

ITEM 3

Time commenced - 6:00pm
Time adjourned - 6:35pm
Time commenced - 6:45pm
Time finished - 7.37pm

COUNCIL 17 January 2024

The Mayor, Councillor Alan Graves and Councillors Amin, Ashby, Atwal, Bolton, Bonser, Care, Chambers, Dhindsa, Eyre, Evans, Fowke, Hassall, Hezelgrave, A Holmes, M Holmes, Hudson, C Ingall, P Ingall, Kaur, J Khan, S Khan, Kozlowski, Kus, Lakin, Lonsdale, Lindsey, Martin, Morgan-McGeehan, Mulhall, Nawaz, Onuoha, Pandey, Pattison, Pearce, Peatfield, Potter, Poulter, Prosser, Rawson, Repton, Roulstone, Sandhu, Shanker, Smale, Swan, Trehwella, Whitby, Wilson, C Wright and J Wright.

65/23 Apologies

There were none.

66/23 Declarations of Interest

There were none.

67/23 Minutes of the Previous Meetings

The minutes of the special and ordinary meetings of Council held on 22 November 2023 and the minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on 7 December 2023 were moved by Councillor Shanker and seconded by Councillor Dhindsa.

Resolved that the minutes of the meetings of the Council held on 22 November and 6 December 2023 be approved as a correct record, confirmed and signed by the Mayor.

68/23 Announcements from the Mayor

The Mayor shared several announcements. It was noted that the Mayor had agreed to accept a late item following the publication of the Cabinet agenda. The item in question was a minute extract of the Council Cabinet relating to the calculation of the Council Tax base that required urgent consideration prior to the February meeting of Council where the Council Tax for 2024-25 would be determined.

The Mayor wished those in attendance a Happy New Year and reflected on the engagements they had attended over the festive period. In particular, the Mayor had enjoyed participating in the Derby City Council staff choir and attending the press night for Mother Goose at the Derby Arena.

Before concluding, the Mayor reported the death of Mick Walker, who had served as a Labour councillor for Abbey Ward between 1972 and 1999. Former Councillor Walker had served as Leader of the Council between 1979 and 1983 and Chair of

the Planning Committee from 1983 to 1988. It was also reported that he was a long-serving board member of Viva Sinfonia. Councillors Graves, Dhindsa, Hezelgrave and Care shared their recollections of former Councillor Walker, before the meeting paused for a minute's silence out of respect.

68/23 Statements from members of the Council Cabinet

There were none.

69/23 Questions from the public

Questions and responses were heard as follows:

Questioner	Respondent	Summary
Vanessa Boon	Councillor Hezelgrave	Betting shops
Geoffrey Marshall	Councillor Hezelgrave	Settlement of Ukrainian refugees
Simon Bacon	Councillor Swan	Drain and gully clearance
Vanessa Boon	Councillor Shanker	Council Tax arrears
Simon Bacon	Councillor Shanker	Sinfin Waste Treatment Plant

70/23 Questions relating to Derbyshire Fire Authority or Derby Homes

There were none.

71/23 Questions from non-Council Cabinet members

Questions and responses were heard as follows:

Questioner	Respondent	Summary
Councillor Evans	Councillor Dhindsa	Accessible play equipment
Councillor Kus	Councillor Dhindsa	Compactor days

72/23 Minute extract 103-23 of the Council Cabinet meeting held on 6 December 2023

Council received a minute extract of the Council Cabinet presenting the Treasury Management Mid-Year Report for 2023-24. The minute noted that the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) recommended the consideration of treasury management mid-year and outturn reports by Full Council as good practice. The minute presented the Treasury Management activity and capital indicators of the Council for the period 1 April 2023 to 30 September 2023.

The minute was moved by Councillor Shanker and seconded by Councillor Peatfield, put to the vote and carried.

Resolved to approve minute 103-23 of the Council Cabinet.

73/23 Minute extract 121-23 of the Council Cabinet meeting held on 10 January 2024

The Mayor introduced an urgent minute extract referred from the Council Cabinet at the meeting of 10 January 2024. It was noted that the minute had been accepted as a late item owing to the need to agree the Council Tax base prior to the February meeting of Council at which the level of Council Tax for 2024-25 would be considered.

The minute presented the Council Tax base calculations. It was noted that the Council Tax base was an estimated figure of the number of domestic properties in terms of 'Band D' equivalents in the Council's area during the financial year concerned. The proposed Council Tax base for 2024-25 was 71,844.12 Band D equivalent properties.

The minute was moved by Councillor Shanker, seconded by Councillor Peatfield, put to the vote and carried.

Resolved to approve minute 121-23 of the Council Cabinet.

74/23 Constitutional Review

The Mayor invited the Leader of the Council to move the recommendations in the report included on the agenda relating to the Constitutional Review.

The Leader moved that under Council Procedure Rule CP42(g) the item be withdrawn and reconsidered at a future meeting, noting that they had become aware that some councillors had raised concerns about elements of the draft Constitution.

