

Council

Tuesday, 5 October 2021

7.30 pm

Present:

The Worshipful the Mayor, Cllr Lyn Milner
The Deputy Mayor, Peter Scollard

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| Councillors: | Derek Ashenden | Shane Mochrie-Cox |
| | Helen Ashenden | Emma Morley |
| | Ejaz Aslam | Elizabeth Mulheran |
| | Conrad Broadley | Leslie Pearton |
| | Gurdip Ram Bungar | Anthony Pritchard |
| | John Burden | Tony Rana |
| | John Caller | Tony Rice |
| | Harold Craske | Alan Ridgers |
| | Lee Croxton | Christina Rolles |
| | Aaron Elliott | Lenny Rolles |
| | Emma Elliott | Brian Sangha |
| | Brian Francis | Gurbax Singh |
| | Sarah Gow | Lauren Sullivan |
| | Gary Harding | Narinderjit Singh Thandi |
| | Baljit Hayre | Steve Thompson |
| | Leslie Hills | Denise Tiran |
| | Samir Jassal | Jenny Wallace |
| | Nirmal Khabra | Frank Wardle |
| | Bob Lane | |
| | Jordan Meade | |

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|---------------------|---|
| Stuart Bobby | Chief Executive |
| Nick Brown | Director (Environment) & Deputy Chief Executive |
| Daniel Killian | Director (Housing) |
| Melanie Norris | Director (Communities) |
| Sarah Parfitt | Director (Corporate Services) |
| Jan Guylar | Head of Legal Services |
| Simon Walsh | Service Manager (Communities) |
| Andy Rayfield | Communications Manager |
| Chris Wakeford | Committee Services Manager |
| Julie Francis-Beard | Committee Services Officer |

Reverend Jaqueline Littlewood Civic Chaplain

25. Apologies

An apology for absence was received from Cllr Gurjit Bains, Cllr Dakota Dibben, Cllr Leslie Hoskins and Cllr Diane Morton.

26. Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 22 June 2021 were signed by the Mayor.

27. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Conrad Broadley declared an interest in relation to agenda item 6 - Reserved Minute 30 of Cabinet held on 7 September 2021 – Maritime Strategy Scrutiny Review –as he is a Member and secretary of the Northfleet Harbour Restoration Trust.

Cllr Harold Craske declared an interest in relation to agenda item 6 - Reserved Minute 30 of Cabinet held on 7 September 2021 – Maritime Strategy Scrutiny Review –as he is a Council appointee on the Gravesend Regatta Committee

Cllr Jordan Meade declared an interest in relation to agenda item 6 - Reserved Minute 30 of Cabinet held on 7 September 2021 – Maritime Strategy Scrutiny Review –as he is a National Director and Trustee of the Maritime Volunteer Service

Cllr Shane Mochrie-Cox declared an interest in relation to agenda item 6 - Reserved Minute 30 of Cabinet held on 7 September 2021 – Maritime Strategy Scrutiny Review – as he is a Council appointee on the Gravesend Regatta Committee

Cllr Lenny Rolles declared an interest in relation to agenda item 6 - Reserved Minute 30 of Cabinet held on 7 September 2021 – Maritime Strategy Scrutiny Review – as he is a Council appointee on the Gravesend Regatta Committee

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

No questions had been received.

29. Minutes of Committees

Motions that proceedings, reports and recommendations of Committees, except those reserved under Council Procedure 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 meeting of the Cabinet held on Monday, 28 June 2021
- Minutes of the meeting of the Finance and Audit Committee held on Tuesday, 20 July 2021
- Minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on Wednesday, 21 July 2021
- Minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on Wednesday, 1 September 2021

- Minutes of the meeting of the Licensing Committee held on Monday, 13 September 2021
- Minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on Tuesday, 7 September 2021
- Overview Scrutiny Committee held on Thursday, 16 September 2021

30. Reserved Minutes

It was moved by Cllr John Burden and seconded by Cllr Lee Croxton that:-

the reserved Minutes of Cabinet held on 7 September 2021 be ratified and confirmed.

