

## MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

At the meeting of the Council for the District of Dover held as a remote meeting using Teams Live Events on Wednesday, 27 January 2021 at 6.00 pm.

Present:

Chairman: Councillor M D Conolly

Councillors:

T J Bartlett	D Hannent	O C de R Richardson
M Bates	J P Haste	J Rose
D G Beaney	M J Holloway	M Rose
S H Beer	S J Jones	C A Vinson
E A Biggs	P D Jull	R S Walkden
T A Bond	L A Keen	P Walker
P M Brivio	N S Kenton	H M Williams
S S Chandler	S C Manion	C D Zosseder
N J Collor	K Mills	
D G Cronk	D P Murphy	

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

### 28 APOLOGIES

An apology for absence was received from Councillor C F Woodgate.

### 29 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 21 October 2020 were approved as a correct record for signing by the Chairman.

### 30 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made by Members.

### 31 ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman of the Council, Councillor M D Conolly, made the following announcements:

- (a) To congratulate Deal Parochial Primary School on having won the Education Category of the Kent Lawn Tennis Association Tennis Awards for 2020.
- (b) To inform Members that 27 January 2021 was Holocaust Memorial Day and remind them of the importance of remembering those murdered in the Holocaust and the genocides that occurred in the years that followed.

- (c) To inform Members of the death of former district Councillor M M Sansum. She had served on the Council for 16 years from 1991 to 2007 representing Castle Ward and then Tower Hamlets Ward for the Labour Group. It was noted that she had come from a family that had given nearly 50 years of combined service as district councillors. In addition, she served as a Dover Town Councillor and was a former Mayor of Dover.

The Chairman invited Members to share their memories of former Councillor M M Sansum and the Leader of the Council, Councillor T J Bartlett, and the Leader of the Opposition, Councillor K Mills, spoke of her time on the Council and the service she gave to representing her local community.

The Chairman invited Members to observe a silence as a mark of respect.

## 32 LEADER'S TIME

The Leader of the Council, Councillor T J Bartlett, included the following matters in his report:

- (a) The impact of France closing its borders on Dover and to thank officers for their work in trying to alleviate the problems. He also thanked Veolia for the work it undertook to clear the highway of litter after the problems had cleared though noted that Highways England should have been responsible for doing this not the Council.
- (b) To advise of his experience of undergoing a Coronavirus test and to praise how well it worked.
- (c) The importance of improvements to the road network in order to keep Dover clear and moving in future.
- (d) To welcome the jobs that the Inland Border Control Facility would bring to the district while recognising that actions must be taken to mitigate the impact on the road network. He would be making his formal response to the Department for Transport following the Extraordinary Council meeting on 9 February 2021.
- (e) To advise that a new Head of Port Health and Public Protection had been appointed.
- (f) That he was impressed with the quality of the 8 new interim accommodation flats on Folkestone Road and to note that there were now all occupied. The flats were named after Cuthbert Ottaway, who had been the first captain of the England football team and had been born in Dover. This was part of the Council's commitment to end its reliance on bed and breakfast accommodation. The issue of housing was vital given the potential for increased homelessness and the Council had set a target of building 500 new affordable homes.
- (g) To recognise the excellent work being undertaken by the Council since the housing service had returned in-house to turn around the service. It was noted that despite the pandemic the void period was easing and 47 homes were being made ready for letting.

- (h) To advise that the Government was changing its focus on the allocation of housing targets and that the council was waiting on new district numbers.
- (i) To encourage everyone to participate in the Local Plan consultation process and to thank the Head of Planning, Regeneration and Development and her team for their hard work. The consultation process had been changed in light of the pandemic but efforts had been taken to ensure as many as possible could be involved including the provision of a telephone number for those who could not respond online.
- (j) That the Council was committed to reducing emissions and to advise that the Cabinet had approved the Climate Change Strategy. It was recognised that there would be challenges in reducing emissions and emphasised that everyone would need to work together to do this. The Council was looking at making its homes more energy efficient and was looking at ways it could decarbonise. There had been funding secured for the installation of 49 electric charging points in the district.
- (k) That the Council would host a virtual event on 3 March 2021 to mark Fair Trade Fortnight with a focus on the impact of Fair Trade on workers and farmers. He thanked Councillors P M Brivio and D Hannent as the council's representatives on local Fair Trade steering groups.
- (l) To thank frontline staff in the NHS and at the Council for their efforts during the pandemic.

