

Crawley Borough Council

Minutes of the Full Council

Wednesday 23 April 2014 at 7.30 p.m.

Present:

Councillor R G Burgess (Mayor).

Councillor V S Cumper (Deputy Mayor).

Councillors M L Ayling, B K Blake, Dr H S Bloom, N Boxall, K Brockwell, B J Burgess, L A M Burke, R D Burrett, C A Cheshire, D G Crow, J I Denman, C R Eade, I T Irvine, M G Jones, S J Joyce, P K Lamb, R A Lanzer, C C Lloyd, L S Marshall-Ascough, C A Moffatt, C J Mullins, C Oxlade, D M Peck, B J Quinn, A J E Quirk, D J Shreeves, B A Smith, P C Smith, G Thomas, K J Trussell, L A Walker, W A Ward and K B Williamson.

Also in Attendance:

Mr A Quine – Honorary Freeman and Alderman.

Mr B Jones – Appointed Independent Person.

Mr P Nicolson – Appointed Independent Person.

Mr A Timms – Appointed Independent Person.

Officers Present:

Lee Harris	Chief Executive
Ann-Maria Brown	Head of Legal and Democratic Services
Peter Browning	Director of Transformation and Housing
Roger Brownings	Democratic Services Officer
Kevin Carr	Principal Lawyer
David Covill	Director of Development and Resources
Phil Rogers	Director of Community Services

113. Apologies for Absence

Councillor S A Blake and Mr J G Smith – Honorary Freeman and Alderman.

114. Members' Disclosures of Interests

The disclosures of interests made by Members were set out in **Appendix A** to the minutes.

115. Communications

(a) Questionnaire arising from the work of the “How Members Vote Scrutiny Panel”

The Panel had produced a questionnaire which was available in the Public Gallery for this Full Council Meeting. The Mayor asked that if any member of the public in the Gallery had any comments to make regarding any associated processes and procedures at this meeting, could they please record those comments on the questionnaire with the intention that any feedback received be then used to help the Panel in its work and considerations.

(b) Annual London to Brighton Veteran Car Run

The Mayor conveyed his disappointment regarding an item published in that week's local newspapers suggesting that the organisers of the Annual London to Brighton Veteran Car Run were proposing to no longer use the George Hotel / Crawley High Street as the event's halfway stopping point. Whilst the organisers had proposed an alternative stopping point in Crawley, the Mayor advised the meeting that on behalf of the Borough Council he had since written to the organisers to urge them to reconsider this matter and ensure that the event continues the long tradition of using the High Street and George Hotel, and in so doing continue to provide much pleasure to many of the town's residents.

(c) The Late Ron Cornwell and Arthur Earle

The Mayor emphasised the outstanding contributions that both Ron Cornwell and Arthur Earle had made to the Crawley community. In so doing the Mayor announced that Members of the Council were very keen to find an appropriate way of recognising those contributions and as such honour the memory of these two exceptional people. In the presence of family members of both Ron and Arthur, the Mayor advised that an appropriately prominent road in the new Forge Wood neighbourhood development would be named in memory of Ron, and that the Education Room in the new Museum would be named in memory of Arthur. All those present in the Council Chamber stood to applaud the memory and achievements of Ron and Arthur and huge tributes were paid to both.

(d) The Previous Meeting of the Full Council held on 26 February 2014

In response to an apology from Councillor B J Burgess regarding her view that she might have been a touch out of order during one point of debate at the last meeting of the Full Council, the Mayor assured her that her apology was accepted.

116. Variations in the Order of Business

The Mayor announced the following variation in the order of business so that:-

Item 11 (a) (Notice of Motion as moved by Councillor P C Smith) would be taken immediately following Agenda Item 4, Petition (Recommendation 1).

On completion of the above business, the Council would resume with the remaining business as set out in the agenda, with the next item being Item 5 (Public Question Time).

