

## City Council

**Monday 22 June 2020**

### **PRESENT:**

Councillor Mavin, in the Chair.

Councillor Winter, Vice Chair.

Councillors Allen, Mrs Aspinall, Ball, Mrs Beer, Bowyer, Mrs Bowyer, Mrs Bridgeman, Buchan, Carson, Churchill, Coker, Corvid, Dann, Darcy, Sam Davey, Deacon, Derrick, Downie, Drean, Evans OBE, Goslin, Haydon, Hendy, James, Mrs Johnson, Samantha Leaves, Loveridge, Lowry, McDonald, Morris, Murphy, Neil, Nicholson, Parker-Delaz-Ajete, Penberthy, Mrs Pengelly, Rennie, Riley, Singh, Pete Smith, Rebecca Smith, Stevens, Jon Taylor, Kate Taylor, Tuffin, Tuohy, Vincent, Ms Watkin, Wheeler and Wiggins.

Apologies for absence: Councillor Cook

The meeting started at 2.00 pm and finished at 6.34 pm.

*Note: The full discussion can be viewed on the webcast of the City Council meeting at [www.plymouth.gov.uk](http://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.*

### 8. **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 22 May 2020 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

### 9. **Declarations of Interest**

The following declaration of interest was made by a councillor in accordance with the code of conduct in respect of items under consideration at the meeting -

<b>Name</b>	<b>Minute Number</b>	<b>Reason</b>	<b>Interest</b>
Councillor Carson	14 - Plymouth and South West Devon Supplementary Planning Document	Councillor Carson owns land in within the area effected by the Plymouth and South West Devon Supplementary Planning Document	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest

### 10. **Appointments to Committees, Outside Bodies etc**

Council agreed the following appointments notified to the Monitoring Officer -

<b>Committee/ Outside body</b>	<b>Previous Member</b>	<b>New Member</b>
Planning Committee	Councillor Jonny Morris	Councillor Sam Davey
Child Poverty	Councillor Andrea Loveridge	Councillor David James
Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Authority	Councillor Jonny Morris	Councillor Margaret Corvid

## 11. **Announcements**

The Lord Mayor made the following announcements:

- offered his congratulations to Plymouth Argyle on their promotion from Division Two to Division One and wished them luck for the following season;
- on 22 June 1948 Tillbury Docks received one of the first large groups of post war Caribbean settlers on the ship the Empire Windrush – the first generation workers came to the UK by invitation to help rebuild Britain after World War 2. Many were met with hostility and found themselves denied rights, lost their jobs and in some cases were deported. Today the Council stood with the Afro Caribbean community and recognised that diversity of the city was one of its greatest strengths and assets;
- passed his condolences to the families of the three people that died as a result of the appalling attack in Reading on Saturday evening – the Lord Mayor would write to Councillor David Stevens, Lord Mayor of Reading, on behalf of the Council to express his sympathy and support;
- invited the Council to note the sad passing of Mrs Patricia Floyd on 5 May 2020 – she was Lady Mayoress with her husband Arthur Floyd as Lord Mayor from 1976 – 1977. Councillors were asked to join the Lord Mayor in observing 1 minute's silence.

The Lord Mayor then requested that Council suspend the usual procedural rules to allow the Director of Public Health to provide an update to the Council on Covid 19. The Deputy Lord Mayor seconded the motion and this was agreed unanimously by Full Council.

The Director of Public Health provided an update on the current situation with regards to the Covid 19 pandemic as follows:

- over 47,000 confirmed deaths associated with Covid 19 across the country;
- in Plymouth, been lucky as the virus had impacted the city terribly however compared to some other areas, the rates of death had been lower;
- excess of 80 deaths in Plymouth and it was hoped that the first wave of the

virus was coming to an end; number of confirmed cases was relatively small however the burden of the disease was more than the figures;

- considered that a number of the population may have had the disease but didn't show symptoms, or had very mild symptoms; however a large number of the population was considered not to have had the virus. Prevention was integral in order to prevent a second wave. Work was ongoing to try and get schools up and running and businesses operating;
- the importance of the Test and Trace programme and the importance of scaling this programme up; those with symptoms were encouraged to use this programme;

The Chief Executive of the Council, Tracey Lee, then provided an update on the impact of Covid 19 and the Council's response, Caring for Plymouth and the Good Neighbours Scheme and the Reset agenda and the impact on Plymouth's economy.

