

Minutes of the Meeting of the COUNCIL held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall on Wednesday 21st March 2018 at 6.00 pm.

Present: - Councillors

S Barber	S Ion
J Carnall	C Jones
N Cenci	B Knowles
G Chisholm	C Kreidewolf
H Clarke	A Leeder
S Connelly	I Lockington
J Cook	J Macartney
M Cook	N MacDonald
S Darwin	D Maguire
G Debman	S Meudec
E Elavalakan	E Phillips
D Ellesmere	R Pope
R Fern	J Powell
I Fisher	L Reynolds
S Gage	J Riley
P Gardiner	A Ross
J Gibbs	B Rudkin
D Goldsmith	C Smart
M Goonan	P Smart
T Grant	B Studd
B Hall	R Vickery
O Holmes	C Wright
A Hopgood	E Xhaferaj

68. Apologies for Absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Harsant and Whittall.

69. To Confirm the Minutes from the Previous Council Meeting.

It was **RESOLVED:**

that the Minutes of the meeting held on 21 February 2018 be signed as a true record.

70. To Confirm or Vary the Order of Business on the Agenda.

It was **RESOLVED:**

That the order of business be confirmed as printed on the Agenda.

71. To Receive any Declarations of Interest.

Agenda Item 6 – Questions asked in Accordance with Procedure Rule 9, Question 2, Bus Fares

Councillor Gardiner declared a non-pecuniary interest in this item as a Director of Ipswich Buses Ltd.

Councillor Lockington declared a non-pecuniary interest in this item as a Director of Ipswich Buses Ltd.

Agenda Item 6 – Questions asked in Accordance with Procedure Rule 9, Question 6, Annual Audit Letter

Councillor Kreidewolf declared a non-pecuniary interest in this item as a Director of Ipswich Borough Assets Ltd.

Councillor Riley declared a non-pecuniary interest in this item as a Director of Ipswich Borough Assets Ltd.

Agenda Item 8 - C/17/19 Human Resources Panel Progress Report

Councillor Fisher, being the spouse of a Council employee, declared a pecuniary interest in this item and left the room during its discussion.

Agenda Item 9 - C/17/20 Pay Policy Statement

Councillor Fisher, being the spouse of a Council employee, declared a pecuniary interest in this item and left the room during its discussion.

Mr Williams, Chief Executive, declared a pecuniary interest in this item and left the room during its discussion.

Mrs Pluck, Chief Operating Officer, declared a pecuniary interest in this item and left the room during its discussion.

Agenda Item 10 - C/17/21 Gender Pay Gap April 2017

Councillor Fisher, being the spouse of a Council employee, declared a pecuniary interest in this item and left the room during its discussion.

72. Mayor's Communications.

The Mayor noted that in the past month the Mayor's Parlour had seen a number of visitors. The Mayor had welcomed members of the Men's Visually Impaired Club, the Ipswich Hospital Band, volunteers and staff from Inspire Suffolk, representatives from the Ipswich Building Society, Greenways volunteers, not to mention pupils from the Cliff Lane School Council. The Mayor said that it had been a pleasure to meet them and show them the Mayor's Parlour and the Ipswich regalia.

The regional meeting of the Suffolk East Federation of Women’s Institutes took place at the beginning of March, and the Mayor had been very pleased to welcome over 600 WI women to our town.

During National Apprenticeship Week (5-9 March), the Mayor attended an apprenticeship celebration at the Eastern Region Roof Training Group where she had met several young people and talked with them about their apprenticeships and their aspirations for the future.

Also as part of the National Apprenticeship Week, the Mayor attended the opening of the Engineering Suite at Suffolk New College. This was an exciting facility and would provide young people in Ipswich with the opportunity develop engineering skills for their future.

The Mayor’s Charity Ball would be taking place on 24th March – and there were a few places available for those who wanted to join in the fun. The Mayor had received a lot of support this year from local businesses and the community, and The Mayor and Consort were looking forward to a very successful and enjoyable night.