**117. Petition -
“WEDNESDAY MARKET SHUTS” / “SAVE OUR MARKET”**

(Recommendation 1)

Two petitions had been received by the Council in accordance with the Council's Petition Scheme which were in relation to the Crawley market. These sought the Council to reinstate the Wednesday market in Queens Square and for the Friday and Saturday High Street markets to relocate to the Queens Square. Following the subsequent agreement with both Principal Petitioners, both petitions were considered as one petition. Both of the petitions were requesting the same thing - that they wanted the market to remain in Queens Square (and on the understanding that this was supported by all those signing the petitions). As both petitions were being considered as one, and as agreed with both Principal Petitioners, only one of them (Ms Sandy Turner) would act as the Principal Petitioner in presenting the petitions to the Full Council at this meeting.

The Council was recommended to: (1) Hear from the Principal Petitioner, and (2) Determine in accordance with the Council's Petition Scheme any action to be taken in respect of the Petition.

The Petitions, as considered together, read as follows:-

“WEDNESDAY MARKET SHUTS

Crawley council has shut Queens Square Wednesday Market

This puts Friday and Saturday High Street Market in jeopardy because we rely on Wednesdays to keep our business going!

You may possibly lose all markets in the town very soon

Do you want all markets to be held in queen's square?"

"SAVE OUR MARKET

We, the undersigned, call on Crawley Borough Council to keep the Wednesday, Crawley Market, in its present venue, in Queen's Square.

Furthermore we call on the Council to seriously consider moving the market into Queen's Square, on a Friday and Saturday.

Moving the Market back into the High Street, at this time, would sound the death bell for this facility. There is not enough foot-fall in the High Street to produce the number of customers, to keep the market alive. Queen's Square also has massive problems, at this time, in attracting visitors and shoppers. The market, on a Wednesday is a popular attraction and brings bustle and life to the Square."

The Full Council received the comments of Ms Turner who, in also having arranged for the circulation of further comments to all Members at this meeting, commended the Petition to the Council.

During the Full Council's discussions on this matter, a number of Members in indicating their support for the Petition, expressed the view that decisions regarding the way forward on the issues raised in the Petition needed to be made without delay. In response to those views it was reiterated that there was currently no in depth evidence around the arguments raised, and that rather than a knee jerk reaction, a strategic approach should be considered which took into account the Town Centre generally, including the Queens Square and the market.

Amendment

The following amendment was moved by Councillor Lanzer and seconded by Councillor Dr Bloom:-

That with regard to Part 2 of the Recommendation:

“The matter be referred to the Cabinet for consideration, and that in that respect officers be asked to prepare a detailed evidence-based report considering all the arguments relating to this issue, including those issues set out in the Notice of Motion in Item 11 (a) of this meeting's agenda, and that this report be considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Commission and the Cabinet at the earliest opportunity. In view of this, the concession extended to market traders enabling them to operate in Queens Square will be maintained pending the outcome of this review”.

The Council continued to undertake a detailed debate on all the issues arising.

The amendment, upon being put to the Council, was CARRIED, and it was

RESOLVED

That the matter be referred to the Cabinet for consideration, and that in that respect officers be asked to prepare a detailed evidence-based report considering all the arguments relating to this issue, including those issues set out in the Notice of Motion in Item 11 (a) of this meeting's agenda, and that this report be considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Commission and the Cabinet at the earliest opportunity. In view of this, the concession extended to market traders enabling them to operate in Queens Square will be maintained pending the outcome of this review.

118. Notice of Motion (1of 2)

The Full Council considered a Notice of Motion in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 12, which was moved by Councillor P C Smith and seconded by Councillor Ward.

The Notice of Motion was in relation to issues raised around the Crawley market as also reflected in the Petition considered by the Full Council in the previous item of business (Minute Number 117 above refers). The Motion was as follows:-

“This council recognises the recent campaign and petition organised by Crawley market traders, and signed by thousands of local residents, expressing their opposition to the forced removal of the Wednesday market at Queens Square ("the Square").

The council also recognises that the lack of notice to traders, which resulted in them facing one week's notice of having to move back to the High Street permanently, was unsatisfactory, and lessons need to be learnt from this.

The council is committed to a strong and vibrant market, and also a successful Square that attracts businesses and shoppers into the Town Centre. It believes that the market on Wednesday has helped to attract additional footfall to the Square, and has contributed to the Square appearing more active and successful on those days.

