

City Council

Monday 30 January 2012

PRESENT:

The Lord Mayor, Councillor Brookshaw, in the Chair.

The Deputy Lord Mayor, 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, Singh, John Smith, Peter Smith, Stark, Stevens, Thompson, Tuffin, Tuohy, Vincent, Wheeler, Wiggins, Wildy, Williams and Wright.

Barry Keel (Chief Executive), Tim Howes (Assistant Director for Democracy and Governance), Judith Shore (Democratic and Members Services Manager) and Nicola Kirby (Senior Democratic Support Officer (Cabinet))

Apology for absence: Councillors Dr. Salter

The meeting started at 2.00 pm and finished at 7.15 pm.

Note: At a future meeting, the Council will consider the accuracy of these draft minutes, so they may be subject to change. Please check the minutes of that meeting to confirm whether these minutes have been amended.

96. MINUTES

Agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 5 December 2011 are confirmed as a correct record.

97. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following declarations of interest were made in accordance with the code of conduct from councillors in relation to items under consideration at this meeting –

Name	Item	Interest	Reason
Councillor Mrs Beer	Minute 109 – Motion on Notice: Appointment of Chief Constable	Personal and prejudicial	Employed by Devon and Cornwall Police
Councillor Berrow	Minute 108 – Motion on Notice: Assistance for those affected by Welfare Benefit and Tax Credit Reforms	Personal	Member of Plymouth Citizens Advice Bureau

Councillor Mrs Pengelly	Minute 109 - Motion on Notice: Appointment of Chief Constable	Personal	Member of the Devon and Cornwall Police Authority
Councillor Stevens	Minute 109 - Motion on Notice: Appointment of Chief Constable	Personal and prejudicial	Employed by Devon and Cornwall Police
Councillor Thompson	Minute 108 - Motion on Notice: Assistance for those affected by Welfare Benefit and Tax Credit Reforms	Personal	Member of Plymouth Citizens Advice Bureau

98. **APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES, OUTSIDE BODIES ETC**

(1) Proportionality

Following the resignation of Councillor Berrow from the Conservative Group and his membership of the United Kingdom Independence Party, it was proposed that no changes were made to the committee or outside body membership.

The Assistant Director for Democracy and Governance gave advice that –

- there was no obligation to undertake a review of proportionality in these circumstances;
- the Council could choose to take a different course of action provided that no-one voted against the proposal; and
- following a request, a review had been undertaken.

Following a vote, the proposal for no changes to be made to the committee or outside body membership was carried but was not unanimous.

Agreed that a review of proportionality would not be carried out and no further action would be taken.

(2) the following appointments are agreed -

	Committee	Membership	Appointments
a.	Lord Mayor Selection Committee	Six councillors (three conservative and three labour members)	Councillors Mrs Aspinall, Browne, Churchill, Evans, Mrs Pengelly and Vincent

b.	Elize Hele and John Lanyon Foundations	Current members: Councillors Casey, Lowry and Dr Mahony	Lorraine Parker to replace Councillor Casey
c.	Municipal Charities of Plymouth	Current members: Councillor Casey, Fred Brimacombe, Michael Fox and Betty Gray	Councillor Penberthy to replace Councillor Casey

- (3) the following nominations notified to the Assistant Director for Democracy and Governance are noted -

	Appointments Panel	Membership
d.	23 January 2012 am	Councillors Ball, Bowyer, Evans, Fry, Lowry, Mrs Pengelly and Peter Smith. (Substitute: Councillor Williams)
e.	23 January 2012 pm	Councillors Bowyer, Evans, Fry, Lowry, Mrs Pengelly, Peter Smith and Wigans (Substitutes: Councillor Michael Leaves and Williams)
f.	26 January 2012	Councillors Bowyer, Evans, Fry, Mrs Pengelly, Peter Smith, Wildy and relevant Cabinet Member (Councillor Jordan / Monahan / Sam Leaves). (Substitute: Councillor Williams)

- (4) the following change of membership notified to the Assistant Director for Democracy and Governance is noted -

Committee	Membership
Planning Committee	Councillor Stark to replace Councillor Churchill

99. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Bronwen Lacey, Director of Services for Children and Young People

The Lord Mayor referred to Bronwen Lacey, Director of Services for Children and Young People, who would be leaving the Council at the end of February after 14 years of service and, on behalf of the Council, wished her well in the future and presented her with a bouquet.

