

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

At the meeting of the Council for the District of Dover held at the Council Offices, Whitfield on Wednesday, 6 March 2019 at 6.00 pm.

Present:

Chairman: Councillor S S Chandler

Councillors:

J S Back	A Friend	S C Manion
T J Bartlett	R J Frost	K Mills
P M Beresford	B Gardner	K E Morris
T A Bond	B J Glayzer	D P Murphy
P M Brivio	D Hannent	M J Ovenden
B W Butcher	P J Hawkins	A S Pollitt
P I Carter	P G Heath	G Rapley
N J Collor	M J Holloway	M Rose
M D Conolly	S J Jones	D A Sargent
M I Cosin	P D Jull	F J W Scales
G Cowan	N S Kenton	P M Wallace
D G Cronk	P S Le Chevalier	
M R Eddy	S M Le Chevalier	

Officers: Chief Executive
Strategic Director (Operations and Commercial)
Strategic Director (Corporate Resources)
Director of Governance
Solicitor to the Council
Democratic Services Manager

71 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors S F Bannister, N Dixon, J M Heron, L A Keen and P Walker.

72 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 30 January 2019 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

73 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made by Members.

74 ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman of the Council, Councillor S S Chandler, made the following announcements:

- (a) To inform Members that this was the last meeting of the Director of Governance, Mr David Randall. Mr Randall had started with the Council in October 1998, and had been appointed Audit Manager in 2002, Head of Governance in 2005 and Director of Governance in 2010. He had been

involved in the early work developing shared services with other authorities, oversaw the installation of cabling in the building and developed the Council's successful apprenticeship scheme.

The Chairman on behalf of Members thanked him for the advice he had provided them with over the years and for his valuable contribution to the Council.

- (b) To thank those councillors who would not be back after the elections on 2 May 2019 for their service to the Council and their local communities and to wish them well for the future.

75 LEADER'S TIME

The Leader of the Council, Councillor K E Morris, included the following matters in his report:

- (a) To remark that every political group on the Council and all the group leaders had changed since 2015.
- (b) That the Council was continuing to plan for No Deal in the absence of a BREXIT agreement. As part of this the BREXIT Task Force was sending letters to the Department of Transport in respect of the proposals to use Manston Airport for lorry routing; Operation Brock; and the Port of Dover and the Secretary of State for the Environment in respect of Port Health matters. The Task Force wanted a clear plan for non-freight traffic and objected to proposals to route it through Dover.
- (c) The Council and the Local Government Association would be hosting a round table on 15 March 2019 to help inform local businesses over BREXIT. A concession had been agreed to ensure that local businesses would get a special pass allowing them direct access to the Port.
- (d) The Local Plan Housing Review was expected to be completed by June and the Local Plan would be going to Cabinet in October 2019 and Council in January 2020 prior to undergoing consultation.
- (e) To advise that 3 grants under the Council's High Street Grant Scheme had been approved with another 8 under consideration.
- (f) That he would keep Members informed over the situation in respect of M&S in Deal and he thanked those Members who had shown their support for keeping M&S in Deal.
- (g) That the Council had granted £7,000 to the Astor Theatre after Deal Town Council pulled out. This would enable the Astor to go ahead with its plans to show classic movies.
- (h) The first draw for the new district lotto had taken place the previous week.
- (i) The first phase of works in respect of Deal Pier had completed and Cabinet had approved £600,000 for the second phase of works.
- (j) That the new District Leisure Centre was a great amenity and had lots of new sign-ups since it opened.
- (k) That the new Lidl store and the 'Lock-in' store had opened.
- (l) That the Council had been nominated for 2 awards for its apprenticeship programme. The Council currently had 12 apprentices.

- (m) To offer his thanks to those Conservative Members who were retiring at the next election for their service to the Council and to thank the Chairman and Vice-Chairman for their service to the Council over the last four years.

