



# Minutes

Name of meeting	<b>FULL COUNCIL</b>
Date and time	<b>WEDNESDAY, 26 FEBRUARY 2020 COMMENCING AT 5:00 PM</b>
Venue	<b>COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT</b>
Present	Cllrs George Cameron (Chairman), Barry Abraham, Debbie Andre, Adrian Axford, Reg Barry, Paul Bertie, Michael Beston, Paul Brading, Geoff Brodie, Charles Chapman, Vanessa Churchman, Rodney Downer, Paul Fuller, Andrew Garratt, Steve Hastings, John Hobart, Richard Hollis, Stuart Hutchinson, Julie Jones-Evans, John Kilpatrick, Michael Lilley, Karl Love, John Medland, Clare Mosdell, Michael Murwill, John Nicholson, Tig Outlaw, Gary Peace, Lora Peacey-Wilcox, Graham Perks, Chris Quirk, Shirley Smart, Ian Stephens, Dave Stewart, Ian Ward, Wayne Whittle.
Apologies	Cllrs Stephen Hendry, John Howe, Matthew Price, Brian Tyndall,

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47. [Minutes](#)

**RESOLVED :**

THAT the Minutes of the meeting held on [15 January 2020](#) be confirmed.

48. [Declarations of Interest](#)

Councillor Jones Evans Declared an interest in minute number 52 as she was a director of the Micro Brewery in Sandown which the Isle of Wight Council did not fund but is the accountable body, a [dispensation](#) had been agreed (and forms part of these minutes).

Councillor Lilley declared an interest in minute number 52 as he was a director of Wight community energy which he would be referring to in his budget amendment

Councillors Lilley and Stewart declared an interest in minute number 55 (b) as they had family members who worked for the Isle of Wight Council, they did not take part in the vote.

49. **Public Question Time**

Questions were put to the Chairman as follows :

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Mr Adrian Whittaker	Given that Shanklin has handed back the Spa site toilets to Isle of Wight Council will they be opened?	The Leader advised that he would get the Cabinet Member and Officers to look into it and relay back to the Town Council.
Mr Adrian Whittaker, Shanklin	If decided not to do anything with the Spa site toilets, there are some derelict buildings along the front could they be boarded up or murals be done to make them look better?	The Leader advised that Mr Whittaker contact Cllr Wayne Whittle as the Cabinet Member for regeneration and business development.
Mr Miles Clarke, Ryde	As the council maintains it follows proper procedure regarding 154 notices, will the Leader look at submission for Freedom of Information to resolve some of the issues	The Leader advised that if Mr Clarke send an email to him he would chase with the relevant Cabinet Members.
Tanya Rebel, Cowes	When will the public consultations on 5G be?	The Chairman advised that the Cabinet Member for community Safety and Digital Transformation would provide a written answer.
Cameron Palin, East Cowes	What will this Council do regarding Climate change?	The Leader advised of the high standards of recycling on the Island, Energy strategy, digital agenda with electrical vehicles, he believed the Island was living up to what it said it would.

50. **Chairman's Official Announcements**

Members noted the written report which had been circulated for information.

**RESOLVED:**

THAT the Chairman's official announcements to be noted.

51. **Leaders Update report**

The Leader presented the written report which had been circulated for information, and highlighted that £15 million had been put into schools and

education on the Island. Four new school buildings had been built on the Island with 100% success in bids in this area.

He thanked the Council's waste team and residents of the Island for their hard work in recycling, Members asked questions relating to the Planning and Housing Strategy, and he acknowledged that delivery of affordable housing on the island was challenging.

**RESOLVED:**

THAT the Leader's update be noted.

52. **Budget and Council Tax setting 2020 - 2021 and Future Years Forecasts**

Council received a report from the Leader of the Council and the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Resources on the 2020/21 Budget and Council Tax Setting. Amendments, which had been accepted by the Section 151 Officer as being legal and presenting a balanced budget, amendments to the budget were received from the [1957 group](#), [Liberal Democrat Group](#), and [Independent Group](#).

The Leader and Deputy Leader spoke on the budget proposals recommended by Cabinet.

The proposers of the amendments spoke in turn on their budget proposals.

The Leaders of the other groups made comment on the budget proposals.