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

- (a) To thank crucial/key workers for their hard work every day.
- (b) To call for a wash-up meeting on the lessons to be learnt from the problems in Dover before Christmas when Dover become gridlocked and to develop a new plan for dealing with such issues in the future.
- (c) That the proximity of the Inland Border Control Facility to the Port of Dover would be an issue and to express his dissatisfaction that the Council was not being given the information it needed to consider the issues properly. He expressed concern that the SDO process would push through the proposals and that the Council would be left responsible for the outcome despite not being responsible for it. There was also concern at the impact of the Inland Border Control Facility on the Fastrack project. He did not believe that the Extraordinary Council meeting would achieve much and emphasised the need to consult with both residents and elected members.
- (d) To congratulate officers on their work since the housing service was brought back in-house.
- (e) To express concern that the vaccine rollout for coronavirus had been piecemeal in the district and seemed like a post code lottery. He noted that residents in Deal were being offered vaccinations in Folkestone which was more than the governments stated target of being within 10 miles away.

- (f) To call upon the Leader to look into the issue of the Phoenix Centre closing after the pandemic and update the Council on what could be done in respect of this vital facility.
- (g) To ask what the Leader was doing to liaise with the Port of Dover over the challenges around the introduction of border controls.
- (h) To welcome the efforts in respect of tackling climate change but to note that the Council's aspirations would need proper funding to deliver.

In response the Leader of the Council advised:

- (a) That a wash-up meeting had been held with Kent County Council and local Members of Parliament at which lessons had been shared. There would be a further meeting.
- (b) That he had met with the Department for Transport today and there were trying to engage with the Council. He thanked Councillor M Bates, as one of the two district members in the ward where the Inland Border Control Facility would be located for his work with local residents. He welcomed the opportunity that Members would have at the Extraordinary Council meeting to express their views.
- (c) That after a slow start in the district the coronavirus vaccine roll out was picking up speed. He agreed that more work needed to be done to communicate with residents in the district about the roll out.
- (d) To advise that Councillors S S Chandler and M J Holloway as the members for the Sandwich Ward were aware of the issue with the Phoenix Centre and to acknowledge that the Council needed to look at the issue and engage with the Phoenix Centre.
- (e) That he would look into the issues with the Port of Dover.

### 33 SEAT ALLOCATION AND GROUP APPOINTMENTS

There were no notifications of seat allocations or group appointments.

### 34 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

- (1) In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11 (as amended by Council Procedure Rule 28.9), a question from Graham Wanstall was put to the Leader of the Council, Councillor T J Bartlett:

"Recently the important anniversary was passed when the famous British "Unknown Warrior" made his train journey from Dover to London.

It was not commemorated as planned due to the restrictions, therefore, I propose that the short Approach Road from Folkestone Road to the Railway Station along with the Railway area in front of Dover Priory Railway Station be called "Unknown Warrior Way" to commemorate the fact that the train passed through the station from Dover Marine Station on the journey to London.

The Railway have been supportive and co-operative. Therefore, I ask will you as Leader of DDC support this naming to mark an important historic Dover event?"

In response Councillor T J Bartlett stated

“I would like to thank Graham for bringing this matter to our attention and highlighting the role which Dover played in the journey of the unknown warrior to his final resting place in Westminster Abbey.

It is very sad that this event was not able to be commemorated as we would have wished due to the pandemic.

Whilst I welcome the suggestion being made, the area he has proposed is already named as Priory Station Approach Road. The event is already marked by a plaque erected by the Dover Society in 1997.”

- (2) In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11 (as amended by Council Procedure Rule 28.9), a question from Sarah Gleave was put to the Leader of the Council, Councillor T J Bartlett:

“The development of a Climate Change Strategy and the inclusion of a chapter on Climate Change within the draft Local Plan are welcomed by many residents in the district concerned by the climate and ecological emergency. The role of local councils and climate action partnerships between residents and their local representatives is key, as organisations as diverse as the Local Government Information Unit and Friends of the Earth have pointed out, in order to build back better and fairer after Covid. Will the Leader and the wider Council agree to receive brief reports feeding back to Dover District Council on the impact of its Climate Change Strategy and the evolving Action Plan from an independent climate forum of local residents on a quarterly basis starting in May 2021?”