The Leader of the Opposition Labour Group, Councillor K Mills, included the following matters in his report:

- (a) To offer his thanks to Labour Members who were retiring at the next election for their service to the Council.
- (b) To thank the Director of Governance for his service to the Council.
- (c) To state that in his view the BREXIT Task Force should be cross-party.
- (d) To express concerns that the proposals to route non-freight traffic through Dover would be a disaster for the town.
- (e) To ask what criteria was being applied to define a 'local business' in respect of the special pass for direct access to the Port of Dover.
- (f) To express concerns that the poor transport links to the leisure centre from rural villages in the district and concerns over the future of discounts for school children and OAP's.
- (g) That question how much of the Kent Police precept would be used for the Dover District given that residents were now paying more for Kent Police than they did for Dover District Council.
- (h) To express concerns over the state of the NHS estate and the urgent repair works needed for hospitals in East Kent. Any new hospitals should be replacements for existing ones.
- (i) The need for affordable housing at the Connaught development.
- (j) To enquire what the plans were for the site of the old leisure centre.
- (k) That the details of the last meeting of the BREXIT Task Force were not on the website.
- (l) To express disappointment and concern that a new local academy would not attend scrutiny.
- (m) To welcome the good news concerning a cinema at the Astor Theatre and to ask what the current progress was for the Regent Cinema.
- (n) That there were reports that Southern Housing required prospective tenants to have at least £16,000 in earnings to get on the housing list.

The Leader of the Opposition Progressive Group, Councillor M R Eddy, included the following matters in his report:

- (a) To pay his thanks to the Director of Governance and also wish farewell to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman in their current roles.
- (b) To welcome the letters being written to the government and express concern over potential major transport and port health problems if BREXIT went ahead.
- (c) To welcome the news over the progress of the Local Plan but express concern that the timing of the district council election could lead to a loss of continuity.

- (d) To welcome the news in respect of the High Street Grant Scheme and praise Councillor P Walker for proposing it.
- (e) To welcome the news concerning the Dickens Corner refurbishment.
- (f) That the departure of M&S would be a great loss for Deal.
- (g) To express support for the Council's apprenticeships scheme and welcome the news that the Council had been nominated for two awards.
- (h) That the new leisure centre was a superb facility but the issues with public transport access to it were not new.

In response the Leader of the Council advised:

- (a) That there were no details yet of the special pass scheme for local businesses, but once details were known they would be put on the Council's website.
- (b) That transport access to the leisure centre would be reviewed in the future.
- (c) That there had been no discussions on changing the concessions at the leisure centre.
- (d) That Councillor M J Holloway was in regular discussion with Kent Police.
- (e) That the Council was working on the disposal of the old leisure centre site.
- (f) To advise that the Council would look to see what it could do to change Southern Housings position on minimum earnings to get on their housing waiting list.

76 SEAT ALLOCATION AND GROUP APPOINTMENTS

There were no changes.

77 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11, Ms S Gleave asked the Leader of the Council, Councillor K E Morris:

"Young people and their parents in Dover District are aware we have just 12 years to avoid catastrophic climate change by limiting global warming to below 1.5°C, Sir David Attenbrough and the IPCC report make this plain. By the time young Dovorians grow up it will be too late. It is worse than when KCC said some years ago "Climate change is likely to affect flood risk through sea level rise, more frequent and higher storm surges, increased winter rainfall, drier summers with periods of more intense summer rainfall'. Problems elsewhere will also come to Dover's shore line. As councils across Britain like Bristol, Hastings, Scarborough and Oxford step up to the plate, will Dover District Council commit to doing everything within the Council's power to make Dover district carbon neutral by 2030 and press the Government to provide the necessary powers and resources to make the 2030 target possible?"

In response Councillor K E Morris advised that Officers were aware of current trends and good practice and that the local plan review would consider these issues.

The Council also intended to make the BRT as green as possible and was looking at possible options for this as part of the work being undertaken.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11.8, Ms Gleave exercised her right to ask a supplementary question.

78 PAY POLICY STATEMENT

The Director of Governance presented the Pay Policy Statement.

It was moved by Councillor M D Conolly, duly seconded, that option 2 of the report be approved and

RESOLVED: That the Pay Policy Statement set out at Appendix 1 to the report be approved and published on the Council's website.

