

EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

MINUTES of a MEETING of the EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL held at COUNTY HALL, LEWES on TUESDAY, 24 MARCH 2015 at 10.00 am.

Present Councillors Barnes, Belsey, Bennett, Bentley, Birch, Blanch, Buchanan, Butler, Carstairs, Clark, Daniel, Chris Dowling, Claire Dowling, Earl, Elkin, Ensor, Forward, Galley, Glazier, Hodges, Howson, Keeley, Maynard, O'Keeffe, Phillips, Pragnell, Pursglove, Rodohan, Scott, Sheppard, D Shing, S Shing, Shuttleworth, Simmons, Standley, Stogdon, St Pierre, Taylor, Tidy, Tutt, Ungar, Wallis, Webb, Whetstone and Wincott.

62 Minutes of last meeting

62.1 RESOLVED – to confirm the minutes of the meeting of the County Council held on 10 February 2015 as a correct record.

63. Apologies for absence

63.1 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Charlton, Davies, Field and Lambert

64. Chairman's Business

JOAN TUNWELL

64.1 The Chairman informed the Council of the recent death of Joan Tunwell, the wife of a former colleague Michael Tunwell who had been a highly respected and very experienced councillor serving on the County Council from 1975 to 2009.

AWARDS FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES

64.2 On behalf of the Council the Chairman congratulated and thanked staff in Children's Services on winning two Local Government Chronicle Awards, in the business transformation and children services categories, for the THRIVE programme. The THRIVE programme is a three year scheme aimed at reducing the need for intervention by social services by ensuring children and families get the help they need at an early stage. Through this multi-agency approach children's social care referrals have been cut by half. Previously, the number of referrals for children's social care was approaching a level which couldn't be continued. Now, staff training and the closer partnership working between the Council and other agencies including the police, NHS and schools, has provided a more co-ordinated approach across the county.

CHAIRMAN'S ACTIVITIES

64.3 I have attended a number of engagements since the last County Council meeting including: the Winter Academic Award Ceremonies at the Brighton Dome, the Checktrade Exhibition at the Azur, St Leonards on Sea, the Sussex Historic Churches Trust Ride and Stride Awards Presentation in Pevensey, the Ropemaker Centre Opening Ceremony in Hailsham, the Hastings and Rother Samaritans AGM, the Chestnut Tree House presentation in Alfriston, the Sussex Association for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus 50th Anniversary in Eastbourne, the VIP reception for 'Home Fires' by Operacoast at Newhaven Fort and the Peacehaven Mayor's Year in Music, Song and Pictures at the Meridian Centre. The Vice Chairman also attended a number of events including the installation of the Dean of Chichester at Chichester Cathedral

PRAYERS

64.4 The Chairman thanked Father David Charles for leading the prayers before the meeting.

PETITIONS

64.5 The Chairman informed the Council that immediately before the meeting he had received petitions from members as follows:

Councillor Bennett	- calling on the County Council to improve safety on roads and lanes around Arlington including speed restrictions
Councillor Ensor	- calling on the County Council to fully adopt the highway on the short portion of Bancroft Road that has historically been overlooked
Councillor Forward	- calling on the County Council not to proceed with plans with Amicus Horizon to construct 105 dwellings at South Saxons Wetlands on the site of the former West St Leonards Primary School.
Councillor Wallis	- calling on the County Council to introduce a controlled parking zone to the Rylstone Road area of Eastbourne

65 Questions from Members of the Public

65.1 There were no questions from members of the public

66. Declarations of Interest

66.1 There were no declarations of interest

67. Reports

CALLOVER

67.1 The Chairman of the County Council, having called over the reports set out in the agenda, reserved the following paragraph for discussion:

Cabinet - paragraph 1

NON-RESERVED PARAGRAPHS

67.2 On the motion of the Chairman of the County Council, the Council ADOPTED those paragraphs in the reports of the Committees that had not been reserved for discussion.

68. Cabinet Report – Reserved Paragraph - Council Monitoring Quarter Three

68.1 Councillor Glazier moved the reserved paragraph of the Cabinet’s report.

68.2 The motion was CARRIED after debate.

69. Questions from County Councillors

ORAL QUESTIONS TO CABINET MEMBERS

69.1 The following members asked questions of the Lead Cabinet Members indicated and they responded:

Questioner	Respondent	Subject
Councillor Tutt	Councillor Glazier	Decisions taken by the County Council
Councillor St Pierre	Councillor Glazier	Review of management of Ashdown Forest
Councillor Wallis	Councillor Maynard	Opportunities in relation to future large infrastructure schemes
Councillor Scott	Councillor Elkin	Impact of recent budget on residents of East Sussex
Councillor Hodges	Councillor Simmons	Provision of a second runway at Gatwick Airport
Councillor Daniel	Councillor Tidy	Recruitment and retention of skilled children’s social workers

Questioner	Respondent	Subject
Councillor Shuttleworth	Councillor Glazier	Impact of reduction in numbers of police officers and PCSOs on community policing
Councillor S Shing	Councillor Maynard	Repair of potholes and highway resurfacing programme
Councillor Birch	Councillor Glazier	Implications for East Sussex of possible devolution of finance and functions to combined authorities
Councillor Whetstone	Councillor Simmons	Representations regarding engine noise, flight path patterns and heights
Councillor Whetstone	Councillor Maynard	Improvements to A27 and A21 in East Sussex
Councillor S Shing	Councillor Maynard	Compensation paid to claimants in relation to damage to vehicles caused by potholes
Councillor Carstairs	Councillor Simmons	Responsibility for flight paths in England

WRITTEN QUESTIONS PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER 44

69.2 There were no written questions Councillors

THE CHAIRMAN DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 11.18 am

The reports referred to are included in the minute book