General who used to attend Southway School

Councillor Browne expressed concern that his request for an announcement relating to a General who used to attend Southway School, had not been included on the agenda today.

Agreed that the announcement is made at the next meeting of the City Council.

100. QUESTIONS BY THE PUBLIC

Two questions had been received from members of the public in relation to matters which, in the opinion of the Lord Mayor, were relevant to the business of the meeting, in accordance with paragraph 10 of the Constitution.

Question No	Question By	Relevant Cabinet Member	Subject
8 (11/12)	Mr B Kerr	Councillor Mrs Pengelly, Leader	Prayers
<p>Is the council going to continue to have prayers during scheduled times for council meetings? This is asked as many people would see this as an exclusionary practice against people of different faiths and no faith, and paints the city as backward in a modern world</p>			
<p>Response: There is no constitutional requirement for the council to have prayers prior to the commencement of the formal council meeting, but it is the practice of Lord Mayors to have their chaplain in attendance to say them. There is no reason why a future Lord Mayor might choose not to have prayers at the meeting, although I would expect that such a decision would be considered by the council as a whole.</p> <p>Since the prayers are not part of the formal meeting then neither councillors nor the public need be present (and some already choose not to attend) consequently no one is excluded from the meeting.</p>			

Question No	Question By	Relevant Cabinet Member	Subject
9 (11/12)	Mr F Sharpe	Councillor Fry, Cabinet Member for Planning, Strategic Housing and Economic Development.	Sherford development
<p>Please could residents of Elburton and Plymstock be given a presentation by Plymouth City Council before Sherford comes before the Council in February 2012 plus details of what South Hams Council has passed regarding Sherford.</p>			

Response:

Yes, planning officers will give a presentation to the next available meeting of the Elburton and District Residents Association prior to the Sherford planning application being reported back to Planning Committee on 8th March 2012.

In the absence of the questioners, the questions and responses were circulated and written responses would be sent to Mr Kerr and Mr Sharpe.

MATTERS REFERRED FROM CABINET AND OTHER COMMITTEES

101. **Sex Establishment Licensing Policy**

Councillor Michael Leaves (Cabinet Member for Community Services (Street Scene, Waste and Sustainability)) moved the Cabinet recommendations to the City Council on the Sex Establishment Licensing Policy (Cabinet minute 104 of the Cabinet meeting held on 17 January 2012 and the written report of the Director for People referred). The proposal was seconded by Councillor Browne.

Councillor Penberthy moved the following amendment which was seconded by Councillor McDonald –

To add a new Recommendation 5

To implement the outstanding recommendations of the Customer and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel on this matter.

Following an adjournment, the Assistant Director for Democracy and Governance advised that the amendment was not in order as it negated the original proposal.

The Lord Mayor reminded councillors that personal remarks about officers were not acceptable.

Councillor Penberthy then moved a further amendment as follows -

On page 21 to delete paragraphs (1) and (2) and on page 22 to delete (3).

The recommendations to the City Council become (1) and section (b) below becomes a new (2) 'to implement the outstanding recommendations of the Customer and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel.'

The Assistant Director for Democracy and Governance advised that this amendment was also not in order as the City Council could not amend Cabinet decisions.

Following a further adjournment, Councillor Penberthy moved an amendment as follows –

- (4) (a) to adopt Schedule 3 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 as amended by s.27 Policing and Crime Act 2009, which shall come into force on the 5 March 2012;
- (b) to adopt the Sex Establishments Licensing Policy contained in Appendix A of the written report subject to recommendation (5) below;
- (c) to approve the scheme of delegation contained in Appendix B of the written report;
- (d) to approve the following fees and charges -
- Application Fee £3900
 - Variation Fee £ 800
 - Annual Renewal £3200
 - Transfer £750
- (5) To implement the outstanding recommendations of the Customer and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel on this matter, i.e.
- Hours of opening to include 'Good Friday' on a similar basis to Sundays
 - That residents, chairs of school governors and religious establishments within a specific distance from the proposed sex establishment, as well as the relevant ward members, are notified of any application by individual letter

The amendment was seconded by Councillor McDonald.

