

HAVANT BOROUGH COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Council held on 10 July 2019

Present

Councillor Patrick (Mayor)

Councillors Jenner, Inkster, Patel, Thain-Smith, Robinson, Bains, Bowerman, Briggs, Branson, Carpenter, Crellin, Davis, Francis, Guest, Hart, Howard, Hughes, Keast, Kennett, Lowe, Lloyd, Pike, Raines, Rennie, Satchwell, Seal, Smith K, Thomas, Turner, Wade, Weeks and Wilson

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillors P Bains, Milne, Scott, Shimbart and Gary Robinson.

2 Declarations of Interests

There were no declarations of interest.

3 Minutes

Proposed by Councillor Smith and seconded by Councillor Howard, it was

RESOLVED that the minutes of the annual meeting of the Council held on 8 and 22 May 2019 be approved as a correct record.

4 New Councillors' Introductions

At the invitation of the Mayor, Councillors Inkster, Jenner, Patel, Thain-Smith and Mrs Robinson introduced themselves and outlined their aspirations as newly elected Councillors.

5 Mayor's Report

There were no questions in relation to the Mayor's published report.

6 Appointment of Monitoring Officer

The Interim Head of Legal left the meeting during consideration of this item.

Proposed by Councillor Wilson and seconded by Councillor Bowerman, it was

RESOLVED that the new Head of Legal be designated as Monitoring Officer at the conclusion of the recruitment process for that position, in accordance with Article 9.2(a) of the Council's Constitution. In the interim, the Interim Head of Legal be designated as Monitoring Officer.

7 Scrutiny Board and Committee Recommendations

(A) Appointment of the Chief Executive

The Acting Chief Executive left the meeting during consideration of this item.

Councillor Smith presented a report and recommendation to Council arising from the meeting of the Joint Human Resources Committee held on 18 June 2019.

Proposed by Councillor Smith and seconded by Councillor Crellin, it was

RESOLVED that

- (1) Gillian Kneller be appointed as Chief Executive;
- (2) The Chief Executive be appointed as Head of Paid Service; and
- (3) The Chief Executive be appointed as Returning Officer.

Following the resolution by Council, the Mayor took the opportunity to congratulate the new Chief Executive on her appointment.

(B) Policy Approval for a Proposed Revision of Havant Borough Council's Constitution and to Improve Efficiency by the alignment of the Constitutions of Havant Borough Council and East Hampshire District Council

Councillor Kennett presented a report and recommendation to Council arising from the meeting of the Governance, Audit and Finance Board held on 2 July 2019, seeking approval to proceed with a review of the Council's Constitution.

Councillor Kennett reported that the terms of reference of the proposed sub-committee had been amended to increase its membership from 6 to 8, with 4 members representing Havant Borough Council and 4 members representing East Hampshire District Council respectively.

The following motion was proposed by Councillor Kennett and seconded by Councillor Thomas:

- (1) agree the review of the constitution and methodology set out in 3.2 of the report;
- (2) approve the policy principles in Appendix 1;
- (3) approve the creation of a single purpose joint sub-committee with East Hampshire District Council of 8 members;
- (4) appoint 4 members from Havant Borough Council to the sub-committee;

- (5) invite the sub-committee to report to full Councils in October;
- (6) approve the budget to a maximum of £20,000 from Havant Borough Council General Reserve.

In considering the proposals, and whilst it was recognised that Councillors sitting on Planning and Licensing Committees needed to be fully trained, a number of members expressed concern about the appropriateness of the proposal to introduce compulsory training for all Councillors on all Committees in the context of their role as unsalaried elected members.

An assurance was also sought that any recommendations from the proposed joint sub-committee would be brought back to full Council for final approval and this was confirmed by the Leader.

In relation to the appointment of members to the Sub-Committee, members of the Council were minded to delegate this to the Leader of the Council.

As an amendment, it was proposed by Councillor Howard and seconded by Councillor Satchwell that the reference in Appendix 1 to the report "Compulsory training to be completed for all members of all committees" be amended to read "Compulsory training to be completed for all members of the Development Management Committee and the Licensing Committee"

In response to the proposed amendment, the Leader indicated that he would be prepared to remove recommendation (2) from the original motion and, on that basis, Councillor Howard, with the approval of Councillor Satchwell, agreed to WITHDRAW her amendment.

In accordance with Standing Order 19, it was then proposed by Councillor Satchwell and seconded by Councillor Wade that this agenda item be withdrawn for further consideration. The Mayor having taken a vote declared the motion NOT CARRIED.

As an amendment to the original motion, it was proposed by Councillor Wilson and seconded by Councillor Hart that the following be removed:
"(2) approve the policy principles in Appendix 1". The Mayor having taken a vote declared the amendment CARRIED.

At the request of Councillors Lloyd and Satchwell the voting was recorded as follows:

For the amendment:

Councillor Inkster
Councillor Jenner
Councillor Patel
Councillor Thain-Smith
Councillor Crellin
Councillor Rennie
Councillor Carpenter

Councillor Davis
Councillor Lowe
Councillor Hart
Councillor Weeks
Councillor Howard
Councillor Branson
Councillor Smith
Councillor Kennett
Councillor Hughes
Councillor Bowerman
Councillor Turner
Councillor Wilson
Councillor Pike
Councillor N Bains

Against the amendment:

Councillor Raines
Councillor Francis
Councillor Wade
Councillor Satchwell
Councillor Keast
Councillor Lloyd
Councillor Mrs Robinson

Abstentions:

Councillor Sceal
Councillor Thomas
Councillor Briggs
Councillor Guest

The Mayor then took a vote on the substantive motion, it was:

RESOLVED that the following be approved:

- (1) agree the review of the constitution and methodology set out in 3.2 of the report;
- (2) approve the creation of a single purpose joint sub-committee with East Hampshire District Council of 8 members;
- (3) the Leader to appoint 4 members from Havant Borough Council to the sub-committee;
- (4) invite the sub-committee to report to full Councils in October;
- (5) approve the budget to a maximum of £20,000 from Havant Borough Council General Reserve.

8 Leader's Report

There were no matters the Leader wished to add to his published report.

9 Cabinet Lead Reports

There were no matters the Cabinet Leads wished to add to their published reports.

10 Cabinet Leads and Chairmen's Question Time

At the invitation of the Mayor, the Cabinet Leads took questions from members of the Council in relation to their published reports.

There were no questions for the Committee Chairmen.

11 Questions Under Standing Order 23

There were no questions or urgent questions under standing order 23.

12 Reports From the Scrutiny Board

There were no further reports from the Scrutiny Board.

13 Acceptance of Minutes

Proposed by Councillor Satchwell and seconded by Councillor Keast, it was

RESOLVED that the minutes of committees held since the last meeting of the Council be received.

Sara Bryan

At the conclusion of the meeting the Mayor took the opportunity to thank Sara Bryan for her service to the Council as Lead Solicitor (Company, Commercial and Property) and wished her well in her new position.

The meeting commenced at 5.00 pm and concluded at 6.40 pm