
Council

MINUTES of the Meeting held in the Council Chamber, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, ME10 3HT on Wednesday, 15 November 2023 from 7.00 pm - 8.46 pm.

PRESENT: Councillors Mike Baldock, Monique Bonney, Lloyd Bowen, Hayden Brawn, Ann Cavanagh, Shelley Cheesman, Roger Clark, Simon Clark, Kieran Golding, Alastair Gould, James Hall, Angela Harrison, Carole Jackson, Elliott Jayes, Mark Last, Rich Lehmann, Peter Macdonald, Peter Marchington, Claire Martin, Ben J Martin (Deputy Mayor), Charlie Miller, Lee-Anne Moore, Pete Neal, Tara Noe, Chris Palmer, Richard Palmer, Hannah Perkin, Julien Speed, Sarah Stephen (Mayor), Terry Thompson, Mark Tucker, Angie Valls, Karen Watson, Mike Whiting, Tony Winckless and Dolley Wooster.

OFFICERS PRESENT: Robin Harris, Jo Millard and Larissa Reed.

OFFICER PRESENT (VIRTUALLY): Lisa Fillery.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE (VIRTUALLY): Councillor Lloyd Chapman.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Andy Booth, Derek Carnell, Tim Gibson, James Hunt, Tom Nundy, Ashley Shiel and Paul Stephen.

414 **Emergency Evacuation Procedure**

The Mayor outlined the emergency evacuation procedure.

415 **Minutes**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 11 October 2023 (Minute Nos. 343 – 351) were taken as read, approved and signed by the Mayor as a correct record.

416 **Declarations of Interest**

No interests were declared.

417 **Mayor's Announcements**

The Mayor said it was an exciting time for Sittingbourne as she sent her congratulations to two local radio stations, Sittingbourne FM radio station who recently received a King's award for voluntary services, and Sheppey FM who won the best local community radio station 2023, beating over 400 other radio stations.

The Mayor had attended a number of events since the last Council meeting including:

- Celebrated the fifth anniversary of Rotary Radio station;
- Faversham carnival;
- lunch at the Freedom Centre, Sheerness viewing artwork of the residents;
- two Royal Society of St. George events - Trafalgar Day and 40th Anniversary;
- Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal launch at County Hall, Maidstone and The Forum, Sittingbourne; and
- launched the 'Bringing History Alive' exhibition at 34 High Street, Sittingbourne.

In advising of the exhibits in place and the hard work that had been carried out to set it up, the Mayor encouraged everyone to attend the Bringing History Alive exhibition and the War Time House museum in East Street, Sittingbourne, which would be free entry for children for the coming weekend.

The Mayor spoke of the moving and delightful Remembrance service she had attended at Tunstall School, at which the Mayor's Chauffeur's grandchildren had taken part.

The Mayor said that the Avenue of Remembrance, Sittingbourne, was the only working Avenue of Remembrance in the Commonwealth and she encouraged Members who had not seen the trees there, dressed in poppies, to visit. She described the Remembrance Day parade including the release of 25 white doves representing the 25 parishes of Swale. The Mayor thanked all Members who had laid wreaths at churches on Remembrance Day but expressed her disappointment that the local press had not reported on any of the special historical moments that had occurred throughout Swale.

Finally, the Mayor said she had attended a special film screening on behalf of the MenTalk group, made by Ryan who had sadly passed away earlier this year. The Mayor said family and friends of Ryan attended the screening and he would be very sadly missed.

418 **Questions submitted by the Public**

There were no questions from the public.

419 **Questions submitted by Members**

The Mayor advised that five questions had been received from Members.

Question 1 – Councillor Mark Tucker

In my Councillor training in this chamber on Monday 15th May. The Section 151 Officer explained that there was approximately £15 million left in reserves. With the current business model, the Officer said that this council would be bankrupt by March 2025. It has been exactly six months since then and I am still unsure as to what the administration's plan is to correct this very worrying position. Can the leader please explain what the plan is to prevent this council going bust?

Response – Deputy Leader

Thank you for your question, however for clarity, the S.151 officer was on leave on Monday 15th May and the training was delivered by the Deputy Section 151 Officer.

