



Notice is hereby given that a **MEETING** of the **COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF GOSPORT** will be held in the **TOWN HALL, GOSPORT** on **WEDNESDAY** the **TWENTY SIXTH** of **MARCH 2014** at **6.00PM** AND **ALL MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL ARE HEREBY SUMMONED TO ATTEND TO CONSIDER AND RESOLVE THE FOLLOWING BUSINESS –**

1. To receive apologies from Members for their inability to attend the Meeting.
2. To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting of the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 25 February 2014 (copy herewith).
3. To consider any Mayor's Communications.
4. To receive Deputations in accordance with Standing Order No 3.5 and to answer Public Questions pursuant to Standing Order No 3.6, such questions to be answered orally during a time not exceeding 15 minutes.

(**NOTE:** Standing Order No 3.5 requires that notice of a Deputation should be received by the Borough Solicitor **NOT LATER THAN 12 O'CLOCK NOON ON MONDAY, 24 MARCH 2014** and likewise Standing Order No 3.6 requires that notice of a Public Question should be received by the Borough Solicitor **NOT LATER THAN 12 O'CLOCK NOON ON MONDAY, 24 MARCH 2014**).

5. Questions (if any) pursuant to Standing Order No 3.4.

(**NOTE:** Members are reminded that Standing Order No 3.4 requires that Notice of Question pursuant to that Standing Order must be received by the Borough Solicitor **NOT LATER THAN 12 O'CLOCK NOON ON TUESDAY, 25 MARCH 2014**).

6. To receive the following Part II minutes of the Boards of the Council:

- Community Board: 10 February 2014 and 10 March 2014
- Economic Development Board: 12 March 2014
- Policy & Organisation: 19 March 2014

7. Appointment of Independent Person

To advise Members of the recruitment process for an Independent Person under The Localism Act 2011 and to recommend an appointment be made by the Council.

**IAN LYCETT
CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

**TOWN HALL
GOSPORT**

18 March 2014

FIRE PRECAUTIONS

(To be read by the Mayor if members of the public are present)

In the event of the fire alarm being activated, please leave the Council Chamber and Public Gallery immediately. Proceed downstairs by way of the main stairs or as directed by GBC staff, follow any of the emergency exit signs. People with disability or mobility issues please identify yourself to GBC staff who will assist in your evacuation of the building.

MEMBERS ARE REQUESTED TO NOTE THAT:

(1) IF THE COUNCIL WISHES TO CONTINUE ITS BUSINESS BEYOND 9.30PM THEN THE MAYOR MUST MOVE SUCH A PROPOSITION IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDING ORDER 4.11.18

(2) MOBILE PHONES SHOULD BE SWITCHED OFF FOR THE DURATION OF THE MEETING

**MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON
25 FEBRUARY 2014, AT 4PM**

Attendance:

The Mayor (Councillor Beavis) (P) (in the Chair);

The Deputy Mayor (Councillor Ronayne) (P);

Councillors Allen (P), Ms Ballard (P), Burgess (P), Carter C K, Carter CR (P), Chegwyn (P), Mrs Cully (P), Dickson (P), Ms Diffey (P), Edgar (P), Farr (P) Forder, Foster-Reed, Geddes, Gill (P), Hazel (P), Henshaw, Mrs Hook (P), Hook (P), Hylands (P), Jacobs (P), Jessop (P), Kimber (P), Lane (P), Langdon (P), Mrs Morgan (P), Murphy, Philpott (P), Scard (P), Mrs Searle (P) , Mrs Wright (P) and Wright (P).

Also in attendance: Honorary Alderman O'Neil

APOLOGIES

Apologies for inability to attend the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillor's Forder, Foster-Read, Carter CK, Murphy and Honorary Aldermen Foster and Train

MINUTES

COUNCIL RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 12 February 2014, be confirmed as a true and correct record and signed.

