



Minutes

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

Prior to the start of the meeting the Chairman called for a minute's silence in remembrance of Anthony Minghella.

This Council records with great sadness the death of Anthony Minghella Esq, CBE, Honorary Freeman of the Isle of Wight and distinguished stage, screen and television playwright and director. An Island-born man of great distinction, who loved our Island and never forgot his roots. This Council extends the deepest sympathy to Gloria and Edward Minghella and their family on their sad loss.

91.

Minutes

RESOLVED :

THAT the Minutes of the meetings held on [23 January](#) and [20 February 2008](#) be confirmed.

Declarations of Interest

Declarations received were as follows:

Member	Minute Number	Interest	Nature of Interest
Cllr Abraham	95 and 96	Personal	Family member at school and is a governor of Wootton Primary School.
Cllr Adams	95 and 96	Personal	LEA Governor of Dover Park School
Cllr Arnold	95 and 96	Personal	Family members attend school, LEA Governor of Chale and Niton Schools, and Member of Niton Youth Club Management Committee
Cllr Bulwer	95 and 96	Personal	LEA Governor for
Cllr Burt	95 and 96	Personal	LEA Governor of Carisbrooke High School
Cllr Cameron	95 and 96	Personal	LEA Governor at Weston Primary School
Cllr Chapman	95 and 96	Personal	Family members in the education system
Cllr Cousins	95 and 96	Personal	Family member at school and is an LEA governor of Medina High School.
Cllr Cunningham	95 and 96	Personal	Family members attending schools, and LEA Governor of Nine Acres School
Cllr Foster	95 and 96	Personal	LEA Governor of Medina High School
Cllr Gardiner	All agenda items	Personal	Employee of UNISON and a family member in the education system
Cllr Hancock	95 and 96	Personal	LEA Governor of Whippingham Primary School
Cllr Hobart	95 and 96	Personal	LEA Governor of Gurnard Primary School
Cllr Humber	95 and 96	Personal	Family member soon to enter education system.
Cllr Humby	95 and 96	Personal	LEA Governor at Sandham Middle School, Community Governor at Sandown High School and Associate Member of St Johns school
Cllr Joyce	95 and 96	Personal	Director of company that undertakes works of the Council and Family members in the education system

Member	Minute Number	Interest	Nature of Interest
Cllr Kennet	95 and 96	Personal	Relatives currently working in schools and family members attending schools
Cllr Lumley	95 and 96	Personal	LEA Governor of Barton Primary School, Downside Middle School and Medina High School
Cllr Mazillius	95 and 96	Personal	Family member runs an architectural practice that may be commissioned by the Council and LEA Governor for Northwood Primary School and Cowes High School
Cllr McRobert	95 and 96	Personal	LEA Governor of Forelands Middle School
Cllr Miller	95 and 96	Personal	LEA Governor of Osborne Middle School
Cllr Oulton	95 and 96	Personal	Relatives currently working in schools.
Cllr Peacey – Wilcox	95 and 96	Personal	LEA Governor of Cowes High School and family members attend school.
Cllr Swan	95, 96 and 97	Personal	LEA Governor at Nine Acres and Nodehill Middle Schools, and very occasional sub contractor for independent artistic work in the education field and possibly around initiatives connected with the Sustainable Community Strategy.
Cllr Taylor	95 and 96	Personal	LEA Governor at Greenmount Primary School, relative currently working in schools, and family members attending schools
Cllr Tuson	95 and 96	Personal	LEA Governor at Bishop Lovett and Nettlestone Primary Schools
Cllr Webster	95 and 96	Personal	Relatives currently working in schools and family members attending schools
Cllr Wells	95 and 96	Personal	Family members at school and a relative working in the education department.
Cllr West	95 and 96	Personal	LEA Governor at Brighstone Primary School
Cllr Whittaker	95 and 96	Personal	Family members at two Island schools.

