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BEST ACHIEVING
COUNCIL OF THE YEAR



Barry Keel
Chief Executive

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Date

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CITY COUNCIL

ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

Date: Monday 25 July 2011

Time: 2.00 pm

Venue: COUNCIL HOUSE, PLYMOUTH (next to the Civic Centre)

Members:

Councillor Brookshaw, Chair

Councillor Delbridge, Vice Chair

Councillors Mrs Aspinall, Ball, Mrs Beer, Berrow, Bowie, Bowyer, Mrs Bowyer, Mrs Bragg, Browne, Casey, Churchill, Coker, Davey, Mrs Dolan, Drean, Evans, K Foster, Mrs Foster, Fry, Gordon, Haydon, James, Jordan, Martin Leaves, Michael Leaves, Sam Leaves, Lock, Lowry, Dr. Mahony, McDonald, Monahan, Murphy, Mrs Nelder, Nicholson, Mrs Nicholson, Penberthy, Mrs Pengelly, Rennie, Reynolds, Ricketts, Dr. Salter, Singh, John Smith, Peter Smith, Stark, Stevens, Thompson, Tuffin, Tuohy, Vincent, Wheeler, Wiggins, Wildy, Williams and Wright.

Barry Keel
Chief Executive

CITY COUNCIL

ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS 25.7.11

CITY COUNCIL MEETING ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

25 July 2011



MEMBERS ARE REQUESTED TO SIGN THE ATTENDANCE LIST SITUATED AT THE REAR OF THE CHAMBER.

Before the start of the meeting, prayers will be said by the Lord Mayor's Chaplain, Reverend Karl Freeman, Vicar of Emmanuel Church, Compton Avenue.

The Lord Mayor will draw the attention of councillors and the public to the following including the fire and emergency procedures as printed below -

FIRE, EMERGENCY AND OTHER PROCEDURES

Would you please note that –

- Toilets are situated at the front of the Council House at the foot of the stairs.
- If the fire alarm sounds, make your way immediately out of the public gallery through the exit at the back (the door through which you entered). For those in the Council Chamber the exit is through the doors at the back of the Chamber and down the stairs to the front of the Council House. The assembly area is to the right as you exit the Council House. For the mobility impaired, the assembly point is directly in front of the Council House car park.
- If you are in need of first aid, please make yourself known to any Council officer and the designated first aiders will be contacted.
- Unless the Chair agrees, mobile phones should be switched off and speech, video and photographic equipment should not be used during meetings.
- Smoking is not permitted within the Council House building.

1 APOLOGIES

Councillors

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Assistant Director for Democracy and Governance will invite councillors to make any declarations of interest relevant to today's meeting.

Councillors are reminded that an interest may be personal or prejudicial, in accordance with the Local Government Code of Conduct, or in accordance with Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act, 1992.

In declaring a personal interest, councillors are advised that they must also declare the nature of that interest.

3 MINUTES

PAGES 1 – 14

The Lord Mayor will move that the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 20 June 2011 are approved.

4 ANNOUNCEMENTS

(a) The Lord Mayor or the Chief Executive

- The late Corporal Mark Anthony Palin of the 1st Battalion, The Rifles;
- Bombing and Shootings in Norway.

(b) The Leader, Cabinet Members or Chairs of Committees

- Leader’s Announcement;
- Local Authority Building Control awards;
- 2011 Urban Transport Design Award for the West End development.

(Note: There is a limit of three minutes for each announcement at (b) above)

5 QUESTIONS BY THE PUBLIC

To receive questions from and provide answers to the public in relation to matters which, in the opinion of the Lord Mayor, are relevant to the business of the meeting in accordance with paragraph 10 of the Constitution.

There is one question for today’s meeting.

Question No	Question By	Chair of the Customer and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel	Subject
3 (11/12)	Mr F Sharpe	Councillor Thompson	Plymstock Swimming Pool Petition
<p>A petition asking Plymouth City Council please consult residents of Plymstock on a swimming pool site has been stopped going before a scrutiny panel as it is reported to already have too much work. Plymstock residents deserve better treatment. Please honour Council pledge and put this petition before scrutiny.</p>			
<p>Response: The Council’s Petition Scheme allows for a petition to be considered at an Overview and Scrutiny Panel meeting if it contains at least 2,500 signatures.</p> <p>Your petition contained 203 signatures and was sent to the Director of Community Services for a response. You received a response which included information about the Plymouth Sports Facility Strategy.</p> <p>You then asked for the petition to be put before the appropriate Scrutiny Panel. Despite this option being outside of the Petition Scheme (because your petition did not contain at least 2,500 signatures), the previous Chair of the Panel considered the request. However, it was decided that, given the Panel’s already high workload, the petition would not be considered by the Panel.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">cont’d.....</p>			

As you feel that we have not dealt with your petition properly, the next step of the Council's process is that the petition organiser has the right to ask the relevant Scrutiny Panel to review the Council's response. This will happen at the next meeting of the Customers and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel. You will be invited to give a short explanation about why the Council's response is not felt to be adequate.