The council recognises the concerns of market traders, and the financial pressures they are experiencing with the current conditions for the market on the High Street. It also recognises that the Square is in need of renovation, and work may need to

commence in future to ensure the Square remains a premier location for retail, for both residents and visitors alike.

The council therefore resolves:

- (1) to request that the Head of Planning and Environmental Services uses her delegated powers under the constitution to continue to give individual consents to market traders to trade in the Square each Wednesday, and in doing so she may require such traders to also commit to trading at the market in the High Street on other days;
- (2) for the relevant council officers to undertake urgent work to enhance public awareness of the market being held on Fridays and Saturdays in the High Street and to take practical steps to increase footfall there, if possible;
- (3) to commit to the market being allowed to continue in the Square on Wednesdays until such time as the square is required for improvement works to begin, to enhance and regenerate the square as part of ongoing plans by this council and West Sussex County Council to maintain Crawley's place as a successful shopping centre;
- (4) to instruct officers to investigate ways that a more suitable location for traders can be found, such as moving the Wednesday market somewhere nearer the Square than the High Street, such as along the paving between Parkside and Queensway, and
- (5) to instruct council officers to work sensitively with traders, in a spirit of mutual co-operation, to accommodate "special events" and displays in the Square in a way that allows both the market and the proposed events to take place in the square without disruption to each other."

Amendment

As part of the debate on this matter, and with the intention of being consistent with the Full Council's decision on the Crawley market Petition, the following amendment was moved by Councillor Lanzer and seconded by Councillor Dr Bloom:-

- (1) That the words "The Council therefore resolves:" be amended to read "The Council therefore resolves that consideration be given:"
- (2) That additional wording be added at the end of the Notice of Motion as Part (6):
"(6) That Parts (1) to (5) above be taken on board for consideration as part of the report earlier agreed in response to the received petition, for submission to the OSC and Cabinet."

The Council continued a detailed discussion and further considered all the issues raised, with a number of Members continuing to convey their concerns for the future of the Crawley market.

The amendment, upon being put to the Council, was CARRIED.

The Notice of Motion, as amended, upon being put to the Council, was CARRIED, and it was

RESOLVED

That this council recognises the recent campaign and petition organised by Crawley market traders, and signed by thousands of local residents, expressing their opposition to the forced removal of the Wednesday market at Queens Square ("the Square").

The council also recognises that the lack of notice to traders, which resulted in them facing one week's notice of having to move back to the High Street permanently, was unsatisfactory, and lessons need to be learnt from this.

The council is committed to a strong and vibrant market, and also a successful Square that attracts businesses and shoppers into the Town Centre. It believes that the market on Wednesday has helped to attract additional footfall to the Square, and has contributed to the Square appearing more active and successful on those days.

The council recognises the concerns of market traders, and the financial pressures they are experiencing with the current conditions for the market on the High Street. It also recognises that the Square is in need of renovation, and work may need to commence in future to ensure the Square remains a premier location for retail, for both residents and visitors alike.

The council therefore resolves that consideration be given:

- (1) to request that the Head of Planning and Environmental Services uses her delegated powers under the constitution to continue to give individual consents to market traders to trade in the Square each Wednesday, and in doing so she may require such traders to also commit to trading at the market in the High Street on other days;
- (2) for the relevant council officers to undertake urgent work to enhance public awareness of the market being held on Fridays and Saturdays in the High Street and to take practical steps to increase footfall there, if possible;
- (3) to commit to the market being allowed to continue in the Square on Wednesdays until such time as the square is required for improvement works to begin, to enhance and regenerate the square as part of ongoing plans by this council and West Sussex County Council to maintain Crawley's place as a successful shopping centre;
- (4) to instruct officers to investigate ways that a more suitable location for traders can be found, such as moving the Wednesday market somewhere nearer the Square than the High Street, such as along the paving between Parkside and Queensway, and
- (5) to instruct council officers to work sensitively with traders, in a spirit of mutual co-operation, to accommodate "special events" and displays in the Square in a way that allows both the market and the proposed events to take place in the square without disruption to each other.
- (6) That Parts (1) to (5) above be taken on board for consideration as part of the report earlier agreed in response to the received petition, for submission to the Overview and Scrutiny Commission and Cabinet.

