

City Council

Monday 23 March 2015

PRESENT:

The Lord Mayor, Councillor Fox, in the Chair.

The Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Murphy, Vice Chair.

Councillors Mrs Aspinall, Ball, Mrs Beer, Bowie, Bowyer, Mrs Bowyer, Mrs Bridgeman, Casey, Churchill, Coker, Damarell, Darcy, Philippa Davey, Sam Davey, Downie, Evans, K Foster, Mrs Foster, Fry, Hendy, James, Jarvis, Jordan, Martin Leaves, Michael Leaves, Sam Leaves, Lowry, Dr. Mahony, McDonald, Morris, Mrs Nelder, Nicholson, Mrs Nicholson, Parker-Delaz-Ajete, Penberthy, Mrs Pengelly, Rennie, Ricketts, Riley, Dr. Salter, Singh, Smith, John Smith, Sparling, Stark, Stevens, Storer, Jon Taylor, Kate Taylor, Tuffin, Tuohy, Vincent, Wheeler and Wigans.

Apology for absence: Councillor Drean

The meeting started at 2.00 pm and finished at 9.00 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.

73. MINUTES

Agreed the minutes of the meeting held on 23 February 2015.

74. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following declarations of interest were made by councillors in accordance with the code of conduct in respect of items under consideration at the meeting -

Name	Minute	Reason	Interest
Councillor Coker	78: Barbican Cumulative Impact Policy	Personal Licence holder	Disclosable Pecuniary
Councillor Casey	78: Barbican Cumulative Impact Policy	Holds a street trading licence	Disclosable Pecuniary

75. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES, OUTSIDE BODIES ETC

There were no appointments for consideration.

76. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Lord Mayor -

(a) **Former Councillor, Lord Mayor and Alderman Frederick Johnson**

reported that Alderman Johnson had passed away, aged 99 years on 14 March 2015 after a short illness. The Council stood in silence for one minute, as a mark of respect.

(b) **Her Majesty the Queen's visit to Plymouth**

informed the Council that he had welcomed Her Majesty the Queen to Plymouth on Friday 20 March 2015 before moving on to HMS Ocean for a reception.

(c) **City Council Elections**

thanked the Council, particularly Councillors Mrs Nelder, John Smith and Stark who would be standing down in May 2015.

(d) **Councillor Achievement Awards**

congratulated the Leader on his prestigious award of the Leader of the Year which was part of the 2015 Councillor Achievement Awards.

(e) **Sustainable Food Cities Bronze Award**

presented Darin Halifax, Cities of Service Chief Service Officer, with the Sustainable Food Cities Bronze Award on behalf of the Food Plymouth Partnership.

(f) **iESE Innovation Award (Bronze)**

presented Jenny Coles, Low Carbon Officer, with the iESE Innovation Award (Bronze) for the proactive support in the establishment and ongoing development of Plymouth Energy Community and PEC Renewables.

(g) **iESE Working Together Award (Silver)**

presented Gareth Hart, chair of the Plymouth Social Enterprise Network, with the iESE Working Together Award (Silver).

(h) **Regional School Chef of the Year**

presented Sharon Cundell, Kitchen Manager of St Edwards Church of England Primary School with the award for Regional Chef of the Year.

(i) **Apprenticeships 4 England Award 2015**

presented Ken Holder, Senior Apprentice Co-ordinator, Ricky Souch, Apprentice Co-ordinator and Jacob Ellis, Apprentice with the Large Employer of the Year Award which had been given at the Apprenticeships 4 England award 2015.

The Leader –

(j) **Inward Investment**

informed the Council that a suite of marketing publications had been produced over the last 12 months as well as attending various events in order to promote Plymouth. The work had been successful in creating links, lines of communication and new jobs.

(k) **Train Announcement**

informed the Council that the Secretary of State for Transport had announced extra electric and diesel trains for the south west to increase capacity and provide faster links. A final decision on new trains for the area would be made in June 2015.