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Tudor Evans OBE, made announcements including the following:

- Public Health England's response to the pandemic;
- congratulations to Plymouth Argyle on their move to Division I;
- support offered to local businesses and the positive impact this has had;
- the Council's response to delivering Government grants;
- the launch of Resurgam and sector led recovery plans.

Councillor Kate Taylor, Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care, made an announcement focusing upon Care Home testing and the Care Home Support Plan.

Councillor Penberthy, Cabinet Member for Housing and Co-operative Development, made announcements focusing upon the Plymouth Good Neighbours Scheme, Refugee Week and the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Srebrenica Massacre.

Councillor Laing, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People, made an announcement focusing upon Plymouth Children's Centres award from Unicef regarding their work in supporting breastfeeding mothers in Plymouth.

Councillor Haydon, Cabinet Member for Customer Focus and Community Safety, made an announcement focusing upon the Better Business for All Toolkit and an update on birth registrations in the city.

Councillor Pete Smith, Deputy Leader, made an announcement focusing upon the Libraries Service Select and Collect Service.

Councillor Mrs Aspinall, Chair of the Scrutiny Management Board, made an announcement focusing upon the current arrangements for the scrutiny function.

12. **Questions by the Public**

There was one question from the public.

Mr Stuart Lloyd Dolton asked the following question:

“As a proud Plymouthian, I am bewildered that Leader of the Council has made a decision to change a street name, based on a small minority. It’s offensive the majority of our city has been insulted in such a derogatory manner. Can Councillor Evans ensure the proper consultation will ensue?”

The Leader, Councillor Evans OBE, gave the following response:

*I made it very clear in my statement on 9 June which was published on the Council’s website that the Council is starting the renaming process for Sir John Hawkins Square, and that this will involve an opportunity for people to give their views. The reason I said this is that the Council has published guidelines and a procedure for renaming streets, and we are following them. Our guidelines follow Section 18 of the Public Health Act 1925, which specifically refers to altering the name of a street, and are the same as any other council’s, because that is the law.*

*As I said in my statement, we listened to those who found the relatively recent naming of the square after Hawkins offensive because of his close associations with the slave trade, and that’s why we’re changing it. We are not seeking to rewrite history and we are not saying that we should forget Hawkins. He was an important figure in our national history, and we can remember this in a way that tells a fuller story about his life and which doesn’t commemorate him in a way that gives offence. When it opens, the Box will tell a much more rounded story about Hawkins and some of the city’s other famous historical figures.*

*As Councillor Penberthy, whose Ward contains the square has said, naming the square after Jack Leslie would be a wonderful way of recognising the big role he has not only in Plymouth Argyle’s heritage, but also in national football. As the only black professional player at the time, he was a pioneer. Unfortunately he also had to deal with discrimination which meant he was denied the opportunity to represent his country. As a city we want to remember him and are very pleased that his family has agreed for the square to be named Jack Leslie Square.*

*The Council’s agreed process for naming the square has started. A Public Health Act Street Renaming Notice will be displayed for a month. If Mr Dolton or anyone else is aggrieved by the proposed Renaming Order he has the opportunity to lodge an appeal with the local Magistrates Court within 21 days of the posting of the notice. If any appeals are lodged, the matter will be decided by the Magistrates.*

*I hope that Mr Dolton is now less bewildered, particularly as the decision on this matter is actually for Councillor Lowry who is the relevant Cabinet Member in the Council’s procedure. I can confirm though that he has the support of the whole Cabinet and the Ward Members in honouring Jack Leslie in the city that he represented for most of his professional career.*

13. **Capital and Revenue Outturn Report 2019/20**

Councillor Mark Lowry (Cabinet Member for Finance) introduced the Capital and Revenue Outturn Report 2019/20. This was seconded by Councillor Tudor Evans OBE (Leader of the Council).