In response Councillor T J Bartlett stated

“As Sarah is aware, I have been pleased to champion the importance of the climate change agenda by chairing the Climate Change Working Group and I have welcomed her involvement as a member of this working group.

I welcome her suggestion regarding providing feedback to the group - and we will be discussing this at our working group meeting on Tuesday and how we take this forward.”

35 COUNCIL TAX BASE

The Strategic Director (Corporate Resources) presented the report on the Council Tax Base.

It was moved by Councillor C A Vinson, duly seconded by Councillor D Hannent, and

- RESOLVED: (a) That for the financial year 2021/22, the empty homes discount for properties unoccupied and unfurnished remain at 0%, so that Council Tax will be payable in full on these properties.
- (b) That the District's Council Tax Base for 2021/22 be approved as 38,993.94 and the tax base for the towns and parishes in the

Council's administrative area, as set out in the table at Appendix 2 as follows:

<b>Parish</b>	<b>2020/21 Tax Base - using collection rate</b>	<b>2021/22 Tax Base using collection rate</b>
Alkham	304.27	303.93
Ash	1161.21	1177.32
Aylesham	1568.81	1567.16
Capel-Le-Ferne	673.96	677.79
Deal	6828.29	6763.64
Denton-with-Wootton	171.43	177.95
Dover	8299.07	8162.52
Eastry	817.26	807.20
Eythorne	802.60	793.06
Goodnestone	174.43	173.63
Guston	403.13	417.05
Hougham Without	180.70	179.72
Langdon	242.80	237.42
Lydden	257.00	260.97
Nonington	295.03	293.20
Northbourne	270.56	277.73
Preston	380.46	384.78
Ringwould with Kingsdown	1028.01	1025.62
Ripple	148.49	142.39
River	1496.74	1487.93
St Margarets-at-Cliffe	1303.78	1299.06
Sandwich	1940.37	1939.66
Shepherdswell-with-Coldred	765.48	766.76
Sholden	736.50	722.01
Staple	232.89	232.32
Stourmouth	116.46	117.02
Sutton by Dover	304.77	307.89
Temple Ewell	662.04	666.71
Tilmanstone	156.52	159.70
Whitfield	2039.52	2079.88
Wingham	685.90	749.80
Woodnesborough	479.01	494.80
Worth	487.42	490.17
Great Mongeham	274.27	271.50
Walmer	3340.57	3385.65
<b>Total Band D Equivalents</b>	<b>39029.75</b>	<b>38993.94</b>

- (c) That the “Long Term Empty Premium” for properties that have been left empty and substantially unfurnished be determined as follows:
- (a) for periods of 2 years but less than 5 years, a Long-Term Empty Premium to be charged at 100%; and
  - (b) for periods of 5 years but less than 10 years, a Long-Term Empty Premium to be charged at 200%; and

- (c) for periods of 10 years or more a Long-Term Empty Premium to be charged at 300%.
- (d) That approval be given to consult on a revision to the current Council Tax Reductions Scheme (CTRS) for the financial year 2021/2022 to embody within the scheme the principal that the income bands within the income grid used in the Scheme are automatically adjusted upwards or downwards from time to time to reflect:
- (a) Adjustments of the National Living Wage
- (b) Adjustments in Working Tax Credit and Universal Credit received by claimants from the government as a COVID support measure.

So that the percentage discount receivable by claimants was not negatively affected by these adjustments to the National Living Wage and adjustments in Working Tax Credit and Universal Credit awarded to claimants by the government as a COVID support measure.

And that accordingly the grid shown at Appendix 4 be substituted for the grid currently in the scheme, with the figures shown to be uplifted by £20 (or any other amount) for any period of 2021/22 to reflect the Government's adjustments in Working Tax Credit and Universal Credit.

