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MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

At the meeting of the Council for the District of Dover held at the Council Offices, Whitfield on Wednesday, 24 July 2019 at 6.00 pm.

Present:

Chairman: Councillor M D Conolly

Councillors:

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

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

17 APOLOGIES

An apology for absence was received from Councillors S C Manion.

18 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 17 May 2019 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made by Members.

20 ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

21 LEADER'S TIME

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

- (a) To advise that the Cabinet had commissioned a review in respect of East Kent Housing following the report from the Monitoring Officer under Section 5A of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and a recovery plan had been put in place to resolve the issue of outstanding gas safety checks. There were currently 2 outstanding gas safety checks for the Dover District

which was a significant improvement on the number of outstanding checks reported to Cabinet and the Scrutiny (Policy and Performance) Committee earlier in the month.

- (b) To confirm that the Council's Building Control team had not been involved in the inspections of the properties built by Persimmon that had been identified as having problems with fire safety barriers in cavity walls. Persimmon were permitted to use other Building Control providers and did not have to use the Council's. The Chief Executive of Persimmon South East had given assurances that all affected properties would be contacted and remedial works undertaken and the Council would not sign the Deed of Variation until it was confident that this was happening.
- (c) The sites identified under the Land Allocation call for sites were currently being assessed and assigned Red/Amber/Green status. These would be considered at the October 2019 meetings of the Local Plan PAG and would be published on the Council's website in due course.
- (d) That he had attended the recent Local Government Association Conference in Bournemouth. In addition to attending a number of interesting briefings he had met with Homes England in respect of Betteshanger.
- (e) That the Council had changed the way it mowed its grassed areas in order to encourage biodiversity and this included working with pollinators.
- (f) That the Homeless Hub, which brought together all the relevant agencies, had held its first meeting. The Leader praised the quality of work being undertaken. The Council in partnership with Porchlight and Folkestone and Hythe District Council had bid for funding to help rough sleepers and assist with homeless people being able to fund deposits in the private rented sector.
- (g) To thank Councillor O C de R Richardson for his work in undertaking an inspection of every public convenience in the district. There would be plans developed for the future of these conveniences.
- (h) That the Council wanted to undertake large scale improvements in order to raise the standard of facilities at Tides to the same level of those of the new Dover District Leisure Centre. The new leisure centre in the few months that it had been operating had already exceeded expectations.
- (i) That the Council was working on a 'Green Deal' using business rate pilot funding in a similar way to the scheme to encourage start-up businesses in the High Streets. The Green Deal would pay 50% of the cost of installing environmental impact improvements such as switching to more energy efficient LED lighting.
- (j) That a cross-party group was looking at equality and diversity.

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

- (a) To welcome the news in respect of the Homeless Hub.

- (b) To question if the Local Plan PAG meetings in October 2019 would make it clear how the public could object to proposed development sites.
- (c) To welcome the proposed green initiatives.
- (d) To state that the East Kent Housing gas safety certificate problems were one of a number of areas of concern and to emphasise the need to survey the housing stock to see if it had deteriorated over the time it had been managed under the ALMO arrangements. Councillor K Mills advised that his preferred approach would be to bring the housing service back in-house.
- (e) To express concern that the fire safety barrier issue affecting Persimmon properties in the Dover District were part of a larger systemic nationwide problem and to urge the Council to push for its Building Control service to inspect the remedial works.
- (f) To welcome the news that Manston had been sold to River Oak and would be developed as an airport again. However, he questioned what discussions had been held on identifying alternative sites for BREXIT lorry parking.
- (g) To express concerns over the future of educational provision at Betteshanger.
- (h) To enquire whether there had been an increase in fly tipping following the introduction by Kent County Council of charges for the disposal of top soil and plasterboard waste at its sites.
- (i) To express concern that the closure of Admiralty Pier will adversely impact on the 10,000 anglers who come to Dover each year. He urged that assurances be sought from the Dover Harbour Board to ensure that arrangements be put in place not to lose the anglers.
- (j) To welcome Kent County Council's pollinator plans and urge the Council to sign up to it and do what it could to support pollinators.
- (k) To congratulate Vista Twisters cheerleading club on qualifying for the World Cheerleading Championships in Orlando, USA in 2020.
- (l) To urge the Leader to press the government on the need to dual the A2.

