

Council

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 21 MAY 2024 AT COUNCIL CHAMBER - COUNTY HALL, BYTHESEA ROAD, TROWBRIDGE, BA14 8JN.

Present:

Cllr Bridget Wayman (Chairman), Cllr Christopher Newbury (Vice-Chairman), Cllr Phil Alford, Cllr Liz Alstrom, Cllr Helen Belcher OBE, Cllr Chuck Berry, Cllr Ian Blair-Pilling, Cllr Nick Botterill, Cllr Richard Britton, Cllr Allison Bucknell, Cllr Steve Bucknell, Cllr Richard Budden, Cllr Clare Cape, Cllr Trevor Carbin, Cllr Daniel Cave, Cllr Mary Champion, Cllr Sam Charleston, Cllr Ernie Clark, Cllr Richard Clewer, Cllr Zoë Clewer, Cllr Mark Connolly, Cllr Kevin Daley, Cllr Brian Dalton, Cllr Jane Davies, Cllr Andrew Davis, Cllr Matthew Dean, Cllr Dr Monica Devendran, Cllr Nick Dye, Cllr Adrian Foster, Cllr Sarah Gibson, Cllr Gavin Grant, Cllr Howard Greenman, Cllr Ross Henning, Cllr Sven Hocking, Cllr Nick Holder, Cllr Ruth Hopkinson, Cllr Peter Hutton, Cllr Tony Jackson, Cllr Mel Jacob, Cllr Simon Jacobs, Cllr George Jeans, Cllr Carole King, Cllr Gordon King, Cllr Edward Kirk, Cllr Jerry Kunkler, Cllr Jacqui Lay, Cllr Kathryn Macdermid, Cllr Robert MacNaughton, Cllr Dr Brian Mathew, Cllr Laura Mayes, Cllr Dr Mark McClelland, Cllr Ian McLennan, Cllr Dominic Muns, Cllr Dr Nick Murry, Cllr Nabil Najjar, Cllr Kelvin Nash, Cllr Jack Oatley, Cllr Paul Oatway QPM, Cllr Andrew Oliver, Cllr Ashley O'Neill, Cllr Stewart Palmen, Cllr Bill Parks, Cllr Sam Pearce-Kearney, Cllr Tony Pickernell, Cllr Horace Prickett, Cllr Nic Puntis, Cllr Tamara Reay, Cllr Pip Ridout, Cllr Rich Rogers, Cllr Ricky Rogers, Cllr Tom Rounds, Cllr Paul Sample JP, Cllr Mike Sankey, Cllr Jonathon Seed, Cllr James Sheppard, Cllr Martin Smith, Cllr Caroline Thomas, Cllr Ian Thorn, Cllr Elizabeth Threlfall, Cllr Jo Trigg, Cllr Tim Trimble, Cllr Mark Verbinnen, Cllr David Vigar, Cllr Iain Wallis, Cllr Stuart Wheeler, Cllr Philip Whitehead, Cllr Suzanne Wickham, Cllr Christopher Williams, Cllr Graham Wright and Cllr Robert Yuill

24 Election of Chairman 2024/25

Cllr James Sheppard opened the meeting and thanked all Members for meetings being positive and businesslike during his time as Chairman.

He offered his thanks to the Democratic Services and Legal teams for their support, and paid tribute to his Vice-Chairman Cllr Andrew Davis.

Nominations were then sought for the position of Chairman for the forthcoming year.

Cllr Bridget Wayman was nominated by Cllr Sven Hocking. This was seconded by Cllr Nabil Najjar.

Cllr Ruth Hopkinson was nominated by Cllr Ian Thorn. This was seconded by Cllr Gordon King.

Following a vote, it was then,

Resolved:

To elect Cllr Bridget Wayman as Chairman for the forthcoming year.

25 **Election of Vice-Chairman 2024/25**

Nominations were then sought for the position of Vice-Chairman for the forthcoming year.

Cllr Christopher Newbury was nominated by Cllr Bill Parks. This was seconded by Cllr Suzanne Wickham.

There being no further nominations, it was then,

Resolved:

To elect Cllr Christopher Newbury as Vice-Chairman for the forthcoming year.

26 **Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs David Bowler, Pauline Church, Caroline Corbin, Jon Hubbard, Johnny Kidney, Charles McGrath, and Derek Walters.

Cllrs Gavin Grant and Mel Jacob provided notice and apologies that they would arrive later in the meeting.

27 **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the ordinary and extraordinary meetings of the Council held on 20 February 2024 were presented for consideration.

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by the Vice-Chairman, it was,

Resolved:

That the minutes of the ordinary and extraordinary meetings of the Council held on 20 February 2024 be approved and signed as a true and correct record.

28 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of disclosable interests.

29 **Chairman's Announcements**

Through the Chairman there were the following announcements:

a) New Members

It was noted that since the last meeting of the Council there had been election of two new elected Members.

Cllr Robert MacNaughton was elected to Calne Chilvester and Abberd Division on 22 February 2024 following the death of Cllr Tony Trotman.

Cllr Nick Dye was elected to Cricklade and Latton Division on 14 March 2024 following the death of Cllr Bob Jones MBE.

On behalf of the Council the Chairman congratulated Cllrs MacNaughton and Dye on being elected.

b) Lord Lieutenant of Wiltshire

The Chairman noted the death of the former Lord-Lieutenant of Wiltshire, Mr John Bush CVO OBE KStJ, which was announced on 11 May 2024. Mr Bush was Lord-Lieutenant from Nov 2004 to Feb 2012.

The funeral would take place at Edington Priory Church on 30 May 2024, from 2.00pm. The present Lord-Lieutenant, Mrs Sarah Troughton would be attending the service.

c) Chief Executive

It was announced on 4 April 2024 that the Chief Executive, Terence Herbert, had accepted the post of Chief Executive with Surrey County Council.

The Chairman noted that Mr Herbert joined Wiltshire Council in 2011, and held positions including Head of Service for Safeguarding, Director for Children's Services, and Chief Executive Officer for People Services, before being appointed as the sole Chief Executive. During his tenure Children's Services went from being rated 'Requires Improvement' to 'Outstanding' in 2023.

On behalf of the Council the Chairman wished Mr Herbert well with his new position and thanked him for all his hard work with Wiltshire Council over the past 13 years. It was stated it was expected he would take up his new position in the summer, and that he would still be in post at the time of the July meeting of Full Council.

d) Chairman's Engagements

Details were provided of recent engagements attended by the outgoing Chairman and Vice-Chairman.

Events Attended by the Chairman, Cllr James Sheppard, from Tuesday 20 February 2024:

- Friday 5 April 2024 - Declaration and Appointment of new High Sheriff, Dr. Olivia Chapple, St John the Baptist Church, Bishopstone.
- Monday 8 April 2024 - HM Lord-Lieutenant of Wiltshire's British Empire Medal Presentation Ceremony, County Hall, Trowbridge.

- Saturday 13 April 2024 - The Mayor of Melksham's Civic Reception, Assembly Hall, Melksham.
- Saturday 20 April 2024 - Attended Edington Parish Council's Celebration for Mr. Malcolm Wieck's 50 years' service as Clerk to the Parish Council.
- Thursday 16 May 2024 - Royal Wootton Bassett Town Council's Mayor Making Ceremony
- Monday 20 May 2024 - Calne Town Council Mayor Making Ceremony

Events Attended by the Vice-Chairman, Cllr Andrew Davis, from Tuesday 20 February 2024:

- Monday 11 March 2024 - The Commonwealth Day Flag Raising Ceremony, County Hall.
- Saturday 16 March 2024 - The Mayor of Calne's Civic Service and river blessing, Castlefields Park and banks of River Marden, Calne.
- Thursday 21 March 2024 - Wiltshire Council Business and Sports Gala Dinner, County Hall.
- Friday 22 March 2024 - Mayor of Melksham's Reception and Civic Awards, Assembly Hall, Melksham.

e) Member Training

Details were provided of training for elected Members provided by South West Councils which would take place from September through November, including on time management, communication, resilience and wellbeing, and evidence gathering skills.

Full details would be circulated to Members on the availability of places.

f) Agenda Order

After Minute 32, and with consent of the Council, the Chairman announced the agenda item order would be amended to consider the Notice of Motion 2024-03 regarding Solar Farms ahead of the item on the Community Governance Review.

30 **Public Participation**

The Chairman noted the procedure for public participation at the meeting.

