



# Minutes

Name of meeting	<b>FULL COUNCIL</b>
Date and Time	<b>WEDNESDAY 17 NOVEMBER 2021 COMMENCING AT 6.00 PM</b>
Venue	<b>COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, ISLE OF WIGHT</b>
Present	Cllrs G Brodie (Chairman), C Critchison (Vice-Chairman), D Adams, D Andre, J Bacon, M Beston, P Brading, V Churchman, I Dore, R Downer, W Drew, S Ellis, P Fuller, A Garratt, S Hastings, S Hendry, C Jarman, J Jones-Evans, P Jordan, J Lever, M Lilley, K Love, K Lucioni, J Medland, C Mosdell, J Nicholson, M Oliver, T Outlaw, L Peacey-Wilcox, D Pitcher, M Price, R Quigley, C Quirk, R Redrup, J Robertson, P Spink, I Stephens and I Ward
Apologies	Cllr G Peace

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33. **Minutes**

RESOLVED:

THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 15 September 2021 be confirmed.

34. **Declarations of Interest**

No declarations were received at this stage.

35. **Public Question Time - Maximum 15 Minutes for Written Questions and 15 Minutes for Oral Questions**

Mr Christopher Wakeley of Newport submitted a written question regarding carbon emissions, and whether the Council was prepared to introduce an interim carbon reduction target for the Island by 2030. The Cabinet Member for Environment, Heritage and Waste Management provided a written response (PQ 44/21).

Mr Steven Parks of Shanklin asked an oral question relating to the plans for the redevelopment of Sandown and the Bay area, particularly with regards to transport, travel and access. The Cabinet Member for Environment, Heritage and Waste Management advised that previous proposals had not been rejected but were being reconsidered to ensure the future of the area was viable. A supplementary question was asked regarding how these plans were being moved forward. The Cabinet Member advised that viable plans would be put forward as soon as possible.

Mr Michael Smith of Newport asked an oral question relating to Island Roads and whether the Council could ensure they notify local residents of last-minute works. The Cabinet Member for Highways PFI, Transport and Infrastructure advised that a written response would be provided.

**36. Chairman's Official Announcements**

The Chairman's report had been circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting. Attention was drawn to the recent murder of Sir David Amess MP which highlighted the risks to all democratically-elected representatives. It was advised that information from the Monitoring Officer related to this matter would be circulated to all councillors in due course.

RESOLVED:

THAT the Chairman's official announcements be noted.

**37. Leaders Update Report (20 minutes)**

The Leader presented the report which highlighted key activities since the last meeting. Reference was made to a number of recent Remembrance Day events and attention was drawn to the upcoming Stand with Midwives Campaign.

A question was asked in relation to the steps being taken to ensure the Leader has capacity to circulate key documents such as the response from the Minister of State for Housing regarding issues around the number of homes that the government requires in the new Island Planning Strategy.

Concerns were raised in relation to the communications on the roll-out of the booster vaccination programme and it was confirmed that this matter was being raised through the Policy and Scrutiny Committee for Health and Social Care.

Comments were made in relation to various areas including support for carers, the approach to addressing the climate emergency, the Green Meadows care facility, and the development of the Island Plan. Discussion took place regarding the £5.8m funding secured for the regeneration of East Cowes and the Director of Regeneration and his team were thanked for developing the business case.

RESOLVED:

THAT the Leaders update be noted.

**38. Report of the Leader**

**38a Isle of Wight Council Corporate Plan**

The Leader presented the report which set out the vision and aspirations of the Council's administration in its revised corporate plan. Cllr Andrew Garratt presented an amendment, as set out in Appendix 2 to the report, which was duly seconded and accepted.

Following debate, a vote was taken and it was:

RESOLVED:

THAT the Corporate Plan as set out in Appendix 1 incorporating the revisions tabled in Appendix 2 be approved and adopted.

### **38b Report on the use of Special Urgency Provisions**

The Monitoring Officer presented the report which informed the Council of the details of each executive decision taken where the making of the decision was agreed as urgent, in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Local Authorities Executive Arrangements (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.

A vote was taken and it was:

RESOLVED:

THAT the statutory report on the use of Special Urgency Provisions be received and noted.