79 COUNCIL BUDGET 2019/20, MEDIUM-TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2019/20–2022/23 AND 2019/20 COUNCIL TAX SETTING

The Strategic Director (Corporate Resources) introduced the report on the Council Budget 2019/20, the Medium Term Financial Plan 2019/20 and the Council Tax setting 2019/20.

It was moved by Councillor M D Conolly, and duly seconded by Councillor P G Heath, that the recommendations set out in the report incorporating the recommendations of the Cabinet at its meeting held on 4 March 2019 be approved.

It was moved as an AMENDMENT by Councillor M R Eddy, and duly seconded by Councillor B Gardner, that

"Council resolves to add an additional project to the capital programme entitled 'Installation of solar canopies' with a proposed budget of £200k expenditure split equally between 2019/20 and 2020/21, with the intention of installing up to 100 solar canopies in appropriate locations across the council's estate, to be funded from general reserves or other resources that the Strategic Director (Resources) may identify, and to invest the savings from electricity bills (estimated at £25,000 per annum if all 100 solar canopies are in operation) in an ear-marked reserve to aid the future installation of electric charging points and the conversion of the council's vehicle fleet to electric vehicles."

Councillor K E Morris acknowledged the merit of the idea and suggested that if Councillor M R Eddy withdrew the amendment he would ask for a feasibility report to be submitted to Cabinet exploring the costs and savings of the proposed Amendment by Councillor M R Eddy's amendment.

Councillor M R Eddy agreed to withdraw his amendment in light of the Leader's assurance that the report would be produced.

On being put to the vote it was

RESOLVED: (a) That the General Fund Revenue Budget, the Capital and Special Projects Programmes, the Housing Revenue Account Budget,

the Council Tax Resolution and the content of the MTFP be approved;

- (b) That a Council Tax increase of 2.7% for DDC purposes be approved, resulting in an increase on Band D properties of £4.95 per year and an annual DDC Council Tax of £187.29.
- (c) To note that it is the view of the Strategic Director (Corporate Resources), the Section 151 Officer, that the budget has been prepared in an appropriate and prudent manner and that based upon the information available at the time of producing this report the 2019/20 estimates are robust and the resources are adequate for the Council's current spending plans in 2019/20;
- (d) That the various Council recommendations at the end of the sections within the attached budget and MTFP, and summarized in Annex 10 to Appendix 1, are approved as follows:
- (i) Approve the General Fund Revenue budget for 2019/20 and the projected outturn for 2018/19;
 - (ii) Approve the policies and protocols regarding the General Fund balances and earmarked reserves, and transfers between reserves as set out in Annex 4.
 - (iii) Approve the HRA budget for 2019/20 and the projected outturn for 2018/19 at Annex 5.
 - (iv) Approve the Capital and Special Revenue Projects Programmes;
 - (v) Approve that capital resources required to finance new projects are secured before new projects commence.
 - (vi) Approve the Capital, Treasury Management and Investment Strategies, including the Prudential Indicators and Minimum Revenue Provision statement (Annexes 7A, 7B and 7C).
 - (vii) Approve the Council Tax Resolution as set out at Annex 8A;
 - (viii) Note that if the formal Council Tax Resolution at Annex 8A is approved, the total Band D Council Tax will be as follows:

	2018/19 £	2019/20 £	Increase %
Dover District Council	182.34	187.29	2.71%
Kent County Council	1,237.68	1,299.42	4.99%
The Police and Crime Commissioner for Kent	169.15	193.15	14.19%
Kent & Medway Fire & Rescue Authority	75.51	77.76	2.98%
Sub-Total	1,664.68	1,757.62	5.58%
Town & Parish Council (average)	62.79	65.20	3.84%
Total Band D Council Tax	1,727.47	1,822.82	5.52%

The Democratic Services Manager advised that the vote would have to be a recorded vote in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 18.6. The manner of the voting was as followed:

