

**BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL**

**COUNCIL**

**4.30pm 21 JULY 2016**

**COUNCIL CHAMBER, BRIGHTON TOWN HALL**

**MINUTES**

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

**PART ONE**

**18 PETITIONS FOR COUNCIL DEBATE**

18.1 The Mayor stated that the council's petition scheme provided that where a petition secured 1,250 or more signatures it could be debated at a Council meeting. He had been notified of four such petitions which had sufficient signatures to warrant a debate and therefore would call on the lead petitioner to present their petition before opening the matter up for debate.

**(b) Rottingdean Air Quality & Traffic Petition**

18.11 The Mayor invited Nigel Smith to present calling upon the Council to take action to address air quality and traffic in Rottingdean. The Mayor also explained that Item 23(d) – Notices of Motion: Rottingdean Air Quality would be considered with this item.

18.12 Mr Smith thanked the Mayor and explained that due to traffic congestion Rottingdean High Street was designated as an air quality management area (AQMA) and it exceeded EU air quality limits; the effects of prolonged exposure to pollution were also highlighted. The level of traffic passing through the village also increased the potential for accidents. The Parish Council were supportive of actions to address the problem, and it was argued that preference had been given to air quality management schemes in the west of the city. Council were asked to address the issues in relation to air quality at the earliest opportunity, and the specific actions requested were outlined in the body of the petition.

18.13 Councillor Hyde moved the Notice of Motion listed in the agenda on behalf of the Conservative Group. She stated that the impetus for the Notice of Motion had been a

previous deputation to the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee, calling for traffic modelling as a means to reduce pollution; the deputation had been noted. Children and the elderly were most affected by the pollution and there were two primary schools just off the High Street in Rottingdean. There were also a number of residential properties in the High Street, and the vehicles could be as close as 1 metre from people's living room windows. Councillor Hyde noted comments made by Councillor Mitchell in relation to Labour Party Support for a clean air act; which stated that improvements had been made in Rottingdean, but there was still much to do. It was hoped that the request to bring a report to would receive the support of Council.

- 18.14 Councillor Miller formally seconded to motion and stated that the Notice of Motion was in response to the disappointing receipt of the Parish Council's deputation, namely that there was not sufficient LTP funding. Some of the issues and the impact were highlighted, and it was stated that this traffic build up in the east of city had a knock on effect. Councillor also noted that the City Plan had identified additional housing in the ward and this would only seek to add to the existing problems.
- 18.15 Councillor Page proposed an amendment on behalf of the Green Group and thanked the petitioners and the ward Councillors for bringing attention to the issue; he noted that Portslade was also in an AQMA and there were a number of other hotspots in the city that had issues with air quality management. He noted that the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee needed to consider carefully what could be done in these areas and some funded should be found to address this. Councillor Page went on to highlight that the Conservative Chair of the Environment, Food & Rural Affairs Select Committee had stated that poor air quality was harming health nationally and figures suggested that it accounted for 40,000 to 50,000 premature deaths each year; this equated to approximately 200 within the city.
- 18.16 Councillor Deane formally seconded the amendment and stated that the Green Group were in support of the motion, but were proposing an amendment on the basis that it was important to seek to reduce traffic wherever possible. Councillor Deane highlighted proposed measures that the previous Green Administration had undertaken; she highlighted her sympathy with residents in Rottingdean and noted that the Green Group were seeking to encourage the use of alternative means of transportation to the car where possible.
- 18.17 Councillor Mears highlighted that this was not a new problem for the city and noted that some steps had been taken by the previous Green Administration. Council had already heard a deputation from residents in Woodingdean as many of these problems started from traffic on the Falmer Road into Rottingdean. The area was semi-rural and hilly, and, whilst many residents relied on it, the bus service was not good in the area forcing many to use cars as the only means of transportation. Councillor Mears urged the administration to look carefully at residents' concerns and requests.
- 18.18 Councillor Mitchell responded to the debate and stated that the Administration supported the Notice of Motion, and highlighted that the principle cause of harmful emissions was cars and vans. Air quality in Rottingdean High Street had been measured regularly since 2013, whilst it had improved, this had now stalled. Options around parking and redirecting traffic were not necessarily suitable as they could create block backs elsewhere in the city. It was noted that the spending in the LTP was already

committed, but other funding methods could be potentially considered. Councillor Mitchell noted that the work the Green Group amendment proposed would already be undertaken by the LTP and therefore the amendment was unnecessary. It was important to look at how funding could be used to unlock housing and provide jobs, which had to be the basis on any transport bid to Central Government. Councillor Mitchell concluded by stating she would be happy to receive a report to the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee to consider all of these issues.

18.19 Councillor Hyde spoke in response to the debate and stated that that the proposed amendment to the Notice of Motion would not be accepted. She thanked Councillor Mitchell's for her positive contributions. In response to comments from Councillor Deane she noted that the bus on the seafront A259 had made traffic problems much worse in that area, and the pollution had increased since the opening of the bus lane on the Lewes Road.

18.20 The Mayor then put the recommendations in the petition report to the vote, these were **carried**.

18.21 **RESOLVED** – That the petition is noted and referred to the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee for consideration at its meeting on 11 October 2016.

18.22 The Mayor then put the proposed Green Amendment to the Conservative Notice of Motion, this was **lost** 11 to 42 as set out below:

		For	Against	Abstain		For	Against	Abstain
1	<b>Allen</b>		X		<b>Marsh</b>		X	
2	<b>Atkinson</b>		X		<b>Meadows</b>		X	
3	<b>Barford</b>		X		<b>Mears</b>		X	
4	<b>Barnett</b>		X		<b>Miller</b>		X	
5	<b>Bell</b>		X		<b>Mitchell</b>		X	
6	<b>Bennett</b>		X		<b>Moonan</b>		X	
7	<b>Bewick</b>		X		<b>Morgan</b>		X	
8	<b>Brown</b>		X		<b>Morris</b>		X	
9	<b>Cattell</b>		X		<b>Nemeth</b>		X	
10	<b>Chapman</b>		X		<b>Norman A</b>		X	
11	<b>Cobb</b>		X		<b>Norman K</b>		X	
12	<b>Daniel</b>		X		<b>O'Quinn</b>		X	
13	<b>Deane</b>	✓			<b>Page</b>	✓		
14	<b>Druitt</b>	✓			<b>Peltzer Dunn</b>	✓		
15	<b>Gibson</b>	✓			<b>Penn</b>		X	

16	<b>Gilbey</b>		X		<b>Phillips</b>	✓		
17	<b>Greenbaum</b>	✓			<b>Robins</b>		X	
18	<b>Hamilton</b>		X		<b>Simson</b>		X	
19	<b>Hill</b>		X		<b>Sykes</b>	✓		
20	<b>Horan</b>		X		<b>Taylor</b>		X	
21	<b>Hyde</b>		X		<b>Theobald C</b>		X	
22	<b>Inkpin-Leissner</b>		X		<b>Theobald G</b>		X	
23	<b>Janio</b>		X		<b>Wares</b>		X	
24	<b>Knight</b>	✓			<b>Wealls</b>		X	
25	<b>Lewry</b>		X		<b>West</b>	✓		
26	<b>Littman</b>	✓			<b>Yates</b>		X	
27	<b>Mac Cafferty</b>	✓						
					<b>Total</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>42</b>	

18.22 The Mayor then put the Notice of Motion as listed to the vote this was **carried** unanimously.