No petitions had been received, and statements would be received under the relevant agenda item.

Questions received from Members of the Public together with written responses were set out in the Agenda Supplement.

Colin Gale, Chairman of Rushall Parish Council, was in attendance and asked a supplementary question regarding Question P24-12. He did not consider the written response had provided a solution or advise when the drain blockage

referred to would be cleared and sought a commitment to clearing the drains in a set timescale and keeping this maintained.

He also asked a supplementary question regarding Question P24-13 regarding highways drainage into the River Avon and long term solutions to the ongoing issues.

Cllr Nick Holder, Cabinet Member for Highways, Street Scene, and Flooding, stated that a further written response would be provided. He acknowledged issues relating to the MyWilts App reporting and efforts to prevent the problem of multiple reporting and noted the investment in extra equipment for drain clearance.

Celia Beckett, Hilperton Area Action Group, was in attendance and asked a supplementary question regarding Question P24-14 regarding the Local Plan. She noted the written response on the timescales for submission of the Local Plan, suggested the Plan needed reworking and asked about the public being informed about any delays.

Cllr Nick Botterill, Cabinet Member for Finance, Development Management, and Strategic Planning, highlighted the complex processes required by the legislative frameworks in order to prevent challenges. He stated that restarting the process would leave the council open to speculative development, and that the council would keep the public details up to date.

Celia Beckett also asked a supplementary question regarding Question P24-15 regarding potential sites Northeast of Trowbridge and guarantees on protection for biodiversity, asking whether the detailed comments submitted had been listened to.

Cllr Botterill offered his assurance that all comments were properly considered and listened to and noted that the latest Plan submission had included a reduction in the number of houses planned by around 8000 homes.

Celia Beckett also asked further regarding biodiversity protection. Cllr Botterill stated that the council was proceeding in accordance with legislation, and this included working in a coherent way to ensure biodiversity was not lost, and in some cases would be enhanced.

31 **Annual Updates from Committees**

The Chairman introduced a covering report detailing that in order to highlight the activity and key issues dealt with or covered by various council committees, a series of annual updates had been prepared in order to provide all Members with that information. She moved that the updates be noted, which was seconded by the Vice-Chairman.

Opportunity was provided to Chairmen of the committees which had prepared updates to comment on their reports.

Cllr Graham Wright, Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee thanked the Vice-Chairman of that committee Cllr Christopher Williams for his support, along with the scrutiny officers and all those Members who took part in scrutiny activity. He drew attention to work being undertaken including reviewing the council's performance metrics, and the detailed work of task groups and the three select committees.

Cllr Iain Wallis, Chairman of the Audit and Governance Committee highlighted the importance of audit work, and thanked committee members including two new co-opted members for their efforts.

Cllr Peter Hutton, Chairman of the Licensing Committee, drew attention to the ongoing consultation on the draft licensing policy 2024-2029.

Cllr Paul Oatway QPM, Chairman of the Standards Committee, provided details of the process for reviewing the constitution, and commented on monitoring timescales for administering complaints. He thanked the Chairman of the Standards Assessment Sub-Committee, Cllr Ruth Hopkinson, for all the work of the Sub-Committee.

Cllr Richard Britton, Chairman of the Wiltshire Pension Fund Committee, confirmed no further comments on the submitted report.

Cllr Steve Bucknell, Chairman of the Wiltshire Police and Crime Panel, thanked Matthew Hitch, Democratic Services Officer, for a lot of support in the last year. He stated that it had been announced that Wiltshire Police was being taken out of special measures by His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services, following being placed in those measures in June 2022. He stated the Panel would continue to press the Police and Crime Commissioner on developments with the service as it looked to improve further.

Group Leaders were then given opportunity to comment. Cllr Richard Clewer, Leader of the Council, Cllr Ian Thorn, Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group, Cllr Ernie Clark, Leader of the Independent Group, and Cllr Ricky Rogers, Leader of the Labour Group, all offered their thanks and support to the Chairmen and committees for their work.

There being no further debate, it was,

Resolved:

To note the updates from committees.

32 **Annual Appointment of Committees**

The Chairman drew attention to the allocations report included in the Summons and the composite appointments motion included in the Agenda Supplement. It was noted that a proposal for allocation of seats on committees to individual Members in accordance with the proposed schedule of committee places had

been circulated to all Members. This had been prepared following discussion with Group Leaders and would be attached with the minutes.

Cllr Richard Clewer, Leader of the Council, proposed the composite appointments motion. This was seconded by Cllr Laura Mayes.

Group Leaders were provided opportunity to make any final changes within the proposed schedule of committee places, to update the circulated allocations.

The item was then opened to general debate.

Cllr Edward Kirk proposed an amendment, seconded by Cllr Ernie Clark. At present he was a Member of the Western Area Planning Committee. Following his leaving the Conservative Group he now sat as an ungrouped Member, and the proposed schedule removed him from that Committee as the seat had been previously and was now allocated to the Conservative Group. He proposed that the schedule be amended to retain the committee place he currently occupied. The effect of the amendment would be the Conservative Group would lose an allocated seat on the Committee.

Group Leaders were provided opportunity to comment. Cllr Richard Clewer, Leader of the Council, confirmed he did not accept the amendment as part of the composite motion. Cllr Ian Thorn, Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group, had no comment. Cllr Ernie Clark, Leader of the Independent Group wondered whether the amendment would impact overall political balance but noted that planning committees did not in any case decide matters politically. Cllr Ricky Rogers, Leader of the Labour Group, expressed support for the amendment.

In debate comments in support of the amendment included supporting the integrity of the ungrouped member, and that the council had in the past allocated seats on committees to ungrouped members and though the two places which had been so reserved had not been accepted accommodation could be made within acceptable limits.

A comment in opposition to the amendment was the view that the council had a legal duty to give effect the views of group leaders as it applied to appointment onto committees.

At conclusion of the discussion Cllr Kirk criticised what he saw as his removal from the committee.

To conclude the debate as mover of the original motion Cllr Richard Clewer noted that Cllr Kirk had been offered two committee places on a proportional basis in accordance with previous practice, which Cllr Kirk had chosen not to accept, and that there were many others who wished to sit on the Western Area Planning Committee.

There was then a vote on the amendment. A recorded vote having been requested by the requisite number of Members, the result was as follows:

Votes for the amendment (36)
Votes against the amendment (47)
Votes in abstention (4)

Details of the recorded vote are attached to these minutes.

There being no further comments in debate, the meeting proceeded to vote on the original composite appointments motion, and it was,

Resolved:

The Council:

- a) Noted the report and the legal requirements.**
- b) Re-appointed the following committees with the terms of reference as set out in the Constitution:**
 - **Strategic Planning Committee**
 - **Area Planning Committees: Northern, Eastern, Southern, Western**
 - **Licensing Committee**
 - **Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee**
 - **Children's Select Committee**
 - **Environment Select Committee**
 - **Health Select Committee**
 - **Standards Committee**
 - **Audit and Governance Committee**
 - **Staffing Policy Committee**
 - **Officer Appointments Committee**
 - **Electoral Review Committee**
 - **Appeals Committee**
 - **Wiltshire Police and Crime Panel (joint with Swindon Borough Council)**
 - **Wiltshire Pension Fund Committee (joint with Swindon Borough Council)**
 - **Health and Wellbeing Board**
- c) Reappointed those Area Boards, as set out at Item 9a Appendix 1 of the report presented and within the Constitution, to comprise the Unitary Members for that area.**
- d) Reappointed the Local Pension Board established under the Public Service Pensions Act 2013 and consequent amendments to the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013.**
- e) Appointed members to the Dorset and Wiltshire Fire Authority, in accordance with the guidance set out in this report.**

- f) Delegated the appointment to Outside Bodies (other than those appointed by Leader of the Council or Area Boards) to the Director, Legal and Governance, in consultation with Group Leaders
- g) Approved a scheme of committee places which sets out the number of seats available to members of the Council and to political groups as at Item 9a Appendix 3
- h) Appointed Members to serve on those committees in accordance with the agreed scheme of allocations, until the next occasion membership is reviewed under the provisions of the Local Government & Housing Act 1989 as attached to the minutes.
- i) Appointed substitute members (to a maximum of four per group) to the committees referred to in (b) above.
- j) Appointed those Members representing electoral divisions to their respective Area Boards as set out at Item 9b Appendix 1.
- k) Noted that the following persons remain appointed as non-voting co-opted members of the Standards Committee for the remainder of the council term:
- Gordon Ball
 - Kathy Barnes
 - Joanne Cetti
 - Julie Phillips
- l) Noted that the following persons remain appointed as Independent Persons for the remainder of the council term:
- Tony Drew
 - John McAllister
 - Patricia Bunch
- m) Noted the following non-elected members of the Children’s Select Committee, with any vacancies able to be filled by the Committee:

