

EAST HAMPSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Council held on 18 July 2019

Present

Councillor: K Budden (Chairman)

Councillors: A Carew (Vice-Chairman), A Agate, D Ashcroft, B Bentley, G Boxall, S Burns, J Butler, K Carter, F Cowper, P Davies, T Denton, S Dolan, D Evans, G Gass, A Glass, C Hatter, G Hill, S Hunt, M Johnson, C Louisson, J Matthews, J May, D McKinney, R Millard, R Mocatta, K Moon, B Moulard, R Oppenheimer, R Platt, S Pond, S Schillemore, R Standish, N Taylor, P Wigman, A Williams and E Woodard

15 Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman took the opportunity to thank Nick Leach for his many years service to the Council as Monitoring Officer and Senior Solicitor (Contentious) and wished him well in his retirement.

The Chairman then advised the meeting that, in accordance with Standing Order 13.2, he would exercise his right as chairman to alter the order of business so as to bring forward the debate on the Motion at item 14 and take Public Questions immediately thereafter as the two items were directly related.

16 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillors Drew, Maroney, Langley, Tennyson, Thomas and Costigan.

17 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest from any of the members present.

18 Confirmation of Previous Minutes

Proposed by Councillor Williams and seconded by Councillor Hill, it was

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Annual Council meeting held on 16 May 2019 be approved as a correct record.

19 Appointment of Monitoring Officer

The Interim Head of Legal left the meeting during consideration of this item.

Proposed by Councillor Glass and seconded by Councillor Bentley, it was

RESOLVED that the new Head of Legal be designated as Monitoring Officer at the conclusion of the recruitment process for that position, in accordance with Article 8.2 of the Council's constitution, and, in the interim, that the Council designates the Interim Head of Legal as Monitoring Officer.

20 Appointment of the Chief Executive

Councillor Carter presented a report and recommendation to Council arising from the meeting of the Joint Human Resources Committee meeting held on 18 June 2019.

Proposed by Councillor Carter and seconded by Councillor Bentley, it was

RESOLVED that:

- (1) Gillian Kneller be appointed as Chief Executive;
- (2) the Chief Executive be appointed as Head of Paid Service; and
- (3) the Chief Executive be appointed as Returning Officer.

21 Proposed Amendment to Governance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee, Community Engagement and Cabinet Advisory Panels

Councillor Matthews presented a report and recommendation to Council arising from the meeting of the Governance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee held on 24 June 2019. Councillor Matthews reported the following proposed addition to the terms of reference of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee set out in Appendix 1b to the report:

“1.15 to undertake the functions of the Council's Crime and Disorder Committee for the purposes of Section 19 of the Policy and Justice Act, including consideration of a CCfA relating to crime and disorder matters.”

Proposed by Councillor Matthews and seconded by Councillor Hunt it was

RESOLVED that the following be approved:

- (1) the separation of the Governance, Audit & Scrutiny Committee into separate functions. The Monitoring Officer be instructed to make all necessary substantive amendments to the Constitution of East Hampshire District Council to give effect to this resolution. The delegation to the Monitoring Officer to include all minor consequential, consistency and typographical amendments. The revised constitution to be published as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter;

- (2) the Committee Terms of Reference for:

- Overview and Scrutiny, as amended to include:

“1.15 to undertake the functions of the Council's Crime and

Disorder Committee for the purposes of Section 19 of the Policy and Justice Act, including consideration of a CCfA relating to crime and disorder matters.”

- Standards;
- Audit; and
- Planning

- (3) Appointment of Chairmen and members be to the revised Committees;
- (4) The Scrutiny Committee be invited to consider the draft guidance notes and statutory guidance and to recommend to full council a perfected proposal for the adoption of the East Hampshire Scrutiny principles;
- (5) the insertion of Standing Order 65.7 in respect of Cabinet Panels; and
- (6) amendment of the terminology in the constitution to delete ‘Member Project Leads’ and replace with ‘Portfolio Assistant’.

22 Policy Approval for a Proposed Revision, Efficiency and Alignment of the Constitutions of East Hampshire District Council and Havant Borough Council

Councillor Matthews presented a report and recommendation arising from the meeting of the Governance Audit and Scrutiny Committee held on 24 June 2019. Councillor Matthews also reported that the suggested number of members on the Joint Constitutional Sub-Committee had been increased to four from each authority.

