



## SUMMONS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A MEETING OF THE HART DISTRICT COUNCIL WILL BE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC OFFICES, HARLINGTON WAY, FLEET ON THURSDAY 28 SEPTEMBER 2017 AT 7.00 PM

Joint Chief Executive

CIVIC OFFICES, HARLINGTON WAY  
FLEET, HAMPSHIRE GU51 4AE

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## AGENDA

**COPIES OF THIS AGENDA ARE AVAILABLE IN LARGE PRINT AND  
BRAILLE ON REQUEST**

### **1 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

To confirm the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 27 July 2017. **Paper A**

### **2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

### **3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

To declare disclosable pecuniary, and any other, interests.

### **4 FLEET AND CHURCH CROOKHAM FIRST RESPONDERS**

Presentation.

### **5 COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 12 – QUESTIONS BY THE PUBLIC**

To receive any questions from members of the public submitted pursuant to Council Procedure Rule 12.

*Note: The text of any question under Council Procedure Rule 12 must be given to the Chief Executive not later than **Noon on Friday, 22 September 2017.***

## 6 COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 14 – QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

To receive any questions from Members submitted pursuant to Council Procedure Rule 14.

*Note: The text of any question under Council Procedure Rule 14.3 must be given to the Chief Executive not later than 5.00 pm on Monday, 25 September 2017.*

*The text of any question under Council Procedure Rule 14.4 must be submitted to the Chief Executive before 10.00 am on Thursday, 28 September 2017.*

## 7 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

## 8 CABINET MEMBERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS

## 9 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

## 10 MINUTES OF COMMITTEES

The Minutes of the following Committees, which met on the dates shown, are submitted.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14.1, Members are allowed to put questions at Council without Notice in respect of any matters in the Minutes to the Leader of the Council or any Chairman of the relevant meeting at the time those Minutes are received by Council.

Meeting	Date	Page Numbers	For Decision
Overview and Scrutiny	18 July 2017	4-6	
Overview and Scrutiny	15 August 2017	7-13	
Licensing	5 September 2017	5-6	
Planning	9 August 2017	21-36	<b>17/00842/FUL – Beechwood Farm, Dares Lane, Ewshot, Farnham, GU10 5BS</b> Departure from the Local Plan - only if requested
Planning	24 August 2017	37-41	
Planning	13 September 2017	42-47	
Cabinet	3 August 2017	10-12	
Cabinet	7 September 2017	13-16	

## 11 CHANGES TO THE NUMBER OF COUNCILLORS - CHURCH CROOKHAM PARISH COUNCIL

To receive the findings of the recently completed Community Governance consultation concerned with an adjustment of the number of councillors across the existing wards of that parish. The resultant changes from the review are planned to come into effect from the parish elections scheduled for May 2018. **Paper B**

## RECOMMENDATION

That Council resolve to adjust the number of councillors for the 3 wards of the parish as per the table below:

Number of Parish Wards	Ward Names	Electorate Jan '22	Number of Councillors	Variance
3	Crookham East	3900	5	0
	Gally Hill	1800	2	-15%
	Queen Elizabeth	c2100	3	10%
<b>Total</b>			10	

## 12 CHANGES TO THE WARDING ARRANGEMENTS OF FLEET PARISH

To receive the findings of the recently completed Community Governance consultation into the internal parish ward boundary arrangements of Fleet parish and to make a recommendation for implementation of new parish ward boundaries at elections from May 2018.

### RECOMMENDATION

That Council resolves to:

- A. support the Fleet Town Council proposal for 5 parish wards;
- B. make a request to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England to amend the proposed scheme that is due to come into effect in May 2018 to reflect the Fleet Town Council proposals; and
- C. make amendments to the electoral register with effect from the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2017 that will enable the delivery of elections on the new boundaries from that date.

**Date of Despatch: 19 September 2017**

## **COUNCIL**

**Date and Time:** Thursday, 27 July 2017 at 7.00 pm

**Place:** Council Chamber, Civic Offices, Fleet

**Present:**

### **COUNCILLORS –**

Crisp - (Chairman)

Ambler	Forster	Neighbour
Axam	Gray	Oliver
Bailey	Gorys	Parker
Billings	Harward	Radley (James)
Blewett	Kennett	Radley (Jenny)
Clarke	Kinnell	Renshaw
Cockarill	Leeson	Southern
Crampton	Makepeace-Browne	Wright
Dickens	Morris	

### **Officers Present:**

Daryl Phillips	Joint Chief Executive
Gill Chapman	Committee Services

## **20 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 29 June 2017 were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

## **21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Burchfield, Collett, Crookes, Butler, Wheale and Woods.

## **22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations were made.

## **23 PRESENTATION BY FLEET PHOENIX**

Charlotte Tickner, Managing Director of Fleet Phoenix, updated Members on the work of the organisation. Fleet Phoenix aims to empower young people to solve their own problems, working with 11-25 year olds. Early intervention is crucial, working holistically with them for as long as they need, to become part of the wider community. A variety of methods are used: one to one, small group and large group work, aiming to offer them a safe, warm, welcoming environment to encourage them to make positive changes in their lives.

Out of over 11,000 contacts with 1223 individual young people, all live in Hart, with 62% living in the Fleet area. Funding from HCC has been cut, and money now comes from fundraising, grants, donations, SLAs, and voluntary support. Charlotte urged members to become a Trustee, support financially, spread the word, be involved, visit and volunteer.

