

MINUTES OF COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

At a Meeting of the Council for the Borough of Slough held at the Flexi Hall, The Centre, Farnham Road, Slough, SL1 4UT on Tuesday, 28th January, 2014 at 7.00 pm

Present:- The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor Bains), in the chair; Councillors Abe, Anderson, Bains, Bal, Brooker, Carter, Chaudhry, Chohan, Dar, Davis, A S Dhaliwal, Dhillon, Hussain, Malik, M S Mann, P K Mann, Matloob, Minhas, Munawar, Nazir, O'Connor, Parmar, Plenty, Plimmer, Rasib, Sandhu, Shah, Sharif, Smith, Sohal, Strutton, Swindlehurst, Walsh and Wright

Apologies for Absence:- Councillors Aujla, Coad, S K Dhaliwal, Grewal, Mittal and Small

42. Declarations of Interest

Councillors Bal, Chaudhry and Munawar declared a personal interest in that members of their family were employed by Slough Borough Council.

Councillor MS Mann declared a personal interest in that a member of his family was employed by the NHS.

Councillor Smith declared a personal interest in respect of agenda item 5 as he was a member of Colnbrook with Poyle Parish Council.

Councillors Bal, Dar and Strutton declared a personal interest in respect of agenda item 5, in that they held a Private Hire Drivers Licence.

43. To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Council held on 26th November, 2013

The minutes of the proceedings of the Council at its meeting held on 26th November, 2013 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

44. To receive the Mayor's Communications

The Mayor thanked all Members who attended and lent their support to the fundraising event in Slough High Street for the Philippines Typhoon Appeal which was greatly appreciated. The money collected on the Saturday together with the donation from the Labour Group amounted to £588.34 and this was sent to the Disasters Emergency Committee who were co-ordinating the national appeal.

The Mayor extended his best wishes to everyone for a happy, healthy and prosperous 2014.

45. Questions from Electors under Procedure Rule 9

The Mayor advised that two questions had been received from Electors, a copy of which had been tabled. An Elector who was in attendance received a response to his question and asked a supplementary question. A copy of the questions and replies would be forwarded to the questioner, all members and to the press.

46. Recommendation of the Licensing Committee from its meeting held on 16th January, 2014

It was moved by Councillor Davis,
Seconded by Councillor Sohal.

“That the Council is requested to resolve that the revised Statement of Licensing Policy for the period 2014 -2019 be approved”.

The recommendation was put and carried unanimously.

Resolved – That the revised Statement of Licensing Policy for the period 2014 - 2019 be approved.

47. Appointment of Independent School Admission Appeal Panel Members

It was moved by Councillor Anderson,
Seconded by Councillor Swindlehurst,

- (a) “That Mrs Jill Lloyd be appointed to the Independent Appeals and Exclusions Panel as an Education Member.
- (b) That Mrs Louise Parminter be appointed to the Independent Appeals and Exclusions Panel as a Lay Member”.

The recommendations were put and carried unanimously.

Resolved-

- (a) That Mrs Jill Lloyd be appointed to the Independent Appeals and Exclusions Panel as an Education Member.
- (b) That Mrs Louise Parminter be appointed to the Independent Appeals and Exclusions Panel as a Lay Member.

48. Review of Committee Places and Appointments

It was moved by Councillor Anderson,
Seconded by Councillor Swindlehurst,

- (a) “That the political balance of the Council as set out in Paragraph 5.3 of the report be noted.

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- (b) That the revised allocation of seats on Committees be agreed as set out in Appendix 2 of the report.
- (c) That appointments be made to the revised allocation of seats in accordance with Group wishes and

That Councillor Mittal be appointed to the Licensing Committee as an Independent Councillor.

That Councillor O'Connor be appointed to the Planning Committee in place of Councillor Mittal.
- (d) That Councillor Shah be appointed vice chair of the Licensing Committee for the remainder of the 2013/14 municipal year.
- (e) That Councillor Nazir be appointed to the Member Panel on the Constitution in place of Councillor Mittal.
- (f) That the membership of the Health Scrutiny Panel be reviewed by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 6th February 2014".

The recommendations were put and carried by 28 votes to 1 vote with 5 abstentions.

Resolved-

- (a) That the political balance of the Council as set out in Paragraph 5.3 of the report be noted.
- (b) That the revised allocation of seats on Committees be agreed as set out in Appendix 2 of the report.
- (c) That appointments be made to the revised allocation of seats in accordance with Group wishes and

That Councillor Mittal be appointed to the Licensing Committee as an Independent Councillor.

