

Minutes of the Meeting of the COUNCIL held in the Grand Hall, Corn Exchange on Wednesday 21st February 2018 at 6.00 pm.

Present: - Councillors

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

58. Apologies for Absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Chisholm, Goldsmith, Hopgood, Maguire and Leeder.

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

It was **RESOLVED:**

that the Minutes of the meeting held on 24 January 2018 be signed as a true record.

60. 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.

61. To Receive any Declarations of Interest.

Agenda Item 7 - C/17/17 Financial Strategies and Medium Term Financial Plan 2018/19 Onwards (including Budget 2018/19)

The Monitoring Officer had granted Dispensations to all Members present to allow them to take part in the discussion of, and to vote on, the Setting of the Council Tax Precept.

Councillor Harsant declared a Non-pecuniary Interest as a Trustee of Ipswich Community Playbus and Ipswich Furniture Project both of which were proposed to receive Grant Funding.

Councillors Kreidewolf and Riley declared Non-pecuniary Interests as Directors of Ipswich Borough Assets.

Councillors Lockington and Gardiner declared Non-pecuniary Interests as Directors Of Ipswich Buses Ltd.

62. Mayor's Communications.

The Mayor noted that whilst the past few weeks had seen some extremes of weather, it had been a time for focussing on Ipswich and its community.

A group of "This Girl Can" Ipswich Women completed a programme of learning to run, and the Mayor had been pleased to join them for their "Graduation Run" and to present medals to them in cold and icy conditions.

At the weekend the Mayor had met the amazing Ipswich Women's Basketball Team. It had been a pleasure to congratulate them on their recent, historic success after they had beaten the Essex Blades in the NBL final to lift the National Cup!

The Mayor also attended the Holocaust Memorial Day event at the University of Suffolk on 27th January. The theme this year was "The Power of Words" and included a reading from Anne Frank's Diary; as ever it was a moving reflection.

February is the month of the Chinese New Year – we are now in the Year of the Dog. The Mayor and the Mayor's Consort attended the Chinese New Year celebrations in the Grand Hall, Corn Exchange on Sunday, and had presented awards to the young people taking part in this celebration event.

The Ipswich Mosque in Bond Street held its Open Day on 17 February, and the Mayor was pleased to be invited to attend. It was an opportunity to visit this local mosque, to meet some of its members, and to help break down barriers within our community.

To mark the Town Hall's 150th anniversary, the Mayor and the Mayor's Consort hosted a very successful Civic "Robbie Burns Supper" in the Council Chamber on 28th

January. The Town Hall is one of the most iconic buildings in Ipswich and still plays an important part in the civic life of our town. The Mayor thanked everyone who attended and helped celebrate to this special anniversary.

The Mayor's Parlour has also seen a number of visitors this month. The Mayor had welcomed members of the Ipswich Hospital Choir, mentors and mentees from Volunteering Matters, and Friends of Holywells Park to name but a few.

The Mayor's Charity Ball was fast approaching– and there were a few places available if anyone wanted to join the Mayor and the Mayor's Consort on Saturday, 24th March. The Mayor had received a lot of support from the local business community, as well as friends and colleagues, and the Mayor was grateful for that.

Finally, Monday 26 February would be the start of Fairtrade Fortnight. Ipswich is a Fairtrade town, and the Mayor was looking forward to helping launch the event on Monday.

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

	Question put to:	Question from:	Question Title
1.	Councillor P Smart	Mr Harding	Potential of Athena Hall Car Park
2.	Councillor P Smart	Mr Harding	Security of Athena Hall Car Park
3.	Councillor Ellemere	Mr Algar	Economic Policy*
4.	Councillor Rudkin	Mr Algar	The Angle*
5.	Councillor Ellesmere	Mr Croydon	Investment in Car Parking and Air Quality
6.	Councillor Jones	Councillor Lockington	Role of Planning Authority after the Determination of the Application
7.	Councillor MacDonald	Councillor Pope	Occupation of Emergency Access and Hostel Beds
8.	Councillor Jones	Councillor Pope	Boundaries at Tooks Bakery Site
9.	Councillor M Cook	Councillor Phillips	Events and Festivals Budget
10.	Councillor P Smart	Councillor Phillips	Re-Routing of Buses

11.	Councillor Ross	Councillor Fisher	Waste Enforcement Budget
12.	Councillor P Smart	Councillor Fisher	Driver Certificate of Professional Competence Training for Council Staff

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

64. C/17/17 To Consider a Report from Councillor Ellesmere and Councillor M Cook on the Financial Strategies and Medium Term Financial Plan 2018/19 Onwards (including Budget 2018/19).

