



Minutes of the meeting of the **Council** held in the Committee Rooms, East Pallant House on Tuesday 31 January 2023 at 2.00 pm

Members Present: Mrs E Hamilton (Chairman), Mr H Potter (Vice-Chairman), Mrs C Apel, Mrs T Bangert, Rev J H Bowden, Mr B Brisbane, Mr R Briscoe, Mr J Brown, Mr A Dignum, Mrs J Duncton, Mr J Elliott, Mrs J Fowler, Mrs N Graves, Mr F Hobbs, Mr T Johnson, Mrs E Lintill, Mrs S Lishman, Mr G McAra, Mr A Moss, Mr S Oakley, Dr K O'Kelly, Mrs P Plant, Mr R Plowman, Mrs C Purnell, Mr D Rodgers, Mrs S Sharp, Mr A Sutton, Mrs S Taylor and Mr P Wilding

Members not present: Mr G Barrett, Miss H Barrie, Mr M Bell, Mr G Evans, Mrs D Johnson, Mr C Page and Mr D Palmer

Officers present all items: Mrs L Baines (Democratic Services Manager), Mr N Bennett (Divisional Manager for Democratic Services), Mr A Frost (Director of Planning and Environment), Mrs J Hotchkiss (Director of Growth and Place), Mrs L Rudziak (Director of Housing and Communities), Mrs D Shepherd (Chief Executive) and Mr J Ward (Director of Corporate Services)

189 **Minutes**

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 22 November 2022 be approved and signed as a correct record.

Cllr Moss asked if Cllr Taylor would be making an update statement in relation to the Local Plan Regulation 19. Cllr Hamilton requested that Cllr Moss request such an update as part of Questions to the Executive.

190 **Urgent Items**

Cllr Hamilton explained that she had accepted one Urgent Item to note an Urgent Decision Notice and Exception to Tender circulated as a supplement to the agenda which would be taken under Late Items.

191 **Declarations of Interests**

Members made the following declarations of interest:

Cllr Oakley declared a personal interest in relation to agenda item 7 as a member of West Sussex County Council.

Cllr Apel declared a personal interest in relation to agenda item 8 as a Trustee of Pallant House Gallery.

Cllr Apel also declared a personal interest in relation to agenda item 9 as a Trustee of Stonepillow.

Cllr Bangert declared a personal interest in relation to agenda item 9 as a Governor of Bourne Community College.

Cllr Purnell declared a personal interest in relation to agenda item 12 as a NPP Chair.

192 **Chair's Announcements**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Barrett, Cllr Barrie, Cllr Bell, Cllr Evans, Cllr Donna Johnson and Cllr David Palmer.

Cllr Hamilton made the following announcements:

It is with much sadness that I inform you of the death of John Cherry and Myles Cullen.

John Cherry was a member for Stedham Ward. He also sat as a Vice-Chair of Corporate Governance and Audit Committee and a member of the Grants and Concessions Panel.

Myles Cullen was a district councillor for Bosham ward. He was a Leader of the Council and a Cabinet member for Commercial Services. He also sat as a member of Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Planning Committee, Development Plan and Infrastructure Panel and Grants and Concessions Panel.

All those present held a two minutes silence.

193 **Public Question Time**

The following public question and answer was read:

Question from Penny Tomlinson:

I have lived in Westgate in the Conservation area for the past eight years. During that period the traffic has become increasingly oppressive both in volume and speed. The 20mph speed limit is widely ignored and the 7.5 tonne weight limit is also abused. A few years ago a neighbour tried to get a Speed Indicator Device installed but the Highways Department of the WSCC refused permission. At that time a Freedom of Information request revealed that the Police had not enforced the speed limit for the last five years. This situation is intolerable and the pollution levels are among the highest in Europe, at almost three times the WHO safe level.

The Chichester District Council in July 2019 declared a "Climate Emergency" in the District and committed to reducing CO² levels across the City by 10% per year until 2025. Westgate is a very polluted area and this affects the health of its residents, the many children and other pedestrians who pass through daily as well as cyclists who use the two National Cycle Routes of which Westgate is a key part.

A recent survey revealed that as much as 73% of the traffic using Westgate at peak times is actually 'through traffic' going to and from the A27. This traffic should be using Via Ravenna, built as the A259 Westgate Relief road, but prefers the shortcut down Westgate, an unclassified residential road. Something needs to change.