Non-Elected Voting Members	Representing
Vacancy	Church of England
Dr Mike Thompson	Clifton Diocese Roman Catholic Church
Vacancy	Parent Governor (Secondary- maintained)
Vacancy	Parent Governor (Secondary – academy)
Vacancy	Parent Governor (Special Educational

	Needs)
Vacancy	Parent Governor (Primary)
Non-Elected Non-Voting Members	Representing
Maisy Humphrey (Sub Declan Kiely)	School, Children and Young People representatives
Nikki Barnett	Further Education Representative
Sarah Busby	Secondary Schools Head teacher Representative
Catriona Williamson	Primary School Head teacher Representative
John Hawkins	School Teacher Representative

n) Noted following co-opted members of the Wiltshire Pension Fund Committee:

Name	Representing
(to be confirmed – currently Cllr Vijay Manro)	Swindon Borough Councillor (as determined by Swindon Borough Council)
(to be confirmed – currently Cllr Kevin Small)	Swindon Borough Councillor (as determined by Swindon Borough Council)
Jodie Smart (new ratification)	Employer Representative
Claire Anthony	Employer Representative
Stuart Dark	Scheme Member Observer- appointed by Unison
Mike Pankiewicz	Scheme Member Observer- appointed by Unison

o) Noted the membership of the Local Pension Board under the Public Service Pensions Act 2013 until the expiry of the 4 year term council term, or from their first appointment.

Name	Representing
Mark Spilsbury	Independent Chairman
Karle Read	Scheme Member Representative
Marlene Corbey	Scheme Member Representative
Mike Pankiewicz	Scheme Member Representative
Paul Smith	Employer Member Representative
Laura Fisher	Employer Member Representative
James Nicholson	Employer Member Representative

p) Noted the following co-opted or other members of the Police and Crime Panel:

Name	Representing
To be confirmed – previously Cllr Stanka Adamcova	Swindon Borough Council (as determined by Swindon Borough Council)
To be confirmed – currently Cllr Abdul Amin	Swindon Borough Council (as determined by Swindon Borough Council)
To be confirmed – currently Cllr Sudhi Sri Nukana	Swindon Borough Council (as determined by Swindon Borough Council)
To be confirmed – currently Cllr Vijay Manro	Swindon Borough Council (as determined by Swindon Borough Council)
Louisa Ahmeti	Independent co-optee
Louise Williams	Independent co-optee

q) Appointed the following 6 members to serve as Council representatives on the Dorset and Wiltshire Fire Authority:

Conservative (4)	Liberal Democrat (2)	Independent (0)	Labour (0)
Cllr Pip Ridout	Paul Sample JP		
Cllr Dan Cave	Brian Dalton		
Cllr Paul Oatway			
Cllr Kelvin Nash			

r) To appoint Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of the following meetings:

Committee	Chairman	Vice-Chairman
Strategic Planning Committee	Howard Greenman	Christopher Newbury
Northern Area Planning Committee	Chuck Berry	Howard Greenman
Eastern Area Planning Committee	Philip Whitehead	Paul Oatway
Southern Area Planning Committee	Andrew Oliver	Sven Hocking

Western Area Planning Committee	Christopher Newbury	Bill Parks
Licensing Committee	Peter Hutton	Allison Bucknell
Standards Committee	Paul Oatway QPM	Allison Bucknell
Audit and Governance Committee	Iain Wallis	Stuart Wheeler
Staffing Policy Committee	Stuart Wheeler	Allison Bucknell
Officer Appointments Committee	Richard Clewer	Laura Mayes
Wiltshire Pension Fund Committee	Richard Britton	Committee Appointment
Health and Wellbeing Board (Chairman	Richard Clewer	NA

- s) To note that the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee, Children’s Select Committee, Environment Select Committee, Health Select Committee, the Police and Crime Panel, Electoral Review Committee, and the Area Boards will be asked to elect their respective Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen at their first meeting following the annual meeting of council. The Wiltshire Pension Fund Committee will be asked to elect their Vice-Chairman at the first meeting following the annual meeting of council.
- t) To note that the Appeals Committee does not meet as a formal committee and so no Chairman or Vice-Chairman will be appointed. However, three members who have undergone appropriate training are drawn from its membership to form Appeal Sub-Committees to consider and determine various types of appeals. Each Sub-Committee when convened will elect its own chairman.

33 **Notice of Motion No.2024-03 - Solar Farms**

On invitation of the Chairman Cllr Phil Alford proposed the motion as set out in the Summons, which was seconded by Cllr Nick Botterill.

Cllr Alford stated that the topic of solar farms had energised many people both for and against. He said solar panels could be a vital income for farmers and the council supported installations on its own buildings such as leisure centres, and as such was supportive of them in principle. He noted the proposed Lime Down solar proposal, which was of such a scale as to be deemed nationally significant, and he believed would engulf entire communities. He raised the importance of Wiltshire’s landscape heritage, the cumulative impact of roads and associated infrastructure to the many solar developments, as well as the need for food security, and that further clarity from government was needed.

Cllr Nick Botterill, being the seconder but also the relevant Cabinet Member as the Cabinet Member for Finance, Development Management, and Strategic

Planning, responded to the motion. He said the motion was evidence based, noting the high population density of England, the need for preservation of the countryside, have sustainable food production and land management, and the need to balance these against the positives of solar energy production. He drew attention to the scale of the Line Down proposal, and how this would alter the character of a broad area to a more industrial one.

Statements were then received regarding the motion from the following Members of the Public:

Matthew Short, Phillip Addis, Peter Richardson, Sir Mike Pitt, Steve Holt, Mary Gilmore, Helen Hicks

The Chairman moved that the Council debate the motion, which was seconded by the Vice-Chairman.

With Council agreeing to debate, and following comments from the Chairman drawing attention to statutory rules on predetermination in respect of non-determined planning applications, Group Leaders were then invited to comment on the motion.

Cllr Richard Clewer, Leader of the Council, affirmed his support for solar panels and solar farms, criticising government policy which did not compel solar panels on new buildings, and the confusion of current planning policy. However, he also noted the importance of food production particularly given the impacts of climate change on production and migration, with a need to increase the food supply within the UK. He stated cumulative impact was critical, with many solar farms in Wiltshire and Lime Down one of the largest proposals even in the world, resulting in villages to be surrounded by industrial landscapes, and solar production should not be concentrated in farmland areas, with the motion intended to argue for a balanced approach.

Cllr Ian Thorn, Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group, welcomed the motion but considered that it lacked detail in some important areas, and said it was a shame it had not been raised at an earlier stage so it could have been a key part of the Local Plan discussions. He stated his group had prepared amendments which he hoped would be accepted, to add detail to the motion.

Cllr Ernie Clark, Leader of the Independent Group, supported previous comments around the cumulative impacts and taking away fields from agricultural production, though he also pointed to such fields being assigned to be used for large numbers of housing as well.

Cllr Ricky Rogers, Leader of the Labour Group, stated he would support the motion, and encouraged the public to lobby planning committees with their views and not just wait for action from central government.

The Chairman then opened the item for general debate.

Amendment Debate

At the start of the general debate an amendment was moved by Cllr Martin Smith, seconded by Cllr Dr Brian Mathew. This did not seek to amend any existing text to the motion, but sought to include the following additional paragraphs:

We would also urge the Secretary of State to provide more incentives to residents and businesses to install rooftop solar panels thus directly benefiting local people through reduced energy bills, whilst helping to achieve the 2030 targets for solar generation.

We also ask that the Government supports the Local Electricity Bill, which has been stalled in Parliament despite the support of 326 MPs, but which would remove some of the barriers to community energy projects, which again would directly benefit local communities and ensure a fairer transition to the new energy technology, focussing on generating energy closer to where it's needed, thus reducing the need for huge schemes with lengthy connections.

We would also ask that a fully formed national strategy is established for solar farms, which balances the need of food security with the equally important need for energy security.

We would finally ask that consideration is given to introducing a national standard of community benefit, to be paid into local funds for community projects and combating energy poverty, of at least £1,000 per MW capacity, per annum for the life of solar projects of more than 15MW capacity.