119. Public Question Time

Questions asked in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 9 were as follows:

Questioner's Name	Subject	Name of Councillor(s) Responding
County Councillor S Mullins	Whilst referring to recent incidents she had observed of disruption caused in the Queens Square by skateboarders, and in referring to other matters impacting on the appearance of the Square, County Councillor Mullins asked what was being done by this Council to upgrade that area of the town centre ?	Councillor Lanzer referred to the fact that a company had now been commissioned to achieve improvements to the Queens Square and to harness its potential as a flexible space. With this in mind, and in response to comments from Members, he also indicated that a range of summer events were being planned which would not only enhance the town centre, but would also demonstrate examples of how the Queens Square could be used, whilst also generating ideas and suggestions from the public when consultation took place later in the year on more permanent improvements. Councillor Trussell indicated that he would look into the skateboarding situation, including the work of the community wardens to help control the use of skateboarding in the Square, bearing in mind, for example, that the Council operated a designated skateboarding park.
Mr M Stone	Seeking an update on the Council's search for a new Cemetery Site	Councillor Trussell was pleased to announce that a site identified in the Pease Pottage area of Crawley, and which was owned by the Council, was at this stage looking very positive for use as the town's new cemetery. Testing of the site for

Questioner's Name	Subject	Name of Councillor(s) Responding
		suitability was ongoing, and Members would continue to be further updated on any progress made in relation to this matter.
Mr J Herbert	Reference was made to a campaign currently being organised by the Sun newspaper to help restore (and stop others from falling into ruin) the graves of Victoria Cross heroes. The campaign was launched in tandem with the Victoria Cross Trust as Britain prepared to mark 100 years since the First World War began. Mr Herbert asked if the Council could follow this sort of example in respect of graves of First World War Soldiers in the Snell Hatch Cemetery ?	<p>Councillor Trussell thanked Mr Herbert for the issues he had raised, and advised him that he would speak to officers regarding this matter and ensure that Mr Herbert was contacted with a response shortly.</p> <p>Councillor Thomas referred to Gatwick Airport's proposals for a second runway, and in so doing emphasised that the Church of St Michael and All Angels in Lowfield Heath was located on the site concerned. Councillor Thomas hoped that should the runway proposals be adopted, the Council would do everything it could to ensure that the Church and the graves, including the graves of First World War Soldiers, were relocated.</p>
Mr R Symonds	Seeking clarification as to when the Council was to make its position clear regarding Gatwick Airport's second runway proposals.	Councillor Lanzer commented that the Council would be considering its position on a second runway this autumn after the Airports Commission had published its consultation document on all the proposals which were shortlisted by the Commission in December 2013 for providing an additional runway in the South East.

120. Appointment of Interim Chief Finance Officer

Each local authority was required to designate a suitably qualified officer as Chief Finance Officer in accordance with Section 114 of the Local Government Act 1988 and Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972. The appointment was a Full Council function. Following the retirement of the Head of Finance, Revenues and Benefits, the Full Council was requested to appoint Karen Hayes (Deputy Head of Finance) as Interim Chief Finance Officer with immediate effect.

It was moved by Councillor Dr Bloom, seconded by Councillor Burrett and

RESOLVED

That Karen Hayes (Deputy Head of Finance) be appointed as Interim Chief Finance Officer with immediate effect.

121. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Full Council held on [26 February 2014](#) were approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

122. Items for Debate (Reserved Items)

Members indicated that they wished to speak on a number of items as set out in the following table:

Minute Book Page no.	Committee/ Minute no. (and the Member reserving the item for Debate)	Subject (Decisions previously taken under delegated powers, reserved for debate only).	Subject (Recommendation to Full Council, reserved for debate)
41	Audit and Governance Committee 12 March 2014 Minute 36 (Labour and Conservative Groups)		Code of Corporate Governance (Recommendation 2)
42	Audit and Governance Committee 12 March 2014 Minute 37 (Labour Group)	Update on the Operation of the Standards Regime under the Localism Act 2011	
44	Audit and Governance Committee 12 March 2014 Minute 40 (Labour Group)	Feedback on the Council's Recent Investment Projects Completed or now in Hand	

Minute Book Page no.	Committee/ Minute no. (and the Member reserving the item for Debate)	Subject (Decisions previously taken under delegated powers, reserved for debate only).	Subject (Recommendation to Full Council, reserved for debate)
47	Overview and Scrutiny Commission 17 March 2014 Minute 89 (Labour Group)	Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee (HASCSC)	
54	General Purposes Committee 31 March 2014 Minute 22 (Labour and Conservative Groups)		Use of Social Media, Photography, Filming and Recording at Council Meetings. (Recommendation 3)
56	General Purposes Committee 31 March 2014 Minute 23 (Labour and Conservative Groups)		Annual Review of the Constitution. (Recommendation 4)
3 of Supp. Minute Book	Overview and Scrutiny Commission 7 April 2014 Minute 99 (Labour Group)	Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee (HASCSC)	
8 of Supp. Minute Book	Development control Committee 8 April 2014 Minute 82 (Labour Group)	<u>CR/2013/0153/ADV</u> 21 – 28 Broad Walk, Northgate, Crawley Erection of 1 x fascia sign.	
13 of Supp. Minute Book	Cabinet 9 April 2014 Minute 120 (Labour and Conservative Groups)		Homelessness Strategy 2014-2019 (Recommendation 5)

123. Reports of the Cabinet, Overview and Scrutiny Commission and Committees

Moved by Councillor V S Cumper (as the Deputy Mayor) and

RESOLVED

That the following reports be received:

- (a) Development Control Committee – 17 February 2014.
- (b) Development Control Committee – 10 March 2014.
- (c) Audit and Governance Committee – 12 March 2014.
- (d) Overview and Scrutiny Commission – 17 March 2014.
- (e) Cabinet – 19 March 2014.
- (f) General Purposes Committee – 31 March 2014.
- (g) Overview and Scrutiny Commission – 7 April 2014.
- (h) Appointments and Investigating Committee – 8 April 2014.
- (i) Development Control Committee – 8 April 2014.
- (j) Cabinet – 9 April 2014.

Recommendations to Full Council not Reserved for Debate (Unreserved Items)

Whilst at this point (and as indicated in the agenda) it was to be moved that the recommendations to Council, which had not been reserved for debate be adopted, this was not now necessary as all the recommendations to Council had, on this occasion, been reserved for debate.

124. Reserved Items

The matters identified in Minute No. 122 above were debated by the Council. These included:

(a) **Matter raised under the report of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission – 7 April 2014**

With regard to the matter of the Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee (HASCSC) (Minute no. 99), Members reiterated their concern over the NHS England's lack of urgency to act following the winter storm damage to the Medical Practice building in Langley Green which was not due to be re opening until January 2015. It was confirmed that in accordance with the decision of the Commission, Councillors R G Burgess and B A Smith were in the process of requesting the Chair of HASCSC, Margaret Evans, to invite Amanda Fadero, NHS England's Surrey and Sussex Team Manager, to attend the next meeting of the HASC, and thus be available to respond to any unresolved issues regarding the Medical Practice building. Councillor Burgess indicated that he would not be requesting that attendance in his capacity as Mayor, but as the Council's representative on the HASCSC.

(b) **Matter raised under the report of the Development Control Committee – 8 April 2014**

This related to Planning Application CR/2013/0153/ADV (21 – 28 Broad Walk, Northgate, Crawley, Erection of 1 x fascia sign) (Minute no. 82). In response to a question from a Member regarding the retrospective nature of this application, which was made by the Council, the Chair of the Committee explained that the issues surrounding this matter were not due to any failings of the Planning Service, and as such he was not in a position to answer the Member's question.

