

CANTERBURY CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the CANTERBURY CITY COUNCIL duly convened and held on Thursday, 25th April, 2019 at 7.00 pm in The Guildhall, St Peter's Place, Canterbury

Present: Councillor Spooner (Lord Mayor)

Councillor B Baker, Councillor N Baker, Councillor Baldock, Councillor Bartley, Councillor Butcher, Councillor Clark, Councillor A Cook, Councillor S Cook, Councillor Dixey, Councillor Doyle, Councillor Eden-Green, Councillor Fitter-Harding, Councillor Glover, Councillor Hirst, Councillor Howes, Councillor L Jones-Roberts, Councillor MacCaul, Councillor Metcalfee, Councillor Samper, Councillor Sonnex, Councillor I Stockley, Councillor J Stockley, Councillor A Taylor, Councillor H Taylor, Councillor D Thomas, Councillor I Thomas, Councillor R Thomas, Councillor Todd, Councillor Warley, Councillor Waters, Councillor Westgate and Councillor Williams

877 PRAYERS

The meeting was opened with prayers by the Lord Mayor's Chaplain Reverend John Currie.

878 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A Baker, Fisher and R Jones. Apologies for lateness were received from Councillor Dixey.

879 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS BY COUNCILLORS OR OFFICERS

Councillors S Cook, Baldock and Dixey each made a statement that any declarations of interests by Councillors of their respective groups that were recorded in the minutes for this meeting were deemed to be declared again by any of those Councillors present at this meeting. Additionally Councillor Eden-Green made a voluntary announcement that he knew the proposed Honorary Recorder.

880 PETITIONS OR QUESTIONS

There were no petitions or questions from the public for the meeting.

881 ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Leader announced the following:

1. Swale Borough Council had agreed to investigate the feasibility of a lorry park at land near Brenley corner.
2. The Police and Crime Commissioner had written to the council in regard to the recent spate of car crime in the district. The Commissioner reported that whilst he could not direct specific police resources he could confirm that extra

patrols including plain clothes officers had been deployed in the relevant areas.

The Commissioner had also reported that additional police resources would result from the increase in council tax and that councillors were welcome to talk to their local police force.

3. The council had been successful in securing a temporary injunction against traveller encampments on council owned land. Later in the year this would be reconsidered to see if there have been issues and if it could be made permanent.
4. The Leader was grateful for the hard work of councillors from all parties during the past four years.

The Chairman of the Community Committee announced that a local community group, Plastic Free Herne Bay, was going from strength to strength and was preparing to apply for Official Plastic Free Community Accreditation. He passed on the council's congratulations to them.

The Chairman of the Regeneration and Property Committee announced that 800 people had registered for the blue badge scheme online and that the roll out of the new automatic number plate recognition scheme continued.

The Chief Executive drew attention to the revised date for the annual meeting of council (22 May 2019) and the special Regeneration and Property Committee (23 May 2019).

882 **APPOINTMENT OF HONORARY RECORDER**

It was proposed by Councillor S Cook and seconded by Councillor Todd that -

RESOLVED - His Honour Judge Simon James be appointed as the Council's Honorary Recorder with immediate effect.

Record of the voting:

For (33): Councillors B.Baker, N.Baker, Baldock, Bartley, Butcher, Clark, A.Cook, S.Cook, Dixey, Doyle, Eden-Green, Fitter-Harding, Glover, Hirst, Howes, L.Jones, MacCaul, Metcalfe, Samper, Sonnex, Spooner, I.Stockley, J.Stockley, A.Taylor, H.Taylor, D.Thomas, I.Thomas, R.Thomas, Todd, Warley, Waters, Westgate, Williams

Against: None

Abstained: None

883 **RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE FULL COUNCIL**

It was proposed by Councillor S Cook and seconded by Councillor Todd that the recommendations from the various committees be RESOLVED. Details of the resolutions follow this item in minutes 884-888.

The record of voting was as follows -

For (32): Councillors B.Baker, N.Baker, Baldock, Bartley, Butcher, Clark, A.Cook, S.Cook, Dixey, Doyle, Eden-Green, Fitter-Harding, Glover, Hirst, Howes, L.Jones,

MacCaul, Metcalfe, Samper, Sonnex, I.Stockley, J.Stockley, A.Taylor , H.Taylor, D.Thomas, I.Thomas, R.Thomas, Todd, Warley, Waters, Westgate, Williams
Against: None
Abstained (1): Spooner

884 REVIEW OF THE COUNCIL'S COMMITTEE SYSTEM (MINUTE 775)

RESOLVED:

1. Continuation of the three service committees outlined in the report, based on the terms of reference set out in the Constitution.
2. To raise the financial threshold applied to the Regeneration and Property Committee for property disposals from £400,000 to £1 million.
3. That the Urgency Sub-Committees be abolished and, where it is not possible to convene a special meeting of the committee, that the Chief Executive use his powers to make all urgent decisions.
4. That the East Kent Independent Remuneration Panel is asked to review the councillors scheme of allowances during the first year of the new council.

