

Council

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 24 NOVEMBER 2020 AT ONLINE MEETING.

Present:

Cllr Richard Gamble (Chairman), Cllr James Sheppard (Vice-Chairman), Cllr Phil Alford, Cllr Ben Anderson, Cllr Pat Aves, Cllr Chuck Berry, Cllr Ian Blair-Pilling, Cllr Richard Britton, Cllr Allison Bucknell, Cllr Clare Cape, Cllr Trevor Carbin, Cllr Pauline Church, Cllr Ernie Clark, Cllr Richard Clewer, Cllr Mark Connolly, Cllr Christine Crisp, Cllr Kevin Daley, Cllr Brian Dalton, Cllr Jane Davies, Cllr Andrew Davis, Cllr Tony Deane, Cllr Christopher Devine, Cllr Stewart Dobson, Cllr Bill Douglas, Cllr Mary Douglas, Cllr Peter Evans, Cllr Sue Evans, Cllr Peter Fuller, Cllr Sarah Gibson, Cllr Gavin Grant, Cllr Jose Green, Cllr Howard Greenman, Cllr David Halik, Cllr Russell Hawker, Cllr Ross Henning, Cllr Alan Hill, Cllr Sven Hocking, Cllr Nick Holder, Cllr Ruth Hopkinson, Cllr Atiqul Hoque, Cllr Jon Hubbard, Cllr Chris Hurst, Cllr Peter Hutton, Cllr Hayley Illman, Cllr Simon Jacobs, Cllr Bob Jones MBE, Cllr Johnny Kidney, Cllr Carole King, Cllr Gordon King, Cllr Edward Kirk, Cllr Jerry Kunkler, Cllr Jacqui Lay, Cllr Brian Mathew, Cllr Laura Mayes, Cllr Ian McLennan, Cllr Christopher Newbury, Cllr Ashley O'Neill, Cllr Paul Oatway QPM, Cllr Steve Oldrieve, Cllr Stewart Palmen, Cllr Andy Phillips, Cllr Horace Prickett, Cllr Leo Randall, Cllr Fleur de Rhé-Philippe MBE, Cllr Pip Ridout, Cllr Ricky Rogers, Cllr Tom Rounds, Cllr Jonathon Seed, Cllr John Smale, Cllr Toby Sturgis, Cllr John Thomson, Cllr Ian Thorn, Cllr Jo Trigg, Cllr Tony Trotman, Cllr John Walsh, Cllr Bridget Wayman, Cllr Fred Westmoreland, Cllr Philip Whalley, Cllr Stuart Wheeler, Cllr Philip Whitehead, Cllr Suzanne Wickham, Cllr Christopher Williams, Cllr Graham Wright and Cllr Robert Yuill

87 **Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Nick Fogg, Nick Murry and Mollie Groom.

Apologies as a result of technical difficulties were also received on behalf of Councillor Andrew Davis, Tony Jackson and Ashley O'Neill. Councillors Davis and O'Neill were later able to join the meeting.

88 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations.

89 **Chairman's Announcements**

- a) Recorded Voting - On the proposal of the Chairman, seconded by the Vice-Chairman, it was,

Resolved:

To suspend Paragraphs 22.6.2-22.6.4 of Part 4 of the Constitution in respect of recorded voting.

Note: It was agreed to hold a recorded vote in respect of any final vote for Minute 94 – Area Board Boundary Review.

- b) Member Briefing - It was noted that there would be a briefing for Members on the Local Plan Review at 1330 after the Council meeting.

90 **Public Participation**

As an extraordinary meeting only questions and statements related to the business to be considered were able to be submitted.

No questions or statements were received.

91 **Notices of Motion**

No notices of motion were submitted for the meeting.

92 **Members' Questions**

No questions from Members were submitted for the meeting.

93 **Mid-Year Treasury Management Report- Investment Lending Criteria**

Councillor Pauline Church, Cabinet Member for Finance, Procurement and Investment, introduced the report which recommended to approve the counterparty list provided by Link Asset Services for the council's lending criteria. The proposal was seconded by Councillor Philip Whitehead.

It was highlighted that Link Asset Services took a sophisticated approach to rate worthiness of counterparties and suggested duration of investments for the Council. Additionally, the proposal removed an unnecessary layer of technical criteria for counterparty assessments.