The Assistant Director for Democracy and Governance drew councillors' attention to the legal advice on pages 30 and 31 of the Cabinet report.

Councillor Thompson (Chair of the Customers and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel) indicated that the legal advice set out in Cabinet report had not been available at the meeting of the panel.

Following a debate, the amendment was put to the vote and the amendment was lost.

The main motion was debated and following a vote, it was agreed -

- (1) to adopt Schedule 3 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 as amended by s.27 Policing and Crime Act 2009, which shall come into force on the 5 March 2012;
- (2) to adopt the Sex Establishments Licensing Policy contained in Appendix A of the written report subject to recommendation (2) of Cabinet to include Option 1 as follows (Hours of Operation on page 44 refer) –

'The Council will apply hours of operation that are commensurate to the existing use of the area and its effect on the locality. There shall normally be no operation of licensable activities on Sundays and Good Friday (06.00 am to Midnight), Christmas day or Easter Sunday. Alternative opening restrictions may be put into place dependant on the character of each locality and representations received';

- (3) to approve the scheme of delegation contained in Appendix B of the written report;
- (4) to approve the following fees and charges -
 - Application Fee £3900
 - Variation Fee £ 800
 - Annual Renewal Fees £3200
 - Transfer £750

102. **Tamar Bridge and Torpoint Ferry Joint Committee: Revenue Estimates and Capital Programme 2012/13 to 2015/16**

Councillor Martin Leaves (Joint Chair of the Tamar Bridge and Torpoint Ferry Joint Committee) proposed the recommendations from the Tamar Bridge and Torpoint Ferry Joint Committee: Revenue Estimates and Capital Programme 2012/13 – 2015/16 as follows (Tamar Bridge and Torpoint Ferry Joint Committee minute 22 of the meeting held on 2 December 2011 referred) –

- (a) that the proposed revenue budget for 2012/13 as set out in Appendix 1 to the officer report be approved;
- (b) that the proposed capital programme as set out in Appendix 2 to the officer report be approved;
- (c) that the longer term revenue forecast to 2015/16 be noted.

The motion was seconded by Councillor Foster.

Councillor Wiggins referred to advice contained in the written report of the Director for Place and Director for Corporate Services and moved the recommendations in the written report as an amendment.

The amendment was seconded by Councillor Nicholson.

Following a vote on the amendment, the amendment was carried.

The motion, as amended, was put to the vote and it was agreed that –

- (1) the ongoing work of the member/officer workshops on budget forecast issues are noted and that the preferred option is reported to Cabinet prior to any decision being made;

- (2) the revenue and capital budgets for 2012/13, proposed by the Tamar Bridge and Torpoint Ferry Joint Committee are approved by the Council;
- (3) all schemes included in the capital programme beyond 2013 are submitted to Cabinet supported by robust business cases.

103. **ORDER OF BUSINESS**

At the request of Councillor Wildy, the Lord Mayor, with the consent of the City Council, agreed to change the order of business to bring forward the motion on notice relating to changes to child benefit.

MOTION ON NOTICE

104. **Changes to Child Benefit**

Councillor Wildy moved the following motion on notice for approval –

‘CHANGES TO CHILD BENEFIT

Council notes the recent announcement by the Coalition Government regarding legislation on Child Benefit.

Council recognises that the proposed changes are likely to penalise some families in Plymouth and could affect the Growth Agenda.

Council therefore resolves to request the Leader to write to the Chancellor on behalf of Plymouth City Council, requesting him to reconsider the proposed legislation on Child Benefit.’

The motion was seconded by Councillor Davey.

During the debate, the issues raised included that –

- the current proposals sought to limit child benefit to earners under £45,000;
- the limit would not apply to joint earners, leaving them able to claim twice the amount;
- child benefit was the only income of some women;
- money would be taken out of the Plymouth economy;
- those who did not need the benefit could choose to donate it to charity;
- all children should be valued equally;
- the proposals could put more children at risk.

The Leader indicated that she shared the concerns about the proposals and would be happy to write to the Chancellor.

Following a vote, the motion was agreed.

105. **PAY POLICY STATEMENT**

The Assistant Director for Democracy and Governance presented the written report of the Chief Executive on the pay policy statement.