MAYOR'S COMMUNICATION

The Mayor apologised for not giving the Members nominated as Mayor-Elect and Deputy Mayor Elect at the Meeting of the Council held on 12th February 2013 an opportunity to speak and asked them if they wished to do so now.

The Mayor-Elect Councillor W L Ronayne and the Deputy Mayor Elect Councillor Farr provided a brief return of thanks for their nominations.

a) The Mayor advised that an event called "*Old Time Music Hall*" was being organised to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the First World War and the 70th Anniversary of the D-Day landings. The show will take place on Saturday 1 March at the Thorngate Ballroom, Bury Road,

DEPUTATIONS

There were no deputations received.

QUESTIONS

There were no public questions received.

QUESTIONS PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER 3.4

Question standing in the name of Councillor C R Carter on how much the Gosport Borough Football Club owed in outstanding rent to Gosport Borough Council, was answered by the Chairman of the Community Board.

COUNCIL TAX SETTING 2014/15

Consideration was given to a report of the Borough Treasurer which consolidated the effect of the Council's approved budget and precepting authority requirements in order to establish the necessary Council Tax levels to apply in the Borough of Gosport for 2014/15.

It was requisitioned that voting on Recommendation's 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4 and 4.5 take place as one vote.

It was recommended:-

- 4.1 That Council note that the Borough Treasurer determined the Council's Tax Base on 15 January 2014 in the amount of 24,794.1 as its Council Tax Base for the year 2014/15 (Item T in the formula in Section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (the "Act")).

4.2 That by virtue of the budget approved by Council on the 12 February 2014 the following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the year 2014/15 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Act:-

- (a) £55,781,908 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2)) of the Act.
- (b) £50,753,417 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act.
- (c) £5,028,491 being the amount by which the aggregate at 4.2(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 4.2(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act, as its Council Tax Requirement for the year. (Item R in the formula in Section 31B of the Act).
- (d) £202.81 being the amount at 4.2(c) above (Item R) divided by Item T (the amount at 4.1 above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year.

- (e) Valuation Bands
(Local tax rates for Borough purposes)
£

A	135.21
B	157.74
C	180.28
D	202.81
E	247.88
F	292.95
G	338.02
H	405.62

being the amounts given by multiplying the amount at 4.2(d) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation band D, calculated by the Council, in accordance with section 36(1) of the Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands.

4.3 That Council note that for the year 2014/15 Hampshire County Council, Police and Crime Commissioner for Hampshire and Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority have stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Act, for each of the categories of the dwellings shown below:-

Precepting Authority

Valuation Bands

(Local tax rates for County purposes)

£

Hampshire County Council

A	691.92
B	807.24
C	922.56
D	1,037.88
E	1,268.52
F	1,499.16
G	1,729.80
H	2,075.76

(Local tax rates for Police purposes)

£

Police and Crime Commissioner for Hampshire

A	102.84
B	119.98
C	137.12
D	154.26
E	188.54
F	222.82
G	257.10
H	308.52

(Local tax rates for Fire & Rescue Purposes)

£

Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority

A	40.92
B	47.74
C	54.56
D	61.38
E	75.02
F	88.66
G	102.30
H	122.76

- 4.4 That, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 4.2(e) and 4.3 above, the Council, in accordance with Sections 30(2) of the Act, hereby sets the following amounts as the amounts of council tax for the year 2014/15 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:-

Valuation Bands

(Total local tax rates within Gosport)

£

A	970.89
B	1,132.70
C	1,294.52

D	1,456.33
E	1,779.96
F	2,103.59
G	2,427.22
H	2,912.66

- 4.5 That it is determined that the Council's basic amount of Council Tax for 2014/15 is not excessive (in accordance with principles approved under Section 52ZB of the Act).