The Chairman then invited contributions from Group Leaders.

Councillor Philip Whitehead, Leader of the Council, supported the proposal as a simpler system.

Councillor Ian Thorn, Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group, raised question on a response that was outstanding from the last meeting about S106 contributions. Additional questions were asked about how the council re-shaped debt, and about liquidity and borrowing.

Councillor Ernie Clark, Leader of the Independent Group, was also interested in the questions raised and in respect of borrowing.

Councillor Ricky Rogers, Leader of the Labour Group, welcomed and supported the proposal.

The Chairman then opened the matter for debate, during which questions were asked about what 'counterparties' are in practice and whether ethical matters were considered when selecting counterparties.

At the conclusion of debate and in response to questions raised, Councillor Church indicated she would provide responses in writing on the matters of s106 contributions and on ethical considerations when selecting counterparties. It was explained that counterparties were other institutions, into which the council invested, for example banks. It was confirmed there was no additional risk with the new proposals, but that there was a wider range of information available.

It was also explained the council rescheduled debt, where appropriate, as part of treasury management, however balanced this with penalties from moving out of investments it had committed to. A reference to a breach at Handelsbanken was explained as minor and immediately rectified.

Following a vote, it was,

Resolved:

To approve the revised lending criteria, in that the Council uses the counterparty list provided by Link Asset Services, without any adjustment.

Note: As set out in Appendix A, paragraph 32 – 35.

94 **Area Board Boundary Review**

Councillor Richard Clewer, Chairman of the Electoral Review Committee, presented the report and Final Recommendations of the Committee on the Area Board Boundary Review. This would finalise the composition of Area Boards following the scheduled elections in May 2021, following the changes made by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England in the Electoral Review of Wiltshire Council, and the Community Governance Reviews undertaken by the Council.

Councillor Clewer moved approval of the recommendations of the Committee, subject to amending the proposed name of the Southern Area Board to Southern Wiltshire Area Board, which was the preference of the Board. The proposal was seconded by Councillor Gavin Grant, Vice-Chairman of the Electoral Review Committee.

Councillor Clewer thanked Members and Officers for contributing to and supporting the work of the Committee in consulting with Area Boards and reviewing the responses received from parishes and individuals during the public consultation. It was confirmed that under the council's constitution each unitary Division could only be placed in one Area Board, and that the Committee had resolved that no parish should be split between Area Boards.

Councillor Clewer then explained the proposals for each Area Board as detailed fully in the Final Recommendations document. Areas highlighted included:

- The composition of Amesbury and Southern Wiltshire Area Boards which was complicated by three Divisions which needed to be included together to avoid splitting a parish;
- Recognition of the rural elements of the Chippenham Area Board;

- The composition of Devizes and Melksham Area Board where it was concluded on balance the Devizes Rural West Division should be included with Devizes Area Board although some of the parishes involved preferred otherwise
- That Marlborough Area Board was reduced to three Divisions and would include an overarching Eastern Wiltshire Area Committee along with Pewsey and Tidworth. Though some individual parishes now within the Pewsey Area Board were not in favour of the proposals, but the Committee considered that the composition of Divisions and need for quorate Area Boards meant the proposals were the only appropriate option; And,
- Other minor changes to Area Boards to align to the incoming Electoral Divisions.

The Chairman then invited Group Leaders to comment.

Councillor Philip Whitehead, Leader of the Council, thanked all involved for their work beginning with the Electoral Review and culminating in the Area Board Boundary proposal. He noted the potential for difficulty when amending boundaries and lauded the Committee for its collaborative approach to the issues that had avoided major dispute.

Councillor Ian Thorn, Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group, added his thanks to the Members and Officers, and considered it a further good example of cross party working without political considerations.

Councillor Ernie Clark, Leader of the Independent Group, welcomed the proposals and added his thanks.

Councillor Ricky Rogers, Leader of the Labour Group, thanked all those involved on what was a difficult task. He noted that the proposals would not please everyone as some of the new Divisions were not sensible, but the Committee had worked in a non-political way to create a reasonable proposal for new Area Boards using those Divisions.