Councillor Matthews reported that, in order to allow the sub-committee proper time in considering and formulating its own policy parameters, it was proposed to delete recommendation 2.2.

Proposed by Councillor Matthews and seconded by Councillor Denton, it was

RESOLVED the following be approved

- (1) the review of the constitution and methodology set out in 3.2 of the report;
- (2) the creation of a single purpose joint subcommittee with Havant Borough Council of 8 Members;
- (3) the appointment of 4 Members from East Hampshire District Council to the subcommittee;
- (4) the Sub-Committee be invited to report to full Councils in October 2019.
- (5) the budget to a maximum of £20,000 from the East Hampshire District Council Business Transformation reserve.

23 Appointments

- (A) Proposed by Councillor Oppenheimer and seconded by Councillor Louisson, it was

RESOLVED that the following Changes to Committees since the last meeting of the Council be noted:

Planning Committee

Councillor Mocatta – stepped down
Councillor Denton – appointed as reserve
Councillor Boxall – removed as reserve

Governance Audit and Scrutiny Committee

Councillor May – appointed
Councillor Hunt – appointed in place of Councillor Boxall
Councillor Boxall – appointed as reserve in place of Councillor Hunt

Licensing Committee

Councillor Johnson - appointed
Councillor Standish – appointed

Councillor Development Panel

Councillor Langley – appointed
Councillor Woodard – appointed

Chase Stakeholder Group

Councillor Maroney – appointed

Solent LEP Growth Forum – amended to Solent Leaders' Board

Councillor Moon to replace Councillor Denton

Portsmouth City Council Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Councillor Agate

- (B) Proposed by Councillor Williams and seconded by Councillor May, it was

RESOLVED that the appointments to Outside Bodies recommended by the Governance Audit and Scrutiny Committee as set out in Appendix 1 of its report to Council be approved and that in future years these appointments be made by full Council.

- (C) Proposed by Councillor Millard and seconded by Councillor Butler. It was

RESOLVED that the appointments to the new Committees approved by the Council at Minutes 21 and 22 and set out in the Supplementary Information, be approved, to be implemented with effect from 1 September 2019.

24 Motions Received under Procedural Order 14.1

Councillor Boxall proposed the following Motion to Council, seconded by Councillor Dolan:

“That Council notes

- 1 The recent 2018 intergovernmental panel on Climate change (IPCC) report states that we have just 12 years to act on climate change if global temperatures rises are to be kept within the recommended 1.5 degrees Celsius .
- 2 Hampshire County Council have passed a motion on climate emergency and we commend it whilst recognising that the desired outcome can only be achieved through collaboration with other local authorities, including District councils.
- 3 Humankind has already caused irreversible climate change, the impacts of which are being felt around the world. Global temperatures have already increased by 1 degree Celsius from pre industrial levels. Atmospheric CO2 levels are above 400 parts per million (ppm). We have 12 years to act to avoid widespread drought, food scarcity, heat related deaths and loss of biodiversity including insects and vital food pollinators.
- 4 At present we are on track to overshoot the Paris agreements 1.5 degree Celsius by 2050. In order to reduce the chance of runaway global warming and limit the effects of climate breakdown, it is imperative that we as a species reduce our CO2 emissions from their current 6.5 tonnes per person per year to less than 2 tonnes as soon as possible.
- 5 We cannot expect individuals to make this reduction on their own. Society needs to change its laws, taxation and infrastructure to make low carbon living easier and the new norm.
- 6 Carbon emissions result from both production and consumption. EHDC has started to make progress with its 2014-19 energy strategy but this is not enough. More can and must be done. The intergovernmental report of 2018 was clear that action is necessary from all parts of society. Local Authorities along with Government, need to be taking a lead role, creating initiatives and setting behaviour for others to follow.
- 7 Councils around the world are responding by declaring a "Climate Emergency " and taking action to address this emergency
- 8 Local Authorities should not wait for their national Government to change policies. Bold local policies tackling climate change can deliver economic and social benefits in terms of new green jobs, economic savings and market opportunities, as well as much improved well-being for Hampshire residents, for example through reducing fuel poverty and

energy bills , encouraging healthy active travel and community transport and improving green spaces and access to nature .

