

**Minutes of the Meeting of the COUNCIL held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall on Wednesday 26th July 2017 at 6.00 pm.**

Present: - Councillors

S Barber	S Ion
J Carnall	C Jones
N Cenci	B Knowles
G Chisholm	C Kreidewolf
H Clarke	I Lockington
S Connelly	J Macartney
J Cook	N MacDonald
M Cook	D Maguire
S Darwin	S Meudec
G Debman	E Phillips
E Elavalakan	R Pope
D Ellesmere	J Powell
R Fern	L Reynolds
I Fisher	J Riley
S Gage	A Ross
P Gardiner	B Rudkin
J Gibbs	C Smart
D Goldsmith	P Smart
M Goonan	B Studd
T Grant	R Vickery
B Hall	H Whittall
E Harsant	E Xhaferaj
O Holmes	

**8. Apologies for Absence.**

8.1 Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Leeder and Councillor Wright.

**9. To Confirm the Minutes from the Previous Council Meeting.**

It was **RESOLVED:-**

**that the Minutes of the meeting held on 17 May 2017 be signed as a true record.**

**10. To Confirm or Vary the Order of Business on the Agenda.**

It was **RESOLVED:-**

**that the Order of Business be confirmed as printed on the Agenda.**

## **11. To Receive any Declarations of Interest by Councillors.**

- 11.1. In accordance with delegated authority, the Monitoring Officer had granted dispensations to all Councillors in respect of Item 9 (Pay Cap Motion) in relation to Councillor Allowances only.
- 11.2. Councillor Debman, being the owner of a small business, declared a pecuniary interest in Item 7 (Food Law Enforcement Service Plan) and left the room during consideration of that item.
- 11.3. Councillor Barber, being a NHS employee declared a pecuniary interest in Item 9 (Pay Cap motion) and left the room during consideration of that item.
- 11.4. Councillor Chisholm, having a partner who works in the public sector, declared a pecuniary interest in Item 9 (Pay Cap motion) and left the room during consideration of that item.
- 11.5. Councillor J Cook, as his wife is a barrister in employed practice in the public sector, declared a pecuniary interest in Item 9 (Pay Cap motion) and left the room during consideration of that item.
- 11.6. Councillor Fisher, as his spouse is employed by Ipswich Borough Council, declared a pecuniary interest in Item 9 (Pay Cap motion) and left the room during consideration of that item.
- 11.7. Councillor Gardiner, as his wife is employed by the Ipswich NHS Hospital Trust, declared a pecuniary interest in Item 9 (Pay Cap motion) and left the room during consideration of that item.
- 11.8. Councillor Goonan, as his partner is employed by the public sector, declared a pecuniary interest in Item 9 (Pay Cap Motion) and left the room during consideration of that item.
- 11.9. Councillor MacDonald, as his partner is employed by the public sector, declared a pecuniary interest in Item 9 (Pay Cap Motion) and left the room during consideration of that item.
- 11.10. Councillor P Smart, being an employee of Essex County Council, declared a pecuniary interest in Item 9 (Pay Cap Motion) and left the room during consideration of that item.
- 11.11. Councillor Lockington, as her husband is an employee of the NHS, declared a pecuniary interest in Item 9 (Pay Cap Motion) and left the room during consideration of that item.
- 11.12. Councillor Pope, being a public sector worker, declared a pecuniary interest in Item 9 (Pay Cap Motion) and left the room during consideration of that item.

- 11.13. Councillor Grant, being a public sector worker, declared a pecuniary interest in Item 9 (Pay Cap Motion) and left the room during consideration of that item.
- 11.14. Councillor Clarke, as his partner works in the NHS, declared a pecuniary interest in Item 9 (Pay Cap Motion) and left the room during consideration of that item.
- 11.15. On the advice of the Monitoring Officer, all Local Government staff present at the Council meeting declared a pecuniary interest and left the meeting during consideration of that item.

## **12. Mayor's Communications.**

It had been a very busy couple of months, with a lot of memorable events. Some have been sombre, such as the commemorations after terrorist outrages in Manchester and London and the Grenfell Tower tragedy. The Mayor was privileged to stand side by side with so many community leaders after such sad and horrible events.

A happier note was the return to the Town Hall steps to mark the inaugural Suffolk Day. The Mayor was joined by around 20 Mayors and Chairs – the notorious Suffolk ‘chain gang’ - to proclaim this new ‘day’ in our calendars.

Volunteers play an important part in the life of Ipswich as they make things happen in so many different walks of life. So, it was rewarding for the Mayor to meet some of the volunteers who make Crucial Crew such a success. Crucial Crew was the children’s safety awareness initiative, which has benefited many thousands of youngsters over the past decades.

