

City Council

Monday 5 December 2011

PRESENT:

The Lord Mayor, Councillor Brookshaw, in the Chair.

The Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Delbridge, Vice Chair.

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

Also in attendance: Barry Keel (Chief Executive), Tim Howes (Assistant Director for Democracy and Governance), Nicola Kirby (Senior Democratic Support Officer (Cabinet) and Ross Jago (Democratic Support Officer).

Apologies for absence: Councillors Mrs Aspinall, Mrs Bragg and Williams

The meeting started at 2.00 pm and finished at 7.09 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.

77. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Name	Item	Interest	Reason
Councillor McDonald	Minute 84 - History Centre and University Technical College	Personal	Member of the Royal William Yard Liaison Panel.
Councillor Penberthy	Minute 84 - History Centre and University Technical College	Personal	Co-opted member of the Royal William Yard Residents Association Executive Committee, co-opted member of the Royal William Yard Business Forum and a member of the Stonehouse Liaison Panel.

Councillor Ricketts	Minute 87 - Youth Unemployment - Motion on Notice 15 (11/12)	Personal (subsequently changed to prejudicial during the item)	Employed by Working Links.
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78. **MINUTES**

The Lord Mayor moved for approval the minutes of the meetings of the City Council on 10 October and the Extraordinary General Meeting on 18 October 2011.

Arising from minute 66 of 10 October 2011, councillors indicated that they had not received the Council's response to the consultation exercise on the licensing regime for adventure activities and Councillor Sam Leaves (Cabinet Member for Children and Young People) indicated that no date had been specified for the circulation of the information.

An amendment was moved by Councillor Stevens, and seconded by Councillor Evans, on minute 65 – Planning application 11/00750/FUL (Motion on Notice 11) to add the following bullet points to the issues raised –

- that Councillor Lock was stealing Christmas from many, many residents in Plymouth;
- amongst others he had been compared to Ebenezer Scrooge;
- that in his previous attempt to explain his decision he tried to pass the buck to officers;
- many planning officers will now miss Christmas events;
- the current Planning Committee gave the impression of being chaired by a Liberal Democrat.

Following discussion on the amendment and the content of minutes generally, the amendment was subsequently withdrawn.

Following an adjournment, it was agreed that –

- (1) the Assistant Director for Democracy and Governance prepare a report for the Constitutional Working Group on the preparation of minutes;
- (2) the minutes of the meetings of the City Council on 10 October and the Extraordinary General Meeting on 18 October 2011 were confirmed as a correct record.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

79. **Councillor Fry (Cabinet Member for Planning, Strategic Housing and Economic Development)**

Royal Town Planning Institute

The Plymouth Market Recovery Action Plan, now in its third year, had been commended by regional judges of the royal town planning institute and was shortlisted for the silver jubilee cup.

Development included High View Primary School, St Aubyns Church (Devonport) incorporating a library and the Saltram Country Park Masterplan which had all received commendations and were a credit to the work of the Planning Department.

80. **Councillor Sam Leaves (Cabinet Member for Children and Young People)**

Licensing of Adventure Activities

Councillor Sam Leaves informed members that both parties had joined together to look at this issue and that the Council would strongly make the case to retain the safety regime and strongly oppose changing the code. Following contact with the families of those lost in the Lyme Bay tragedy, it was the Council's intention to raise a petition and a further update would be provided in due course.

OFSTED Annual Performance Assessment

The annual assessment of services for children and young people had rated performance as excellent. Plymouth City Council was one of only two south west local authorities to have achieved this.

81. **Councillor Jordan (Cabinet Member for Community Services (Safer and Stronger Communities and Leisure, Culture and Sport))**

Sports Development Unit

Plymouth City Council Sport's Development Unit had recently received the customer service excellence award. The unit had also been rated 'excellent' by Quest, the UK quality scheme for sport and leisure. The Plymouth team is the only sports development unit in the country to hold both accolades.

82. **QUESTIONS BY THE PUBLIC**

The following questions were received from members of the public, in accordance with paragraph 10 of the Constitution.

