

**BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL****COUNCIL****4.30pm 20 JULY 2017****COUNCIL CHAMBER, HOVE TOWN HALL****MINUTES**

**Present:** Councillors Marsh (Chair), Simson (Deputy Chair), Allen, Atkinson, Barford, Barnett, Bell, Bennett, Bewick, Brown, Cattell, Chapman, Cobb, Daniel, Deane, Druitt, Gibson, Gilbey, Greenbaum, Hamilton, Hill, Horan, Hyde, Janio, Knight, Lewry, Littman, Mac Cafferty, Meadows, Mears, Mitchell, Moonan, Morgan, Morris, Nemeth, A Norman, K Norman, O'Quinn, Page, Peltzer Dunn, Penn, Phillips, Robins, Russell-Moyle, Sykes, Taylor, C Theobald, G Theobald, Wares, Wealls and Yates.

**PART ONE****13 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

- 13.1 Councillor Russell-Moyle declared a personal but non-prejudicial interest in Item 15, Grenfell Fire - Update from the Deputy Fire Officer; in that as an MP he was sponsored by the Fire Brigade Union;
- 13.2 There were no other declarations of interests in matters appearing on the agenda.

**14 MINUTES**

- 14.1 The minutes of the last ordinary meeting held on the 6<sup>th</sup> April, 2017 were approved and signed by the Mayor as a correct record of the proceedings;
- 14.2 The minutes of the Special Meeting held on the 18<sup>th</sup> May, 2017 were approved as a correct record of the proceedings, subject to the word 'optimised' in paragraph 3.5 being replaced by 'epitomised';
- 14.3 The minutes of the Annual Meeting held on the 18<sup>th</sup> May, 2017 were approved as a correct record of the proceedings and signed by the Mayor.

**15 MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS.**

- 15.1 The Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted that since taking up her role as Mayor, there had been a number of unprecedented events affecting communities across the country and whilst each in turn has been recognised, she felt as a Council,

Members should mark their respects and asked everyone present to stand for a minute's silence.

- 15.2 The Mayor then stated that she wished to offer the Council's congratulations to the Parking Team who had won a national parking award for the second year running. Brighton & Hove's Parking Annual Report had been named as the winner of the Best Report at the PATROL PARC Awards (Parking Annual Report Awards by Councils), held at the House of Commons. PATROL's annual awards ceremony recognises the local authorities who have published the best reports on their parking services. The Mayor then invited Charles Field, Paul Nicholls, Heidi Perrins and Chloe Robertson from the Parking team along with Councillor Mitchell to come forward to collect the award.
- 15.3 The Mayor then stated that she had been made aware that the Legal Services Team had recently retained their Lexell accreditation and had been commended on their 'gold' standards by the auditors. There were no non-conformities and over 30 commendations for good practice which the assessor had said was exceptional for such an audit.
- 15.4 In addition, the Mayor noted that the Democratic Services Team had been working towards and recently achieved the BSI Quality Management System ISO 9001 standard. They were one of a few Democratic Services Teams in the South-East who had sought to have their management systems externally accredited and this achievement added to the team's successful re-accreditation for the South East Employers Charter for Member Development.
- 15.5 The Mayor stated that both teams had yet to receive their certificates but she wanted to offer the Council's congratulations to Abraham as Head of Service and to all the staff in both the Legal Services and Democratic Service teams.
- 15.6 The Mayor then stated that she intended to call on the Leader of the Council, Councillor Warren Morgan to make a statement on Kings House. This followed the Notice of Motion that was approved at the Council meeting in April which called on the Leader to make a statement and meant that Council could receive the information first prior to it being given to the media and public.
- 15.7 Councillor Morgan thanked the Mayor and gave the following statement;

"Thank you Madam Mayor. I pleased to announce that contracts have been exchanged to sell the freehold of Kings House for £26,125,000.

As Members will be aware, the Grade II Listed building located on Hove seafront was formerly occupied by the Council, but as part of the rationalisation of the Council's offices was vacated in October 2016, with staff relocated to Hove Town Hall and Bartholomew House, Brighton.

The disposal will deliver a significant capital receipt for the Council. Selling Kings House will save us £2m a year in operating costs, with money already invested in better customer services for residents both online and in Hove Town Hall. The disposal was agreed following an extensive marketing campaign undertaken by Cushman & Wakefield. This generated interest from over 500 parties and approaching 40 offers when bids were called for in May 2017.

The marketing confirmed there was no interest from office users, but strong demand from residential developers seeing the potential of this landmark building to deliver a high quality housing development. The disposal is the first stage in the building being brought back into beneficial use. The purchaser, Mortar Nova Grand Avenue is a joint venture development vehicle between local developer Rego Property and London based Pacific Investments, their intention being to bring forward a planning application for residential conversion and development over the coming months.

Madam Mayor, this is more good news for the council's finances, and demonstrates that we were right to make the decision to withdraw from the previous sale agreement that we as an Administration inherited. We have sold this asset for more than anticipated. As a result we will have more money to invest. The money is in the council's bank account sooner than expected, meaning any uncertainty is now concluded. Madam Mayor we have delivered a better deal for the taxpayer and as a result, a greater investment in council services.

I'm sure all Members will want to thank officers for their work on this and applaud this success for the council and the city."

- 15.8 The Mayor noted the Leader's statement and stated that with the recent Grenfell fire she was aware that the issue of fire safety for high rise buildings was on many people's minds and noted that there was a Notice of Motion listed on the agenda on this subject and that the Chief Fire Officer, Dawn Whittaker and the Deputy Chief Fire Officer were present. She therefore intended to invite the Deputy Chief Fire Officer, Mark Andrews to provide an update to Members on the position of high rise buildings in the city; especially given the recent fire at Sussex Heights. Following which, she would allow a period of approximately 20 to 30 minutes for any questions from Members before then taking Item 25(e), the joint Notice of Motion on Grenfell Tower for debate.
- 15.9 The Mayor noted that in inviting the Chief Fire Officer and the Deputy Fire Officer to address the meeting it meant that the public items would be delayed. However, she felt that it was important to give time to the matter.
- 15.10 The Chief Fire Officer thanked the Mayor for the opportunity to attend the meeting and address the Council. She stated that the Deputy Chief Fire Officer would give an overview of the work being undertaken in the city following the Grenfell fire. She also noted that he was the national lead for the Fire Service on High Rise Buildings and had been invited to advise the National technical Panel on the Grenfell Tower fire.
- 15.11 The Deputy Chief Fire Officer stated that he had been working with colleagues across the country on fire safety in high rise buildings and how to meet the challenges of fire in buildings with multi-accommodation. He stated that as a result of the Grenfell fire the question of cladding and installations of sprinkler systems and the recommendation to 'stay-put' was being reviewed by the Technical Group that had been established. He also noted that following the disaster the East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service had set up a Working Group which agreed a 4-stage plan to address the situation in East Sussex and Brighton and Hove. The aim being to gather data and disseminate information to reassure residents. He stated that he had attended the City Assembly last week and

been able to answer a number of queries and provide additional information on fire safety.