Member	Minute Number	Interest	Nature of Interest
Cllr Williams	95 and 96	Personal	LEA Governor of Gatten and Lake, Sandham Middle and Sandown High Schools
Cllr Wood	95 and 96	Personal	LEA Governor of Godshill School.

93. **Public Question Time**

Written questions had been submitted as follows :

Name	Subject	Reference Number
Mr David Miller	School Reorganisation	PQ 17/08
Mr John Wortham	Ventnor Jazz Festival venue	PQ 19/08
Ms Rebecca McGregor	School Reorganisation	PQ 20/08 Withdrawn
Ms Sarah Doran	School Reorganisation	PQ 21/08
Mr Paul Critchley	School Reorganisation	PQ 22//08
Mr David Thompson	School Reorganisation	PQ 23/08
Mr Chris Welsford for Standards Not Tiers	School Reorganisation	PQ 24/08
Ms Wendy Varley	School Reorganisation	PQ 25/08
Mr David Holmes	Car sharing database	PQ 26/08
Ms Olivia Varley-Winter	School Reorganisation	PQ/27/08
Dr James Eade	School Reorganisation	PQ 28/08
Mr James Pickett	School Reorganisation	PQ 29/08

A copy of all written questions and responses were registered on the Public Question Register and available upon request.

94. **Chairman's Report**

The Chairman had provided a written report and also advised Council of the Bishop of Portsmouth's announcement that St Thomas's Church of Newport had become a Minster Church.

95. **Motions Under Procedure Rule 11**

In accordance with Procedure Rule 11 the following motion was moved by Cllr Swan;

"THAT Council, on March 19th, resolves to add the following 4th Option to the three currently available to Members within the Education Reorganisation decision-making process tonight:

A Referendum of the Isle of Wight electorate to be called immediately, to decide between;

Continuing to raise standards within the current 3-tier system, retaining small schools and avoiding a major reorganisation;

or

A reorganisation to a 2-tier system, which emphasises the importance of small schools and community-based learning.”

The motion was seconded and during debate concerns were raised about further delays in decision-making, and the validity of the recent consultation exercise.

Prior to the vote being taken Members requested a named vote in accordance with Procedure Rule 18(5) of the Council’s Constitution.

Voting in respect of the motion was as follows:

For the motion (17):

Cllrs Adams, Arnold, Bishop, Bowker, Chapman, Churchman, Foster, Gardiner, Humby, Joyce, Lumley, McRobert, Mosdell, Peacey-Wilcox, Stephens, Swan, Ward

Against the motion (28):

Cllrs Abraham, Brown, Bulwer, Burt, Cameron, Cousins, Cunningham, Effemey, Fitzgerald-Bond, Hancock, Hobart, Humber, Hunter-Henderson, Kennet, Knowles, Oulton, Pigot, Pugh, Scoccia, Sutton, Taylor, Tuson, Webster, Wells, West, Whittaker, Williams, Wood,

The motion was lost.

96. **School Reorganisation – Outcome of January/February Consultation**

The results of the consultation were introduced by the Leader and the following motion (which had been circulated prior to the start of the meeting) was moved:

- (i) THAT the Council adopts a primary / secondary model for future education organisation on the Island, with the following predominant age ranges:
 - 4-11 primary schools;
 - 11-19 secondary schools.
- (ii) THAT primary schools are established with a mix of 1 & 2 classes per year group.
- (iii) THAT secondary schools are established with 11-14 (lower) and 14-19 (upper) sections. All schools will be required to sign up to delivering a diverse Islandwide academic and vocational agenda through the 14-19 consortium.