That Councillor O'Connor be appointed to the Planning Committee in place of Councillor Mittal.
- (d) That Councillor Shah be appointed vice chair of the Licensing Committee for the remainder of the 2013/14 municipal year.
- (e) That Councillor Nazir be appointed to the Member Panel on the Constitution in place of Councillor Mittal.
- (f) That the membership of the Health Scrutiny Panel be reviewed by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 6th February 2014.

49. Community Governance Review - Slough Borough Council (Reorganisation of Community Governance Order No 1) Order 2014

It was moved by Councillor Swindlehurst,
Seconded by Councillor Anderson,

“That the report be noted and:

- (a) that the Slough Borough Council (Reorganisation of Community Governance No 1) Order 2014 as attached at Appendix 1 to the report be approved.
- (b) that the the Head of Democratic Services following consultation, as appropriate, with the Commissioner for Neighbourhoods and Renewal be authorised to take all necessary steps to give effect to the Reorganisation Order including the publication and notification requirements as required by law”.

Councillor Strutton suggested that all Parish Councillors should be invited to training sessions and Councillor Swindlehurst indicated that in future all Parish Councillors would be invited to appropriate training events.

The recommendations were put and carried unanimously.

Resolved-

- (a) that the Slough Borough Council (Reorganisation of Community Governance No 1) Order 2014 as attached at Appendix 1 to the report be approved.
- (b) that the Head of Democratic Services following consultation, as appropriate, with the Commissioner for Neighbourhoods and Renewal be authorised to take all necessary steps to give effect to the Reorganisation Order including the publication and notification requirements as required by law.

50. To consider Motions submitted under procedure Rule 14

It was moved by Councillor Smith,
Seconded by Councillor Wright,

“This Council resolves:

To address the unacceptable shortfall in the ratio of patients to doctors in Slough and produce a plan, with partners in the NHS, that will bring the Slough Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) area up from its present ratio of 21.2 full-time-equivalent (FTE) doctors per 100,000 patients, with the objective of achieving over the next 5 years a ratio the same as that of Windsor, Maidenhead and Ascot (which is 35.1 FTE doctors per 100,000 patients), thereby reducing health inequalities and improving the health and well being of Slough residents, in accordance with the Health and Social Care Act 2012”.

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It was moved as an amendment by Councillor Anderson,
Seconded by Councillor Walsh,

That the motion be amended as follows:-

“This Council resolves:

To address the unacceptable shortfall in the ratio of patients to doctors in Slough to recognise the shortage in access to doctors in some wards and produce a plan, with partners in the NHS, that will bring the Slough Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) area up from its present ratio of 21.2 full-time equivalent (FTE) doctors per 100,000 patients, with the objective of achieving over the next 5 years a ratio the same as that of Windsor, Maidenhead and Ascot (which is 35.1 FTE doctors per 100,000 patients); The Council endorses the commitment of NHS England to review the number of GPs across the region, and supports the Slough CCG's commissioning intentions that specifically include access as a top priority. This Council also supports the CCG's investment in extending access across GPs in Slough. Whilst the per capita measurement of GP numbers is of concern, the national target to be achieved, as in the government's National Outcome Framework for Health, is access to 3.4 appointments per patient per year, by which measure Slough GPs are achieving a local figure of 3.8 - exceeding this national target. The Council and partners will continue to work collaboratively with the CCG and NHS England to thereby reducing health inequalities and improving the health and well being of Slough residents, in accordance with the Health and Social Care Act 2012”.

The amendment was put and rejected by 28 votes to 5 votes with 1 abstention.

The substantive motion was put and carried by 28 votes to 3 votes with 3 abstentions.

Resolved- This Council resolves to:-

Recognise the shortage in access to doctors in some wards. The Council endorses the commitment of NHS England to review the number of GPs across the region, and supports the Slough CCG's commissioning intentions that specifically include access as a top priority. This Council also supports the CCG's investment in extending access across GPs in Slough. Whilst the per capita measurement of GP numbers is of concern, the national target to be achieved, as in the government's National Outcome Framework for Health, is access to 3.4 appointments per patient per year, by which measure Slough GPs are achieving a local figure of 3.8 - exceeding this national target. The Council and partners will continue to work collaboratively with the CCG and NHS England to reduce health inequalities and improve the health and well being of Slough residents, in accordance with the Health and Social Care Act 2012.

51. To note Questions from Members under Procedure Rule 10 (as tabled)

No Member Questions and Responses received during the relevant period were tabled.

(Note: The Meeting opened at 7.00 pm and closed at 7.59 pm)