The financial position that was presented to new members confirmed that savings would need to be made to avoid the council being in the position of being able to deliver a balanced budget. This is a situation faced by many councils in light of the severe cutting of Government Grants and of course high levels of inflation whilst we have to observe a Council Tax cap way below that inflation. It has not been helped by previous Conservative administrations at Swale failing to increase Council Tax year on year, causing an annual £1 million shortfall in our base budget, and costing us some £11 million extra in reserves.

The annual budget cycle was also presented to members at the induction session which confirmed that the administration publishes their draft budget for consultation in November. Since July 2023 the Administration's Finance Sub group has been working with Senior officers to deliver the Medium Term financial plan that will address the budget gap over the period of the plan. The draft budget will naturally contain some areas of uncertainty as the local government draft financial settlement is not due for publication until late December and as has been the case for several years now, local government have only seen 1 year settlements. This makes the financial planning process even more difficult.

Question 2 – Councillor Richard Palmer

Can the member for constitutional affairs confirm if it is acceptable for planning consultants to use their private business email accounts, i.e. a non- Council email, when communicating with developers on behalf of Swale Borough Council and can you confirm that all planning consultants are provided with a Swale Borough Council email address for conducting Swale Council business?

Response – Deputy Leader

Thank you for your question. You raise a very concerning issue. We have a number of consultants who work for the council and currently some of them have a Swale email address and some of them do not. Our computer usage policy forbids forward of emails to a personal email address but not to a business email address, and is silent on consultants using their business accounts. This raises some serious issues about confidentiality and about transparency, and I have asked the Chief Executive to look into this issue and ensure a consistent approach is taken across all of our consultants.

Supplementary question

Will the review ensure it highlights the details within the Freedom of Information Act?

Response

Yes, it will be addressed robustly.

Question 3 – Councillor Tony Winckless

I welcome the announcement that Swale has secured £323,000 of funding for the Safer Streets Fund. Any extra funding after huge cuts to policing and Youth Services Budgets is good news. Anti-Social Behaviour is a big issue for my residents. So can I urge that Milton Regis is also a beneficiary from the initiatives funded by the scheme?

Response – Chair of Communities Committee

I am really pleased that Swale has been successful in securing funding from the Safer Streets Fund, the bid was secured through the Police and Crime Commissioner's office who identified that Sittingbourne and Sheerness Town Centres met the eligibility criteria for the funding. The funding therefore will not be able to be utilised in other areas such as Milton, I appreciate all areas will experience issues of Crime and ASB and therefore it is important that these are reported to ensure they can be responded to and when possible will form evidence for any future funding applications.

Supplementary question

As funding is available, will CCTV be replaced in Milton Regis by the car park?

Response

Officers will review crime statistics and consider the request.

Question 4 – Councillor Kieran Golding

Some of my residents are disappointed to hear that the council's graffiti service is no longer able to provide a comprehensive service due to funding restrictions.

Real terms Government Settlement funding to Swale Borough Council has been cut in half since 2015. With inflation driving up costs, including for council services, does the Leader agree with me that the Government's Autumn Statement needs to include additional funds for councils, so that we can continue to provide these services for our residents?

Response – Chair of Environment Committee

The Council's service for removing graffiti has been reviewed this year following a reduction in the level of funding available to us forcing us to reduce internal staffing levels. We are, however, continuing to remove offensive graffiti from public property via our cleansing contractors and working with property owners to encourage graffiti removal from private property.

The Government have recently pushed for a crackdown on anti-social behaviour (including graffiti) and fines for those caught have risen. However, it is unclear as yet due to an impending consultation, on how any increased income can be used. Furthermore, with reduced staffing it remains difficult to catch people in the act.

A combination of restrictions to the amount we can increase our income by each year, and ongoing high rates of inflation - which even at half the rate they were at the start of the year are still 60% above the limit we can raise council tax by - mean that we are forced into a constant cycle of having to review and reduce services across the board. So yes, I would join my colleague in agreeing that a full review of local government finances is required, and in the short term an improved settlement in next week's Autumn Statement would be very welcome, not least because it may help ensure the solvency of Kent County Council for another year.

Question 5 – Councillor Angie Valls

In a reflection of central government's economic failure, there are over 18 empty retail units in Sittingbourne Town Centre.

The Conservative Government has announced, re-announced, and repackaged a number of funds over the years to support struggling High Streets. Yet their typically centralised, overly prescriptive and poorly administered schemes don't deliver what's desperately needed.

