

TANDRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL

FULL COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Council held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Station Road East, Oxted on the 9th February 2023 at 7.30pm.

PRESENT: Councillors Wren (Chair), Botten (Vice-Chair), Allen, Bilton, B.Black, G.Black, Blackwell, Bloore, Caulcott, Chotai, Cooper, Crane, Evans, C.Farr, S.Farr, Flower, Gaffney, Gray, Groves, Jones, Langton, Lee, Montgomery, Moore, O'Driscoll, Prew, Pursehouse, Sayer, Shiner, Stamp, Steeds, Swann, C.White and N.White

PRESENT (Virtually): Councillors Gillman, Mansfield and North

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Councillors Booth, Hammond, Pinard and Robinson

233. MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 15TH DECEMBER 2022

These minutes were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

234. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Civic events / fundraising for Chair's charities

The Chair confirmed that:

- tickets were still available for the Jive Aces concert at Caterham School on the evening of Saturday, 18th February;
- her "Hello Spring Ball" would take place on Saturday, 18th March at Bletchingley Golf Club (flyers were tabled with further details).

The late Honorary Alderman Ray Page

The Chair was sorry to announce that former Councillor Ray Page had passed away. Mr. Page was one of the original members of the Council following inaugural elections in 1973. He represented the Queens Park Ward as an Independent and was Chairman of the Council in 1991/92, his final year in office. Mr. Page was appointed an Honorary Alderman in October 1992 in recognition of his services to this Council and the former Caterham & Warlingham Urban District Council. He continued to attend civic functions as recently as the Proclamation of the new King on 12th September 2022. Members stood for a minute's silence as a mark of respect.

235. QUESTIONS SUBMITTED UNDER STANDING ORDER 30

Questions had been submitted by Councillors Pursehouse and O'Driscoll. Details of the questions and responses are attached at Appendix A.

236. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

RESOLVED – that, subject to the amendment to Minute 229 indicated below, the reports of the following meetings be received, and the recommendations therein be adopted:

Community Services Committee – 17th January 2023

Planning Policy Committee – 19th January 2023

Housing Committee – 24th January 2023

Minute 233 – urgent business – participation in the Local Authority Housing Fund Scheme

The Housing Committee had resolved that the Council should participate in this scheme which involved the receipt of funding from the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities to provide accommodation to families with housing needs who have arrived in the UK via the Ukrainian and Afghan resettlement and relocation schemes.

Councillor Cooper, seconded by Councillor North, proposed that this matter be referred back to the Housing Committee for reconsideration. Councillor Cooper, supported by the requisite number of other Members as required by Standing Order 13(4), also requested that this proposal be the subject of a recorded vote. The result of the vote was as follows:

For

Councillors Allen, G.Black, Bloore, Cooper, Flower, Groves, Moore, Prew and Shiner, (9)

Against

Councillors Bilton, B.Black, Blackwell, Botten, Caulcott, Chotai, Crane, Evans, C.Farr, S.Farr, Gaffney, Gray, Jones, Langton, Lee, Montgomery, O'Driscoll, Pursehouse, Sayer, Stamp, Swann, C.White, N.White, and Wren (24)

Abstain

Councillor Steeds (1)

Strategy & Resources Committee – 31st January 2023

Minute 229 – Final budget 2023/24 and Medium-Term Financial Strategy (including Future Tandridge Programme update)

Recommendations A to K had been supplemented by an additional recommendation L, published on the 8th February 2023, to enable the Council to set its budget and Council Tax requirements in the statutory format. The additional recommendation L, amended by the correction of typographical errors as follows, was presented in light of the Council Tax precepts recently determined by Surrey County Council and the Surrey Police & Crime Commissioner:

“that the that the required resolutions at Appendix A [to the second supplement to the Council agenda] be passed which that outlines the Council Tax base, principles, aggregate amounts, valuation bands (Tandridge and aggregate) and referendum assessment.”

The recommendations were subject to three recorded votes in accordance with Standing Order 13(5). The results of the votes were as follows:

Recommendations A to E and H to L:

For

Councillors Bilton, B.Black, G.Black, Blackwell, Bloore, Botten, Caulcott, Chotai, Cooper, Crane, Evans, C.Farr, S.Farr, Gaffney, Gray, Groves, Jones, Langton, Lee, Montgomery, Moore, Prew, Pursehouse, Sayer, Shiner, Stamp, Steeds, Swann, C.White, N.White, and Wren (31)

Against

Councillor Allen (1)

Abstain

Councillor O’Driscoll (1)

Recommendation F

For

Councillors Allen, Bilton, B.Black, Blackwell, Botten, Caulcott, Chotai, Crane, Evans, C.Farr, S.Farr, Gaffney, Gray, Jones, Langton, Lee, Montgomery, Moore, Pursehouse, Sayer, Shiner, Stamp, Swann, C.White, N.White, and Wren (26)

Abstain

Councillors G.Black, Bloore, Cooper, Groves, O’Driscoll, Prew and Steeds (7)

Recommendation G

For

Councillors B.Black, Blackwell, Crane, C.Farr, S.Farr, Langton, Montgomery, Moore, Pursehouse, Sayer, Shiner, Stamp, Swann, C.White, N.White, and Wren (16)

Against

Councillor Allen (1)

Abstain

Councillors Bilton, G.Black, Bloore, Botten, Caulcott, Chotai, Cooper, Evans, Gaffney, Gray, Groves, Jones, Lee, O'Driscoll, Prew and Steeds (16)

237. MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR O'DRISCOLL UNDER STANDING ORDER 7

Councillor O'Driscoll introduced the following motion:

“This Council recognises the important place that local sports clubs have for the community in Tandridge.

This Council believes that local sports clubs provide great social and health benefits to the community, increasing participation in physical activity and providing locations and activities that bring people together for a common purpose.

This Council further supports the independence of local sports clubs as excellent examples of the community self-organising.

This Council therefore understands that it should be an objective of the council to support local sports clubs and ensure their long-term financial viability.

This Council commits to support local sports clubs across Tandridge by highlighting grants available to them and providing advice on how to apply for grants.”

Councillor Wren, seconded by Councillor Steeds, proposed *“that the matter be referred, without discussion, to the Community Services Committee at its next meeting for consideration and debate.”*

Upon being put to a vote, this proposal was carried.

RESOLVED – that the motion be referred to the Community Services Committee at its next meeting (9th March 2023) for consideration and debate.

Rising 9.55 pm