In accordance with the requirements of Council Procedure Rule 18.6 (voting on budget decisions) a recorded vote was held in respect of this item of business. The manner of the voting was as followed:

<b><u>For (29)</u></b>	<b><u>Against (0)</u></b>	<b><u>Abstain (0)</u></b>
T J Bartlett		
M Bates		
D G Beaney		
S H Beer		
E A Biggs		
T A Bond		
P M Brivio		
S S Chandler		
N J Collor		
M D Conolly		
D G Cronk		
D Hannent		
J P Haste		
M J Holloway		
S J Jones		
P D Jull		
L A Keen		
N S Kenton		
S C Manion		
K Mills		
D P Murphy		

<b>For (29)</b>	<b>Against (0)</b>	<b>Abstain (0)</b>
O C de R Richardson		
J Rose		
M Rose		
C A Vinson		
R S Walkden		
P Walker		
H M Williams		
C D Zosseder		

36 ACCEPTANCE OF WASTE SERVICES: DELEGATIONS FROM FOLKESTONE AND HYTHE DISTRICT COUNCIL

The Strategic Director (Operations and Commercial) presented the report on the Acceptance of Waste Services: Delegations from Folkestone and Hythe District Council.

Members were advised that the current Joint Working Agreement with Folkestone and Hythe District Council for the management of Waste Service within the two Districts ended in January 2021.

It was moved by Councillor N S Kenton, duly seconded by Councillor C A Vinson, and

RESOLVED: (a) That the continued delegation of the management of the waste services function by the executive of Folkestone and Hythe District Council (FHDC) to Dover District Council (DDC) under Section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972, Section 9EA Local Government Act 2000 and The Local Authorities (Arrangements for the Discharge of Functions) (England) Regulations 2012 be accepted on the terms outlined in the new draft Joint Working Agreement and to be approved by the Strategic Director (Operations and Commercial) in consultation with the Solicitor to the Council.

(b) That the Strategic Director (Operations and Commercial) be authorised to approve the final terms of the Joint Working Agreement.

37 DRAFT CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2021-22

The Democratic Services Manager presented the Draft Calendar of Meetings 2021-22. The Draft Calendar of Meetings was for approval in principle prior to its formal approval at the Annual Council meeting in May 2021.

Members were advised that amendments to the current Calendar of Meetings for 2020-21 had been proposed due to the counts for the Police and Crime Commissioner and Kent County Council elections.

It was moved by Councillor C A Vinson, duly seconded by Councillor N S Kenton, and

RESOLVED:(a) That the Draft Calendar of Ordinary Meetings for 2021-22 be approved in principle subject to final ratification at the Annual Meeting of Council on Wednesday 19 May 2021.

(b) That the Cabinet and Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting dates scheduled for 10 May 2021 and 17 May 2021 respectively be amended to 17 May 2021 and 24 May 2021 respectively.

38 MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES SCHEME 2021-22

The Democratic Services Manager presented the Members' Allowances Scheme 2021-22 report. The levels set out in Appendix 1 of the report were for a zero increase in the Members' Allowances Scheme, although Members could either raise or lower allowances if that was their intent.

Members were advised that as part of the last review an undertaking had been given by officers to review alternative arrangements for the Dependant Carers' Allowance. This review was with the intention of developing an option for an amended scheme that would ensure that all reasonable actual costs would be reimbursed rather than a proportion of the costs as had been traditionally reimbursed. The proposals and necessary amendments to the Members' Allowance Scheme for the reimbursement of full costs were set out in Appendix 2 of the report.

It was moved by Councillor K Mills, seconded by Councillor S H Beer, and

RESOLVED: (a) That the Members' Allowances Scheme 2021-22 be made at the levels set out in Appendix 1 of the report, representing no increase on the 2020-21 levels.

(b) That a revised Dependant Carers' Allowance be adopted as set out in Appendix 2 of the report.

39 FLEXIBLE RETIREMENT OF THE SOLICITOR TO THE COUNCIL AND MONITORING OFFICER

The Chief Executive and Head of Paid Service presented the report on the Flexible Retirement of the Solicitor to the Council and Monitoring Officer.

It was moved by Councillor C A Vinson, seconded by Councillor K Mills, and

RESOLVED: That the flexible retirement request of the Solicitor to the Council and Monitoring Officer be approved with effect from 1 April 2021, pursuant to the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013, Reg. 30(6) and in accordance with the Council's Pension Discretion Policy Statement.