Madeline Bridgeman attended the meeting to ask her question and Councillor Fry (Chair of the Cabinet Member for Planning, Strategic Housing and Economic Development) responded as set out below -

Question No	Question By	Relevant Cabinet Member	Subject
6 (11/12)	Madeline Bridgeman	Councillor Fry, Cabinet Member for Planning, Strategic Housing and Economic Development	Inward Investment
<p>As a mother I would like to ask the Councillors with the imminent closure, demolition, and loss of our Airport, how do they propose to attract and encourage overseas investment and employment into Plymouth and protect and secure a future for our children and their children?</p>			
<p>Response:</p> <p>The loss of the airport is not something anybody would wish for Plymouth and I can assure you we did everything in our power as the Local Authority to preserve its future. The bottom line, as you now know, is that it was not commercially viable and no one organisation could continue to absorb the losses it was occurring. At the end of the day, the routes provided were limited and the patronage low. It was not being used sufficiently.</p> <p>So it is closing but we have to look to the future and even without an airport in the city I strongly believe we have an excellent offer to the right kind of investors. Inward investment to the city was and is only partly considered on accessibility.</p> <p>There are a number of factors which drive the decisions of investors, including land values, workforce characteristics, the housing market, supply chains and business support mechanisms. In recent years, overall levels of Foreign Direct Investment have declined significantly due to changes in the global economy and increased competition elsewhere in the world. It was those types of foreign investment where accessibility was sometimes proportionately more important as a “deal-breaker” but even then the use of technological advances has meant traditional use of air travel for business purposes has declined. Plymouth can, therefore, play on other strengths that we have.</p> <p>We need to build upon and promote our strengths. Plymouth does have an enviable depth of skills, talent and expertise in areas of growing importance to global industry – such as (but not exclusively) marine and renewable engineering. It is this talent base and supply chain that will be the reason for investors decisions to invest and less about convenience.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">cont’d.....</p>			

We will use events and festivals like the Marine City Festival next year to help attract new investment to the city based on these unique attributes and our experiences of promoting the city for inward investment during the America's Cup shows what a strong offer we have, regardless of Airport connectivity.

Of course we do still have to invest in our connectivity and we are working hard to ensure we have regular three hour train times to London, improved car links, quicker public transport links to Exeter Airport, which is less than an hour away, and better quality broadband. We are investing in our marine skills with the Marine Academy and the recent announcement of the University Technical College that will focus on marine skills.

So we are focusing on what we do best and we are making sure that we are going to keep on producing the talent to ensure Plymouth is well positioned to continually exploit the strength of its offer.

Mr Naylor did not attend the meeting and his question, and the response from Councillor Bowyer, (Cabinet Member for Finance, Property and People), was circulated to councillors as set out below. The response would be sent to Mr Naylor following the meeting.

Question No	Question By	Relevant Cabinet Member	Subject
7 (11/12)	Malcolm Naylor	Councillor Bowyer, Cabinet Member for Finance, Property and People	Use of proceeds from the airport development
<p>Would the Council confirm that proceeds from Airport development, in excess of £12 Million, made available to Sutton Harbour as a result of the 'Deal' authorised by PCC Cabinet (25/9/07), have been used entirely in accordance with the recommendations discussed and endorsed at that meeting.</p>			
<p>Response:</p> <p>The Council entered into a Commercial Development Agreement with Plymouth City Airport Limited and Sutton Harbour Holdings PLC, in March 2008, as a result of the resolutions made by Cabinet on 25th September 2007.</p> <p>That agreement set out how the receipts from the proposed sale of airport surplus land could be applied to the airport business and its infrastructure. It is extremely important that the Council accounts for all public monies invested in major projects in line with its legal agreements.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">cont'd.....</p>			

Both the Council and its independent auditors, Grant Thornton, have received initial figures from Plymouth City Airport/Sutton Harbour Holdings concerning the application of net-of-tax funds received from the disposal of the surplus land. Those figures show that the receipts have or will be used entirely for the purposes specified in the agreement.

However before the Council sign off the expenditure as provided for by the legal agreement and given that the figures received to date in some cases have been based on estimated costs, Grant Thornton are now undertaking further detailed due diligence to ensure the proceeds are and have been applied in line with the Commercial Development Agreement.

ITEMS REFERRED FROM CABINET

83. Capital Programme Approvals

Councillor Bowyer (Cabinet Member for Finance, Property and People) submitted, for approval, the new capital schemes for investment as set out in the written report of the Director for Corporate Support (Cabinet minute 80a of the Cabinet meeting held on 15 2011 refer).

The proposal was seconded by Councillor Thompson.

An amendment was moved by Councillor Lowry –

‘We note the current defect related claims for footway surface defects (2010/2011 - £640,165.80).

Recommend that the capital programme be increased by a further £500,000 to be invested in footway surface defects.’

The amendment was seconded by Councillor Davey.