This Council therefore calls on the cabinet to

- 1 Declare a Climate Emergency.
- 2 Pledge to make East Hampshire District Council carbon neutral by 2030.
- 3 Set up a cross party working group to include officers, councillors and key local stakeholders including schools, colleges and youth groups to provide ideas of achieving a carbon neutral East Hampshire District by 2030 and carbon Zero by 2050.
- 4 Report to Full Council within 6 months (to be made publicly available) setting out the immediate and longer-term actions that the Council will take and how it plans to measure the districts progress towards meeting the 2030 target. This report will also include a full review of the implementation and outcomes of the East Hampshire District Council Energy Strategy 2014-2019.
- 5 Work with partners and other Local Authorities across the South region to deliver these new goals of being Carbon neutral by 2030 through developing strategies and implementation plans which draw on local and national best practice where available.
- 6 To actively lobby the Government to provide the additional powers and resources needed to meet the 2030 targets.
- 7 To prioritise mitigating the impact of Climate change in an updated East Hampshire District Council Corporate Strategy.
- 8 To consider the impact and mitigation of climate change on all policy and key decision making and carrying out a green audit across the Council to ensure that this is being implemented.
- 9 To encourage plastic free alternatives and ban the use of single use plastics within all council employee premises. Implement an ethical procurement framework to ensure suppliers reduce their own carbon footprint.
- 10 To expand infrastructure for walking, cycling, and public transport and to actively promote greater use of electric vehicles.”

As an amendment to the Motion, it was proposed by Councillor Millard and seconded by Councillor Mocatta that paragraph (1) above, Declare a Climate Emergency, be retained and that paragraphs (2) to (10) be replaced with the following:

East Hampshire District Council recognises a climate emergency and is already taking urgent positive and deliverable steps to mitigate the impact of carbon emissions through a wholesale review of its Energy Strategy. The Strategy will be developed with stakeholder engagement external and internal to the Council for both contribution and consultation. It will be drafted for adoption for a Five (5) year period and will be brought to Council before the end of the 2019 calendar year for adoption. It will be subject to a Six (6) monthly review.

Full Council will create the role of an Environmental Tsar/Tsarina the role to be held by a member of the opposition.

In proposing his amendment, Councillor Millard set the following context:

1. Background

- 1.1 I support the intention of the Motion to draw resident's attention to mitigating and adapting to the climate change challenge, my amendments seeks to illustrate how East Hampshire District Council can take positive and ultimately deliverable actions to ensure real improvement to the lives of our children and grandchildren.

The amendment is that: **East Hampshire District Council recognises a climate emergency and is already taking urgent positive and deliverable steps to mitigate the impact of carbon emissions through a wholesale review of its Energy Strategy. The Strategy will be developed with stakeholder engagement external and internal to the Council for both contribution and consultation. It will be drafted for adoption for a Five (5) year period and will be brought to Council before the end of the 2019 calendar year for adoption. It will be subject to a Six (6) monthly review.**

Full Council will create the role of an Environmental Tsar/Tsarina the role to be held by a member of the opposition.

- 1.2 East Hampshire Districts Council's Energy Strategy is due to be reviewed this year, offering an opportunity for the council to adopt a fresh and focussed approach with links to all EHDC Services and operations through business plans. The Energy Strategy will be the focal 'action plan' that provides the council with a mandate to act.

The Energy Strategy refresh will link our new strategy to deliverable objectives that target significant categories of carbon emissions, which are designated as statutory District Council responsibilities. It will identify and influence initiatives, which are the responsibility of other public bodies such as Hampshire County Council (HCC), South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA), Parishes Councils, Town Councils, NHS and Schools.

2: Opportunities.