Cllr Smith stated that the original motion was prompted by the pressure on agricultural land, and he supported the comments made about finding a balance between food production and energy generation, but that he considered that the motion could and should go further. He noted a recent statement from the Secretary of State acknowledging cumulative impact of solar developments, but this did not indicate how it should be considered. He proposed the amendment to encourage the Secretary of State to find more incentives to install rooftop solar, to urge support for the Local Electricity Bill which had been proposed in Parliament, for a national strategy for solar farms, and for a national standard of community benefit be considered, to be paid into local funds for community projects for the life of solar projects above a certain capacity.

As mover of the original motion Cllr Alford confirmed he was not prepared to accept the amendment as a friendly amendment.

Group Leaders were therefore asked to comment on the proposed amendment.

Cllr Richard Clewer, Leader of the Council, stated some parts of the amendment made sense but he had concerns with some others, saying the Local Electricity Bill could have unintended consequences. He felt the amendment was well intentioned but more evidence was needed on some of its points.

Cllr Ian Thorn, Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group, endorsed the proposed amendment as providing more detail and rigour to the original motion.

Cllr Ernie Clark, Leader of the Independent Group, stated the amendment appeared to be reasonable.

Cllr Ricky Rogers, Leader of the Labour Group, supported the amendment as adding specific requests for the government to respond to in a positive way.

The amendment was then opened up to general debate.

Comments in support of the amendment included that it added appropriate detail and structure to the requests to government, noting the importance of high quality farming land, the importance of increasing renewable energy in a well planned way, and the cumulative impact from the number of solar farms developed or proposed in Wiltshire.

Other comments included that cumulative impact should already be able to be considered at planning stages when considering new solar farms, that reaching net zero targets would require difficult choices, and that the area of agricultural land covered by solar farms was very low, and with yields up this meant food production was not a sustainable reason to object to the solar farms.

There was then a break from 1255-1345.

Upon resuming the meeting Cllr Smith stated he had held discussions with the Leader of the Council and others, and agreed to withdraw his amendment to allow for cross-party discussions in the coming weeks to develop wording which would give effect to the intent of the amendments which could be collectively supported.

The meeting having consented to withdrawal of the amendment, debate resumed on the original motion.

Motion Debate

Comments in support of the motion included many comments in support of solar energy generally and solar farms, but concerns that the very large farms proposed were not appropriate in a country the scale of England let alone Wiltshire, and that it was appropriate to seek a more balanced approach taking account of the cumulative impact of so many solar energy developments being proposed in the county.

Other comments included that the world was in a climate crisis and the UK was not meeting vital decarbonisation targets set by law, that solar farms could be of assistance to farmers and were not of industrial character.

It was also commented that solar energy was of great importance particularly given the impacts of climate change, and even where there was support for the motion this should not be at the expense of appearing to criticise solar energy as a whole.

During debate it was also proposed by Cllr Howard Greenman to amend the motion to include specific reference to battery storage and associated infrastructure as follows:

*Wiltshire Council therefore calls on the Secretary of State for the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities to define more closely what is meant by 'cumulative impact' regarding solar farms, **battery storage, and associated infrastructure** and to take clear steps to ensure that solar developments are more evenly spread across the UK and not concentrated in specific areas effectively industrialising the countryside.*

The mover and seconder of the motion accepted the alteration as a friendly amendment.

At the conclusion of the debate Cllr Botterill thanked everyone for their comments, noting the recent ministerial statement on solar farms as a reflection of the pressures and tensions on the issue. He reiterated support for solar energy, but that the cumulative impacts could not be disregarded.

Cllr Alford then had the opportunity to respond to the debate. He welcomed the contributions of Members and the public, and hoped the council was moving towards a consensus on the issue.

Following a vote, it was therefore,

Resolved:

Whilst not opposed to the principle of the development of solar farms in line with the National Planning Policy Framework this Council is increasingly concerned at the concentration of solar farms, battery storage and associated infrastructure in Wiltshire. Some villages are now completely surrounded by solar farms and their continued concentration represents a significant cumulative impact and industrialisation of the countryside.

Wiltshire Council therefore calls on the Secretary of State for the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities to define more closely what is meant by 'cumulative impact' regarding solar farms, battery storage, and associated infrastructure and to take clear steps to ensure that solar developments are more evenly spread across the UK and not concentrated in specific areas effectively industrialising the countryside.

We would also ask for clarity of the priority given to ensuring that food production and farming are not destroyed as industries in specific areas through an excessive concentration of solar farms given the massive impact that would have on the rural way of life in villages that have been farmed for time immemorial.

In accordance with the Constitution there was a recorded vote.

Votes for the motion (74)

Votes against the motion (2)

Votes in abstention (7)

Details of the recorded vote are attached to these minutes.

34 **Community Governance Review 2023/24**

The Chairman invited Cllr Ashley O'Neill, Chairman of the Electoral Review Committee, to introduce the report on the Final Recommendations for the Community Governance Review. Cllr O'Neill proposed the Final Recommendations, seconded by Cllr Gavin Grant.

Cllr O'Neill noted that the proposals were mostly less significant than during previous reviews and had involved seeking to resolve various electoral boundary anomalies which had been brought to the attention of the Committee. Details were provided on the scope of the review, the consultation which had taken place, available options, and the statutory criteria on which any decision would need to be based.

The Final Recommendations were explained in detail, including more substantial proposals around Mere, Zeals, Trowbridge, and North Bradley, as well as the more minor alterations in other areas of the county.

Group Leaders were then given the opportunity to comment on the proposals.

Cllr Richard Clewer, Leader of the Council, supported the proposals as making sense and supported by clear reasoning and evidence. Cllr Ian Thorn, Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group, supported the proposals and endorsed the Committee's highly detailed assessments and cross-party coordination. Cllr Ricky Rogers, Leader of the Labour Group, welcomed the thoroughness of the review and supported the proposals.

The item was then opened up to general debate. A comment was received on the lack of attendance from any parties involved in the Mere/Zeals proposal. Another comment was made regarding the cost and time spent on boundary change work. In response other comments highlighted the work was in response to requests received and undertaken thoroughly in an appropriate way.

At the conclusion of debate Cllr O'Neill stated that it was appropriate to review parishes as areas developed and that any cost of time was not significant, and that reviewing boundaries was a part of the democratic system. He also emphasised that parties had been advised as part of engagement with the Committee of the stages of the process including the role of Full Council.

It was therefore,

Resolved:

That Council:

- 1) Approve the changes to community governance arrangements as set out below as recommended and detailed by the Electoral Review Committee in the Final Recommendations:**

Recommendation 1 – Mere/Zeals

Recommendation 2 – North Bradley/Trowbridge

Recommendation 3 – Salisbury (St Francis & Stratford/Milford Divisions)

Recommendation 4 – Royal Wootton Bassett/Brinkworth

Recommendation 5 – Chippenham (Pewsham/Hardens & Central Divisions)

Recommendation 6 – Trowbridge (Grove/Lambrook Divisions)

Recommendation 7 – Calne/Calne Without

Recommendation 8 – Bradford-on-Avon

Recommendation 9 – Melksham (Forest and South Divisions)

Recommendation 10 – Westbury/Dilton Marsh

Recommendation 11 – Southwick/North Bradley

- 2) To authorise the Solicitor of the Council to take all necessary measures to make and approve the Community Governance Order(s) to bring into effect for 1 April 2025 all of the changes detailed under resolution 1, subject to any required consents by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England;**
- 3) To authorise the Electoral Registration Officer to make any necessary changes to polling districts to bring them into line with the agreed governance changes at the appropriate time, to be reported to the Electoral Review Committee.**

In accordance with the constitution there was a recorded vote.

Votes for the motion (81)

Votes against the motion (0)

Votes in abstention (1)

Details of the recorded vote are attached to these minutes.

35 Proposed Changes to the Constitution

The Chairman invited Cllr Ashley O'Neill, Cabinet Member for Governance, IT, Broadband, Digital, and Staffing, to introduce the report on proposed changes to the constitution. Cllr O'Neill proposed the changes, which was seconded by Cllr Richard Britton.

Cllr O'Neill noted the changes were part of ongoing monitoring and review of the constitution undertaken by the Constitution Focus Group and the Standards

Committee. Some details were provided on the proposed changes, including in response to updates to council strategies or to clarify ambiguities or provide further details on existing practice and procedures. It was noted a briefing had been held for Members on the proposed changes.