Members questions were around today's pressures which are mainly drugs and alcohol, but also peer pressure, and social media. The shortage of mental health services, outreach worker funding, rising issues of violence and weapons and education and the role of schools were also considered.

The Chairman thanked Charlotte for the information, and for the very valuable work being done in the youth community by Fleet Phoenix.

## **24 COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 12 – QUESTIONS BY THE PUBLIC**

None received.

## **25 COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 14 – QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS**

None received.

## **26 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman had attended the following events on behalf of the Council.

30 June	Duke of Edinburgh's Award Gold Award Holders' Reception 2017 - HCC Chairman, the Great Hall, Winchester
1 & 2 July	Blackbushe Airport Festival of Flight 75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary
13 July	Mayor of Portsmouth Annual Mayoral Dinner, Guildhall, Portsmouth
20 July	Reception for Sir Gerald Howarth to mark 20 year service as MP – Rushmoor BC

On 25 July the Vice Chairman attended the Hart & Rushmoor Live at Home Scheme Coffee Morning Launch, Church Crookham on behalf of the Chairman.

On 8 July Councillor Renshaw attended the Hartley Wintney Voluntary Care Group's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event at the Victoria Hall, Hartley Wintney, on behalf of the Chairman.

## **27 CABINET MEMBERS ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Leader of the Council, **Councillor Neighbour**, announced:

In the last few weeks I have attended a number of meetings, these included a meeting of the Hampshire Partnership hosted by Hampshire County Council.

Despite a surprisingly low turnout of member Councils, we will look to work constructively with the County on joint issues which affect the district.

On Wednesday, 19 July, I attended the Local Economic Partnership meeting at which the Homes and Communities Agency unveiled a £250 million fund to help resolve strategic infrastructure issues as well as Housing schemes where viability is the main impediment to development.

The Cabinet Member for Services, **Councillor Radley**, had no announcements.

The Cabinet Member for Partnerships, **Councillor Ambler**, announced:

I wanted to highlight just one of the many and varied projects that are facilitated through the excellent work of our Health and Policy Project Officer, Liz Glenn.

The Council was approached for assistance by a local group who wanted to run a project called Autism Friendly Fleet, a project to raise awareness of the needs and difficulties experienced by families with autistic children.

As a new group, as they have no formal status this means that they have no access to funding. Liz worked with Hart Voluntary action for them to put together a bid for a grant to Fleet Town Council to fund a start-up event.

Their first event is an 'Introduction Coffee Morning' on 11 October in the Harlington.

This is just one of the many examples of partner organisations that we work with delivering excellent value to the community.

The Cabinet Member for Housing, **Councillor Bailey**, reported

Phil Turner and I have met with the Home Office to discuss the government's agenda to widen the areas into which asylum seekers are dispersed. We have agreed that the Home Office agent Clearsprings can look to see if they can bring forward properties in the local area.

The Council and the Police will have the right to veto any unit identified if it is considered to be inappropriate or that it will run counter to our own strategic aims.

We have encouraged Clearsprings to where possible, identify empty properties that could be brought back into use.

The Cabinet Member for Planning, **Councillor Cockarill**, had no announcements.

There were no announcements on behalf of Councillor Collett, Cabinet Member for Regulatory Services and Community Safety.

The Cabinet Member for Leisure and Countryside Services, **Councillor Kinnell**, reported:

Firstly, I would like to apologise to you all for having to re-arrange the visit to Bramshot Farm SANG. I would like to assure you that there are no delays and the country park will open in October as planned. However, on reflection, officers decided that the visit should take place when all works on the site are complete and I

support that decision. We will be organising an opening ceremony to which all Councillors will receive an invite. In the meantime, should you wish to see the project drawings, Adam Green can provide you with a copy. We will also make sure they are put on the website.

Secondly, I am delighted to announce that Fleet Pond, Elvetham Heath Nature Reserve and Hartley Wintney Central Commons have once again been recognised by the Green Flag Award Scheme and are amongst the 1797 parks and green spaces to receive the prestigious award. Fleet Pond received the award for the third year running and our congratulations go to Colin Gray, Chairman of the Fleet Pond Society, who also received Green Flag Volunteer of the Year Award after nomination by the Hart Countryside Rangers for his dedication to the Pond.

Elvetham Heath received the award for the sixth year running, alongside Hartley Wintney Central Commons which received the Green Flag and the Green Flag Heritage award for the fifth and fourth years respectively. This award celebrates the dedication that goes into maintaining these sites to such a high standard.

The Cabinet Member for Contracts, **Councillor Oliver**, had no announcements.

## **28 JOINT CHIEF EXECUTIVES' REPORT**

The Joint Chief Executives had nothing substantive to report.

## **29 MINUTES OF COMMITTEES**

<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Overview &amp; Scrutiny</b>	<b>20 June 2017</b>
No questions asked	
<b>Audit Committee</b>	<b>27 June 2017</b>
No questions asked	
<b>Licensing Committee</b>	<b>4 July 2017</b>
No questions asked	
<b>Cabinet</b>	<b>6 July 2017</b>
No questions asked.	
<b>Planning Committee</b>	<b>12 July 2017</b>
No questions asked.	

**Minute 16 - 16/02989/OUT - LAND AT ODIHAM ROAD, RISELEY**

Since insufficient requests to debate had been received this Departure to the Local Plan was deemed to be **ACCEPTED**. (See item 30 below.)

**30 PLANNING COMMITTEE 12 JULY 2017 - 16/02989/OUT - LAND AT ODIHAM ROAD, RISELEY**

The s38(6) test of whether there are material considerations which justify a departure from the development plan was the principle test that was being applied in this case.