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

- that surface defects continued to rise and the capital programme did not allow for any expenditure to address this;
- that the city council was not investing to save and did not care about pavement safety;
- the levels of compensation claims;
- that monies could be taken from the redundancy reserve;
- that there was a footpath budget in place in 2003 which had been continually reduced;
- that the elderly would choose not to leave their homes due to the risk encountered when using the city’s pavements;
- an insurance fund was in operation and reviewed annually, and where the council had liabilities these would be satisfied;
- that further investment on pavements was not possible within the current capital programme.

Councillor Lowry summed up and following a vote the amendment was lost.

Following a vote on the substantive motion it was agreed that -

The new capital schemes for investment are approved as follows, amounting to £1.454m additional capital spend for 2011/12 and £3.069m for 2012/13 –

£000	£000	£000	£000	Schemes
11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	
-	1,571	-	-	Academies – additional funding from Central Gov't
74	-	-	-	Prospect Row Play Area
30		-	-	Environmental Survey Works
-	50	-	-	St Budeaux Multi Use Games Area (MUGA)
24	-	-	-	Bretonside & Notte St Improvement Works
-	174	-	-	Traffic Improvements
26	1,274	-	-	ICT Data Centre at Windsor House
1,300	-	-	-	Road repairs in the city
1,454	3,069	0	0	Total of new

84. **History Centre and University Technical College**

Councillor Jordan (Cabinet member for Community Services (Safer and Stronger Communities and Leisure, Culture and Sport) submitted for approval amendments to the second phase of the Accommodation Strategy to reflect the proposals in cabinet minute 86 (1) and (2) of the 29 November 2011.

The proposal was seconded by Councillor Sam Leaves.

Councillor Peter Smith moved an amendment that recommendations (1) and (2) are referred to Support Services Overview and Scrutiny Panel to enable the full funding implications to be examined.

The amendment was seconded by Councillor Tuohy.

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

- the proposals were supported in principle;
- the buildings in the Royal William Yard would not be fit for purpose for a considerable time when taking into consideration the buildings' grade I listing;
- funding was available for proposals;
- there was an opportunity to question the proposals at Customer and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel when the cultural strategy was discussed;
- the amendment was not intended to sabotage the University Technical College or the History Centre but the referral to the scrutiny panel would allow the consideration of a full suite of information.

Councillor Peter Smith summed up and following a vote the amendment was lost.

Councillor Jordan summed up on the substantive motion and following the vote it was agreed to amend the second phase of the Accommodation Strategy Phase 2 to -

- (1) approve the development of proposals to locate the History Centre at the Factory Cooperage building within the Royal William Yard. This requires that the £2m funding presently allocated to the History Centre scheme remains allocated to the scheme in its new location, and
- (2) approve the use of Parkside Community College as a University Technical College (UTC)

MOTIONS ON NOTICE

85. BBC Local Radio - Motion on Notice No 13 (11/12)

Councillor Evans moved the following motion on notice for approval –

‘BBC Local Radio

Plymouth City Council believes that the proposals made by the BBC to curtail its Plymouth specific local radio programming are wrong and should be withdrawn.’

The motion was seconded by Councillor Rennie.

During the debate, the issues raised included that –

- the standard of BBC local radio services covering Plymouth was high;
- residents of urban plymouth have different needs from that of rural Devon and local services provided by the BBC should reflect that;
- local radio services have served the city well, broadcasting important messages to residents, such as school closures during extreme weather conditions;
- the proposals from the BBC did not reflect the government’s localism agenda;
- the BBC radio, along with other local media outlets, provide challenge and scrutiny of politicians, the loss of local services would damage local democracy;
- all members were urged to make a response to the consultation at <http://consultations.external.bbc.co.uk/bbc/localradio/> .

Councillor Evans summed up and the motion was put to the vote and declared carried.

86. Boundary Committee Proposals - Motion on Notice 14 (11/12)

Councillor Evans moved the following motion on notice for approval –

'Boundary Committee Proposals

This Council objects in the strongest terms to the Boundary Commission proposals for the redrawing of Parliamentary Boundaries in so far as they affect wards in the City of Plymouth.

The proposals as they stand diminish Plymouth and should be reconsidered.'

The motion was seconded by Councillor Mrs Pengelly.

An amendment was moved by Councillor Salter and seconded by Councillor Dr Mahony that the motion was amended to read –

'This Council objects ~~in the strongest terms~~ to the Boundary Commission proposals for the redrawing of Parliamentary Boundaries in so far as they affect ~~wards in~~ the City of Plymouth and in particular the four wards of Moorview and Plympton.