Other members of the council also made comment on the budget proposals.

The Leader, the other proposers of amendments and the other group leaders then summed up.

53. **Adjournment**

At the conclusion of the debate members adjourned for a 10 minute comfort break.

54. **Budget & Council Tax Setting 2019 - 2020 and Future Years Forecasts**

Following the adjournment, the Leader moved the recommendation by cabinet which was duly seconded.

- (a) An amendment to the proposal attached as Amendment 1 (and forming part of these minutes) was moved by Cllr Michael Lilley and duly seconded.

For: (12)

Cllrs Debbie Andre, Reg Barry, Geoff Brodie, Rodney Downer, Paul Fuller, Andrew Garratt, Julie Jones-Evans, Michael Lilley, Karl Love, John Medland, Lora Peacey-Wilcox, Shirley Smart.

Against: (21)

Cllrs Barry Abraham, Adrian Axford, Paul Bertie, Michael Beston, Paul Brading, George Cameron, Charles Chapman, Vanessa Churchman, Steve Hastings, John Hobart, Richard Hollis, Stuart Hutchinson, John Kilpatrick, Clare Mosdell, Michael Murwill, Tig Outlaw, Gary Peace, Chris Quirk, Dave Stewart, Ian Ward, Wayne Whittle.

Abstained: (3)

Cllrs John Nicholson, Graham Perks, Ian Stephens.

- (b) An amendment to the proposal attached as Amendment 2 (and forming part of these minutes) was moved by Cllr Andrew Garratt and duly seconded.

A named vote was taken the result of which was as follows:

For: (12)

Cllrs Debbie Andre, Reg Barry, Geoff Brodie, Rodney Downer, Paul Fuller, Andrew Garratt, Julie Jones-Evans, Michael Lilley, Karl Love, John Medland, Lora Peacey-Wilcox, Shirley Smart.

Against: (20)

Cllrs Barry Abraham, Adrian Axford, Paul Bertie, Michael Beston, Paul Brading, George Cameron, Charles Chapman, Vanessa Churchman, Steve Hastings, John Hobart, Richard Hollis, Stuart Hutchinson, John Kilpatrick, Michael Murwill, Tig Outlaw, Gary Peace, Chris Quirk, Dave Stewart, Ian Ward, Wayne Whittle.

Abstained: (4)

Cllrs Clare Mosdell, John Nicholson, Graham Perks, Ian Stephens.

- (c) An amendment to the proposal attached as Amendment 3 (and forming part of these minutes) was moved by Cllr Debbie Andre and duly seconded.

A named vote was taken the result of which was as follows:

For: (12)

Cllrs Debbie Andre, Reg Barry, Geoff Brodie, Rodney Downer, Paul Fuller, Andrew Garratt, Julie Jones-Evans, Michael Lilley, Karl Love, John Medland, Lora Peacey-Wilcox, Shirley Smart.

Against: (20)

Cllrs Barry Abraham, Adrian Axford, Michael Beston, Paul Brading, George Cameron, Vanessa Churchman, Steve Hastings, John Hobart, Richard Hollis, Stuart Hutchinson, John Kilpatrick, Clare Mosdell, Michael Murwill,

John Nicholson, Tig Outlaw, Gary Peace, Chris Quirk, Dave Stewart, Ian Ward, Wayne Whittle.

Abstained: (4)

Cllrs Paul Bertie, Charles Chapman, Graham Perks, Ian Stephens.

(d) Voting was taken on the substantive motion.

A named vote was taken the result of which was as follows:

For: (23)

Cllrs Barry Abraham, Adrian Axford, Paul Bertie, Michael Beston, Paul Brading, George Cameron, Charles Chapman, Vanessa Churchman, Steve Hastings, John Hobart, Richard Hollis, Stuart Hutchinson, John Kilpatrick, Clare Mosdell, Michael Murwill, John Nicholson, Tig Outlaw, Gary Peace, Graham Perks, Chris Quirk, Dave Stewart, Ian Ward, Wayne Whittle.

Against: (20)

Cllrs Debbie Andre, Reg Barry, Geoff Brodie, Rodney Downer, Paul Fuller, Andrew Garratt, Julie Jones-Evans, Michael Lilley, Karl Love, John Medland, Lora Peacey-Wilcox, Shirley Smart.