In response the Leader of the Council advised:

- (a) That the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Regulatory Services and himself had met with planners today and he had advised that he wanted as much information on the Local Plan in the public domain as possible unless there was a reason for it not to be released.
- (b) To welcome the cross-party support on environmental issues.
- (c) To advise that his preference was for the East Kent Housing service to return in-house.
- (d) That the Council will continue to talk with Persimmon South East.

- (e) To advise that the lorry parking arrangements at Manston were only in place until the end of 2019. He would be meeting with the new owners shortly to discuss a range of issues.
- (f) The Council continued to monitor residual waste weights following the decision of Kent County Council to introduce charges for the disposal of top soil and plasterboard waste at its sites.
- (g) That he would speak with Dover Harbour Board in respect of access for anglers.
- (h) To congratulate Vista Twisters on their success.

22 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no questions from the public received within the notice period.

23 REVIEW OF COMMITTEE ARRANGEMENTS

The Democratic Services Manager presented the Review of Committee Arrangements.

Councillor D Hannent, duly seconded by Councillor C A Vinson, moved

“That, having considered the current committee structure and size, it be agreed:

- (a) Committee Structure (non-scrutiny)
That there be no change to the number of committees (excluding scrutiny committees) or to the number of seats on each committee.
- (b) Scrutiny Committees – Number
That the number of scrutiny committees be reduced to the statutory minimum number of one committee and that the new overview and scrutiny committee be composed of 10 seats. That consequential constitutional changes as set out in Appendix 3 of the report to facilitate a single overview and scrutiny committee be approved.
- (c) Constitution Changes – Lead Members
That there be no changes to the Constitution in respect of the participation of lead members on scrutiny committees.
- (d) Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman of scrutiny committees
That there be no changes to the method by which the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of scrutiny committee(s) are elected.
- (e) That it be noted that officers will consider any other matters arising from the Statutory Guidance on Overview and Scrutiny in Local and Combined Authorities as part of the annual Review of the Constitution in 2019.”

Councillor K Mills moved an AMENDMENT, duly seconded by Councillor C D Zosseder, as followed:

- (b) “Scrutiny Committees – Number

That the number of scrutiny committees be kept at two committees, with one of the scrutiny committees designated as a crime and disorder committee in keeping with the Gravesham Borough Council model.”

On being put to the meeting the AMENDMENT was LOST.

On being put to the meeting the Motion was CARRIED and it was

RESOLVED: That, having considered the current committee structure and size, it be agreed:

- (a) Committee Structure (non-scrutiny)
That there be no change to the number of committees (excluding scrutiny committees) or to the number of seats on each committee.
- (b) Scrutiny Committees – Number
That the number of scrutiny committees be reduced to the statutory minimum number of one committee and that the new overview and scrutiny committee be composed of 10 seats. That consequential constitutional changes as set out in Appendix 3 of the report to facilitate a single overview and scrutiny committee be approved.
- (c) Constitution Changes – Lead Members
That there be no changes to the Constitution in respect of the participation of lead members on scrutiny committees.
- (d) Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman of scrutiny committees
That there be no changes to the method by which the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of scrutiny committee(s) are elected.
- (e) That it be noted that officers will consider any other matters arising from the Statutory Guidance on Overview and Scrutiny in Local and Combined Authorities as part of the annual Review of the Constitution in 2019.

24 REVIEW OF ALLOCATION OF SEATS TO POLITICAL GROUPS

The Democratic Services Manager presented the Review of Allocation of Seats to Political Groups. Members were advised that this was required following the changes to the number of scrutiny committees agreed in the previous item of business.

It was moved by Councillor K E Morris, duly seconded by Councillor K Mills, and

RESOLVED: That the Council agree Option 2 having reviewed and determined the representation of the different political groups and non-politically aligned members on a single Overview and Scrutiny Committee of 10 Members and make the following appointments:

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (10 seats)			
	CONSERVATIVE (6)	LABOUR (3)	Non-Aligned Member (1)
1	M Rose	L A Keen (Chairman)	P Walker
2	T A Bond	S H Beer	
3	D P Murphy	C D Zosseder (Vice-Chairman)	
4	O C de R Richardson		
5	J Rose		
6	C A Vinson		

25 PROGRAMME OF ORDINARY MEETINGS 2019/20

The Democratic Services Manager presented the amended Programme of Ordinary Meetings 2019/20. Members were advised that this was required following the changes to the number of scrutiny committees agreed earlier in the meeting.