The proposals as they stand diminish Plymouth and should be reconsidered to ensure that the three Constituencies containing Plymouth wards should either be wholly within Plymouth, or as far as possible linked with areas that have close ties to Plymouth. Therefore, the proposals should not, for example, include the town of Okehampton in a Constituency with Plymouth Wards.'

Councillor Evans raised a point of order that such a motion would be contrary to the parameters imposed by the Boundary Commission for England and could be viewed as illegal.

The monitoring officer advised council that making the amended motion was not illegal and should the amended motion be carried, he would inform the Boundary Commission for England of the Council's objections.

Following a short adjournment Councillor Evans withdrew the motion on notice.

87. **Youth Unemployment - Motion on Notice 15 (11/12)**

Councillor Evans moved the following motion on notice for approval –

'Youth Unemployment

Council notes that youth unemployment has risen to over one million in the UK. Here in Plymouth, unemployment for 18 – 24 year olds has risen by 116 per cent since the coalition came to power.

Council believes that a 'worklessness strategy' is not enough.

Plymouth needs a plan for jobs but urgently needs a plan to tackle youth unemployment.'

Councillor Wildy seconded the motion.

During the debate, the issues raised, included that –

- there had been a large increase in youth unemployment and an alarming reduction in the level of support available to unemployed young people;
- cuts made to the education maintenance allowance and increases to university tuition fees had led to a lack of aspiration in young people;
- a plan for the youth was needed and it needed to be at the top of the agenda for the city;
- the figures quoted were questionable.

Following his speech, Councillor Ricketts declared a prejudicial interest and left the chamber.

An amendment was moved by Councillor Nicholson and seconded by Councillor Fry for the motion to read –

‘Council notes that youth unemployment has risen to over one million in the UK. Here in Plymouth, unemployment for 18 – 24 year olds has risen by ~~116 per cent since the coalition came to power~~ to a level which causes concern to the Council and local community.

Council believes that a ‘worklessness strategy’ alone is not enough and council resolves to establish a Task and Finish Scrutiny Panel with representatives from the Plymouth Chamber of Commerce. The federation of Small Businesses, Job Centre Plus and programme providers, to review local strategies currently in place to help Plymouth’s unemployed, particularly the young and to report to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board and to Cabinet within three months.’

During the debate on the amendment, the following issues were raised –

- it was important that more agencies were involved in the consideration of this issue;
- involving a wider group of stakeholders would identify where opportunities could be created for young people;
- the Council should agree on this issue and recognise that further work was required.

Following summing up from Councillor Nicholson the amendment was put to the vote and declared carried.

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

88. **REVISED COUNCIL CONSTITUTION**

Further to minute 68, the Assistant Director for Democracy and Governance submitted a written report recommending the adoption of a revised City Council Constitution which had been developed by the Constitutional Working Group. The Council was also asked to designate officers as the Council’s scrutiny officer under the Local Government Act 2000 and the proper officer under the Registration Act 1953.

Councillor Bowyer (Cabinet Member for Finance, Property and People) moved the written recommendations in the report of the Assistant Director for Democracy and Governance with an amendment for recommendation (1) to read –

- (1) Adopt the revised Constitution and its associated documents as attached, to be effective from the 3 January 2012, subject to the amendment to include the following in Part D, page 5, section 14.1:

'It is a convention that one of the overview and scrutiny panels will be chaired by a member of the opposition political group with the vice-chair from the majority political group.'

The proposal as amended, was seconded and the amendment was agreed.

During the debate on the motion as amended, the following issues were raised –

- the scheme of delegation within the constitution doubled the level of delegation to council officers and that this would need to be reviewed by the Constitution Working Group;
- if authority for an urgent key decision was sought from the Lord Mayor (or Deputy Lord Mayor), in the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board, a careful note of the meeting would need to be kept.

Councillor Bowyer summed up the motion, as amended, and undertook to convene an urgent meeting of the Constitutional Review Group (before 3 January 2012) to consider the scheme of delegation together with other issues that had been raised with him.

Following a vote, the motion, as amended, was carried and it was agreed to -

- (1) adopt the revised Constitution and its associated documents as attached, to be effective from the 3 January 2012, subject to the amendment to include the following in Part D, page 5, section 14.1:

'It is a convention that one of the overview and scrutiny panels will be chaired by a member of the opposition political group with the vice-chair from the majority political group.';

- (2) designate the following -
 - (a) the Head of Policy, Performance and Partnerships as the Council's Scrutiny Officer;
 - (b) the Assistant Director for Democracy and Governance as the Council's proper officer for the registration service;
- (3) set up a standing constitution working group to meet as and when required;
- (4) instruct the Monitoring Officer to report on the operation of the revised constitution after six months.

APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES, OUTSIDE BODIES ETC

Agreed the following appointments –

	Committee	Membership	Appointments
1.	Incinerator Liaison Committee	Councillor Bowyer and one vacancy	Councillor Bowyer (with one vacancy remaining)
2.	Plymouth Citizens Advice Bureau Trustee Board	Cessation of membership of Mrs Joan Watkins (two representatives –current member: Councillor Thompson)	Councillor Berrow
3.	Plymouth Schools Forum	Three councillors: Councillors Dr Mahony, Stark and Wildy	Councillor Wildy to be replaced by Councillor Williams
4.	South West Devon Waste Partnership	Resignation of Councillor Bowyer (two Cabinet members – current member Councillor Michael Leaves)	Councillor Ball
5.	South West Regional Flood and Coastal Committee New composition with effect from 1 January 2012	Current membership: Councillor Lock Councillor Vincent (Deputy)	Councillor Lock Councillor Vincent (Deputy)
6.	Neighbourhood Board for Devonport	Current membership: Councillors Mrs Dolan and Wildy	Councillor Wildy to be replaced by Councillor Coker

(7) that Mr Richard Clarke, Independent Member on Audit Committee, has been re-appointed for a further four year period.

The City Council noted the following nominations notified to the Assistant Director for Democracy and Governance –

Panel	Membership
Appointments Panel	Councillors Mrs Pengelly, Fry, Ball, Bowyer, Evans, Smith, Lowry (substitute members: Councillors Monahan and Wildy)

The City Council noted that the following changes of Committee membership had been notified to the Monitoring Officer -

Committee	Change of Membership
Overview and Scrutiny Management Board	Councillor Mrs Dolan has replaced Councillor Mrs Nicholson as the nominated substitute for the Children and Young People Overview and Panel
Overview and Scrutiny Management Board	Nominated substitute for the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Panel – Councillor Bowie to replace Councillor Haydon
Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Panel	Councillor Thompson has replaced Councillor Mrs Bowyer
Customer and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel	Councillor Browne has replaced Councillor Mrs Bowyer

90. **SENIOR MANAGEMENT RESTRUCTURE**

The Chief Executive submitted a written report on the appointments made by the Appointments Panel on 23 November 2011 and a proposal to designate Adam Broome (Director of Corporate Services) as the Council’s chief finance officer.

The Leader (Councillor Mrs Pengelly) moved the recommendations in the written report with the deletion of ‘ and Section 6 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989’ in recommendation (1). The proposal was seconded by Councillor Bowyer.

Agreed to –

- (1) designate Adam Broome, Director of Corporate Services as the Council’s chief finance officer under section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972;
- (2) note the appointments of the director positions by the Appointments Panel.

91. **GENERAL QUESTIONS**

In accordance with 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 Coker	Councillor Wiggins	Road works have taken place in the Chapel Street area and outside Welcome Hall which have had a detrimental effect on businesses. There was no consultation. Please can an assurance be given that this issue will be looked at?
	Councillor Wiggins responded that he would ask for an explanation and asked Councillor Coker to email him the details.		
2	Councillor Dreaan	Councillor Fry	Would you write to the Plymouth Airport leaseholder to seek to ensure that the infrastructure remains in place?
	Councillor Fry undertook to investigate and provide a written response.		
3	Councillor Wildy	Councillor Jordan	Mount Wise Swimming Pools have been available to people from across the city, at regular opening times and free of charge. Will this situation continue for the foreseeable future?
	Councillor Jordan responded that he could not give a carte blanche guarantee as options for a community assets transfer were being considered and negotiations were underway.		
4	Councillor Mrs Dolan	Councillor Fry	With regard to the feasibility study on Plymouth Airport, has there been a fully documented review of all Flag Officer Sea Training, other armed forces, police support, power services, trinity house and health services?
	Councillor Fry undertook to investigate and provide a written response.		
5	Councillor McDonald	Leader (Councillor Mrs Pengelly)	More and more traders are signing a petition on the Waterfront Partnership Business Improvement District proposal. If there was a no vote would the funding still be available?
	The Leader responded that the BID was supported. If there was a no vote the council would need to consider its position.		
6	Councillor Rennie	Councillor Wiggins	The East End Transport Scheme is not without its teething problems. Grenville Road has become a rat run. Please could assurances be given that this will be looked at and provide a written report to a neighbourhood meeting within six months?