Abstained: (1)

Cllr Ian Stephens.

RESOLVED:

(i) THAT the Council endorse the following recommendations:

- (a) The revised Revenue Budget for the financial year 2019/20 and the Revenue Budget for the financial year 2020/21 as set out in the General Fund Summary (Appendix A)
- (b) Any variation to the Council's funding arising from the final Local Government Finance Settlement be accommodated by a transfer to or from General Reserves
- (c) Any further savings made in 2019/20 arising at the year-end (after allowing for specific carry forward requests) be transferred to the Transformation Reserve, Revenue Reserve for Capital (to increase the Capital Resources available) and General Reserves (to improve overall financial resilience) with the level of each transfer to be determined by the S.151 Officer
- (d) That the level of Council Tax be increased by 1.99% for general

purposes in accordance with the referendum threshold<sup>1</sup> for 2020/21 announced by Government (as calculated in Appendix B)

- (e) That the level of Council Tax be increased by a further 2.0% beyond the referendum threshold (as calculated in Appendix B) to take advantage of the flexibility offered by Government to implement a "Social Care Precept"; and that in accordance with the conditions of that flexibility, the full amount of the associated sum generated of £1,721,900 is passported direct to Adult Social Care
- (f) That the amounts set out in Appendix B be now calculated by the Council for the financial year 2020/21 in accordance with Section 31 and Sections 34 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992
- (g) The S.151 Officer be given delegated authority to implement any variation to the overall level of Council Tax arising from the final notification of the Hampshire Police & Crime Commissioner and Parish and Town Council precepts and amend the calculations set out in Appendix B accordingly
- (h) The savings proposals for each Portfolio amounting, in total, to £4.5m for 2020/21 and continuing into future years as set out on the next page:

Portfolio	Controllable Budget	Savings Proposal	
	£	£	%
Adult Social Care, Public Health & Housing Needs*	49,403,911	1,542,700	3.1%
Children's Services, Education & Skills	24,259,004	341,000	1.4%
Community Safety & Public Protection	10,046,454	170,300	1.7%
Environment & Heritage	8,629,007	270,600	3.1%
Infrastructure & Transport**	10,961,276	797,300	7.3%
Leader & Strategic Partnerships	791,816	0	0.0%
Planning & Housing Renewal	1,606,122	128,500	8.0%
Procurement, Waste Management, Projects & Forward Planning	4,109,329	250,100	6.1%
Regeneration & Business Development	1,296,345	93,500	7.2%
Resources	16,015,608	906,000	5.7%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>127,118,872</b>	<b>4,500,000</b>	<b>3.5%</b>

\* Excludes the additional funding passported through to Adult Social Care of £4.5m (which if included would result in an overall increase of 6%) and the additional funding for Children's Services, Education & Skills of £1.7m (which if included would result in an overall increase of 5.8%)

\*\*Excludes £19.4m of PFI grant funding, on a Gross expenditure basis the savings amounts to 2.6%

<sup>1</sup> Council Tax increases beyond the referendum threshold can only be implemented following a "Yes" vote in a local referendum

