

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL

19TH JULY 2018

At a Meeting of the Rugby Borough Council held on 19th July 2018.

PRESENT:

The Mayor (Councillor T Mahoney), Councillors Mrs A'Barrow, Mrs Avis, Bearne, Mrs Bragg, Brader, Butlin, Cade, Mrs Crane, Cranham, Douglas, Ms Edwards, Mrs Garcia, Gillias, Leigh Hunt, Keeling, Miss Lawrence, Lewis, Lowe, McQueen, Mistry, Mrs Nash, Mrs O'Rourke, Pacey-Day, Mrs Parker, Poole, Picker, Ms Robbins, Roberts, Mrs Roberts, Sandison, Mrs Simpson-Vince, Srivastava, Stokes, Mrs Timms and Ms Watson-Merret.

10. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence from the meeting were received from Councillors Brown, Miss Dumbleton, Mrs New, Roodhouse, Mrs Roodhouse and Shera.

11. MINUTES

The minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 17th May 2018 were approved and signed by the Mayor.

12. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Members had been notified that former Councillor and Mayor of Rugby, Mr Don Williams passed away on 27 June 2018. Mr Williams was a Councillor for New Bilton Ward from 2000 to 2012. There would be a civic funeral for Mr Williams at St Andrew's Parish Church at 12 noon on Friday 27 July 2018. Details of the funeral had been e-mailed to all Councillors.

Members had also been notified that former Councillor Mrs Pat Wyatt had passed away on 8 July 2018. Mrs Wyatt was a Councillor for Lawford and Kings Newnham Ward from 2002 to 2006. Details of Mrs Wyatt's funeral had been circulated to all Members.

The Mayor, together with all Members and officers of the Council stood for a short silence in memory of both Don and Pat.

13. QUESTIONS PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER 10

(A) Councillor Mistry asked the Leader of the Council, Councillor Stokes:

“In Part 1B of Article 7 of the Council’s Constitution under paragraph 7,5, headed Deputy Leader, it states the following. “The Leader of the Council will appoint a Cabinet member to the position of Deputy Leader.” Can the Leader of the Council explain why he hasn’t appointed any of his Cabinet members to the position of Deputy Leader?

Can he also advise full Council if the previous deputy leader resigned and if a written resignation was submitted to the monitoring officer in line with the requirements of this Council’s Constitution?

Can I also ask if the Leader will be appointing a Deputy Leader in the foreseeable future from his Cabinet members?”

Councillor Stokes, Leader of the Council, replied as follows:

“Cabinet was re-aligned when the new Senior Management Structure was created, moving to a single Executive Director and four Heads of Service. It seemed logical and fair to re-structure Cabinet in alignment.

All changes have been notified to the Monitoring Officer and at the next available Full Council as well as at each Annual Council Meeting since the re-structure. Therefore, the current structure should come as no surprise to any member.

At present, in the event I am not available, each Cabinet Member would ‘deputise’ in any decisions relating to their own portfolio. This would also apply to any internal or external meeting or commitment. The Senior Management Team are aware of this process and it has worked effectively for the past two years.

Not having a Deputy Leader as was, prior to the re-structure, has saved the council over £15,000 to date.

I am grateful for the member raising that this part of The Constitution is out of date and have asked officers to refer the matter to The Constitution Working Party for the wording to be brought up to date.”

(B) Councillor Douglas asked the following question of the Leader of the Council, Councillor Stokes:

“Despite an estimated 1 in 10 of the UK population being members of the Armed Forces community, there's very limited information about where they are or what their needs might be.

The Royal British Legion's 'Count Them In' Campaign aims to change this by adding new questions to the 2021 Census to help improve our understanding of this unique community and ensure that politicians, charities and service providers fully meet the needs of our serving personnel, veterans and their families.

Can the Leader outline what Rugby Borough Council is doing to support the campaign and bring about this important change to help those who have served our country?"

Councillor Stokes replied as follows:

"Rugby Borough Council is signed up to the Warwickshire Armed Forces covenant and I am fully supportive of The Royal British Legion's 'Count Them In' campaign, which calls for questions on the Armed Forces community to be included in the next UK census.

Officers are fully aware of the campaign and will give any support necessary from local government bodies such as ourselves, to help the campaign achieve its goals.

The Council also has an Armed Forces Champion, which is currently Councillor Tom Mahoney."

