

# Bristol City Council

## Minutes of the Full Council

14 November 2017 at 6.00 pm



### Present:

Lesley Alexander, Lord Mayor; Marvin Rees, Mayor of Bristol

**Councillors:** Peter Abraham, Donald Alexander, Nicola Beech, Nicola Bowden-Jones, Harriet Bradley, Mark Bradshaw, Mark Brain, Charlie Bolton, Fabian Breckels, Tom Brook, Clare Champion-Smith, Tony Carey, Craig Cheney, Barry Clark, Jos Clark, Stephen Clarke, Harriet Clough, Eleanor Combley, Asher Craig, Chris Davies, Mike Davies, Carla Denyer, Kye Dudd, Richard Eddy, Jude English, Martin Fodor, Helen Godwin, Paul Goggin, Geoff Gollop, John Goulandris, Margaret Hickman, Claire Hiscott, Helen Holland, Gary Hopkins, Chris Jackson, Hibaq Jama, Carole Johnson, Steve Jones, Anna Keen, Tim Kent, Sultan Khan, Gill Kirk, Cleo Lake, Mike Langley, Jeff Lovell, Brenda Massey, Olly Mead, Matt Melias, Graham Morris, Anthony Negus, Paula O'Rourke, Steve Pearce, Celia Phipps, Ruth Pickersgill, Kevin Quartley, Liz Radford, Jo Sergeant, Afzal Shah, Paul Smith, Clive Stevens, Jerome Thomas, Mhairi Threlfall, Estella Tincknell, Jon Wellington, Mark Weston, Lucy Whittle, Chris Windows and Mark Wright

**Aldermen/women:** M Bailey, A Massey, J McLaren, C Smith, J Smith, S Townsend, R Walker

### 1. Welcome and safety information

The Lord Mayor welcomed all attendees to the meeting, and made a safety announcement in relation to the fire/emergency evacuation procedure.

### 2. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Hance.

### 3. Minutes of previous meeting - 18 July 2017

On the motion of the Lord Mayor, seconded by Councillor Denyer, it was



**RESOLVED:**

**That the minutes of the meeting of the Full Council meeting held on 18 July 2017 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Lord Mayor.**

**4. Declarations of interest**

The Lord Mayor advised the Full Council that it was noted that a number of councillors had non-pecuniary interests in local parks and libraries groups in their wards but the legal advice was that this would not preclude them from debating these items under the relevant agenda items at this meeting.

**5. Lord Mayor's business**

**Former Councillor Tom Ahmed**

The Lord Mayor referred to the recent death of former Councillor Tom Ahmed.

Councillor Shah then addressed the Full Council, in remembrance of former Councillor Ahmed.

The Full Council then stood and observed a minute's silence in remembrance of former Councillor Ahmed.

**6. Public forum (public petitions, statements and questions)**

**Public petitions:**

The Full Council received and noted the following petitions:

Petition PP 01 – "Save Whitchurch airport, Hengrove"

Petition organiser – Daniel Fear

Petition PP 02 – "Keep library provisions in Sea Mills"

Petition organiser – Stephen Finch

**Public statements:**

The Full Council received and noted the following statements (which were also referred to the Mayor for his consideration/information):

PS 01 - David Redgewell – Transport issues

PS 02 - Terrence Wookey – Parks (Blaise Castle/Westbury-on-Trym)

PS 03 - Frances Beech – Parks / green spaces

PS 04 - Paula Davis – Parks (Victoria Park)

PS 05 - Jilly Edwards – Parks (Bedminster Green)

PS 06 - Mike Bond – Parks (Barton Fields Trust)