The London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham recently introduced a scheme to prevent the use of residential streets by traffic avoiding arterial roads. This has not only improved traffic flow on all roads but has also reduced CO² pollution in this area of the borough by more than a tonne per day! These facts are verified by the borough data. The scheme relies on ANPR and local residents being permitted to pass freely through their neighbourhood while alien traffic is not. The attached Flyer, which had been provided by way of an up-date for local residents, provides an excellent overview of what could be achieved in Chichester, with minimal delay and at virtually no cost.

Given that the development of 1,600 new homes to the West of Westgate will inevitably exacerbate our traffic volumes, urgent action now needs to be taken to prevent through traffic using Westgate as a short-cut – especially when a more suitable alternative exists in Via Ravenna.

Hopefully you have all had the opportunity to consider the BACKGROUND provided prior to this meeting and therefore:

My question is:

Will the District Council please support the installation of an ANPR system to reduce traffic on Westgate so that this could be installed without delay following an application to the Secretary of State,
And,

Will the council ensure that this system is approved for installation before planning consent is given for further housebuilding at Minerva Heights (Whitehouse Farm).

Answer from Cllr Penny Plant:

Thank you for your question. As you rightly point out, the District Council declared a climate emergency in 2019 and subsequently published a detailed action plan containing targets and a wide-ranging series of actions to reduce carbon emissions both within the Council's own estate and the wider district. Whilst I note your concerns regarding the volume of traffic using Westgate as an alternative to Via Ravenna, matters concerning traffic routing and traffic management within the city are a matter for West Sussex County Council as the local highway authority and so you should approach them with your request. Should the County Council formally consult the District Council on the matter outlined in your question then this Council will carefully consider its response through our normal governance process.

With regard to air quality on Westgate; the Council adopted the Chichester City Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) which includes Route B for Westgate. That route is a high priority for bringing forward and is intended to reduce air pollution by pushing alternative modes (cycling, walking and other non-car modes) on that route in due course. It is through encouraging switching to these alternative modes that traffic management measures on Westgate can contribute a modest but helpful amount to the district-wide carbon target. Again, as a Highway matter this is for WSCC to implement.

In respect of your reference to the planning application at Whitehouse Farm, I would add that the merits of those planning proposals, which include the impact of additional traffic on roads in the area, are presently under consideration by the Council in its role as the local planning authority. You may therefore wish to submit representations to the application outlining your concerns and also raise them with WSCC which is a statutory consultee to the application. A decision on the application will be made in due course by the Council's planning committee which you can attend and register to speak at should you wish to.

Further to the response to the public question Cllr's Bowden, Plowman and Moss all requested to speak. Cllr Hamilton explained that she would be accepting no supplementary questions due to the length of the agenda.

194 **Compact Sweeper Procurement**

Cllr Plant proposed the recommendation which was seconded by Cllr Lintill. Cllr Plant then introduced the item.

Cllr McAra, Cllr Plowman and Cllr Brown spoke in support of the recommendation.

Cllr Potter gave his support but wished to note the cost of the vehicles.

Cllr Lishman gave her support. She requested further information on how the vehicles would help to prevent flooding on the streets.

Cllr Oakley requested information on the life expectancy of the vehicles compared to a conventional vehicle.

Mr Carter in response to Cllr Lishman explained that the street cleaning would be likely to help prevent some drain blockages. In response to Cllr Oakley he explained that diesel vehicles had a life expectancy of around five to six years.

In a vote the following resolution was agreed:

RESOLVED

That Council allocates £205,000 from reserves to purchase a new electric powered compact sweeper for use within the city centre and surrounding streets.

195 **Consideration of Consultation Responses Received on Chichester District Council's Draft Infrastructure Business Plan 2023-2028**

Cllr Taylor proposed the recommendation which was seconded by Cllr Lintill. Cllr Taylor then introduced the item.

Cllr Bangert wished to note concerns relating to school places. She explained that children in the Southbourne ward were being allocated places at schools in Emsworth. Cllr Taylor noted the concerns.

Cllr Oakley in relation to page 33 of the agenda pack requested further information relating to where additional funding will be coming from for projects.

Cllr Plowman noted the number of projects not being progressed.

In response to both Cllr Oakley and Cllr Plowman Cllr Taylor explained that a number of projects listed were the responsibility of other agencies. Mr Frost added that often the projects require feasibility studies which causes a delay outside of the council's control.

