

City Council

Monday 21 March 2016

PRESENT:

Councillor Dr. Mahony, in the Chair.

Councillor Ball, Vice Chair.

Councillors Mrs Aspinall, Mrs Beer, Bowie, Bowyer, Mrs Bowyer, Mrs Bridgeman, Churchill, Coker, Damarell, Dann, Darcy, Philippa Davey, Sam Davey, Deacon, Downie, Drear, Evans, Fletcher, K Foster, Mrs Foster, Fox, Fry, Hendy, James, Jarvis, Jordan, Kelly, Martin Leaves, Michael Leaves, Sam Leaves, Lowry, McDonald, Morris, Murphy, Nicholson, Mrs Nicholson, Penberthy, Mrs Pengelly, Rennie, Ricketts, Riley, Dr. Salter, Singh, Smith, Sparling, Stevens, Storer, Jon Taylor, Kate Taylor, Tuffin, Tuohy, Vincent, Wheeler and Wigen.

Apologies for absence: Councillor Parker-Delaz-Ajete.

The meeting started at 2pm and finished at 7.10 pm.

Note: The full discussion can be viewed on the webcast of the City Council meeting at www.plymouth.gov.uk. 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.

63. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 29 February 2016 were agreed.

64. 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 Number	Reason	Interest
Councillor Ball	71	Trustee of Brock Trust	Private
Councillor Churchill	71	Board Member of Plymouth Community Homes	Private
Councillor Damarell	70c	Wife is an employee of hospital parking enforcement company	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest
Councillor Dann	71	Board Member of Plymouth Community Homes	Private
Councillor Jordan	70b	Has a Post Office pension and wife is an employee of Post Office	Private

Councillor Martin Leaves	70b	Has a post office pension	Private
Councillor Sam Leaves	70b	Spouse signed has a Post Office pension	Private
Councillor Lowry	70a	Employee of Babcock	Private
Councillor Nicholson	70a	Employee of Babcock	Private
Councillor Riley	70b	Wife is an employee at Derriford Hospital	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest
Councillor Tuohy	71	Board Member of Plymouth Community Homes	Private
Councillor Vincent	69	Spouse is proposed as Lord Mayor 2016/17	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest

65. **Appointments to Committees, Outside Bodies etc**

The Assistant Director and Head of Legal Services informed the Council that –

- (a) Councillor Stevens had replaced Councillor Kate Taylor on the North Yard Community Trust;
- (b) Councillor Tuohy had become the second member on the Incinerator Liaison Committee.

66. **Announcements**

Lord Mayor

- Thanks to Councillors departing in May
- Plymouth Blitz 75th anniversary
- British Parking Association Award

Leader

- Business rates and Enterprize Zones
- Administration's Pledges
- Apprentice Week and the Ron Simmons cup
- Children 'Not in Education, Employment or Training'
- Employability Passport Scheme
- History Centre
- Jamie Yabsley Sports Relief hospitality
- Mayflower 400 conference
- Integrated Health and Social Care Conference
- Langage Business Park phase 2

Councillor Smith (Deputy Leader) –

- Letter to Secretary of State for Business Innovation and skills about Trade Unions.

Councillor Vincent (Cabinet Member for Streetscene) -

- New public toilets at Devil's Point, Richmond Walk, Crownhill, Southway and Whitleigh.

Councillor Philippa Davey (Cabinet Member for Safer and Stronger Communities) –

- Syrian Refugees in Plymouth.

Councillor McDonald (Cabinet Member for Children and Young People)

–

- Continuing success of CaterEd.

Councillor Penberthy (Cabinet Member for Co-operatives and Housing)

–

- Cities of Service update.

Councillor Jon Taylor (Cabinet Member for Transformation and Customer Services) –

- Plympton Library shortlisted for British Book Industry award.

Councillor Tuffin (Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care) –

- Winning bids from Public Health;
- Effect of changes to Personal Independence Payments.

67. **Questions by the public**

There were no questions from members of the public.

68. **European referendum - impact on Plymouth**

Councillor James presented the recommendations of the Co-operatives Scrutiny Board's report on the impact of the European Referendum on Plymouth.

The report was noted and Council agreed to direct the Assistant Director for Learning and Communities to encourage schools in Plymouth to hold debates on the EU referendum.