However, since insufficient requests to debate had been received this Departure to the Local Plan was deemed to be **ACCEPTED**. See Minute 16 of Planning Committee Minutes of 12 July 2017.

**DECISION**

That the Head of Regulatory Services be authorised to grant permission subject to the prior completion of an appropriate legal agreement as set out in the Planning Committee Minutes of 12 April 2017.

The meeting closed at 7.50 pm.

**COUNCIL****DATE OF MEETING:** 28 SEPTEMBER 2017**TITLE OF REPORT:** CHANGES TO THE NUMBER OF COUNCILLORS -  
CHURCH CROOKHAM PARISH COUNCIL**Report of:** Electoral Registration Officer**Portfolio Holder:** James Radley, Corporate Services**I PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To receive the findings of the recently completed Community Governance consultation concerned with an adjustment of the number of councillors across the existing wards of Church Crookham parish. The resultant changes from the review are planned to come into effect from the parish elections scheduled for May 2018.

**2 OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 That Council resolve to adjust the number of councillors for the 3 wards of the parish as per the table below:

Number of Parish Wards	Ward Names	Electorate Jan '22	Number of Councillors	Variance
3	Crookham East	3900	5	0
	Gally Hill	1800	2	-15%
	Queen Elizabeth	c2100	3	10%
<b>Total</b>			10	

**3 BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 Church Crookham Parish Council (CCPC) has 10 councillors. This figure was set when the Council was first established in 2009. The current allocation is listed in the table below

Number of Parish Wards	Ward Names	Electorate Sep '17	Number of Councillors	Variance
3	Crookham East	3730	6	13%
	Gally Hill	1770	3	17%
	Queen Elizabeth	1600	1	-131%
<b>Total</b>			10	

- 3.2 The number of councillors for the Queen Elizabeth ward has been set at 1 since the parish council was created in 2009. This was based on the small electorate in the ward at the time. Since then the Crookham Park development has commenced construction and those electors resident in the ward are now under represented and

the number of councillors need to be increased to reflect the forecast electorate and to preserve the equality of votes.

- 3.3 The 2007 Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act gave the power to alter the number of parish councillors to a District Authority by way of a Community Governance Review (CGR).
- 3.4 Church Crookham Parish Council requested Hart undertake a CGR on the basis that the electoral equality in the 3 parish wards was unbalanced and needed to be corrected. CCPC were happy that the overall number of councillors did not need to be altered.
- 3.5 This Council voted in December 2016 to put the proposed changes to public consultation and then to effect the change by way of an order.

#### **4 RESULTS OF CONSULTATION**

- 4.1 There were 2 responses to the consultation.
- 4.2 One was supportive of the CCPC's request.
- 4.3 One suggested that the current and not the 5 year forecast population of the Queen Elizabeth ward should be used. However not taking future development into account is contrary to para 170 of LGBCE guidance on Community Governance Reviews published in 2010. This suggestion also said that future development in Watery Lane should be taken into account. However this area is outside of the parish.

#### **5 ACTION**

- 5.1 Council is requested to resolve that the distribution of 10 councillors is changed so as to ensure that the representation is as per the table in 2.1. This is consistent with the usual policy of this Council of supporting parishes in effecting changes to their electoral arrangements, where those changes improve electoral equality and are not operationally and electorally inconvenient.

Contact: Andrew Tiffin, Elections and Information Manager, [andrew.tiffin@hart.gov.uk](mailto:andrew.tiffin@hart.gov.uk)

**COUNCIL**

**DATE OF MEETING:** 28 SEPTEMBER 2017

**TITLE OF REPORT:** CHANGES TO THE WARDING ARRANGEMENTS OF FLEET PARISH

**Report of:** Electoral Registration Officer

**Portfolio Holder:** James Radley, Corporate Services

**I PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1 To receive the findings of the recently completed Community Governance consultation into the internal parish ward boundary arrangements of Fleet parish and to make a recommendation for implementation of new parish ward boundaries at elections from May 2018.

**2 OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

2.1 That Council resolves to:

- A. support the Fleet Town Council proposal for 5 parish wards;
- B. make a request to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England to amend the proposed scheme that is due to come into effect in May 2018 to reflect the Fleet Town Council proposals; and
- C. make amendments to the electoral register with effect from the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2017 that will enable the delivery of elections on the new boundaries from that date.

**3 BACKGROUND**

3.1 In December 2016 Council resolved to consult on an alternative option for internal parish ward boundaries within the parish of Fleet. This consultation was triggered by the receipt of a request from Fleet Town Council (FTC) to alter the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) parish boundary scheme that would otherwise be introduced in May 2018. This change arises as a consequential amendment from the new County Council electoral divisions introduced in May 2017.

3.2 The consultation which took place from March to June 2017, ran in the FTC newsletter and asked for views concerning two options; the scheme devised by LGBCE and a 5 ward option submitted by FTC. The 5 ward option is very similar to the arrangements currently in place for the parish, but also includes a reduction of 1 in the number of elected members.

3.3 If Council resolves to propose making a change to the LGBCE scheme it must request permission from the LGBCE to effect the change. This is because it is less

than five years since the LGBCE consulted on and proposed the change to the parish boundaries.