## **39. Reports of the Monitoring Officer**

### **39a Report on Pension Board Appointments**

The Monitoring Officer presented the report which sought approval of the revised terms of reference for the Local Pension Board, and for appointments to be formally made to it. The chairman sought clarification from the Monitoring Officer regarding whether councillors should declare an interest in this item (as members of the local government pension scheme). It was confirmed that this was not required given the nature of the report and as there was an obligation on councillors to establish the Board.

A vote was taken and it was:

RESOLVED:

- i) THAT the revised terms of reference of the Local Pension Board, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report, be approved.
- ii) THAT the appointments to the Local Pension Board, as set out in Appendix 2 of the report, be approved.

### **39b Nominations and Appointment to Committees**

The Monitoring Officer presented the report which was required to give effect to the wishes of the Leader of the Alliance Group as to the nominations for appointments to the Planning Committee. Cllr Karen Lucioni was nominated by the Alliance Group to fill the vacant vice-chairman seat on the Policy and Scrutiny Committee for Children's Services, Education and Skills. No further nominations were received.

A vote was taken and it was:

RESOLVED:

- i) THAT Cllr Karen Lucioni be appointed to the Planning Committee.
- ii) THAT Cllrs Rodney Downer and Debbie Andre of the Alliance Group be appointed to the Planning Committee as substitute members.

- iii) THAT Cllr Karen Lucioni be appointed as vice-chairman to the Policy and Scrutiny Committee for Children’s Services, Education and Skills.

The meeting was adjourned for a five-minute comfort break, during which the Leader left the meeting unwell. The Deputy Leader took her place.

40. **Motions Submitted under Part 4A, Procedure Rule 9 of the Council's Constitution**

40a **By Councillor Spink**

Cllr Peter Spink moved the following amended motion which was duly seconded:

Council notes:

1. Because it does not have an up to date five-year land supply and has failed to meet Government housing “targets”, planning decisions are subject to paragraph 11.d) i. and ii. of the National Planning Policy Framework, often referred to as the ‘tilted balance’. The application of the tilted balance limits the circumstances in which the Council is able to refuse planning applications.
2. The continued application of the tilted balance is likely to result in the loss of precious greenfield sites on the Isle of Wight. The protection of greenfield was raised as a major concern by Island residents in the consultation period of the previous draft planning strategy and is important to tourism and to our status as a biosphere.
3. The Government has recently indicated a change in the direction of national planning policy. The precise detail has yet to be clarified but is likely to include greater protection of greenfield, with brownfield being the preferred choice for the majority of development.

I ask, therefore, if Council will Support the following motion:

The Leader of the Isle of Wight Council shall write to the Prime Minister and to the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, requesting the suspension of the application of the ‘titled balance’ (Paragraph 11.d) i. and ii. National Planning Policy Framework) to planning decisions made by the Isle of Wight Planning Authority.

Cllr Paul Fuller moved the following amendment (including an addition by the Chairman) to the motion which was duly seconded:

Council notes:

1. Because it does not have an up to date five year land supply and has failed to meet Government housing “targets”, planning decisions are subject to paragraph 11.d) i. and ii. of the National Planning Policy Framework, often referred to as the ‘tilted balance’. The application of the tilted balance limits the circumstances in which the Council is able to refuse planning applications.
2. The continued application of the tilted balance is likely to result in the loss of precious greenfield sites on the Isle of Wight. The protection of greenfield was raised as a major concern by Island residents in the

consultation period of the previous draft planning strategy and is important to tourism and to our status as a biosphere.

3. The Government has recently indicated a change in the direction of national planning policy. The precise detail has yet to be clarified but is likely to include greater protection of greenfield, with brownfield being the preferred choice for the majority of development.

Council notes that in light of this, the Leader of the Isle of Wight Council has agreed to write to the Prime Minister and to the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, requesting the suspension of the application of the 'titled balance' (Paragraph 11.d) i. and ii. National Planning Policy Framework) to planning decisions made by the Isle of Wight Planning Authority.

Further, Council notes that the Leader will write to other Local Authorities in a similar general position to the Isle of Wight Council if a negative reply has been received, asking those Authorities to sign a joint letter to request that the application of the 'tilted balance' be suspended indefinitely so as to protect greenfield sites and make brownfield sites the preferred choice for the majority of development.

Following debate, a named vote was taken the results were as follows:

For: (27)

Cllrs David Adams, Debbie Andre, Rodney Downer, Paul Fuller, Chris Jarman, Michael Lilley, Karen Lucioni, John Medland, Darryl Pitcher, Michael Beston, Paul Brading, Vanessa Churchman, Warren Drew, Suzie Ellis, Steve Hastings, Steven Hendry, Clare Mosdell, John Nicholson, Martin Oliver, Tig Outlaw, Matthew Price, Chris Quirk, Ray Redrup, Joe Robertson, Peter Spink, Ian Ward, Clare Critchison

Against: (4)

Cllrs Karl Love, Ian Stephens, Richard Quigley, Geoff Brodie

Abstained: (6)

Cllrs Jonathan Bacon, Ian Dore, Julie Jones-Evans, Phil Jordan, Joe Lever, Andrew Garratt

RESOLVED:

THAT Council notes:

1. Because it does not have an up to date five year land supply and has failed to meet Government housing "targets", planning decisions are subject to paragraph 11.d) i. and ii. of the National Planning Policy Framework, often referred to as the 'tilted balance'. The application of the tilted balance limits the circumstances in which the Council is able to refuse planning applications.
2. The continued application of the tilted balance is likely to result in the loss of precious greenfield sites on the Isle of Wight. The protection of greenfield was raised as a major concern by Island residents in the consultation period of the previous draft planning strategy and is important to tourism and to our status as a biosphere.
3. The Government has recently indicated a change in the direction of national planning policy. The precise detail has yet to be clarified but is likely to

include greater protection of greenfield, with brownfield being the preferred choice for the majority of development.

Council notes that in light of this, the Leader of the Isle of Wight Council has agreed to write to the Prime Minister and to the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, requesting the suspension of the application of the 'titled balance' (Paragraph 11.d) i. and ii. National Planning Policy Framework) to planning decisions made by the Isle of Wight Planning Authority.

Further, Council notes that the Leader will write to other Local Authorities in a similar general position to the Isle of Wight Council if a negative reply has been received, asking those Authorities to sign a joint letter to request that the application of the 'tilted balance' be suspended indefinitely so as to protect greenfield sites and make brownfield sites the preferred choice for the majority of development.

**40b By Councillor Brading**

Due to time constraints this item was not considered and was deferred to the next meeting.

**40c By Councillor Pitcher**

Due to time constraints this item was not considered and was deferred to the next meeting.

**40d By Councillor Quirk**

Due to time constraints this item was not considered and was deferred to the next meeting.

**41. Members Question Time (30 minutes)**

Cllr Peter Spink submitted a written question in relation to motorcycle racing on the Island (particularly in the West Wight) and whether this was consistent with the Council's Climate Policy, the Islands designation as a UNESCO Biosphere, and eco-tourism. The Leader provided a written response. (MQ 15/21)

Cllr Ian Ward asked an oral question in relation to the regeneration plans for Sandown and the Bay area. The Deputy Leader provided assurance that the council were open to working on this matter in a cohesive way with local councillors.

Cllr Richard Quigley asked an oral question in relation to the development of affordable housing and responsible landlords. The Deputy Leader confirmed that the areas highlighted would be considered. The Chairman asked that he provide a written reply, with a copy to all councillors.

Cllr Michael Lilley asked an oral question in relation to the progress with the use of the Additional Restrictions Grant. The Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Business Development and Tourism outlined the various business support activities underway for the use of these funds.

Cllr Joe Lever asked an oral question in relation to carbon targets and community engagement. The Cabinet Member for Environment, Heritage and Waste

Management advised that a report on the matter was being developed for consideration in February 2022 and confirmed that a written response would be provided.

Cllr Clare Mosdell asked an oral question in relation to the inclusion of local ward members when visiting sites in the community. The Deputy Leader confirmed that ward members would be notified where possible.

Cllr Steve Hastings asked an oral question in relation to the progress with the Waste Plant. The Cabinet Member for Environment, Heritage and Waste Management advised that the project had been delayed and it was confirmed that a full written response would be provided.

Cllr Karl Love asked an oral question in relation to highways disruptions caused by Wightfibre. The Cabinet Member for Highways PFI, Transport and Infrastructure confirmed that the highways network was managed by Island Roads, who work in conjunction with utility companies to plan works.

Cllr John Nicholson asked that the Council acknowledges the south coast of the Island as having ties to the Spanish armada. The Deputy Leader confirmed that the comments had been taken on board.

Cllr Joe Robertson asked an oral question in relation to the lack of email correspondence from the Leader regarding the Ryde Interchange project. The Deputy Leader advised that it was not appropriate to comment on the Leader's workload.

CHAIRMAN