Following a discussion, Council agreed to note the Financial Outturn Report for 2019/20.

14. **Plymouth and South West Devon Supplementary Planning Document**

Councillor Coker (Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Infrastructure) introduced the Plymouth and South West Devon Supplementary Planning Document.

This was seconded by Councillor Sue Dann (Cabinet Member for Environment and Street Scene).

Following a discussion, Council agreed to:

- I. Adopt the Plymouth and South West Devon Supplementary Planning Document (SPD), and its two companion documents subject to South Hams and West Devon agreeing likewise.

For (53)

Councillors Allen, Mrs Aspinall, Ball, Mrs Beer, Bowyer, Mrs Bowyer, Mrs Bridgeman, Buchan, Corvid, Churchill, Coker, Dann, Darcy, Derrick, Davey, Deacon, Downie, Drear, Evans OBE, Haydon, Goslin, Hendy, James, Jordan, Mrs Johnson, Kelly, Laing, Michael Leaves, Mrs Leaves, Lowry, McDonald, Morris, Murphy, Neil, Nicholson, Parker-Delaz-Ajete, Penberthy, Mrs Pengelly, Rennie, Riley, Singh, Pete Smith, Rebecca Smith, Stevens, Jon Taylor, Kate Taylor, Tuffin, Tuohy, Vincent, Ms Watkin, Wheeler, Wiggins, Winter (Deputy Lord Mayor).

Against (0)

Abstain (0)

Absent/Did Not Vote (2) Councillor Loveridge and Councillor Mavin (Lord Mayor)

15. **Motions on notice**

16. **Renaming of Sir John Hawkins Square**

Councillor Kelly introduced the Motion on Renaming of Sir John Hawkins Square. This was seconded by Councillor Jordan.

Following a brief debate, a proposal was made by Councillor Mrs Aspinall to move to the vote, this was seconded by Councillor Parker-Delaz-Ajete.

For (31)

Councillors Allen, Aspinall, Buchan, Corvid, Coker, Dann, Derrick, Sam Davey, Evans OBE, Haydon, Goslin, Hendy, Laing, Lowry, McDonald, Morris, Murphy, Neil, Parker Delaz Ajete, Penberthy, Rennie, Singh, Peter Smith, Stevens, Jon Taylor, Kate Taylor, Tuffin, Tuohy, Vincent, Wheeler, Winter.

Against (24)

Councillors Ball, Mrs Beer, Bowyer, Mrs Bowyer, Mrs Bridgeman, Carson, Churchill, Darcy, Deacon, Downie, Drear, James, Jordan, Mrs Johnson, Kelly, Mike Leaves, Sam Leaves, Loveridge, Nicholson, Mrs Pengelly, Riley, R Smith, Ms Watkin, Wiggins,

Absent/ Did Not Vote (2)

Councillor Cook  
Lord Mayor – Councillor Mavin

The proposal to move to the vote was carried.

Following a vote on the Renaming of Sir John Hawkins Square motion, the motion was lost:

For (24)

Councillors Ball, Mrs Beer, Bowyer, Mrs Bowyer, Mrs Bridgeman, Carson, Churchill, Darcy, Deacon, Downie, Drear, James, Jordan, Mrs Johnson, Kelly, Mike Leaves, Sam Leaves, Loveridge, Nicholson, Mrs Pengelly, Riley, R Smith, Ms Watkin, Wiggins.

Against (30)

Councillor Allen, Aspinall, Buchan, Corvid, Coker, Dann, Derrick, Sam Davey, Evans OBE, Haydon, Goslin, Hendy, Laing, Lowry, McDonald, Morris, Murphy, Neil, Parker Delaz Ajete, Penberthy, Rennie, Peter Smith, Stevens, Jon Taylor, Kate Taylor, Tuffin, Tuohy, Vincent, Wheeler, Winter.