(c) **The reserved items containing recommendations to Full Council.**

These were dealt with as set out in Minute Numbers 125, 126, 127 and 128 below:-

**125. Code of Corporate Governance
(Audit and Governance Committee – 12 March 2014)
(Recommendation 2)**

The Committee had considered report [LDS/079](#) of the Head of Legal and Democratic Services. The Committee had referred to the Council's current review of governance practices and structures involving this Committee, the General Purposes Committee and the Performance Monitoring Scrutiny Panel (the Committee's consideration on the Role of Audit and Governance at its 25 June 2013 meeting refers), and on which it was understood a report would be received by Members in due course. With this in mind the Committee had agreed that if the proposed Code was adopted by the Full Council it could then be further reviewed in a year's time to specifically consider its purpose within the outcomes of the review on governance / committee arrangements.

Moved by Councillor Quirk, seconded and

RESOLVED

That the proposed Code of Corporate Governance (as contained in Appendix A to report LDS/079) be adopted for inclusion in the Constitution and to replace the existing Corporate Governance Statement.

**126. Use of Social Media, Photography, Filming and Recording at Council Meetings
(General Purposes Committee – 31 March 2014)
(Recommendation 3)**

The Committee had considered report **CEX/042** of the Chief Executive.

Moved by Councillor Burke, seconded and

RESOLVED

That the protocol on the use of social media, photography, filming and recording at Council meetings (Appendix A to report CEX/042) be adopted in Part 5 (Codes and Protocols) of the Council's Constitution to take effect from 24 April 2014 subject to the following amendments:

(i) That the last paragraph of Section 2 be amended to read as follows: "If a meeting passes a motion to exclude the media and public (**Part B / exempt information**) then, in conjunction with this, all rights to film, video, photograph or record the meeting are removed."

(ii) That the second sentence of Section 4 be amended to read as follows: "No Councillor in attendance, whether a decision maker or observer, is permitted to use social media or mobile devices ~~in private~~ **when the meeting is in private session** (when the press and public are excluded) or to disclose in any way the content of items under discussion".

**127. Annual Review of the Constitution
(General Purposes Committee – 31 March 2014)
(Recommendation 4)**

The Committee had considered report [LDS/081](#) of the Head of Legal and Democratic Services.

Moved by Councillor Burke, seconded and

RESOLVED

- (1) That the amendments to the Constitution proposed in Appendix 1 to report LDS/081 be agreed.
- (2) That since the provisions relating to Call-In and Urgency (Protection from Call-In) have not been used during the past twelve months, no change to the provisions is necessary at this stage.

**128. Homelessness Strategy 2014-2019
(Cabinet – 9 April 2014)
(Recommendation 5)**

The Cabinet had considered report [SHAP/36](#) of the Head of Strategic Housing & Planning, which had also been considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Commission at its meeting on 7 April 2014.

Moved by Councillor Dr Bloom, seconded by Councillor Burrett and

RESOLVED

That the Homelessness Strategy 2014-2019 as attached to the report SHAP/36 be approved for adoption and subsequent publication, subject to the amendments identified below:-

- (i) Strategic Objective 1, Action 8 to be replaced with the wording 'Explore possible options and services under the 'No Second Night Out' agenda to single rough sleepers to whom the Council may have no statutory duty to provide accommodation but who will be severely affected by sleeping rough and who impact upon wider agencies and communities'.
- (ii) Section 6 – Monitoring and Review, lines 3 and 4. Amend sentence to read 'The revised action plan will be published as an addendum to the strategy and made available on the Council's website'.

129. Notice of Motion (2 of 2)

The Full Council considered a Notice of Motion in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 12, which was moved by Councillor P C Smith and seconded by Councillor Lamb.

Amendment

As part of the debate on this matter, the following amendment was moved by Councillor Lanzer and seconded by Councillor B J Burgess:-

“That the words “approve a Local Plan” in the first sentence be amended to read “approve the Local Plan”. That the word “pass” in the second sentence be amended to read “approve”, and that a comma be added at the end of the sentence and the following words added: “in accordance with the entry which is already in the Forward Plan” ”.

Members continued to discuss the Local Plan generally, including issues and concerns arising from the Full Council’s considerations of the Plan at its meeting on 18 December 2013.

The amendment, upon being put to the Council, was CARRIED.