Councillor Bowyer moved the recommendation in the written report and the proposal was seconded by Councillor Sam Leaves.

During the debate, Councillor Evans sought an early discussion on the challenges of shared services and he was advised that if he had a query, to make contact with Councillor Bowyer who would try to resolve it.

Following a vote, the pay policy statement was agreed, as recommended in the written report.

106. **CONSTITUTION**

The Assistant Director for Democracy and Governance presented his report on the constitution.

Councillor Bowyer moved and Councillor Lowry seconded the recommendation in the written report.

Following a vote, it was agreed to revise the financial regulations to set an upper limit on revenue expenditure and virements at £100,000, as recommended in the written report.

FURTHER MOTIONS ON NOTICE

107. **Councillors Involvement in Section 106 Agreements**

Councillor Stevens moved the following motion on notice for approval –

‘COUNCILLORS INVOLVEMENT IN SECTION 106 AGREEMENTS

Plymouth City Council believes its Planning system must be seen to be acting in the interests of Plymouth, including agreed Planning Obligations and Gains.

Whilst recognising that each must comply with council planning documents, policies and guidance and Regulation 122 of the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010, contributions made under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act must be seen to mitigate the effects of developments.

To this end, the allocation of any such contributions recommended as part of the Planning permissions will be subject to consultation with the relevant Ward Councillors at an early stage in the consideration of the application and before the decision is put before the Planning Committee or taken by an Officer under delegated authority.’

The motion was seconded by Councillor Tuffin.

The issues raised included –

- the need for involvement by elected representatives in consultation on Section 106 monies;
- the difficulties experienced in the process relating to West Hoe tennis courts;
- the Localism Act which promoted public involvement.

Councillor Fry moved an amendment so that the amended motion would read as follows –

‘WARD COUNCILLORS INVOLVEMENT IN SECTION 106 AGREEMENTS

Plymouth City Council believes its planning system must be seen to be acting in the interests of Plymouth, including agreed planning obligations.

Whilst recognising that each must comply with council planning documents, policies and guidance and Regulation 122 of the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010, Planning Obligations negotiated under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act must be seen to mitigate the effects of development.

To this end, where the need for a planning obligation is anticipated by a planning officer, Ward Councillors shall be consulted at an early stage of the planning application process. The views of Ward Councillors on planning obligations will be sought and shall be considered in any decision taken by Planning Committee or by an officer under delegated authority.

Planning Services shall be instructed to prepare a Protocol on Ward Councillor Involvement in Section 106 Agreements, establishing the detailed framework for consultation in the formal pre-application and planning application processes, this report to be considered by the Constitution Working Group.’

The amendment was seconded by Councillor Lock.

During the debate on the amendment, the issues raised included –

- that councillors were now able to view the Council’s website to monitor the progress of section 106 monies in each ward;
- that the Constitutional Working Group would make a recommendation to the City Council.

Following a vote, the amendment was agreed.

The motion, as amended, was put to the vote and the amended motion was agreed.

108. **Assistance for those affected by Welfare Benefit and Tax Credit Reforms**

Councillor Williams moved the following motion on notice for approval -

‘ASSISTANCE FOR THOSE AFFECTED BY WELFARE BENEFIT AND TAX CREDIT REFORMS

This Council notes that a number of changes in welfare benefits and tax credit systems will be implemented over the next 12 months.

The Government intends to make the following savings through these changes:

- CPI indexation (£5.8 bn)
- Tax Credit changes (£4.51 bn)
- Housing Benefit reform (£2.02 bn)
- Child Benefit (£2.42 bn)
- Contributory Employment Support Allowance (ESA) time-limit (£2bn)
- Disability Living Allowance reform (£1.2 bn)
- Council Tax Benefit (£0.49 bn)
- Benefits cap (£0.27 bn)
- End to ‘asset –based welfare’ (£0.6 bn)
- Social Fund reforms

Inevitably there will be confusion and distress caused to people who have their benefits cut, whilst the cost of living continues to rise.

This Council resolves to –

Actively promote information about the changes in welfare benefits and tax credits and signpost those likely to be affected to appropriate organisations such as the CAB in order that they may provide advice and support.’

