



Minutes

Name of meeting	FULL COUNCIL
Date and time	WEDNESDAY, 19 NOVEMBER 2008 COMMENCING AT 6.00 PM
Venue	COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT
Present	Cllrs Arthur Taylor (Chairman), Barry Abraham, Henry Adams, Wendy Arnold, Anne Bishop, John Bowker, George Brown, Ivan Bulwer, William Burt, George Cameron, Charles Chapman, Vanessa Churchman, Mike Cunningham, Roger Dixcey, Jonathan Fitzgerald-Bond, Charles Hancock, John Hobart, Peter Humber, Tim Hunter-Henderson, Patrick Joyce, Gill Kennett, David Knowles, Geoff Lumley, Roger Mazillius, Muriel Miller, Lora Peacey-Wilcox, Lady Pigot, David Pugh, Susan Scoccia, Ian Stephens, Diana Tuson, Ian Ward, Margaret Webster, Alan Wells, Colin West, David Whittaker, David Williams
Officers in attendance	Steve Beynon, Dave Burbage, Davina Fiore, Chris Mathews, Julie Martin, Keith Woods
Apologies	Dawn Cousins, John Effemey, Barbara Foster, Deborah Gardiner, Heather Humby, Erica Oulton, Garry Price, Andy Sutton, Jilly Wood

Prior to the start of the meeting the Chairman called for a minute's silence in remembrance of the passing of Councillor Brian Mosdell.

48. **Minutes**

RESOLVED :

THAT the Minutes of the meeting held on [15 October 2008](#) be confirmed.

49. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations received at this stage.

50. **Public Question Time**

A written question had been submitted as follows :

Name	Subject	Reference Number
Mr Graham Pearce of Ryde	Dedicated Cabinet Member for Tourism	PQ 46/08

Oral questions were put to the Chairman as follows :

Name	Subject	Comment
Mr B Blezzard	New Wightlink ferries using the Lymington to Yarmouth route	The Cabinet member responded.
Mr J Wortham of Brighstone	Highways PFI and its 8 stages	The Cabinet member responded.

51. **Chairman's Report**

The Chairman had provided a written report.

The Chairman indicated that he was holding a charity coffee morning at Dinosaur Isle of Saturday, 22 November 2008.

52. **Other Business**

The Committee was advised that Cllr Win McRobert had not attended any meeting of the Council for over six months and therefore in accordance with the relevant provision of the Local Government Act 1972 she was no longer a member of the Isle of Wight Council. Therefore under Section 86 of the Local Government Act 1972 the Council would need to formally declared that the seat was vacant. No by-election would be held as the last date by which by-elections can be held had passed.

Members believed there should be a provision to overrule that decision, but were told that under Section 86 of the Act the six month period could only be extended in advance of the six months period expiring, and could not be overridden after six months non attendance. Tighter monitoring of members attendance would consequently be undertaken.

RESOLVED :

THAT the Bembridge South seat be formally declared vacant by virtue of the fact that Mrs Win McRobert had not attended a meeting of the council for 6 continuous months.

53. **Implementation of Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places**

Following the review by the Boundary Commission the Electoral Divisions on the Isle of Wight would be reduced from 48 to 40 and Council were asked to approve the new Polling Districts needed to reflect the changed Electoral Divisions. The leader gave a brief outline of all those who had been consulted and the outcome of those consultations. Members were advised that the polling districts were broadly similar to those currently in use.

There were transitional arrangements in place for member elections for Newport, Northwood and Whippingham Parish Councils and Ryde Town Council until 2010.

There was some discussion relating to the use of school for polling stations, members believed alternate locations should be found where possible.

RESOLVED :

- (i) THAT the Isle of Wight Council adopts the scheme of Polling Districts and Polling Places as set out in Appendix B of the report. The resolution to be effective for the purposes of proceedings preliminary or relating to any election to be held on the Ordinary day of election of Councillors in 2009 on the day after the day on which it was resolved, and for all other purposes on the Ordinary day for the election of Councillors in 2009.
- (ii) THAT officers be asked that wherever possible, polling stations are not located within school buildings.