885 REVIEW OF AREA FORUM ARRANGEMENTS (MINUTE 776)

RESOLVED: That the terms of reference set out in the report be incorporated into the constitution for 2019/20, along with the working group recommendations, with the exception of the question and answer session recommendations where the committee requested that guidance be made available to officers that points A1 and A2 within the forum terms of reference shall encompass a reasonable question and answer session between the public and councillors only if the forum wishes to do so.

886 REVIEW OF APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES (MINUTE 777)

RESOLVED:

1. That council appointments to outside bodies are made only when the criteria outlined in the report applies.
2. That councillors continue to be representatives on other outside bodies on a voluntary basis.
3. That where possible councillor appointments will be that of 'observer', or where appropriate committee member, and not a position of Trustee or equivalent management role. Officers will work with outside bodies over the coming months to review their constitutional requirements to rationalise the number requiring a trustee.
4. That the Chief Executive will appoint a liaison officer for the councillor to work with, if the organisation and issues warrant it.
5. That the length of term for all appointments be for a minimum period of two years and a maximum of eight, after which it will only be extended if no other nominees are put forward.
6. That no further non-councillor appointments are made once the existing appointees stand down from their roles or there is a reduction in the number of council appointees.
7. That no more than one formal appointment is made to an outside body. The outside body can make additional appointments directly with councillors on a voluntary basis.

887 REVISIONS TO THE CONSTITUTION (MINUTE 778)

The proposed revisions to the Constitution set out in the report to the Governance Committee meeting of 3 April 2019 be accepted and that the appointment of the chairmen and vice-chairmen be undertaken by full Council in accordance with the detail set out in the Governance Committee report.

888 ANNUAL PAY POLICY REPORT (MINUTE 829)

The Pay Policy Statement for 2019/20 be adopted.

889 COUNCILLORS QUESTIONS

Question one from Councillor Eden-Green

Given that Canterbury City Council is planning to build some 11,000 houses on the Eastern, Southern and Western flanks of the City, why is there still no comprehensive plan to deal with the resultant traffic and pollution on the ring road?

Response by the Leader

The joint Kent County Council and Canterbury City Council Transport Strategy (2017) set out the approach to dealing with the predicted additional demand to travel and proposed measures and targets to mitigate this.

The Air Quality Action Plan (2018) set out measures and targets to deal with matters in regard to air quality.

As the Highway Authority, the responsibility for tackling traffic congestion and the resultant air pollution rested with Kent County Council but Canterbury City Council used its influence wherever possible as well as providing direct investment to help in a number of areas.

Examples of the sustainable transport initiatives and projects that the council was currently delivering were given as follows:

- Operating and subsidising over two thousand Park & Ride spaces with plans to expand at Wincheap
- Investment in ANPR technology in our car parks that will provide real time data to reduce driver time searching for spaces
- Helping to progress road infrastructure schemes which will relieve ring road congestion such as the Wincheap off-slip and an eastern by-pass
- Investment in new cycle routes such as the Canterbury riverside link between Asda and Vauxhall Avenue and extension to the Crab & Winkle Way in Whitstable
- Investment in pedestrian areas in the city such as Best Lane/Friars and St Georges Street
- Establishment of a Sustainable Transport Forum to help develop future transport ideas
- Part of a Quality Bus Partnership, contributing an annual investment in new bus shelters
- A 'Park & Pedal' initiative that allows people to park for free at Wincheap Park and Ride (and in the near future at Sturry Park and Ride) and cycle to work
- Installation of a first phase of electric vehicle charge points (9 double on-street and 3 off-street) using green energy from Vantenfall's off-shore wind farm

- Plans to introduce a car club and cycle hire scheme

Question two from Councillor Warley

“At Full Council on 14/2/19 you spoke against the Labour Group proposal to fund an Affordable Homes Team tasked with finding sites to build Council homes on. You stated that such a team in effect already exists and that there are a number of plans in the pipeline to build Council homes in the District but that you were unable to provide specific details of those plans.