The motion was seconded by Councillor Rennie.

During the debate the following issues were raised –

- the proposed cuts would affect all sectors of the population;
- that the Council needed to be proactive;
- the impact on disadvantaged groups together with changes to child benefit;
- that Cabinet Members had started to undertake work on welfare reforms;
- information on the changes would be promoted;
- staff would signpost enquiries to the appropriate organisations;
- that there was an opportunity to work with credit unions;
- following budget scrutiny there was concern about the level of provision made and the capacity to deal with the issues;
- that the voluntary sector could not cope with the potential level of enquiries in the forthcoming months;
- that councillors were unaware of the actions being taken.

Following a vote, the motion was agreed.

(Councillors Berrow and Thompson declared personal interests in the above item.)

109. **Appointment of Chief Constable**

Councillor Evans moved the following motion on notice for approval -

‘APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF CONSTABLE

Council notes the decision by the DC and IoS Police Authority to defer a decision on replacing Stephen Otter, the Chief Constable with a permanent replacement until after the forthcoming Police Commissioner elections.

Council also notes that, according to media reports, this decision is being reconsidered.

Council believes the best interests of policing in Plymouth and the force area are best served by a permanent appointment and requests our PA rep to lobby for the earliest possible permanent replacement.’

The motion was seconded by Councillor Williams.

During the debate, the following issues were raised –

- that there would be a hiatus in policing between Chief Constable Stephen Otter leaving Devon and Cornwall Police and the new Police Commissioner elections in November 2012;
- that there were a number of senior police officers already acting up;
- that crime was rising in Plymouth;
- that the government were prepared to allow an appointment to be made but that the police authority had chosen not to do so;
- the disagreement on the composition of the Crime Panel.

Following a vote, the motion was lost.

(Councillors Mrs Beer, Mrs Pengelly and Stevens having declared interests, withdrew from the meeting during consideration of the above item).

110. **QUESTIONS BY COUNCILLORS**

In accordance with Part B, paragraph 12 of the constitution, the following questions were asked of the Leader, Cabinet Members and Committee Chairs covering aspects of their areas of responsibility -

	From	To	Subject
1	Councillor Berrow	Councillor Bowyer	at the last Audit Committee, there was a reduction on savings for the non ringfenced part of the budget from £4m to £1.2m. What are the current savings being made and what effect will it have on other budgets for this £2.8m difference?
	Councillor Bowyer undertook to supply the information.		
2	Councillor Gordon	Councillor Mrs Pengelly	Reference comments made by Councillor Mrs Pengelly in Saturday's Herald, does she think that the MVV contract for the city's waste is value for money for the taxpayers of the city and how did she come to that conclusion?
	Councillor Mrs Pengelly responded that she did think that it was value for money because it was cheaper than landfill, would protect jobs and would provide energy to the dockyard and navy which would help to ensure that the navy stayed in Plymouth. Energy from waste plants existed in Sweden and the middle of Vienna. Current arrangements to landfill were not environmentally friendly and costed £7m per year. When the site was full, waste would be transported all over the country with more costs.		
3	Councillor Smith	Councillor Jordan	when the Life Centre was commissioned, a commitment was made to keep the Pavilions until an alternative ice provision was funded. What is the latest situation and can you confirm that you have not given the Pavilions notice to close the ice in September this year?
	Cllr Jordan responded that a press release would be made tomorrow. He promised that the ice would be continued and that it was still the aim to do so until an ice rink was built. He confirmed that notice had not been given to the Pavilions as stated.		
4	Councillor Singh	Councillor Fry	is there going to be an investigation in into the scrutiny report which brought the city unnecessary attention and what sort of welcome would / could international students have received?
	Councillor Fry responded that he gathered that the report was withdrawn from meeting and was a city centre report. It would be taken up within the company. Councillor Mrs Pengelly added that she understood that shop traders mentioned it to the city centre company and she undertook to investigate it including where it came from and how it got into a report.		