The school holidays were almost upon us and the Council had again organised a variety of events to keep youngsters from getting bored. The Council was also in the middle of an ambitious events season and the Mayor would enjoy going to more of these. In fact, the Mayor was opening Ipswich Wheels later this month.

It was a bit of a “busman’s holiday” for the Mayor last week when she went back to her place of work for the Mayor’s At Home event. The Mayor and her Consort weren’t the only ones to have enjoyed it so much. The Mayor thanked the Ipswich Hospital Trust and the organisers for putting together such a great evening.

The Mayor was proud to be able to meet HRH Prince Harry on behalf of the people of Ipswich. He is a young man who has served his country well and continues to be a wonderful ambassador promoting charities close to his heart.

The Mayor went along to Applaud Coffee in St Peter’s Street to wish them a happy fourth birthday. The Mayor seems to have gained a reputation for being a sport and fitness fan. Well, it is true that she has run marathons before but she was now embarking on a series of Mayor’s Challenges. The first of these is a Touch Rugby festival at Whitton Sports Centre.

Ipswich is preparing to mark the centenary of the Battle of Passchendaele, a battle known for its terrible slaughter and endless mud and for half a million dead and

wounded. To commemorate this, a short but moving ceremony would be held in Christchurch Park on 31<sup>st</sup> July 2017.

**13. Councillors to answer questions asked in accordance with Rules of Procedure 9.**

	<b>Question put to:</b>	<b>Question from:</b>	<b>Question Title</b>
1.	Councillor Rudkin	Mr H Tambe	Public Sports Facilities
2.	Councillor Ellesmere	Ms L Alexander	Upper Orwell Crossing Project
3.	Councillor Ellesmere	Ms L Alexander	Upper Orwell Crossing Project Updates
4.	Councillor Rudkin	Mr K Algar	Government Pay Cap
5.	Councillor Rudkin	Councillor Cenci	Maidenhall Sports Centre
6.	Councillor Rudkin	Councillor Phillips	Ipswich Angle
7.	Councillor Wright	Councillor Xhaferaj	NW Area Committee
8.	Councillor Rudkin	Councillor Vickery	Suffolk Day
9.	Councillor P Smart	Councillor Reynolds	Wheelie Bins on Pavements
10.	Councillor Jones	Councillor Lockington	Northern Bypass

**14. C/17/03 To Consider a Report from Councillor A Ross on the Food Law Enforcement Service Plan 2017-2020.**

14.1. Councillor Ross introduced the report and informed the Council meeting that the Food Law Code 2015 stated that the Council must have an up to date Food Service Plan. Council were being asked to consider and comment on the Food Law Enforcement Plan before the report was returned to Executive for adoption.

14.2 Council considered the report and made the following comments:

- Councillor Fisher (on behalf of the Conservative Group): The aims and objectives of the Enforcement Plan were wide-ranging and would help the town retain and improve the high standards everyone enjoyed. He welcomed the objective to ensure the food businesses were not tied up in red tape, but was concerned about consistency that some of the food safety rules could be open to interpretation. He also felt that the star system to rate food establishments was a really good idea, but again stressed the need for consistency to ensure that a level playing field was created. Finally, he again emphasised that enforcement standards must be consistent across the local area as it was essential that Ipswich businesses were not unfairly penalised by having stricter standards imposed on them

than the neighbouring areas and requested that Councillor Ross speak with the Suffolk Liaison Group to ensure that the higher standards were imposed right across Suffolk.

- Councillor Lockington (on behalf of the Liberal Democrat Group): Welcomed the report and stated that she was really happy to see that staff were monitoring what was going on and thanked them all for the work that they did to ensure that food standards were high in Ipswich.
- Councillor Phillips raised a factual point about the number of cinemas in the town.
- Councillor Jones raised concerns that Councillor Fisher was suggesting that the standards should be lowered.

It was **RESOLVED:-**

**That Council considers and comments upon the draft Food Law Enforcement Service Plan, in Appendix 1 of the report, in order to comply with the requirements of the Food Law Code of Practice and the Council's constitution, before returning it to Executive for appropriate amendment and adoption.**

**15. C/17/04 To Consider a Report from Councillor M Cook on the Treasury Management Performance - Annual Report 2016/17.**

It was **RESOLVED** on a motion **MOVED** by Councillor Martin Cook and **SECONDED** by Councillor Riley that:-

- (i) **the Treasury Management Operations for the period 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017 be noted;**
- (ii) **that the Authorised Borrowing Limit be increased from £195m to £350m for 2017/8.**

15.1 In accordance with Part 4 Rules of Procedure Section 1 Rules of Procedure for Council, Councillor Fisher and five other Councillors requested that a recorded vote be undertaken.