(The Solicitor to the Council and Monitoring Officer withdrew from the meeting during the consideration of this item of business.)

40 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS

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

(1) Councillor P Walker asked the Leader of the Council, Councillor T J Bartlett:

“Given the intended creation of the Border Force facility near the A2 and Dover, what commitment has been assured to DDC, by the Government, about the dualling of the A2 between Lydden and Dover?”

In response the Leader of the Council stated:

“The need to dual the section of the A2 between Lydden and Dover has been repeatedly raised by the Council over many years.

Whilst the government has indicated that the scheme will be indicated in the next Roads Investment Strategy programme, we will continue to make the case until this is confirmed.

This will I am sure be a point that councillors will wish to make when we discuss the Council’s response to the proposed Inland Border Facility at the Extraordinary Council meeting.”

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 12.5, Councillor P Walker exercised his right to ask a supplementary question.

- (2) Councillor P Walker asked the Portfolio Holder for Transport, Licensing and Community, Councillor N J Collor:

“Can the Portfolio Holder for Transport, Licensing and Community update the Council on what progress is being made on improving the road system within the District given the inherent pressures created from the start of 2021?”

In response the Portfolio Holder for Transport, Licensing and Community stated:

“I assume that the unacceptable situation experienced in the few days before Christmas has prompted this question.

We have been making representation at many levels since then, including the to the Secretary of State for Transport and the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster where we are lobbying for improvements to the strategic road network, particularly the A2 using the banner – KEEP DOVER CLEAR.

As Cllr Walker will appreciate, responsibility for roads in the Dover District is held by both Highways England and Kent County Council.

We periodically receive information on improvements to the A2 and A20 from Highways England that, upon receipt, is circulated to all members by DDC officers. The KCC Network programme is regularly reported with updates and the proposals for the coming year will shortly be appearing on an agenda for the Dover Joint Transportation Advisory Board that, again, is available to all Members on ModGov.

Notification of all forthcoming roadworks when received from both Highways England and KCC are circulated with urgency to all DDC members.”

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 12.5, Councillor P Walker exercised his right to ask a supplementary question.

(3) Councillor P Walker asked the Leader of the Council, Councillor T J Bartlett:

“According to reports in the press, Dover District Council will be putting £475,000 into climate emergency initiatives compared to Canterbury City Council’s £200 million. Will the Leader of DDC inform the Council how the amount of £475,000 will deliver these initiatives in what is also hoped will also be a climate friendly recovery from Covid within the District?”

In response the Leader of the Council stated:

“Whilst our minds are currently focused as you would expect in dealing with the pandemic, the challenges posed by climate change remain the defining issue for the coming years.

As Cllr Walker has highlighted, the Council has set aside the sum of £475k in the Capital Programme to support the delivery of projects which contribute to reducing carbon emissions and taking action on climate change.

This is one small and important step forward, but there is no question that if the UK is to see real change, significant further investment will be needed. This has been highlighted by Canterbury City Council, who are currently undertaking a public consultation on their own Climate Change Action Plan.

Canterbury’s draft Action Plan includes a statement indicating that at least £200m of investment would be needed to support the transformation required and that this will need significant new external funding sources to be found.”

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 12.5, Councillor P Walker exercised his right to ask a supplementary question.

(4) Councillor K Mills asked the Portfolio Holder for Transport, Licensing and Community, Councillor N J Collor:

“Can the portfolio holder with responsibility for transport advise us of how many fixed penalty notices have been issued to HGV’s following the granting of new powers on the 1st of January 2021?”

In response the Portfolio Holder for Transport, Licensing and Community stated:

“The new powers that Cllr Mills refers to are extended to Kent County Council and not Dover District Council. KCC have arranged for an authorised contractor to clamp Heavy Goods Vehicles on their behalf across East Kent including our District.

KCC started clamping after a short warning period on 11<sup>th</sup> January and since then and up until 25<sup>th</sup> January, in other words the first two weeks, a total of 362 clamps were used of which 138 were in Dover.