- A: Retrofit programme.** This must be promoted better to our residents and we are in a prime position to do this. (Domestic residences account for approximately Twenty Four (24) % of all emissions); We must actively seek additional funding with existing partners and strive, through the creation of new opportunities to implement controllable, definable and demonstrable ways of reducing not only the councils footprint but also the districts residents and businesses as a whole.
- B: Planning and Building Standards**– Currently (residential) building regs (Part L) are mandated by our Building Control team. The (draft) Local Plan refers to 19% better than current Regs but are capped to Code for Sustainable Homes Level 4 by the ministerial statement.
- C: Economic Development - Business and Agriculture** (about 40% of emissions)– we will seek to incentivise and attract sustainable businesses; we will use S106 contributions for employment skills that align with the ethos of the Strategy.
- D: Transport** (in conjunction with HCC and others :- Joint working is a key element and we should be seen as a leading integrator between external partners and the wider public and educational community) for more sustainable transport and greater provision and extension of cycle paths to- and through- settlements and new planned developments (Transport accounts for approximately Twenty Three (23%) of emissions, and are not falling as fast as other sources of emissions).
- E: Carbon capture** – As one element of this East Hampshire District Council will be implementing an exciting and far reaching Tree Planting initiative. The Council will work with the Woodland Trust, landowners and other partners to plant a tree for every citizen of the District. This will equate to 120,000 trees. The trees planted will be Natural English Species. The programme will extend into Schools across the District and be used as the basis for a specific programme of additional education to the young, which will extend into greater Biodiversity issues. We will review the Planning Process to see how we can promote and in certain circumstances mandate the use of sustainable building materials.
- F: Increase renewable energy generation** – This will be led through Planning decisions, the Council investment portfolio, Procurement activities instigated by the Council and Energy Initiatives such as CitizEn.
- G: Incorporate low-carbon SMART objectives** in each service area within the Council: to be incorporate into Business plans which will ensure reporting is included to promote greater and more extensive internal and external communications.

3. Examples of EHDC new activities with Climate Change impacts

- A: Investments in property portfolio**- criteria to include building performance and energy EPC rating. Incorporate renewable energy and EV charge-points. Demonstrate that investments are both financially and

environmentally sustainable. Include carbon performance in reviews and demonstrate improvements over time. Ensure that energy tariffs are 100% renewable electricity.

- B: EHDC Own estate** – energy in our own buildings is provided on a framework (Laser) contract – ensure 100% renewables when contracts are refreshed, revisit the investment of Photo Voltaic on leisure centres with SLM – (detailed feasibility reports for the Taro are available). Influence the provider to do this and benefit from lower emissions, and better financial performance
- C: Procurement** – all specifications should include low-carbon criteria, and a commitment to improving emissions.
- D: Community** – initiatives relating to food, green infrastructure, community buildings, repair and swap events and assistance with domestic energy conservation - where are these, and can the policy be focussed on delivering these alongside other priorities – for instance Free Fridays, cook together etc address wellbeing, and reduce food waste.
- E: Communications** – consider the way comms/ council tax/ (other services that use mailshots) deliver messages – move away from printed material and divert resource into addressing the digital gap. Use annual residents survey to gauge impacts. Channels to engage younger people.
- F: Parking and traffic management** – Plan and implement phase 2 of Electric Vehicle charging-points and offer incentives for low-carbon transport options.
- G: Green Infrastructure** – consider management for biodiversity alongside access (retaining required lines of sight for road-users) and work with other public authorities to develop an inclusive strategy – link to the tree planning initiative.
- H: Influencing policy** – I would establish a Cross Party Lobbying Group to work with Central Government and the Shadow Parties. This will enable joined up thinking whilst maximising the Member resource available. It will allow the Council to assess where national legislation is capping better outcomes, and address these by providing reasoned and evidenced feedback to the relevant government department.
- I: Stakeholder Mapping** – This is a fundamental. The wealth of experience and understanding on the subject of Climate Change is substantial within the wider community of East Hampshire. Establishing a Member led working group to act, as a conduit for this knowledge and experience is key. The group will be able to assess Organisations, Public Bodies and individuals to collaborate with for ideas, delivery and funding.
- J: Timeframe** – The Energy Strategy will be produced by the end of the calendar year; It will be brought back to Council in November and May each year for the next 3 years. The Strategy is a living not static document and will continue to evolve and develop to ensure it remains relevant.

K: Education and involvement of younger members of society. There is not only the requirement to address the current situation, there is the need to educate and involve the young for the future. The Council and its Members have a Civic Leadership responsibility that should see them working with the Schools to a greater extent than currently to assist in motivating and educating and acting as a conduit of information on the subject of Climate Change.

L: No local authority can single-handedly deliver comprehensive action across its governmental area and that its responsibility and powers are limited to its own estate and operations whilst offering guidance and example to its residents. Local government is committed to acting in partnership, with legislation in the hands of central government and dependent on agreements between international powers. The motion above offers a realistic and achievable set of objectives that will see results achieved. The Strategy is a living not static document and will continue to evolve and develop to ensure it remains relevant. Information is power and working in the manner suggested will maximise information flow and naturally maximise the results achieved.