15.2 The voting was recorded as follows:

<b>FOR:</b>	<b>AGAINST:</b>	<b>ABSTAINED:</b>
Councillor Barber	Councillor Carnall	
Councillor Chisholm	Councillor Cenci	
Councillor Clarke	Councillor Debman	
Councillor Connelly	Councillor Fisher	
Councillor J Cook	Councillor Goldsmith	
Councillor M Cook	Councillor Hall	
Councillor Darwin	Councillor Harsant	

Councillor Elavalakan	Councillor Ion	
Councillor Ellesmere	Councillor Phillips	
Councillor Fern	Councillor Pope	
Councillor Gage	Councillor Reynolds	
Councillor Gardiner	Councillor Vickery	
Councillor Gibbs	Councillor Xhaferaj	
Councillor Goonan		
Councillor Grant		
Councillor Holmes		
Councillor Jones		
Councillor Knowles		
Councillor Kreidewolf		
Councillor Lockington		
Councillor Macartney		
Councillor MacDonald		
Councillor Maguire		
Councillor Meudec		
Councillor Powell		
Councillor Riley		
Councillor Ross		
Councillor Rudkin		
Councillor C Smart		
Councillor P Smart		
Councillor Studd		
Councillor Whittall		
32	13	0

**16. To Consider a Motion from Councillor B Rudkin:**

It was **MOVED** by Councillor Rudkin and **SECONDED** by Councillor Gage:

*“That this Council recognises and values the work of its employees and those across the public sector. It acknowledges that the Government’s imposition over many years of a pay freeze and public sector pay cap of 1% has resulted in wages in the public sector falling behind both price inflation and the earnings in the private sector. This has caused difficulties in recruitment and made public sector employees feel undervalued.*

*The Council urges the Government to scrap the public sector pay cap. We also urge the Government to adequately fund councils to pay their staff a decent pay rise in line with the cost of living.”*

This was **PUT** to the meeting and **AGREED**.

It was **RESOLVED:-**

**“That this Council recognises and values the work of its employees and those across the public sector. It acknowledges that the Government’s imposition**

over many years of a pay freeze and public sector pay cap of 1% has resulted in wages in the public sector falling behind both price inflation and the earnings in the private sector. This has caused difficulties in recruitment and made public sector employees feel undervalued.

The Council urges the Government to scrap the public sector pay cap. We also urge the Government to adequately fund councils to pay their staff a decent pay rise in line with the cost of living.”

**17. To Consider a Motion from Councillor R Pope:**

It was **MOVED** by Councillor Pope and **SECONDED** by Councillor Jones:

*“That this Council supports the “Charter for trees, woods and people”. We believe that trees have wide ranging benefits for the environment and for people’s physical and mental wellbeing. We request that the Chief Executive writes to the Woodland Trust to express our support and that all future policies of this Council are mindful of this Charter.”*

This was **PUT** to the meeting and **AGREED** unanimously.

It was **RESOLVED:**

**“That this Council supports the “Charter for trees, woods and people”. We believe that trees have wide ranging benefits for the environment and for people’s physical and mental wellbeing. We request that the Chief Executive writes to the Woodland Trust to express our support and that all future policies of this Council are mindful of this Charter.”**

**18. To Consider nominations/changes of Councillors to serve on Committees, Panels, Working Groups and Outside Bodies and to Note any Changes made by the Leader of the Council in respect of the Executive for the period to the Annual Meeting of the Council in 2018.**

It was **RESOLVED:-**

- (i) that Councillor Macartney replace Councillor Hopgood on the Planning and Development Committee.
- (ii) that Councillor J Cook replace Councillor Macartney as a substitute on the Planning and Development Committee.
- (iii) that Councillor Fisher replace Councillor Cenci on the Economic Development & Property Working Group.
- (iv) that Councillor Cenci replace Councillor Fisher on the Culture and Leisure Working Group.

- (v) that Councillor Harsant replace Councillor Carnall on the Design and Conservation Panel.
- (vi) that Councillor Fisher replace Councillor Cenci on the Local Government Association Assembly.
- (vii) that Councillor Goonan replace Councillor Chisholm on the North West Big Local Trust.
- (viii) that Councillor Darwin to be appointed as one of the Vice-Chairs on the National Association of Black, Asian and Ethnic Minority Councillors (NABAEMC) Executive Committee.
- (ix) that Councillor Cenci no longer be a member of the Executive.

The meeting closed at 8.25 pm

**Chair**