A Democratic Support Officer will contact you to make the necessary arrangements.

6 TO DEAL WITH ANY BUSINESS FROM THE LAST COUNCIL MEETING, IF ANY.

There are no items of business outstanding.

ITEMS REFERRED FROM CABINET

7 Capital Investment : Payroll Enterprise Platform PAGES 15 – 20

The Lord Mayor will invite Councillor Bowyer (Cabinet Member for Finance, Property and People) to propose the addition to the capital programme of £1.9 million over 2011/12 and 2012/13 for the implementation of the Payroll Enterprise Platform project (Cabinet minute 22 refers).

The Lord Mayor will invite the Council to vote on the recommendation to amend the capital programme as requested, for the implementation of the Payroll Enterprise Platform project.

8 Modernisation and Refurbishment of Western Approach Car Park PAGES 21 – 26

The Lord Mayor will invite Councillor Wigens (Cabinet Member for Transport) to propose the £350k 'invest to save' capital scheme to modernise and refurbish the Western Approach car park. (Cabinet minute 25 refers).

The Lord Mayor will invite the Council to vote on the recommendation to approve the capital scheme, as requested, for the modernisation and refurbishment of the Western Approach car park.

9 MOTIONS ON NOTICE

There are seven motions on notice.

(a) Motion on Notice No 4 (11/12) PAGE 27

COUNCIL PRIORITY FOR VALUE FOR COMMUNITIES

This Council calls on the Cabinet Member for Transport or relevant scrutiny panel to conduct a review of the contract performance of Amey in relation to its contractual obligations to road maintenance, public safety and customer satisfaction.

**Proposed by Councillor Davey
Seconded by Councillor Coker**

(b) Motion on Notice No 5 (11/12)

PAGE 29

CHILD POVERTY

A recent report from End Child Poverty suggests that child poverty levels in Plymouth in mid 2010 stood at 22%, slightly above the national average of 21.3%. Whilst levels of child poverty in six wards are below 10%, in two wards they exceed 40%.

Council values the well being of the children in our city and acknowledges that living in poverty has an impact on long term health and can limit people's aspirations; for children the experience of living in poverty has a life long, and often negative, impact.

Council requests:

1. The relevant portfolio holder prepares a report for consideration at the September Cabinet meeting identifying what actions are already being taken to address issues of child poverty within the city and what additional work needs to be undertaken to address issues of inequality in child poverty levels between wards.
2. The Cabinet prepare an action plan to address these additional needs and either adopts it or (if required) brings it back to the October council meeting for adoption.

**Proposed by Councillor Penberthy
Seconded by Councillor Tuffin**

(c) Motion on Notice No 6 (11/12)

PAGE 31

PRIVATE SECTOR HOUSING PRESSURES

Council notes the revised Housing Assistance Policy shows a significantly reduced resource for supporting improvement to private sector housing stock.

This drop, from £2.8 million in 2010/2011 to £4.6 million split over a THREE YEAR period 2011 to 2014 will have a debilitating effect on the local housing for rent market at a time when Plymouth is likely to experience acute housing shortages within the sector. It is estimated by the council that forthcoming changes to housing benefit will result in 800 single persons' accommodation being required in the next financial year.

Council demands this issue be addressed as a priority within the forthcoming housing strategy.

**Proposed by Councillor Evans
Seconded by Councillor Williams**

(d) **Motion on Notice No 7 (11/12)**

PAGE 33

RESISTING CUTS TO PLYMOUTH POLICE

We note the £47 million cuts agreed by Devon and Cornwall Police Authority which could affect up to 1200 posts.

We note the comments of Paul McKeever, Chairman of the Police Federation of England and Wales, that crime increases are “an inevitable consequence” of Conservative/Lib Dem cuts to police budgets.

We therefore call upon Cllr Mrs Pengelly, as our representative on Devon and Cornwall Police Authority, to reaffirm her commitment to:

- Retaining police, PCSO and police staff levels in Plymouth at current levels
- Ensuring Plymouth retains Basic Command Unit status under a Plymouth Chief Superintendent

Proposed by Councillor Evans
Seconded by Councillor Williams

(e) **Motion on Notice No 8 (11/12)**

PAGE 1 of the SUPPLEMENT

LOCALISATION OF BUSINESS RATES (NNDR)

Council notes the intention of the Government to give Council the power over the setting of NNDR and to retain the proceeds.

Council notes that the figures obtained in the House of Commons would mean that Plymouth would lose £12 million under this process every year as a minimum.