10 weeks on from that meeting can you please specify in detail to this Full Council the sites that have been identified since the beginning of this calendar year, the number of council homes to be built and the projected commencement and completion dates of those building programmes?”

Response by the Leader

Initially, the quickest and easiest way to get more council homes was to buy former council properties on the open market. It required minimal resources and could start immediately. In the three years from 2015/2016 to 2017/18, we brought 47 properties for just under £10 million.

In the short term the council was undertaking to do the following –

- Complete remodelling of Parham Road.
- Implement planning permissions that we already have for the former site of the Sturry Road Social Club (10 bungalows) and 64 Warwick Road (8 flats).
- Implement the findings of an LGA-funded study by consultants for 19 plots, which should produce 52 flats and houses at an estimated cost of £8.3 million by undertaking more detailed financial viability studies and applications for planning permission. Delivery was expected in 2012-22.

In the medium term (5-15 year) the council was seeking to buy groups of properties designed to our specifications from developers on Local Plan sites, which would also encourage developers to bring sites forward.

In the long term (10 to 15 years onward) the council would seek to regenerate obsolete or unpopular HRA assets, increasing density and introducing market tenures to cross-subsidise council homes. These projects would be complex, requiring considerable consultation and community engagement. Buying properties sold under ‘right to buy’, either by agreement or compulsory purchase would have to be factored into the financial viability modelling.

Supplementary question by Councillor Warley

How many potential homes had been since the start of the year?

Response by the Leader

Sites for around 300 potential homes had been identified since January 2019.

890 NOTICE OF MOTION: THEFT FROM MOTOR VEHICLES

(During the item Councillors Clark, Todd and Spooner made a voluntary announcement that they were retired policemen).

(A) The following motion had been received for the meeting which was proposed by Councillor Eden-Green and seconded by Councillor Dixey-

“There has been a recent spate of car windows being smashed and theft from motor vehicles. This Council seeks an urgent response from the Police Commissioner about what action is being taken to stop this crime wave.”

The Lord Mayor allowed the Motion to be dealt with at the meeting.

WHEREUPON

(B) Councillor S Cook proposed and Councillor Todd that the motion be amended by the following words:

“Notes the response of the Police and Crime Commissioner and congratulate him for the additional police officer being introduced this year and commend the work of the officers being done to resolve the issues.”

The amendment was debated and agreed.

Record of the voting

For (28): Councillors B.Baker, N.Baker, Bartley, Clark, A.Cook, S.Cook, Dixey, Doyle, Eden-Green, Fitter-Harding, Glover, Hirst, Howes, L.Jones, MacCaul, Metcalfe, Samper, Sonnex, I.Stockley, J.Stockley, A.Taylor, D.Thomas, I.Thomas, R.Thomas, Todd, Waters, Westgate, Williams

Against: None

Abstained (5): Councillors Baldock, Butcher, Spooner, H.Taylor and Warley

(C) The amended motion was voted on and agreed -

RESOLVED: There has been a recent spate of car windows being smashed and theft from motor vehicles. This council notes the response of the Police and Crime Commissioner and congratulate him for the additional police officer being introduced this year and commend the work of the officers being done to resolve the issues.

Record of the voting:

For (26): Councillors B.Baker, N.Baker, Bartley, Clark, A.Cook, S.Cook, Dixey, Doyle, Eden-Green, Fitter-Harding, Glover, Hirst, Howes, L.Jones, MacCaul, Metcalfe, Samper, Sonnex, I.Stockley, J.Stockley, A.Taylor, D.Thomas, I.Thomas, R.Thomas, Waters, Westgate, Williams

Against (1): Todd

Abstained (6): Councillors Baldock, Butcher, Clark, Spooner, H.Taylor and Warley

891 NOTICE OF MOTION: MOBILE INTERNET ACCESS

(A) The following motion had been received for the meeting which was proposed by Councillor Fitter-Harding and seconded by Councillor Williams -

“This council notes how essential smartphones and high speed mobile internet access are to the residents and businesses of our district, and those who visit it from all over the world.

Although most of the district has good coverage, the centre of Canterbury is particularly underserved - partly due to the medieval buildings and street layout.

Therefore this council:

- Undertakes to lobby mobile phone providers to improve their service.
- Undertakes to work with mobile infrastructure providers to improve the masts and coverage in the city centre.
- Will work with our partners to deploy free WiFi in key areas of the city centre.”

The Lord Mayor allowed the Motion to be dealt with at the meeting.