What more does the Chair of the Regeneration and Property Committee think the

council can do to support successful business opportunities from pop-up shops and new start-ups, to brands and retail staples on our High Streets?

Response – Chair of Regeneration and Property Committee

Thank you Cllr Valls for your question.

Firstly we have to recognise that our town centres in Swale are predominantly in private ownership, and their ownership is very fragmented with few large land owners in our High Streets, it therefore requires these many parties to acknowledge their part in improving town centres. That noted many of the solutions for improving High Streets, lays in the hands of central Government. The arcane approach to taxation including business rates, acts as a huge barrier to entry and break on enterprise in our High Streets. Tax reform would require central government to be proactive and to review the effectiveness of business rates. To my mind business rates disadvantages businesses with bricks and mortar shops especially in our town centres.

Where funding for town centres and high streets has been available Swale Borough Council has accessed a number of central government funding streams over recent years with a view to supporting our High Streets. This includes the successful £20m bid to the Levelling-Up Fund for our flagship Sheerness Revival project, which will bring investment and footfall to this important town centre, and which we very much see as a catalyst for future investment. As part of our match funding for the bid, we committed and secured a combined budget of £1.5m for the complete refurbishment of Masters House, on Trinity Road, to bring this disused asset back in to use as a business hub with a major social impact. This will be a huge boost for the town centre.

We also worked closely with central government to unlock £1.5m of prosperity funding, across the UK Shared Prosperity Fund and the Rural England Prosperity Fund. This includes £170k for capital schemes for each of our main town centres; £50k for a town centre radio scheme for these centres and Leysdown, over £200k for town centre grants schemes for our main centres plus Milton Regis and Queenborough - all designed to promote footfall, increase options for residents and opportunities for business. Further to this, we will invest over £200k across a range of support options for all local businesses over the three years until 2025, and are investing £45k in marketing collateral to support our visitor economy over the same period.

I agree with you that these schemes are in many ways poorly-administered by central government, and that the processes involved in accessing and delivering the funding that is rightfully ours are not fit for purpose and place huge and unnecessary burdens on staff and members. We have and are lobbying government to make funding release timescales and mechanisms much more realistic, so that the full impact of this investment will not be threatened or lost. I wrote to the Minister on this last month, and will continue to press for structural changes to central government funding schemes which reduce bureaucracy and enable funding to reach our communities and businesses as quickly as possible, with minimal constraints.

420 Leader's Statement

The Deputy Leader said:

“Firstly, as you may be aware, our leader Cllr Gibson has had an accident, which has led

to a number of broken toes and ribs so you have me instead. I am sure we would all like to extend our best wishes to Tim and hope for a speedy recovery.

By way of an update, Councillor Gibson wrote to the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care Steven Barclay following the motion at our last full council meeting about this council's concerns regarding the inadequate provision of GP's in our Borough. He also took the liberty of copying the letter to both of our local MP's Gordon Henderson and Helen Whatley and he will let you all know when he receives a reply.

As this council battles with homelessness and temporary accommodation impacts I together with another 157 council representatives participated in a summit on the issue, organised by the District Councils' Network (DCN). The scale of the problem was highlighted by a recent survey in which 96% of our member councils reported an increase in use of temporary accommodation with four-fifths of them describing it as 'significant'. In a letter to Chancellor Jeremy Hunt signed by a cross party group of leaders, Councils are requesting:

- A rise in Local Housing Allowance rates;*
- Provision of £100m additional funding for Discretionary Housing Payments;*
- Provision of a £150m top-up to the Homelessness Prevention Grant;*
- A review of the cap for housing benefit subsidy rate for local authority homelessness placements.*
- Developing policy to stimulate retention and supply in the privately rented sector.*

It was also bitterly disappointing to hear that KCC have closed Blackburn Lodge on the Isle of Sheppey. This is a cruel and disheartening move by KCC that will devastate both our residents and staff alike.

Our Council, through the Community Safety Partnership, worked with the Kent Police and Crime Commissioner to secure £323,000 from the Government's Safer Streets Fund.