69. **Lord Mayoralty 2016 - 2017**

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

Agreed that the nomination of Councillor Murphy as Lord Mayor for 2016/17 is forwarded to the Council's Annual General Meeting.

Councillor Murphy addressed the council following the vote.

(Councillor Vincent declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in the above item and left the meeting during this item)

70. **Motions on Notice**

70.1 Trident Replacement Programme
Councillor Bowyer proposed and Councillor Nicholson seconded a motion on the Trident replacement programme.

During the debate Councillor Rennie proposed and Councillor Smith seconded a proposal to move straight to the vote.

Following a request from ten Councillors for a recorded vote the Council agreed to go straight to the vote.

For the motion (30) – Councillors Mrs Aspinall, Bowie, Mrs Bridgeman, Coker, Damarell, Dann, P Davey, S Davey, Evans, Fox, Hendy, Jarvis, Lowry, McDonald, Morris, Murphy, Penberthy, Rennie, Riley, Singh, Smith, Sparling, Stevens, Storer, Jon Taylor, Kate Taylor, Tuffin, Tuohy, Vincent and Wheeler.

Against the motion (25) – Councillors Ball, Mrs Beer, Bowyer, Mrs Bowyer, Churchill, Darcy, Deacon, Downie, Drean, Fletcher, Foster, Mrs Foster, Fry, James, Jordan, Kelly, Martin Leaves, Michael Leaves, Sam Leaves, Nicholson, Mrs Nicholson, Mrs Pengelly, Ricketts, Dr Salter and Wiggins.

Abstentions (1) – Lord Mayor

Following a request from ten Councillors for a recorded vote on the motion, the motion was lost.

For the motion (25) – Councillors Ball, Mrs Beer, Bowyer, Mrs Bowyer, Churchill, Darcy, Deacon, Downie, Drean, Fletcher, Foster, Mrs Foster, Fry, James, Jordan, Kelly, Martin Leaves, Michael Leaves, Sam Leaves, Nicholson, Mrs Nicholson, Mrs Pengelly, Ricketts, Dr Salter and Wiggins.

Against the motion (30) – Councillors Mrs Aspinall, Bowie, Mrs Bridgeman, Coker, Damarell, Dann, P Davey, S Davey, Evans, Fox, Hendy, Jarvis, Lowry, McDonald, Morris, Murphy, Penberthy, Rennie, Riley, Singh, Smith, Sparling, Stevens, Storer, Jon Taylor, Kate Taylor, Tuffin, Tuohy, Vincent and Wheeler.

Abstentions (1) – Lord Mayor

(Councillors Lowry and Nicholson declared a private interest in the above item)

70.2 Crown Status of the Post Office

Councillor Tuffin proposed and Councillor McDonald seconded a motion on the crown status of the Post Office.

Council agreed the motion as follows –

This Council notes with great concern that St Andrew Cross Crown Post Office is planned to be franchised into another Business. This Council believes that a City Centre the size of Plymouth is fully deserving of a Post Office of Crown status, staffed by highly skilled and experienced post office employees. Furthermore, this Council believes that this move would have a negative impact on the City Centre, and a detrimental effect on postal services being offered to the Plymouth public.

Consequently, this Council wishes to express its opposition to the Post Office's plan, and calls upon them to reverse their decision.

(Councillors Jordan, Martin Leaves and Sam Leaves declared private interests in the above item)

70.3 Hospital Parking Charges

Councillor Jon Taylor proposed and Councillor Stevens seconded a motion on hospital parking charges.

During the debate Councillor Darcy proposed and Councillor Kelly seconded an amendment to the motion as follows –

As the National Health Service (NHS) was founded on the principle of access based on need and not an individual's ability to pay, Plymouth City Council notes ~~with sadness that the Conservative Government has repeatedly failed to intervene to scrap hospital car parking charges. This failure has led to hospitals hiking up parking charges to plug gaps created by the Conservative Government's cuts to the NHS.~~ that successive Governments have repeatedly failed to intervene to scrap or halt the rise in hospital car parking charges.