WHEREUPON

(B) Councillor Eden-Green proposed and Councillor Dixey that the motion be amended by inserting the following words:

“...after this council undertakes to consult with residents and other interested parties with a view to...”

The amendment was debated. When put to a vote it was lost.

Record of the voting:

For (5): Councillors Dixey, Eden-Green, MacCaul, Metcalfe, H.Taylor

Against (23): Councillors B.Baker, N.Baker, Baldock, Bartley, Butcher, Clark, A.Cook, S.Cook, Doyle, Fitter-Harding, Hirst, Howes, L.Jones, Samper, I.Stockley, J.Stockley, D.Thomas, R.Thomas, Todd, Warley, Waters, Westgate, Williams

Abstained (5): Councillors Glover, Sonnex, Spooner, A.Taylor, I.Thomas

(C) Following debate the original motion was put to a vote and it was AGREED as set out in (A).

Record of the voting:

For (29): Councillors B.Baker, N.Baker, Baldock, Bartley, Butcher, Clark, A.Cook, S.Cook, Dixey, Doyle, Fitter-Harding, Glover, Hirst, Howes, L.Jones, MacCaul, Samper, Sonnex, I.Stockley, J.Stockley, A.Taylor, D.Thomas, I.Thomas, R.Thomas, Todd, Warley, Waters, Westgate, Williams

Against : None

Abstain (4): Councillors Eden-Green, Metcalfe, Spooner, H.Taylor

892 **NOTICE OF MOTION REPORT BACK: REDUCING CARBON EMISSIONS (MINUTE 827)**

It was proposed by Councillor S Cook, seconded by Councillor Todd, and RESOLVED –

That the Council note the responses to the Notice of Motion by the Policy and Resources Committee at Minute No. 827 (2018/19).

A record of the voting was taken as follows:

For (28): Councillors B.Baker, N.Baker, Baldock, Bartley, Butcher, Clark, A.Cook, S.Cook, Doyle, Fitter-Harding, Glover, Hirst, Howes, L.Jones, Samper, Sonnex, I.Stockley, J.Stockley, A.Taylor , H.Taylor, D.Thomas, I.Thomas, R.Thomas, Todd, Warley, Waters, Westgate, Williams

Against: None

Abstain (5): Councillors Dixey, Eden-Green, MacCaul, Metcalfe, Spooner

893 NOTICE OF MOTION REPORT BACK: GRAFFITI (MINUTE 739 REFERS)

It was proposed by Councillor S Cook, seconded by Councillor Todd, and RESOLVED –

That the Council note the responses to the Notice of Motion by the Community Committee at Minute No. 739 (2018/19). (A minor correction to the wording was raised and this is detailed at minute 896).

A record of the voting was taken as follows:

For (32): Councillors B.Baker, N.Baker, Baldock, Bartley, Butcher, Clark, A.Cook, S.Cook, Dixey, Doyle, Eden-Green, Fitter-Harding, Glover, Hirst, Howes, L.Jones, MacCaul, Metcalfe, Samper, Sonnex, I.Stockley, J.Stockley, A.Taylor , H.Taylor, D.Thomas, I.Thomas, R.Thomas, Todd, Warley, Waters, Westgate, Williams

Against: None

Abstain (1): Councillor Spooner

894 COUNCIL - THURSDAY, 14 FEBRUARY 2019

The minutes of the above meeting were agreed as a true record and signed by the Lord Mayor.

895 AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

It was proposed by Councillor Glover and seconded by Councillor R Thomas and RESOLVED that the minutes of the meetings held on 31 January and 4 April 2019 be received.

Record of the voting –

For (32): Councillors B.Baker, N.Baker, Baldock, Bartley, Butcher, Clark, A.Cook, S.Cook, Dixey, Doyle, Eden-Green, Fitter-Harding, Glover, Hirst, Howes, L.Jones, MacCaul, Metcalfe, Samper, Sonnex, Spooner, I.Stockley, J.Stockley, A.Taylor , H.Taylor, D.Thomas, I.Thomas, R.Thomas, Todd, Warley, Waters, Westgate, Williams

Against: None

Abstain: Councillor Spooner

Did not vote: Councillors Fawcett, Walker and Wimble.

896 COMMUNITY COMMITTEE - 20 MARCH 2019

It was proposed by Councillor N Baker and seconded by Councillor Howes and RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting above be received (subject to a minor amendment – to replace ‘convict’ with ‘prosecute’).