FOR THE RECOMMENDATION: The Mayor, Deputy Mayor, and Councillors Allen, Ms Ballard, Burgess, Carter CR, Chegwyn, Mrs Cully, Ms Diffey, Dickson, Edgar, Farr, Gill, Hazel, Mrs Hook, Hook, Hylands, Jacobs, Jessop, Kimber, Lane, Langdon, Mrs Morgan, Philpott, Scard, Mrs Searle, Mrs Wright and Wright (28)

AGAINST THE RECOMMENDATION: (0)

ABSTENTIONS: (0)

COUNCIL RESOLVED that the recommendations be approved

The meeting ended at 16:17

A MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY BOARD

WAS HELD 10 FEBRUARY 2014

The Mayor (Councillor Beavis) (ex-officio), Councillor Hook (P), Burgess (P), Carter C K, Mrs Cully (P), Edgar (P), Foster-Reed (P), Henshaw, Mrs Hook (P), Hylands (P), Kimber (P), Mrs Morgan, Murphy (P) and Mrs Wright (P).

It was reported that in accordance with Standing Orders 2.3.6, Councillor Hook had been nominated to replace Councillor Carter C K and Councillor Gill had been nominated to replace Councillor Henshaw for this meeting.

Part II Items

37. BUSINESS PLAN UPDATE AND COUNCIL DWELLING RENTS 2014/2015

Consideration was given to a report from the Borough Treasurer and Housing Services Manager.

Further to a question it was confirmed the increase of £0.49 for older style garages equated to a 5½ % rise.

Clarification was provided with respect to debt repayment and the potential of this leading to discounts (page 4, paragraph 7.1). The Borough Treasurer explained that due to timings of borrowing and fluctuations of interest rates, there was a possibility, should favourable economic conditions arise, of redeeming the debt at a low interest rate.

The Housing Services Manager updated members by advising the stage the housing team were at with regard to the planned delivery for new homes at St Vincent. She said that a report will be put forward to the next Community Board due to be held in March 2014, this would be after a scheduled meeting with Hampshire County Council which would inform the report content.

It was confirmed that a breakdown of Hampshire County Council's Architect costs would be provided.

RESOLVED: That the Community Board recommend to Council that:

- The revised HRA Business Plan (Appendix A) and associated 2013/14 Revised Budget and 2014/15 Budget (Appendix B) be agreed.
- in line with national guidelines the average weekly Council Dwelling rent increases on average by £4.20 per week.
- the increase in rent for older style garages be increased in line with dwelling rents, as agreed in the Garage Renewal strategy.

38. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was one item of further business which the Chairman determined should be considered, by reason of special circumstances, as a matter of urgency;

I. REQUEST TO REMOVE THE DOUBLE FEE FOR BURIAL

Further to the sad news regarding the death of late Honorary Alderman, former Mayor of the Borough and Councillor, Tony Herridge, the Chairman put forward a request, on behalf of the Herridge family, to waive the double fee for burial levied for those who moved out of the Borough.

RESOLVED: That the Community Board approved:

- the Double Fee for burial be removed for the Herridge family on the occasion of the burial of Honorary Alderman Tony Herridge

Prior to closing the meeting, the Chairman advised Members that the forthcoming Community Board meeting was rescheduled from Monday 17th March to Monday 10th March 2014.

The meeting concluded at: 18:15

CHAIRMAN

**A MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY BOARD
WAS HELD 10 MARCH 2014**

Chairman of the Policy and Organisation Board (Councillor Hook) (ex-officio) (P), Burgess (P), Carter C K (P), Mrs Cully (P), Edgar (P), Foster-Reed (P), Henshaw (P), Mrs Hook (P), Hylands (P), Kimber (P), Mrs Morgan (P), Murphy (P) and Mrs Wright (P).

PART II

43. HAMPSHIRE SOLENT CULTURAL TRUST

Consideration was given to a report from the Chief Executive seeking Members' of the Board approval to enter into new arrangements for the management and funding of Gosport museum services.

RESOLVED: That the Community Board noted and approved

1. noted the establishment of the Hampshire Solent Cultural Trust agrees to enter a three year Funding Agreement, a ten year Joint Management Agreement, and a twenty-five year Collections Loan Agreement, as was set out in Section 2 of the report of the Chief Executive.
2. approved authorisation to the Chief Executive to complete the negotiations in respect of the proposals as were set out in the report of the Chief Executive.