The meeting was briefly adjourned to allow for the Mayor to seek constitutional advice from the Monitoring Officer. The Mayor provided opportunity for any other councillor to move the recommendations in the report are none were forthcoming. Councillors Care and Hassall spoke in favour of the item being withdrawn and supported further consultation with the Constitutional Review Councillor Working Group.

75/23 Polling Place Review

Council received a report of the Director of Corporate Governance, Property and Procurement presenting the results of a recent review of polling districts, polling places and polling stations.

It was reported that the Council held a statutory responsibility under the Representation of the People Act 1983 to review polling districts and polling places; the Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013 required a review to be undertaken between 1 October 2023 and 31 January 2025.

The report presented the findings of a recent public consultation and the recommendations of the (Acting) Returning Officer (ARO). It was noted that following the introduction of Voter Identification rules, the Electoral Commission reduced the recommended maximum electors per polling station from 2,500 to 2,250. It was recommended that the number of polling districts was reduced from 102 to 95, eliminating several small polling districts that form part of multiple stations under the Council's current arrangements. The options for individual polling districts and polling places were provided at Appendices 1 and 2 to the report.

The recommendations in the report were moved by Councillor Shanker and seconded. Councillor Care moved that the motion be amended by the addition of a second recommendation to delegate authority to the ARO to make any further minor or technical amendments to the scheme to allow for the efficient operation of elections. Councillor Shanker indicated his acceptance of the proposed amendment and the meeting's consent was given without debate.

The recommendations as amended were put to the vote and carried.

Resolved:

- 1. To approve the proposals for the scheme of polling districts and polling places set out at Appendices 1 and 2 of the report.**
- 2. To delegate authority to the (Acting) Returning Officer to make any further minor or technical amendments to the scheme to allow for the efficient operation of elections.**

76/23 Motion: NHS Dentistry Isn't Working: Implement Fundamental Reform

The following motion was moved by Councillor Martin, and seconded by Councillor Kozlowski:

Full Council notes that NHS dentistry is in crisis. The Health and Social Care Parliamentary Select Committee 2023 Report, NHS dentistry, states that the pain and distress of being unable to see an NHS dentist is 'totally unacceptable in the 21st century', and calls for urgent and fundamental reform. The British Dental Association has said that NHS dentistry isn't working and has called upon the government to 'restore' NHS dentistry as Rishi Sunak promised in his leadership campaign of 2022.

Access to NHS dentistry has been in decline for over a decade and is now at a critically low level. 1 in 5 people are not 'registered' with a dentist at all and nearly 50% are not seeing a dentist regularly, whilst an estimated 10% of people are resorting to DIY treatment. In Derby, a recent Healthwatch Report detailed widespread problems in accessing an NHS dentist, including for children, and in a city where tooth decay among the under 5s is higher than the national average. Many dentists have ceased accepting NHS patients, and the increasing cost of dentistry is also a barrier to access which impacts disproportionately those most affected by the cost of living crisis.

Fundamental reform of the NHS dental contract and increased funding are key to restoring NHS dentistry, as many bodies acknowledge.

Full Council resolves to:

- 1. Support the calls for urgent action to implement the requisite fundamental reforms to NHS dentistry*
- 2. Support the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board writing to the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care to urge the immediate implementation of reforms.*

It was moved by Councillor Lonsdale and seconded by Councillor Care that the motion be amended by the addition of the following words at the conclusion of the final paragraph:

- ‘3. Encourage Public Health to work with local dentists, charities, schools and other stakeholders to provide a public education campaign to help improve dental health citywide.’

The amendment was put to the vote and carried.

The motion as amended was put to the vote and carried.

Resolved:

Full Council notes that NHS dentistry is in crisis. The Health and Social Care Parliamentary Select Committee 2023 Report, NHS dentistry, states that the pain and distress of being unable to see an NHS dentist is ‘totally unacceptable in the 21st century’, and calls for urgent and fundamental reform. The British Dental Association has said that NHS dentistry isn’t working and has called upon the government to ‘restore’ NHS dentistry as Rishi Sunak promised in his leadership campaign of 2022.

Access to NHS dentistry has been in decline for over a decade and is now at a critically low level. 1 in 5 people are not ‘registered’ with a dentist at all and nearly 50% are not seeing a dentist regularly, whilst an estimated 10% of people are resorting to DIY treatment. In Derby, a recent Healthwatch Report detailed widespread problems in accessing an NHS dentist, including for children, and in a city where tooth decay among the under 5s is higher than the national average. Many dentists have ceased accepting NHS patients, and the increasing cost of dentistry is also a barrier to access which impacts disproportionately those most affected by the cost of living crisis.

Fundamental reform of the NHS dental contract and increased funding are key to restoring NHS dentistry, as many bodies acknowledge.

Full Council resolves to:

- 1. Support the calls for urgent action to implement the requisite fundamental reforms to NHS dentistry**
- 2. Support the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board writing to the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care to urge the immediate implementation of reforms.**

- 3. Encourage Public Health to work with local dentists, charities, schools and other stakeholders to provide a public education campaign to help improve dental health citywide.**

MAYOR