The Chairman then opened the item to debate. Comments included praise for the work and leadership of Councillor Clewer and Councillor Grant in an open, collaborative and consultation focused approach at every stage. Members noted the constraints for the new Area Boards because of the new Divisions imposed, not all of which had been supported by the Council, and that the proposal was appropriate and reasonable, and as a result had not prompted as many concerns from parishes as might otherwise have been the case.

A comment was received suggesting political considerations had been prominent during the unitary Division creation, but other Members including from the Committee strongly refuted that that had been the case.

At the conclusion of debate, Councillor Clewer thanked Members for their positive comments and hoped the process would serve as a model for engagement and collaborative working. He also strongly refuted the suggestion

that politics had played any role at any stage of the Area Board Boundary Review or other review processes.

Following a vote, it was,

Resolved:

That Council,

1) Approve the composition of each Area Board from May 2021 set out below as recommended and detailed by the Electoral Review Committee in the Final Recommendations:

- i. Recommendation 1 – Amesbury**
- ii. Recommendation 2 – Bradford-on-Avon**
- iii. Recommendation 3 – Calne**
- iv. Recommendation 4 – Chippenham and Villages**
- v. Recommendation 5 – Corsham**
- vi. Recommendation 6 – Devizes**
- vii. Recommendation 7 – Malmesbury**
- viii. Recommendation 8 – Marlborough**
- ix. Recommendation 9 – Melksham**
- x. Recommendation 10 – Pewsey**
- xi. Recommendation 11 – Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade**
- xii. Recommendation 12 – Salisbury**
- xiii. Recommendation 13 – Southern Wiltshire**
- xiv. Recommendation 14 – South West Wiltshire**
- xv. Recommendation 15 – Tidworth**
- xvi. Recommendation 16 – Trowbridge**
- xvii. Recommendation 17 – Warminster**
- xviii. Recommendation 18 – Westbury**

2) To authorise the Monitoring Officer to amend the Constitution accordingly for May 2021 when the proposed Area Boards come into effect.

A recorded vote is attached to the minutes, with an outcome as follows:

For: 82

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

(Duration of meeting: 10.30 - 11.40 am)

The Officer who has produced these minutes is Kieran Elliott of Democratic Services, direct line 01225 718504, e-mail kieran.elliott@wiltshire.gov.uk

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Item 8 - Area Board Boundary Review - For: 82 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

First Name	Surname	Vote
Phil	Alford	For
Ben	Anderson	For
Pat	Aves	For
Chuck	Berry	For
Ian	Blair-Pilling	For
Richard	Britton	For
Allison	Bucknell	For
Clare	Cape	For
Trevor	Carbin	For
Pauline	Church	For
Ernie	Clark	For
Richard	Clewer	For
Mark	Connolly	For
Christine	Crisp	For
Kevin	Daley	For
Brian	Dalton	For
Jane	Davies	For
Tony	Deane	For
Christopher	Devine	For
Stewart	Dobson	For
Bill	Douglas	For
Mary	Douglas	For
PeterB	Evans	For
Sue	Evans	For
Peter	Fuller	For
Richard	Gamble	For
Gavin	Grant	For
Jose	Green	For
Howard	Greenman	For
David	Halik	For
Russell	Hawker	For
Ross	Henning	For
Alan	Hill	For
Sven	Hocking	For
Nick	Holder	For
Ruth	Hopkinson	For
Atiqul	Hoque	For
Jon	Hubbard	For
Chris	Hurst	For
Peter	Hutton	For
Hayley	Illman	For
Simon	Jacobs	For
Bob	Jones	For
Johnny	Kidney	For
Gordon	King	For
Carole	King	For
Edward	Kirk	For
Jerry	Kunkler	For

Jacqui	Lay	For
Brian	Mathew	For
Laura	Mayes	For
Ian	McLennan	For
Christopher	Newbury	For
Ashley	O'Neill	For
Paul	Oatway	For
Steve	Oldrieve	For
Stewart	Palmen	For
Andy	Phillips	For
Horace	Prickett	For
Leo	Randall	For
Fleur	de Rhé-Phillipe	For
Pip	Ridout	For
Ricky	Rogers	For
Tom	Rounds	For
Jonathon	Seed	For
James	Sheppard	For
John	Smale	For
Toby	Sturgis	For
John	Thomson	For
Ian	Thorn	For
Jo	Trigg	For
Tony	Trotman	For
John	Walsh	For
Bridget	Wayman	For
Fred	Westmoreland	For
Philip	Whalley	For
Stuart	Wheeler	For
Philip	Whitehead	For
Suzanne	Wickham	For
Christopher	Williams	For
Graham	Wright	For
Robert	Yuill	For

