

Council

Tuesday, 6 December 2016

7.30 pm

Present:

The Worshipful the Mayor, Cllr Greta Goatley
The Deputy Mayor, Cllr Harold Craske

Councillors:	Gurjit Kaur Bains	Bronwen McGarrity
	Lesley Boycott	Jordan Meade (left 9.24pm)
	Gurdip Ram Bungar	Lyn Milner
	John Burden	Leslie Pearton
	Julia Burgoyne	Anthony Pritchard (arr 8.38pm)
	Colin Caller	Peter Rayner
	John Caller	Alan Ridgers
	Lee Croxton	Lenny Rolles
	Brian Francis	Brian Sangha
	Sandra Garside	Peter Scollard
	Rob Halpin	Derek Shelbrooke
	Les Howes	Makhan Singh
	Susan Howes	Lauren Sullivan
	Karen Hurdle	Narinder Singh Thandi
	David Hurley	Robin Theobald
	Samir Jassal	Steve Thompson
	John Knight	David Turner
	William Lambert	Jenny Wallace
	Sara Langdale	Michael Wenban
	John Loughlin	

David Hughes	Chief Executive
Stuart Bobby	Director (Corporate Services)
Nick Brown	Director (Environment & Operations)
Kevin Burbidge	Director (Housing & Regeneration)
Melanie Norris	Director (Communities)
Mike Hayley	Assistant Director (Governance & Law)
Sarah Kilkie	Assistant Director (Communities)
Sarah Parfitt	Assistant Director (Corporate Services)
Sarah Arding	Committee Services Officer
Ben Clarke	Committee & Security Assistant

Before the start of formal proceedings the Mayor presented an award to Helen Skellorn in formal recognition by Gravesham Borough Council of her great achievements, through the Council and voluntary sector, to help make Gravesham a better place to live and work. Councillor Meade read out a message of congratulations from Adam Holloway MP.

48. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Valerie Ashenden, John Cubitt and Leslie Hills.

49. Minutes of the Council meeting held on Tuesday, 11 October 2016

The Leader of the Opposition raised a query regarding the accuracy of the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 11 October 2016 with regard to minute 41 (Reserved Minutes). The Chief Executive undertook to investigate the matter, consult with the Deputy Leader and Leader of the Opposition and amend the Minutes as necessary.

It was agreed that the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 11 October 2016 be amended as necessary and submitted to the Council Meeting on 21 February 2017 for approval.

50. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were made.

51. To answer any questions received from members of the public of which notice has been given under Council Procedure Rule 13

The Chief Executive advised that two questions had been received from a member of the public regarding the Edinburgh House Group. As these concerned matters for which the local authority does not have a responsibility the Proper Officer had rejected the questions in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 13.4(1).

Under Council Procedure Rule 5.1.2(1) at the discretion of the Chair the order of business for the meeting was varied.

52. Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2017/18

It was moved by Councillor David Turner and seconded by Councillor Derek Shelbrooke that:

Options 1a, 2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 12, 13 and 14 be adopted with effect from 1 April 2017, and that options 1b, 4, 6, 8, 9 and 10 be not adopted at this time. The introduction of a discretionary Exceptional Hardship Scheme (Option 14) be introduced to help mitigate the impact any of the recommended changes will have on residents.

An amendment was moved by Councillor John Burden and seconded by Councillor Brian Sangha that:

Options 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 12, 13 and 14 be adopted with effect from 1 April 2017, and that options 1b, 4, 6, 8, 9 and 10 be not adopted at this time. The introduction of a discretionary Exceptional Hardship Scheme (Option 14) be introduced to help mitigate the impact any of the recommended changes will have on residents.

For the Amendment

Bungar, Burden, C Caller, J Caller, Croxton, Francis, Halpin, L Howes, S Howes, Loughlin, Milner, Rayner, Rolles, Sangha, Scollard, Singh, Sullivan, Thandi, Thompson, Wallace.

Against the Amendment

The Mayor, Bains, Boycott, Burgoyne, Craske, Garside, Hurdle, Hurley, Jassal, Knight, Lambert, Langdale, McGarrity, Meade, Pearton, Ridgers, Shelbrooke, Theobald, Turner, Wenban.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 20.2 the Mayor exercised her casting vote against the amendment.

The amendment was declared to have fallen.

The substantive motion was put to Council.

For the Motion

The Mayor, Bains, Boycott, Burgoyne, Craske, Garside, Hurdle, Hurley, Jassal, Knight, Lambert, Langdale, McGarrity, Meade, Pearton, Ridgers, Shelbrooke, Theobald, Turner, Wenban.

Against the Motion

Bungar, Burden, C Caller, J Caller, Croxton, Francis, Halpin, L Howes, S Howes, Loughlin, Milner, Rayner, Rolles, Sangha, Scollard, Singh, Sullivan, Thandi, Thompson, Wallace.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 20.2 the Mayor exercised her casting vote in favour of the motion.

The substantive motion was carried.

53. Minutes of Committees

Motions that proceedings, reports and recommendations of Committees, except those reserved under Council Procedure Rule 5.2(6) as referred to below be received and adopted and where applicable the Orders made by them be ratified and confirmed were duly proposed, seconded and resolved in each case.

Minutes of the Crime & Disorder Scrutiny Committee held on 13 October 2016

Minutes of Overview Scrutiny Committee held on 20 October 2016

Minutes of Regulatory Board held on 02 November 2016

Minutes of Cabinet held on 07 November 2016

Minutes of Finance & Audit held on 16 November 2016

Minutes of Overview Scrutiny held on 17 November 2016

Minutes of Regulatory Board held on 30 November 2016

54. Reserved Minutes

It was moved by Councillor John Burden and seconded by Councillor David Hurley that:

The reserved Minutes of the Overview Scrutiny Committees held on 20.10.2016 and 17.11.2016 be ratified and confirmed.

With reference to Minute 59 of the Overview Scrutiny Committee 20.10.2016 and Minute 65 of the Overview Scrutiny Committee 17.11.2016 the Minutes were noted.

55. External Auditor Appointment

It was **resolved** unanimously that:

Council accepts the invitation to opt in to the appointing person arrangements made by Public Sector Audit Appointments (PSAA) for the appointment of external auditors.

56. Government Multi-Year Settlement

Council **noted** the confirmation received from Central Government for a multi-year financial settlement for Gravesham Borough Council.

57. To consider questions from Members of the Council of which notice has been given under Council Procedure Rule 14.

No questions had been received.

58. To receive the Mayors Announcements

The Mayor wished everyone a Happy Christmas and healthy New Year and invited Members to join her in the Parlour for refreshments.

Close of meeting

The meeting ended at 9.38pm