Abstain (1)  
Councillor Singh

Absent/ Did Not Vote (2)

Councillor Cook  
Lord Mayor – Councillor Mavin

17. **Cashless Car Parking Payment in Plymouth**

Councillor Ball introduced the Motion on Cashless Car Parking Payment in Plymouth. This was seconded by Councillor Drear.

Following a debate, the motion was lost:

For (25)

Councillors Ball, Mrs Beer, Bowyer, Mrs Bowyer, Mrs Bridgeman, Carson, Churchill, Darcy, Deacon, Downie, Drear, James, Jordan, Mrs Johnson, Kelly, Mike Leaves, Sam Leaves, Loveridge, Nicholson, Mrs Pengelly, Riley, Singh, R Smith, Ms Watkin, Wiggins.

Against (30)

Councillors Allen, Aspinall, Buchan, Corvid, Coker, Dann, Derrick, Sam Davey, Evans OBE, Haydon, Goslin, Hendy, Laing, Lowry, McDonald, Morris, Murphy, Neil, Parker Delaz Ajete, Penberthy, Rennie, Peter Smith, Stevens, Jon Taylor, Kate Taylor, Tuffin, Tuohy, Vincent, Wheeler, Winter.

Absent/ Did Not Vote (2)

Councillor Cook  
Lord Mayor – Councillor Mavin

18. **Garden Waste**

Councillor Mrs Bridgeman introduced the Motion on Garden Waste. This was seconded by Councillor Carson.

Following a debate, the motion was lost:

For (25)

Councillors Ball, Mrs Beer, Bowyer, Mrs Bowyer, Mrs Bridgeman, Carson, Churchill, Darcy, Deacon, Downie, Drear, James, Jordan, Mrs Johnson, Kelly, Mike Leaves, Sam Leaves, Loveridge, Nicholson, Mrs Pengelly, Riley, Singh, R Smith, Ms Watkin, Wiggins.

Against (30)

Councillors Allen, Aspinall, Buchan, Corvid, Coker, Dann, Derrick, Sam Davey, Evans OBE, Haydon, Goslin, Hendy, Laing, Lowry, McDonald, Morris, Murphy, Neil, Parker Delaz Ajete, Penberthy, Rennie, Peter Smith, Stevens, Jon Taylor, Kate Taylor, Tuffin, Tuohy, Vincent, Wheeler, Winter.

Absent/ Did Not Vote (2)

Councillor Cook  
Lord Mayor – Councillor Mavin

19. **Combatting Racism and Discrimination in Plymouth**

This motion was withdrawn.

20. **Free School Meals**

This motion was withdrawn.

21. **Encampments**

Councillor Sam Leaves introduced the Motion Encampments. This was seconded by Councillor Downie.

Following a brief debate, a proposal was made by Councillor Parker-Delaz-Ajete to move to the vote, this was seconded by Councillor Pete Smith.

For (30)

Councillors Allen, Aspinall, Buchan, Corvid, Coker, Dann, Derrick, Sam Davey, Evans OBE, Haydon, Goslin, Hendy, Laing, Lowry, McDonald, Morris, Murphy, Neil, Parker Delaz Ajete, Penberthy, Rennie, Peter Smith, Stevens, Jon Taylor, Kate Taylor, Tuffin, Tuohy, Vincent, Wheeler, Winter.

Against (22)

Councillors Mrs Beer, Bowyer, Mrs Bowyer, Mrs Bridgeman, Carson, Churchill, Darcy, Deacon, Downie, Drear, James, Jordan, Mrs Johnson, Kelly, Mike Leaves, Sam Leaves, Loveridge, Nicholson, Mrs Pengelly, Riley, R Smith, Ms Watkin.

Abstain (1)

Councillor Singh

Absent/ Did Not Vote (4)

Councillor Ball

Councillor Cook

Councillor Wiggins

Lord Mayor – Councillor Mavin

The proposal to move to the vote was carried.