(l) **Plymouth Airport**

commented on the announcement in the budget by George Osborne (Chancellor of the Exchequer) that there would be a study into whether an airport in Plymouth was viable. A study had already taken place which had resulted in the land at the airport being protected until 2031. The Leader appealed to the Chancellor for funding to get the airport up and running.

(m) **Enterprise Zone**

advised the Council that South Yard had been announced as an Enterprise Zone which allowed money raised in the yard to be reinvested in the yard and would provide many benefits which would assist the City's objective for growth.

The Leader thanked all officers and partners for the hard work which had resulted in the successful designation of the area as an Enterprise Zone.

(n) **Cruise Liner Terminal**

announced that Associated British Ports supported by the Waterfront Partnership and the Chamber of Commerce would be supporting the Council with £10,000 towards an economic impact study into a cruise liner terminal in the City.

(o) **Construction Apprentice of the Year Award**

informed the Council that he had announced the launch of the 'construction apprentice of the year' award at a recent Building Plymouth conference and that the family of Alderman Ron Simmonds had agreed to have the trophy named after him.

The Deputy Leader –

(p) **Natural England Higher Stewardship Scheme**

announced that Mount Edgumbe had been accepted onto the Higher Stewardship Scheme which was a land management project that provided capital and revenue funding to restore landscapes of historic value. Work would now be undertaken to identify the actions required.

(q) **Civic Delegation to Boston**

informed the Council that he had led a Civic delegation to Boston and Washington to discuss future celebrations of Mayflower 400 and build lines of communications. The delegation had attended many valuable meetings during the visit.

Councillor Vincent

(r) **Public Toilet Improvements**

announced that further investment had been approved for toilets at Richmond Walk and Devil's Point which would be refurbished. The remaining toilets across the Hoe would be refurbished as part of an ongoing programme.

(s) **Growing Plymouth Pledge**

announced that under the 'Growing Plymouth' pledge, two abandoned allotment sites at Lower Swarthmore in Central Park and land at the back of Channel Park in Efford would be improved to allow the use of another 50 sites for people to grow fruit, vegetables and enjoy gentle exercise.

Councillor McDonald -

(t) **School Improvement**

informed the Council that investments in schools had resulted in an extra 348 places across the city. Two new schools were also being built for St Matthews Church of England Primary and Nursery Academy in Derriford and Knowle Primary School in Honicknowle. Agreement had also been obtained for funding to expand a further four schools.

Councillor Tuffin –

(u) Integration of health and Wellbeing Services

informed the Council that on 10 March 2015, Cabinet approved plans to integrate Health and Wellbeing Services across Plymouth. The plans would radically transform the way health and social care services were planned, purchased and delivered, improving experiences and delivering better value for money. The system was ground breaking delivering one integrated system with one budget and had not been undertaken anywhere else in the country.

Councillor Penberthy -

- (v) highlighted the work that had been ongoing in partnership with Plymouth Energy Community to provide solid wall insulation across the PL5 area. He reported that over the last six months, 14,000 properties in this postcode had been targeted with grant offers and that Plymouth was one of the leading cities in terms of delivery of solid wall insulation.

Councillor Murphy -

(w) Plymouth Armed Forces Covenant

updated the Council on the Plymouth Armed Forces Covenant. Since signing the covenant on National Armed Forces Day in 2012 much progress had been made to enhance the relationship between the civilian and military residents with particular success with activities for young people.

77. QUESTIONS BY THE PUBLIC

Eight questions were submitted by members of the public for this meeting, in accordance with Part B, paragraph 11 of the Constitution.

In the absence of Mr Williams, the following question and response were circulated and a written response would be sent to him after the meeting -

Question No	Question By	Cabinet Member	Subject
Q14(14/15)	Mr John Williams	Councillor Lowry (Cabinet Member for Finance)	Council Tax Liability Order Charges

Whereas other local authorities employ lawyers to represent them in court over Council Tax liability, this Authority does not.