5.	Councillor Evans	Councillor Fry	is the response in order from the person whose name is on front of report and his responsibility, with the damage to Plymouth's reputation as a visitor destination? A full investigation is needed.
<p>Councillor Nicholson (Chair of the Growth and Prosperity Overview and Scrutiny Panel) advised that the report went to his scrutiny panel and that he had been alerted to the press report by Councillor Fry. He had spoken with Councillor Coker and ensured that that aspect of the report was withdrawn. It was not acceptable and dealt with as expeditiously as possible. He had been assured that the matters would be investigated.</p> <p>Councillor Fry responded that he saw the report on the morning of the meeting and had not seen the report before. He had had an apology from the manager of the city centre company. In future, the officers had been advised that reports should not go out in the Cabinet Member's name if the Cabinet Member has not seen them.</p>			
6.	Councillor Penberthy	Councillor Sam Leaves	at the Council meeting on 25 July a motion was agreed asking for an analysis to identify what actions were being taken to address child poverty in the city and what additional work was required to address inequality and child poverty levels between wards. It was not included in the report on child poverty to Cabinet in September. Will it be released to all councillors?
<p>Councillor Sam Leaves responded that events had moved on since then and at budget scrutiny meeting, she made a commitment that a child poverty working group would be set up, the first meeting to be in place by the end of February to discuss these issues. She assumed that Councillor Penberthy wants to be involved and looked forward to working with him. She gave an assurance that the information would be released.</p>			
7.	Councillor Berrow	Councillor Mrs Pengelly	can she give an update on any rent paid by Argyle to Plymouth City Council please?
<p>Councillor Mrs Pengelly undertook to provide the information.</p>			
8.	Councillor Evans	Councillor Sam Leaves	Are you aware of the press report about a year long study by the government into schools and an instruction from government for such surveys to exclude the condition of asbestos in schools. Is it true? Does it apply in Plymouth? What are the implications?

	Councillor Sam Leaves responded that she had not seen the press releases and would ensure that a response is sent to councillors as soon as possible.		
9.	Councillor Wheeler	Councillor Bowyer	How much has been lost from the Icelandic banks' investments, in capital and interest? The report indicated that the LGA had got back £470m of which £100k had come to Plymouth, not promising?
	Councillor Bowyer responded that the Council had received a further instalment of the Heritable deposit of £100k (63 per cent returned to date); Landsbanki and Glitnir: still in the courts but received a favourable judgement on our status as a creditor. Projections of 100 per cent of Glitnir and 95 per cent of Landsbanki deposits were anticipated and work was ongoing. When he had more definite information he would share it with the Council.		
10.	Councillor Evans	Councillor Fry	How could a report so damaging be released and what stages did the report go through before committee? How could the Council, City Centre Company and Police have got into this situation to develop policy? An investigation was needed and procedures put in place to ensure that it doesn't happen again.
	Councillor Fry responded that no Cabinet Member had seen it and the procedure would be rectified in future.		
11.	Councillor Wheeler	Councillor Mrs Pengelly	Following the response to a written question on the council owned playing field in Barne Barton, next to Riverside School, why has nothing happened?
	Councillor Mrs Pengelly undertook to investigate and respond.		
12	Councillor Williams	Councillor Sam Leaves	With regard to the Adventure Activities Act, has she written to all schools asking them to support the petition? If not, could she use her resources to write to all schools now?
	Councillor Sam Leaves responded that it was in progress at the moment and as stated in emails between them, she was keen to meet and talk about the petition on the website, to promote it more, and if she was happy, to move forward. No response had been received to the email (Councillor Williams indicated that she had replied) and she still wanted to meet.		
13	Councillor Singh	Councillor Jordan	what impact has the report had on the city as it was on the website?

	<p>Councillor Jordan responded in his experience, very little. We had done well in attracting teams to the city events for the Olympics. He was with the Ghana delegation at the time and no comment was made. It should not have happened, it will be investigated and the Council would learn from it.</p>		
14	Councillor Evans	Councillor Mrs Pengelly	<p>How many photo opportunities will she have before the start of purdah? How many inviting us? How many inviting the Lord Mayor? Why did it take 15 months for Highfield to arrange the opening event? Why were they uninvited?</p>
	<p>Councillor Mrs Pengelly responded that she was aware of one photo opportunity. The requests came from the Herald. She did not receive invitations to the Lord Mayor.</p> <p>With regard to the opening of Highfield School, the invitations were the responsibility of the headmistress. She had no idea why it had taken 15 months to arrange.</p>		