Finally, the Mayor would be getting on her bike to ride (some of) the opening route of the Women’s Tour before it comes to Suffolk in June. The Mayor would be taking part with another “This Girl Can” Ambassador all the way from Framlingham to Ipswich and hoped that neither chain would come off!!

The Mayor noted that this would be the last ordinary Council meeting during her term of office and commented that she had enjoyed the opportunity to be the Mayor of Ipswich greatly.

73. Councillors to answer questions asked in accordance with Rules of Procedure 9.

	Question put to:	Question from:	Question Title
1.	Councillor Ellesmere	Mr Harding	Ipswich Market*
2.	Councillor P Smart	Mr Harding	Bus Fares*
3.	Councillor Jones	Councillor Pope	Street Trees
4.	Councillor Jones	Councillor Pope	Forest Charter
5.	Councillor Ellesmere	Councillor Phillips	Heritage Visitor Centre
6.	Councillor M Cook	Councillor Phillips	Annual Audit Letter
7.	Councillor P Smart	Councillor Reynolds	Electric Vehicle Charging Points
8.	Councillor P Smart	Councillor Reynolds	Resident Parking Permit Scheme

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| 9. | Councillor Ellesmere | Councillor Fisher | Candidate Pledges |
| 10. | Councillor Lockington | Councillor Fisher | Candidate Pledges |
| 11. | Councillor P Smart | Councillor Lockington | Virtual Parking Permits |
| 12. | Councillor P Smart | Councillor Lockington | Street Cleansing Programme |
| 13. | Councillor P Smart | Councillor Holmes | Parking Strategy |

* In the absence of Mr Harding, a written response would be provided.

74. C/17/18 Statement of Community Involvement Review.

It was **RESOLVED** on a motion **MOVED** by Councillor Jones and **SECONDED** by Councillor Gardiner:

that the Statement of Community Involvement Review be adopted.

75. C/17/19 Human Resources Panel Progress Report.

It was **RESOLVED** on a motion **MOVED** by Councillor M Cook and **SECONDED** by Councillor Xhaferaj:

- a) **that the Chief Executive be authorised to take all necessary steps to implement a £9 per hour minimum guarantee for employees on Grades 2 and 3 with the implementation to take effect on 1st April 2018 or on the date that a collective agreement is signed with all necessary parties (whichever is the later).**
- b) **that the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan be amended to increase the pay contingency budget from £200,000 to £235,000 with the funding to come from reserves in 2018/19.**
- c) **that the HR Panel be authorised to conclude matters on pay and grading for Grades 11-13 and on job evaluation subject to reaching collective agreement; with implementation taking place either on 1st April 2018 or the date on which all parties sign a collective agreement (whichever is the later).**

The vote on this resolution was unanimous.

76. C/17/20 Pay Policy Statement.

It was **RESOLVED** on a motion **MOVED** by Councillor M Cook and **SECONDED** by Councillor Riley:

that the Pay Policy Statement for 2018/2019 be approved.

77. C/17/21 Gender Pay Gap April 2017.

It was **RESOLVED** on a motion **MOVED** by Councillor M Cook and **SECONDED** by Councillor Riley:

that the Gender Pay Gap at 1st April 2017 be noted.

78. C/17/22 Appointment of Replacement Section 151 Chief Financial Officer.

It was **RESOLVED**:

that Mr John Chance be appointed as the Council's Section 151 Officer, in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1972 and all other powers and duties, to replace Mr Peter Timmins with effect from the date immediately following this meeting.

79. To Consider nominations/changes of Councillors to serve on Committees, Panels, Working Groups and Outside Bodies.

There were no changes to placings.

The Mayor noted that this meeting would be the last which some Councillors would attend whilst in office, and commented that the dedication of Councillors to their communities was not always appreciated. The Mayor noted that some Councillors had been working for their residents for decades and recorded the Borough's thanks to all those stepping down at the forthcoming election.

The meeting closed at 7.17 pm

Chair