Notwithstanding this, national figures place charges levied by this Authority in the upper quartile, which seems hard to justify.

Does the Authority make a profit from the costs it claims here?

Response

Plymouth City Council reduced its Liability Order charge from £83 to £60 in 2013/14 which benchmarks favourably against other councils within the region. The cost is broken down as £40 per account to issue the summons with an additional £20.00 per account to obtain the order.

The charge reflects recovery activity undertaken by council staff which includes preparing documentation, presenting and attending the Court. The council does not make a profit from these charges.

Mr Aldred attended the meeting and asked the following question. Councillor Lowry responded as set out below -

Question No	Question By	Cabinet Member	Subject
Q15(14/15)	Mr Ryan Aldred	Councillor Lowry (Cabinet Member for Finance)	Use of the Council's Reserves
Why is the council not making full use of its £10.4 million working reserves to protect jobs and services? Could you not use that money to protect jobs and services whilst simultaneously lobbying the government to restore the council's funding to pre-2010 levels?			
Response We have used our reserves in the past and are likely to do so this year and given the cuts from government will likely need to do so in future years. We try and retain a modest reserve of 5 percent which is less than average. We are lobbying, and continue to lobby, government for fairer funding for Plymouth and retain a focus on protecting jobs. I refer to our budget papers published in December 2014 and February 2015			

In the absence of Mr Sloman, the following question and response were circulated and a written response would be sent to him after the meeting -

Question No	Question By	Cabinet Member	Subject
Q16 (14/15)	Mr Tom Sloman	Councillor Jon Taylor (Cabinet Member for Transformation and Change)	Outsourcing of Services
<p>What does this mean: "developing the intelligent client function would move away from directly delivering services, therefore staff would need have different expertise in order to manage the different service models"? Does this mean that the council will be looking to outsource its services to the private sector? (Quote taken from the budget scrutiny document section 9.1)</p>			
<p>Response Developing an intelligent client function does not mean the council will be looking to outsource its services to the private sector. Alternative models of delivery for some services will be considered in our transformation programmes, but these alternative models will always be consistent with the Council's cooperative principles.</p> <p>The Council has instigated an 'Intelligent Client Function' to ensure that it's ethical, social and statutory obligations are discharged in a way that benefits and emphasises Plymouth. We are committed to spending money with Plymouth firms and that at least 50% of Plymouth Councils spend is directed to the local economy. That is a requirement of the Council, and any partner organisations it deems beneficial to commission.</p>			

In the absence of Mr Nally, the following question and response were circulated and a written response would be sent to him after the meeting -

Question No	Question By	Cabinet Member	Subject
Q17(14/15)	Mr Tom Nally	Question asked of Councillor Lowry (Cabinet Member for Finance) and Councillor McDonald (Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Public Health). Answered by Councillor Tuffin as within his portfolio	Adult Social Care and Children's Services

What measures are being taken to eliminate the overspend of £2.55 million within Adult Social Care and Children's Services and how will the service, which has already received £4.9 million in cuts, be affected?

Response

Adult and children's social care budgets are under unprecedented pressure across the country, due to increasing demand and reductions in government funding for local authorities.

Careful analysis of the cost of social care services provided and the number of people in receipt of support has enabled us to identify where we can further reduce costs and increase efficiencies, addressing the current overspend.

Our programme of transformation is addressing the way we will operate as a Council over the next few years by radically changing how local services are delivered. The cornerstone of our change programme is our integration agenda with health, with a pooled combined budget of circa £420m, to provide a joined up approach to the way services are commissioned and delivered in order to reduce costs, improve the experience of patients and service users and improve the health of Plymouth residents.

A key part of this major transformation programme is the Integrated Commissioning Project which aims to deliver a single integrated commissioning function focused on developing joined up preventative and early intervention strategies and adopt an asset based approach to providing an integrated system of health and wellbeing. These integrated commissioning arrangements are founded in a section 75 Agreement between the Clinical Commissioning Group and Plymouth City Council that was agreed by Cabinet on 10 March.