- (i) Directors be instructed to start planning how the Council will achieve the savings requirements of £10.5m for the 3 year period 2021/22 to 2023/24 and that this be incorporated into Service Business Plans
  - (j) The minimum level of Revenue Balances as at 31 March 2021, predicated on the approval of £4.5m savings in 2020/21, be set at £7.0m to reflect the known and expected budget and financial risks to the Council
  - (k) Members have regard for the "Statement of the Section 151 Officer in accordance with the Local Government Act 2003"
  - (l) The Capital Programme 2019/20 to 2024/25 set out in Appendix E which includes all additions, deletions and amendments for slippage and re-phasing
  - (m) The new Capital Investment Proposals ("New Starts") - 2020/21 set out in Appendix D be reflected within the recommended Capital Programme 2019/20 to 2024/25 and be funded from the available Capital Resources
  - (n) The allocation of Disabled Facilities Grants be made to the Better Care Fund, and reflected within the recommended Capital Programme 2019/20 to 2024/25
  - (o) The S.151 Officer be given delegated authority to determine how each source of finance is used to fund the overall Capital Programme and to alter the overall mix of financing, as necessary, to maximise the flexibility of capital resources used and minimise the ongoing costs of borrowing to the Council
  - (p) That the S.151 Officer in consultation with the Leader of the Council be given delegated authority to release capital resources held back for any contingent items that might arise, and also for any match funding requirements that may be required of the Council in order to secure additional external capital funding (e.g. bids for funding from Government or the Solent Local Enterprise Partnership)
  - (q) The Capital Strategy 2020/21, including the Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement contained therein (attached at Appendix F)
  - (r) The Investment Strategy 2020/21 (attached at Appendix G)
- (ii) THAT Council note the following in respect of the Council's Budget:
- (a) The Revenue Budget 2020/21 as set out in Appendix A has been prepared on the basis of a 3.99% increase in Council Tax, any reduction from the overall 3.99% Council Tax increase proposed will require additional savings of £861,000 for each 1% reduction in order for the Budget 2020/21 to be approved
  - (b) The Revenue Forecasts for 2021/22 onwards as set out in the section entitled "Revenue Forecasts 2021/22 to 2023/24" and Appendix A

- (c) The estimated Savings Requirement of £10.5m for the three year period 2021/22 to 2023/24, for financial and service planning purposes, be phased as follows:

Financial Year	In Year Savings Requirement £m	Cumulative Saving £m
2021/22	3.5	3.5
2022/23	3.5	7.0
2023/24	3.5	10.5

- (d) The Transformation Reserve held to fund the upfront costs associated with Spend to Save Schemes and Invest to Save Schemes holds a very modest uncommitted balance of £2.5m and will only be replenished from contributions from the Revenue Budget and an approval to the transfer of any further savings at year end
- (e) Should the Council elect to reduce the level of savings below £3.5m in 2021/22 (and £3.5m p.a thereafter), the Council's financial risk will increase and therefore the minimum level of General Reserves held will also need to increase in order to maintain the Council's financial resilience
- (f) The Council Tax base for the financial year 2020/21 will be **53,842.7** [item T in the formula in Section 31 B(1) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (the "Act")].
- (g) The Council Tax element of the Collection Fund for 2019/20 is estimated to be a surplus of £246,269 which is shared between the Isle of Wight Council (89.3%) and the Police & Crime Commissioner (10.7%)
- (h) The Business Rate element of the Collection Fund for 2019/20 is estimated to be a surplus of £375,000
- (i) The Retained Business Rate income<sup>2</sup> for 2020/21 based on the estimated Business Rate element of the Collection Fund deficit as at March 2020, the Non Domestic Rates poundage for 2020/21 and estimated rateable values for 2020/21 has been set at £38,235,692
- (j) The Equality Impact Assessment (attached at Appendix H)

## 55. Reports of the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member of Resources

- (a) [Appointment of Monitoring Officer](#)

(The Monitoring Officer left the room and the Deputy Monitoring Officer stepped in for the following item of business).

<sup>2</sup> Includes Retained Business Rates of £19.5m, "Top Up" of £13.1m, S.31 Grants of £5.2m and a Collection Fund surplus of £0.4m



The Chairman presented the report seeking an extension to the contract for the current Monitoring Officer whilst the recruitment for a permanent replacement was undertaken. He went on to explain that it had always been council's normal practice to deal with the appointment of the Monitoring Officer in public session, for reasons of transparency.

Members complimented the Monitoring Officer in the work that had been undertaken since he was appointed in September 2019.

In accordance with Procedure Rule 18 of the council's Constitution Cllr Geoff Brodie asked that his vote against the appointment be recorded.

RESOLVED:

THAT the extension to the appointment of Geoffrey Wild as the monitoring officer for up to four months starting 1 April 2020 be approved.

(b) [Pay Policy](#)

Councillor Stuart Hutchinson presented the report to adopt the council's approach to the pay of its workforce for the financial year 2020-2021. There were a few minor amendments to the policy which were contained in the report.

The gender pay gap had improved, and it was noted that although a substantial number of women worked part time, this was believed to be due to caring for children or elderly relatives. Women were well represented at the higher end of the pay scales with 61% in this authority. A vote was taken and the result of which were as follows:

RESOLVED:

That the proposed pay policy as attached at appendix A is adopted as drafted.

