

## 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, 21st July, 2015 at 7.00 pm

**Present:-** The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor Rasib), in the chair; Councillors Abe, Ajaib, Anderson, Bains, Bal, Brooker (until 9.19pm), Carter, Chaudhry, Cheema, Chohan, Coad, Dar, Davis, Amarpreet Dhaliwal, Dhillon (from 7.07pm), M Holledge, N Holledge, Hussain, Malik, Mann, Mansoor, Matloob (until 9.29pm), Morris, Munawar, Nazir, Pantelic, Parmar, Plenty, Rana, Sandhu, Shah (from 7.27pm), Sharif, Smith (from 7.10pm), Strutton, Swindlehurst, Wright and Zarait

**Apologies for Absence:-** Councillors Chahal, Arvind Dhaliwal, Sohal and Usmani

### 11. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Plenty declared a Non Pecuniary Interest as he supported an organisation that would benefit from the recommendations proposed in the Capital Programme.

Councillor Bal declared that family members worked for Slough Borough Council and arvato.

### 12. To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Council held on 19th May 2015

**Resolved** - That the minutes of the proceedings of the Council meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2015 be approved as a correct record.

### 13. To receive the Mayor's Communications.

The Mayor thanked those Members who attended the National Minute's Silence in the Town Square on the 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2015 to remember victims of the Tunisian beach attack.

The date for the Mayor's Civic Service was still to be agreed and details would be circulated as soon as arrangements were finalised.

It was noted that the Deputy Mayor had recently undergone surgery on his knee. The Mayor, on behalf of all Members, wished him a speedy recovery and return to Council business at the earliest opportunity.

### 14. Questions from Electors under Procedure Rule 9.

The Mayor advised that a question had been received from a resident, a copy of which had been tabled. The questioner was in attendance and, following a

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response to his question, asked a supplementary question A copy of the question and reply would be forwarded to the questioner.

### 15. Recommendations of the Cabinet from its meeting held on 13th July 2015

It was moved by Councillor Hussain,  
Seconded by Councillor Munawar,

“That the Statutory Service Plans in relation to the Food Safety, Health & Safety and Trading Standards work undertaken by the Council be endorsed.”

The recommendation was put to the vote and carried unanimously.

**Resolved** - That the Statutory Service Plans in relation to the Food Safety, Health & Safety and Trading Standards work undertaken by the Council be endorsed.

It was moved by Councillor Anderson,  
Seconded by Councillor Swindlehurst

“That in accordance with Procedure Rule 27.1, Rule 16.5 on Rules of Debate be suspended to allow Councillor Carter to make a short presentation on the Leisure Strategy.”

The recommendation was put to the vote and carried unanimously.

**Resolved** - That in accordance with Procedure Rule 27.1, Rule 16.5 on Rules of Debate be suspended to allow Councillor Carter to make a short presentation on the Leisure Strategy.

Following a presentation on the Leisure Strategy by Councillor Carter,

It was moved by Councillor Anderson,  
Seconded by Councillor Swindlehurst

“That the necessary adjustments to the Capital Programme be made to support to the delivery of:

- (i) The development of the Arbour Park Community Sport Facility, as detailed in Appendix B1 of the report.
- (ii) The principle of investment of Basic Need capital grant in East Berkshire College to create a new Higher Education facility in Slough, subject to a cap of £2m, as detailed in Appendix B2 of the report.
- (iii) The potential purchase of the Cross Keys Public House, Chalvey, subject to the cost not exceeding £1m, as detailed in Appendix B3 of the report.”

The recommendations were put to the vote and carried by 29 votes to 3 votes with 5 abstentions.

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**Resolved** - That the necessary adjustments to the Capital Programme be made to support to the delivery of:

- (i) The development of the Arbour Park Community Sport Facility, as detailed in Appendix B1 to the report.
- (ii) The principle of investment of Basic Need capital grant in East Berkshire College to create a new Higher Education facility in Slough, subject to a cap of £2m, as detailed in Appendix B2 to the report.
- (iii) The potential purchase of the Cross Keys Public House, Chalvey, subject to the cost not exceeding £1m, as detailed in Appendix B3 to the report.

### 16. High Speed 2 / Heathrow Express Depot

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

“That in accordance with the requirements of section 239 of the Local Government 1972:

- (a) That it is expedient for Slough Borough Council to oppose the High Speed Rail (London-West Midlands) Bill (“the Bill”);
- (b) That subject to the above, the Head of Legal, in consultation with the Strategic Director for Resources Housing and Regeneration, taking all such steps as may be necessary or expedient to carry the above Resolution into effect, including all those steps required for the Council to submit any petition and thereafter to maintain and, if considered appropriate, withdraw its opposition in respect of the Bill; and
- (c) That the corporate seal of the Council being affixed to any documents required to be sealed in connection with the submission of its petition and the subsequent opposition to the Bill.”

The recommendations were put to the vote and carried by 32 votes with 6 abstentions.