44. SEAFRONT TRADING CONCESSIONS

Consideration was given to a report from the Chief Executive which advised Members' of the Board of opportunities to establish seafront concessions at Stokes Bay and Lee-on-the-Solent.

RESOLVED: That the Community Board agrees

1. to the advertising of opportunities for seasonal concessions at Sites A and B, shown on the plan attached to the report of the Chief Executive;
2. to delegate to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Borough Solicitor and Borough Treasurer, the decision as to which tender(s) to accept.

45. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was none.

The meeting concluded at: 18:06

CHAIRMAN

**MEETING OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD
WAS HELD ON 12 MARCH 2014**

The Mayor (ex-officio), Councillor Hook; Councillors Allen (P), Chegwyn (P), Edgar (P), Forder (P), Mrs Hook (P), Lane (P), Langdon (P), Philpott (P) Ronayne and Mrs Searle (P).

PART II

46. LEASE AGREEMENT FOR RADIO AERIAL, FAREHAM CIVIC OFFICES

Consideration was given to a Report of the Housing Services Manager which advised the Economic Development Board of the proposal to enter in to a lease agreement with Fareham Borough Council for the installation of radio equipment on the roof top of the FBC Civic offices, Civic Way, Fareham.

RESOLVED: That the Board approves the proposal to enter into a formal agreement with Fareham Borough Council as set out in the report of the Housing Services Manager, and authorised the Housing Services Manager in consultation with the Borough Solicitor to complete the negotiations and lease.

47. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

The meeting concluded at 18:02

CHAIRMAN

**A MEETING OF THE POLICY AND ORGANISATION BOARD
WAS HELD ON 19 MARCH 2014**

The Mayor (Councillor Beavis) (ex-officio), Burgess (P), Chegwyn (P), Carter CR (P), Hook (Chairman) (P), Lane (P), Langdon (P), Philpott (P), Ronayne (P) and Wright (P).

PART II

31. HIGH STREET IMPROVEMENTS

Councillor Hook declared a pecuniary interest in this item. He left the room and took no further part in the discussion or voting thereon.

Consideration was given to the report of the Chief Executive requesting the Policy and Organisation Board agree a financial contribution that would enable delivery of a comprehensive scheme of High Street improvements in Gosport Town Centre.

The Head of Economic Prosperity Tourism and Culture clarified that the number of seats in the proposal would be similar to existing levels.

RESOLVED: That approval be given to a supplementary capital estimate of £60,540 to enable the delivery of the scheme of works detailed at Section 2 of the report of the Chief Executive.

32. ERNST YOUNG - ANNUAL AUDIT LETTER 2012/13

Consideration was given the report of the Borough Treasurer seeking approval of the Annual Audit Letter for 2012/13.

Members expressed their gratitude for the level of work all Council Officers had undertaken that had resulted in such a positive report.

RESOLVED: That approval be given to the Annual Audit Letter for 2012/13.

33. GOSPORT COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Councillor C R Carter declared a non pecuniary interest in this item. He advised he was a representative on the Gosport Community Association board of trustees, a non-voting position. He remained in the room and took part in the discussions and voting thereon.

Councillor Lane declared a non pecuniary interest in this item. He advised that he and his family had been involved with Gosport Community Association for 32 years. He remained in the room and took part in the discussions and voting thereon.

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Executive requesting approval for a financial contribution of £5,500 to Gosport Community Association (the 'Association').

Policy and Organisation Board
19 March 2014

Further to a Member's question, it was clarified that the funding requested was for a one off contribution to Gosport Community Association by Gosport Borough Council.

RESOLVED: That approval be given to a financial contribution of £5,500 to Gosport Community Association to assist with the restructuring of the Association.

34. COCKLE PONDS, WALPOLE PARK

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Executive advising the Board of works required to the Cockle Ponds in Walpole Park and requesting that funding be made available to finance the works.