Ms Lewis attended the meeting and asked the following question. Councillor Lowry responded as set out below -

Question No	Question By	Cabinet Member	Subject
Q18(14/15)	Ms Hannah Lewis	Question asked of Councillor Lowry (Cabinet Member for Finance) and Councillor McDonald (Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Public Health). Answered by Councillor Penberthy as within his portfolio.	Child Poverty
How is the council going to meet its target to reduce child poverty when there appears to be no budget for it?			

Response

In line with the Child Poverty Strategy for Plymouth 2013-16, the Council has not designated a discrete budget but is delivering against its objectives across Council budgets. Here are some examples:

- Implementation of the national living wage for all Council employees and temporary staff.
- Plymouth has not closed a single Children’s Centre: £1.5 million of their collective budget is spent directly on tackling child poverty including school readiness, raising aspirations and confidence, worklessness, money advice, and basic skills for parents.
- Capital commitment of £1.75m to develop early years’ provision, ensuring we have enough early education places for vulnerable 2 year olds.
- Creation of a £20 million investment fund to invest in Plymouth’s economy, as part of the city’s Plan for Jobs.
- Free wifi is now available in all Plymouth libraries.
- £430,000 of our housing commissioned services is allocated to our most vulnerable families and children.
- Fuel poverty is addressed through the Plymouth Energy Community which has provided tariff guidance to over 600 households, offering more than £130,000 in savings, and the Fuel Debt Advice service which has helped to clear nearly £25,000 of debt locally.
- The 1000 Club supports young people into employment. Membership now exceeds 1000 local businesses with a target to provide an additional 1250 opportunities for young people this year.
- Taking action to house 21% of families on the priority housing waiting list in brand new, energy efficient homes.

In the absence of Mr Smith the following question and response were circulated and a written response would be sent to him after the meeting -

Question No	Question By	Cabinet Member	Subject
Q19 (14/15)	Mr Aaron Smith	Councillor Lowry (Cabinet Member for Finance)	Revenue Budget Cuts
The revenue budget for 2014/15 is £204.68 million but there is already an overspend of £2.55 million. How on Earth is the council going to cut it to £178.40 million in 2018/19 without cuts to jobs and services as well as further increases in Council Tax?			

Response

The Council is being proactive in managing down the projected 2014/15 overspend which, at the end of January 2015, had reduced to £1.3m. We continue to strive to deliver as near as possible to a balanced budget at the end of the year.

We have clearly set out our plans to deliver a balanced budget in 2015/16 and beyond within our published budget papers which include financial savings and income generation that will be generated from our Transformation Programme.

Mr Plumb attended the meeting and asked the following question. Councillor Lowry responded as set out below -

Question No	Question By	Cabinet Member	Subject
Q20 (14/15)	Mr Robert Plumb	Councillor Vincent (Cabinet Member for Environment)	Greenfield Sites to the North of Tamerton Foliot

Noting that the draft Plymouth Plan (Part 1) supports major development on brownfield land and on the E and NE fringes of the city rather than elsewhere: specifically how is the Council aiming to protect our community from unsustainable development on greenfield sites to the north of Tamerton Foliot (e.g. at Allern Lane).

Response

The Plymouth Plan supports the use of brownfield land for major development, particularly residential development. Policy 42 makes clear that the Plan will give priority to development on previously developed sites.

Strategic Objective 8 also makes clear that the Council will give priority to meeting its housing need within its administrative boundaries before considering jointly with South Hams District Council the opportunities for meeting needs in the urban fringe.

It should be noted that the Plymouth Plan Part One does not identify sites to meet its housing need– it sets out the strategic framework to be used to identify sites. Site allocations themselves will be investigated as part of the work on the Plymouth Plan Part Two, and will be set out in the single Plymouth Plan which will be consulted on and submitted to the Government next year.

The strategic framework set out in the Plymouth Plan Part One therefore directs housing development and growth to the most sustainable locations – for example on previously developed land where development will contribute to the creation of sustainable linked neighbourhoods, in line with Policy 2 of the Plan.