The record of the voting was as follows -

For (31): Councillors B.Baker, N.Baker, Baldock, Bartley, Butcher, Clark, A.Cook, S.Cook, Dixey, Doyle, Eden-Green, Fitter-Harding, Glover, Hirst, Howes, MacCaul, Metcalfe, Samper, Sonnex, Spooner, I.Stockley, J.Stockley, A.Taylor , H.Taylor, D.Thomas, I.Thomas, R.Thomas, Todd, Warley, Waters, Westgate, Williams

Against: None

Abstain: Councillor Spooner, L.Jones

897 **PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

It was proposed by Councillor Samper and seconded by Councillor Clark and RESOLVED that the minutes of the meetings held on 5 February, 3 March and 3 April 2019 be received.

The record of the voting was as follows -

For (32): Councillors B.Baker, N.Baker, Baldock, Bartley, Butcher, Clark, A.Cook, S.Cook, Dixey, Doyle, Eden-Green, Fitter-Harding, Glover, Hirst, Howes, L.Jones, MacCaul, Metcalfe, Samper, Sonnex, Spooner, I.Stockley, J.Stockley, A.Taylor , H.Taylor, D.Thomas, I.Thomas, R.Thomas, Todd, Warley, Waters, Westgate, Williams

Against: None

Abstain: Councillor Spooner

898 **GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE - 3 APRIL 2019**

It was proposed by Councillor S Cook and seconded by Councillor Todd and RESOLVED that the minutes of the above meeting be received.

The record of the voting was as follows -

For (32): Councillors B.Baker, N.Baker, Baldock, Bartley, Butcher, Clark, A.Cook, S.Cook, Dixey, Doyle, Eden-Green, Fitter-Harding, Glover, Hirst, Howes, L.Jones, MacCaul, Metcalfe, Samper, Sonnex, Spooner, I.Stockley, J.Stockley, A.Taylor , H.Taylor, D.Thomas, I.Thomas, R.Thomas, Todd, Warley, Waters, Westgate, Williams

Against: None

Abstain: Councillor Spooner

Did not vote: Councillors Fawcett, Walker and Wimble.

899 **POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

It was proposed by Councillor S Cook and seconded by Councillor Todd and RESOLVED that the minutes of the meetings held on 6 February, 13 March and 17 April be received.

The record of the voting was as follows -

For (32): Councillors B.Baker, N.Baker, Baldock, Bartley, Butcher, Clark, A.Cook, S.Cook, Dixey, Doyle, Eden-Green, Fitter-Harding, Glover, Hirst, Howes, L.Jones, MacCaul, Metcalfe, Samper, Sonnex, Spooner, I.Stockley, J.Stockley, A.Taylor , H.Taylor, D.Thomas, I.Thomas, R.Thomas, Todd, Warley, Waters, Westgate, Williams

Against: None
Abstain: Councillor Spooner

900 **REGENERATION AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE - 28 MARCH 2019**

It was proposed by Councillor Fitter-Harding and seconded by Councillor R Thomas and RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting above be received.

The record of the voting was as follows -

For (32): Councillors B.Baker, N.Baker, Baldock, Bartley, Butcher, Clark, A.Cook, S.Cook, Dixey, Doyle, Eden-Green, Fitter-Harding, Glover, Hirst, Howes, L.Jones, MacCaul, Metcalfe, Samper, Sonnex, Spooner, I.Stockley, J.Stockley, A.Taylor , H.Taylor, D.Thomas, I.Thomas, R.Thomas, Todd, Warley, Waters, Westgate, Williams

Against: None
Abstain: Councillor Spooner

901 **WHITSTABLE HARBOUR BOARD MEETINGS**

It was proposed by Councillor Todd and seconded by Councillor Dixey and RESOLVED that the minutes of the meetings held on 1 February and 12 April 2019 above be received.

Record of the voting –

For (32): Councillors B.Baker, N.Baker, Baldock, Bartley, Butcher, Clark, A.Cook, S.Cook, Dixey, Doyle, Eden-Green, Fitter-Harding, Glover, Hirst, Howes, L.Jones, MacCaul, Metcalfe, Samper, Sonnex, Spooner, I.Stockley, J.Stockley, A.Taylor , H.Taylor, D.Thomas, I.Thomas, R.Thomas, Todd, Warley, Waters, Westgate, Williams

Against: None
Abstain: Councillor Spooner

902 **TO RECEIVE ANY NOTICES OF URGENT DECISIONS MADE BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE UNDER DELEGATION A3**

There were no relevant notices reported.

903 **ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS TO BE DEALT WITH ON THE NIGHT**

There were no additional urgent matters to be considered at the meeting.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.50 pm