- 3.4 The LGBCE could refuse to sanction any change to its scheme. It may do so if it does not believe that changes have any merit, or where a case for any change has not been made. If the LGBCE refuses the change this Council will have to wait until December 2021 before it is permitted to make changes without reference to the LGBCE. Those changes made outside of the protected 5 year period would come into effect with the parish elections in May 2022.
- 3.5 If Council does not resolve to make any changes then the LGBCE scheme will come into effect for elections from May 2018.

#### 4 COMPARISON OF THE TWO PROPOSALS

##### 4.1 The LGBCE proposal

Number of Parish Wards	Ward Names (& ID reference)	Electorate Jan '17	Number of Councillors	Variance
7	Ancells (R)	1925	2	-3%
	Calthorpe (S)	2862	3	-2%
	Central (T)	5214	6	7%
	Court Manor (U)	1190	1	-27%
	Courtmoor (V)	2265	2	-21%
	Pondtail (W)	4057	4	-8%
	Wickham Road (X)	326	1	65%
<b>Total</b>			19	

- ✓ This is the default scenario and will automatically come into effect in April 2018.
- ✓ Convenient, as all the electors in a parish ward will also be in the same district ward and same county division. This is what is classed as having good electoral coterminosity, as a general principle good coterminosity is viewed positively by the LGBCE.
- × The electoral variances are high. Electors in Wickham Road parish ward would have a much greater influence on the Council than would be expected for their electorate size. Electors in Court Manor and Courtmoor would have much less influence on the Council than their electorate size would suggest.
- × Not supported by Fleet Town Council, the elected parish for the area.
- × Creates three arbitrary wards south of the canal with boundaries that are not clearly defined on the ground. This is contrary to national guidance.
- × The number of councillors remains at 19 and Fleet Town Council has never filled all those positions at its elections in 2010 and 2014. This suggests that 19 may be too high a number.
- × There is no obvious voting place in Wickham Road or Court Manor parish wards. It would normally be expected that a parish ward would have a focus or community premises within which people would vote.

## 4.2 Fleet Town Council’s Proposal

FTC’s proposal is to link the new LGBCE parish wards of Court Manor and Wickham Road with Courtmoor making a single ward south of the canal.

Number of Parish Wards	Ward Names (& ID reference)	Electorate Jan ‘17	Number of Councillors	Variance
5	Ancells (R)	1925	2	3%
	Calthorpe (S)	2862	3	4%
	Central (T)	5214	5	-5%
	Courtmoor ( X,V,U)	3781	4	5%
	Pondtail (W)	4057	4	-2%
<b>Total</b>			<b>18</b>	

- ✓ The electoral variances are excellent and it is unlikely that the views of electors in a single ward would dominate the council. Everyone’s views would carry equal weight, this is an important principle of democracy.
- ✓ All electors south of the canal would be part of one parish ward (Courtmoor) and one County Division (Church Crookham & Ewshot). This better reflects their community interests.
- ✓ Residents in Courtmoor parish ward are more likely to use the same schools, pre-schools and churches. It offers a better community fit.
- ✓ Provides the opportunity to reduce the number of councillors to 18 making it more likely that there will be contested elections. Competition for vacancies can lead to stronger more representative councils.
- ✓ All the wards contain an obvious polling station, which could permit all electors in a ward to vote in the same place. This is electorally convenient.
  
- × It may have been desirable to reduce the number of Councillors to 16 which is the current number of the 19 positions that the Council have actually filled. Only one person supported this in the Consultation. It is difficult to produce good electoral variances with 16 members and neither is this is not supported by FTC.
- × Electors in the proposed Courtmoor parish ward would be split across two different district wards (Fleet Central & Crookham East and Ewshot) making it less convenient electorally and possibly less clear for electors. As a result there would be 6 district Councillors representing electors in the Courtmoor parish ward.

## 5 RESULTS OF CONSULTATION

- 5.1 There were 28 responses to the consultation and these are summarised in Appendix A. All 28 responses were supportive of the FTC scheme. Their comments said that they preferred this option; in their responses they used words like convenience, lower costs, clarity, and simplicity. This shows that there is a measure of support for the changes proposed by FTC.
- 5.2 There were no responses in support of the LGBCE proposal.

- 5.3 One of the respondents to the consultation suggested that 16 Councillors would be a preferred alternative.

## **6 ACTION**

- 6.1 There is very little difference electorally or with regard to elector convenience as to which option to select. In those situations Council has historically taken the view that the views of the elected parish Councillors should be adopted, unless there is significant community opposition. The first option must be to consider the merits of the original proposals recommended by the LGBCE, recommendations which would otherwise come into effect in May 2018 unless altered. There is however, no apparent local community support for the LGBCE proposals.
- 6.2 There is however, some measure of community support for the FTC option. The recommendation therefore, is to make a request for the FTC proposal to be put to the LGBCE for approval before April 2018.