With reference to Minute 29, the Minute was noted.

With reference to Minute 30, the Minute was noted

(**Note:** Cllr Elizabeth Mulheran raised two points in relation to the Maritime Strategy Scrutiny Review, Minute 30; 1. The front cover of the review should be amended 2. Costs should be reviewed. Cllr Meade, Chair of the Overview Scrutiny Committee, agreed to look into these matters).

31. Changes to Labour Group Committee Membership

The Council was advised that the following changes to committee membership had been made by the Labour Group:

- Overview Scrutiny Committee
Cllr Gurbax Singh replaces Cllr Christina Rolles as a Member.
Cllr Gurdip Ram Bungar replaces Cllr Elizabeth Mulheran as a Member.
- Crime & Disorder Scrutiny Committee
Cllr Peter Scollard replaces Cllr Brian Sangha as a Member and Vice-Chair.

32. Annual Report of the Finance and Audit Committee Chair 2020/21

Council were presented with the Annual Report of the Finance and Audit Committee Chair 2020/21.

The report provides information on the work of the Finance and Audit Committee during the year 2020/21.

Resolved that the Annual Report of the Finance and Audit Committee Chair 2020/21 be noted.

33. Appointment of Monitoring Officer

Council were invited to appoint a Monitoring Officer in accordance with statutory requirements.

Council thanked Jan Guyler, Head of Legal Services and Interim Monitoring Officer for all her sterling work and wished her well in her new role at Canterbury City Council.

It was moved by Cllr John Burden and seconded by Cllr Lee Croxton that:-

In accordance with Section 5 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 that Council confirm the appointment of Bhupinder Gill, as the Council's Monitoring Officer with effect from 6 October 2021.

The motion was put to the meeting and declared to be carried unanimously

34. Housing Options and Private Sector Housing Restructure

Council received a report which outlined a proposal to restructure the Housing Options and Private Sector Housing Teams, which will see an increase in the level of resources within each team to ensure that they are sufficiently resourced to comply with statutory duties and to deliver proactive and preventative services in the future. The proposals were detailed as being cost neutral to the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan.

It was moved by Cllr John Burden and seconded by Cllr Jenny Wallace that:-

Council approved the proposals to increase the resources within the Housing Options and Private Sector Housing Teams, as outlined in the report.

The motion was put to the meeting and declared to be carried unanimously.

35. To consider motions of which notice has been given under Council Procedure Rule 15.

It was moved by Cllr John Burden and seconded by Cllr Lee Croxton that:-

This Council supports inclusive access at point of need at all household waste and Recycling Centres and therefore calls for the lifting of all charges at Pepperhill Recycling Centre to discourage fly tipping and improve recycling rates and asks all Gravesham County Councillors to come together to propose this at Kent County Council full council in time for the forthcoming budget making process for the 2022/3 budget year.

During the debate, five Members demanded that a recorded vote be taken.

For the motion

The Worshipful the Mayor
Cllrs: Bungar, Burden,
Caller, Croxton, Francis,
Gow, Hayre, Khabra,
Mochrie-Cox, Morley,
Mulheran, Rana, C Rolles,
L Rolles, Sangha, Scollard,
Singh, Sullivan, Thandi,
Thompson and Wallace.

Abstained

Cllrs: D Ashenden, H
Ashenden, Aslam, Broadley,
Craske, A Elliott, E Elliott,
Harding, Hills, Jassal, Lane,
Meade, Pearton, Pritchard,
Rice, Ridgers, Tiran,
Wardle.

The motion was declared to be carried by 22 votes

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

No questions had been received.

37. To receive the Mayor's Announcements

The Mayor highlighted the following events to Members:

- Boundary Walk – 16 to 17 October 2021. Walkers and sponsors are needed; please contact Jackie Denton, Customer Services Manager.
- Charity evening at Twin Dynasty - 18 November 2021, £20 per person, please book via Bev Sanderson in the Committee Section Team.
- The Flu Vaccine is available for all Councillors; an email will be sent to all Members with further details.

Close of meeting

The meeting ended at 9.01 pm