**Resolved** - That in accordance with the requirements of section 239 of the Local Government 1972:

- (a) That it is expedient for Slough Borough Council to oppose the High Speed Rail (London-West Midlands) Bill (“the Bill”);
- (b) That subject to the above, the Head of Legal, in consultation with the Strategic Director for Resources Housing and Regeneration, taking all such steps as may be necessary or expedient to carry the above Resolution into effect, including all those steps required for the Council to submit any petition and thereafter to maintain and, if

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considered appropriate, withdraw its opposition in respect of the Bill; and

- (c) That the corporate seal of the Council being affixed to any documents required to be sealed in connection with the submission of its petition and the subsequent opposition to the Bill.

### **17. Children and Young People's Plan**

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

“That the Children and Young People’s Plan July 2015 – December 2016 be endorsed.”

The recommendation was put to the vote and carried unanimously.

**Resolved** - That the Children and Young People’s Plan July 2015 – December 2016 be endorsed.

### **18. Appointment of Electoral Registration Officer, Acting Returning Officer and Returning Officer**

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

- (a) “That Catherine Meek, Head of Democratic Services be appointed to the roles of Electoral Registration Officer, Acting Returning Officer and Returning Officer for Parliamentary and Local Elections respectively with immediate effect.
- (b) That the Scheme of Delegation be amended to reflect the above changes.”

The recommendations were put to the vote and carried unanimously.

**Resolved** -

- (a) That Catherine Meek, Head of Democratic Services be appointed to the roles of Electoral Registration Officer, Acting Returning Officer and Returning Officer for Parliamentary and Local Elections respectively with immediate effect.
- (b) That the Scheme of Delegation be amended to reflect the above changes.

### **19. Appointments to Committees**

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

“That Mr Robert Simpson be appointed to fill a vacancy on the SACRE as a Committee 2, Church of England representative until May 2018”.

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The recommendation was put to the vote and carried unanimously.

**Resolved** - That Mr Robert Simpson be appointed to fill a vacancy on the SACRE as a Committee 2, Church of England representative until May 2018.

### 20. To consider Motions submitted under procedure Rule 14.

#### Motion (A) – Devolution and Local Responsibility

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

“This Council resolves that:

Slough plays a vital role in the economic prosperity of the region, in terms of jobs, housing and transport, which our neighbouring authorities benefit from. We therefore call upon the Council to be at the heart of the devolution debate with our regional neighbours and ensure the increased pressures that being a regional hub brings, such as on local housing supply and health provision, are shared by all those who benefit in the success Slough delivers for the region and the nation.”

The motion was put to the vote and carried by 32 votes for with 6 abstentions.

**Resolved** - That Slough plays a vital role in the economic prosperity of the region, in terms of jobs, housing and transport, which our neighbouring authorities benefit from. We therefore call upon the Council to be at the heart of the devolution debate with our regional neighbours and ensure the increased pressures that being a regional hub brings, such as on local housing supply and health provision, are shared by all those who benefit in the success Slough delivers for the region and the nation

#### Motion (B) Children’s Services Organisation

It was moved by Councillor Bains,  
Seconded by Councillor Abe,

“This Council resolves that:

This administration will use its influence, as a non-executive Director and Member of the limited company (Children's Services Organisation), to incorporate the following child sexual exploitation (CSE) recommendations as outlined in the *Report of Inspection of Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council February 2015* when agreeing the Articles of the company:

1. More strategic approach to protecting looked after children who are sexually abused.
2. Decide and communicate remit and responsibilities of joint CSE team.
3. More direct and frequent engagement by the council with people from minority ethnic communities on CSE.

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4. Issue of race should be tackled as an absolute priority if it is a significant factor in criminal activity of organised sexual abuse in the borough.

It was moved by Councillor Mann, as an amendment,  
Seconded by Councillor Hussain,

“That this Council resolves to:

Continue to use its and its partners influence, and going forward the member appointed by this Council as a non executive director or as a member of Slough Children’s Services Trust Limited, when agreeing a more strategic approach to protecting children who have been and are at risk of being sexually exploited.”

The amendment was put to the vote and carried by 29 votes for, 7 against and 2 abstentions.

The substantive motion was put to the vote and carried by 29 votes for, 5 against and 2 abstentions.

**Resolved** - That this Council continue to use its and its partners influence, and going forward the member appointed by this Council as a non executive director or as a member of Slough Children’s Services Trust Limited, when agreeing a more strategic approach to protecting children who have been and are at risk of being sexually exploited.

### C) Governance Arrangements

It was moved by Councillor Coad,  
Seconded by Councillor Strutton,

“This Council resolves to:

Carry out a review of how well the current cabinet and commissioner system has worked and to look at governance arrangements using a committee model that meets contemporary local government challenges whilst retaining full scrutiny functions.”

The motion was put to the vote and rejected by 33 votes against to 2 votes for and one abstention.

**Resolved** - That the Motion be rejected.

## 21. **To note Questions from Members under Procedure Rule 10 (as tabled).**

A copy of the question from Councillor Coad and the reply received was tabled.

Chair

(Note: The Meeting opened at 7.00 pm and closed at 9.36 pm)