The Chairman having taken a vote on the Amendment declared the Amendment carried. At the request of Councillors Louisson and Millard, and in accordance with Standing Order 22.2(a), the names of those voting were recorded as follows:

For the Amendment:

Councillor Agate
Councillor Ashcroft
Councillor Bentley
Councillor Budden
Councillor Butler
Councillor Carew
Councillor Carter
Councillor Cowper
Councillor Davies
Councillor Denton
Councillor Evans
Councillor Gass
Councillor Glass
Councillor Hatter
Councillor Hill
Councillor Johnson
Councillor Louisson
Councillor Matthews
Councillor May
Councillor McKinney
Councillor Millard
Councillor Mocatta
Councillor Moon
Councillor Moulard

Councillor Oppenheimer
Councillor Pond
Councillor Schillemore
Councillor Standish
Councillor Williams

Against the Amendment

Councillor Boxall
Councillor Burns
Councillor Dolan
Councillor Hunt
Councillor Platt
Councillor Taylor
Councillor Wigman
Councillor Woodard

Abstentions

None

The Chairman then put the Substantive Motion to debate, at the conclusion of which Councillor Boxall was given a right of reply.

The Chairman having taken a vote on the Substantive Motion declared the Substantive Motion unanimously carried:

RESOLVED that

- (1) The Council declares a Climate Emergency;
- (2) East Hampshire District Council recognises a climate emergency and is already taking urgent positive and deliverable steps to mitigate the impact of carbon emissions through a wholesale review of its Energy Strategy. The Strategy will be developed with stakeholder engagement external and internal to the Council for both contribution and consultation. It will be drafted for adoption for a Five (5) year period and will be brought to Council before the end of the 2019 calendar year for adoption. It will be subject to a Six (6) monthly review; and
- (3) Full Council will create the role of an Environmental Tsar/Tsarina the role to be held by a member of the opposition.

At the request of Councillors Louisson and Millard, and in accordance with Standing Order 22.2(a) the names of those voting were recorded as follows:

For the Substantive Motion

Councillor Agate
Councillor Ashcroft
Councillor Bentley
Councillor Boxall
Councillor Budden
Councillor Burns

Councillor Butler
Councillor Carew
Councillor Carter
Councillor Cowper
Councillor Davies
Councillor Denton
Councillor Dolan
Councillor Evans
Councillor Gass
Councillor Glass
Councillor Hatter
Councillor Hill
Councillor Hunt
Councillor Johnson
Councillor Louisson
Councillor Matthews
Councillor May
Councillor McKinney
Councillor Millard
Councillor Mocatta
Councillor Moon
Councillor Moulard
Councillor Oppenheimer
Councillor Platt
Councillor Pond
Councillor Schillemore
Councillor Standish
Councillor Taylor
Councillor Wigman
Councillor Williams
Councillor Woodard

Against the Substantive Motion

None

Abstentions

None

25 Public Questions (Standing Order 13.4(e))

The following public questions were received and published on the Council's website.

In accordance with the Council's Protocol for Public Questions, the Chairman took the questions as read and took questions 1 to 5 and 7 together, being similar in nature:

1. From Mr E Broomfield

Approx 200 authorities across all political parties up and down the country including Hampshire County Council have formally recognised

the overwhelming urgency of taking immediate action to control global warming by declaring a climate emergency. Under what circumstances would it be appropriate to vote differently from Hampshire County Council and these 200 authorities?

2. From Mr R Knight

This evening you will discuss a motion concerning the climate emergency that currently exists, an emergency that arises due to insufficient action being taken since the burning of fossil fuels was first identified as a potential issue in 1830 by Alexander Van Humboldt.

The science proving that he was right was well established by 1959 and since that date we have confirmed this fact repeatedly with the only new data being the ever smaller window of opportunity to act to avoid catastrophic consequences.

We have the facts, the international consensus and the knowledge that action can be delayed no longer. We need this motion to pass, today, for all of our sakes.

My three questions are:

To the Leader of the Conservative Councillors:
Will the Leader of the Conservative Councillors give a free vote and ensure that party rivalry and political strategising do not risk any further delay?

If not, then please could he explain his reasoning as this is a cross-party motion?

The Chairman advised that a Local Authority has no responsibility for matters that fall to the Political Groups, therefore this is not a question that could be dealt with at Council.

To the Chairman of the meeting:
Can a record of the votes by each Council Member be recorded and shared publicly?

3. Mr D Barton

With so many voices, including Sir David Attenborough and Greta Thunberg, stressing the importance for all levels of society to act, can you assure me that our District will take a leading role to ensure that whatever funds are allocated to projects, the reduction of CO2 is considered as the top priority.