The question notes that the Plymouth Plan Part One supports major development on the eastern and north eastern fringes of the city. This point requires clarification.

Strategic Objective 8 indicates that if, after looking to maximise development within the city's administrative boundaries, it is necessary to work with South Hams to find opportunities in the urban fringe, we would look to the north and north eastern fringes for sustainable locations to meet our housing need. Policy 43 then goes on to state that opportunities for sustainable growth will be explored at Woolwell and Newnham to meet such need.

Therefore, with regard to greenfield sites at Tamerton Foliot, the Plymouth Plan does not support major development in this part of the city or in adjacent parts of South Hams. The Plymouth Plan does not prioritise greenfield sites, and would not support unsustainable development in this location.

If any sites are proposed for development outside of the administrative boundary, South Hams District Council would consult with the City Council on the implications of development. South Hams have a duty to work with us on ensuring the development proposals are sustainable.

In the absence of Mr Else the following question and response were circulated and a written response would be sent to him after the meeting -

Question No	Question By	Cabinet Member	Subject
Q21(14/15)	Mr Brian Else	Councillor Vincent (Cabinet Member for the Environment)	Saltram Quay
<p>Would you agree that there are safety concerns with the new slope onto Saltram Quay. Cyclists, especially young and night users could come down it and straight into the river, onto the concrete gangplank or drop 4 feet onto rocks and estuary mud.</p>			
<p>Response No, I would disagree there are safety concerns with this solution. This scheme involves the reinstatement of an historic footpath link, which will be considerably widened to 3 metres, with a slope of wildflowers between the edge of the ramp and the Quay itself. This will mean there are no more risks to the young than exist with the Quay already, which is accessible to the public currently. Since we do not propose to light the route on public safety and environmental grounds there is not considered to be a risk for night users.</p>			

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM CABINET, THE CO-OPERATIVE SCRUTINY BOARD AND OTHER COMMITTEES

78. Barbican Cumulative Impact Policy

Cabinet minute 142 and the Cabinet report on the Barbican Cumulative Impact Policy were submitted.

Councillor Vincent (Cabinet Member for Environment) proposed and Councillor Rennie seconded the Cabinet recommendations.

Agreed that that Statement of Licensing Policy is amended to include and extended Barbican Cumulative Impact Area as outlined in the map contained in Appendix 3 of the report.

79. City Centre Business Improvement District (BID) Veto

Working Plymouth Scrutiny Panel minute 40 (which had been agreed by Councillor James (Chair of the Co-operative Scrutiny Board) under delegated authority) together with the report to the scrutiny panel were submitted.

Councillor James (Chair of the Co-operative Scrutiny Board) proposed and Councillor Murphy (Chair of the Working Plymouth Scrutiny Panel) seconded the recommendations of the Working Plymouth Scrutiny Panel.

Agreed that the power of veto, as per Regulation 12 of the Business Improvement District (England) Regulations 2004, is not exercised.

80. Lord Mayoralty 2015/16

Lord Mayor's Selection Committee minute 4 was submitted.

Councillor Evans (Leader) proposed and Councillor Nicholson seconded the recommendation of the Lord Mayor's Selection Committee.

Agreed that the nomination of Councillor Dr John Mahony as Lord Mayor for 2015/16 is forwarded to the Council's AGM.

Councillor Dr Mahony addressed the Council following the vote.

81. Appointment of the Council's Section 151 Officer (Assistant Director for Finance)

This item was withdrawn from the meeting.

MOTIONS ON NOTICE

82. Land Disposals

Councillor Nicholson proposed and Councillor Dr Mahony seconded a motion on land disposals, as submitted.

During the debate Councillor Kate Taylor proposed and Councillor Stevens seconded an amendment to the motion as follows and underlined -

- (a) the proposal that Council resolves to abandon disposals where the majority of community representations oppose such a sale. is referred to the Constitutional Review Group (CRG) in order that it may consider and formulate detailed proposals, and
- (b) that such proposals and recommendations are brought back to the next earliest Council for decision following CRG's consideration.

