



ANDOVER TOWN COUNCIL

Extraordinary Policy & Resources Committee Minutes

Time and date

6.30pm, Thursday, 14 October 2021

Place

The Lights, Andover

Details of Attendance:

Members of the Committee:

Cllr R Rowles (Chairman) (P)

Cllr S Waue (Vice Chairman) (P)

Cllr L Gregori (P) Cllr R Hughes (P) Cllr M Mumford (P) Cllr J Sangster (A)

Cllr B Long (Town Mayor) (Ex Officio) (P)

Officers Present:

Wendy Coulter (Town Clerk)

Tor Warburton (Deputy Clerk) (taking the minutes)

Other Town Councillors:

Cllr D Coole

Cllr C Ecclestone

Cllr N Long

Cllr R Meyer

Cllr D Treadwell

Borough/County Councillors: None

Members of the Public: 2

Members of the Press: None

PR 016/10/21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence received.

PR 017/10/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest in relation to any items on the agenda.

PR 018/10/21 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

The Chairman read the following advice received from the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) and Hampshire Association of Local Councils (HALC), to the Members of the Committee, Officers and Members of the Public present at the meeting:

"Item 80 of Legal Topic Note 4. A Member of the Council who is not appointed to the Committee, may attend the committee meetings as a member of the public. He would have no right to participate in the meeting unless a member of the public also has the same rights, as explained in the Legal Topic Note 1, "Councillors powers to discharge their functions."

The Chairman further commented that in that note it clearly stated that confidential sessions should not be attended by members of the public and requested that those Councillors in the audience needed to leave.

It was proposed by Councillor R Hughes and seconded by Councillor R Rowles that the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting at Agenda Items 4, 5, 6 and 7, due to consideration of Confidential Staffing matters (Employment Rights Act 1996 & LG&HA 1989 s.11).

A vote was taken which was unanimous.

RESOLVED: That the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting at Agenda Items 4, 5, 6 and 7, due to consideration of Confidential Staffing matters (Employment Rights Act 1996 & LG&HA 1989 s.11).

The meeting could not proceed to the Confidential Session due to Councillor Rebecca Meyer's refusal to leave the meeting.

Councillor R Hughes proposed the meeting be abandoned.

Councillor B Long reiterated that the Town Council Solicitor has said that Members of the Committee are entitled to be in confidential meetings. Councillors who are not Members of that Committee are not entitled to be at that confidential item and certainly not for staffing matters. Councillor B Long advised Councillors D Coole, C Ecclestone and R Meyer that the Confidential item on the agenda was a staffing matter and as they were not Members of this Committee, they were not allowed to be in the Confidential session. Councillor B Long further advised that they were stopping the Council from doing their due diligence to be able to get this moving and to be able to come to Council with staffing matters.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting due to the disruption that had been caused by Councillors C Ecclestone and R Meyer and Councillor R Meyer's refusal to leave the confidential session of the meeting.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 6.13pm.

Chairman

Date