4. Mr J Hilton

I understand that declaring a climate emergency is one thing and taking actions that address the emergency is another. The skills required to

address the crisis may not necessarily exist within the council. Will you form a citizens' assembly so that a wider range of views and experiences can be heard, with the aim of getting the best help quickly, moving to action sooner, and increasing accountability?

5. Mr I James

Although China still has coal fired power generators it's per capita (that is per person) carbon dioxide emissions is still lower than the UK's. However this is irrelevant to whether or not East Hampshire District Council adopts policies that will help control global warming. I believe everyone knows of the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's (IPCC) report that global warming will reach the danger point of one point five degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels by 2030. This requires urgent and immediate action. Tonight the council has such an opportunity to act to ensure the future of future generations. Can I please ask the chair of tonight's meeting (or any other councillor present) to request a recorded vote for the motion associated with agenda item 14 to allow our grandchildren the opportunity of seeing who voted for their future and who voted against it tonight.

7. Mrs C Cockburn

As Chairman you are responsible in ensuring the council develops sustainable and progressive policy. This is an emergency and we need strong leadership; we need all political parties to work together to act now.

How will you show leadership in developing the necessary and unpartisan policies to combat climate change?

Councillor Millard responded that the issues raised in the questions had been covered during the course of the debate which he hoped showed that, whilst the Council could not deliver outcomes to address climate change unilaterally, all councillors were prepared to work together with other stakeholders to take positive action and move forward. Cllr Millard undertook to provide more information after the meeting if required.

6. Ms M Johnson

If Bordon is to be a thriving and economically sustainable green town what plans have been discussed to return railway transport to the town?

For example, can EHDC confirm any discussions since 2009 with AOTC, the [Association of Train Operating Companies](#), which applied for funding for the reopening of Bordon station, following the publication of its 2009 report [Connecting Communities: Expanding Access to the Rail Network](#).^[3]

I understand that AOTC is now Rail Delivery Group, <https://www.raildeliverygroup.com>

Councillor Cowper gave the following response:

Hampshire County Council is the Transport Authority. A comprehensive feasibility study was undertaken in 2012 (https://issuu.com/easthampshire/docs/grip_3_studyv2.0) assessing the case for a rail line/station at Whitehill & Bordon. This showed that the economic case for opening a rail link to Bordon was not strong enough to obtain the required support and funding from central government. It was therefore decided that this was not a viable option for the town.

GRIP 2 results - March 2011

The study identified the heavy rail route from Whitehill Bordon to Bentley as the only option that demonstrated a sufficiently positive business case to warrant further study. Several other potential heavy rail routes were also considered (to Liss, Liphook and Alton) plus tram and Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) options, but these were ruled out due to their low Benefit to Cost Ratios, and in some cases, their environmental impacts.

GRIP 3 results - April 2013

The Whitehill Bordon to Bentley heavy rail route was taken forward to GRIP 3 stage (feasibility) which concluded that; creating new train paths to accommodate the London Waterloo service would require re-cast of the entire SWT timetable, unlikely for a minor infrastructure item (in Network Rail terms); two options could be delivered without a significant timetable re-cast: Alternating services to Alton and Whitehill & Bordon, i.e. an hourly service to both towns. This option was deemed 'Low' value for money. Amending the Ascot to Guildford service, i.e. half-hourly service Whitehill & Bordon to Ascot - 'Poor' value for money; funding is very difficult to secure given low benefit cost ratios (engineering and costing work stream estimated costs at £96.4M in 2011Q4 prices to construct the rail link, station and acquire the associated land) there is no realistic prospect that the reintroduction of heavy rail services from Whitehill & Bordon will be possible during the period covered by the Masterplan – this view is endorsed by Network Rail and SWT.

26 Questions to Cabinet Members

In response to a question from Councillor Hunt, the Leader confirmed that a move to paperless meeting documentation was currently under review and that a car-sharing scheme was also in place.

27 Questions under Procedural Order 23.4(a)

There were no questions under Standing Order 23.4(a)

28 Questions under Procedural Order 23.4(b)

There were no urgent questions.

29 Committee Minutes

Proposed by Councillor Williams and seconded by Councillor Glass, it was

RESOLVED that the minutes of committees held since the last meeting of the Council be received.

The meeting commenced at 6.30 pm and concluded at 8.47 pm