

THE DISTRICT COUNCIL OF TANDRIDGE

Minutes of a meeting of the Council held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Station Road East, Oxted on Thursday the 7th December 2017 at 7.30 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors Black (Chairman), Ainsworth, Allen, Mrs. Blake-Thomas, Bond, Botten, Bradbury, Cannon, Compton, Connolly, D. Cooper, M. Cooper, Davies, Duck, Dunbar, Elias, Fisher, Fitzgerald, Harwood, Jecks, Jones, Lee, Lockwood, Manley, Morrow, Parker, Perkins, Prew, Pursehouse, Rujbally, Stead, Steer, Thorn, Vickers, Webster, Weightman, Wren and Young.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Councillors, Childs, Cooley, Steeds and Wates.

The meeting was preceded with a prayer read by the Reverend Phaedra Pamphilon-Green.

164. MINUTES

The minutes of the Council meeting held on the 12th October 2017 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

165. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

(i) Former Councillor David Gosling

The Chairman reflected on David's untimely death at the age of 47 following a heart attack. He had represented the Westway Ward between 2008 and 2016 and also served on Caterham Hill Parish Council. His funeral was due to take place on the 14th December. Members stood for a minute's silence as a mark of respect.

(ii) Councillor Helen Rujbally

The Chairman welcomed Councillor Rujbally to her first Council meeting following her success at the Westway by-election on the 30th November.

(iii) Tandridge Together Lottery

The Chairman was pleased to confirm that the Council's first ever lottery would be launched on the 31st January. She asked Members to encourage local voluntary groups to register as 'good causes' and for their supporters to raise funds by purchasing tickets. Information packs had been distributed throughout the community, copies of which were tabled for Members' information.

(iii) Member Survey about training and development

The Chairman advised that a questionnaire on this subject would be circulated to all Members shortly. This reflected the Chief Executive's wish to implement more effective measures for supporting Councillors with their training and development needs. All Members were encouraged to take part in the survey as their feedback will help shape the content of future support programmes.

(iv) Christmas afternoon tea function - Friday, 15th December

The Chairman thanked those Members who had brought tickets or supplied raffle prizes for this event at Nutfield Lodge in aid of the Bletchingley Skills Centre. Tickets were still on sale and could be purchased after the meeting.

166. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

RESOLVED- that the reports of the following meetings be received and the recommendations therein adopted:

Planning Committee (2nd November)

Overview & Scrutiny Committee (7th November 2017)

Resources Committee (9th November 2017)

Community Services Committee (14th November 2017)

Planning Policy Committee (16th November 2017)

Housing Committee (21st November 2017)

Planning Committee (23rd November 2017)

167. COUNCILLOR COOLEY

Councillor Cooley had not attended a meeting since Full Council on the 23rd February 2017 due to ill-health.

On the 20th July 2017, the Council had granted approval for Councillor Cooley to be absent from Council and Committee meetings until the 7th December. This was in light of Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972 (which states that any Member who failed to attend a meeting for a period of six months shall cease to be a Member unless, within that time, his/ her absence is approved by the Authority).

Members were informed that Councillor Cooley remained in hospital but hoped to be able to attend a meeting on or before the 22nd February 2018 (the date of next scheduled Council meeting).

RESOLVED- that approval be given for Councillor Cooley's future absences up until the 22nd February 2018 but that no subsequent extension to the period of his permitted absence be granted

Rising: 9.45 p.m.