**Contact:** Andrew Tiffin, Elections and Information Manager, [andrew.tiffin@hart.gov.uk](mailto:andrew.tiffin@hart.gov.uk)

## **APPENDICES**

Appendix I – Summary of Responses

## APPENDIX I – SUMMARY OF RESPONSES

**Summary of responses to Fleet Community Governance Review  
March – June 2017**

<b>No. of responses</b>	<b>28</b>	27 via email 1 via letter/royal mail
<b>No. of responses in favour of FTC proposal</b>	<b>28</b>	1 respondent stated agreement with FTC proposals but quoted reduction in number of councillors to 16 (rather than 18)
<b>No. of responses in favour of LGBCE proposal</b>	nil	
<b>Responses received during period 10/3/17 – 9/6/17</b>	March - 15 April – 1 May – 9 June – 3	

## **COUNCIL**

**Date and Time:** Thursday, 28 September 2017 at 7.00 pm

**Place:** Council Chamber, Civic Offices, Fleet

**Present:**

### **COUNCILLORS –**

Crisp - (Chairman)

Ambler	Crookes	Oliver
Axam	Dickens	Parker
Billings	Forster	Radley (James)
Blewett	Gorys	Radley (Jenny)
Burchfield	Harward	Renshaw
Butler	Kennett	Southern
Clarke	Leeson	Wheale
Cockarill	Makepeace-Browne	Woods
Collett	Morris	
Crampton	Neighbour	

Officers Present:

Daryl Phillips	Joint Chief Executive
Gill Chapman	Committee Services

Prior to the meeting, Tim Colman of the Federation of Small Businesses awarded a Certificate to the Chairman in recognition of being highly commended in Best All-round Small Business Friendliness.

### **31 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 27 July 2017 were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

### **32 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Bailey, Gray, Kinnell and Wright.

### **33 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Oliver declared an interest in item 12, as a member of Fleet Town Council.

### **34 PRESENTATION BY FLEET AND CHURCH CROOKHAM FIRST RESPONDERS**

Tom Gallagher, Team Leader, gave a presentation on the work of the Fleet and Church Crookham First Responders. The team covers an area where it can take over ten minutes for an ambulance to arrive, and the First Responders can give valuable treatment and care before the ambulance arrives as they are already in the immediate vicinity. They are all volunteers, some with other jobs, and volunteers are always welcomed with full training given. Tom explained the process and how they can help the patient and potentially save lives. Defibrillators, positioned around the area, are also of great help in heart attack situations, but are expensive to buy. Residents are encouraged to know where their nearest machine is, and the group run training on using the machines and CPR all round the area, in schools, clubs, leisure centres etc. Tom added that the team would be happy to organise a course at the Council office for Councillors and Officers to attend.

Questions ranged around other First Response teams in the area, how often the defibrillators were being used and their cost. Members with personal experience of the excellent work done by the team added their thanks and support.

### **35 COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 12 – QUESTIONS BY THE PUBLIC**

Questions from the Public are detailed in Appendix A attached to these Minutes.

### **36 COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 14 – QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS**

Questions put by Councillors are detailed in Appendix B attached to these Minutes.

### **37 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman had attended the following events on behalf of the Council.

- 2 Sept Eversley Sports Association & Yateley Hockey Club official opening of new astroturf facility at Eversley Sports Association
- 7 Sept New Forest Civic Day – Bucklers Hard
- 21 Sept Mayor Gosport Civic Day – Gosport Town Hall
- 28 Sept Official opening of the Daisy Chain Dementia Café at Monteagle Hall, Yateley

The **Vice Chairman** attended the following events on behalf of the Council:

- 29 July Portsmouth Mayor Grand Summer Ball, Royal Marines Museum, Portsmouth
- 17 Sept Mayor Waverley Civic Service – St Mary's Church, Chiddingfold

The Chairman announced that he would be holding his Civic Day on 24 October, inviting representatives from neighbours and other authorities in Hampshire to show them the best of Hart.

### **38 CABINET MEMBERS ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Leader of the Council, **Councillor Neighbour**, announced:

I would like to echo the sentiments from the Federation of Small Businesses in all the good work being done by our Economic Development Team, and there are other things coming up.

In light of the Hampshire County Council budget consultation and ongoing preparatory work, we have invited our five County Councillors to a meeting to share information and to look at how we can work together to help mitigate any reductions in services in our area that may occur.

I met with the Leaders and CEOs of both East Hants and Rushmoor Councils, and discussed ongoing partnership working and other areas of mutual interest. Meetings with Basingstoke and Surrey Heath are in the diary. We will report back on any issues that arise.

It was suggested that meetings with Chairmen of the Parish Councils would be beneficial to both parties. Councillor Neighbour confirmed that he had already met with Fleet and Yateley Town Councils, and agreed that this was important. He added that Councillor Ambler had ongoing liaison with Parishes as part of his Partnerships portfolio.

The Cabinet Member for Services, **Councillor Radley**, reported:

The litter enforcement initiative has been running since May. In that time 320 Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) have been issued. The busiest areas being Fleet Road and the Tesco Car Park in Hook. The majority of these fines have been issued for the dropping of cigarette butts and chewing gum. A clean environment is an important aspect of the quality of life which we strive to enjoy in this district. Hopefully the threat of a £75 fine will have would be litterers thinking twice.

Questions were asked regarding dog fouling and other littering, more publicity around enforcement and an appeals procedure. Councillor Radley added that these issues were in hand, and was sure there was an adequate appeals process.

The Cabinet Member for Partnerships, **Councillor Ambler**, had no announcements.

In his absence, the Cabinet Member for Housing, **Councillor Bailey**, reported he had no announcements.

The Cabinet Member for Planning, **Councillor Cockarill**, had no announcements.

The Cabinet Member for Regulatory Services and Community Safety, **Councillor Collett**, reported:

**Police Buildings in Hart** - At a recent meeting of the Hampshire Police and Crime Panel, the body which holds the Police and Crime Commissioner to account, we were given an update on the Police Estate Strategy. Members will be aware that Fleet Police Station has already been decommissioned and the police are now very welcome joint users of this building.

