

## **COUNCIL**

**Date and Time:** Thursday 25 June 2020 at 7.00 pm

**Place:** Council Chamber

**Present:**

### **COUNCILLORS -**

Kennett (Chairman)

Ambler

Axam

Bailey

Blewett

Butler

Clarke

Cockarill

Crampton

Crookes

Davies

Delaney

Dorn

Drage

Farmer

Forster

Kinnell

Lamb

Makepeace-Browne

Neighbour

Oliver

Quarterman

Radley

Smith

Southern

Tomlinson

Wildsmith

Worlock

Wright

### **Officers Present:**

Daryl Phillips

Helen Vincent

Celia Wood

Joint Chief Executive

Committee and Member Services Officer

Democratic Services Officer

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

It was unanimously agreed to suspend Standing Orders 9.3 (Show of Hands for voting), 22.1 (Standing to Speak) and 22.2 (Chairman Standing).

### **14 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Minutes of the meeting of 21 May 2020 were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

### **15 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies had been received from Councillors Harward and Crisp.

### **16 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations made.

### **17 COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 12 - QUESTIONS BY THE PUBLIC**

Questions had been received from Mr John Crossley, detailed in Appendix A.

## **18 COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 14 - QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS**

Questions had been received from Councillors Crampton and Crookes detailed in Appendix B.

## **19 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman welcomed nominations for local charities from Fleet East, Fleet West and Fleet Central Wards. A decision as to which charities the Chairman will adopt this year will be announced at the next meeting of Council in July.

## **20 CABINET MEMBERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Councillor Neighbour announced how proud he is to be a member of Hart District Council and praised the efforts of Officers during the COVID-19 pandemic. He has been so impressed with staff commitment and empathy during these trying times and thanked everyone for their hard work.

Councillor Radley reiterated Councillor Neighbour's remarks and wanted to recognise the efforts made by Officers during this crisis and the efforts made by all Members across the board. He hoped Hart's resilience would continue as long as is needed.

Councillor Ambler stated that the COVID-19 situation has the effect of forcing progress on the digital strategy in respect of mobile working. He highlighted the efforts of officers, almost overnight, getting everyone set up for home working with all staff quickly adapting to this new way of working whilst many were at the same time having to cope with different work outside of their regular role. Throughout the lockdown period there has been constant and careful monitoring of the effectiveness of Hart District Council's systems and working practices which will lead to recommendations in the future helping to shape the ongoing strategy.

Councillor Bailey thanked Officers at Hart for the hard work in helping the homeless and rough sleepers in the community and praised the efforts to find permanent housing solutions. He praised the Council's work in supporting Hart's most at risk residents. The number of referrals through The Hub has reduced significantly but a plan is already in place to remobilise the service if there is a second wave.

Councillor Crookes commented on Councillor Bailey's announcement by praising the efforts of the Housing Team with their great response for a homeless case in Odiham.

Councillor Cockarill had no specific announcement but wanted to thank Officers for all their hard work.

Councillor Kinnell had no announcement but wanted to praise the work of the Council.

Councillor Oliver advised Councillors that all waste services are up and running and wanted to thank residents for being patient and showing their gratitude. He wanted to thank all Waste Operatives and Serco for their continued efforts.

Councillor Forster asked for clarification on Councillor Oliver's announcement. He asked if bulk deliveries, delivery of new bins, glass crates and new submissions for garden waste collections were also up and running? Councillor Oliver responded that the services were up and running but with respect to Green waste collections there was no capacity to take on new subscribers at this time.

Councillor Smith expressed concerns over reduced capacity of booking slots at HWRC. Councillor Oliver stated that a complaint has been logged with HCC with regard to the booking system and not releasing available slots. Councillor Quarterman had no specific announcement but praised the efforts of all the Officers at Hart and was in the process of agreeing a postponed update for the Commercialisation Strategy at the next Overview & Scrutiny Committee meeting on 14 July 2020.

## **21 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORTS**

The Joint Chief Executives had nothing substantive to report.

## **22 MINUTES OF COMMITTEES**

No Council meetings had been held due to the Covid19 measures in place.

## **23 APPOINTMENT OF SECTION 151 OFFICER**

It was agreed to that Ms Emma Foy be appointed as the Officer responsible for the administration of the Council's finances under Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972

## **24 OUTSIDE BODIES - FEEDBACK FROM MEMBERS**

Councillor Dorn updated Members on the Armed Forces Covenant.

Councillor Radley asked if there will be an opportunity for discussions to be had about potential closure of access for the public to army training land. Councillor Dorn responded that there hasn't been the opportunity to discuss this at present.

Councillor Makepeace-Browne announced that the Basingstoke Canal Committee have not met yet and the July meeting will now be in November therefore she had nothing to report.

The meeting closed at 7.54 pm