DDC Parking Enforcement Team during their patrols have seen lorries clamped in Dover town area, as well as near the Duke of Yorks, Honeywood Parkway, Capel-le-Ferne and on the Sandwich bypass.

Freight traffic using the Port of Dover is lighter than usual at present but since 1<sup>st</sup> January, DDC Civil Enforcement Officers have also issued 26 Penalty Charge Notices to HGVs.”

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

- (5) Councillor S H Beer asked the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Governance and Digital, Councillor C A Vinson:

“About the businesses costs incurred by the council taxpayers of this district as a result of the traffic chaos that occurred over the Christmas period.”

In response the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Governance and Digital stated

“The Council does not have direct access to data held by individual businesses on any additional costs they may have incurred as a result of traffic issues over the Christmas period.”

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 12.5, Councillor S H Beer exercised her right to ask a supplementary question.

- (6) Councillor P M Brivio asked the Portfolio Holder for Housing and Health, Councillor D P Murphy:

“If he can advise the timescales for the wider roll out of the vaccination programme within the district.”

In response the Portfolio Holder for Housing and Health stated:

“The Kent and Medway CCG note: There are now confirmed plans for initial sites covering all 42 primary care networks (PCNs). Details of all sites are published on the website at: [www.kentandmedwayccg.nhs.uk/covid19vaccine](http://www.kentandmedwayccg.nhs.uk/covid19vaccine)

As of 17 January 2021, there have been 127,823 vaccines given in Kent and Medway. Services for 41 PCNs covering 197 of our 200 GP practices have now started vaccinating. With initial sites confirmed for all areas we are now working with the Primary Care Networks to review options for distributing vaccine to more sites. The objective in expanding to more sites will be to:

- increase capacity of the vaccine programme
- address areas where the distance to a site is more than the 10miles announced by Government earlier this month.

Sandwich, Deal and Dover patients’ vaccinations are being delivered by the neighbouring Primary Care Network (called Total Health Excellence East) from the Dover Health Centre site. The PCN was in one of the later waves of vaccine sites approved to start. Its first supplies were received on 14 January and vaccinations began on 15 January. To support catching up on priority groups all Sandwich residents in the over 80s category (approx. 900 people) are being contacted from today to invite them to an additional vaccination service running from Broadstairs next week. Vaccination clinics from the Balmoral surgery in Deal will also be set up. The Dover based services will continue to also provide vaccinations for people in these areas.”

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

- (7) Councillor E A Biggs asked the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Regulatory Services:

“If the lack of transparency by the Government, KCC and DDC in relation to the Inland Border Facility which has culminated in a 21 day engagement period, is a fair and reasonable process, when the impact of this facility in this location has raised so many objections by local residents.”

In response, the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Regulatory Services stated:

“The engagement with the Council concerning the proposed Inland Border Facility at White Cliffs Business Park is being undertaken in accordance with the legislative powers contained within the Town and Country Planning (Border Facilities and Infrastructure) (EU Exit) (England) Special Development Order 2020.

Clearly when it comes to the timeframe involved, this is not a matter over which the Council has any direct control, but we are doing all we can to work within the time set and as you will be aware have arranged an Extraordinary Council meeting to enable the issues of concern to be discussed by members.”

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 12.5, Councillor E A Biggs exercised his right to ask a supplementary question.

- (8) Councillor K Mills asked the Leader of the Council, Councillor T J Bartlett:

“Could the leader advise the council of the number of local restriction support grant applications that were made to the council by businesses following the announcement of restrictions on the 5th of November 2020.”

In response the Leader of the Council stated:

“As at Friday 22nd January, the Council had received 909 applications for Local Restrictions Support Grants.”

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

## 41 MOTIONS

### Motion 1

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 13, Councillor H M Williams moved the Motion of which she had given notice as followed:

“We would like to acknowledge and thank the many DDC officers and staff on the ground, and the Veolia contract staff, for their hard work cleaning up the mess in Dover resulting from the lorry gridlock of our town before Christmas.

We would also like to register our dismay and concern that the plans from D O T, Highways England, Police and KCC for dealing with emergencies at our port were not effective and resulted in serious environmental problems (hygiene, rubbish, air pollution), as well as a gridlock.