	Councillor Wigen responded that his understanding was that the transport liaison group was still meeting and that those meetings were well attended. A written response would be provided in relation to Grenville Road.		
7	Councillor Sam Leaves	Councillor Wildy	Following the motion on notice at the city council meeting on 10 October concerning the licensing of adventure activities, was the continuation of cross party working supported and would support be given to a special meeting of the Council to discuss this issue?
	Councillor Wildy agreed to the continuation of cross party working. She had signed a petition for a parliamentary debate and she did not object to attending a special council meeting.		
8	Councillor Peter Smith	Councillor Bowyer	The ice rink had slipped into next year's budget and the pavilions will remain open. As the budget for the pavilions was to be used to fund the life centre, what was the effect of the extension of the pavilions contract on the funding for the life centre?
	Councillor Bowyer responded that it would produce a budget pressure, estimated at £600,000.		
9	Councillor Evans	Councillor Sam Leaves	Will you please release the response to the consultation regarding the licensing of adventure activities tomorrow?
	Councillor Sam Leaves agreed to do so.		
10	Councillor Wildy	Councillor Sam Leaves	The Children and Young People Scrutiny Panel had identified problems with the child and adolescent mental health services. As chair of the Children's Trust, why does the trust not have a clear and transparent process for identifying and monitoring such issues, did she agree that the trust needs to get smarter and could a written report be submitted on how it would improve?
	Councillor Sam Leaves responded that any committee or trust could get smarter and agreed to raise the issue at the next trust meeting during urgent business on Friday 9 December 2011. The question on mental health services was asked at the trust but a report did not come back. She was pleased that it had been identified through the scrutiny process.		

11	Councillor Mrs Nelder	Councillor Wigans	Paving slabs were removed from Grenville Road during the East End Transport scheme construction and not returned. Would they be replaced?
	Councillor Wigans undertook to provide a written response.		
12	Councillor Evans	Leader (Councillor Mrs Pengelly)	Tamar education business partnership: partnership is being asked to leave Seymour House. The organisation that has taken its place is called Tamar Education which is undermining the partnership's name and branding. Why is this being allowed?
	The Leader responded that she would provide a written response and asked Councillor Evans to email the details to her.		
13	Councillor Stevens	Councillor Lock	With Christmas three weeks away, is he still intent on holding the most controversial planning meeting close to Christmas and can he give a reason why it cannot be held in January?
	Councillor Lock responded that 22 December was a normal working day and there was also another committee meeting on that day. There was no reason why the meeting could not be held in January but it would be held on 22 December.		

92. FORWARD PLAN

The Leader introduced the Forward Plan.

Questions were asked of the Leader and Cabinet Members as follows –

	From	To	Subject
1.	Councillor Evans	Leader (Councillor Mrs Pengelly)	Seeking an assurance that items would not appear in the Forward Plan days after the Council meeting. What effect would purdah have on future items appearing on the forward plan?
	The Monitoring Officer responded that purdah would have no impact on the ordinary running of council.		
2.	Councillor McDonald	Councillor Sam Leaves	Licensing of sex establishments. In the area where the policy will impact the most, there is a home zone, schools, a nursery, a sure start, play park and the timing of the decision is 30 January. Did the Children's Trust or children and young people's service make any representations?

	Councillor Sam Leaves responded that she would need to check and see if a response had been made.		
3.	Councillor Lowry	Councillor Fry	Sites proposal to support delivery of new and affordable housing: Disappointed that ward councillors were not notified. What is your view and opinion?
	Councillor Fry responded that he was taking this decision to cabinet on 13 December. Sites had become available and gone through the normal procedure. He offered apologies that ward members had not been notified and gave assurances that members would be able to comment.		

93. **JOINT PERFORMANCE AND FINANCE REPORT - DEPARTMENTAL DELIVERY PLANS AND BUDGETS**

Councillor Bowyer (Cabinet Member for Finance, Property and People) presented the extract from the Joint Performance and Finance Report regarding progress against budget delivery plans.

The extract from the Joint Performance and Finance Report was noted.

94. **EXEMPT BUSINESS**

Agreed that under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, as amended by the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

95. **SENIOR MANAGEMENT RESTRUCTURE (EI)**

The Chief Executive presented his written report on the senior management restructure.

Agreed to note the structure set out by the Chief Executive as Head of Paid Service.

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