Cllr Apel requested an update on the Langley House Surgery project. Cllr Taylor explained that it remained in the Plan. Mr Frost added that there had been a separate planning permission process which he could provide further information to Cllr Apel outside of the meeting. Cllr Bowden noted that he could not support the Langley House Surgery element of the Plan as it stood.

Cllr Sharp asked for more to be done to support travel. She also noted the increase in costs relating to a number of projects. Cllr Taylor suggested the points be raised to West Sussex County Council (WSCC) as the matters related to their powers.

Cllr O'Kelly requested a delivery lead, expected key dates and proposed sources of funding be listed alongside the Plan's items. Mrs Dower explained that the project leads are requested to provide key dates and those which are received are included.

Cllr Moss congratulated Mrs Dower on creating the Plan. He wished to note the increase in project costs.

In a vote the following resolutions were agreed:

RESOLVED

- 1. That Council approve the proposed responses to the representations received and subsequent modifications to the Draft Infrastructure Business Plan 2023-2028 as set out in Appendix 1 to the report.**
- 2. That Council approve the amended IBP including the CIL Spending Plan as set out in Appendix 2 to the report.**

196 Pallant House Gallery Funding Update

Cllr Briscoe proposed the recommendation which was seconded by Cllr Lintill. Cllr Briscoe then introduced the item.

Cllr Lishman asked if more could be done to help the Gallery regain its government funding.

Cllr Apel spoke in favour of the Gallery's community work and explained that the last exhibition linked to the South Downs had the largest number of visits to date.

Cllr Duncton, Cllr Hobbs and Cllr Plowman gave their support to the Gallery and explained that it draws visitors to the city.

Cllr Oakley explained that he would be abstaining from the vote wishing to assess the support against the council's priorities after the district elections in May 2023.

Cllr Brown asked why the Gallery's funding had been cut this year.

Cllr Briscoe in response to Cllr Brown's question explained that the Arts Council had its funding cut by central government.

Cllr Wilding gave his support to the recommendation. He suggested the Gallery consider internal savings noting that the loss of funding equated to 5% of the total funding provided.

In a vote the following resolution was agreed:

RESOLVED

That following the withdrawal of Art Council England National Portfolio Funding the Council continues to support Pallant House Gallery under current funding arrangements for 2023/24.

197 The Procurement and Allocation of Temporary Accommodation for Homeless Applicants Policy

Cllr Sutton proposed the recommendation which was seconded by Cllr Lintill. Cllr Sutton then introduced the item.

Cllr Apel asked whether the council is involved in helping stop rough sleeping during the extreme cold weather. Ms Standing agreed to circulate further information to Cllr Apel outside of the meeting. Cllr Sutton added that it would be discussed at the Housing and Communities Panel.

Cllr Lishman requested clarification on the number of homeless people within the district having read an article which indicated the figure was 150. Mrs Rudziak clarified that the rough sleeping figure was two or three people. She explained that offers via Stonepillow had been made. In terms of the figure of 150 it is likely that this includes those staying with friends and those in temporary accommodation.

Cllr Tim Johnson noted that there was a situation of fewer buy to let landlords.

Cllr Bangert praised the council's homelessness prevention service. She asked what involvement the council has with Ukrainian refugees. Mrs Rudziak explained that the Ukrainian refugee service is hosted by the WSCC. When a placement breaks down WSCC can where appropriate offer temporary accommodation whilst a new host is arranged.

Cllr Moss also praised the role of the council's housing team in homelessness prevention. Cllr Sutton added that the Supporting You team had also assisted.

Cllr Oakley requested further information of any issues experienced with temporary accommodation outside of the district and to what degree the council can apply its own standards. Ms Standing explained that placements outside of the district are subject to site visits to ensure compliance.

Cllr O'Kelly requested the number of households currently in bed and breakfast accommodation. Ms Standing explained the figure lay between eight and 12 households. She added that the figures are regularly monitored.

Cllr Plowman drew members attention to the charitable organisation 2nd Chance Home City which provide funding to help provide essentials for temporary housing.

Cllr Brisbane requested information on the average weekly cost of bed and breakfast accommodation if temporary accommodation need exceeds supply. Mrs Rudziak explained that the council is not generally exceeding the governments standards of six weeks in bed and breakfast accommodation however the need for temporary accommodation was the reason that the council brought forward the Freeland Close project.

In a vote the following resolution was agreed:

RESOLVED

That Councils adopts the Procurement and Allocation of Temporary Accommodation for the Homeless under Part VII of the Housing Act 1996 and Related Legislation Policy.