Group Leaders were then given the opportunity to comment on the proposals.

Cllr Richard Clewer, Leader of the Council, supported the proposals. Cllr Ian Thorn, Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group, noted the level of debate and thoughtful consideration undertaken by the Focus Group. Cllr Graham Wright, deputising for the Leader of the Independent Group, supported the proposal. Cllr Ricky Rogers, Leader of the Labour Group, noted the reviews had been thorough, and drew particular attention to the comments in drafting by Cllr Richard Britton.

The item was then opened up to general debate. A comment was made request wording in other sections of the constitution relating to council procedures and statements, and how these related to the Localism Act 2011, be reviewed.

There being no further comments in debate, it was therefore,

Resolved:

That Council approve the following updated sections of the Constitution:

- 1) **Part 11A – Corporate Parenting Panel (Appendix A)**
- 2) **Part 5 – Access to Information Procedure Rules (Appendix B)**
- 3) **Part 7 – Cabinet Procedure Rules (Appendix C)**
- 4) **Part 8 – Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules (Appendix D)**

In accordance with the constitution there was a recorded vote.

Votes for the motion (78)

Votes against the motion (0)

Votes in abstention (0)

Details of the recorded vote are attached to these minutes.

36 **Integrated Emergency Management Guide**

The Chairman invited Cllr Richard Clewer, Leader of the Council, to introduce the report on the Integrated Emergency Management Guide.

Cllr Clewer explained this was a set of important documents to deal with major incidents and business continuity, noting some of the major incidents which had occurred in Wiltshire such as the Novichok incident in Salisbury. Up to date

emergency management guides enabled officers and others to understand their roles and respond appropriately in a structured way, and it was important Members have sight.

It was proposed to note the guides, which was seconded by Cllr Laura Mayes.

There were no comments from Group Leaders or in debate.

It was therefore,

Resolved:

To note the three guides which make up the council's Integrated Emergency Management Guide:

- **Incident Response Guide**
- **Recovery Guide**
- **Corporate Business Continuity Guide**

37 **Parish Name Change**

The Chairman invited Cllr Ashley O'Neill, Chairman of the Electoral Review Committee, to present the report recommending changes to the name of a parish under s.75 of the Local Government Act 1972.

Cllr O'Neill proposed to change the name of Clyffe Pypard to Clyffe Pypard and Bushton. The proposal had been requested by the Parish Council and supported by a public survey undertaken by the Committee. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Gavin Grant.

There were no comments from Group Leaders or in debate.

It was therefore,

Resolved:

That Council:

1) Approve that the name of the parish of Clyffe Pypard be changed to the parish of Clyffe Pypard and Bushton;

2) Authorise the Solicitor to the Council to make any necessary legal orders and notifications to enact the above change.

38 **Announcements from Cabinet and Committees**

It was noted that there were no executive decisions taken under special urgency provisions in the last year.

It was noted that there were three executive decisions which in accordance with Part 8 of the Constitution the then Chairman of the Council exempted from the usual call-in provisions.

Those were as follows:

- Cabinet Member Delegated Decision PHLLFMOA-01-24: Holiday Activity and Food Programme 2024 Grant Acceptance
- Cabinet Member Delegated Decision FDMSP-01-24: Deed of Termination Ashton Park Funding Agreement
- Cabinet Decision: Update on Safety Valve Deal with the Department for Education - 12 March 2024 Cabinet

Updated to Cabinet Member responsibilities were provided as detailed in the Summons.

The cycle of upcoming Full Council meetings was also noted as follows:

23 July 2024
22 October 2024
25 February 2025
20 May 2025

The Chairman then asked if there were any further announcements from Cabinet or Committee Chairmen.

Cllr Chuck Berry, Chairman of Northern Area Planning Committee, used the opportunity to ask about when recent announcements regarding solar farms would have weight for planning committee decision making.

Cllr Nick Botterill, Cabinet Member for Finance, Development Management, and Strategic Planning, stated that Members would be advised further once the position was clarified.

39 **Questions from Members of the Council**

Nine questions were received from Cllr David Vigar regarding Ukrainian refugee funding and other details. Written responses were provided in the Agenda Supplement.

Cllr Vigar asked a supplementary question in response. He noted the Council had earmarked around half the funding provided by government for purchasing homes for refugees but noted the need to provide other support to enable people to fulfil their potential. He asked if the Leader of the Council would

consider setting aside a small proportion of the funding to set up grant funding for community organisations or specialist providers to offer services needed.

Cllr Richard Clewer, Leader of the Council, noted that the council's proposal to purchase homes was being rolled out by government on a national basis, and stated he would look into the possibility of grant funding as suggested.

(Duration of meeting: 10.30 am - 3.25 pm)

The Officer who has produced these minutes is Kieran Elliott of Democratic Services,
e-mail committee@wiltshire.gov.uk

Press enquiries to Communications, direct line 01225 713114 or email
communications@wiltshire.gov.uk

Committee Allocations May 2024

Strategic Planning Committee (11)

Conservative (7)	Liberal Democrat (3)	Labour (0)	Independent (1)
Howard Greenman (Chairman)	Adrian Foster		Ernie Clark
Christopher Newbury (Vice-Chairman)	Sarah Gibson		
Jonathon Seed	Carole King		
Pip Ridout			
James Sheppard			
Elizabeth Threlfall			
Robert Yuill			
Substitutes	Substitutes	Substitutes	Substitutes
Andrew Oliver	Helen Belcher OBE		George Jeans
Nic Puntis	Clare Cape		Dr Nick Murry
Bridget Wayman	Ruth Hopkinson		Graham Wright
Richard Britton	Stewart Palmen		
Steve Bucknell			
Tamara Reay			
Stuart Wheeler			

Northern Area Planning Committee (11)

Conservative (7)	Liberal Democrat (4)	Labour (0)	Independent (0)
Chuck Berry (Chairman)	David Bowler		
Howard Greenman (Vice-Chairman)	Gavin Grant		
Mike Sankey	Dr Brian Mathew		
Steve Bucknell	Martin Smith		
Jacqui Lay			
Nic Puntis			
Elizabeth Threlfall			
Substitutes	Substitutes	Substitutes	Substitutes
Peter Hutton	Clare Cape		
Ashley O'Neill	Ruth Hopkinson		
Tom Rounds	Adrian Foster		
	Dr Nick Murry		

Eastern Area Planning Committee (8)

Conservative (6)	Liberal Democrat (2)	Labour (0)	Independent (0)
Philip Whitehead (Chairman)	Dr Brian Mathew		
Paul Oatway QPM (Vice-Chairman)	Adrian Foster		
Kelvin Nash			
Tony Pickernell			
Iain Wallis			
Stuart Wheeler			
Substitutes	Substitutes	Substitutes	Substitutes
Jerry Kunkler	Mel Jacob		
James Sheppard	Sam Pearce-Kearney		
Caroline Thomas	Carole King		

Tamara Reay	Ross Henning		
Laura Mayes			
Dominic Muns			

Southern Area Planning Committee (11)

Conservative (6)	Liberal Democrat (3)	Labour (1)	Independent (1)
Andrew Oliver (Chairman)	Richard Budden	Ian McLennan	George Jeans
Sven Hocking (Vice-Chairman)	Brian Dalton		
Charles McGrath	Sam Charleston		
Nabil Najjar			
Bridget Wayman			
Rich Rogers			
Substitutes	Substitutes	Substitutes	Substitutes
Kevin Daley	Sam Charleston	Ricky Rogers	Ernie Clark
Robert Yuill	Trevor Carbin		Graham Wright

Western Area Planning Committee (11)

Conservative (7)	Liberal Democrat (3)	Labour (0)	Independent (1)
Christopher Newbury (Chairman)	Trevor Carbin		Ernie Clark
Bill Parks (Vice-Chairman)	Stewart Palmen		
Andrew Davis	David Vigar		
Horace Prickett			
Pip Ridout			
Jonathan Seed			
Suzanne Wickham			
Substitutes	Substitutes	Substitutes	Substitutes
Tony Jackson	Mel Jacob		Matthew Dean
Mike Sankey	Gordon King		Jon Hubbard
Bridget Wayman			George Jeans
Tamara Reay			Graham Wright

Licensing Committee (12)