Members discussed the merits of a Monday or Wednesday meeting date for the single Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

It was moved by Councillor K E Morris, duly seconded by Councillor P D Jull, and

RESOLVED: That the amended Programme of Ordinary Meetings for 2019/20 be approved subject to the following:

- (a) That the amended dates of the Joint Staff Consultative Forum and the Joint Health, Safety and Welfare Consultative Forum, as set out in Appendix 2 of the report be approved.
- (b) That the proposed Monday dates for a single Overview and Scrutiny Committee as set out in Appendix 3 of the report be agreed.

26 SEAT ALLOCATION AND GROUP APPOINTMENTS

Councillor K Mills advised the following change to the Labour Group appointments:

Committee	Member Removed	Replacement Member
Governance Committee	C F Woodgate	S J Jones

Councillor K E Morris advised the following change to the Conservative Group appointments:

Committee	Member Removed	Replacement Member
Regulatory Committee	J Rose	O C de R Richardson

27 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 K E Morris:

“Can the Leader update the Council on what actions have been taken in relation to the future Betteshanger Country Park and what discussions he has had with the various partners involved to secure both its future, particularly the developing Mining Museum and green energy elements, and the future of the proposed business park?”

In response the Leader of the Council stated that he had been to a number of meetings with representatives of Homes England, Hadlow College/ Betteshanger Sustainable Parks, KCC and others on this matter.

In addition, the Chief Executive and Head of Inward Investment had also met representatives from the Real Estate Advisory Services who had been appointed to progress arrangements for the future of Betteshanger Country Park and Betteshanger Business Park and who had advised on the process to be followed.

This had resulted in a tendered call for Expressions of Interest. It was understood that proposals from preferred bidders were being assessed and that negotiations were continuing. Homes England, as previous owners (the Homes and Communities Agency as was), also needed to be engaged on any final proposition. It remained the Leader’s wish that the outstanding work at the Country Park should be completed via any selected bid and that both the Country Park and Business Park should then contribute to the economic and tourism sectors in due course as previously envisaged in the Corporate Plan.

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

- (2) Councillor P Walker asked the Portfolio Holder for Community and Tourism, Councillor M J Holloway:

“Could the Portfolio Holder for Community and Tourism give an update of developments with regard to Tourism within the District, having regard to the financial input and facilities such as Museum rearrangements?”

In response the Portfolio Holder for Community and Tourism stated emphasised the relationship between tourism and economic development and advised that the Head of Inward Investment led on both aspects for the Council. Preparation was well underway for the Open Golf in 2020 and the Council was looking at ways to deliver visitor services, including with partners. The Council was also working with Kent County Council on improvements to the Discovery Centre and reviewing the scope and design of the museum.

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

- (3) Councillor E A Biggs asked the Portfolio Holder for Housing and Health, Councillor S S Chandler:

“Can the Portfolio Holder for Housing and Health, tell us the number of applications registered on HOMECHOICE and number of households accepted as homeless with a duty to assist and how these statistics have changed in the last year?”

In response the Portfolio Holder for Housing and Health stated that there were currently 1,549 households registered on Kent Homechoice. This was made up of 1,141 homeseekers (people who didn't currently live in social housing) and 408 transfers (social housing tenants who wanted to move to alternative social housing).

Between April and June 2019 (Quarter 1) the Council accepted a full housing duty to 25 households. During the same quarter of 2018/19 the number was 16 households. However, this was at the start of the new Homelessness Reduction Act, with a much lengthier process before having to make a decision regarding whether a full housing duty was owed. In Quarter 2 the figure had increased to 24 and in Quarters 3 and 4 the numbers were 33 and 36 respectively.

The Council worked with all households who approached it to try and prevent their homelessness. However, as the private rented sector was often too costly for people in receipt of housing benefit or on a low income, this ultimately impacted on the numbers that the Council subsequently accepted a full housing duty to assist.