198 Treasury Management and Investment Strategies for 2023-24

Cllr Wilding proposed the recommendation which was seconded by Cllr Lintill. Cllr Wilding then introduced the item.

Cllr Plowman requested further information on the loss in value of property investments. Cllr Wilding explained that the loss related to a fall in value of two recently purchased properties. He explained that the amount remained small in the total £13 million investment.

Cllr Oakley thanked the council for running an annual treasury management training session for members. Cllr Apel also recommended the training session. Cllr Wilding commented that the turnout had been disappointing with a third of members attending.

In a vote the following resolution was agreed:

RESOLVED

That the Treasury Management Policy Statement, Treasury Management Strategy Statement, the Investment Strategy, and relevant indicators for 2023/24 be approved.

199 UK Shared Prosperity Fund and Rural England Prosperity Fund

Cllr Lintill proposed the recommendation which was seconded by Cllr Taylor. Cllr Lintill then introduced the item.

Cllr Oakley asked Cllr Lintill what challenges were faced with the spend deadline of three years. Cllr Lintill explained that the grant has to be spent in that time and a grants system was being set up as soon as possible. Mrs Murphy confirmed that the council had been engaging with partners and community groups who would be eligible. Cllr O'Kelly asked when the information would be available in the public domain. Mrs Murphy clarified that the application form, guidance and weblinks were being finalised before they would be made live and circulated to those who had been engaged in the process.

Cllr Moss and Cllr Plowman raised some confusion about the funding on offer. Cllr Lintill clarified that there are two funds which will be detailed online.

Cllr McAra praised Mrs Murphy and her team for their work on the project.

In a vote the following resolution was agreed:

RESOLVED

That Council accepts the allocation of Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF), once advised, which is anticipated to be in the region of £718,000.

Members took a short break.

200 Climate Emergency Action Plan - second annual progress report

Cllr Plant proposed the recommendation which was seconded by Cllr Lintill. Cllr Plant then introduced the item.

Cllr Brown commended officers on the report. He drew attention to Appendix 2 noting that emissions were not reduced further during lockdown. With regard to Appendix 3 he noted that the council's emissions were below the 10% target. He suggested moving forward that the council should be focussed on incentivising reducing emissions.

Cllr Elliott drew attention to a power purchase agreement opportunity with a solar farm which could provide a reduction in emissions if pursued.

Cllr Brisbane explained that he supported the initiative of additional tree planting on new developments. He requested an update on the Elizabeth Road and Swanfield avenue sites. Cllr Plant explained that applications for those sites had not been received. She explained that applications are to be submitted by mid-February with projects completed by the end of this financial year.

Cllr Hobbs explained he agreed with Cllr Brown. He asked that the council focusses on what it has the power to change.

Cllr Plowman asked the council to consider its projects such as Southern Gateway and the environmental implication of its plans. He suggested repurposing buildings rather than rebuilding.

Cllr Sharp agreed with the comments made. She raised concerns relating to not reaching emission targets. With regard to page 45 of the agenda pack she asked how walking and cycling infrastructure could be measured in terms of the reduction in carbon.

Cllr Oakley asked the council to balance environmental action with economic recovery. He asked for consideration of where best to use resources. He suggested a modern bus hub infrastructure to support the resources that can be put into public transport. He requested information on how the council monitors the survival rate of trees and hedging in new developments.

Cllr Potter raised concerns in his ward relating to tree planting and the need to replant trees and the impact this has had on the area of land available to grow food crops.

Cllr Sutton drew members attention to the figure of 0.5% emissions which is the percentage of emissions the council generates compared to the district as a whole. He suggested education would support the reduction.

Cllr O'Kelly spoke in support of the Staff Green Travel Plan. With regard to insulation grant support she requested the percentage of homes helped by the council's scheme. She asked the council to work with WSCC on the LCWIP in order to support WSCC accessing additional funding bid opportunities. She requested more electric charging points. Cllr Duncton commended the report. She explained that many rural parts of the district are not serviced regularly by buses which increases car use in those areas.

Cllr Moss congratulated Mrs Smith on the Climate Action Plan. He requested clearer KPI's and measurable diagrams. He drew attention to the work with local businesses outlined on page 37 of the agenda pack. He then drew attention to page 48 and the work of the Tree Project Officer. He requested that Southern Water continue to be encouraged to work on the Joint Nitrate Scheme outlined on page 48. He then drew attention to the habitat improvement initiatives from the Wildlife Corridors on page 49.