Conservative (8)	Liberal Democrat (4)	Labour (0)	Independent (0)
Peter Hutton (Chairman)	Trevor Carbin		
Allison Bucknell (Vice-Chairman)	Sam Charleston		
Steve Bucknell	Ruth Hopkinson		
Daniel Cave	Tim Trimble		
Kevin Daley			
Andrew Davis			
Robert Yuill			
Jerry Kunkler			
Substitutes	Substitutes	Substitutes	Substitutes
Jacqui Lay	David Bowler		Ernie Clark
Charles McGrath	Dr Brian Mathew		Jon Hubbard
Nic Puntis	Stewart Palmen		

Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee (15)

Conservative (8)	Liberal Democrat (5)	Labour (0)	Independent (2)
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Tony Jackson	Ruth Hopkinson		Jon Hubbard
Johnny Kidney	Gavin Grant		Graham Wright
Jerry Kunkler	Gordon King		
Tony Pickernell	Robert MacNaughton		
Pip Ridout	Jo Trigg		
Tom Rounds			
Jonathan Seed			
Christopher Williams			
Substitutes	Substitutes	Substitutes	Substitutes
Steve Bucknell	Clare Cape		Ernie Clark
Jonathan Seed	Brian Dalton		Dr Nick Murry
Jacqui Lay	Ian Thorn		

Children's Select Committee (13)

Conservative (7)	Liberal Democrat (4)	Labour (1)	Independent (1)
Mary Champion	Helen Belcher OBE	Caroline Corbin	Jon Hubbard
Jacqui Lay	Carole King		
Kelvin Nash	Kathryn MacDermid		
Antonio Piazza	Jo Trigg		
Mike Sankey			
Bridget Wayman			
Mark Verbinnen			
Substitutes	Substitutes	Substitutes	Substitutes
Daniel Cave	Trevor Carbin	Ricky Rogers	
Johnny Kidney	Adrian Foster		
Iain Wallis	Sam Peace-Kearney		
Jack Oatley	Martin Smith		

Environment Select Committee (13)

Conservative (7)	Liberal Democrat (4)	Labour (1)	Independent (1)
Jerry Kunkler	Mel Jacob	Ian McLennan	Dr Nick Murry
Tony Jackson	Richard Budden		
Charles McGrath	Dr Brian Mathew		
Tom Rounds	Derek Walters		
Stuart Wheeler			
Jacqui Lay			
Iain Wallis			
Substitutes	Substitutes	Substitutes	Substitutes
Mark McClelland	Brian Dalton	Ricky Rogers	Matthew Dean
Bridget Wayman	Ross Henning		Jon Hubbard
	Stewart Palmen		

Health Select Committee (13)

Conservative (8)	Liberal Democrat (5)	Labour (0)	Independent (0)
Johnny Kidney	Clare Cape		
Mary Champion	David Bowler		
Tom Rounds	Nick Dye		
Dr Monica Devendran	Gordon King		
Howard Greenman	David Vigar		

Pip Ridout			
Tony Pickernell			
Horace Prickett			
Substitutes	Substitutes	Substitutes	Substitutes
Kelvin Nash	Liz Alstrom		
Jack Oatley	Trevor Carbin		
	Mel Jacob		
	Ian Thorn		

Standards Committee (11)

Conservative (7)	Liberal Democrat (3)	Labour (0)	Independent (1)
Paul Oatway QPM (Chairman)	Ruth Hopkinson		Matthew Dean
Allison Bucknell (Vice-Chairman)	Sam Pearce-Kearney		
Andrew Davis	Derek Walters		
Bill Parks			
Pip Ridout			
Mike Sankey			
James Sheppard			
Substitutes	Substitutes	Substitutes	Substitutes
Richard Britton	Trevor Carbin		Ernie Clark
Howard Greenman	Mel Jacob		Jon Hubbard
	Gordon King		Dr Nick Murry
	Kathryn MacDermid		Graham Wright

Audit and Governance Committee (11)

Conservative (7)	Liberal Democrat (3)	Labour (0)	Independent (1)
Iain Wallis (Chairman)	Adrian Foster		George Jeans
Stuart Wheeler (Vice-Chairman)	Gavin Grant		
Chuck Berry	Martin Smith		
Howard Greenman			
Antonio Piazza			
Pip Ridout			
Pauline Church			
Substitutes	Substitutes	Substitutes	Substitutes
Tom Rounds	Liz Alstrom		Ernie Clark
	Ross Henning		Matthew Dean
	Jo Trigg		Jon Hubbard

Non-voting members ex officio from Cabinet on Audit and Governance - Richard Clewer, Nick Botterill

Staffing Policy Committee (9)

Conservative (6)	Liberal Democrat (2)	Labour (1)	Independent (0)
Stuart Wheeler (Chairman)	Helen Belcher OBE	Ricky Rogers	
Allison Bucknell (Vice-Chairman)	Carole King		
Richard Clewer			
Jacqui Lay			
Ashley O'Neill			
Richard Britton			
Substitutes	Substitutes	Substitutes	Substitutes
Simon Jacobs	Liz Alstrom	Caroline Corbin	

Nabil Najjar	Mel Jacob		
Tom Rounds	Kathryn MacDermid		

Officer Appointments Committee (5)

Conservative (3)	Liberal Democrat (2)	Labour (0)	Independent (0)
Richard Clewer (Chairman)	Sam Pearce-Kearny		
Laura Mayes (Vice-Chairman)	Derek Walters		
Ashley O'Neill			
Substitutes	Substitutes	Substitutes	Substitutes
Ian Blair-Pilling	Brian Dalton		
Nick Botterill	Carole King		
Phil Alford	Paul Sample JP		
Nick Holder	Mel Jacob		
Jane Davies	Tim Trimble		
Dominic Muns	Gordon King		
Tamara Reay	Jo Trigg		

Electoral Review Committee (10)

Conservative (6)	Liberal Democrat (2)	Labour (1)	Independent (1)
Ian Blair-Pilling	Gavin Grant	Ian McLennan	Ernie Clark
Ashley O'Neill	Ian Thorn		
Allison Bucknell			
Jacqui Lay			
Paul Oatway QPM			
Stuart Wheeler			
Substitutes	Substitutes	Substitutes	Substitutes
Peter Hutton	Adrian Foster	Ricky Rogers	
Nic Puntis	Derek Walters		

Appeals Committee (8)

Conservative (5)	Liberal Democrat (2)	Labour (0)	Independent (1)
Allison Bucknell	Sam Charleston		Matthew Dean
Andrew Davis	Brian Dalton		
Tony Jackson			
Paul Oatway QPM			
Stuart Wheeler			
Substitutes	Substitutes	Substitutes	Substitutes
Ian Blair-Pilling	Adrian Foster		George Jeans
Tamara Reay	Dr Brian Mathew		Graham Wright
Elizabeth Threlfall	David Vigar		
	Derek Walters		

Wiltshire Police and Crime Panel (7)

Conservative (4)	Liberal Democrat (2)	Labour (0)	Independent (1)
Steve Bucknell (Chairman)	Ross Henning		George Jeans
Tony Pickernell	Dr Brian Mathew		
Kelvin Nash			

James Sheppard			
Substitutes	Substitutes	Substitutes	Substitutes
Dominic Muns	Adrian Foster		Dr Nick Murry
Caroline Thomas	Sarah Gibson		Ernie Clark
	Gordon King		Graham Wright
	Sam Pearce-Kearney		Jon Hubbard

Wiltshire Pension Fund Committee (5)

Conservative (3)	Liberal Democrat (2)	Labour (0)	Independent (0)
Richard Britton (Chairman)	Gavin Grant		
Stuart Wheeler	Gordon King		
Robert Yuill			
Substitutes	Substitutes	Substitutes	Substitutes
Christopher Newbury	Sarah Gibson		
	Carole King		
	Ian Thorn		

Other Appointments outside the Council's Committee Scheme

Health and Wellbeing Board

Note: This is not subject to the rules of political proportionality and is not included in the Council's scheme of committee places.

Conservative	Liberal Democrat	Labour	Independent
Richard Clewer - Leader	Gordon King		
Deputy Leader - Laura Mayes			
Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, SEND, and Inclusion – Jane Davies			
Cabinet Member for Public Health, Communities, Leisure, Libraries - Ian Blair-Pilling			

Dorset and Wiltshire Fire Authority

Note: This is not a committee of the Council and is not included in the Council's scheme of committee places, however appointments are made subject to the rules on political proportionality by Council

Conservative (4)	Liberal Democrat (2)	Labour (0)	Independent (0)
Daniel Cave	Brian Dalton		
Kelvin Nash	Paul Sample JP		
Paul Oatway QPM			
Pip Ridout			

Safeguarding Children and Young People Panel

Note: This is not a committee of the Council but is appointed by Full Council, however appointments have historically been made subject to the rules on political proportionality by Group Leaders, and included in this document for the awareness of members.