Members will recall, in fact a number of you will have taken part in last years LGA peer review the outcomes of which a subject to an action plan which was agreed by the policy and resources committee last month. The action plan included finalising a new corporate plan, with the input of staff and members, that will outline their strategic priorities and how they can be achieved within the agreed budget.

On another note, I am delighted to say that the threat to the closure of Faversham HWRC has been removed and it will now remain open. Members may recall that both Cllr Gibson and Cllr Lehmann wrote strongly worded letters to Kent County Council in opposition to the closures in support of the excellent work and lobbying that has been carried out by both members of this council (in particular those representing Faversham Wards) and of course members of the Faversham Town council. The outcome for residents in Faversham and the wider Swale Borough represents a victory for common sense.

On that theme Milton Creek Country Park, in Sittingbourne, which of course was once was once a landfill site, but now offers 128 acres of meadows, scrubs and aquatic habitats has been awarded gold in the South and South East in bloom awards for the ninth year in a row. The awards not only recognises an areas beautiful flower beds and displays, but also the efforts being made to protect and enhance the natural

environment, the park of course being home to species which have not only National but International importance.

Faversham in Bloom won a Gold whilst Queenborough and Rushenden in Bloom received a Silver Gilt and Teynham in Bloom a Silver.

People can now have their say on two of Swale's conservation areas thanks to a consultation that we have embarked upon. We have reviewed the existing conservation areas of Milton Regis and Cellar Hill and Greenstreet as part of our ongoing commitment to deliver the adopted Heritage Strategy, action plan.

On another note I would like to commend our enforcement teams who have been successful in bringing prosecutions for fly tipping and environmental health issues. A woman found to be involved in a fly-tipping appeared in court and was convicted and ordered to pay nearly £5,000 thanks to the work of our officers.

Equally, a local food hospitality premises has been subjected to closure following investigations from our Environmental Health team who following an emergency prohibition notice progressed the issue through the courts with costs being awarded against the owner.

All this demonstrates the dynamic and effective Council working hard on all fronts and achieving results despite the excruciating challenges that we face along with so many other Councils across the country."

In response, the Leader of the Conservative Group sent his best wishes to the Leader. He referred to the motion from the last Full Council meeting and said this had put Swale on the map and created a lot of interest. Referring to the Corporate Strategy, the Leader of the Conservative Group, said that homelessness and temporary accommodation was still a priority and he highlighted the financial difficulties for Central Government as well as local authorities. He praised the work of the Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) for Teynham and Lynsted and also the Environmental Teams for their work in securing a successful prosecution. The Leader of the Conservative Group said he was pleased to learn of the positive update that Faversham Recycling Centre would remain open and hoped this was permanent. He also spoke of the temporary closure of Faversham Pool and said he hoped that would open again soon. Finally, he thanked the Chief Executive and the Deputy Leader for their assistance when the Teynham Scouts attended the last Planning Committee to obtain the Scout's Democracy badge.

The Leader of the Liberal Democrats Group echoed the good wishes sent to the Leader and welcomed the Chief Executive back to the Chamber after her recent operation. She shared the concern over the closure of Blackburn Lodge, Sheerness. The Leader of the Liberal Democrats Group welcomed the news on the Safer Streets bid and said it was a shame there was no funding for Faversham, but she understood the limitations. She said a close eye was needed on the funding of the Faversham tip and she questioned where the funding was coming from, fearing cuts to youth and children's services.

Other Members were invited to respond and made points including:

- Deep disappointment and worry over the closure of Blackburn Lodge;
- suggested a private charity took over Blackburn Lodge if Kent County Council (KCC) were unable to run it;

- highlighted that only 23,000 social rent homes had been built since 2015 in the UK and Government needed to properly invest in social housing;
- more support was needed for those that could not afford to rent;
- supported investment in the Borough, particularly in the Milton Country Park, Sittingbourne and thanked the volunteers at the park;
- raised concerns over communication that came from KCC around the Grovehurst Roundabout and other transport issues and asked that SBC confirmed with KCC that every avenue of communication to advise residents was being used;
- difficulty in advising residents due to lack of transparency and communication from KCC;
- asked that the Leader/Deputy Leader speak to Senior Police representatives around recruitment as there were currently 18 positions in the borough and only six were staffed;
- advised Members that the consultation regarding closure of tips was currently paused and KCC had advised that all options were still on the table; and
- said the KCC's Policy and Resources Committee would be reporting on the closure of children's centres and SBC had put in their views.