Cllr Purnell explained that it is not always possible to carry out building enhancements on older buildings in the district including listed buildings.

In a vote the following resolution was agreed:

RESOLVED

That the Council notes the report and the progress on implementing the Climate Emergency Action plan.

201 Urgent Decision Notice - UK Shared Prosperity Funding

On behalf of the Council Cllr Hamilton formally noted the Urgent Decision Notice relating to the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

Cllr O'Kelly asked for further information on how points one to six were decided. Cllr Hamilton explained the decision had been made by the Leader and Leader of the Opposition. Mrs Hotchkiss explained that the Council had received a report in July to identify funding amounts. Under delegations the Urgent Decision Notice was agreed by the Leader and Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee. This was agreed on 5 December 2022.

Cllr Sharp requested the opportunity to ask a question. Cllr Hamilton explained that she would not be taking questions on the item.

202 Late Items

On behalf of the Council Cllr Hamilton formally noted the Urgent Decision Notice and Exception to Tender relating to the Selsey Sea Wall.

203 **Exclusion of the press and public**

Cllr Hamilton explained that she would be taking the part II items next and then returning to public session for Questions to the Executive. Cllr Moss raised concerns that residents should hear the Questions to the Executive. Cllr Hamilton clarified that the live recording would restart once Part II items had been completed.

Cllr Hamilton then read the Part II resolution in relation to agenda items 17, 18 and 19 which was proposed by Cllr Lintill and seconded by Cllr Taylor. The Council then voted to go into part II.

RESOLVED

That with regard to agenda items 17, 18 and 19 the public including the press should be excluded from the meeting on the grounds of exemption in Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 namely Paragraph 3 (Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)) and because, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption of that information outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

204 **Urgent Decision Notice**

On behalf of the Council Cllr Hamilton formally noted the exempt Urgent Decision Notice on exempt page 71 of the agenda pack.

205 **CCTV transmission contract renewal**

Cllr Briscoe proposed the recommendation which was seconded by Cllr Lintill. Cllr Briscoe then introduced the item.

Cllr Briscoe drew attention to a correction to section 3.5 of the Cabinet papers where the word 'maintenance' should read 'transmission'.

In a vote the following resolution was agreed:

RESOLVED

That the resolution as set out in section 2.1 of the report be agreed.

206 **Future Services Framework**

Cllr Lintill proposed the recommendation which was seconded by Cllr Taylor. Cllr Lintill then introduced the item.

Cllr Lintill drew members attention to the recommendations from the Cabinet meeting. She explained the funding reason for the amendment to the recommendations.

Cllr Brown requested changes to the categorisation of the document to make it clearer. Cllr Lintill noted the comments to pass to officers.

Cllr Tim Johnson asked for clarity about discussing the outcome.

Cllr Moss explained his disappointment that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee recommendations had not been included in the Cabinet recommendations. Cllr Lintill explained that the Cabinet had considered the recommendations but felt they were not widely different to those put forward to the Council.

In a vote the following resolution was agreed:

RESOLVED

That recommendations 1-5 as stated on the Staffing Confidential Recommendations and Decision Sheet to Full Council on 31 January 2023 be agreed.

207 Questions to the Executive

Cllr Hamilton then proposed that the Council return to public session which was seconded by Cllr Lintill and agreed by a show of hands.

The following questions to the Executive were asked:

Cllr Moss asked if Cllr Taylor could provide clarification on the implications of planning applications going to Planning Committee over the next few weeks with the Local Plan going forward to Regulation 19. He also asked if there were any other consequences going forwards. Cllr Taylor explained that the position was complex with the council seeking external legal advice. She added that meetings with Highways England and WSCC would be taking place. An update will be published on the website in due course. Mr Frost confirmed that during the transition stage of the Local Plan over the next 18 months the website would be updated with further information as appropriate. Cllr Moss raised concerns relating to people arranging to attend Planning Committee. Mr Bennett reminded members not to drift into individual cases.