The Notice of Motion, as amended, upon being put to the Council, was CARRIED, and it was

RESOLVED

That this Council recognises the need to approve the Local Plan at the first possible opportunity.

The Council therefore resolves to approve the Local Plan 2030 as soon as can be arranged, in accordance with the entry which is already in the Forward Plan.

130. Duration of the Meeting

As the business had not been completed within the two and a half hours specified within Council Procedure Rule 2.2, the Mayor required the Full Council to consider if it wished to continue with the meeting, and having put it to the Council, the meeting was continued for an additional period not exceeding 30 minutes.

131. Members’ Written Questions

A question asked in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 10.3, together with the answer, was tabled as follows:

Questioner	Councillor Irvine
Addressed to	Cabinet Member for Housing
Subject	Sale of Council Houses

132. Announcements by Cabinet Members

No announcements were made.

133. Questions to Cabinet Members

Questions asked pursuant to Council Procedure Rule 10.1 were as follows:

Name of Councillor asking Question	Subject	Name of Cabinet Member(s) Responding
Councillor Mullins	Seeking an update on the accident at Cherry Lane Adventure Playground on 8 April.	Councillor Crow (as Cabinet Member for Leisure and Cultural Services) provided that update and advised Members that further updates would be given when available.
Councillor Lloyd	Following the recent case of particularly poor air quality across the South of England, Councillor Lloyd asked if the Council was proposing to undertake any additional work regarding Crawley to help further assist air quality in this area ?	Councillor Trussell (as Cabinet Member for Environmental Services) responded to this matter and advised that he would seek detailed feedback from Officers on the issue raised and report back to Members accordingly.
Councillor Peck	Seeking an update on the proposed installation of an Outside Gym in Tilgate Park.	Councillor Crow (as Cabinet Member for Leisure and Cultural Services) provided the update requested. The intention was that this new facility to help further encourage people to take regular exercise would be open to the public around the period of July.
Councillor Irvine	Councillor Irvine raised a number of concerns with Councillor Dr Bloom (as Leader of the Council) regarding the maintenance of shrub beds, including those within the Broadfield area, and asked that he ensure that the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) / tenants received value for money regarding that maintenance provision.	Councillor Dr Bloom advised that, with shrub beds being the responsibility of one of his fellow Cabinet Members, and in acknowledging that this matter deserved a detailed response, he would arrange with that Cabinet Member to provide a written reply to the matters raised. In response to further comments from Councillor Irvine, Councillor Dr Bloom indicated that although he was the Leader, it was only right that the responsible Cabinet Member be given the opportunity to respond to the matters concerned, which needed, and deserved, a detailed response, which he as

Name of Councillor asking Question	Subject	Name of Cabinet Member(s) Responding
		Leader would ensure would be undertaken.
Councillor B A Smith	Arrangements regarding the honouring of the late Ron Cornwell and Arthur Earle, as undertaken earlier at this meeting (Minute 115 (c) above refers).	Councillor Boxall (as Cabinet Member for Community Engagement) apologised for any lack of advanced notification regarding those arrangements, and would seek to ensure that such arrangements for similar occasions would be better notified in the future.

134. Questions to Committee Chairs

Name of Councillor asking Question	Subject	Name of Chair Responding
Councillor Thomas	Seeking clarification regarding the progress of the recommendation which had been made by the Financial Deprivation Scrutiny Panel on the provision of food banks.	Councillor Jones as Vice Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission (and in the absence of the Chair of the Commission) indicated that the outcome of his enquiries suggested that this matter had still to be considered by the Cabinet, and he felt that the matter deserved full consideration. In this connection, Councillor Boxall referred to a meeting which was to take place at the Orchards, Crawley on food bank provision. This was being organised in cooperation with the CCVS, and Councillors Boxall and Trussell advised the Full Council that the meeting would be taking place on 30 April at 7.00 pm, and that anyone interested would be welcomed to attend.
Councillor Lanzer	Seeking clarification on resource and operational issues in relation to the Financial Deprivation Scrutiny Panel	Councillor Jones as Vice Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission (and in the absence of the Chair of the Commission)