Following a vote on the Encampments motion, the motion was lost:

For (23)

Councillors Ball, Mrs Beer, Bowyer, Mrs Bowyer, Mrs Bridgeman, Carson, Churchill, Darcy, Deacon, Downie, Drear, James, Jordan, Mrs Johnson, Kelly, Mike Leaves, Sam Leaves, Loveridge, Nicholson, Mrs Pengelly, Riley, R Smith, Ms Watkin.

Against (29)

Councillor Allen, Aspinall, Buchan, Corvid, Coker, Dann, Derrick, Sam Davey, Evans OBE, Haydon, Goslin, Hendy, Laing, Lowry, McDonald, Murphy, Neil, Parker Delaz Ajete, Penberthy, Rennie, Peter Smith, Stevens, Jon Taylor, Kate Taylor, Tuffin, Tuohy, Vincent, Wheeler, Winter.

Abstain (1)

Councillor Singh



Absent/ Did Not Vote (4)

Councillor Wiggins  
Councillor Morris  
Councillor Cook  
Lord Mayor – Councillor Mavin

## 22. **Urgent Key Decisions to be Reported (To Follow)**

Councillor Evans OBE gave a brief update on two urgent key decisions taken since the last meeting. The update was seconded by Councillor Pete Smith.

- Covid 19 - Local Council Tax Support Hardship Fund
- Covid 19 - Resilience Mortuary Contract Award
- Covid 19 - Suspension of Tolling on Tamar Crossing
- Covid 19 - Provision of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Covid 19 - Discretionary Grant Fund for Business

Council noted the urgent key decisions taken by the Leader in line with due process and published on 25 March 2020, 27 March 2020, 16 April 2020, 7 May 2020 and 29 May 2020.

## 23. **Questions by Councillors**

	<b>From</b>	<b>To</b>	<b>Subject</b>
1	Councillor Nicholson	Councillor Kate Taylor	Lessons learned from the Covid pandemic to improve healthcare provision in the city moving forward.
			Response: Conversations were being had, with regards to lessons learned, as part of the Reset agenda. It was highlighted that we were not through the pandemic and needed to strike a delicate balance with what happens next and what was still ongoing. The importance of the Caring for Plymouth Programme and strong partnership working was emphasised.
2	Councillor Buchan	Councillor Kate Taylor	Guidance on those shielding from Covid 19
			Response: The huge sacrifices of those shielding (in terms of their wellbeing, mental health and finances) was recognised. The Cabinet Member had recently written to Matt Hancock asking him to issue urgent guidance to give clarity to those affected, as well as the Local Authority in their supportive role.
3	Councillor Goslin	Councillor Coker	Improvements in cycling provision in the city.
			Response: The Council had applied for a £249,000 grant from Government in order to help with cycling provision however had not yet heard if they had been successful. There was approximately £5.1m in the budget to deliver further 126km of new and improved traffic free facilities on the cycle network, paths and green spaces, building on the £9.5m already invested in walking and cycling infrastructure in the city.
4	Councillor	Councillor	Transforming City's Future Bid.