The Deputy Leader thanked Members for their comments. He agreed that tackling homelessness was a priority, and he added that being forced to build houses in Swale that local people could not afford, did not assist the homeless situation. The Deputy Leader said that the Police were recruiting, and the early signs were positive. He agreed that that communication from KCC was poor.

421 **Motion to Encourage GP Partners to receive Identification and Referral to Improve Safety (IRIS) Training**

Councillor Hannah Perkin proposed the motion as set out on the Agenda.

Firstly, she congratulated SATEDA who recently won a King's award for their services in the community. Then, she set out the statistics of those women who had been victims of domestic abuse. Councillor Perkin said that often the first and only contact women have from professionals to support them was through their GP. She described how the IRIS programme worked and highlighted its benefits. Finally, Councillor Perkin relayed the testimonial of a victim of domestic violence who had been through the programme, and she urged members to support the motion.

In seconding the motion, Councillor Richard Palmer reserved his right to speak.

Members were invited to speak and made comments including:

- Councillors must support any action that helped those who were victims of domestic abuse;
- suggested the Integrated Care Partnership (ICP) to be included when the letter was sent;
- were figures available from neighbouring authorities that had rolled out the scheme and how had Swale acted differently to be less successful in the take up from GP's?;
- had GP's in Swale not undertaken the training because they simply did not have the time or had it not been advertised?;
- highlighted the importance of the topic;
- welcomed the valuable training;

- highlighted the lack of communication in advising of the scheme;
- suggested writing to Primary Care Network Education Needs and training hubs to reach a wide number of GP's in one go;
- did the training cover how victims were supported during the court process?; and
- drew attention to child to adult domestic violence and carers' violence.

A Member gave a moving personal experience of domestic violence. She said that the psychological and emotional impact could affect so many within a family and domestic violence had been hidden and considered to be a stigma for too long. She said the training could make life-changing differences for decades to come.

Councillor R Palmer spoke of the positive impacts a GP with IRIS training could have in assisting victims of domestic violence.

Councillor Perkin thanked everyone for their support, and particularly thanked those who had relayed their personal experiences of domestic violence. She said she was happy to include the ICP as suggested. Councillor Perkin said that SATEDA did support the court process and advised everyone that there had been a domestic homicide review by KCC, which had led to concerns that GP's did not always refer cases of domestic violence.

On being put to the vote, Members voted unanimously to support the motion.

Resolved:

(1) That the Council write to GP partners and the Integrated Care Partnership (ICP) in Swale encouraging them to sign up to receive the free IRIS training and to work with the specialist domestic violence worker that covers Swale so that victims and survivors were able to access direct referrals to an advocate educator through their GP.

422 **Constitution Amendment - Various**

In introducing the report and proposing the recommendations the Deputy Leader thanked the Monitoring Officer for his input.

The recommendations were seconded by the Leader of the Conservative Group who also thanked the Monitoring Officer and the Constitution Working Group. The Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group stressed the importance of the Constitution.

On being put to the vote, Members voted unanimously to support the recommendations.

Resolved:

(1) That the amendments at Appendix I be agreed and adopted into the Constitution.

(2) That the Monitoring Officer be delegated to make the necessary amendments to the Constitution.

423 Audit Committee Annual Report 2022/23

The Chair of the Audit Committee introduced the report and proposed the recommendation. He thanked Councillor Derek Carnell who had chaired the Audit Committee during 2022/23, and gave praise and thanks to officers. Councillor R Palmer seconded the recommendation and on being put to the vote, Members voted unanimously in favour of the recommendation.

Resolved:

(1) That the Audit Committee Annual Report for 2022/23 (appendix I) be agreed.

424 Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2024/25

The Deputy Leader introduced the report by giving a history of the Council Tax Support Scheme, drawing attention that it moved to a banded scheme in April 2023. He highlighted that working age claimants had less changes to the amount of Council Tax they paid and said the scheme was working well and 65% of all information received from Universal Credit, was now automated allowing teams more time to deal with complex claims and provide support to more vulnerable claimants. The Deputy Leader drew attention that the Policy and Resources Committee had recommended a percentage increase in line with the Department for Works and Pension (DWP) annual percentage uprating.