Cllr Plowman asked whether in light of the loss of the Levelling up fund and the 3G pitch for the Oaklands Park it was time to think about reallocation of the Section 106 monies for pitches on Havenstoke Park. Cllr Briscoe explained that the 3G pitch at Oaklands Park Chichester is progressing even though the council was not successful with the Levelling Up Fund application. The Oaklands park 3G pitch project has been tendered and a lead contractor selected. The application to the Football Foundation was submitted on Monday 16 January 2023 and a decision is due within three months. Subject to the Football Foundation funding being agreed, the project is planned to commence on site in May/June to correspond with the end of the football season. Cllr Taylor added that the two sports pitches at Havenstoke Park form part of a larger strategic mixed-use development at Graylingwell which was granted outline planning permission in 2018. The sports pitches were secured to ensure that the new community have access to outdoor sports provision, contributing to the sustainability of the new development and bringing health and community benefits for residents. There is no requirement for the developer to make a financial contribution for sports provision, rather the developer is required via a Section 106 Legal Agreement to provide the sports pitches at Havenstoke Park. The developer was required to submit details and specifications of the playing pitches, and Officers have recently considered, and agreed, the proposed specifications for adult and junior grass playing pitches. The additional grass pitch provision at Havenstoke Park is required to meet the needs of the increased population as a result of the Graylingwell development, and this is supported by the findings of the 2018 Playing Pitch Strategy and existing local

demand for mini and junior sports pitches. The grass pitch provision will ensure that the new community have access to outdoor sports facilities whilst maintaining the open green space, and the potential impacts upon wildlife will be appropriately managed via the requirements of the planning conditions on the planning permission for the development.

Cllr Plowman responded requesting that the council consider the sport provision in order to provide green open space within 15 minutes of travel. Cllr Taylor noted the request.

Cllr Oakley asked the council's approach to assessing what the biodiversity of a site is if a landowner undertakes clearance works (including repeated clearances post 30 Jan 2020) prior to a planning application being submitted and with that application only submits information on the biodiversity of the application site after any clearance works have been undertaken, e.g. by what means would the pre-clearance biodiversity value of a site be determined for the purposes of this new legislation? Cllr Taylor explained that biodiversity net gain is an emerging issue that the council's Planning and Environmental Strategy Unit are preparing for. The relevant regulations have not yet been finalised, however it is expected that applicants will be required to self-certify that the baseline submitted has, to the best of their knowledge, taken into account any degradation to the habitats since 30 January 2020 and adjusted for that degradation. As such, any pre-emptive clearance should be discounted and the applicant would be expected to use a baseline as existing in Jan 2020 or at the time of the application (whichever is higher) and deliver 10% gain over that baseline. When assessing submissions officers will carefully consider the information submitted. The type and area of habitat can be determined to an extent from aerial photos and habitat GIS layers on the Natural England Magic Map. However, the condition of the habitat will be much more arguable, more so as we get further way from the Jan 2020 date. As such, it is possible that where there is evidence of active degradation (rather than neglect or lack of management) the Council could require applicants to assume all habitat was in good condition. This would be a penalty to them, and until such time that the Government publish the regulations and guidance it is not possible to determine whether this will be a reasonable approach. Members will be updated when further details are published.

Cllr Sharp asked the impact on the council's Wellbeing Services if residents are required to pay for appointments with GPs or Accident and Emergency. She asked if the Wellbeing Team could be asked to provide feedback if the costs were to increase. Cllr Briscoe explained that it was not for the council to respond as the matter was not under the council's authority.

Cllr Hobbs raised concerns that the amount of business on the agenda had shortened the time available for public questions and what impression this would give to residents. Cllr Lintill explained that the procedure is in the council's Constitution and any proposed changes should be made via Corporate Governance and Audit Committee to Full Council. Cllr Hobbs asked if Cllr Lintill supported the view to be as open as possible. Cllr Lintill confirmed that she did.

Cllr Bowden asked for further information on the publicising of new election voter ID in order to give residents enough time to obtain photo ID if required. Cllr Lintill referred Cllr Bowden to Mrs Shepherd. Mrs Shepherd explained that Voter ID would be a new procedure for the upcoming district elections. A campaign has begun via the Electoral Commission. Further information will be available to members via the Members Bulletin shortly and via leaflets that will be available for canvassing. Following further requests for clarification Mrs Shepherd explained that if a resident does not have photo ID they could

apply for a Voter Authentication Certificate or apply for a postal vote. She added that the upcoming All Parish meeting would also be including a presentation on the matter.

Cllr Apel asked whether there would be a New Homes Bonus for 2025/26. Mr Ward confirmed that it had been agreed for the next year.

The meeting ended at 5.40 pm

CHAIRMAN

Date: