

THE DISTRICT COUNCIL OF TANDRIDGE

Minutes of the meeting of the Council held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Station Road East, Oxted on Thursday the 21st April 2016 at 7.30 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors Mrs. Thorn (Chairman), Cannon (Vice Chairman), Ainsworth, Allen, Mrs. Black, Bond, Mrs. Bradbury, Caudle, Childs, Compton, Mrs. Connolly, Cooley, Cooper, Duck, Mrs. Dunbar, Elias, Gascoigne, Gosling, Harwood, Mrs. Ingham, Jones, Keymer, Lee, Mrs. Lockwood, Manley, Mrs. Marks, Morrow, Mrs. Parker, Perkins, Pursehouse, Stead, Mrs. Steeds, Turner, Mrs. Vickers, Wates, Mrs. Webster, Weightman, and Mrs. Young.

The meeting was preceded with a prayer read by Bishop Mark Nicholson, Senior Pastor of Acts Christian Ministry.

256. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 11th February 2016 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

257. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Queen's 90th birthday

The Chairman extended the Council's best wishes to Her Majesty the Queen on this, her 90th birthday. Members were informed that beacons were being lit across the country to commemorate the occasion, including those in Caterham, Dormansland and Lingfield.

Civic events

The Chairman thanked those Members, Officers and former colleagues who had supported her civic functions since February, particularly her Charity Ball; the civic reception for the voluntary sector and her Civic Day.

258. QUESTIONS SUBMITTED UNDER STANDING ORDER 29

Councillor Stead, as Vice Chairman of the Resources Committee, responded to a question from Councillor Turner about when the Authority proposed to make a further statement about those Council owned sites previously identified as having development potential (Asset Management report to the 30th June 2015 Resources Committee and the Local Plan Review Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment (HELAA) Appendix 3 refers). Councillor Stead confirmed that the Resources Committee would take a decision about whether to put Council owned sites forward to the HELAA during the summer in light of discussions with relevant Ward Councillors. He emphasised that the inclusion of sites within the HELAA did not amount to a firm decision to dispose.

Councillor Elias, as Chairman of the Community Services Committee, responded to a question from Councillor Turner about why the TDC public lavatories on Westway Common, Caterham on the Hill, had been shut for at least three weeks. Councillor Elias explained that the facilities had to be closed towards the end of March as a result of vandalism and that the work required to rectify this had taken longer than originally anticipated.

259. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

RESOLVED – that, subject to Minute 242 being referred back to the Planning Policy Committee as detailed below, the reports of the following Committees be received and the recommendations therein adopted:

Community Services Committee (3rd March 2016)

Housing Committee (8th March 2016)

Planning Committee (10th March 2016)

Planning Policy Committee (17th March 2016)

Minute 242 – resolution to cease providing paper copies of planning and other related applications to Parish Councils from 1st October 2016

It was proposed by Councillor Keymer and seconded by Councillor Cooley that this matter be referred back to the Planning Policy Committee for further consideration. Upon being put to the vote, the motion was carried.

Resources Committee (22nd March 2016)

Planning Committee (7th April 2016)

260. MOTION SUBMITTED UNDER STANDING ORDER 7

The following motion, proposed by Councillor Pursehouse, had been submitted:

“This Council resolves to open negotiations with Transport for London and other relevant organisations to provide resources to build extra off-road parking at or close to Tandridge District’s commuter stations, in recognition that those stations are a vital part of London’s commuter movement system; the aim being to alleviate the current problems caused by on-street commuter parking in residential streets. A report on the progress of the discussions to be submitted to the Community Services Committee meeting on 6th September 2016.”

The motion was seconded by Councillor Lee.

The Chairman advised that, in accordance with Standing Order 7(4), the motion stood referred to the Community Services Committee meeting on 9th June for consideration and report.

261. COUNCILLOR MRS. WHITTLE – APPROVAL FOR ABSENCE FROM MEETINGS

Councillor Mrs Whittle had not attended a Council or Committee meeting since full Council on 19th November 2015 due to a serious illness. She was undergoing treatment but was not well enough to attend this meeting.

Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972 provided that a Member who failed to attend any Council / Committee meeting for six months would cease to be a Member unless, within that time, his/her absence was approved by the Authority. The Council considered it appropriate to grant such approval and extended its best wishes to Councillor Mrs Whittle for a full recovery.

RESOLVED – that:

- A. Councillor Mrs Whittle's absence from Council and Committee meetings since the 19th November 2015 be approved; and
- B. Councillor Mrs Whittle's future absences from Council and Committee meetings also be approved, until such time as she is fit and able to attend, or 29th July 2016, whichever is the earlier.

262. CHAIRMAN'S CLOSING REMARKS

The Chairman thanked Members for their support during the past year and offered her best wishes to those who would no longer be Councillors after May.

Rising: 8.40 p.m.