

TUNBRIDGE WELLS BOROUGH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the extraordinary meeting of the Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, duly convened and held at the Council Chamber, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN1 1RS, at 6.30 pm on Monday 26 March 2018

PRESENT:

The Mayor Councillor Mrs Julia Soyke (Chairman)
Councillors Backhouse, Barrington-King, Dr Basu, Bland, Bulman, Chapelard, Mrs Cobbold, Dawlings, Elliott, Dr Hall, Hannam, Hastie, Heasman, Hill, Hills, Holden, Huggett, Jukes, Lidstone, Mackonochie, March, McDermott, Munn, Neve, Noakes, Nuttall, Oakford, Ms Palmer, Podbury, Rankin, Reilly, Scholes, Simmons, Sloan, Stanyer, Mrs Thomas, Uddin, Weatherly, Williams and Woodward

IN ATTENDANCE: William Benson (Chief Executive), Patricia Narebor (Head of Legal Partnership) and Mathew Jefferys (Democratic Services and Elections Manager)

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

FC68/17 Apologies were received from Councillors Hamilton, Horwood, Lewis-Grey, Moore and Stewart.

Councillors Gray and Jamil were not present.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

FC69/17 No declarations of pecuniary or significant other interest were made.

HAWKHURST NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

FC70/17 Councillor McDermott, introduced the report and moved the recommendations. He drew members attention to page 7, the declaration of result of poll, and said that this indicated that Hawkhurst were in favour of this.

Councillor Jukes seconded the motion and reserved right to speak.

Councillor Palmer said that Hawkhurst Parish Council worked tirelessly with the residents of Hawkhurst on this plan and that it had been supported overwhelmingly by the people of Hawkhurst. She hoped that all members of all parties would also support it.

Councillor Holden echoed the sentiments of Councillor Palmer.

Councillor Dr Hall asked for an explanation of the word “make” and felt that by having it in inverted commas it called into question the truthfulness of it, she suggested incorporated would be a better word to use. Councillor Dr Hall also congratulated Hawkhurst Parish Council and said that there were to be congratulated not only on their politicking but also on winning the race for the first Neighbourhood Development Plan.

Councillor Barrington-King added his thanks to Hawkhurst for attending Pembury Parish Council to tell them how they achieved that particular result.

Councillor Bland also added his congratulations and said that it was not the first time that Hawkhurst had led the way. He added that of particular note was not the majority but the very respectable turnout.

Councillor Williams said that the significant thing of note was that there had been a referendum at all.

RESOLVED –

1. That the outcome of the Hawkhurst Neighbourhood Development Plan referendum be noted; and
2. That the Council “make” the Hawkhurst Neighbourhood Development Plan part of the local Development Plan for the Borough.

PLANNING LEGAL AGREEMENTS ON BEHALF OF TUNBRIDGE WELLS BOROUGH COUNCIL

FC71/17 Councillor McDermott introduced the report and moved the recommendations. He commented that the report covered cases where the Council was landowner, developer or applicant in cases where planning permission was sought and the local planning authority where Section 106 monies was concerned. He added that this was a technical report to ensure everything was open to the public.

Councillor Jukes seconded the motion and reserved his right to speak.

There was no further discussion.

RESOLVED – That the Head of Planning, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Transportation and the Monitoring Officer be delegated authority to explore options and (where appropriate) to agree arrangements with third party Local Planning Authorities to manage, administer and enforce unilateral undertakings or Section 106 agreements, where it is considered advisable.

URGENT BUSINESS

FC72/17 The Mayor confirmed there was no urgent business to consider within the provisions of Council Meetings Procedure 2.1.12.

COMMON SEAL OF THE COUNCIL

FC73/17 **RESOLVED –** That the Common Seal of the Council be affixed to any contract, minute, notice or other document arising out of the minutes or pursuant to any delegation, authority or power conferred by the Council.

NOTE: The meeting concluded at 6.45 pm.