- PS 07 - Mike Ingham – Parks / green spaces
- PS 08 - A Watson – Parks
- PS 09 - Derek Browne – Parks (Eastwood Farm)
- PS 10 - Stephen Finch – Sea Mills library
- PS 11 - Sue Perrin – Parks
- PS 12 - Lydia Lawson – Parks
- PS 13 - Nicollette Vincent – Parks
- PS 14 - Moira McMurrin – Parks
- PS 15 - Martha Carroll – Parks
- PS 16 - Jan Hamilton – Parks
- PS 17 - Isabel Rossi – Parks
- PS 18 - Prof. John Briggs & Mrs Joyce Briggs – Parks
- PS 19 - Robert Maclean – Parks
- PS 20 - Sue Black – Parks
- PS 21 - Josie Miller-Webb – Parks
- PS 22 - Jennifer Gilmore – Parks
- PS 23 - Becky Cridford – Parks
- PS 24 - Amy Whitfield – Parks
- PS 25 - Helen Carlyle – Parks
- PS 26 - Sally Reay – Parks
- PS 27 - Laura Cramer – Parks
- PS 28 - Nikki Maloney – Parks
- PS 29 - Cath Pullinger – Parks
- PS 30 - Rachel Reveley – Parks (St George's Park)
- PS 31 - Frith Trezevant – Parks
- PS 32 - Maureen Johnson – Saving Whitchurch airport
- PS 33 - Andy McBride-Coogan – Parks (Nightingale Valley / St Anne's woods)
- PS 34 - Barrie Sadler – Parks
- PS 35 - Ken Booth – Parks
- PS 36 - Malindi Myers – Parks / green spaces
- PS 37 - Amy Rose – Parks
- PS 38 - Nicola Hodges – Parks (St Andrews Park)
- PS 39 - Brenda Lalonde – Parks
- PS 40 - Susan Acton-Campbell – Protect our Parks petition (Friends of Troopers Hill)
- PS 41 - Laura Fenton – Parks
- PS 42 - Kate Usher – Parks
- PS 43 - Jan Armstrong – Parks (Horfield common / St Andrews Park)
- PS 44 - Bex Rose – Parks
- PS 45 - Sue Ryall – Parks
- PS 46 - Richard Hall – Stockwood library
- PS 47 - Kate Clements – Bristol parks (Eastville Park)
- PS 48 - Margaret Macey – Stockwood library
- PS 49 - Prof. Alan Preece & Mrs Sheila Preece – Motion 1- Securing the future of Bristol's library service



- PS 50 - Rob Bryher – Parks
- PS 51 - Sarah Murch – Library service
- PS 52 - Paul Wheeler – Pay Policy Statement / Living wage
- PS 53 - Michael Owen – Bristol arena / balloon fiesta
- PS 54 - Alan Aburrow – Protect our parks petition (Badock’s Wood)
- PS 55 - Sue Western – Parks
- PS 56 - Hugh Holden – Parks – Mina Road Park
- PS 57 - Peter and Rosalie Hill – Stockwood library
- PS 58 - Angela Stansbie / David Mckeown - Parks (Brandon Hill)
- PS 59 - Sian Parry – Parks (Badock’s Wood)
- PS 60 - Frances Robertson – Parks (Formal submission of Friends of Badock’s wood)
- PS 61 - Keith Way – Parks (wildlife)
- PS 62 - Friends of Bristol Suburban Railways (Julie Boston) – Let Bristol breathe, let Bristol move
- PS 63 - Paul Skinner – Parks (Victoria Park)
- PS 64 - Neill Talbot, Bristol Friends of the Earth – Parks
- PS 65 - Robbie Gillett – Outdoor digital advertising
- PS 66 - Merche Clark, Clifton Down Community Association – Mitigation of university expansion
- PS 67 - Julie Boston – Libraries
- PS 68 - Kevin Gummatt – Canford Lane crossing
- PS 69 - Marjorie Caw – Libraries
- PS 70 - Caroline Stevenson – Libraries
- PS 71 - Len Wyatt – Parks (Northern slopes)
- PS 72 - Isobel Young – Libraries
- PS 73 - Susan Carter – Parks (Ramblers)
- PS 74 - Derek and Cheryl Hawkins – Parks
- PS 75 - Nicola Hawkes – Canford Lane crossing
- PS 76 - Lloyd Roberts – Redland library
- PS 77 - Paul Bullivant and Martin Weitz – Parking problems in the St Andrews area
- PS 78 - Kay Galpin – Impact of RPZ
- PS 79 - Esther Giles – Budget
- PS 80 - Julie Hart – Parks (Redland May fair)
- PS 81 - Eileen Lepine – Redland library
- PS 82 - Katherine Gale, Jacquie MacDonald, Pat Fitton – Impact of RPZ
- PS 83 - Deborah Doyle - Road Safety on the edge of RPS in North Bristol
- PS 84 - Mark Logan – Parks (Snuff Mills)
- PS 85 - Alison Bromilow – Parks (Redland and Cotham Amenities Society)
- PS 86 - Christina Biggs – Transport / rail
- PS 87 - Ornella Saibene – Budget / public services
- PS 88 - Hilary Long – Westbury-on-Trym and other libraries
- PS 89 - Morwenna Sanders – Parks
- PS 90 - Stuart Phelps – Easton Safer Streets Initiative
- PS 91 - Thomas Pearce – Budget consultation