<u>FOR (26)</u>	<u>AGAINST (11)</u>	<u>ABSTAIN (0)</u>
J S Back	P M Brivio	
T J Bartlett	M I Cosin	
P M Beresford	G Cowan	
T A Bond	D G Cronk	
B W Butcher	B Gardner	
P I Carter	P J Hawkins	
S S Chandler	S J Jones	
N J Collor	K Mills	
M D Conolly	A S Pollitt	
M R Eddy	D A Sargent	
A Friend	P M Wallace	
R J Frost		
B J Glayzer		
D Hannent		
P G Heath		
M J Holloway		
P D Jull		
N S Kenton		
P S Le Chevalier		
S M Le Chevalier		
K E Morris		
D P Murphy		
M J Ovenden		
G Rapley		
M Rose		
F J W Scales		

80 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS

In accordance with Rule 12(1) of the Council Procedure Rules, Members of the Cabinet responded to the following questions:

In the absence of Councillor L A Keen, questions (1) to (4) as per the agenda papers were not asked.

(5) Councillor M R Eddy asked the Leader of the Council, Councillor K E Morris:

“Can the Leader of the Council describe what representations this Council has made to Government to defend the hard-won rights of the many writers and artists living within this district in the event of a no-deal Brexit?”

In response Councillor K E Morris answered that the District had a wonderful cultural heritage of artists and writers and the Council was supportive of all professions within its communities. Any lobbying and influencing it was doing with Government concerning the UK leaving the EU in the event of a no deal was with a view to supporting tourism, local businesses, professions and communities to mitigate any potential negative impacts.

Culture was part of the Council's developing Tourism Strategy and as such further investment was being made as detailed in the budget.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 12.5, Councillor M R Eddy exercised his right to ask one supplementary question.

- (6) Councillor M R Eddy asked the Portfolio Holder for Access and Licensing, Councillor N J Collor:

"Can the Portfolio Holder for Access and Licensing outline what steps he might consider in order to alleviate the problems caused to residents of Sydney Road by cars parked by users of Walmer Station?"

In response, Councillor N J Collor stated that a Residents Parking Scheme was looked at for this area in 2010 shortly after charges were introduced at Walmer Station Car Park. Following consultation the majority vote was against the scheme so things were left as they were. Since then the Council could not trace any further requests from residents to reconsider the position.

Naturally, if approached by a number of residents from Sydney Road and the adjacent roads the Council would willingly look at the situation again.

- (7) Councillor M R Eddy asked the Portfolio Holder for Access and Licensing, Councillor N J Collor:

"At the previous full council the Portfolio Holder for Access and Licensing, in response to a question from Cllr Keen, welcomed the inclusion of both Aylesham and Deal in the list of 22 stations which might benefit from a programme of step-free access. The Portfolio Holder then stated that he was making representations to Railtrack along with the Council's Development Partner for Aylesham. What representations is the Council making on behalf of Deal which is part of the Hi-Speed rail network, serves the expanding settlements of Deal, Walmer and Sholden, and which has a high proportion of residents with mobility difficulties?"

In response Councillor N J Collor stated that he was endeavouring to meet with South Eastern Railways in the near future, as the current Train Operating Committee, to discuss a range of issues associated with rail services across the district going forward including accessibility at Deal Station. He confirmed that he had a date in his diary for this meeting.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 12.5, Councillor M R Eddy exercised his right to ask one supplementary question.

- (8) Councillor S J Jones asked the Leader of the Council, Councillor K E Morris:

"Can the Leader explain to this Council why contracts of larger value, with set dates of determination or long lead times, (the most recent example being the William Muge / Snelgrove regeneration project) are still being extended or

decided by urgent decisions, thus removing the opportunity for full and transparent debate in public?"

In response Councillor K E Morris stated that the construction contract for the redevelopment of the William Muge and Snelgrove sites was not let under an urgency decision. Rather the decision to award the contract was taken by the Strategic Director (Operations and Commercial) on 28 January 2019 under authority expressly delegated to him by Cabinet on 1 October 2018 [CAB48]. It should be noted that even had Cabinet made the decision to award the contract that item of business would not have been debated in public owing to the need to consider exempt information.