Name of Councillor asking Question	Subject	Name of Chair Responding
		indicated that he would need to look back at some of the details sought, whilst conveying the view that the Panel should still be operating.
Councillor Lloyd	Councillor Lloyd referred to the Council's current review of governance practices and structures involving the Audit and Governance Committee, the General Purposes Committee and the Performance Monitoring Scrutiny Panel. With this in mind it was strongly felt that the outcomes of that review, including potentially the replacement of those Committees by fewer and more wide ranging committees, should not override the work and roles of non executive Members as part of the Council's decision making processes.	Councillor Quirk (as Chair of the Audit and Governance Committee) acknowledged the comments of Councillor Lloyd, whilst confirming that the overall composition of the Committees was under review to see whether their current activities and objectives could be better and more effectively achieved.
Councillor Burrett	Issues raised relating to the task and finish objective of Scrutiny Panels, including that of the Financial Deprivation Scrutiny Panel, for which Councillor Burrett asked how could a Panel that had completed its final report continue in existence ?	Councillor Jones as Vice Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission (and in the absence of the Chair of the Commission) responded to the comments made, including his view that in terms of the task and finish objective, the work of Scrutiny Panels should be considered on a case by case basis, with some scrutiny reviews perhaps requiring more time to complete than others.

135. A Message of Thanks from the Mayor

The Mayor took this opportunity to thank all Members who would not be seeking re-election at the forthcoming Borough election for their valued and dedicated service with this Authority.

136. Closure of Meeting

The meeting ended at 10.35 p.m.

Mayor

APPENDIX A

Members' Disclosures of Interest

Member	Agenda Item No.	Name and date of Cabinet/ Committee and Minute No.	Minute Book Page No.	Subject or Planning Application No.	Type and Nature of Disclosure.
Councillor B A Smith	9(1)(c) and 10	Audit and Governance Committee 12 March 2014 Minute 37	P42	Update on the Operation of the Standards Regime under the Localism Act 2011	Personal Interest as a Member of West Sussex County Council, and regarding Councillor Smith's observations of the Standards Regime at that Authority.
Councillor R D Burrett	9(1)(d)	Overview and Scrutiny Commission 17 March 2014 Minute 87	P47	Agency Staff Procurement	Personal Interest as a Member of West Sussex County Council
Councillor R D Burrett	9(1)(d) and 10	Overview and Scrutiny Commission – 17 March 2014 Minute 89	P47	Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee (HASCSC)	Personal Interest as a Member of West Sussex County Council.
Councillor B A Smith	9(1)(d) and 10	Overview and Scrutiny Commission – 17 March 2014 Minute 89	P47	Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee (HASCSC)	Personal Interest as a Member of West Sussex County Council.
Councillor R D Burrett	9(1)(e)	Cabinet 19 March 2014 Minute 112	P53	Agency Staff Procurement	Personal Interest as a Member of West Sussex County Council
Councillor R D Burrett	9(1)(g) and 10	Overview and Scrutiny Commission 7 April 2014 Minute 99	P3 of Supp. Minute Book	Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee (HASCSC)	Personal Interest as a Member of West Sussex County Council.
Councillor B A Smith	9(1)(g) and 10	Overview and Scrutiny Commission 7 April 2014 Minute 99	P3 of Supp. Minute Book	Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee (HASCSC)	Personal Interest as a Member of West Sussex County Council.
Councillor J I Denman	9(1)(i)	Development Control Committee 8 April 2014 Minute 82	P9 of Supp. Minute Book	CR/2014/0068/CON	Personal and prejudicial interest as one of the objectors to the application is related to Cllr Denman.
Councillor D G Crow	11 (a)			Notice of Motion regarding the Crawley Market	Personal Interest as a Member of the Crawley Town Centre Partnership.

Member	Agenda Item No.	Name and date of Cabinet/ Committee and Minute No.	Minute Book Page No.	Subject or Planning Application No.	Type and Nature of Disclosure.
Councillor R A Lanzer	11 (a)			Notice of Motion regarding the Crawley Market	Personal Interest as a Member of the Crawley Town Centre Partnership.