Conservative (5)	Liberal Democrat (2)	Labour (0)	Independent (1)
Peter Hutton	Ross Henning		Jon Hubbard
Laura Mayes	Sam Peace-Kearney		
Nabil Najjar			
Suzanne Wickham			

Dominic Muns			
Substitutes	Substitutes	Substitutes	Substitutes
Janes Davies	Helen Belcher OBE		Dr Nick Murry
Mary Champion	David Bowler		
	Tim Trimble		

Corporate Parenting Panel

Note: This is not a committee of the Council but is appointed by Full Council, however appointments have historically been made subject to the rules on political proportionality by Group Leaders, and included in this document for the awareness of members.

Conservative (5)	Liberal Democrat (2)	Labour (0)	Independent (1)
Peter Hutton	Stewart Palmen		Ernie Clark
Laura Mayes	Sam Peace-Kearney		
Simon Jacobs			
Mary Champion			
Nabil Najjar			
Substitutes	Substitutes	Substitutes	Substitutes
Janes Davies	Helen Belcher OBE		Jon Hubbard
Caroline Thomas	Clare Cape		
	Ross Henning		
	Tim Trimble		

Full Council Meeting – 21 May 2024 – Members’ Attendance

Councillor Name	Time in (Meeting start – 10:30)	Time Out (Meeting close – 20:20)
Phil Alford	10:30	Meeting close
Liz Alstrom	10:30	Meeting close
Helen Belcher OBE	10:30	Meeting close
Chuck Berry	10:30	Meeting close
Ian Blair-Pilling	10:30	Meeting close
Nick Botterill	10:30	Meeting close
David Bowler	Apologies	Apologies
Richard Britton	10:30	Meeting close
Allison Bucknell	10:30	Meeting close
Steve Bucknell	10:30	13:00
Richard Budden	10:30	Meeting close
Clare Cape	10:30	Meeting close
Trevor Carbin	10:30	Meeting close
Daniel Cave	10:30	Meeting close
Mary Champion	10:30	Meeting close
Sam Charleston	10:30	Meeting close
Pauline Church	Apologies	Apologies
Ernie Clark	10:30	Meeting close
Richard Clewer	10:30	Meeting close
Zoë Clewer	10:30	Meeting close
Mark Connolly	10:30	Meeting close
Caroline Corbin	Apologies	Apologies
Kevin Daley	10:30	Meeting close
Brian Dalton	10:30	Meeting close
Jane Davies	10:30	Meeting close
Andrew Davis	10:30	Meeting close
Matthew Dean	10:30	Meeting close
Dr Monica Devendran	10:30	Meeting close
Adrian Foster	10:30	Meeting close
Sarah Gibson	10:30	15:05
Gavin Grant	13:45	Meeting close
Howard Greenman	10:30	Meeting close
Ross Henning	10:30	Meeting close
Sven Hocking	10:30	Meeting close
Nick Holder	10:30	Meeting close
Ruth Hopkinson	10:30	Meeting close
Jon Hubbard	Apologies	Apologies
Peter Hutton	10:30	14:40
Tony Jackson	10:30	Meeting close
Mel Jacob	12:45	Meeting close

Simon Jacobs	10:30	Meeting close
George Jeans	10:30	Meeting close
Johnny Kidney	Apologies	Apologies
Carole King	10:30	Meeting close
Gordon King	10:30	Meeting close
Edward Kirk	10:30	13:30
Jerry Kunkler	10:30	Meeting close
Jacqui Lay	10:30	Meeting close
Kathryn MacDermid	10:30	14:50
Dr Brian Mathew	10:30	Meeting close
Laura Mayes	10:30	Meeting close
Dr Mark McClelland	10:30	Meeting close
Charles McGrath	Apologies	Apologies
Ian McLennan	10:30	Meeting close
Dominic Muns	10:30	Meeting close
Dr Nick Murry	10:30	Meeting close
Nabil Najjar	10:30	Meeting close
Kelvin Nash	10:30	Meeting close
Christopher Newbury	10:30	Meeting close
Ashley O'Neill	10:30	Meeting close
Jack Oatley	10:30	Meeting close
Paul Oatway QPM	10:30	Meeting close
Andrew Oliver	10:30	Meeting close
Stewart Palmen	10:30	Meeting close
Bill Parks	10:30	Meeting close
Sam Pearce-Kearney	10:30	Meeting close
Antonio Piazza	Absent	Absent
Tony Pickernell	10:30	Meeting close
Horace Prickett	10:30	Meeting close
Nic Puntis	10:30	Meeting close
Tamara Reay	10:30	Meeting close
Pip Ridout	10:30	14:30
Rich Rogers	10:30	14:30
Ricky Rogers	10:30	Meeting close
Tom Rounds	10:30	Meeting close
Paul Sample JP	10:30	Meeting close
Mike Sankey	10:30	Meeting close
Jonathon Seed	10:30	Meeting close
James Sheppard	10:30	Meeting close
Martin Smith	10:30	Meeting close
Caroline Thomas	10:30	15:05
Ian Thorn	10:30	Meeting close
Elizabeth Threlfall	10:30	Meeting close
Jo Trigg	10:30	Meeting close
Tim Trimble	10:30	Meeting close
Mark Verbinnen	10:30	Meeting close

David Vigar	10:30	Meeting close
Iain Wallis	10:30	Meeting close
Apologies	Apologies	Apologies
Bridget Wayman	10:30	Meeting close
Stuart Wheeler	10:30	15:15
Philip Whitehead	10:30	Meeting close
Suzanne Wickham	10:30	Meeting close
Christopher Williams	10:30	Meeting close
Graham Wright	10:30	Meeting close
Robert Yuill	10:30	Meeting close

Recorded Votes – Council – 21 May 2024

Details of resolutions included within the minutes

Minute 32 – Annual Appointments of Committees – Ungrouped Member Amendment

Vote	Councillors	Count
For	Cllr Liz Alstrom, Cllr Helen Belcher OBE, Cllr Richard Budden, Cllr Clare Cape, Cllr Trevor Carbin, Cllr Daniel Cave, Cllr Sam Charleston, Cllr Ernie Clark, Cllr Brian Dalton, Cllr Andrew Davis, Cllr Matthew Dean, Cllr Dr Monica Devendran, Cllr Nick Dye, Cllr Adrian Foster, Cllr Sarah Gibson, Cllr Ross Henning, Cllr Ruth Hopkinson, Cllr Tony Jackson, Cllr George Jeans, Cllr Carole King, Cllr Gordon King, Cllr Edward Kirk, Cllr Kathryn Macdermid, Cllr Robert MacNaughton, Cllr Dr Brian Mathew, Cllr Ian McLennan, Cllr Stewart Palmen, Cllr Sam Pearce-Kearney, Cllr Horace Prickett, Cllr Pip Ridout, Cllr Ricky Rogers, Cllr Paul Sample JP, Cllr Martin Smith, Cllr Ian Thorn, Cllr Jo Trigg and Cllr Tim Trimble	36
Against	Cllr Phil Alford, Cllr Chuck Berry, Cllr Ian Blair-Pilling, Cllr Nick Botterill, Cllr Richard Britton, Cllr Allison Bucknell, Cllr Mary Champion, Cllr Richard Clewer, Cllr Zoë Clewer, Cllr Mark Connolly, Cllr Kevin Daley, Cllr Jane Davies, Cllr Howard Greenman, Cllr Sven Hocking, Cllr Nick Holder, Cllr Peter Hutton, Cllr Simon Jacobs, Cllr Jerry Kunkler, Cllr Jacqui Lay, Cllr Laura Mayes, Cllr Dr Mark McClelland, Cllr Dominic Muns, Cllr Nabil Najjar, Cllr Kelvin Nash, Cllr Christopher Newbury, Cllr Ashley O'Neill, Cllr Jack Oatley, Cllr Paul Oatway QPM, Cllr Andrew Oliver, Cllr Bill Parks, Cllr Nic Puntis, Cllr Tamara Reay, Cllr Rich Rogers, Cllr Tom Rounds, Cllr Mike Sankey, Cllr Jonathon Seed, Cllr James Sheppard, Cllr Caroline Thomas, Cllr Elizabeth Threlfall, Cllr Mark Verbinnen, Cllr Iain Wallis, Cllr Bridget Wayman, Cllr Stuart Wheeler, Cllr Philip Whitehead, Cllr Suzanne Wickham, Cllr Christopher Williams and Cllr Graham Wright	47
Abstain	Cllr Steve Bucknell, Cllr Dr Nick Murry, Cllr Tony Pickernell and Cllr David Vigar	4