- 15.12 In regard to the number of high-rise buildings across the county a long list of 200 was reduced to 43; with 21 identified in Brighton & Hove that were then listed for inspection over a 2-week period. He was pleased to say that only a few minor issues were identified with no significant risks and none of the cladding used at Grenfell found on the blocks on the city.
- 15.13 He stated that there had been a number of requests for information and to visit various buildings but it was felt that it was better to undertake a pro-active inspection of those buildings identified first. Having completed that exercise, it was intended to look at all others including NHS and private buildings. However, he wished to reiterate that high-rise did not necessarily mean high risk. At present the advice to stay-put in the case of a fire remained the recommended approach and this had proved effective in the recent incident at Sussex Heights. He also noted that the Fire Authority was supporting the installation of sprinkler systems in existing buildings and was working with the council to establish a work programme.
- 15.14 The Deputy Chief Fire Officer stated that the issue of cladding would be something that the Public Enquiry would need to investigate and receive reports on from the Technical Group. He stated that the various materials used at Grenfell were currently being tested and a report would be made in due course.
- 15.15 In regard to fire safety, the Deputy Chief Fire Officer reminded the Council that the fundamental requirement was to have effective smoke detectors in place. This was the most important factor for all homes and he asked that councillors continue to emphasise the need for these and to check them regularly.
- 15.16 The Mayor thanked both the Chief Fire Officer and the Deputy Chief fire Officer for attending the meeting and providing an update on matters relating to the Grenfell Fire. The Mayor then opened the matter up for questions from Members.
- 15.17 Members of the Council raised a number of questions relating to the use and type of cladding on high-rise buildings, the role and responsibilities of managing agents, whether fire tanks in high-rise buildings were necessary, whether fire extinguishers should be available on every floor, the number of fire audits undertaken in the city, the number of fire officers available to undertake those fire audits, how the number of fire engines required to attend an event was determined, how many times a fire officer using breathing apparatus should enter a building, advice on 'stay put', the use of enforcement notices and whether emergency lighting and fire alarms in high-rise buildings were checked.
- 15.18 The Chief Fire Officer and Deputy Chief Fire Officer responded to the questions and clarified that the use and type of cladding was being reviewed by the National Task Group, the fire service worked with managing agents to assist with meeting fire safety requirements but overall responsibility remained with the agents/owners of the buildings, fire tanks/hoses are not regarded as essential and have been removed from buildings as they encourage the public to use them rather than seek help from the fire service, there will be a risk assessment undertaken to determine the benefits of these, the provision of

fire extinguishers was again subject to a risk review as their installation could be more problematic, the fire service sought to educate owners on their responsibilities and undertook audits to provide information and advice, the audits tended to be on sample approach of the types of buildings in an area and the number of fire officers able to undertake the audits was being reviewed, in regard to a fire incident the senior officer on site would determine the number of appliances required, there were strict controls in regard to the use of breathing apparatus and the number of times crew entered a building, the recommended advice for residents to stay-put was still the case, although may be reviewed following the outcome of the Grenfell enquiry and this had worked well for the recent event at Sussex Heights, the use of enforcement notices was for the local authority's building regulations team to administer, the use/maintenance of emergency lighting and fire alarms was for the owners to manage and concerns would be raised as part of an audit process.

15.19 The Mayor thanked Members for their questions and the Fire Officers for their responses and for attending the meeting.

15.20 The Mayor then stated that she would move to Item 25 (e), the joint Notice of Motion and called on Councillor Morgan to move the motion.

**(e) Grenfell Tower**

15.21 Councillor Morgan thanked the Mayor and stated that, "Madam Mayor, the fire at Grenfell Tower in north Kensington, London on 14<sup>th</sup> June was a national tragedy. At least 80 people lost their lives, despite the heroic efforts of members of the London Fire Brigade. I'd like to express, on behalf of this council and the people of Brighton and Hove, our sympathy to the families of those who died, and our profound thanks and respect to those firefighters who ran into that burning building in order to save lives.

What they encountered on that night will have been beyond the imagination of most, and undoubtedly as traumatic and challenging as any major fire of recent times in this country. Those firefighters deserve not only our thanks as a nation but the utmost care and support moving forward in terms of post-traumatic stress.

It is beyond doubt that this tragedy has had, and will continue to have, profound implications - for local government, fire safety and the design and construction of high-rise buildings - for many years to come.

It is right that the lessons be learned through the appropriate enquiries, and that any necessary actions are undertaken with the full financial support of the Treasury. If there is one lesson we must draw from this terrible event, it is that we cannot make economies when ensuring peoples safety.

We believed that the days of housing those on lower incomes in sub-standard and unsafe accommodation was behind us. This disaster means we have to fundamentally re-assess that view.

Madam Mayor I would like to put on record my grateful thanks, which I know all Members, will want to echo, to the Housing Team in this council for the way they responded to this incident. From the Executive Director and Head of Housing who took

immediate action, through to front-line staff who delivered information to high rise tenants by hand, our response was I believe exemplary – many tenants have said that they were reassured by the prompt communication of information, and the publicising of means by which their questions could be answered.

My thanks too to the Communications Team who responded magnificently by proactively issuing information on line and to the media.

We have established that none of our blocks have the cladding used on Grenfell, and thanks to being one of the few authorities with dedicated fire safety officers, our procedures, checks and practices are in good order. A programme of retrofitting sprinklers in our high rises is underway.

There can however be no complacency - I know that as soon as any new information is known, any recommendations are forthcoming, or any new measures put in place by either the Fire Service or central Government, that we will respond accordingly.

I'm grateful to the opposition parties in jointly proposing this motion - on this we should be united in paying tribute, in thanking our staff and in reassuring our tenants that we are doing everything in our power to ensure their safety."