Following a request from ten councillors for a recorded vote the amendment was agreed.

The vote was -

For the amendment (28)

Councillors Mrs Aspinall, Bowie, Coker, Damarell, Philippa Davey, Sam Davey, Evans, Hendy, Jarvis, Lowry, McDonald, Morris, Murphy (Deputy Lord Mayor), Mrs Nelder, Parker-Delaz-Ajete, Penberthy, Rennie, Singh, John Smith, Peter Smith, Sparling, Stevens, Jon Taylor, Kate Taylor, Tuffin, Tuohy, Vincent and Wheeler.

Against the amendment (27)

Councillors Ball, Mrs Beer, Bowyer, Mrs Bowyer, Mrs Bridgeman, Casey, Churchill, Darcy, Downie, Foster, Mrs Foster, Fry, James, Jordan, Martin Leaves, Mike Leaves, Mrs Leaves, Dr Mahony, Mrs Nicholson, Nicholson, Mrs Pengelly, Ricketts, Riley, Dr Salter, Stark, Storer and Wigen.

Abstentions (1)

Lord Mayor (Chair)

Councillor Evans moved, Councillor Lowry seconded and the Council agreed that the motion as amended was put to the vote without further debate.

Following a request from ten councillors for a recorded vote, the motion as amended, was agreed as follows -

- (1) 'the proposal that Council resolves to abandon disposals where the majority of community representations oppose such a sale is referred to the Constitutional Review Group (CRG) in order that it may consider and formulate detailed proposals, and
- (2) that such proposals and recommendations are brought back to the next earliest Council for decision following CRG's consideration.'

The vote was -

For the amendment (28)

Councillors Mrs Aspinall, Bowie, Coker, Damarell, Philippa Davey, Sam Davey, Evans, Hendy, Jarvis, Lowry, McDonald, Morris, Murphy (deputy Lord Mayor), Mrs Nelder, Parker-Delaz-Ajete, Penberthy, Rennie, Singh, John Smith, Peter Smith, Sparling, Stevens, Jon Taylor, Kate Taylor, Tuffin, Tuohy, Vincent and Wheeler.

Against the amendment (24)

Councillors Ball, Mrs Beer, Bowyer, Mrs Bowyer, Casey, Churchill, Darcy, Downie, Foster, Mrs Foster, Fry, James, Jordan, Martin Leaves, Mike Leaves, Mrs Leaves, Dr Mahony, Mrs Nicholson, Nicholson, Mrs Pengelly, Ricketts, Dr Salter, Stark, and Wigans.

Abstentions (4)

Lord Mayor (Chair), Councillors Mrs Bridgeman, Riley and Storer.

83. **Car Parking**

Councillor Ricketts proposed and Councillor Mrs Bowyer seconded a motion on Car Parking, as submitted.

During the debate, Councillor Coker proposed and Councillor Mrs Nelder seconded an amendment to the motion as follows –

'Council resolves to publish its car parking strategy in the new municipal year, which will include all council run car parks throughout the city. ~~instruct the Labour Council to review car parking provision on the Barbican before agreeing to sell off the Martin's Gate car park at Bretonside.~~ Furthermore The Council further resolves to freeze all car parking charges in the City until April 2016 and to continue to maintain free parking at district car parks such as Devonport, Stoke, Whiteleigh, Crownhill, Plympton and Plymstock. for a further 18 months to help stimulate growth and tourism and to reinforce Plymouth as a destination stop.

Council commits to keeping all district shopping centres free of charge'.

Following a request from ten councillors for a recorded vote, the amendment was agreed.