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

- (4) Councillor H M Williams asked the Portfolio Holder for Transport and Licensing, Councillor N J Collor:

“Can the Portfolio holder for Licensing and Transport which includes the role of KCC Liaison Officer advise if KCC has conducted a survey of schools to identify the risk of asbestos, if so are the results available?”

In response the Portfolio holder for Licensing and Transport stated that his role was to be the lead in bringing Kent County Council (KCC) issues to the attention of Cabinet colleagues so that they can act on issues within their portfolios. Therefore, this type of request should be better directed to KCC using the Freedom of Information route or a public question at a KCC full Council Meeting.

However, in this instance he had raised the point with KCC and been advised that Kent County Council did undertake asbestos surveys at schools for which it was responsible. KCC had a comprehensive Asbestos Management Policy and schools were visited approximately every 3 years and any asbestos resultant works were dealt with in accordance to the designated risk category and status. A copy of the asbestos register was kept at the school concerned.

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

- (5) Councillor H M Williams asked the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Regulatory Services, Councillor N S Kenton:

“Does DDC collect information on air pollution in areas containing schools at peak times?”

In response the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Regulatory Services stated the Council had carried out diffusion tube monitoring historically for nitrogen dioxide at schools in Dover, Deal and Sandwich. The most recent being at Aycliffe primary school following concerns that queuing HGVs on the A20 could result in elevated levels of pollution for which results showed that levels were below Government air pollution objectives. Monitoring and modelling work carried out by the Council on roads within Dover indicated that only areas close to the main trunk roads into Dover had elevated levels of nitrogen dioxide and Air Quality Management Areas had been declared in those areas. All air pollution monitoring was carried out in accordance with Defra Local Air Quality Guidance.

Incentives to prevent idling by vehicles dropping children off at schools was being rolled out by some Kent authorities and the Council would be looking at proactive work to educate children in schools within the district on air pollution matters as part of the Council’s Air Quality Action Plan measures in the future.

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

- (6) Councillor E A Biggs asked the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Regulatory Services, Councillor N S Kenton:

“How does the Council ensure that robust and impartial decisions are made on planning decisions in relation to financial viability of developers? While understanding that financial viability is not within the remit of planning, it clearly has a strong bearing on the outcome. I cite a recent case in Mongeham, where a development was approved on a flood plain and it was suggested that unless this was approved the developer was going to go bankrupt. Also the outline for the Buckland hospital development was given in spite of the developer having a net worth of -9k.”

In response the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Regulatory Services stated that the financial position of applicants was not a material planning consideration. Viability was a material planning consideration, but it was about the scheme not the developer.

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

- (7) Councillor L A Keen asked the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Regulatory Services, Councillor N S Kenton:

“What is DDC doing to ensure that Persimmon completes, to a suitable scheduled timetable, all the outstanding fire remedial works on the new houses in Aylesham, which were found recently to be deficient in meeting statutory fire protection requirements, and that these works meet the full required regulatory standards?”

In response the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Regulatory Services stated that in conjunction with the Chief Executive he had met with Persimmon's senior regional team and they had provided details of the inspection and remedial works that would need to be undertaken should a property fail the inspection. They had agreed to provide regular updates and this would be monitored to ensure the programme was completed. He had also asked the Growth and Business Development Manager who oversaw the Aylesham Development on behalf of the Council to explore options within the Council's development agreement should Persimmon fail to meet their commitments on this matter.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 12.5, Councillor L A Keen exercised her right to ask one supplementary question.

- (8) Councillor P M Brivio asked the Portfolio Holder for Transport and Licensing, Councillor N J Collor:

"Can the Portfolio Holder for Licensing and Transport update members on the progress of Electric charging points in the DDC area?"

In response the Portfolio Holder for Transport and Licensing stated that electric charging points were now available across the District at five sites including: Discovery Park, Sholden Fields, St. James, Lidl and the Dover District Leisure Centre. The Council recognised the need to encourage greater use of electrically powered vehicles and was working with colleagues at KCC and the other Kent Districts to seek funding to install electric vehicle charging facilities at a further 8 sites, mostly within Council car parks.