- (iv) THAT a more equitable funding regime across the phases is established which will:
- release funds to support the most vulnerable pupils throughout their education;
 - release funds to support those pupils who may need targeted support for a short period of time.
- (v) THAT following this decision on structure, officers will bring to the Cabinet meeting in April a paper outlining the next steps, including the preparations for formal consultation in June and July, ahead of the publication of statutory notices in the autumn.
- (vi) THAT the submissions made by governing bodies and other partners over recent weeks are reviewed by officers, in the context of this decision on structure. The Cabinet meeting in April will formally request officers to undertake detailed work regarding the distribution of schools, giving consideration to the presumption in favour of the retention of rural schools.
- (vii) THAT council officers will undertake work to explore the following:
- how leisure facilities could be co-located with school provision;
 - how all children are able to get to school safely within an acceptable daily travel time;
 - how secondary provision can be tailored to meet the demands of economic development;
 - how Island businesses can be involved in the delivery of 14-19 diplomas;
 - how higher education opportunities could be developed on the Island for young people, in conjunction with the IW College and nearby universities.
- (viii) THAT council officers work with professional associations to ensure consistency and continuity for pupils and staff throughout the reorganisation process, and that headteachers in particular are involved in overseeing the change.
- (ix) THAT all resources realised through the reorganisation will be reinvested in children's services, and capital receipts will be harnessed alongside maximum draw down of government funding to deliver 21st century learning environments for Island pupils.

The motion was seconded and during the debate the following amendment was moved by Cllr Knowles:

“To support change to a two tier system without the mass closure of primary schools and with as little disruption to children's education as possible. This will be achieved in consultation with local communities in geographic areas by:

- Adding two years to primary schools, where possible
- Working with smaller schools and their local communities to form federations, amalgamation or infant and junior schools
- Improving the community use of all school buildings
- Supporting pre-schools either within or on site of existing primary schools
- Provide suitably sized secondary schools in areas that discourage the need for students to be transported long distances.”

The amendment was seconded. During the debate on the amendment a petition against school closure was presented to the Cabinet Member on behalf of Oakfield Primary School. The amendment was then put to the vote and was lost.

The debate returned to the substantive motion which was further debated.

Prior to the vote being taken Members requested a named vote in accordance with Procedure Rule 18(5) of the Council’s Constitution.

Voting in respect of the motion was as follows:

For the motion (27):

Cllrs Abraham, Brown, Bulwer, Burt, Cameron, Cousins, Cunningham, Effemey, Fitzgerald-Bond, Hancock, Hobart, Humber, Hunter-Henderson, Kennet, Oulton, Pigot, Pugh, Scoccia, Sutton, Taylor, Tuson, Webster, Wells, West, Whittaker, Williams, Wood,

Against the motion (17):

Cllrs Adams, Arnold, Bishop, Bowker, Chapman, Churchman, Gardiner, Humby, Joyce, Knowles, Lumley, McRobert, Mosdell, Peacey-Wilcox, Stephens, Swan, Ward

RESOLVED:

- (i) THAT the Council adopts a primary / secondary model for future education organisation on the Island, with the following predominant age ranges:
 - 4-11 primary schools;
 - 11-19 secondary schools.
- (ii) THAT primary schools are established with a mix of 1 & 2 classes per year group.
- (iii) THAT secondary schools are established with 11-14 (lower) and 14-19 (upper) sections. All schools will be required to sign up to delivering a diverse Islandwide academic and vocational agenda through the 14-19 consortium.

- (iv) THAT a more equitable funding regime across the phases is established which will:
- release funds to support the most vulnerable pupils throughout their education;
 - release funds to support those pupils who may need targeted support for a short period of time.
- (v) THAT following this decision on structure, officers will bring to the Cabinet meeting in April 2008 a paper outlining the next steps, including the preparations for formal consultation in June 2008 and July 2008, ahead of the publication of statutory notices in the autumn.
- (vi) THAT the submissions made by governing bodies and other partners over recent weeks are reviewed by officers, in the context of this decision on structure. The Cabinet meeting in April will formally request officers to undertake detailed work regarding the distribution of schools, giving consideration to the presumption in favour of the retention of rural schools.
- (vii) THAT council officers will undertake work to explore the following:
- how leisure facilities could be co-located with school provision;
 - how all children are able to get to school safely within an acceptable daily travel time;
 - how secondary provision can be tailored to meet the demands of economic development;
 - how Island businesses can be involved in the delivery of 14-19 diplomas;
 - how higher education opportunities could be developed on the Island for young people, in conjunction with the IW College and nearby universities.
- (viii) THAT council officers work with professional associations to ensure consistency and continuity for pupils and staff throughout the reorganisation process, and that headteachers in particular are involved in overseeing the change.
- (ix) THAT all resources realised through the reorganisation will be reinvested in children's services, and capital receipts will be harnessed alongside maximum draw down of government funding to deliver 21st century learning environments for Island pupils.