The next phase of the strategy involves selling off the Hart Neighbourhood Centre, or Dickson House, in Hook, which has been declared surplus to policing requirements. Further down the line the intention is to dispose of Yateley Police Station as well, which will involve finding suitable alternative premises for the Safer Neighbourhood Team that is based there. Maybe there will be some form of premises sharing opportunity in the Yateley area.

**Northern Hampshire Police Investigation Centre** - On 3rd August I attended the opening, by Home Secretary Amber Rudd, of the Northern Hampshire Police Investigation Centre in Basingstoke. This is the second of three PICs that will eventually cover the whole of Hampshire. Southampton was opened several years ago and work is continuing to provide the third in Portsmouth.

So what is a PIC? Well their first role is that anyone who the police have to arrest anywhere in northern Hampshire will be taken there. The cells in local police stations, such as Aldershot, will no longer be used. This may sometimes result in slightly longer driving time to get there, but once there a centralised professional team can take over from the arresting officers and get them back on the streets much more quickly.

The Basingstoke PIC includes 36 state of the art cells, a room equipped with all technology needed for remote court appearances of vulnerable people and over 325 officers and staff are based there. The detectives working there will deal with the cases associated with those who have been arrested, but also the whole crime picture for northern Hampshire.

**Terrorist Threat** - On a sombre note. Members will be aware that the national terrorist threat level was raised to Critical recently following the explosion on a tube train at Parsons Green. This has, of course, now been reduced to Severe, although this still means that an attack is highly likely.

Hart is not immune from this and our local police were fully involved in the extra measures that were put in place during the Critical period. In a briefing note from Hampshire Police they stressed how important it is that we all play our part in being vigilant and reporting any suspicious activity. Better safe than sorry.

**Support for LGBTQ young people in Hart** - A new one-to-one support service for young people in Hart who identify as LGBTQ has been launched by the Breakout Youth charity. They hold weekly social groups in safe locations and offer a confidential service to young people up to the age of 21, or 25 with additional needs. More details can be found on the Breakout Youth website.

**Gold Stray Dog Footprint Award** - Finally, it is my great pleasure to start by telling you that our Dog Warden Service has won yet another award – the RSPCA's Community Animal Welfare Gold Stray Dog Footprint Award. As it says on the tin, this award recognises and celebrates the high standards of animal welfare being achieved by our officers in the work they do with stray dogs and Ayesha Saifie will be attending the Winners Reception in London in November to receive the award.

Members congratulated the dog warden service, and questioned the fate of Inclusion Hampshire, who occupied space in Dickson House. Councillor Collett assured

members that Inclusion Hampshire would be positively engaged with, if and when Dickson House becomes unavailable through the police estates plans.

Councillor Neighbour gave the Cabinet Member for Leisure and Countryside Services, **Councillor Kinnell's** report in her absence.

On Tuesday, in my capacity as Fairtrade Champion, I attended the Hart Fairtrade Steering Group meeting. The aim of the group is to increase the awareness of Fairtrade throughout the district and to encourage residents to purchase Fairtrade products. There are four events being run between now and Christmas to do just this:

- On Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> September, there is a Fairtrade event at the Church On The Heath between 2 and 5pm.
- On Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November, there will be a stall at the Fleet Festivities between 3 and 8pm
- Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December, a stall at the Hook Christmas Cracker between 4 and 7pm
- And finally, on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December, a stall at The Hartley Wintney Christmas Market between 4 and 8pm.

Sue Moll, a true champion for Fairtrade, will be organising these events, however, she is in need of 3 - 4 volunteers to help her run the stalls for the three Christmas events. If anybody can offer assistance, please let me know and I will pass your details onto Sue.

For the Leisure element of the portfolio - The customer user surveys that we requested Everyone Active to carry out as per the contract, will go out next month. It will be carried out over a 2 week period, on site, and there will be a dedicated member of staff stationed in the reception foyer area, with a tablet, asking customers whether they would like to complete the questionnaire. The survey will also be emailed out to everybody on Everyone Active's database, except of course those who have opted out of contact by email. This will include members and non-members and those people who book and use the centre, but for whatever reason have not joined as a member.

Membership of both Hart & Frogmore Leisure Centres has grown: 1,600 new members at Hart Leisure Centre, up from 2,500 to 4,100 in last 12 months and 600 new members at Frogmore Leisure Centre up from 1,100 to 1700, over the same period. Monthly attendance has also increased compared to the same period last year, with Hart experiencing a 1600 increase and Frogmore an even more impressive 3000 increase.

I'm delighted to be able to announce that the Hart Leisure Centre is up for the "New Centre of the Year Award" at the Annual National Fitness Awards. The winner will be announced on 1<sup>st</sup> December and I will ensure that I let members know the outcome.

On 4<sup>th</sup> October, there will be an Open Day for the over 50's and 60's, organised by Liz Glenn and Everyone Active, as part of the Joint Health & Wellbeing Partnership.

We will be showcasing free taster sessions of activities that, if popular, could then become permanent activities at the Leisure Centres.

The new Sports Hall for Calthorpe Park School: Stages 1 to 3 have all been about designing a building, within budget, that both HCC and HDC are happy with. We are now at stage 4 of the SCAPE process and all the various packages have now gone out to tender. During the last 2 weeks of November, it will be evaluated by Artelia, our consultants, and If HCC and HDC agree to proceed, the contract will be signed on 5<sup>th</sup> December. Building work will then start early January, with a completion date of the end of July 2018. Demolition of the former HLC is currently out to tender and is likely to commence when the new sports hall is built. Once demolished the lease can then be handed back to HCC.