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

28 MOTIONS

Motion 1

Councillor P Walker had withdrawn his Motion prior to the meeting.

Motion 2

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 13, Councillor J P J Burman moved the Motion of which he had given notice as follows:

"The council will direct its efforts to urgently mitigate climate change, starting with a commitment that all section 106 agreements with developers include a minimum of 30% of s106 funds being directed to carbon use reduction (e.g. installation of PV panels, habitat creation, grey water systems etc.)."

The Motion was duly seconded by Councillor C D Zosseder.

Councillor N S Kenton moved an AMENDMENT, duly seconded by Councillor J S Back, as followed:

"The Council recognising the need to will direct its efforts to urgently mitigate climate change, asks the Local Plan Project Advisory Group to consider how planning policies might be brought forward through the new Local Plan to

require developers to include measures which support carbon use reduction (e.g. installation of PV panels, habitat creation, grey water systems etc.).”

Councillor K Mills suggested that the word “ask” be changed to “requires” in the Amendment, which was accepted by the proposer and seconder of the Amendment.

On being put to the meeting the AMENDMENT was CARRIED.

On being put to the meeting the SUBSTANTIVE Motion was CARRIED and it was

RESOLVED: The Council recognising the need to will direct its efforts to urgently mitigate climate change, requires the Local Plan Project Advisory Group to consider how planning policies might be brought forward through the new Local Plan to require developers to include measures which support carbon use reduction (e.g. installation of PV panels, habitat creation, grey water systems etc.).

Motion 3

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 13, Councillor J P J Burman moved the Motion of which he had given notice as follows:

“On the 8th of October 2018 the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) warned that “rapid, far-reaching, and unprecedented changes in all aspects of society” will be required in order to limit global temperature to 1.5C above pre-industrial level and that we have only 12 years in which we can realistically accomplish this. Even half a degree above that will significantly worsen the risks of drought, floods, mass extinctions of animal species, and extreme heat and poverty for hundreds of millions of people.

Within the current financial and regulatory framework, addressing this is primarily a matter for governments – local authorities have limited influence over the development of the local economy, transport, and human behaviour. Councils need significantly increased powers to make real change locally, and significantly greater intervention by central government to reduce climate change and reduce dependency on fossil carbon.

Nevertheless, there are actions the council can take, to limit our own use of fossil carbon and encourage others to do the same, although this is limited by available resources and the scale of government cuts the council has to cope with. Dover & Deal District must take this matter seriously and be committed to taking a lead on this and set a target for Dover & Deal to become carbon neutral.

To this end, we will:

- Recommend to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee that it establish an ongoing Climate Change working group (as a panel of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee), which will scrutinise the council’s policies and actions to make sure they take into account the climate change impact of everything we do;

- Develop a procurement policy that reduces our carbon emissions, procuring locally where possible, prioritising goods and services that are less dependent on fossil carbon, and prioritising companies who are taking steps to reduce their impact on climate change;
- Use whatever powers and influence we have, taking advantage of any new powers as they are made available to us by central government, to aim to make Dover & Deal carbon neutral by 2030, aiming for the District to become energy self-sufficient through local sustainable energy generation, and call on Kent County Council to adopt a parallel commitment for Dover & Deal;
- Press ahead with a programme of sustainable energy generation on council-owned and other land and buildings, investigating every viable council-owned site, as well as other sites, aiming towards supplying 30% of the town's electricity by 2030;
- Use the current review of the Local Plan to introduce policy requirements that new buildings should meet the most rigorous possible energy efficiency standards (for example, the 'Passivhaus' standards), include electric vehicle charging points in new housing and commercial developments, minimise the impacts of climate change (for example, by making sure contribution to flooding is minimised) and include solar arrays or other sustainable energy generation wherever possible;
- Ensure council land is maintained in a way that maximises species diversity and mitigates species extinction;
- Encourage existing supermarkets to install EV charging points, lobby ESCC to take up existing government grants to install on-street EV charging points, and press for a properly co-ordinated national EV charging network;
- Include an evaluation of climate change implications in all reports to council committees;
- Build on our existing single use plastic policy by not only eliminating single use plastics in council buildings, but also at festivals and events held on council land. We will also strongly encourage local businesses to cut back on their use of SUPs;
- Use s.106 funding and planning conditions (and any available future powers) to continue the development of an off-road walking and cycling network as specified in the council's Local Plan;
- Appoint a member-level 'Climate Change Champion' to oversee the implementation of the above commitments and monitor the progress of the council's progress towards doing all it can to make Dover & Deal a carbon-neutral town;
- Work with voluntary, statutory and community organisations in the District wherever we can to achieve the above commitments;

- Maximise the resources the council dedicates to combating climate change when national government restores council finding to a sustainable level”

The Motion was duly seconded by Councillor C D Zosseder.