97. Under Procedure Rule 28 it was proposed, seconded and unanimously

RESOLVED :

THAT Council extend the time of the meeting in order to conclude business.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 8.50 pm for a period of 15 minutes.

98. **Eco Island – Sustainable Community Strategy**

Council considered the draft Sustainable Community Strategy and discussed the Eco Island project. The key themes of the Strategy were working with partners to achieve growth and prosperity for the Island, supporting Island businesses to be environmentally aware, and reducing the Island's carbon footprint.

Following a debate and the vote, it was

RESOLVED:

THAT the Eco Island Sustainable Community Strategy (as attached to the report) be approved and its submission to the Secretary of State be supported.

99. **Establishment of Electoral Arrangements for the Parish Councils of “Newport”, “Northwood”, “Ryde” and “Whippingham”**

Council was advised that under new legislation, the Electoral Commission had asked that the Isle of Wight Council take responsibility for giving effect to the electoral arrangements for the four new parishes on the Island. Members' attention was drawn to a typographical error in the order that was circulated with the papers in that within paragraph 7(b) on page D - 6, Whippingham should have six councillors and not eight.

Following a debate and the vote, it was

RESOLVED:

THAT the Isle of Wight Council approve the Order establishing the Electoral Arrangements for the Parish Councils of “Newport”, “Northwood”, “Ryde” and “Whippingham”, known as The Isle of Wight (Parish Electoral Arrangements) Order 2008 as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report subject to the word “eight” in paragraph 7(b) of the draft order being amended to read “six”.

100. **Cabinet**

Reports of the Cabinet Members

- (i) **[The Leader and Cabinet Member for Housing, Leisure and Governance](#)**

A written report had been circulated.

(ii) [The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Economy, Planning and Property](#)

A written report had been circulated.

Oral Questions:

Name:	Subject:	Comment:
Cllr Mosdell	Northwood House accounts	A written response to be provided.

(iii) [Chair of Scrutiny](#)

A written report had been circulated.

(iv) [Cabinet Member for Health and Community Wellbeing](#)

A written report had been circulated.

(v) [Cabinet Member for Residents and Resources](#)

Written Questions:

Name:	Subject:	Comment:
Cllr Knowles (MQ 07/08)	Senior Council Staff Salaries.	A written response to be provided within 20 days.

A written report had been circulated.

(vi) [Cabinet Member for Safer Communities](#)

A written report had been circulated.

(vii) [Cabinet Member for Children and Young People](#)

A written report had been circulated.

Oral Questions:

Name:	Subject:	Comment:
Cllr Arnold	Bus service for school children.	School Travel Advisor would be investigating.

(viii) [Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport](#)

Written Questions:

Name:	Subject:	Comment:
Cllr Knowles (MQ 06/08)	Emergency road-works and available budgets	Responses to points 1 to 4 were provided. Point 4 referred to Cllr Abraham for response.

A written report had been circulated.

Oral questions:

Name:	Subject:	Response:
Cllr Humby	Disability Discrimination Act 2005/height of public benches	Details to be forwarded to the Cabinet Member.
Cllr Mosdell	Future land-fill sites.	Work was on-going to identify potential sites.

CHAIRMAN