In seconding the recommendations, the Leader of the Conservative Group reserved his right to speak.

Other Members were invited to speak and made comments including:

- Needed to look at how the Council supported care leaders better; and
- referred to the responses to the questionnaire that highlighted that 61% of responders were woman and asked that future prevention be looked at.

The Leader of the Conservative Group said that the scheme was still relatively new so it was difficult to know whether it could be improved. He highlighted the economic challenges going forward.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 3.1.19(2), a recorded vote was taken, and voting was as follows:

For: Baldock, Bonney, Bowen, Brawn, Cavanagh, Cheesman, R Clark, S Clark, Golding, Gould, Hall, Harrison, Henderson, Jackson, Jayes, Last, Lehmann, MacDonald, Marchington, B J Martin, C Martin, Miller, Moore, Neal, Noe, C Palmer, R Palmer, Perkin, Speed, S Stephen, Thompson, Tucker, Valls, Watson, Wooster, Whiting, Winckless and Wise. Total equals 38.

Against: Total equals 0.

Abstain: Total equals 0.

Resolved:

(1) That the progress of the income banded Council Tax Reduction Scheme be noted.

(2) That following the recommendation of the Policy and Resources Committee, that the scheme is not changed for 2024/25, except for a percentage increase to the income bands in line with the DWP annual percentage uprating increase.

425 Local Plan Review - Next Steps

The Deputy Leader introduced the report, reminding Members it had been considered by the Planning and Transportation Policy Working Group, and the Policy and Resources Committee. He stressed the importance of tackling the Local Plan issues. The Deputy Leader said various options and been discussed, and this proposal was a combination of options. He set out the infrastructure and service issues in meeting the Government's housing targets and he proposed the recommendation which was seconded by Councillor Alastair Gould who reserved his right to speak.

Members were invited to speak and raised comments including:

- Highlighted the high turnover of housing ministers;
- without more infrastructure, there could be no more housing;
- proposal was prudent in order that the Council could get their pegs in order;
- a General Election could result in many changes in the future;
- how could the Council work to provide evidence from statutory consultees when they often had no comment;
- should consider writing to central Government requesting the Minister for Housing is not changed again until at least the General Election;
- was disappointed that the work to improve policies had taken place but was not included in the consultation;
- there needed to be balance and stability; and
- the right sort of housing was needed.

Councillor Gould said the document outlined the new emphasis on statutory consultees and challenging consultees was within the process. He said the need for appropriate houses would be taken on board. Councillor Gould said the system was constrained and officers were looking at ways to work within the system to make it deliverable and focus on what could be done.

The Deputy Leader agreed that it could sometimes be difficult to receive responses from statutory consultees, but the Regulation 19 had forced responses and useful information was received. He said the Council had a strong bank of evidence to defend why a lower figure for housing was possible and everything was being done to facilitate the process.

On being put to the vote, Members voted unanimously in support.

Resolved:

(1) That the decision as to a timescale for the future stages of the Local Plan Review until such time as the national planning landscape is clearer be deferred,

but independent of this process, to proceed to develop the evidence base regarding local development need and potential, with this process to be wholly reflective of local circumstance rather than central targets be agreed.

426 **Outside Body - The Meads Woodland Group**

The Deputy Leader introduced the report and said that The Meads Woodland Group was part of a project from the Western Area Committee. He advised that The Meads ward Member, Councillor James Hunt, was currently sitting on the group unofficially.

A Member questioned the status and responsibility of Members sitting on some outside bodies and the Monitoring Officer gave advice and agreed to look at this further.

The Leader of the Conservative Group proposed that Councillor Hunt be nominated to sit on The Meads Woodland Group. This was seconded by the Deputy Leader.

There were no other nominations and on being put to the vote, Members voted unanimously to nominate Councillor Hunt to represent SBC on The Meads Woodland Group.

Resolved:

(1) That Councillor James Hunt be nominated to sit on The Meads Woodland Group outside body.

427 **Recommendations for Approval**

Resolved:

(1) That Minute Nos. 359 -360 from the Policy and Resources Committee held on 18 October 2023 be noted.

(2) That Minute No. 378 from the Licensing Committee held on 19 October 2023 be noted.

Mayor

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All minutes are draft until agreed at the next meeting of the Council