54. **Cabinet**

(a) **Recommendations from the Cabinet**

(Mr Dave Burbage and Miss Davina Fiore left the room for the following item of business).

(i) **Senior Management Structure**

Members were told that the senior structure of the Isle of Wight Council had been through a number of changes in recent years, which included several interim appointments at a senior level. A benchmarking exercise was undertaken which identified that the current structure had more senior posts than would be expected in Councils of a similar size.

The Cabinet had approved a new structure which would also include a change to titles of some statutory posts that would require Council approval. The Cabinet recommended that the Director of Finance (Chief Finance Officer) be re-designated the Director of Resources and the Director of Legal and Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer) be re-designated the Director of Corporate Services.

It was anticipated that savings in the region of £500,000 would be achieved in a full year.

RESOLVED :

THAT the following proposed changes of titles of the following current Statutory Post holders: Director of Finance (Chief Finance Officer - Mr David Burbage) be re-designated the Director of Resources and the Director of Legal and Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer - Ms Davina Fiore) be re-designated the Director of Corporate Services be approved.

(ii) **Corporate Plan 2008 - 2011**

The Corporate Plan brought together all the Council's Service Plans and included the outcomes from the annual Residents' Survey. Partners of the Council had also played a major part in providing input through the Island Strategic Partnership.

RESOLVED :

THAT the Corporate Plan for 2008 – 2011 be adopted.

(b) **Reports of the Cabinet Members**

(i) **The Leader**

A written report had been circulated.

Oral questions were put to the Leader as follows:

Name	Subject	Comment
Cllr C Hancock	Recent meeting with SEEDA re the progress relating to East Cowes.	The Cabinet Member responded.
Cllr G Lumley	Pan development.	The Cabinet Member responded.
Cllr M Webster	SEEDA.	The Cabinet Member responded.
Cllr M Miller	Issue of the blue wall in East Cowes.	The Cabinet Member responded.

(ii) **The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Economy, Leisure, Planning and Property**

A written report had been circulated.

An oral question was put to the Cabinet Member as follows:

Name	Subject	Comment
Cllr C Hancock	Any further discussion with Southampton University re the Science Park for the Island.	The Cabinet Member responded.

(iii) **Chair of Scrutiny**

A written report had been circulated.

(iv) **Cabinet Member for Health, Housing and Community Wellbeing**

A written report had been circulated.

(v) **Cabinet Member for Residents, Resources and the Fire Service**

A written report had been circulated.

Oral questions were put to the Cabinet Member as follows:

Name	Subject	Comment
Cllr R Mazillius	concessionary fares	The Cabinet Member responded.
Cllr G Lumley	concessionary fares	The Cabinet Member responded.

(vi) **Cabinet Member for Safer Communities**

A written report had been circulated.

An oral question was put to the Cabinet Member as follows:

Name	Subject	Comment
Cllr D Williams	Last Orders performance arranged by the Trading Standards Service	The Cabinet Member responded.

(vii) **Cabinet Member for Children and Young People**

A written question had been received as follows:

Name	Subject	Reference Number
Cllr R Mazillius	The recent death of 'Baby P' and this Council's Local Safeguarding Children's Board.	MQ 19/08

A written report had been circulated for information.

An oral question was put to the Cabinet Member as follows:

Name	Subject	Comment
Cllr I Stephens	Full quota of child care social workers for the Isle of Wight Council.	The Cabinet Member would provide a written response

(viii) **Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport**

A written report had been circulated.

Oral questions were put to the Cabinet Member as follows:

Name	Subject	Comment
Cllr C Hancock	Update on the Newport Traffic Plan.	The Cabinet Member responded.
Cllr I Stephens	Biomass Energy and the Ryde Gateway.	The Cabinet Member responded.
Cllr M Webster	Resurfacing Old Road, East Cowes in 2009	The Cabinet Member responded.

CHAIRMAN