64.1 In accordance with Standing Orders Part 4, Section 1, 12.3, the Mayor granted:

- the Leader of each political group an extension of time for their opening speeches to a total of ten minutes
- the second speaker for each political group an extension of time to a total of eight minutes.

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

- i) that the document "*Financial Strategies and Medium Term Financial Plan 2018/19 onwards*" including the Finance Strategy, Capital Strategy, and in particular the figures and estimates contained in it be approved;
- ii) that a Council Tax Requirement of £13,408,355 for 2018/19 including the investment and savings programmes identified in Section 3 of the "*Financial Strategies and Medium Term Financial Plan 2017/18 onwards*" document be approved;
- iii) that the Ipswich Borough Council Tax levels for each property band for 2018/19 as set out in paragraph 6.5 of the report be approved;
- iv) that the calculations of final Council Tax levels as set out in the addendum to the report be approved;
- v) that changes in discretionary fees and charges anticipated to yield a net increase of 2% in income during 2018/19 and 3% thereafter be approved;
- vi) that the Resources Portfolio Holder be authorised, in consultation with other Portfolio Holders and the Section 151 Officer, to vary the fees and charges level, provided it achieves a similar yield for 2018/19 as approved in this report;
- vii) that the Capital Programme for 2018/19 and future years, together with the resources, shown in Section 6 of the "*Financial Strategies*

and Medium Term Financial Plan 2018/19 onwards” document be approved;

- viii) that the Prudential Indicators for 2018/19 as shown in Section 7 of the “Financial Strategies and Medium Term Financial Plan 2018/19 onwards” document be approved;**
- ix) that the Treasury Management Policy Statement for 2018/19 as shown in Section 7 of the “Financial Strategies and Medium Term Financial Plan 2018/19 onwards” document be approved;**
- x) that the Minimum Revenue Provision levels set out in Section 7 of the “Financial Strategies and Medium Term Financial Plan 2018/19 onwards” document be approved;**
- xi) that the contribution to the SRP (Shared Revenues & Benefits Partnership) be approved.**
- xii) that the contribution to the Ipswich and Colchester Joint Museums Service be approved.**
- xiii) that the offer of participation for Ipswich Borough within the Suffolk Business Rate Pilot for 2018/19 be accepted.**

The voting on the Budget proposals was as follows:

For the Budget	Against the Budget	Abstention
Barber	Carnall	Holmes
Clarke	Cenci	Lockington
Connelly	Debman	
J Cook	Fisher	
M Cook	Hall	
Darwin	Harsant	
Elavalakan	Ion	
Ellesmere	Phillips	
Fern	Pope	
Gage	Reynolds	
Gardiner	Vickery	
Gibbs	Xhaferaj	
Goonan		
Grant		
Jones		
Knowles		
Kreidewolf		
Macartney		
MacDonald		
Meudec		
Powell		
Riley		
Ross		

Rudkin
C Smart
P Smart
Studd
Whittall
Wright

Total
29

12

2

65. To Consider a Motion from Councillor N Cenci:

It was **MOVED** by Councillor Cenci and **SECONDED** by Councillor Reynolds that:

“Losing a child is an extremely difficult time for parents and we would like to reduce their burden of a sudden and unexpected cost when they are going through such tragic and devastating grief.

The Conservative Group asks that Ipswich Borough Council waives all of its own burial and cremation fees for Ipswich residents under 18 with immediate effect.”

An amendment to this Motion was **MOVED** by Councillor Ellesmere and **SECONDED** by Councillor Meudec. The amendment was to replace the wording with:

“Losing a child is an extremely difficult time for parents and guardians and we would like to reduce their burden of a sudden and unexpected cost when they are going through such tragic and devastating grief.

This Council therefore requests that, at the earliest possible opportunity, a report is brought to Executive setting out changes to the Council’s fees and charges which will remove the cost for parents and guardians of burial and cremation fees of Ipswich children under 18 years of age.”

The amendment was accepted by Councillor Cenci.

The amended Motion was **PUT** to the meeting and was **AGREED**.

It was RESOLVED that:

“Losing a child is an extremely difficult time for parents and guardians and we would like to reduce their burden of a sudden and unexpected cost when they are going through such tragic and devastating grief.

This Council therefore requests that, at the earliest possible opportunity, a report is brought to Executive setting out changes to the Council’s fees and charges which will remove the cost for parents and guardians of burial and cremation fees of Ipswich children under 18 years of age.”

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

There were no changes to placings.

The meeting closed at 7.49 pm

Chair