*Plymouth City Council believes this is little more than a stealth tax on the sick and their families causing financial hardship for many in Plymouth, especially those who have to visit hospital regularly for treatment or get to their workplace. There are direct consequences too for neighbourhoods close by such as Derriford, ~~Thornhill~~ **Thornbury** and Estover as staff avoid unaffordable parking charges by parking in surrounding areas causing problems for residents.*

We therefore call on the Government to scrap hospital parking charges immediately for patients, carers and staff, so Plymothians can have access to free hospital parking which is already available elsewhere in the United Kingdom.

Further, we instruct the Scrutiny Management Board to look at this complex issue, as to whether the abolition of Derriford Hospital car parking charges for patients, carers, and staff is a viable option and to assess the impact on neighbouring residential areas.

The amendment was put to the vote and declared lost.

Councillor Evans proposed and Councillor Lowry seconded and Council agreed a proposal to move straight to the vote.

Council agreed the motion as follows -

As the National Health Service (NHS) was founded on the principle of access based on need and not an individual's ability to pay, Plymouth City Council notes with sadness that the Conservative Government has repeatedly failed to intervene to scrap hospital car parking charges. This failure has led to hospitals hiking up parking charges to plug gaps created by the Conservative Government's cuts to the NHS.

Plymouth City Council believes this is little more than a stealth tax on the sick and their families causing financial hardship for many in Plymouth, especially those who have to visit hospital regularly for treatment or get to their workplace. There are direct consequences too for neighbourhoods close by such as Derriford, Thornhill and Estover as staff avoid unaffordable parking charges by parking in surrounding areas causing problems for residents.

We therefore call on the Government to scrap hospital parking charges immediately for patients, carers and staff, so Plymothians can have access to free hospital parking which is already available elsewhere in the United Kingdom.

(Councillors Damarell and Riley declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in the above item and left the meeting during this item).

71. **Ernest Brock Home for the Aged Charity**

Councillor Penberthy proposed and Councillor Evans seconded a recommendation on the Ernest Brock Home for the Aged Charity.

Agreed to approve the grant of consent to release the rights of the Council and the Lord Mayor to nominate persons for appointment as Trustees to the charity on the revised premise described.

(Councillors Churchill, Dann and Tuohy declared a private interest in the above item)

72. **Report of the Leader on urgent key decisions**

The Leader presented his report on urgent key decisions taken between May 2015 and March 2016.

73. **Council and committee meetings 2016/2017**

Councillor Smith proposed and Councillor Evans seconded the Annual Calendar of Council and Committee meetings 2016/17.

Agreed to adopt the calendar of meetings as set out in the agenda with the inclusion of Cabinet meeting on 28 June 2016.

74. **Questions by Councillors**

	From	To	Subject
1	Councillor Bowyer	Councillor Lowry	'For Hire' sign on Plymouth Guildhall.
2	Councillor Kate Taylor	Councillor Penberthy	Social Fund Replacement.
3	Councillor Martin Leaves	Councillor Smith	Central Park events field.
4	Councillor Dr Salter	Councillor Evans	Celebration of Her Majesty The Queens 90 th Birthday (Leader to let councillors know what events are and if invited).
5	Councillor Sparling	Councillor Penberthy	Council Tax support.
6	Councillor Jordan	Councillor Lowry	Planning consent for banner on Guildhall.
7	Councillor Martin Leaves	Councillor P Davey	Impromptu vehicle gatherings at the Milehouse park and ride site.
8	Councillor Kelly	Councillor Coker	Traffic light timings on Marjons link road
9	Councillor Stevens	Councillor Penberthy	Changes to Personal Independence Payments
10	Councillor Mrs Bridgeman	Councillor Coker	Policy for protection of airport site.
11	Councillor Evans	Councillor James	Advice for campaigning in Plympton.
12	Councillor Mrs Aspinall	Councillor Penberthy	Cuts to benefits to people with disability and invitation to caring scrutiny.
13	Councillor Churchill	Councillor Evans	Reference to Plymouth as an outhouse
14	Councillor Penberthy	Councillor James	Scrutiny on welfare reform.
15	Councillor Morris	Councillor Lowry	Group room arrangements in the Council House
16	Councillor Stevens	Councillor James	Progress of summer budget scrutiny review

Please note that questions and supplementary questions have been summarised.