(C) Councillor Douglas asked the following question of the Communities and Homes Portfolio Holder, Councillor Mrs Crane:

"Rugby Borough Council's Housing Strategy for 2018-2020 says it will consider the potential for creating a Private Renters Charter. Can the Portfolio Holder please provide an update on the Charter's progress?"

Councillor Mrs Crane replied as follows:

"This piece of work is being led by the Regulatory Services Manager, in Environmental Services. The likely date for completion of this action is August 2018."

(D) Councillor Douglas to ask the following question of the Leader of the Council, Councillor Stokes:

"Earlier this year the Chief Executive Officer of the National Cyber Security Centre said a major cyber-attack on the UK is a matter of "when, not if".

In February 2018, it was reported that more than 25% of UK councils have had their computer systems breached in the past five years. What procedures does Rugby Borough Council have in place to ensure staff receive mandatory cyber-security training?"

Councillor Stokes replied as follows:

“Rugby Borough Council has always led the way with regards to cyber security. There are a number of processes and procedures in place to ensure staff are aware of their responsibilities in regard to the security of the network, council data and information.

Firstly, our induction process ensures that everyone is familiar with their responsibilities towards password security, data security and so forth, alongside promoting the IT Policies, which have recently been revised and updated. We also have software which allows us to push out learning materials and policies via a web portal, currently the focus of this is around cyber security, in particular phishing which is regarded as one of the higher areas of risk currently. As part of our cyber security audit we undertook a phishing exercise to test vulnerability and from those results further targeted training will be leveraged. We also have a very proactive and supportive IT Services Department who are on hand to offer advice and help should any user believe they have been targeted with suspicious emails or malware.

It is also important to note that we also have various physical software and hardware methods we employ via a number technology suites to limit possible intrusion of unwanted malware and reduce risk. We utilise email filtering to facilitate the impact of phishing emails and spam, we employ website filtering to reduce the risk of visiting suspicious websites where content may be harmful. We also employ endpoint security on our physical devices to reduce risk, firewall security to the network and carry out yearly penetration testing to comply with a number of security requirements and again ensure reduced risk of exposure for our network and therefore our equipment.”

14. REPORT OF CABINET – 25 JUNE 2018

RESOLVED THAT - the report be confirmed and adopted.

15. REPORTS OF OFFICERS

(a) Public Spaces Protection Order – Extension

Council considered the report of the Executive Director concerning an extension to the Public Spaces Protection Order (Intoxicating Substances).

RESOLVED THAT - the Public Space Protection Order (Intoxicating Substances) and its enforcement provisions be extended for a further 12 months (1 year) period, commencing from 21 August 2018, subject to variation following the scrutiny review and approval of any recommendations by Cabinet.

16. NOTICE OF MOTION PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER 11

The Mayor considered it advisable and convenient to deal with the Notice of Motion set out at item 8 on the agenda at the meeting.

Councillor Mrs O'Rourke moved and Councillor Ms Edwards seconded the following motion set out at item 8 of the agenda.

"Following the recent announcement about the unsuccessful bid to secure funding for the Rugby parkway station and comments made by the national planning inspectorate in relation to the local plan in Rugby, I would ask the Leader of the Council to make urgent representations to DPT to secure national funding for the Rugby Parkway scheme. It is crucial that we secure this funding as quickly as possible to ensure the local plan is both viable and environmental sustainable."

Following discussion, Councillor Stokes moved and Councillor Ms Robbins seconded the following amendment to the motion:

"The motion as set out at item 8 of the agenda be deferred until the next ordinary meeting of Council pending further information being obtained on funding for the Rugby Parkway scheme."

The Mayor put the amendment to the vote and declared it carried.

RESOLVED THAT - The motion as set out at item 8 of the agenda be deferred until the next ordinary meeting of Council pending further information being obtained on funding for the Rugby Parkway scheme.

17. CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

18. COMMON SEAL

It was moved by the Mayor, seconded by the Deputy Mayor and

RESOLVED THAT - the common seal be affixed to the various orders, deeds and documents to be made or entered into for carrying into effect the several decisions, matters and things approved by the council and more particularly set out in the committee reports adopted at this meeting.

19. MOTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC UNDER SECTION 100(A)(4) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

RESOLVED THAT - under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of information as defined in paragraph 3 of schedule 12A to the Act.

20. PRIVATE REPORT OF CABINET – 25 JUNE 2018

RESOLVED THAT – the report be confirmed and adopted.

MAYOR