- 15.22 Councillor Janio thanked the Fire Officers for attending the council meeting and noted that warnings had not been headed by those responsible in Kensington & Chelsea. He welcomed the opportunity to move the joint motion on behalf of the Conservative Group. He felt that only a Public Enquiry would be likely to determine where the fault lay and welcomed the council's response. It was important that the council was resilient and able to address any areas of concern that arose from the review.
- 15.23 Councillor Mac Cafferty thanked the Leaders of the other two Groups for the ability to move the joint motion on behalf of the Green Group. He stated that the charred remains of the Grenfell Tower would be etched on everyone's minds and the council needed to be able to respond to the calls for action. There was a need to listen to those tenants and residents in the city who were rightly concerned and to make representations for improvement through the LGA. There was a need to review the current regulations and for the Government to enable local authorities to take action now rather than await the outcome of a Public Enquiry. It was reassuring to know that the council's officers and the fire service had checked the council buildings in the city; but he felt that tougher measures were needed for housing.
- 15.24 Councillor Meadows formally seconded the joint motion on behalf of the Labour & Co-operative Group; but reserved her right to speak at this point.
- 15.25 Councillor Mears formally seconded the joint motion and stated that it was important that the Council made representations to the Government and that the council sought to ensure its own safety procedures were up to date. She also welcomed the work being undertaken to ensure that any cladding used on council high rise buildings had been checked and tested and that this was taken into consideration for any future procurement process.

- 15.26 Councillor Gibson formally seconded the joint motion on behalf of the Green Group and stated that it was important to listen to tenants and residents who were calling for a review of the regulations. The council needed to show its support for such a review and to review its own procedures. He also noted the importance to ensure fire safety for non-public owned buildings and hoped that the good work could be extend licences to private rented properties.
- 15.27 Councillor Bewick stated that he wished to extend his thanks to the sitting MP for Kemptown who had sought to raise the matter in Parliament. He also noted that as elected representatives, all councillors had a basic social contract to follow-through with action and noted that the NC&E committee had at its last meeting asked the Executive Director to address a number of points in relation to any review by the council in regard to civil enforcement.
- 15.28 Councillor C. Theobald stated that she had been surprised that no mention of the need for sprinkler systems had been made in the notice of motion. She believed that they were an important element for the safety of high-rise buildings and care homes and hoped that any review of the regulations would take the need for these into account.
- 15.29 Councillor Penn thanked the Chief Fire Officer and Deputy Chief fire Officer for attending the meeting and stated that there was a need to consider how survivors and the bereaved were treated and support in such circumstances. She stated that the effects of such a trauma could be life-long and this needed to be acknowledged and accounted for in terms of support services for all those affected including members of the emergency services.
- 15.30 Councillor Deane stated that it was important for the local authority to work with the Fire Authority in dealing with fire prevention and she welcomed the information given by the Fire Officers earlier in the meeting. She hoped that the collaborative work would continue and noted that it was likely to help to reduce the number of actual fires that may have arisen without it.
- 15.31 Councillor Meadows noted that the council still had a fire safety team which worked closely with the Fire Service and that a sprinkler system had recently been installed in a sheltered housing block. She also noted that two further blocks had been identified by the fire Authority which was providing the funding to reinstall systems in them. She hoped that all Members would help to promote the need for fire safety in their wards. She also noted that Sussex University had installed fire doors which were alarmed and would go off if they were left or propped open. It was an initiative she hoped could be considered for council owned buildings as well as in the private sector.
- 15.32 The Mayor noted that Councillor Morgan did not wish to add to the debate and therefore stated that the Notice of Motion had been moved and put it to the vote.
- 15.33 The Mayor confirmed that the motion had been carried unanimously.

## **16 TO RECEIVE PETITIONS AND E-PETITIONS.**

- 16.1 The Mayor noted that there were no petitions to be presented at the meeting.

**17 WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.**

- 17.1 The Mayor reported that 3 written questions had been received from members of the public and invited Mr. Harris to come forward and address the council.
- 17.2 The Mayor noted that Mr. Harris was not present and therefore a written response would be sent to him, and then invited Ms. Paynter to come forward and address the council.
- 17.3 Ms. Paynter asked the following question; “The long and ongoing silence regarding the King Alfred redevelopment is puzzling to many residents. What can the administration tell us at this time about internal meetings and discussions with the developers; what progress is being made?”
- 17.4 Councillor Morgan replied, “I fully appreciate our residents’ desire for information on progress towards delivery of the King Alfred development and the whole city on to this project and other major projects to be delivered at the earliest opportunity. I can understand frustrations at what at times can seem like nothing is happening and that the council is withholding information needlessly.

I can confirm that the council and its partners are committed to moving forward with the project and are working very hard to achieve this. A great deal of detailed work is going on and the current apparent silence is a consequence of the commercially sensitive nature of discussions. It simply isn't possible to keep people as informed as we would ideally like but the council is committed to being as open as this complex process allows. Residents will certainly hear more at the appropriate time. I hope that this will be shortly.”

- 17.5 Ms. Paynter asked the following supplementary question, “Councillor Morgan I'm really disappointed with your reply. At the last Economic, Development & Culture Committee meeting I was there with a public question and looking at the agenda. Within that agenda there was a 51 page strategic infrastructure plan and within those 51 pages there was a little mention about the King Alfred. Down the right-hand column they were giving phasing dates and the dates of 2022 to 2028 were plainly printed there for the King Alfred. That told me and it's told others that that means nothing is happening until at least 2020. So if it was printed in an agenda is there any reason why you couldn't be making some of that information more obviously publicly known?”
- 17.6 Councillor Morgan replied, “This Administration will be transparent and open with residents whenever and wherever possible. However, where commercial confidentiality means we cannot do that, while in pursuit of the best deal for the city and for taxpayers, then we will get on with the job that all of us were elected to do; acting in the best interests of the residents of Brighton & Hove.”
- 17.7 The Mayor thanked Ms. Paynter for attending the meeting and putting her questions, she then invited Mr. Hawtree to come forward and address the council.
- 17.8 Mr. Hawtree asked the following question; “Can Councillor Robbins please tell us how much money the Carnegie Library would receive each year from the apparent proposal to rent out library space to a café?”

- 17.9 Councillor Robins replied; "I know that the library service is very important to you as they are to me. We've been working as a cross-party group to try and identify positive income generations from the Carnegie Library that will allow the library to remain in the same location. It's been very well supported by all parties. With respect to your specific question; we are in the middle of negotiations regarding the leasing of the space for a cafe at Hove library and so for reasons of commercial sensitivity, which I'm sure you will fully understand, we're unable to give information until the negotiations have been concluded and the lease agreed."
- 17.10 Mr. Hawtree asked the following supplementary question; "I should like to very much welcome your recent offer for this coming January to look again that the recent 600 percent increase in reservation charges. So with these things in mind, could a granular review of the Carnegie situation be arranged where, among other things, we have lately seen scant use of the locked room by the private college and opening hours each weekday are now an hour less than they were when you took charge. We've also recently found that for every new book one is jettisoned so I'd just like to summarise and say I think we need to keep looking at the way the Carnegie Library operates and is used by the people of Hove and also I'm so glad we've got £26 million coming this way so I hope that might be able to help."
- 17.11 Councillor Robins stated that he was unable to provide a response and would send Mr. Hawtree a written reply after the meeting.
- 17.12 The Mayor thanked Mr. Hawtree for attending the meeting and putting his questions and noted that brought the item to a conclusion.