Minute 33 – Notice of Motion 2024-03 – Solar Farms

Vote	Councillors	Count
For	<p>Cllr Phil Alford, Cllr Liz Alstrom, Cllr Helen Belcher OBE, Cllr Chuck Berry, Cllr Ian Blair-Pilling, Cllr Nick Botterill, Cllr Richard Britton, Cllr Allison Bucknell, Cllr Richard Budden, Cllr Daniel Cave, Cllr Mary Champion, Cllr Richard Clewer, Cllr Zoë Clewer, Cllr Mark Connolly, Cllr Kevin Daley, Cllr Brian Dalton, Cllr Jane Davies, Cllr Andrew Davis, Cllr Matthew Dean, Cllr Dr Monica Devendran, Cllr Nick Dye, Cllr Adrian Foster, Cllr Gavin Grant, Cllr Howard Greenman, Cllr Sven Hocking, Cllr Nick Holder, Cllr Ruth Hopkinson, Cllr Peter Hutton, Cllr Tony Jackson, Cllr Simon Jacobs, Cllr Carole King, Cllr Jerry Kunkler, Cllr Jacqui Lay, Cllr Kathryn Macdermid, Cllr Robert MacNaughton, Cllr Dr Brian Mathew, Cllr Laura Mayes, Cllr Dr Mark McClelland, Cllr Ian McLennan, Cllr Dominic Muns, Cllr Nabil Najjar, Cllr Kelvin Nash, Cllr Christopher Newbury, Cllr Ashley O'Neill, Cllr Jack Oatley, Cllr Paul Oatway QPM, Cllr Andrew Oliver, Cllr Stewart Palmen, Cllr Bill Parks, Cllr Sam Pearce-Kearney, Cllr Tony Pickernell, Cllr Horace Prickett, Cllr Nic Puntis, Cllr Tamara Reay, Cllr Rich Rogers, Cllr Ricky Rogers, Cllr Tom Rounds, Cllr Paul Sample JP, Cllr Mike Sankey, Cllr Jonathon Seed, Cllr James Sheppard, Cllr Martin Smith, Cllr Caroline Thomas, Cllr Ian Thorn, Cllr Elizabeth Threlfall, Cllr Jo Trigg, Cllr Mark Verbinnen, Cllr Iain Wallis, Cllr Stuart Wheeler, Cllr Philip Whitehead, Cllr Suzanne Wickham, Cllr Christopher Williams, Cllr Graham Wright and Cllr Robert Yuill</p>	74
Against	Cllr Mel Jacob and Cllr Pip Ridout	2
Abstain	Cllr Clare Cape, Cllr Sam Charleston, Cllr Sarah Gibson, Cllr Gordon King, Cllr Dr Nick Murry, Cllr Tim Trimble and Cllr David Vigar	7

Minute 34 – Community Governance Review

Vote	Councillors	Count
For	Cllr Phil Alford, Cllr Liz Alstrom, Cllr Helen Belcher OBE, Cllr Chuck Berry, Cllr Ian Blair-Pilling, Cllr Nick Botterill, Cllr Richard Britton, Cllr Allison Bucknell, Cllr Richard Budden, Cllr Clare Cape, Cllr Trevor Carbin, Cllr Daniel Cave, Cllr Mary Champion, Cllr Sam Charleston, Cllr Richard Clewer, Cllr Zoë Clewer, Cllr Mark Connolly, Cllr Kevin Daley, Cllr Brian Dalton, Cllr Jane Davies, Cllr Andrew Davis, Cllr Matthew Dean, Cllr Dr Monica Devendran, Cllr Nick Dye, Cllr Adrian Foster, Cllr Sarah Gibson, Cllr Gavin Grant, Cllr Howard Greenman, Cllr Ross Henning, Cllr Sven Hocking, Cllr Nick Holder, Cllr Ruth Hopkinson, Cllr Tony Jackson, Cllr Mel Jacob, Cllr Simon Jacobs, Cllr Carole King, Cllr Gordon King, Cllr Jerry Kunkler, Cllr Jacqui Lay, Cllr Robert MacNaughton, Cllr Dr Brian Mathew, Cllr Laura Mayes, Cllr Dr Mark McClelland, Cllr Ian McLennan, Cllr Dominic Muns, Cllr Dr Nick Murry, Cllr Nabil Najjar, Cllr Kelvin Nash, Cllr Christopher Newbury, Cllr Ashley O'Neill, Cllr Jack Oatley, Cllr Paul Oatway QPM, Cllr Andrew Oliver, Cllr Stewart Palmen, Cllr Bill Parks, Cllr Sam Pearce-Kearney, Cllr Tony Pickernell, Cllr Horace Prickett, Cllr Nic Puntis, Cllr Tamara Reay, Cllr Ricky Rogers, Cllr Tom Rounds, Cllr Paul Sample JP, Cllr Mike Sankey, Cllr Jonathon Seed, Cllr James Sheppard, Cllr Martin Smith, Cllr Caroline Thomas, Cllr Ian Thorn, Cllr Elizabeth Threlfall, Cllr Jo Trigg, Cllr Tim Trimble, Cllr Mark Verbinnen, Cllr David Vigar, Cllr Iain Wallis, Cllr Stuart Wheeler, Cllr Philip Whitehead, Cllr Suzanne Wickham, Cllr Christopher Williams, Cllr Graham Wright and Cllr Robert Yuill	81
Against	None	0
Abstain	Cllr George Jeans	1

Minute 35 – Proposed Changes to the Constitution

Vote	Councillors	Count
For	<p>Cllr Phil Alford, Cllr Liz Alstrom, Cllr Helen Belcher OBE, Cllr Chuck Berry, Cllr Ian Blair-Pilling, Cllr Nick Botterill, Cllr Richard Britton, Cllr Allison Bucknell, Cllr Richard Budden, Cllr Clare Cape, Cllr Daniel Cave, Cllr Mary Champion, Cllr Sam Charleston, Cllr Richard Clewer, Cllr Zoë Clewer, Cllr Mark Connolly, Cllr Kevin Daley, Cllr Brian Dalton, Cllr Jane Davies, Cllr Andrew Davis, Cllr Matthew Dean, Cllr Dr Monica Devendran, Cllr Nick Dye, Cllr Adrian Foster, Cllr Gavin Grant, Cllr Howard Greenman, Cllr Ross Henning, Cllr Sven Hocking, Cllr Nick Holder, Cllr Ruth Hopkinson, Cllr Tony Jackson, Cllr Simon Jacobs, Cllr George Jeans, Cllr Carole King, Cllr Gordon King, Cllr Jerry Kunkler, Cllr Jacqui Lay, Cllr Robert MacNaughton, Cllr Dr Brian Mathew, Cllr Laura Mayes, Cllr Dr Mark McClelland, Cllr Ian McLennan, Cllr Dominic Muns, Cllr Dr Nick Murry, Cllr Nabil Najjar, Cllr Kelvin Nash, Cllr Christopher Newbury, Cllr Ashley O'Neill, Cllr Jack Oatley, Cllr Paul Oatway QPM, Cllr Andrew Oliver, Cllr Stewart Palmen, Cllr Bill Parks, Cllr Sam Pearce-Kearney, Cllr Tony Pickernell, Cllr Horace Prickett, Cllr Nic Puntis, Cllr Tamara Reay, Cllr Ricky Rogers, Cllr Tom Rounds, Cllr Paul Sample JP, Cllr Mike Sankey, Cllr Jonathon Seed, Cllr James Sheppard, Cllr Martin Smith, Cllr Ian Thorn, Cllr Elizabeth Threlfall, Cllr Jo Trigg, Cllr Tim Trimble, Cllr Mark Verbinnen, Cllr David Vigar, Cllr Iain Wallis, Cllr Stuart Wheeler, Cllr Philip Whitehead, Cllr Suzanne Wickham, Cllr Christopher Williams, Cllr Graham Wright and Cllr Robert Yuill</p>	78
Against	None	0
Abstain	None	0