Councillor T J Bartlett moved an AMENDMENT, duly seconded by Councillor S S Chandler, as followed:

“On the 8th of October 2018 the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) warned that “rapid, far-reaching, and unprecedented changes in all aspects of society” will be required in order to limit global temperature to 1.5C above pre-industrial level and that we have only 12 years in which we can realistically accomplish this. Even half a degree above that will significantly worsen the risks of drought, floods, mass extinctions of animal species, and extreme heat and poverty for hundreds of millions of people.

Within the current financial and regulatory framework, addressing this is primarily a matter for governments – local authorities have limited influence over the development of the local economy, transport, and human behaviour. Councils need significantly increased powers to make real change locally, and significantly greater intervention by central government to reduce climate change and reduce dependency on fossil carbon.

Nevertheless, there are actions the council can take, to limit our own use of fossil carbon and encourage others to do the same, although this is limited by available resources and the scale of government cuts the council has to cope with. Dover & Deal District must take this matter seriously and be committed to taking a lead on this and set a target for Dover & Deal to become carbon neutral.

Recognising the need for action on this issue, the Council agrees:

1. To ask officers to bring forward a report for consideration by Cabinet and Council this autumn setting out the measures required to make the Council’s activities carbon neutral and the actions that would need to be taken to make the District as a whole carbon neutral;
2. To undertake a review of it’s procurement policies to ensure that the impact on climate change is given appropriate consideration within all procurement decisions;
3. To welcome the work already undertaken undertake by the Grounds Maintenance Team in response to climate change and to encourage diversity;
4. To ask officers to include an evaluation of the climate change implications of any proposal in all reports to Council committees;
5. To build on our existing single use plastic policy by seeking to prohibit the use of single use plastics at events held on council land.”

On being put to the meeting the AMENDMENT was CARRIED.

On being put to the meeting the SUBSTANTIVE Motion was CARRIED and it was

RESOLVED: On the 8th of October 2018 the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) warned that “rapid, far-reaching, and unprecedented changes in all aspects of society” will be required in order to limit global temperature to 1.5C above pre-industrial level and that we have only 12 years in which we can realistically accomplish this. Even half a degree above that will significantly worsen the risks of drought, floods, mass extinctions of animal species, and extreme heat and poverty for hundreds of millions of people.

Within the current financial and regulatory framework, addressing this is primarily a matter for governments – local authorities have limited influence over the development of the local economy, transport, and human behaviour. Councils need significantly increased powers to make real change locally, and significantly greater intervention by central government to reduce climate change and reduce dependency on fossil carbon.

Nevertheless, there are actions the council can take, to limit our own use of fossil carbon and encourage others to do the same, although this is limited by available resources and the scale of government cuts the council has to cope with. Dover & Deal District must take this matter seriously and be committed to taking a lead on this and set a target for Dover & Deal to become carbon neutral.

Recognising the need for action on this issue, the Council agrees:

1. To ask officers to bring forward a report for consideration by Cabinet and Council this autumn setting out the measures required to make the Council's activities carbon neutral and the actions that would need to be taken to make the District as a whole carbon neutral;
2. To undertake a review of it's procurement policies to ensure that the impact on climate change is given appropriate consideration within all procurement decisions;
3. To welcome the work already undertaken undertake by the Grounds Maintenance Team in response to climate change and to encourage diversity;
4. To ask officers to include an evaluation of the climate change implications of any proposal in all reports to Council committees;
5. To build on our existing single use plastic policy by seeking to prohibit the use of single use plastics at events held on council land.”

29 URGENT BUSINESS TIME

There were no items of urgent business for consideration.

The meeting ended at 8.08 pm