DDC must demand a review of the whole procedure leading to the chaos and gridlock that occurred in Dover over the Christmas period, so that lessons are learnt from what happened. This should be acted upon to ensure that there is a strategy in place to ensure such a situation does not happen again; residents and the council must be fully informed of this new strategy.”

The Motion was duly seconded by Councillor K Mills.

It was moved as an AMENDMENT by Councillor N S Kenton, and duly seconded by Councillor N J Collor that

- (a) Paragraph 2 be amended so as to read “We have registered” instead of “We would also like to register”
- (b) Paragraph 3 be amended so as to read “DDC has already demanded” instead of “DDC must demand”

On being put to the vote the AMENDMENT was CARRIED.

The SUBSTANTIVE Motion was put to the meeting and

RESOLVED: “We would like to acknowledge and thank the many DDC officers and staff on the ground, and the Veolia contract staff, for their hard work cleaning up the mess in Dover resulting from the lorry gridlock of our town before Christmas.

We have registered our dismay and concern that the plans from D O T, Highways England, Police and KCC for dealing with emergencies at our port were not effective and resulted in serious environmental problems (hygiene, rubbish, air pollution), as well as a gridlock.

DDC has already demanded a review of the whole procedure leading to the chaos and gridlock that occurred in Dover over the Christmas period, so that lessons are learnt from what happened. This should be acted upon to ensure that there is a strategy in place to ensure such a situation does not happen again; residents and the council must be fully informed of this new strategy.”

## Motion 2

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 13, Councillor S H Beer moved the Motion of which she had given notice as followed:

“As part of the Overview and Scrutiny review into Food Poverty in the district, on 11 January, we heard from the CEO of Dover and Deal CAB (Citizens Advice Bureaux) that demand for their services has risen by 12% each year for several years.

The CAB is therefore under severe pressure. Due to the COVID pandemic there has been a significant increase in the need for advice combined with the number of volunteers reducing.

Their own emergency COVID fund for residents, derived at present from private benefactor's contributions, is nearly exhausted. They need more.

The CAB has not had an increase in their DDC annual grant for many years. This grant reflects neither the level and complexity of the service provided nor the number of clients served. The VFM - value for money - they deliver can be seen in the £1.5 Million brought into the district in various benefit maximisations this year.

This motion proposes that DDC makes provision in the 2021-22 budget for a grant of £131,712. This sum represents a rise of 12% per annum from a base of £105,000 in 2019, to match the rate of growth in demand. In addition, the motion proposes that Council awards an immediate payment of £10,000 to go into the CAB extreme hardship fund to take them through the coming months."

The Motion was duly seconded by Councillor H M Williams.

On being put to the vote the Motion was LOST.

### Motion 3

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 13, Councillor H M Williams moved the Motion of which she had given notice as followed:

"This council believes that the £20 extra allowance for Universal Credit, brought in as a temporary pandemic measure to help struggling families until April 2021, should be made permanent, or at least until everyone has been vaccinated. That it also should be extended to people, mainly those sick or disabled, who are on legacy benefits, like Employment and support Allowance.

The £20 increase has been a lifeline during the pandemic. Many local families, with and without children, will see further job losses locally as the pandemic continues. We know many of them are struggling to pay their rent, increased heating bills during winter, and rising food bills.

Nationally, over 60 charities, like the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, the Resolution Foundation, children's charities, food banks, housing organisations, benefit and debt advisors, disability groups and faith leaders, with cross party support in government e.g. the commons Work and Pensions committee, are all saying this increase should continue and be extended to legacy benefits.

We recommend that the leader write to the Government to request this increase be kept and be extended to legacy benefits."

The Motion was duly seconded by Councillor P M Brivio.

On being put to the vote it was

RESOLVED: "This council believes that the £20 extra allowance for Universal Credit, brought in as a temporary pandemic measure to help struggling families until April 2021, should be made permanent, or at least until everyone has been vaccinated. That it also should be extended to people, mainly those sick or disabled, who are on legacy benefits, like Employment and support Allowance.

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We recommend that the leader write to the Government to request this increase be kept and be extended to legacy benefits."

42 URGENT BUSINESS TIME

There were no items of urgent business for consideration.

The meeting ended at 8.45 pm