MINUTES of the MEETING of the WAVERLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Godalming on 14 October 2014 at 7.00 p.m.

\* Cllr Liz Wheatley (Mayor)

\* Cllr Mike Band (Deputy Mayor)

**Cllr Brian Adams** 

Cllr Stella Andersen-Payne

Cllr Gillian Beel

Cllr Patrick Blagden

- \* Cllr Maurice Byham
- \* Cllr Elizabeth Cable
- \* Cllr Carole Cockburn Cllr Jim Edwards
- \* Cllr Brian Ellis
- \* Cllr Patricia Ellis
- \* Cllr Jenny Else
- \* Cllr Mary Foryszewski
   Cllr Pat Frost
- \* Cllr Richard Gates
- \* Cllr Michael Goodridge
- \* Cllr Tony Gordon-Smith Cllr Lvnn Graffham
- \* Cllr Jill Hargreaves Cllr Christiaan Hesse Cllr Stephen Hill
  - Cllr Nicholas Holder
- Cllr Simon Inchbald
   Cllr Peter Isherwood
- \* Cllr Diane James Cllr Carole King
- \* Cllr Robert Knowles
- \* Cllr Martin Lear

- \* Cllr Nicky Lee
- \* Cllr Denis Leigh
- Cllr Peter Martin
- \* Cllr Tom Martin
  - Cllr Bryn Morgan
  - Cllr Stephen Mulliner
  - Cllr David Munro
- \* Cllr Elliot Nichols
  - Cllr Jennifer O'Grady
  - Cllr Stephen O'Grady Cllr Donal O'Neill
- \* Cllr Julia Potts
- \* Cllr Wyatt Ramsdale
- \* Cllr Stefan Reynolds
  - Cllr Ian Sampson
    Cllr Janet Somerville
  - Cllr Roger Steel
  - Cllr Stewart Stennett
  - Cllr Christopher Storey
  - Cllr Adam Taylor-Smith
- \* Cllr Jane Thomson
- \* Cllr Simon Thornton
  - Cllr Brett Vorley
- \* Cllr John Ward
- \* Cllr Keith Webster
  - Cllr Ross Welland
  - **CIIr Nick Williams**

#### \* Present

Prior to the commencement of the meeting, prayers were led by the Reverend Canon Mervyn Roberts.

#### 25. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 15 July 2014 and of the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 12 August 2014 were confirmed and signed.

## 26. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Brian Adams, Stella Andersen-Payne, Gillian Beel, Jim Edwards, Lynn Graffham, Stephen Hill, Nicholas Holder, Peter Isherwood, Carole King, Bryn Morgan, Stephen Mulliner, Jennifer O'Grady, Stephen O'Grady, Janet Somerville, Roger Steel,

<sup>\*</sup> Cllr Andrew Wilson

Stewart Stennett, Chris Storey, Adam Taylor-Smith, Brett Vorley and Nick Williams.

## 27. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no interests raised under this heading.

## 28. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor reported on the events she had attended, which included a vigil for commemorating the start of World War One at Guildford Cathedral in the presence of the Count and Countess of Wessex, taking the salute from the parachute team of the Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment at Wings and Wheels at Dunsfold, giving an address at the Ahmadiyya Muslim Association's Annual Convention and being presented to HRH The Princess Royal at the Royal School's Prize Day in Haslemere.

The Mayor encouraged members of the Council to attend her fundraising concert which was taking place on 18 October 2014 at Charterhouse School and announced that a Telegraph survey had ranked Waverley 7th among Britain's best Councils and number one in the South.

Finally the Mayor reported that Cllr Gillian Beel was still not well enough to return to Council meetings and the Council agreed to extend her period of absence for a further six months.