## **18 DEPUTATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.**

- 18.1 The Mayor reported that one deputation had been received from members of the public and invited Mr. Fitzpatrick as the spokesperson for the first deputation to come forward and address the council.
- 18.2 Mr. Fitzpatrick thanked the Mayor and stated that: "Air pollution leads to worsening asthma symptoms, heart disease and even lung cancer, is being associated with changes in the brain linked dementia and can lead to children growing up with smaller lungs. Statistics show that in 2010 this kind of pollution lead to over 100 early deaths in Brighton and Hove.

Residents in Woodingdean have uncovered potentially illegal levels of air pollution specifically the toxic gas nitrogen dioxide. The results show that children walking to and attending Woodingdean Primary School would be particularly affected. Road transport is the major source of nitrogen dioxide with diesel vehicles being worst; some admit more than five times as much as petrol cars. The EU's legal annual limit for the gas is 40 micrograms per cubic meter but that limit isn't like a speed limit where 49mph in a 50mph zone avoids the speeding fine. Pollution levels below the limits are still bad for your health. We monitored 12 sites for two to four weeks. The results give a snapshot for that period and aren't directly comparable to annual data however if levels were as bad across the year as for the duration of our study it could mean that at least one site would be blighted by illegally polluted air.

The main cross roads in Woodingdean is significantly above the legal limit, two other sites are very close to breaching this limit, one of which is where the school children cross the road to get to school twice a day. Diesel vehicles and the heavy build-up of traffic in Woodingdean is likely to be one of the main reasons for this. There's a clear increase in traffic through the village. Most recently we believe due to the traffic related to redevelopment of the Royal Sussex Hospital site being routed through the village. The traffic also got noticeably worse after the road works near the Co-op shops and the traffic light changes that followed.

We would like to see what can be done to these traffic lights which are at the crossroads of Falmer and Warren Roads and Warren Way a modern way to improve the flow of traffic and reduce the amount of stationary traffic however this must not be done at the expense of pedestrians who need to cross at this Junction. We'd like to make it clear that we understand this isn't an issue solely for Woodingdean, indeed it is a citywide problem. As such we're very keen not to just shift the problem somewhere else instead we'd like the council to look seriously at citywide traffic reduction alongside bringing in measures to see the dirtiest vehicles restricted from sensitive areas and encourage the transition to cleaner vehicles as quickly as possible.

We would like the hospital trust to urgently review the construction vehicles being routed through Woodingdean with a view to ensuring that only those with the cleanest Euro 6 engines are used. To tackle traffic levels the council needs to take a stronger line on new developments with lots of car parking which generally just creates more traffic causing more congestion and pollution. It also needs to give more focus to improving choice so that people have genuine alternatives to using a car. That means greater bus priority and a significant investment in walking and cycling infrastructure for example with the advent of the e-bike even in Woodingdean there be real opportunities to reduce car traffic if the roads are made to feel safer and cycle friendly.

Suggestions from the pupils of Woodingdean Primary School involved in the monitoring included diverting traffic away from Woodingdean. This sounds like a quick and easy solution but the likelihood is that this just shifts the problem to another community in the city. The pupils also suggested getting more children to walk to school which means fewer car journeys dropping off the kids and educating drivers about the problems and the impact it has on others. Channelview Road is a busy cut through which has got worse with traffic queues on the main roads. I've personally had my cat killed by a speeding car, someone's crashed into our parked car and someone else threatened to beat me up after I asked him to slow down.

We don't want to wait until my child or anyone else's child is killed or hurt before something is done to address this issue. Please look at the supporting documents which are included and please refer this matter to the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee for debate.”

- 18.3 Councillor Mitchell replied, “I am interested to hear about your project. I totally agree with you that we need more travel alternatives to the car and we as a council are constantly looking for opportunities to do this, as well as enabling and promoting sustainable forms of transport, as well as using planning policies such as car free housing. Your deputation will come to the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee for further debate, but I would like to take this opportunity to point out that the

council's ongoing air quality monitoring at the Woodingdean crossroads carried out to national standards demonstrates that pollution levels are below legal limits not above them. In addition I can confirm that the lorries from the hospital site are euro 6 and that goes for the main contractor and the subcontractor.

The council's air quality officer has already made contact with the school and he's very happy to share our methodology and our results with you and to help in any way that we can with the project. This is a very important situation and a very important topic. Separately I have asked officers to prepare a report on current air quality in the city across the city, the measures already taken, the measures currently underway to improve it, and possible next steps.

Thank you for coming and I look forward to the further debate activity.”

- 18.4 The Mayor thanked Mr. Fitzpatrick for attending the meeting and speaking on behalf of the deputation. She explained that the points had been noted and the deputation would be referred to the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee for consideration. The persons forming the deputation would be invited to attend the meeting and would be informed subsequently of any action to be taken or proposed in relation to the matter set out in the deputation.
- 18.5 The Mayor noted that brought the item to a conclusion.

## **19 WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS.**

- 19.1 The Mayor reminded Council that written questions from Members and the replies from the appropriate Councillor were taken as read by reference to the list included in the addendum which had been circulated as detailed below:

### **(a) Councillor Barnett**

- 19.2 “Could the Chair of the Housing & New Homes Committee outline whether Hangleton Bottom would provide suitable land for much needed housing it were to be removed from the current East Sussex, South Downs and Brighton & Hove Waste and Minerals Plan?”

### **Reply from Councillor Mitchell Chair of the Environment, transport & Sustainability Committee**

- 19.3 “As required by the government, potential sites suitable for waste and recycling management have to be set out in a strategic plan. The East Sussex, South Downs and Brighton & Hove Waste and Minerals Site Plan was adopted at Full Council in February 2017. The content of the Plan was considered by an independent planning inspector appointed by the Secretary of State during a public examination in summer and autumn 2016. During the course of the examination the inspector raised concerns as to whether the Plan included sufficient safeguarded sites to deliver the new waste management capacity that is required in East Sussex and Brighton & Hove over the Plan period to 2026, especially as one of the previously safeguarded sites, Sackville Coal Yard, had been deleted from the Plan during the examination period. He concluded that, on balance, there are sufficient sites and that the evidence supported the inclusion of Hangleton Bottom.

If Hangleton Bottom were to be removed, this would reduce the number of safeguarded sites by a third and result in there being no safeguarded sites in Brighton & Hove. Given the inspector's conclusions it is highly likely an additional site would have to be found elsewhere. Waste management is essential infrastructure required to support new development and economic growth and Brighton & Hove, as the largest urban area, is one of the main generators of waste in the Plan Area. It is important that adequate provision is made to manage waste in the future and to facilitate the continued shift away from landfill.

