

Resolved: that the amended Street Trading Policy 2020-2024, the amended Street Café Policy 2020-2024 and the Film Classification Policy be adopted, and it be noted that the fees and charges associated with the Street Café Policy will be considered as part of the budget process.

**COU Reports on joint arrangements and external organisations and
100 questions relating thereto: Avon Fire Authority (Agenda Item 17 (1))**

Councillor Payne presented the report.

Resolved: that the report be noted.

**COU Reports on joint arrangements and external organisations and
101 questions relating thereto: West of England Joint Scrutiny Committee
(Agenda Item 17 (2))**

It was noted that none of this Council's representatives had attended the previous meeting of the Joint Scrutiny Committee on 2 October 2019 but that the papers for the meeting were available to view on the WECA website.

COU Climate Emergency Strategy and Action Plan (Agenda Item 18)

102

Councillor Petty presented the report. She thanked officers for their work on developing the strategy and action plan which provided a starting point for achieving the ambitious targets set by the Council. She referred to the importance of collaboration and of regular updates to Council.

In discussing the report the following key points were raised: the importance of reducing the burning of fuels and options for stopping the laying of gas mains on new developments until alternatives had been fully considered; the need for the strategy and action plan to be regularly reviewed and updated, with a suggestion this should be on a six monthly basis; the need to address

the financial implications of employing additional staff to implement these new policies and the impact on other service areas that were currently under-resourced; responsibility for these decisions and the need for this to be addressed as part of the corporate plan and budget deliberations; the need for the Council to demonstrate leadership in this area; the benefits of ongoing engagement with town and parish councils, and of encouraging community groups and residents to get involved in the climate emergency agenda and the re-wilding consultation that was now open; the critical issue of reducing emissions from transport and need to properly monitor all emissions including those from aviation and the M5 motorway within the scope of the strategy; the importance of ensuring the energy efficiency of built environment was addressed within the Local Plan and the benefit of publishing developer viability statements; the role of the cross-party Climate Emergency Working Group and a request to all members to put forward ideas to the Working Group.

Motion: Moved by Councillor Petty, seconded by Councillor Tonkin and

Resolved:

(1) that the Climate Emergency Strategy and Action Plan be agreed as the basis by which the council will respond to the Climate Emergency motion from February 2019;

(2) that Council agrees that the Strategy and Action Plan are live, and that projects and initiatives identified in the Action Plan will be developed in line with governance procedures and formal decision making as per contract standing orders and the constitution; and

(3) that the Chief Executive be asked to write to Government asking for support in respect of the items in paragraph 3.21 of the report.

COU Congresbury Neighbourhood Plan (Agenda Item 19)

103

Councillor Tonkin presented the report. He thanked officers and Congresbury Parish Council for their work on the development plan. As ward member Councillor Treadaway welcomed the making of the neighbourhood plan and looked forward to the implementation of its provisions.

Motion: Moved by Councillor Tonkin, seconded by Councillor Treadaway and

Resolved: that the Council resolve to “make” the Congresbury Neighbourhood Plan.

COU Winterstoke Road Bridge – Acceptance of MOD Funding, Agreement to 104 Heads of Terms and Commissioning Plan Approval (Agenda Item 20)

Councillor Tonkin presented the report. He thanked officers for their work on this and in responding to questions he undertook to clarify the length of time Winterstoke Road would be closed and to ensure appropriate measures were in place to allow businesses, communities and bus services continued access to premises and homes in the vicinity.

Motion: Moved by Councillor Tonkin, seconded by Councillor Davies and

Resolved:

- (1) that the Heads of Terms as attached to the report be approved as the basis for the entry into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Defence (MOD) to facilitate acceptance of £10.8M initial capital funding from the MOD;
- (2) that the NSC Capital Programme be increased by £10.85m, with £10.8m funded from the MOD and £0.05m funded from the LTP programme to fund enhanced pedestrian and cycling provision adjacent to Winterstoke Road bridge; and
- (3) that the Winterstoke Road Bridge Commissioning Plan be approved to proceed; and
- (4) that the Executive Member for Planning and Transport, with advice from the Director of Development and Environment, the S151 Officer and the Head of Legal and Democratic Services be delegated the power to enter in to a Memorandum of Understanding based upon the Heads of Terms.

