

## **DORSET COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 15 OCTOBER 2020**

**Present:** Cllrs Tony Alford, Jon Andrews, Mike Barron, Richard Biggs, Cherry Brooks, Dave Bolwell, Alex Brenton, Piers Brown, Graham Carr-Jones, Simon Christopher, Kelvin Clayton, Robin Cook, Janet Dover, Jean Dunseith, Matthew Hall, Paul Harrison, Sherry Jespersen, Carole Jones, Stella Jones, Andrew Kerby, Rebecca Knox, Nocturin Lacey-Clarke, Howard Legg, Robin Legg, Jon Orrell, Andrew Parry, Mary Penfold, Bill Pipe, Byron Quayle, Molly Rennie, Maria Roe, Jane Somper, Clare Sutton, David Taylor, David Tooke, Daryl Turner, Kate Wheller, Sarah Williams, John Worth, Jill Haynes, Mike Dyer, Mike Parkes (Vice-Chairman), Ryan Hope, Rob Hughes, Tony Ferrari, Beryl Ezzard, Andrew Starr, Derek Beer, David Walsh, Cathy Lugg, David Gray, Toni Coombs, Gill Taylor, Barry Goringe, Pete Barrow, Brian Heatley, Ryan Holloway, Pauline Batstone, Tim Cook, Nick Ireland, Andy Canning, Paul Kimber, Laura Miller, David Morgan, Louie O'Leary, Ray Bryan, Shane Bartlett, Val Potheary (Chairman), Belinda Ridout, Julie Robinson, Spencer Flower, David Shortell, Susan Cocking, Gary Suttle, Roland Tarr, Simon Gibson, Bill Trite, Les Fry, Peter Wharf and Rod Adkins

**Apologies:** Cllrs Emma Parker and Mark Roberts

**Officers present (for all or part of the meeting):**

Susan Dallison (Democratic Services Manager), Matt Prosser (Chief Executive), Hayley Caves (Member Development and Support Officer), Kate Critchel (Senior Democratic Services Officer), Jacqui Andrews (Service Manager for Democratic and Electoral Services), Vivienne Broadhurst (Interim Executive Director - People Adults), Grace Evans (Head of Legal Services and Deputy Monitoring Officer), Andy Frost (Community Safety and Drug Action Manager) and Theresa Leavy (Executive Director of People - Children)

**19. Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 3 September 2020 were confirmed and would be signed by the Chairman at a date in the future.

**20. Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests were made at the meeting.

**21. Chairman's Announcements**

The Chairman reported on the death of Hon Alderman Andy Hutchings, who had served on the former Weymouth & Portland Borough Council. She paid tribute to him and his service to Dorset.

A minutes silence was held as a mark of respect.

**22. Public Participation - Questions and Statements**

Public questions, statements and the responses from the Leader of the Council and appropriate Portfolio Holders are set out in Appendix 1 attached to these minutes.

**23. Public participation - petitions and deputations**

There were no petitions or deputations.

**24. Announcements and Reports from the Leader of Council and Cabinet Members**

The Leader of the Council reported on a number of important matters which shaped council policy and direction of travel for the delivery of vital front-line services. He referred to the continuing budget pressures largely caused by the impact of COVID -19 and the need for further transformation following the creation of Dorset Council.

The Leader of the Council also updated members on a number of matters and reported:-

- that Cabinet had approved the draft Action Plan covering the period leading up to the council being carbon neutral by 2040.
- on the challenges and service pressures the council faced in preparation of the 2021-2022 budget.
- that the team at Public Health continued to monitor the situation following the increase in COVID case number in the area and stressed the importance to be vigilant and advised that the situation continued to be monitored locally
- on the work of the COVID Recovery and Reset and the Dorset Local Plan EAP's.

Following the last meeting of council, the Portfolio Holder for Customer and Community Services advised that she would investigate issues around missed domestic waste collection in and around the Wareham area and report back to this meeting. She reported that following a recruitment process, appointments had been made and new staff would be starting shortly. In addition following problems with vehicles having mechanical breakdowns, a number of replacement vehicles had now been ordered. She was now satisfied that appropriate steps had been taken to resolve the issues raised about the service in the Wareham area.

However so that members could better understand local issues and meet with depot supervisors, the Portfolio Holder was setting up a number of virtual meetings. She urged members to attend these sessions.

**25. Questions from Councillors**

Questions put by councillors to the Leader and relevant Portfolio Holders are attached to these minutes at Appendix 2, together with the responses.

Responding to a supplementary question from Cllr Ireland, the Portfolio Holder for Planning confirmed that the council must deliver a 5 year land supply to meet the needs of the community. However, it was important to provide the right type of land for housing within the right area. Work to meet this need continued.

**26. Community Safety Plan 2020-2023**

The Portfolio Holder for Housing & Community Safety set out the recommendation from Cabinet. He reported that the Community Safety Partnership was required to produce a three year Community Safety Plan that was revised annually. The Portfolio Holder confirmed that Dorset Council was under a legal duty to work with the responsible authorities to identify and tackle community safety issues in its area and recommended the Plan for adoption.

In response to questions, the Portfolio Holder agreed to look at including method to measure progress including targets and timescales within the body any future Plan document.

It was proposed by Cllr G Carr-Jones seconded by Cllr B Pipe

Decision

That the Community Plan for 2020-23 be adopted.

**27. Approval of Youth Justice Plan 2020-21**

In proposing the Annual Youth Justice Plan for approval, the Portfolio Holder for Children, Education, Skills and Early Help advised that the plan had been considered and supported by both People & Health Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet.

The recommendation was seconded by Cllr J Somper

Decision

That the Youth Justice Plan for 2020-21 be approved.

**28. Children and Young People and Families' Plan 2020 - 2023**

Prior to considering the report, a short film was played in which children and young people gave their views on what they'd like to see in Dorset to make it a great place to live. This was used to inform the new Children, Young People and Families Plan.

The Portfolio Holder for Corporate Development and Change, who Chaired the panel for Strategic Alliance for Children and Young People, introduced the work of the panel and proposed the adoption of the Plan.

The Portfolio Holder for Children, Education, Skills and Early Help seconded the adoption of the Plan which had identified priorities through needs analysis, an initial workshop and a series of think tanks. He asked the council to support its adoption.

Members welcomed and spoke in support the plan before them and the focus on improving outcomes for all children and young people through the six priorities detailed within the plan. The Portfolio Holder confirmed that in respect of the needs of care leavers, the council wanted to ensure that it could continue support their transition into adulthood.

Decision

That the Children, Young People and Families Plan 2020-23 be adopted.

**29. Climate Change Notice of Motion**

The Portfolio Holder for Highways, Travel and Environment reported that he had intended to present a report on the Climate Change Notice of Motion. However, upon reflection, he considered the timings to be inappropriate and the item should be deferred.

Responding to the Motion at this time would result in a debate and potentially a decision being made around the climate strategy itself. This would not be appropriate at this time, as the public consultation had not yet started on the draft Strategy and Action Plan. Feedback from the consultation would help finalise the plan. Therefore it was not appropriate to discuss the report at this time.

**30. Urgent items**

There were no urgent items to report.

**31. Exempt Business**

There were no exempt reports.

**Appendix 1 - Public Participation Q&A's**  
**Appendix 2 Councillor Q&A's**

**Duration of meeting:** 6.30 - 8.55 pm

**Chairman**

.....