The Council requests our MPs to vote against the localisation of business rates unless a pool system is retained to ensure that ‘NNDR rich’ areas do not gain at the expense of ‘NNDR poor’ areas like Plymouth. We say ‘no localisation without equalisation’.

Proposed by Councillor Evans
Seconded by Councillor Williams

(f) **Motion on Notice No 9 (11/12)**

PAGE 3 of the SUPPLEMENT

CHILDREN'S TRANSPORT TO SCHOOL

Council believes the decision by the private bus company Citybus to scrap all child and student fares prior to 9.30 am will cause hardship to many Plymouth families.

Council notes that the Portfolio holder and Cabinet have agreed that all non-statutory school transport will cease from September 2011.

Council requests the Portfolio Holder to review the decision in the light of the Citybus decision; recent changes to school organisation; the impact this may have on parental choice and delivery of Council priorities.

**Proposed by Councillor Wildy
Seconded by Councillor Williams**

(g) **Motion on Notice No 10 (11/12)**

PAGE 5 of the SUPPLEMENT

TREE HUSBANDRY

Council notes the alarming rise in casework calls from Plymouth residents about the state of trees across Plymouth.

These trees are often not receiving regular planned maintenance, some are dead and need removing. Others are the result of accidental damage, vandalism and weather related. Some are growing out of control not having received planned maintenance like pruning or lopping. They are often described as having caused damage to houses or high sided vehicles.

Members have been told that the waiting list for trees to be attended to can be as long as FOUR YEARS.

Council believes that this waiting time is unacceptable, as well as the risk to public health, it poses a potential to leave the Council open to claims for damages against people and property. It is also damaging to the environment, as infected trees can go unnoticed and untreated and so can pass on diseases to healthy trees.

Council requests that the portfolio holder brings forward a plan for change in tree maintenance, via Cabinet before the next meeting of the City Council.

**Proposed by Councillor Vincent
Seconded by Councillor Murphy**

TO CONSIDER ANY OTHER BUSINESS SPECIFIED IN THE SUMMONS TO THE MEETING, OR MATTERS TAKEN AS A MATTER OF URGENCY

10 Revised City Council Constitution

PAGES 35 – 36

The Lord Mayor will invite the Assistant Director for Democracy and Governance to present his written report on the Revised City Council Constitution and will seek a proposal from the Council.

The Lord Mayor will invite the Council to vote on the proposal in the written report (if moved and seconded) to set up a working group of five councillors with three from the Conservative Group and two from the Labour Group to work with the Monitoring Officer on the further development of the Constitution.

11 Appointment to Committees, Outside Bodies etc

PAGES 37 - 38

The City Council is asked to consider the following appointments –

	Organisation	No. of Councillors	Term of Office	Previous Appointments /Nominations	Appointments /Nominations
1.	South West Councils	Previously two councillors From 2011/12: one councillor	Continuing membership until such time as the Member resigns or is replaced by Council	Cllr Bowyer Cllr Wright	Cllr Bowyer Cllr Wright
2.	MVV Umwelt Incinerator Liaison Committee	Two councillors (one Conservative and one Labour councillor)	Continuing membership until such time as the Member resigns or is replaced by Council	-	
3.	Board of SWERCOT's (Trading Standards Partnership in the South West) (notification since publication of the agenda)	One councillor	Continuing membership until such time as the Member resigns or is replaced by Council	Cllr Ball (resigned)	Cllr Jordan
4.	Working Group on the Constitution (subject to approval of the recommendation in the officer's report referred to in item 10 on the agenda)	Five councillors (three Conservative and two Labour councillors)	Continuing membership until such time as the Member resigns or is replaced by Council	-	Councillors Lowry and Stevens

The City Council is also asked to note that the following changes of Committee membership, have been notified to the Monitoring Officer since the publication of the Council agenda -

	Committee	Change of Membership
5.	Customer and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel	Councillor Mrs Beer has replaced Councillor Browne
6.	Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Panel	Councillor Browne has replaced Councillor Mrs Beer

QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

12 General Questions

Questions to the Leader, Cabinet Members and Committee Chairs covering aspects for their areas of responsibility or concern by councillors in accordance with paragraph 12 of the Constitution on the basis of one minute for the question and two minutes for the reply. The same for supplementary questions.

(Note: There is a 30 minute time limit on this item)

13 Forward Plan

PAGES 39 to 56

Councillor Mrs Pengelly will introduce the Forward Plan.

(Note: There is a five minute time limit on this introduction)

Councillors may ask questions specific to the Forward Plan of the Leader/Cabinet Members on the basis of one minute for the question and two minutes for the reply. There are no supplementary questions.

(Note: There is a 15 minute time limit on these questions)

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