

MINUTES OF COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

At a Meeting of the Council for the Borough of Slough held at the Council Chamber - Observatory House, 25 Windsor Road, SL1 2EL on Thursday, 25th January, 2024 at 7.00 pm

Present:- The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor Abbasi), in the chair; Councillors E. Ahmed, I. Ahmed, Ajaib, Akram, Anderson, Bedi, Chahal, Dar, Dauti, Dhillon, Escott, Gahir, Gill, Hulme, Iftakhar, Instone, Kelly, Khawar, Manku, Mann, Matloob, Mohammad, Mohindra, Muvvala, Nazir, Naveed, O'Kelly, D. Parmar, Qaseem, Rana, W. Sabah, Satti, Shah, Shaik, Smith, Stedmond, Tomar, Wright and Zarait

Apologies for Absence:- Councillors Carter and J. Sabah

42. Declarations of Interest

None received.

43. To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Council held on 30th November 2023

Resolved - That the minutes of the meeting held on 30th November 2023 be approved as a correct record.

44. To receive the Mayor's Communications.

The Mayor welcomed Father Scott Lamb, Mayor's Chaplain for conducting prayers and for taking over the Chaplaincy from Father Chesterfield-Darcy.

Members were informed that the Mayor, Leader of the Council and Commissioners met with over 50 individuals from voluntary groups and organisations in the Borough. The event provided an opportunity for groups and individuals to highlight the work being carried out in the Borough to support communities and families.

45. Questions from Electors under Procedure Rule 9.

One elector question had been received. The questioner was present and asked a supplementary question.

46. Pay Policy Statement 2024/25

It was moved by Councillor Zarait,
Seconded by Councillor Smith,

“That the Pay Policy Statement 2024/25, as attached at Appendix A of the report, be approved.”

Council - 25.01.24

The recommendation was put to the vote and agreed with 39 votes for and 1 abstention.

Resolved – That the Pay Policy Statement 2024/25, as attached at Appendix A of the report, be approved.

47. Senior Management Restructure Update

It was moved by Councillor Zarait,
Seconded by Councillor Smith,

- (a) “That details of the report be noted.
- (b) That the Head of Paid Service should make and approve the redundancy packages set out in Appendix A for employees 1 & 2, noting that these consists of statutory and contractual redundancy payments and no part of either package constitutes a special severance payment.”

The recommendations were put to the vote and agreed with 39 votes for and 1 abstention.

Resolved -

- (a) That details of the report be noted.
- (b) That the Head of Paid Service should make and approve the redundancy packages set out in Appendix A for employees 1 & 2, noting that these consists of statutory and contractual redundancy payments and no part of either package constitutes a special severance payment

48. Appointment of Director of Law and Governance - Monitoring Officer

It was moved by Councillor Smith,
Seconded by Councillor Chahal,

- a) “That the decision by the Commissioners to appoint and designate Sukdave Ghuman as Director of Law and Governance - Monitoring Officer, with effect from 7th May 2024, be noted.
- b) That the Council place on record its thanks to Stephen Taylor for his service as Monitoring Officer since October 2022.”

The recommendations were put to the vote and agreed with 39 votes for and 1 abstention.

Resolved -

- a) That the decision by the Commissioners to appoint and designate Sukdave Ghuman as Director of Law and Governance - Monitoring Officer, with effect from 7th May 2024, be noted.
- b) That the Council place on record its thanks to Stephen Taylor for his service as Monitoring Officer since October 2022.

Council - 25.01.24

49. Changes to the Council's Constitution - Member Officer Relations Protocol and Contract Procedure Rules

It was moved by Councillor Smith,
Seconded by Councillor Chahal,

- a) "That the proposed new Part 5.4 - Member Officer Relations Protocol as set out in Appendix A of the report be approved for inclusion in the constitution to take effect from the day after this meeting.
- b) That the amendments to Part 4.6.1 Contract Procedure Rules as set out in Appendix B of the report be approved to take effect from the day after this meeting."

The recommendations were put to the vote and agreed with 39 votes for and 1 abstention.

Resolved -

- a) That the proposed new Part 5.4 - Member Officer Relations Protocol as set out in Appendix A of the report be approved for inclusion in the constitution to take effect from the day after this meeting.
- b) That the amendments to Part 4.6.1 Contract Procedure Rules as set out in Appendix B of the report be approved to take effect from the day after this meeting.

50. Quarterly Update on Urgent Key Decisions

It was moved by Councillor Smith,
Seconded by Councillor Chahal,

"That the use of special urgency provisions used for key decisions as set out in Appendix 1 of the report be noted."

The recommendation was put to the vote and agreed with 39 votes for and 1 abstention.

Resolved - That the use of special urgency provisions used for key decisions as set out in Appendix 1 of the report be noted.

51. To consider Motions submitted under procedure Rule 14.

It was moved by Councillor Naveed,
Seconded by Councillor Smith,

"Council acknowledges:

That many local authorities charge the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) which enables them to raise funds to help fund the infrastructure, facilities and services - such as schools or transport improvements – needed to support new homes and businesses, and; that Slough requires a new Local Plan which meets the needs of Slough's population now, and into the future.

Council - 25.01.24

Council resolves:

The Lead Member responsible for the development of the Local Plan to consider implementing the Community Infrastructure Levy where appropriate in Slough to ensure sufficient resource to help fund infrastructure and affordable housing.”

It was moved by Councillor Mann, as an amendment,
Seconded by Councillor Hulme,

“Council acknowledges:

That many local authorities charge the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) which enables them to raise funds to help directly fund the infrastructure, facilities and services - such as schools or transport improvements – that are made necessary in order needed to support new homes and businesses; that there are pros and cons with the implementation of a CIL, and; that Slough requires a new Local Plan which meets the needs of Slough’s population now, and into the future. Council also recognises that the government’s proposed National Infrastructure Levy will override CIL once it is implemented.

Council resolves:

The executive director for property and housing in consultation with the Lead Member, responsible for the development of the Local Plan to prepare a report to consider the benefits and risks of implementing the Community Infrastructure Levy where appropriate in Slough to ensure sufficient resource to help fund infrastructure and affordable housing, and to consider the impact of the National Infrastructure Levy implementation as part of its determination, for Cabinet to receive within 6 months.”

The amendment was put to the vote and lost with 16 votes for, 23 against and 1 abstention.

The original motion was put to the vote and agreed with 23 votes for and 17 abstentions.

Resolved –

Council acknowledges:

That many local authorities charge the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) which enables them to raise funds to help fund the infrastructure, facilities and services - such as schools or transport improvements – needed to support new homes and businesses, and; that Slough requires a new Local Plan which meets the needs of Slough’s population now, and into the future.

Council resolves:

The Lead Member responsible for the development of the Local Plan to consider implementing the Community Infrastructure Levy where appropriate in Slough to ensure sufficient resource to help fund infrastructure and affordable housing.

52. To note Questions from Members under Procedure Rule 10

Member questions as published in the supplementary agenda were noted.

Chair

(Note: The Meeting opened at 7.00 pm and closed at 8.02 pm)