Within the time available, statements were presented by individuals present at the meeting.

**Public questions:**

The Full Council noted that the following questions had been submitted:

PQ 01 - Road safety - Question from Mike Frost

PQ 02 - Impact of Cribbs Patchway new neighbourhood - Question from Graham Donald

PQ 03 - Parks and green spaces - Question from Len Wyatt

PQ 04 - Cost of neighbourhoods consultation - Question from Lloyd Roberts

PQ 05 - Council finances - Question from Barry Cash

PQ 06 - Metrobus - Question from Barry Cash

PQ 07 - Parking income and RPZ consultation - Question from Edward Bowditch

PQ 08 - Safe crossing in Canford Lane - Question from Nicola Hawkes

PQ 09 - Library service - Question from Roger Gimson

PQ 10 - Library service - Question from Ian Goodenough

PQ 11 - Library service - Question from Lloyd Roberts

Within the time available, the Mayor responded verbally to questions PQ 02, PQ 03, PQ 04 and PQ 05, also responding to supplementary questions where asked.

**7. Petitions notified by councillors**

The Full Council received and noted the following petition:

Petition CP 01 – “Save Bristol’s libraries”

Petition presented by Councillor Tim Kent

Petition organiser – Councillor Tim Kent

**8. Petition debate - "Save Clifton library"**

The Full Council considered a report of the Service Director - Legal and Democratic Services setting out details of a petition entitled “Save Clifton Library.” The petition had reached the 3,500 signature threshold to qualify for a Full Council debate.

Catherine Howie, speaking on behalf of the petition organiser Mike Barton, was invited by the Lord Mayor to present the objectives of the petition.

The Full Council then debated the petition.

Following the debate, it was

**RESOLVED:**



**That the petition be noted and referred to the Mayor / Deputy Mayor for Communities for consideration and response.**

#### **9. Petition debate - "Save Redland library"**

The Full Council considered a report of the Service Director - Legal and Democratic Services setting out details of a petition entitled "Save Redland library." The petition had reached the 3,500 signature threshold to qualify for a Full Council debate.

Merche Clark, the petition organiser, was invited by the Lord Mayor to present the objectives of the petition.

The Full Council then debated the petition.

Following the debate, it was

**RESOLVED:**

**That the petition be noted and referred to the Mayor / Deputy Mayor for Communities for consideration and response.**

#### **10. Petition debate - "Bristol needs libraries"**

The Full Council considered a report of the Service Director - Legal and Democratic Services setting out details of a petition entitled "Bristol needs libraries." The petition had reached the 3,500 signature threshold to qualify for a Full Council debate.

Jill Kempshall, the petition organiser, was invited by the Lord Mayor to present the objectives of the petition.

The Full Council then debated the petition.

Following the debate, it was

**RESOLVED:**

**That the petition be noted and referred to the Mayor / Deputy Mayor for Communities for consideration and response.**

#### **11. Petition debate - "Protect our parks"**

The Full Council considered a report of the Service Director - Legal and Democratic Services setting out details of a petition entitled "Protect our parks." The petition had reached the 3,500 signature threshold to qualify for a Full Council debate.



Rob Acton-Campbell, the petition organiser, was invited by the Lord Mayor to present the objectives of the petition.

The Full Council then debated the petition.

Following the debate, it was

**RESOLVED:**

**That the petition be noted and referred to the Mayor / Deputy Mayor for Communities for consideration and response.**

**ADJOURNMENT** – At this point the Lord Mayor advised that the Full Council meeting would adjourn for a 15 minute refreshment break.