	Drean	Coker	
	Response: The Council had applied for several bids including the Transforming City's Future Bid however had not yet heard if they had been successful – an announcement was expected and this would be shared with all members.		
	Councillor Mrs Bridgeman	Councillor Dann	Reconsideration of motion to extend garden waste collection to November – this had been done – thanks offered.
	Response: No response required.		
6	Councillor Mrs Beer	Councillor Dann	Grass cutting and vegetation growing over signs on the highway.
	Response: Grass cutting in the city had started up again – this had been affected by the low numbers of staff members during the pandemic. A decision was made to prioritise domestic waste collection however certain initiatives like 'No Mow May' were encouraging wild flower growth and biodiversity as a result of letting the grass grow. The Highways Team checked the vegetation growing on signs on a regular basis and members were encouraged to contact the team to report problems to avoid health and safety issues. The Council had reduced staffing in March, April and May as a result of the pandemic therefore the Council was now in a position of playing catch up.		
7	Councillor Ian Bowyer	Councillor Pete Smith	Manadon Sports Centre – boundary extension.
	Response: The Deputy Leader was aware of the boundary extension and action had been taken to rectify the situation. He would advise Councillor Ian Bowyer of progress and when the walkway would be reinstated.		
8	Councillor Kelly	Councillor Coker	Disabled parking on the Hoe.
	Response: The disabled parking on the main parade ground of the Hoe had been restricted during the ongoing pandemic due to the closed toilet facilities. Consultation had taken place with various groups as well as the nearby café. The Cabinet Member had opened up Jennycliff carpark and Devil's Point in order for members of the public to have access. He would liaise with Councillor Lowry to assess when the toilet facilities on the Hoe would be open to the public and would confirm with Councillor Kelly.		
9	Councillor Sam Leaves	Councillor Penberthy	Equality Act 2010.
	Response: The Cabinet Member was aware of the Equality Act 2010 and the duty on public bodies.		
10	Councillor Ms Watkin	Councillor Lowry	Public Conveniences.
	Response: The Council's website listed toilet provision available in the city; nine disabled toilets had remained open during the pandemic and a further eight toilets had opened recently all complying with social distancing rules. Toilets would be open as soon as was practicable.		
11	Churchill	Coker	Connection of the Plymouth to South Hams cycle

			network.
	Response: Work was ongoing with regards to the connection of the Plymouth to South Hams cycle network; this was a joint collaboration between Plymouth Devon and Sustrans.		
12	Councillor Mrs Johnston	Councillor Lowry	Budget 202 - required to be revisited as a result of the impact of the pandemic?
	Response: It was expected that a revised budget would be submitted to Cabinet in August – the Cabinet Member and officers were currently assessing the impact of Covid 19 and were hopeful that the Government would give local authorities additional funding.		
13	Councillor Stevens	Councillor Pete Smith	Details of Full Council debates between 2007 - 2012, and 2016 - 2018 where debate was cut short by the Conservative administration of the day.
	Response: This information would be provided and would also be sent to Councillor Deacon.		
14	Councillor Mrs Aspinall	Councillor Lowry	The importance of social distancing and protection of the vulnerable.
	Response: The Council would continue to inform members of the public of the requirement to socially distance. As Champion for the City Centre he would continue to cater for all users as well as the disabled community ensuring the city centre was a welcoming and safe environment.		
15	Councillor Neil	Councillor Kate Taylor	Impact of the pandemic on care homes and steps to keep residents safe.
	Response: The Council was working on the assumption of a second spike of the virus in order to forward plan. Care Homes had been focused upon as this was where the majority of highly vulnerable residents were. Testing for Covid 19 as well as the provision of PPE, and work to prevent cross contamination was ongoing.		
16	Councillor Mrs Beer	Councillor Pete Smith	Plympton Library Service.
	Response: Plympton Library Service was not included in the libraries announcement as the Council currently didn't have the staff available to run it. Libraries were running on a limited service – a click and collect service was being offered and books would be required to be quarantined once returned before being reissued. The situation would be reviewed as the rules were relaxed by the Government.		
17	Councillor Kelly	Councillor Dann	Review of siting and suitability of recycling bins.
	Response: The Cabinet Member was aware of the siting of two new recycling bins near the Crown and Anchor Pub on the Barbican – the council had issued an apology and confirmed that the bins would be moved – the siting of other recycling bins would be checked to ensure they were in the best position. The summer service had already started a month early however Members of the public were encouraged to be responsible with the disposal of their waste and recycle.		
18	Councillor	The Leader	Equality Legislation – Children and Young People

	Sam Leaves		with a statement that were currently home schooled.
	Response: It was highlighted that there was a difference between a decision which was not liked and one which was not appropriate. Issues should be formally written and sent to the Leader with evidence in order for him to assess the situation and move forward. The Cabinet Member would be contacted in order to provide a response regarding the number of children and young people with a statement of special education needs that were currently home schooled during the pandemic.		

*Please note that questions, answers, supplementary questions and supplementary answers have been summarised.*