So although we appreciate that you are raising the issue of suitable sites for housing, and we welcome any support from the Conservative group with respect to the provision of new housing, Hangleton Bottom is not applicable for the reasons as outlined above."

**(b) Councillor Miller**

19.4 "Could Councillor Robins please clarify the Council's legal position in regard to the staging of the annual Naked Bike Ride?"

**Reply from Councillor Robins – Chair of the Tourism, Development & Culture Committee**

19.5 "As a highway authority, Brighton & Hove City Council may place temporary restrictions on traffic within its area by way of a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) made under Parts I and II of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, as amended, or by using powers available to them under section 21 of the Town Police Clauses Act 1847. That process may be used in a situation where (amongst other things) there is a likelihood of danger to the public or obstruction is considered to have been/ will be created. However the naked bike ride is classed by the police as a demonstration rather than an event and as a result the police retain sole responsibility for regulating all aspects of it. [This is to be contrasted with the situation in relation to the London to Brighton bike ride, for instance, which involves a far greater number of participants and is classed as a charity event].

Because the police and not the Council regulate the naked bike ride, it is the police which has responsibility for managing any complaints which are received in and have powers to liaise with the organisers re the route and/or to arrest where the cyclists' behaviour is considered to be inappropriate and/or if it is likely to cause distress. The police are empowered to take any action they consider necessary, including by using S5 of the Public Order Act 1986 which prohibits the display of any writing, sign or other visible representation which is threatening, abusive or insulting, within the hearing or sight of a person that is likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress. Those powers are not available to the Council."

**(c) Councillor Sykes**

19.6 "Please provide an update on the status of these BHCC fees and charges:

- Highways and skip licence income against projections in Q1 2017-18
- Highways hoarding licence income against projections in Q1 2017-18
- Building control inspections income against projections in Q1 2017-18

- Local Authority Land Charge Search fee income against projections in Q1 2017-18”

**Reply from Councillor Hamilton – Deputy Chair (Finance) of the Policy, Resources & Growth Committee**

19.7 “We are at an early stage of the year and forecasts can change significantly over the remainder of the year. However, as at Month 3 (June) the income for Skips and Scaffold licenses and Land Charge Search Fees would appear to be on target, while Hoarding license income is ahead of schedule, and Building Control Inspection income is somewhat down. In the case of Building Control, it is not yet clear whether or not the lower than expected income is due to the increase in the fees & charges or other general market factors.

The table below summarises the budget, income to date and forecasts.”

Revised Fee & Charge Area	Full Year Budget £'000	Budget to Date (June) £'000	Actual to Date (June) £'000	(Over) / Under to Date (June) £'000	Full Year Forecast £'000	Full Year Forecast (Over) / Under £'000	Comments
Skip and Scaffold	177	44	47	(3)	177	0	Forecast to be on target
Hoarding	99	25	81	(56)	tbc	tbc	Forecast to be reviewed but a surplus anticipated.
Building Control Inspections	627	157	122	35	tbc	tbc	Forecast to be reviewed but a deficit anticipated. However, it is not clear if this is related to the increase in fees & charges or other factors.
Land Charge Search Fee	630	158	180	(22)	630	0	Income tends to drop in the winter so "on target" reported despite surplus to date.

## 20 ORAL QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

- 20.1 The Mayor noted that 8 oral questions had been received and that 30 minutes were set aside for the duration of the item.
- 20.2 The Mayor invited Councillor Janio to put his question to Councillor Robins.

### (a) Gateway to the South Downs National Park

- 20.3 Councillor Janio asked the following question, “Following the statement by Brighton and Hove Energy Services Co-op regarding Hangleton Bottom, namely that, the plant would not meet the criteria of the local community considering the proximity of homes and the impact that it would have on local residents; would the Chair of the Tourism,

Development & Culture Committee confirm that the successful Conservative campaign to prevent the development of an anaerobic digester in the area means that Hangleton Bottom's removal from the Waste and Minerals Plan would enable it to be used as a mixed use residential development, that could also house a much needed gateway to the South Downs National Park?"

- 20.4 Councillor Robins replied, "Gateways to the South Downs National Park are clearly an important issue for the city given its proximity to the National Park. Gateways are also something that City Plan Part Two can further address through, for example, criteria based policy or through site allocations /designation around the city's edges (e.g. urban fringe sites), which would include Hangleton Bottom."
- 20.5 Councillor Janio asked the following supplementary question, "Would Councillor Robins confirm therefore that the Labour Administration will be supporting the Conservative campaign to turn Hangleton Bottom into a mixed use residential development that includes a gateway to the South Downs National Park?"
- 20.6 Councillor Robins replied, "I am not aware of the intentions of the land owners but would expect any proposals to have to go through the planning process."

**(b) Secondary School Places in 2018**

- 20.7 Councillor Page asked the following question, "Can the Chair of Children, Young People & Skills Committee tell me what steps the council will be taking to avoid repeating the situation this year where nearly 150 pupils received none of their 3 preferences especially in the light of the delayed opening of the new secondary school?"
- 20.8 Councillor Chapman replied, "We will continue to work with officers and the Admissions Team on providing parents with as much information as possible going forward. With the next round of the admissions process the admissions booklet has been rewritten and we're looking at developing an online tool as well, to help explain the situation a bit more to try and inform parents so they can make wiser choices. There will be enough places for children in the city and the authority will meet its statutory obligation to ensure that every child who wants a place in the city gets a place in the city."
- 20.9 Councillor Page asked the following supplementary question, "This year there was there was no change to the lack of priority of all those 150 children, they were given no priority in the random allocation when extra places came up. There appeared to be no knocking of school heads together to find places for these children and it sounds like nothing is going to be done for all the parents of next years' year sixes, so I hope the information is very clear Madam Mayor that they have no certainty that they will get any of their three choices. Does this show a lack of political leadership or does it show incompetence or does it show both?"
- 20.10 Councillor Chapman replied, "It shows neither of those things. Let me just reiterate to members across the chamber that when it comes to the new school that, as a local authority, we have responsibility for ensuring that every child has a school place, but we have very limited powers to enable us to do that. We have worked very hard as a local authority with all partners involved in ensuring that the new school opens as soon as

possible and we have done as much as we can we are now waiting on other people to go through their processes before it can open.

I believe there is also some confusion around what we can do legally and what the processes are. I will look to arrange a workshop for Members to attend so we can go through our obligations as a local authority and how the admissions process works.”