Questions were asked around the attendance of the Portfolio Holder in these events, publicity on the website and social media, and the affect on parking whilst the new sports hall was being built.

The Cabinet Member for Contracts, **Councillor Oliver**, reported:

Firstly, I am pleased to report that the current waste collection service from Veolia is meeting all Service Level targets within the existing contract. This is despite knowing they will not be providing the service from October next year. This shows a responsible and professional attitude by both management and staff. The tender process is on time and within budget in the selection of a new Waste and Recycling partner for the council.

Secondly, I am pleased to announce that Hart's recycling rate for the first quarter this year exceeded 43%. This is 4% points better than last year showing we are moving forward in our ambition to exceed 50% in partnership with HCC

Lastly, on the 5 Councils Shared Services Contract. The transition to the new Lot 1 services with Capita (HR, Revs&Bens) will be on the 1<sup>st</sup> October as planned. However Lot 2 services (Parking, FM) have been delayed, in consultation with Vinci the contractor, until 1<sup>st</sup> December. This will allow outstanding issues on the delivery model and baseline costs to be agreed.

Questions were asked around recycling rates and the impact of missed and late collections on the targets.

## **39 JOINT CHIEF EXECUTIVES' REPORT**

The Joint Chief Executives updated members on their workload.

## **40 MINUTES OF COMMITTEES**

<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Overview and Scrutiny</b>	<b>18 July 2017</b>

No questions asked.

**Overview and Scrutiny**

**15 August 2017**

No questions asked.

**Licensing**

**5 September 2017**

No questions asked.

**Planning**

**9 August 2017**

No questions asked.

**I7/00842/FUL – Beechwood Farm, Dares Lane, Ewshot, Farnham**

Since insufficient requests to debate had been received this departure to the local plan was deemed to be **ACCEPTED**

**Planning**

**24 August 2017**

No questions asked.

**Planning**

**13 September 2017**

No questions asked.

**Cabinet**

**3 August 2017**

No questions asked.

**Cabinet**

**7 September 2017**

No questions asked.

**41 CHANGES TO THE NUMBER OF COUNCILLORS - CHURCH CROOKHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

Members considered the findings of the recently completed Community Governance consultation concerned with an adjustment of the number of councillors across the existing wards of that parish. The resultant changes from the review are planned to come into effect from the parish elections scheduled for May 2018.

**DECISION**

That the number of councillors for the 3 wards of the parish be adjusted as per the table below:

<b>Number of Parish Wards</b>	<b>Ward Names</b>	<b>Electorate Jan '22</b>	<b>Number of Councillors</b>	<b>Variance</b>
<b>3</b>	Crookham East	3900	5	0
	Gally Hill	1800	2	-15%
	Queen Elizabeth	c2100	3	10%
<b>Total</b>			10	

## **42 CHANGES TO THE WARDING ARRANGEMENTS OF FLEET PARISH**

Members considered the findings of the recently completed Community Governance consultation into the internal parish ward boundary arrangements of Fleet parish and to make a recommendation for implementation of new parish ward boundaries at elections from May 2018.

### **DECISION**

- A. To support the Fleet Town Council proposal for 5 parish wards;
- B. To make a request to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England to amend the proposed scheme that is due to come into effect in May 2018 to reflect the Fleet Town Council proposals; and
- C. To make amendments to the electoral register with effect from the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2017 that will enable the delivery of elections on the new boundaries from that date.

The meeting closed at 8.30 pm

## COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 12

### QUESTIONS BY THE PUBLIC

**Mr Max Clark and Mr Tony Gower-Jones** on behalf of FACE IT asked:

- 1 Given the recent publication by the Government of new guidelines 'Planning for the Right Homes in the Right Places' on housing needs assessment and associated proposals for housing allocations published for consultation on 14 September, which proposes for Hart the figure of 292 dwellings per annum (vs the current SHMA figure of 382), can he advise how this will affect Hart's development of the Local Plan?

**Councillor Cockarill** responded:

The Government's paper is a consultation only on a possible standardised methodology. Clearly one cannot prejudge the use of a possible methodology prior to the end of the consultation whilst also speculating on the outcome.

The current arrangements for calculating housing needs remain in place until such time as the methodology for calculating housing need is changed by the Government. The objectively assessed housing need for Hart remains at 382 new homes/annum but we agree with the previous administration that an affordable housing uplift is essential and that we should be planning to deliver at least 485 new homes/annum.

- 2 There are number of major sites either under consideration, being promoted by developers and landowners, or already in planning. Can you please explain the process for developing the spatial strategy and plans for major sites and the associated quantum of homes where not all the information is available to make even an outline determination?

**Councillor Cockarill** responded:

The Local Plan will be fully underpinned by a robust evidence base which will be available for independent examination when the Local Plan is submitted. That evidence base will be at a level and detail that is proportionate to the strategic objectives of a Local Plan Spatial Strategy - it should not be confused with the far more detailed and refined evidence base that is required to support individual Planning applications.

- 3 At the full Council meeting on 22/07/2012 Councillor Parker (then deputy Leader and member for Planning) stated: "The Local Plan timetable has unfortunately slipped to October for full council approval; we cannot afford for it to slip further. We need urgently to finalise numbers, distribution and where possible allocations ... to bring a final draft local plan to ... full Council by the end of October for approval for publication".

Can you explain why we still do not have a Local Plan to guide the Council in its development and for consideration of planning applications?