The vote was -

For the amendment (53)

Councillors Mrs Aspinall, Ball, Mrs Beer, Bowie, Bowyer, Mrs Bowyer, Mrs Bridgeman, Casey, Churchill, Coker, Damarell, Darcy, Philippa Davey, Sam Davey, Evans, Foster, Mrs Foster, Fry, Hendy, James, Jarvis, Jordan, Martin Leaves, Mike Leaves, Mrs Leaves, Lowry, Dr Mahony, McDonald, Morris, Murphy (Deputy Lord Mayor), Mrs Nelder, Nicholson, Mrs Nicholson, Parker-Delaz-Ajete, Penberthy, Mrs Pengelly, Rennie, Ricketts, Riley, Singh, John Smith, Peter Smith, Sparling, Stark, Stevens, Storer, Jon Taylor, Kate Taylor, Tuffin, Tuohy, Vincent Wheeler and Wigans.

Abstentions (1)

Lord Mayor (Chair)

Councillor Coker moved, Councillor Rennie seconded and the Council agreed that the motion as amended was put to the vote without further debate.

The motion as amended was agreed as follows –

‘Council resolves to publish its car parking strategy in the new municipal year, which will include all council run car parks throughout the city.
Furthermore Council resolves to freeze all car parking charges for a further 18 months to help stimulate growth and tourism and to reinforce Plymouth as a destination stop.

Council commits to keeping all district shopping centres free of charge.’

84. **Transit Site**

Councillor Mrs Beer proposed and Councillor Churchill seconded a motion on a Transit Site, as submitted.

During the debate Councillor Penberthy proposed and Councillor Mrs Nelder seconded an amendment to the motion as follows –

‘This Council instructs the Cabinet Member (s) with portfolio responsibility for ~~Co-operatives, Housing and Community Safety~~ to bring forward a clear action plan to establish a transit site for ~~Gypsies~~ the Gypsy and Travellers Community as part of the Plymouth Plan process in order to reduce the costs of unauthorised encampments falling as a burden on local taxpayers.’

With the consent of Council, the meeting adjourned for councillors to consider the amendment.

Upon reconvening, Councillor Evans proposed and Councillor Rennie seconded a proposal for the Council meeting to move into Part II (to exclude the press and the public) to consider the previous disclosure of commercially sensitive information.

Following a request from ten councillors for a recorded vote, it was agreed that under Section 100(A)(3) of the Local Government Act, 1972, the press and public are excluded from the meeting for the remaining part of this item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Act, as amended by the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

The vote was -

For the proposal (30)

Councillors Mrs Aspinall, Mrs Bridgeman, Coker, Damarell, Philippa Davey, Sam Davey, Evans, Hendy, Jarvis, Lowry, McDonald, Morris, Murphy (Deputy Lord Mayor), Mrs Nelder, Parker-Delaz-Ajete, Penberthy, Rennie, Riley, Singh, John Smith, Peter Smith, Sparling, Stevens, Storer, Jon Taylor, Kate Taylor, Tuffin, Tuohy, Vincent and Wheeler.

Against the proposal (21)

Councillors Ball, Mrs Beer, Bowyer, Mrs Bowyer, Casey, Churchill, Darcy, Foster, Mrs Foster, Fry, James, Jordan, Martin Leaves, Mike Leaves, Mrs Leaves, Dr Mahony, Nicholson, Mrs Nicholson, Mrs Pengelly, Ricketts and Wiggins.

Abstentions (1)

Lord Mayor (Chair)

Members of the Conservative Group left the Chamber until the conclusion of this item.

After further discussion, the motion as amended was agreed as follows -

‘This Council instructs the Cabinet Member(s) with portfolio responsibility to bring forward a clear action plan to establish a transit site for the Gypsy and Traveller Community as part of the Plymouth Plan process in order to reduce the costs of unauthorised encampments falling as a burden on local taxpayers.’

(The meeting returned to Part I at the conclusion of this item.)

85. **Towns against Tax Dodging**

Councillor Phillippa Davey proposed and Councillor Morris seconded a motion on Towns against Tax Dodging.

Councillor Nicholson moved, Councillor Mrs Pengelly seconded and the Council agreed that the motion was put to the vote without further debate.