**(c) Maintenance Contracts in Housing**

20.11 Councillor Mears asked the following question, “Before the independent review of the repairs partnering contract on the 27<sup>th</sup> of July, can the Chair of Housing confirm whether her statement that “the previous Conservative administration let a light touch contract” is her view, her administration's view, or information she has received from council officers?”

20.12 Councillor Meadows replied, “I mentioned that the Conservative administration had set up the Mears contract through Councillor Mears’s administration when I was told that at the time the contract that was set up which continues until 2020 was a light touch contract.”

20.13 Councillor Mears asked the following supplementary question, “If the Chair of Housing is implying that she received the information from council officers I need to inform this council I'll be making a formal complaint to the relevant government department. When we let this contract it was with the help and support of council officers and at no time where we told this would be a light touch contract as we would not have agreed to it and to add the same officers are now supporting this administration. So I think this point needs to be clarified because going by the answer from the Chair of Housing I will be making a formal complaint.”

20.14 Councillor Meadows replied, “I think that is a matter for Councillor Mears to take forward if she wishes.”

**(d) Councillor Youth Services**

20.15 Councillor Phillips asked the following question, “Could the Chair of the Children, Young People and Skills please clarify how the plans to move Brighton & Hove City Council youth service staff into the Integrated Team for Parents and Families is in the spirit of the amendments made at budget council which aims to protect not only our youth service i.e. children and families work but also the provision of detached youth workers?”

20.16 Councillor Chapman replied, “As you know we are going through a restructure of the in-house services to provide services in the greatest area of need and to continue to work in partnership with voluntary sector and I'm happy to discuss with Councillor Phillips as well on another occasion in more depth about what's going on with the youth service.”

20.17 Councillor Phillips asked the following supplementary question, “I'll take that to mean they'll be no more Brighton & Hove City Council youth service that technically the council will stop prioritising open access in-house youth service which and I think it is awful that that may well stop. The youth service bus came up as a much-loved resource

through the consultation; can the Chair of the Children, Young People & Skills Committee please confirm that this bus which amongst other things provides sexual health and education outreach to young people will remain as is?"

20.18 Councillor Chapman replied, "The bus will be retained for a further year and resources will be available for the wider youth teams and the voluntary sector."

**(e) Public Toilets**

20.19 Councillor C. Theobald asked the following question, "When I sent an email to the council at the beginning of May regarding the terrible state of the toilets at the Pavilion Gardens and I must say there were a quite a few letters in the Argus from residents about this so it wasn't just me' I was told there would be an improvement as a new contractor was taking over at the beginning of June. Well this improvement just has not happened. When will this improvement be happening? This is a facility in a prime position in our city, in pavilion gardens and it's important that we have something decent for our residents and visitors."

20.20 Councillor Mitchell replied, "I do quite agree with you and as you say we have now contracted a new provider Healthmatic, one of the UK's leading companies in the field. We are now currently in a period of transition and building inspections so that the improvements needed are indeed put in place. A report will be brought to the October PRG Committee that will set out a detailed business case for the investment in our public toilets that we want to make with a business plan and this will secure the modernisation of our existing facilities into the future. I am confident that Healthmatic will provide as good a service to the people of Brighton & Hove as they do to the other 120 local authorities that they contract to and their populations and I'm very hopeful of retaining our Best Loos of the Year award for another year."

20.21 Councillor C. Theobald asked the following supplementary question, "After what I've just heard that these toilets are really antiquated and they do need refurbishment but there's no reason why they shouldn't be clean at this stage and they're not. So this needs looking into now, not in the next committee meeting."

20.22 Councillor Mitchell replied, "I totally agree and when I was pondering over what the subject of Councillor Theobald's question might be, I said to Mr. Richard Bradley only this morning 'Richard you've got to pay particular attention to those pavilion garden toilets' and he assured me that he would."

**(f) Cuts in Public Services**

20.23 Councillor Sykes asked the following question, "We're just starting another round of budget planning for the next financial year and just to remind everyone, at Budget Council in February, the Administration's budget cut a whole swath of services - youth services, community care, mental health, early years, substance misuse, HIV, voluntary and community sector, and more. A few weeks later we are arguing about spare cash including apparently recurrent cash and just to remind people again at budget council Green strategic amendments made the financial situation for this council better in this financial year as evidence in part by the answers to my written question. So my question is where is the Administration's strategic financial management?"

20.24 Councillor Hamilton replied, "Well I'm somewhat surprised by that question because Councillor Sykes knows that we have a four year plan and the strategic directions in which we're traveling. With regard to what was being said about making cuts and so on it was only at the last meeting that Councillor Sykes said that the Green Administration made, I think he said, £60 or £70 million worth of cuts so therefore that must have reduced public services. So we're all in the same boat on this all I can say is I think we've done very well in the present time we've kept most of our services going as far as possible, we haven't closed any libraries which is something not many councils can say.

We have already started on next year's budget. With regard to the expenditure that was referred to recently the Green Party supported us on everything apart from one of those items that we spent and we took the view, as I take now, that if you come at the end of the year and you've got a little bit of money left over I think the public deserve and expect to see you put something back into the community and that's what we've done. I'm quite proud of a record with two budgets going through and we're still providing all the services here in a satisfactory way and we are putting money back into various other services that would be welcomed and we did get support from that and I'm very pleased for that support."

20.25 Councillor Sykes asked the following supplementary question, "Personally I think that the Administration, whether local or national, shouldn't front-load cuts to jobs and services to build up pre-election giveaway funds. Do you agree and what are you doing in the current budget planning round to avoid unnecessary cuts?"

20.26 Councillor Hamilton replied, "When I had meetings quite recently with Councillor Janio, Councillor Wealls and with Councillor Sykes I did say that I'm quite happy to meet any of them and have a discussion about this with regard to going forward to the budget. Although we have budget review group meetings where the officers give us some information I think there is scope for more councillor to councillor meetings to discuss these things. But I'm quite honest when I say that looking the next year's budget I think because we've been very careful and prudent and done reasonably well in the last two years. I'm thinking that next year we are going to be in a situation hopefully where things aren't as bad as they have been and I think it's due to the careful consideration given to what we've been doing.

"I'm quite happy to meet any finance spokesperson at any time to have a discussion about anything they were very particularly interested in to see if we can work together rather than leaving it right until the budget day itself when we suddenly end up with amendments coming out of thin air. It would be nice wouldn't it if you have these meetings before that mean you could go for a budget meeting knowing pretty well exactly what was going to happen that is my goal and I'm quite happy to meet with other people to discuss that."

**(g) Councillor Surrey Street**

Councillor Deane had asked the following question, "Councillor Mitchell you will recall that on the 5th of May a meeting was held with some residents of Surrey Street to update them on the alleviation of their daily nightmare with cabs using the street to queue up for the station. It was indicated by GTR at that meeting that they are now

amenable to the rear of the station being used. This came about from pressure from their buses. That was some 11 weeks ago now and I have heard nothing since so I'd be most grateful if you could give me an update."