The Chief Executive advised the Board that sediment in the Cockle Ponds had been an ongoing problem resulting in many complaints from members of the public. He advised that there had been several attempts to resolve the issues and it was hoped that, subject to the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) licence, a drain down of the water and reinstatement of the water level could be undertaken in readiness for the Gosport Model Yacht Club's Summer Regatta.

Further to a Member's question the Chief Executive confirmed that it was believed that the main cause of the foul smelling sediment was due to feeding bread to the resident swans. In addition, the Chief Executive advised that further to discussions with Natural England, the belief was that signage would be erected to encourage visitors to feed the swans their natural diet of corn.

The Board was provided with a further explanation of future maintenance planned, reducing sediment build up by cleaning the pipes joining the ponds twice annually, erecting signage to encourage appropriate feeding and the installation of an island for breeding swans.

The Chief Executive advised that engineers would monitor the footpath repairs and a report of their findings would be brought to the Board at a future date.

RESOLVED: That the Board:

- a) note the proposed works as outlined in the report of the Chief Executive that need to be undertaken; and that
- b) approve a supplementary estimate to the Capital Programme of £87,000 to provide the total sum of £136,900 to execute the works as outlined in Section 3 of the report of the Chief Executive.

35. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There were no other items.

36. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That in relation to the following item the public be excluded from the meeting, as it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the public were present during these items there would be disclosure to them of exempt information within Paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, and further that in all circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemptions outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information, for the reasons set out in the report.

37. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SHARED PARTNERSHIP

Consideration was given to an exempt report of the Chief Executive in respect of the Environmental Health Shared Partnership.

RESOLVED: That approval be given to the recommendations in the exempt report of the Chief Executive.

The meeting ended at 19:07

CHAIRMAN

AGENDA ITEM NO. 07

Board/Committee:	COUNCIL
Date of Meeting:	26 MARCH 2014
Title:	APPOINTMENT OF AN INDEPENDENT PERSON UNDER THE LOCALISM ACT 2011
Author:	CHIEF EXECUTIVE
Status:	FOR DECISION

Purpose

To advise members of the recruitment process for an Independent Person under The Localism Act 2011 and to recommend appointments be made by the Council.

Recommendation

That the Council approves the appointment of Ms S Craven and Mr R J Newman as the Independent Persons for the purposes of Section 28 of the Localism Act 2011 for the period of 4 years ending on 25 March 2018.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Under the provisions of Section 28 (7) of the Localism Act 2011 ('the Act'), the Council is required to appoint at least one Independent Person to assist the Council in promoting and maintaining high standards of conduct amongst its elected and co-opted members.
- 1.2 The Independent Person is required to be consulted before the Standards and Governance Committee of the Council makes a decision on a complaint that a Member has breached the code of conduct that is being investigated. The Independent Person may also be consulted by the Monitoring Officer in relation to allegations before a decision is taken to investigate such a complaint and also by a Member who is subject to an allegation.
- 1.3 The Independent Person may also be invited to attend meetings of The Standards and Governance Committee if it is considering an allegation of a breach of the code of conduct.

2.0 Report

- 2.1 In accordance with the Act the Council has advertised the vacancy in The News and The Southampton Echo and on its website and the

persons recommended for appointment have submitted applications to the Council.

- 2.2 Applications were received from 4 candidates and interviews have taken place with a panel made up of the Council's three Statutory Officers.
- 2.3 The interview panel recommend the appointment of Ms S Craven who lives within the Borough and is a Solicitor and Mr R J Newman who lives in Fareham and is an Independent Person for another authority in West Sussex.
- 2.4 Both the applicants satisfied the interview panel that they had the skills and attributes the Council require as set out in the advertisement and the application pack.

Financial Services comments:	None
Legal Services comments:	Contained in the report
Service Improvement Plan implications:	None
Corporate Plan:	None
Risk Assessment:	N/A
Background papers:	None
Appendices/Enclosures:	None
Report author/ Lead Officer:	Ian Lycett