## 12. Motions

### **Motion 1 – Securing the future of Bristol’s library service**

Councillor Negus moved the following motion:

“Council notes the proposals by the Mayor to reduce the amount of libraries in Bristol from 27 to 10 libraries.

Council understands the difficult financial situation that Bristol City Council faces and the need to reduce costs during a time of reducing budgets and increasing demographic demand.

Council welcomes the petition by Love Bristol Libraries, various other library groups and campaigners, and believes there is strong public support for maintaining Bristol’s library provision.

Council notes the report from the Libraries Task and Finish Scrutiny Group, notes that it had input from all political parties and that the recommendations have the support of councillors from Conservative, Green, Labour and Liberal Democrat parties. The report also received the endorsement of OSMB.

Council endorses the central proposal to begin work on creating a mutual model for delivery of a comprehensive library service that will be professionally led, volunteer supported and ensures a network of branch libraries is maintained across the city. These proposals will also guarantee the jobs of professional library staff providing them with a secure future working alongside volunteers.

Council calls on the Mayor to bring forward new proposals based on the long term future of Libraries, an important principle for the ambitions of a Learning City. This new proposal to have a strategic approach



that delivers a professionally led mutual model that embraces volunteers and secures the future of the library network.”

Councillor Clough seconded the motion.

Following debate, upon being put to the vote, the motion was CARRIED (32 members voting in favour, 31 against, with 1 abstention), and it was then

**RESOLVED:**

**Council notes the proposals by the Mayor to reduce the amount of libraries in Bristol from 27 to 10 libraries.**

**Council understands the difficult financial situation that Bristol City Council faces and the need to reduce costs during a time of reducing budgets and increasing demographic demand.**

**Council welcomes the petition by Love Bristol Libraries, various other library groups and campaigners, and believes there is strong public support for maintaining Bristol’s library provision.**

**Council notes the report from the Libraries Task and Finish Scrutiny Group, notes that it had input from all political parties and that the recommendations have the support of councillors from Conservative, Green, Labour and Liberal Democrat parties. The report also received the endorsement of OSMB.**

**Council endorses the central proposal to begin work on creating a mutual model for delivery of a comprehensive library service that will be professionally led, volunteer supported and ensures a network of branch libraries is maintained across the city. These proposals will also guarantee the jobs of professional library staff providing them with a secure future working alongside volunteers.**

**Council calls on the Mayor to bring forward new proposals based on the long term future of Libraries, an important principle for the ambitions of a Learning City. This new proposal to have a strategic approach that delivers a professionally led mutual model that embraces volunteers and secures the future of the library network.**

**Motion 2 – Protecting our parks**

Councillor Weston moved the following motion:

“Council is convinced that the Mayor’s ‘new ways of delivering parks and open spaces’ strategy is based on a totally flawed and unworkable cost neutral funding model.





It has long been realised that parks and green spaces are treasured public assets which provide a wide range of health benefits, places for leisure and relaxation, as well as helping to improve the urban environment.

Previous threats to Bristol's substantial amount of accessible green space (1500 hectares), contained in the controversial 20-year Parks & Green Space Strategy (P&GSS) were fiercely opposed in our city, and this experience should act as a warning to any politician who dismantles or inadvertently damages this precious Victorian heritage.

Council recognises that there are huge financial pressures on local authorities, and many competing demands on limited resources. For this reason, it is accepted that greater commercialisation and income generation has to be a part of helping to maintain the city's diverse mix of parks and play spaces. Here, volunteers and community groups will also perform a critical role.

However, Council believes the £3.92m savings proposal currently adopted or applied is simply unachievable. Instead, this Council calls on the Mayor to set a realistic reduction target and provide this much-valued service with an adequate or far more sensible revenue budget. In addition, regarding income generation measures, Council requests that any increased hire rate for parks should not be applied to voluntary community groups."

Councillor Melias seconded the motion.

Following debate, upon being put to the vote, the motion was LOST (30 members voting in favour, 37 against, with 3 abstentions).