20.27 Councillor Mitchell replied, "I certainly can and I was made aware of the meeting on the 5th of May, convened by the local MP, but unfortunately Councillor Deane I wasn't invited to that meeting. However, as you will be aware, I have chaired a series of multi-stakeholder meetings with GTR the rail company, local bus company, yourself as a ward councillor, the police, and council officers. There have also been, as you say, public meetings set up to discuss the issue. More recently senior council highway officers have been having further dialogue with representatives from GTR in order to agree a solution that will provide better access to and from the station for taxis.

I fully appreciate the damaging impact that the current situation poses for residents and I appreciate their patience while we are now working to improve the situation that we inherited. I am pleased to be able to inform you that following the most recent meeting GTR have now made a firm commitment to develop proposals to improve access arrangements for customers at the front and rear of the station. As the land owner GTR will be working on the detail of these proposals and the associated timescales for a viable scheme in the coming months and I will of course keep ward councillors informed of this welcome progress."

20.28 Councillor Deane asked the following supplementary question, "When will residents start to see a difference?"

20.29 Councillor Mitchell replied, "I understand that GTR are keen to move ahead with this quickly and that therefore the council will be offering every bit of help possible to enable them to bring forward better proposals and to have them implemented so the residents get a bit of rest-bite from the awful problems that occur at the moment."

#### **(h) Health and Emotional Wellbeing of Looked After Children**

20.30 The Mayor noted that Councillor Knight had asked for her question to be deferred to the next meeting and therefore concluded the item.

### **21 CALL OVER FOR REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.**

#### **(a) Callover**

21.1 The Head of Democratic Services confirmed that Items 22 and 24 had been reserved for discussion;

Item 22 – Community Safety and Crime Reduction Strategy

Item 24 – Welfare Reform Update

#### **(b) Receipt and/or Approval of Reports**

21.2 The Head of Democratic Services confirmed that the following report on the agenda with the recommendations therein had been approved and adopted:

Item 23 – Orbis Joint Committee

**(c) Oral Questions from Members**

21.3 The Mayor noted there were no oral questions arising on the item that had not been called.

**22 COMMUNITY SAFETY AND CRIME REDUCTION STRATEGY**

22.1 Councillor Daniel noted that the report had previously been to the council and stated that she wished to commend it to the council for adoption. A great deal of work had gone into the report and the drafting of the policy with a view to keeping the community as safe as possible. It was likely that further changes would result at a national level but she hoped that with the support of partner agencies and community groups the strategy could be made to work at a local level.

22.2 Councillor Mac Cafferty stated that anti-social behaviour was on the increase in his ward and Brunswick & Adelaide residents felt under siege. He therefore had to ask when would the Administration raise these issues with Sussex Police and seek to address the problems being faced on a daily basis. A number of incidents were not being recorded and this had to change and Sussex Police needed to take action. He hoped that this would change and residents would see a difference.

22.3 Councillor Deane referred to page 21 of the report and stated that residents were suffering from the late night economy culture and she had raised the matter at the Licensing Committee and asked for an amendment to be made within the strategy to reflect this matter but it had not materialised.

22.4 Councillor Simson referred to page 64 of the agenda and noted that she had raised the issue of the Housing directorate having its own anti-social behaviour team and a duplication in terms of policy and action taken. She also noted that changes were being made in the policing of the night-time economy and queried how this would be addressed.

22.5 Councillor West stated that he was concerned that issues being raised had not been picked up at the committee stage. It was an important strategy and he broadly welcomed the priorities identified but noted that he had asked for special attention to be applied to anti-social behaviour and hate-crime. He supported the concerns raised by Councillor Mac Cafferty and suggested that it would help to have a police presence at LAT meetings.

22.6 Councillor Yates noted the comments and suggested that concerns could be raised with the Police & Crime Commissioner and the use of PSPO's could be reviewed in regard to dealing with anti-social behaviour. He hoped that the strategy could be agreed and welcomed the report.

22.7 Councillor Daniel stated that she hoped the strategy could be approved and stated that she would ask officers to review and update the Licensing Policy, having regard to comments made during the debate. She wished to reassure Councillor Mac Cafferty

that as a member of the Police & Crime Panel she had raised questions at various meetings, and would continue to do so although no answers had been forthcoming.

22.8 The Mayor noted that the recommendations had been moved and put them to a vote which was carried unanimously.

22.9 **RESOLVED:**

- (1) That the Community Safety and Crime Reduction Strategy 2017 – 20 be approved; and
- (2) That the suggested priority areas for reducing crime and disorder in Brighton and Hove, as agreed by the Neighbourhoods, Inclusion, Communities and Equalities Committee be endorsed.

**23 ORBIS JOINT COMMITTEE**

23.1 **RESOLVED:**

- (1) That the establishment of the Orbis Partnership Joint Committee with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017, constituted in accordance with the Terms of Reference set out at Appendix 1 be agreed;
- (2) That it be noted the appointment of the Joint Committee is dependent upon all the bodies represented on the Joint Committee agreeing that it be appointed;
- (3) That delegated authority be granted to the Chief Executive and the Executive Director Finance & Resources to take all measures necessary for or incidental to:
  - (i) the implementation of resolutions (1) and (2) above, and
  - (ii) the on-going management and administration of the Joint Committee;
- (4) That the Monitoring Officer be instructed to amend the council's constitution to reflect the establishment of the Joint Committee; and
- (5) That the appointment of Councillors Hamilton and Wealls to the Orbis Joint Committee be agreed.

**24 WELFARE REFORM UPDATE**

24.1 Councillor Daniel introduced the report which provided an update on the progress of the government's welfare reform programme and in particular the roll-out of Universal Credit in Brighton and Hove and the council's response to it. She also noted that a Members Advisory Group had been established and was working closely with officers on how those most affected could be supported and options for the council to consider.

24.2 Councillor West stated that he had asked for the report to be referred to the Council for information in view of the impact the changes were likely to have and to encourage all Members to consider what welfare reform meant for the most vulnerable in the city. He noted that in recent years the number of private sector landlords willing to rent property

to those on benefits had reduced from 46% to 18%. He believed this was likely to get worse and create more demand for housing.