(c) [Constitution Matters – Committee Allocation](#)

The Chairman presented the report which had been deferred from the previous meeting, requiring full agreement of the political proportionality to the allocation of seats on Committees and Sub Committees.

It was noted that any votes against the recommendation would mean that the reverse proportionality on Corporate Scrutiny would be dis applied and the leading group would regain the majority of seats, it was confirmed that if anyone chose to abstain from the vote on this item this did not count as a vote against the proposal.

It was confirmed that group leaders would make the appointment for their groups onto Committees and Sub Committee, an unfilled vacancy

would not be determined by the Committee itself which had formed part of the previous report.

A proposal to accept options A and B was proposed by Cllr Cameron and duly seconded a vote was taken and the result of which were as follows:

The proposal fell.

Following further discussion a proposal to accept option C was proposed by Cllr Stewart and duly seconded the vote was taken and the result of which were as follows:

RESOLVED:

THAT To appoint members to all committees on the basis of political proportionality and accepted the calculations determining the aggregate number of committee places and their allocations on a political proportionate basis as shown in Appendix 2.

**56. Report of the Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Partnership**

[Hampshire and Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Services Safety Plan](#)

Cllr Stewart presented the report to approve the fully aligned Hampshire and Isle of Wight Safety Plan which proposes to replace all current plans. This plan would align the Isle of Wight with Hampshire, with a joint safety plan to make everyone safer.

He advised members that the Secretary of State had signed off the previous day relevant documents for the combined fire authority to come forward which would be passed through Parliament for consideration. A proposal was made by Cllr Stewart and duly seconded the vote was taken and the result of which were as follows:

A vote was taken and the result of which were as follows:

RESOLVED:

THAT Full Council approved the Safety Plan attached as Appendix B.

**57. Report of the Cabinet Member for Children's Services**

[Corporate Parenting Board Terms of Reference](#)

The Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Skills advised Members that corporate Parenting was important and every member had a responsibility. The purpose of the board was to ensure that the corporate parenting responsibilities of the council and partners toward looked after children and care leavers, were being met. Ofsted had stated that the Corporate Parenting board was working well.

A proposal was made by Cllr Brading and duly seconded the vote was taken and the result of which were as follows:

**RESOLVED:**

THAT the revised Terms of Reference for the Corporate Parenting Board as set out in appendix 1 be adopted.

**58. Motions submitted under Procedure Rule 9 of the Council's Constitution**

**By Cllr Michael Lilley**

Cllr Lilley moved the following motion:

*To recognises the continuing financial economic impact of the physical separation from the UK mainland on Isle of Wight public service delivery as stated by Portsmouth University and the resulting disadvantage to IW residents.*

*To pursue legislation that tackles this historic disadvantage through a comprehensive Island (IW) Act that gives Island residents parity with UK mainland counterparts by engaging with its IW MP and IW Representatives in the House of Lords to pursue a private members Bill.*

**RESOLVED:**

The proposer withdrew the motion.

**59. Member Question time of the Leader**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Cllr Michael Lilley	IW Council/Public Realm land on the Esplanade from Hover-travel to Harbour (including Ryde Arena and car parking) in the near or long term future, is not or will not be designated for housing and will remain as designated in Ryde Town Council's Position Statement and Ryde's Place Plan will remain as leisure, community, recreational and tourism use.	The Leader read a written response which is available on the following link MQ 02/20
Cllr Michael Lilley	IW Council land known a Nicolson Road development site will remain as job creation/industrial use and that no housing is to be developed other than 12 flats as mentioned in recent plans that would have a link to work activity planned for site in accordance with Ryde Place Plan.	The Leader read a written response which is available on the following link MQ 03/20

Cllr Michael Lilley

IW Council land known as Appley Field and leased to IW Bowmen/women remains a green-space for leisure use and not any future housing development. In accordance with RTC position statement and Ryde Place Plan.

The Leader read a written response which is available on the following link MQ 04/20

Cllr Michael Lilley

IW Council land known as St. Thomas's Car Park with 125 car parking places is not earmarked for housing and retained as parking.

The Leader read a written response which is available on the following link MQ 05/20

CHAIRMAN