Full Council Meeting – 24 November 2020 – Members Attendance

Councillor Name	Time In	Time Out
Phil Alford	10:30	11:40
Ben Anderson	10:30	11:40
Pat Aves	10:30	11:40
Chuck Berry	10:30	11:40
Ian Blair-Pilling	10:30	11:40
Richard Britton	10:30	11:40
Derek Brown		
Andrew Bryant		
Allison Bucknell	10:30	11:40
Clare Cape	10:30	11:40
Trevor Carbin	10:30	11:40
Mary Champion	Apologies	Apologies
Pauline Church	10:30	11:40
Ernie Clark	10:30	11:40
Richard Clewer	10:30	11:40
Mark Connolly	10:30	11:40
Christine Crisp	10:30	11:40
Anna Cuthbert	Apologies	Apologies
Kevin Daley	10:30	11:40
Brian Dalton	10:30	11:40
Jane Davies	10:30	11:40
Andrew Davis	10:45	11:40
Matthew Dean		
Tony Deane	10:30	11:40
Christopher Devine	10:30	11:40
Stewart Dobson	10:30	11:40
Bill Douglas	10:30	11:40
Mary Douglas	10:30	11:40
Peter Evans	10:30	11:40
Sue Evans	10:30	11:40
Nick Fogg	Apologies	Apologies
Peter Fuller	10:30	11:40
Richard Gamble	10:30	11:40
Sarah Gibson	10:30	11:40
Gavin Grant	10:30	11:40
Jose Green	10:30	11:40
Howard Greenman	10:30	11:40
Mollie Groom	Apologies	Apologies
David Halik	10:30	11:40
Russell Hawker	10:30	11:40
Ross Henning	10:30	11:40
Mike Hewitt		
Alan Hill	10:30	11:40

Sven Hocking	10:30	11:40
Nick Holder	10:30	11:40
Ruth Hopkinson	10:30	11:40
Atiqul Hoque	10:30	11:40
Jon Hubbard	10:30	11:40
Chris Hurst	10:30	11:40
Peter Hutton	10:30	11:40
Hayley Illman	10:30	11:40
Tony Jackson	Apologies	Apologies
Simon Jacobs	10:30	11:40
George Jeans		
Bob Jones	10:30	11:40
Johnny Kidney	10:30	11:40
Carole King	10:30	11:40
Gordon King	10:30	11:40
Edward Kirk	10:30	11:40
Jerry Kunkler	10:30	11:40
Jacqui Lay	10:30	11:40
Jim Lynch		
Brian Mathew	10:30	11:40
Laura Mayes	10:30	11:40
Ian McLennan	10:30	11:40
Nick Murry	Apologies	Apologies
Christopher Newbury	10:30	11:40
Ashley O'Neill	11:00	11:40
Paul Oatway	10:30	11:40
Steve Oldrieve	10:30	11:40
Stewart Palmen	10:30	11:40
Andy Phillips	10:30	11:40
Horace Prickett	10:30	11:40
Leo Randall	10:30	11:40
Fleur de Rhé-Philipe	10:30	11:40
Pip Ridout	10:30	11:40
Ricky Rogers	10:30	11:40
Tom Rounds	10:30	11:40
Jonathon Seed	10:30	11:40
James Sheppard	10:30	11:40
John Smale	10:30	11:40
Toby Sturgis	10:30	11:40
Melody Thompson		
John Thomson	10:30	11:40
Ian Thorn	10:30	11:40
Jo Trigg	10:30	11:40
Tony Trotman	10:30	11:40
John Walsh	10:30	11:40
Bridget Wayman	10:30	11:40

Fred Westmoreland	10:30	11:40
Philip Whalley	10:30	11:40
Stuart Wheeler	10:30	11:40
Philip Whitehead	10:30	11:40
Suzanne Wickham	10:30	11:40
Christopher Williams	10:30	11:40
Graham Wright	10:30	11:40
Robert Yuill	10:30	11:40

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