- 24.3 Councillor Bewick endorsed Councillor West's comments and stated that he hoped all Members would look to take action on this matter. He noted that there were a number households already reliant on food banks and 2,000 children in the city who were reliant on temporary or bed & breakfast accommodation. There was a potential risk for the number of homeless to increase and this needed to be prevented.
- 24.4 Councillor Taylor acknowledged that it was an emotive subject and stated that when universal credit was fully rolled out then the impact could be seen. He noted that the level of employment was at its highest for a number of years and that income inequality was at its lowest for thirty years.
- 24.5 Councillor Gibson welcomed the report and suggested that it should be taken into consideration by other committees in view of the implications that had been highlighted. He noted the reduction in benefits for the poorest in the city whilst England was the 6<sup>th</sup> richest country in world and queried how this could be the case. He hoped that every Member would consider the implications of the report for those in the city and the council itself.
- 24.6 Councillor Daniel welcomed the comments and noted that resources were being put into this area and that the Members Advisory Group would continue to look at options that were available to tackle the situation.
- 24.7 The Mayor stated that the report had been referred for information and moved that it be noted.
- 24.8 **RESOLVED:** That the report be noted.

**25 THE FOLLOWING NOTICES OF MOTION HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED BY MEMBERS FOR CONSIDERATION:**

**(a) Voter Registration for Young People**

- 25.1 The Notice of Motion as listed in the agenda was proposed by Councillor Russell-Moyle on behalf of the Labour & Co-operative Group and seconded by Councillor Yates.
- 25.2 Councillor Bell moved an amendment on behalf of the Conservative Group, which was seconded by Councillor Miller.
- 25.3 The Mayor noted that the Conservative amendment had been accepted in full and therefore put the following substantive motion to the vote which was carried unanimously:

"This council:

Requests the Chief Executive explores working with the local universities and local colleges as applicable, in order to discuss the potential for the implementation of the "Sheffield model" voter registration approach for students in time for the September

2017 student intake and will work with the Government on their investigation and review of double voting; and

Acknowledges the work undertaken by the Electoral Services team that resulted in increased numbers of registered voters, including younger people, for the May 2017 General Election and welcomes their current efforts.”

25.4 The Mayor confirmed that the motion had been carried.

**(b) Off-Plan Sales**

25.5 The Notice of Motion as listed in the agenda was proposed by Councillor Cattell on behalf of the Labour & Co-operative Group and seconded by Councillor Meadows.

25.6 Councillor Nemeth moved an amendment on behalf of the Conservative Group which was seconded by Councillor Mears.

25.7 The Mayor noted that the Conservative amendment had been accepted in full and therefore put the following substantive motion to the vote which was carried unanimously:

“This Council requests that:

(1) The Chief Executive writes to Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government to seek the introduction of new primary legislation for all local Authorities to ring-fence for a prescribed period of time – as determined locally - the sale of properties 'off-plan' at a discount to:

- first-time buyers who are local residents who have expressed an interest following a call for such expression of interest
- Registered Providers, and
- Local Councils

After which prescribed period of time such properties would then be offered to all other local potential buyers, prior to UK commercial and overseas investors;

(2) That prior to the implementation of any guidance received, a report be produced and presented to Tourism, Development and Culture Committee to advise the likely impact such powers will have on:-

- a) future housing development projects by private entities in the City,
- b) local property prices,
- c) potential additional homes provided, and
- d) quantity of and proportion by development set aside for affordable homes.”

25.8 The Mayor confirmed that the motion had been carried.

**(c) Commitment to Ethical and Sustainable Procurement**

- 25.9 The Notice of Motion as listed in the agenda was proposed by Councillor Greenbaum on behalf of the Green Group and seconded by Councillor Sykes.
- 25.10 Councillor Greenbaum stated that she wished to revise the motion in view of information that had come to light and therefore drew Members' attention to the revised wording that had been circulated with the addendum.
- 25.11 The Mayor noted that the revision to the motion had been accepted by the council and therefore put the following substantive motion to the vote which was carried unanimously

"This Council notes previous work undertaken under Administrations of all colours in developing local policy on environmental and social sustainability, and calls on the Council to update and deepen its Sustainable Procurement Policy (last updated December 2014) by resolving to:

Request that the Procurement Advisory Board (PAB) explore the adoption of a new international guidance framework for Sustainable Procurement (ISO 20400 quality standard) as a best practice benchmark for our Council, thereby providing leadership in this area and demonstrating the high standard we expect in quality, sustainability and ethical procurement from our suppliers, and that PAB provide a report on this work to the Policy, Resources & Growth Committee."

- 25.12 The Mayor confirmed that the motion had been carried.

**(d) Cycling Strategy**

- 25.13 The Notice of Motion as listed in the agenda was proposed by Councillor Druiitt on behalf of the Green Group and seconded by Councillor West.
- 25.14 The Mayor then put the following motion as listed to the vote, which was carried unanimously:

"This Council welcomes the imminent launch of the city's Bike Hire Scheme and notes the importance of cycling in improving health, enhancing air quality and reducing congestion. This Council further acknowledges the successful initiatives the council has pursued under all parties to encourage cycling in the city, such as the Local Transport Plan, the Cycling Ambition initiative and the Space for Cycling commitment:

This Council resolves to:

Request that a report be brought to Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee outlining options for implementing a specific and ambitious cycling strategy for Brighton and Hove, with information included that would help to:

- a) Identify what progress has been made against the cycling goals of the Local Transport Plan, to encourage a healthy cycling culture whereby cycling is safe, easy and enjoyable;

- b) Explore options for the continued development of better cycling infrastructure such as the creation of a 'Brighton and Hove Cycle network' (modelled on the successful London Cycle Network) of joined up and marked routes, connecting sections of 'stranded' routes and improving the cycling experience across road junctions;
- c) Explore the funding options available (such as grants, Section 106 agreements and the Community Infrastructure Levy) to support improved cycling infrastructure, more cycle parking and greater use of initiatives like personal travel planning, employee purchase schemes and rider and maintenance training;
- d) Facilitate greater engagement with residents and cycling groups in the city to ensure maximum support for a cycling strategy and to encourage the creation of political 'Cycling Champions' across all parties."

25.15 The Mayor confirmed that the motion had been carried.

**(e) Grenfell Tower**

25.16 The Mayor noted that the item had been taken earlier in the agenda under item No.15. (15.21 of the minutes).

**26 CLOSE OF MEETING**

26.1 Prior to closing the meeting, the Mayor stated that she was aware clarification had been sought with regard to the Leader's statement relating to the sale of Kings House earlier in the meeting and therefore gave the following statement:

"Finally, I understand there were some questions during the break regarding the sale of King's House. For the avoidance of doubt, I would like to clarify, in case there is any ambiguity, that:

- Exchange of contracts has taken place,
- The contract is unconditional in the sense that it is not conditional on planning permission being granted;
- In accordance with normal conveyancing practice, the deposit has been paid and the balance will be paid when completion takes place.

I hope that is clear."

26.2 The Mayor thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.

The meeting concluded at 9.25pm

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of

2017