He had asked officers to review the number of decisions made to award or extend contracts under urgency procedures during the life of this Council (from May 2015). There had been five.

The Chairman rejected Councillor S J Jones' supplementary question on the grounds that it was not in accordance with the rules for supplementary questions.

- (9) Councillor M J Ovenden asked the Portfolio Holder for Community Services, Councillor M J Holloway:

"Can the Portfolio Holder for Community Services update the Council on the number of players and good causes that have signed up to the new lottery scheme and at the same time can the Portfolio Holder update us on the amount of projected funds this is likely to create for the good causes and the Council's Community Grant Schemes?"

In response Councillor M J Holloway stated that since its formal launch on 21st January 2019, the District Lotto had had a fantastic start. As of Thursday 28th February, there were 79 good causes signed up, over 1,000 tickets sold and over 500 players participating with an annual projected income of £24,336 for good causes and £8,481 for DDC Community Grants. The first weekly draw was held on 2 March 2019. This was also in addition to the Council's own grant funding and it was hoped would raise the profile of community groups.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 12.5, Councillor M J Ovenden exercised her right to ask one supplementary question.

- (10) Councillor M R Eddy asked the Portfolio Holder for Community Services, Councillor M J Holloway:

"Since the inception of the innovative Inspire Programme in 2016, which I believe is the only programme of its type run by a local authority in Kent, if not nationally, can the Portfolio Holder for Community Services please update Members on the number of young people in our District who have benefitted

from the Programme and can he also review the impact on and benefit to the wider voluntary and community sector in the District that the Inspire Programme has helped deliver?”

In response Councillor M J Holloway stated that this was a unique and inspirational piece of joint working and thanked Councillors M R Eddy, K E Morris, P Walker and former district councillor P A Watkins for their roles in developing the programme, which was a model of best practice.

Since February 2016, 1025 young people from across the district had been referred to the Inspire programme. The programme referred young people to existing voluntary and community groups in the district as well as looking at gaps in local provision. The programme had set up boxing and art sessions and it was hoped that sustainable photography sessions would be delivered in the future.

- (11) Councillor M Rose asked the Portfolio Holder for Property Management and Environmental Health, Councillor T J Bartlett:

“Can the Portfolio Holder for Property Management and Environmental Health update the Council on the Co-Innovation Hub in Dover, including the number and types of businesses that have taken up space and opportunities. Can he also tell us the number of community activities they have been delivered and is he aware of any plans for future events. Can the Portfolio Holder also update us on the length of the current lease.”

In response Councillor T J Bartlett stated that the Co-Innovation hub in Dover was proving a great success with a number of new innovative businesses and start-ups now locating their services within the Hub. As of the week commencing 25 February 2019, 21 new businesses had commenced preparations for operating from the building. Everything from furniture recycling to Garden tools, event hampers to bespoke artists and photography, café to aquatics, legal advice and training providers to escape rooms. In relation to community activities various activities have been delivered already including a Christmas activity week, health and wellbeing days, bespoke markets and training events. The formal opening was planned for Thursday 14 March 2019. Future events would include community business schools, start-up advice and training and family activities amongst others. It has been agreed that the current lease would be extended to the end of August 2021.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 12.5, Councillor M Rose exercised his right to ask one supplementary question.

- (12) Councillor P M Brivio asked the Portfolio Holder for Community Services, Councillor M J Holloway:

“Can the portfolio Holder for Community Services please advise what procedure was undertaken in the granting of the additional funding by DDC for the Astor Theatre cinema project.”

In response, the Portfolio Holder for Property Management and Environmental Health, Councillor T J Bartlett, stated that the constitution gave all Members of the Executive the authority “to determine applications to the Council for revenue or capital grants.” In this case he had been in discussions with the manager of the Astor Theatre concerning the requirement to provide seating and equipment to enable the theatre to operate as a cinema as part of its programme. The grant sought was £7,000 and the Council was in discussion with Deal Town Council with a view to each providing 50% of the requested grant.