### **SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS**

At this point, on the motion of the Lord Mayor, it was agreed that standing orders be suspended to allow the meeting to continue for a further 30 minutes.

### **13. West of England Joint Spatial Plan**

The Full Council considered a report seeking approval for the publication of the West of England Joint Spatial Plan for consultation.

Councillor Beech moved the report and the recommendations contained therein.

Councillor Threlfall seconded the report.

Following debate, upon being put to the vote it was:

**RESOLVED (59 members voting in favour, 9 against with 2 abstentions):**



That Full Council agrees that:

**1. The draft West of England Joint Spatial Plan (JSP) in Appendix A to this report be published for consultation under regulations 19, 20 and 35 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) England) Regulations 2012.**

**2. If the JSP is ready for independent examination, it be submitted to the Secretary of State before the end of March 2018 under regulation 22 of the regulations along with the other submission documents required by regulations; and**

**3. The Service Director for Planning, or any other Director with responsibility for Strategic Planning, is delegated the authority, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and City Design and in co-ordination with Bath and North East Somerset, South Gloucestershire and North Somerset Councils, to:**

- a) make modifications to the JSP if needed, either prior to publication or prior to submission; and**
- b) respond to issues arising during the examination, including making modifications to the JSP.**

**14. The Council's Pay Policy Statement for the period 15 November 2017 - 31 March 2019**

The Full Council considered a report seeking adoption of the Council's Pay Policy Statement.

Councillor Dudd moved the report and the recommendation contained therein.

Councillor O'Rourke seconded the report.

#### **SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS**

At this point, on the motion of the Lord Mayor, it was agreed that standing orders be suspended to allow the meeting to continue for a further 30 minutes.

On the motion of Councillor Abraham, seconded by Councillor Breckels, it was

#### **RESOLVED:**

**That the report recommendation be put to the vote.**

On being put to the vote, it was

**RESOLVED (43 members voting in favour, 18 against, with 4 abstentions):**

**That the Pay Policy Statement for the period 15 November 2017 – 31 March 2017 be adopted.**



## 15. Designation of Head of Paid Service

The Full Council considered a report seeking approval for the Head of Paid Service designation being rotated on an interim basis between the current Strategic Directors on a 3 month cycle until a permanent designation is made.

Councillor Dudd moved the report and the recommendation contained therein.

Councillor O'Rourke seconded the report.

Following debate, it was:

**RESOLVED (42 members voting in favour, 18 against with 4 abstentions):**

**That the Head of Paid Service designation be rotated on an interim basis between the current Strategic Directors on a 3 month cycle until a permanent designation is made.**

## 16. Licensing Committee - membership changes

The Full Council considered a report seeking approval of changes to the membership of the Licensing Committee.

The Lord Mayor moved the report and the recommendation contained therein.

Councillor Jackson seconded the report.

Following debate, it was:

**RESOLVED:**

**That the resignation of Councillor Beech from the Licensing Committee be noted, and that Councillor Pearce be appointed to serve on the Licensing Committee.**

## 17. Information report - Treasury Management Annual Report 2016-17

Councillor Cheney, Deputy Mayor for Finance, Governance and Performance moved the report.

Councillor Stevens seconded the report.

**RESOLVED:**

**That the report be noted.**



**18. Information report - Decisions taken under special urgency provisions**

The Lord Mayor moved the report.

Councillor Smith, Cabinet member for Housing seconded the report.

**RESOLVED:**

**That the report be noted.**

**19. Information item - Exception to call-in procedure**

The Lord Mayor moved the report.

The Mayor seconded the report.

**RESOLVED:**

**That the report be noted.**

**20. Information item - Report of Local Government Ombudsman in respect of the Council  
2016-17**

The Lord Mayor moved the report.

Councillor Champion-Smith seconded the report.

**RESOLVED:**

**That the report be noted.**

**21. Information item - Valuation process review - sale of Port freehold**

Councillor Jos Clark, Chair of the Audit Committee, moved the report.

Councillor Stevens, Vice-Chair of the Audit Committee seconded the report.

**RESOLVED:**

**That the report be noted.**



Meeting ended at 10.37 pm

**CHAIR** \_\_\_\_\_