COU 105 Audit Committee Terms of Reference (Agenda Item 21)

Councillor Cato presented the report.

Motion: Moved by Councillor Cato, seconded by Councillor Davies and

Resolved: that the Audit Committee's terms of reference be amended to those contained in the Appendix to the report.

COU 106 Draft Municipal Calendar 2020/21 (Agenda Item 22)

The Head of Legal and Democratic Services presented the report. He referred to the benefits of approving a Municipal Calendar well in advance and to the proposal to hold some meetings of the Executive outside Weston-super-Mare.

In discussing the draft calendar reference was made to the starting time of certain meetings and whether these times should be changed to improve accessibility and encourage greater participation. It was agreed this was a matter best determined by the individual committees and panels.

Motion: Moved by Councillor Bell, seconded by Councillor Crockford-Hawley and

Resolved: that the draft Municipal Calendar for the 2020/21 Municipal Year be approved, and individual committees and panels be invited to determine the start time of their meetings.

Chairman

Appendix 1

North Somerset Council Council Meeting, 12 November 2019 Question Time (Agenda Item 13)

Question 1

From Councillor Crosby

To Councillor Tonkin, Executive Member for Planning and Transport

Air Pollution Levels

Councillor Crosby stated that according to UNICEF UK's 2018 report 'A Breath of Toxic Air' children in 71% of the UK's towns and cities are breathing unsafe levels of air pollution containing nitrogen dioxide, particulate matter 10 and particulate matter 2.5. Under North Somerset's Local Air Quality Management Report, NICE Public Health Guideline NG70 strongly recommends that the local authority should minimise the exposure of vulnerable groups to air pollution by not siting buildings (such as schools, nurseries and care homes) in areas where pollution levels will be high. He asked Councillor Tonkin if he would commission an immediate review of the Council's adopted air quality assessment process as it applies to planning applications, particularly with respect to including measuring for particulate matter 2.5. He suggested urgency was key given current planning applications in Clevedon for a care home and infant nursery on the two busiest roundabouts in the town and a proposed special needs school adjacent to seven lanes of motorway traffic, none of which have been tested for particulate matter 2.5.

Councillor Tonkin responded in the affirmative.

Question 2

From Councillor Keating

To Councillor Tonkin, Executive Member for Planning and Transport

Banwell Bypass

Councillor Keating referred to the welcome news that funding for Banwell bypass had been granted and asked Councillor Tonkin if he could confirm that the bypass plans would not lead to the reintroduction of the Churchill garden villages by the backdoor and that all plans would be open to consultation with all affected residents.

Councillor Tonkin responded that he would provide a detailed reply once the pre-election period had concluded.

Question 3

From Councillor Crockford-Hawley

To Councillor Charles, Executive Member for Leisure, Culture and Tourism

Opening of Worlebury Iron Age Fort

Councillor Crockford-Hawley asked Councillor Charles if he could assure him that no delay would occur in the timetable for processing the Council's cross-party vision to open up Worlebury Iron Age Fort and that requisite tree felling within the fort's confines will take place as soon as practically possible.

Councillor Charles responded that he would provide a detailed timetable immediately after the pre-election period.

Question 4

From Councillor Tucker

To Councillor Petty, Executive Member for Climate Emergency and Environment

Installation of a Litter Bin at the Bus Stop on Wellsea Road

Councillor Tucker referred to a question he had raised at the June Council meeting regarding the installation of more litter bins and asked what progress had been made in siting a litter bin at the bus stop on Wellsea Road.

Councillor Petty apologised for not updating Councillor Tucker sooner, stating she was not aware of any proposals to provide a bin in this location but undertaking to raise this with the waste team.