However, Deal Town Council declined to provide their share of the grant and so the portfolio holder approved a grant of £7,000 from Dover District Council and a decision notice was published.

- (13) Councillor A S Pollitt asked the Portfolio Holder for Corporate Resources, Councillor M D Conolly:

“Does the Portfolio Holder for Corporate Resources and Performance agree with the Chair of the LGA, Conservative Lord Porter when he commented that Councils could do with some budget certainty with no firm plans yet in place for what happens to council funding and finances after 2020?”

In response Councillor M D Conolly stated that he did agree.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 12.5, Councillor A S Pollitt exercised his right to ask one supplementary question.

- (14) Councillor B Gardner asked the Leader of the Council, Councillor K E Morris:

“In your Leader’s Time speech at the last council meeting you promised to keep the council informed and updated on the discussions you have been having with Marks and Spencer’s about their plans for Deal following the closure of their store in Deal High St at the end of April. Will you take this opportunity to update the council on the discussions you have been having with the owners of the building as to what uses they intend to go forward with to protect Deal High St.”

Councillor B Gardner accepted that the Leader had covered this in his Leader’s Time statements and asked for assurances that the Leader would keep the Council updated on future developments.

- (15) Councillor P M Brivio asked the Portfolio Holder for Community Services, Councillor M J Holloway:

“Can the portfolio Holder for Community Services advise the council if businesses who have received grants of £10,000 to improve/facilitate their businesses, receive any additional business support to ensure that their businesses remain viable.”

In response the Portfolio Holder for Corporate Resources, Councillor M D Conolly, stated that the scheme established by the Council provided for up to £10,000 in support. It also provided up to £500 for additional business advice.

The process to make the awards included a review and challenge of business plans to assist businesses to be as resilient as they can be. In addition businesses were entitled to business rates relief starting at 100% for businesses with a rateable value of less than £12,000 and reducing on a sliding scale to £18,000.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 12.5, Councillor P M Brivio exercised her right to ask one supplementary question.

- (16) Councillor A S Pollitt asked the Leader of the Council, Councillor K E Morris:

“Does the leader of the council agree that the Government's handling of Brexit planning and particularly the awarding of a contract to a ferry company with no ferries has been incompetent and bungled?”

In response Councillor K E Morris stated that with regards any potential for business to be diverted or relocated out of the District he had already made it clear that he would not support this. The Council continued to influence and lobby for investment in the district so that its businesses could continue to grow and flourish whatever the outcome of the EU Exit negotiations. The Council were not sufficiently close enough to the details of the ferry company contract to be able to comment and to do so would be to comment on press speculation. It was a matter for the Government and in due course the National Audit Office.

- (17) Councillor B Gardner asked the Portfolio Holder for Built Environment, Councillor J S Back:

“Would the Portfolio Holder for Built Environment please inform the council as to what the aims and objectives are for the Local Plan Advisory group.”

In response Councillor J S Back stated that the terms of reference for the Local Plan Project Advisory Group were agreed at the first meeting of this group on the 25 July 2017 and were available to view on the Council's website.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 12.5, Councillor B Gardner exercised his right to ask one supplementary question.

- (18) Councillor P M Brivio asked the Portfolio Holder for Community Services, Councillor M J Holloway:

“Can the Portfolio Holder for Community Services confirm that community groups who do not sign up for the Lottery, will still be eligible to apply for DDC Community Grants.”

In response Councillor M J Holloway stated that he could confirm that Community Groups that choose not to sign up for the District Lotto would still be eligible to apply for DDC Community Grants.

- (19) Councillor K Mills asked the Portfolio Holder for Property Management and Environmental Health, Councillor T J Bartlett:

“Could the Portfolio Holder for Property Management and Environmental Health inform this council of the levels of discount pupils attending secondary school receive at the new Dover Sports centre.”

In response Councillor T J Bartlett stated that he was pleased to confirm there was a varied and special offer for pupils attending secondary school that saw a reduced rate from headline prices. All details could be found on the Places Leisure website and examples included

- (a) Junior membership (11-15 years) by direct debit was £14.99 per month (swim and gym).
- (b) Junior swim (8-15 years) by pay as you go was £4.25
- (c) Junior gym (11-15 years) by pay as you go was £3.80
- (d) Junior badminton, squash, football, gymnastics was £24 per month and provided for a one hour coaching session across four sessions per month.