## 29. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

The following questions were received from members of the public in accordance with Procedure Rule 10:-

### i. from Mr David Wylde of Farnham

"In January 2013, Waverley promised the East Street Scheme was 'shovel ready', at the insistence of the inspectors at the public enquiry. Last month, 19 months later, we were told the scheme will 'soon be shovel ready'. How soon is soon, or will the date continue to recede as the months pass, and could both councillors and the people of Farnham be given a clear factual picture, shorn of softly worded euphemistic wishful thinking; both of this situation and of how the search for funding is going?"

The Leader of the Council responded as follows:-

"To make the project shovel ready it is imperative that certain enabling works are completed including the new and improved Brightwells Tennis Club. This is important to allow the Club to move seamlessly to its new home. The works to construct the tennis club are nearing completion after delays as a result of the wettest winter in 250 years. This will produce fantastic tennis facilities for the Brightwells Club in addition to a court for public use.

Funding for a major mixed use site such as Brightwells is not a simple process, particularly following a long and deep recession. It is our role as the Council to ensure that Waverley gets the best possible deal for its residents which is something we are committed to doing and we hope to be able to consider final proposals in the coming weeks."

## ii. <u>from Mr Jerry Hyman of Farnham</u>

"Housing development within the visitor catchment areas of the local heathland SPAs is subject to the requirements of the 'Habitats' Directive and the 'Waddenzee judgement', through paragraphs 113, 118 and 119 of the NPPF. Together these demand either (i) an Appropriate Assessment providing "convincing" objective scientific evidence that the habitat and endangered bird population objectives will not be negatively impacted, or (ii) that a strict limitation on housebuilding will be applied through Article 6(4).

Natural England's stated position was that the test of the lawfulness of the current SANG and Delivery Framework approach would be in achieving no net increase in visitor numbers to the TBHSPA, but that test was failed when their recently-published 2012/2013 Visitor Survey of the Thames Basin Heaths showed that visitor numbers had increased by 10% since their 2005 survey. In short, the evidence shows that the SANG and Delivery Framework approach is ineffective.

So in the light of the results of the recent SPA and SANG Visitor Surveys, is Waverley able to provide Councillors and the public with the necessary Assessment containing convincing objective evidence that Natural England's controversial approach (i.e. the Delivery Framework and the arbitrary designation of existing open space as SANGs) is sufficient to satisfy the tests of the *Waddenzee* judgment and Article 6(3) of the Directive - and if not, will WBC now apply the Art.6(4) limitation when determining relevant plans and projects?"

The Leader of the Council informed Mr Hyman that due to the complexity of the answer, he would receive a written response to his question.

## 30. MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE

#### 30.1 Meeting of 2 September 2014

It was moved by the Chairman of the Executive, duly seconded and

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Executive held on 2 September 2014 be approved and the recommendations contained therein adopted.

#### 30.2 Meeting of 30 September 2014

It was moved by the Chairman of the Executive, duly seconded and

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Executive held on 30 September 2014 be approved and the recommendations contained therein adopted.

## 31. MINUTES OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

With the Council's agreement, this item was taken out of order.

It was moved by the Chairman of the Committee, duly seconded and

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Audit Committee held on 17 September 2014 be approved.

## 32. MINUTES OF THE JOINT PLANNING COMMITTEE

It was moved by the Chairman of the Committee, duly seconded and

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meetings of the Joint Planning Committee held on 27 August, 22 September and 24 September 2014 be approved.

## 33. MINUTES OF THE LICENSING AND REGULATORY COMMITTEE

## 33.1 Meeting of 24 July 2014

It was moved by the Chairman of the Committee, duly seconded and

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Licensing and Regulatory Committee held on 24 July 2014 be approved.

#### 33.2 Meeting of 18 September 2014

It was moved by the Chairman of the Committee, duly seconded and

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Licensing and Regulatory Committee held on 18 September 2014 be approved and the recommendations contained therein adopted.

# 34. APPOINTMENT TO THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

RESOLVED that Cllr Jenny Else be appointed to the Audit Committee for the remainder of the current Council year.

The meeting concluded at 7.50 p.m.