The motion was agreed as follows –

‘This Council resolves to support the campaign for tax justice, supporting the motion:

that while many ordinary people face falling household income and rising costs of living, some multinational companies are avoiding billions of pounds of tax from a tax system that fails to make them pay their fair share. Local governments in developing countries and the UK alike would benefit from a fairer tax system where multinational companies pay their fair share, enabling authorities around the world to provide quality public services. The UK government must listen to the strength of public feeling and act to end the injustice of tax dodging by large multinational companies, in developing countries and the UK.

This Council resolves to write to the political party leaders to call on them to pledge support for a Tax Dodging Bill in the first 100 days of parliament after the general election.’

86. **ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING**

Following the motion on ‘towns against tax dodging’ (minute 85 refers), and following a proposal from Councillor Evans and seconded by Councillor Rennie, it was agreed to waive Council Procedure Rule 10.1 to enable the conclusion of the business on the agenda.

87. **Land Registry Proposals for Local Land Charges**

Councillor Evans proposed and Councillor Stevens seconded a motion on Land Registry Proposals for Local Land Charges.

The motion was agreed as follows –

‘to mandate the Chief Executive to -

- (1) raise opposition to the Government’s proposals with local MPs;
- (2) write to the Secretary of State requesting that the proposed transfer is stopped.’

88. **European Referendum**

Councillor Churchill proposed and Councillor Ball seconded a motion on a European Referendum as follows -

In light of growing support for the devolution of powers to local authorities and the European drive to take powers away from local authorities, this Council welcomes the pledge by David Cameron who, if re-elected as Prime Minister in May, has stated that he will hold a referendum on our country’s future in Europe.

Following a request from ten councillors for a recorded vote the motion was lost.

The vote was -

For the proposal (23)

Councillors Ball, Mrs Beer, Bowyer, Mrs Bowyer, Mrs Bridgeman, Casey, Churchill, Darcy, Foster, Mrs Foster, James, Jordan, Martin Leaves, Mike Leaves, Mrs Leaves, Dr Mahony, Nicholson, Mrs Nicholson, Mrs Pengelly, Ricketts, Riley, Storer and Wigens.

Against the proposal (27)

Councillors Mrs Aspinall, Coker, Damarell, Philippa Davey, Sam Davey, Evans, Hendy, Jarvis, Lowry, McDonald, Morris, Murphy (Deputy Lord Mayor), Mrs Nelder, Parker-Delaz-Ajete, Penberthy, Rennie, Singh, John Smith, Peter Smith, Sparling, Stevens, Jon Taylor, Kate Taylor, Tuffin, Tuohy, Vincent and Wheeler.

Abstentions (1)

Lord Mayor (Chair)

89. **Members of Parliament**

Councillor Stevens proposed and Councillor Evans seconded a motion on Members of Parliament.

The motion was agreed as follows –

‘Council resolves to support the public’s call to ban MPs from holding second jobs, including paid directorships and consultancies outside Parliament.’

90. **CALENDAR OF MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES 2015/16**

Councillor Smith (Deputy Leader) presented and Councillor Evans seconded the draft calendar of meetings for Council and Committees 2015/16.

Agreed the calendar of meetings of the Council and Committees for 2015/16.

91. **REPORT OF THE LEADER ON URGENT KEY DECISIONS**

Councillor Evans (Council Leader) presented his report on urgent Cabinet and key decisions taken since May 2014.

The report was noted.

92. **QUESTIONS BY COUNCILLORS**

From	To	Subject
Councillor Mrs Beer	Councillor McDonald	Old Priory Primary School
Councillor Parker Delaz-Ajete	Councillor Penberthy	Pensioners paying Bedroom Tax
Councillor John Smith	Councillor Peter Smith	Fire and Rescue Service
Councillor Martin Leaves	Councillor Vincent	Pounds House

93. **EXEMPT BUSINESS**

There were no items of exempt business on the agenda however, the meeting went into Part II during minute 84 above.