Students (aged 16 and over) were included in the concession scheme which offered a concession card costing £5 per year and entitled them to a 30% discount on swimming, gym and racket sports (Mon-Fri, 9am-4pm).

These were extremely good offers with a range of choice for young people at secondary school, given the new investment and greatly enhanced leisure centre facilities and experience.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 12.5, Councillor K Mills exercised his right to ask one supplementary question.

- (20) Councillor P M Brivio asked the Portfolio Holder for Housing and Homelessness, Councillor P M Beresford:

“Can the Portfolio Holder for Housing and Homelessness, comment on the legislation (Homes – fit for Human Habitation) that comes into force 20 March whereby tenants can take direct action about disrepair on all rented properties through the courts.”

In response Councillor P M Beresford stated that the Homes (Fitness for Human Habitation) Act 2018 amended the Landlord and Tenant Act 1985 (sections 8 to 10) and inserted a new section 9A, 9B and 9C. It would apply to all new and renewed tenancies of a term of less than 7 years granted on or after the 20 March 2019.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 12.5, Councillor P M Brivio exercised her right to ask one supplementary question.

- (21) Councillor K Mills asked the Portfolio Holder for Environment, Waste and Health, Councillor N S Kenton:

“Can the Portfolio Holder for Environment, Waste and Health identify the causes of the unprecedented level of repairs required at hospitals serving residents of the district.”

In response Councillor N S Kenton stated that he was not an NHS manager.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 12.5, Councillor K Mills exercised his right to ask one supplementary question.

- (22) Councillor G Rapley asked the Portfolio Holder for Environment, Waste and Health, Councillor N S Kenton:

“Would the Portfolio Holder for Environment, Waste and Health please explain why Deal was chosen to have the six new high-tech, solar powered bins designed to crush rubbish, at a cost of £37,440.00? You made a comment that we have some fantastic beaches in the district and that it's important to keep them clean; well Dover too has a large, wonderful beach that would benefit from at least three of these bins and you of course would be able to work with Dover Harbour Board and Southern Water to achieve this for Dover. Let's not forget, Dover is the gateway to England so a good clean up would be a good start.”

In response Councillor N S Kenton stated that the Council valued its beaches across the district. The bins in Deal were part funded by Southern Water in response to concerns over water pollution. Further bins would be rolled out in Sandwich Quay and the effectiveness of them would be assessed. If the trial was successful and affordable the Council would look to roll it out further in the district.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 12.5, Councillor G Rapley exercised her right to ask one supplementary question.

81 MOTIONS

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 13, Councillor M R Eddy moved the Motion of which he had given notice as followed:

“This Council will establish a set of baseline air quality measurements along the principal routes into Dover in advance of 29 March and will

continue to monitor air quality on those routes after Brexit. This Council will press Government for adequate funding and other resources to deal with the impact of any increased air pollution.”

The Motion was seconded by Councillor B Gardner.

Councillor N S Kenton, duly seconded by Councillor N J Collor, moved an AMENDMENT to the Motion as followed:

“This Council has established a set of baseline air quality measurements along the principal routes into Dover in advance of 29 March and will continue to monitor air quality on those routes after Brexit. Furthermore, this Council will press Government for adequate funding and other resources to deal with the impact of any increased air pollution.”

Councillor M R Eddy, with the agreement of his seconder, agreed to accept the AMENDMENT and it became the SUBSTANTIVE Motion.

On being put to the vote it was

RESOLVED: This Council has established a set of baseline air quality measurements along the principal routes into Dover in advance of 29 March and will continue to monitor air quality on those routes after Brexit. Furthermore, this Council will press Government for adequate funding and other resources to deal with the impact of any increased air pollution.

82 URGENT BUSINESS TIME

There were no items of urgent business for consideration.

The meeting ended at 8.30 pm