**Councillor Cockarill** responded:

I cannot answer for what Councillor Parker said in 2012, but let us not forget that the previous Core Strategy was subsequently rejected by the independent Inspector for the failure of that Strategy to deliver enough housing and to cooperate with our neighbours to meet their unmet needs.

The whole approach to the Local Plan therefore has had to be totally rebuilt - that inevitably takes time and resources. Identifying growth needs and then translating that into where that need should be delivered will always be difficult and undoubtedly challenging in an area such as Hart.

The new Local Plan is now very robust and seeks to properly to meet our housing needs in full including affordable housing needs, and it takes into account the emerging needs of our housing market area partners. Our neighbours support us. We will now push it to examination.

In the meantime however, I should point out that it is wrong to say that we do not have a Local Plan to guide development and for the consideration of Planning applications. We do have a Local Plan in place and its saved policies have served us well and they will continue to do so. The issue is that our policies for the delivery of new homes are out of date and so carry little weight in light of the government's policy to boost significantly the supply of new homes. The Government will continue to press for more homes to be delivered right across the country irrespective of whether a new Local Plan is in place.

**Mr David Turver** asked:

I        Recently the Government launched a consultation on a new method for calculating housing need. If this new approach was adopted Hart's target building rate would fall to 292 dwellings per annum, compared to 382 in the SHMA and 485 in the draft Local Plan. How does HDC plan to respond to this consultation?

**Councillor Cockarill** responded:

There could be benefits to having a standard approach to assessing the need for housing, but a formula drawn up by the Government can never fully understand the complexity and unique needs of local housing markets, which vary significantly from place to place. It is crucial that councils and communities can lead new development in their areas.

The consultation runs until the beginning of November and we shall use that time to assess the robustness of the government's draft proposals to understand how it would meet all our housing needs such as the need locally to deliver affordable homes for example. We intend also to work with our Housing Market Area Partners and with other partners, such as the District Council Network and the Local Government Association, to formulate our response to the consultation.

**Mr Turver** asked a supplementary question:

Will you make the consultation response public, and if so, when?

**Councillor Cockarill** responded:

We will endeavour to put as much in the public domain as soon as possible.

- 2 The same consultation (Table I and Para 54) indicates that Councils with no Local Plan should start to use the new methodology immediately. What steps have the Council taken, and what steps will you take to adopt this new method and when?

**Councillor Cockarill** responded:

The point about using the methodology immediately is not strictly true. The Government's paper is a consultation only on a possible standardised methodology. Clearly one cannot prejudge the use of a possible methodology prior to the end of the consultation whilst also speculating on the outcome. In any event, the consultation makes it clear that only if adopted, the new methodology will only take effect for Local Plans submitted either after 1 April or when the new revised National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) is published (whichever is the later). It would clearly therefore be premature at such an early time to start to speculate wildly about the possible use of an methodology that has not yet even been agreed.

- 3 Both Rushmoor and Surrey Heath have also seen their housing targets reduced by the new methodology by 142 and 30 dwellings per annum respectively. Rushmoor have already said they will accommodate their original, higher figure. Will Hart still need to consider building additional houses for Surrey Heath?

**Councillor Cockarill** responded:

The Governments' paper is a consultation and consultation only - one should not speculate about the outcome. It would therefore, be totally unwise to start to speculate about how our market area partners would react to the consultation and what that may mean for future unmet housing needs particularly as Surrey Heath is already well behind in meeting its current needs.

- 4 The consultation says (Para 46) that an Inspector should work on the assumption that the approach to calculating housing need is sound, if the plan calls for more houses than the standard method would provide. What does HDC now consider to be the most appropriate housing target to plan for in the Local Plan?

**Councillor Cockarill** responded:

The current arrangements for calculating housing need remain in place until such time as the methodology for calculating housing need is changed by the Government. The objectively assessed housing need for Hart remains at 382 new homes/annum but we agree with the previous administration that an affordable housing uplift is essential and that we should be planning to deliver at least 485 new homes/annum.

**Mr Turver** asked a supplementary question:

The total of the Government housing targets for each planning authority amounts to ~266,000 dpa, in line with national needs identified in ONS figures. In the draft Local Plan, Hart is planning for more than twice the demographic requirement in the local ONS

numbers. If this was repeated across the country, it would result in over 500,000 dpa, so what justification is there for keeping Hart's planning target at 485 dpa, given that the new 292 dpa target already includes an affordable housing uplift to the base demographic requirement?

**Councillor Cockarill** responded:

Not all districts are the same and we are not starting from the same point, This consultation ends in November, with the results not available until the new year, and we need to progress our local plan process rather than waiting for these consultation results. If you need more detail please get in touch with me and I will try to help.

**COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 14**

**QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS**

**Councillor Parker** asked:

Following the discussions and amendments of the first months of this Administration, what further changes are planned to the currently published listing of Cabinet members and responsibilities, or likely.

**Councillor Neighbour** responded:

Whilst no changes are planned portfolios are being adjusted to reflect the changing needs of the Council as the year progresses.

**Councillor Parker** asked a subsidiary question:

The reason for asking this question arose at a Scrutiny meeting asking where responsibilities for town regeneration may fit, which could be Councillor Ambler and Partnerships portfolio. A more important aspect may be that we could be overloading some members of the Cabinet with large portfolios.

Would you consider reviewing the Cabinet responsibilities to ensure a more even allocation of tasks?

**Councillor Neighbour** responded:

Portfolios were worked out collectively with colleagues, and every member of the Cabinet is welcome to discuss their work and their workload with me and the rest of the Cabinet at any time.