

Notice of Council



Date: Tuesday, 10 December 2024 at 7.00 pm

Venue: Council Chamber, BCP Civic Centre, Bournemouth BH2 6DY

Chairman:

Cllr L Dedman

Vice Chairman:

Cllr S Bull

Cllr C Adams
Cllr S Aitkenhead
Cllr H Allen
Cllr M Andrews
Cllr S Armstrong
Cllr J Bagwell
Cllr S Bartlett
Cllr J Beesley
Cllr P Broadhead
Cllr D Brown
Cllr O Brown
Cllr R Burton
Cllr J J Butt
Cllr P Canavan
Cllr S Carr-Brown
Cllr J Challinor
Cllr A Chapmanlaw
Cllr B Chick
Cllr J Clements
Cllr E Connolly
Cllr P Cooper
Cllr M Cox
Cllr D d'Orton-Gibson
Cllr B Dove
Cllr M Dower

Cllr M Earl
Cllr J Edwards
Cllr G Farquhar
Cllr D Farr
Cllr A Filer
Cllr D A Flagg
Cllr M Gillett
Cllr C Goodall
Cllr A Hadley
Cllr J Hanna
Cllr E Harman
Cllr R Herrett
Cllr P Hilliard
Cllr B Hitchcock
Cllr M Howell
Cllr A Keddie
Cllr M Le Poidevin
Cllr S Mackrow
Cllr R Maidment
Cllr A Martin
Cllr D Martin
Cllr G Martin
Cllr J Martin
Cllr C Matthews
Cllr S McCormack

Cllr P Miles
Cllr S Moore
Cllr A-M Moriarty
Cllr B Nanovo
Cllr L Northover
Cllr M Phipps
Cllr K Rampton
Cllr Dr F Rice
Cllr J Richardson
Cllr V Ricketts
Cllr C Rigby
Cllr K Salmon
Cllr J Salmon
Cllr P Sidaway
Cllr P Slade
Cllr T Slade
Cllr V Slade
Cllr M Tarling
Cllr T Trent
Cllr O Walters
Cllr C Weight
Cllr L Williams
Cllr K Wilson
Cllr G Wright

All Members of the Council are summoned to attend this meeting to consider the items of business set out on the agenda below.

The press and public are welcome to attend or view the live stream of this meeting at the following link: <https://democracy.bcpCouncil.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Mid=5910>

If you would like any further information on the items to be considered at the meeting please contact: Democratic Services on 01202 096660 or democratic.services@bcpCouncil.gov.uk

Press enquiries should be directed to the Press Office: Tel: 01202 118686 or email.press.office@bcpCouncil.gov.uk

This notice and all the papers mentioned within it are available at democracy.bcpCouncil.gov.uk

GRAHAM FARRANT
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

2 December 2024

**DEBATE
NOT HATE**



Available online and
on the Mod.gov app



Maintaining and promoting high standards of conduct

Declaring interests at meetings

Familiarise yourself with the Councillor Code of Conduct which can be found in Part 6 of the Council's Constitution.

Before the meeting, read the agenda and reports to see if the matters to be discussed at the meeting concern your interests



What are the principles of bias and pre-determination and how do they affect my participation in the meeting?

Bias and predetermination are common law concepts. If they affect you, your participation in the meeting may call into question the decision arrived at on the item.

Bias Test

In all the circumstances, would it lead a fair minded and informed observer to conclude that there was a real possibility or a real danger that the decision maker was biased?

Predetermination Test

At the time of making the decision, did the decision maker have a closed mind?

If a councillor appears to be biased or to have predetermined their decision, they must NOT participate in the meeting.

For more information or advice please contact the Monitoring Officer
(janie.berry@bcpcouncil.gov.uk)

Selflessness

Councillors should act solely in terms of the public interest

Integrity

Councillors must avoid placing themselves under any obligation to people or organisations that might try inappropriately to influence them in their work. They should not act or take decisions in order to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves, their family, or their friends. They must declare and resolve any interests and relationships

Objectivity

Councillors must act and take decisions impartially, fairly and on merit, using the best evidence and without discrimination or bias

Accountability

Councillors are accountable to the public for their decisions and actions and must submit themselves to the scrutiny necessary to ensure this

Openness

Councillors should act and take decisions in an open and transparent manner. Information should not be withheld from the public unless there are clear and lawful reasons for so doing

Honesty & Integrity

Councillors should act with honesty and integrity and should not place themselves in situations where their honesty and integrity may be questioned

Leadership

Councillors should exhibit these principles in their own behaviour. They should actively promote and robustly support the principles and be willing to challenge poor behaviour wherever it occurs

AGENDA

Items to be considered while the meeting is open to the public

1. Apologies

To receive any apologies for absence from Councillors.

2. Declarations of Interests

Councillors are requested to declare any interests on items included in this agenda. Please refer to the workflow on the preceding page for guidance.

Declarations received will be reported at the meeting.

3. Confirmation of Minutes

11 - 38

To confirm and sign as a correct record the minutes of the Meeting held on the 15 October 2024 and reconvened on the 4 November 2024.

4. Announcements and Introductions from the Chairman

To receive any announcements from the Chairman.

5. Public Issues

To receive any public questions, statements or petitions submitted in accordance with the Constitution. Further information on the requirements for submitting these is available to view at the following link: -

<https://democracy.bcpccouncil.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?CommitteeID=151&Info=1&bcr=1>

The deadline for the submission of public questions is mid-day Wednesday 4 December 2024 (12 noon, 3 clear working days before the meeting).

The deadline for the submission of a statement is mid-day Monday 9 December 2024 (mid-day the working day before the meeting).

The deadline for the submission of a petition is Tuesday 26 November 2024 (10 working days before the meeting).

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

6. Licensing Committee 19 September 2024 - Minute No. 18 - Approval of Statement of Licensing Principles- Gambling Act Policy 2025 - 2028

39 - 78

RECOMMENDED that the Statement of Licensing Principles – Gambling Act Policy 2025 – 2028 be approved.

7. Cabinet 30 October 2024 - Minute No. 72 - Westbourne Plus

79 - 90

RECOMMENDED that Council: -

- (a) note the confidential draft minutes and the recommendations of the Cross-Party Asset Disposal Working Group meeting held on the 4 October 2024; and

- (b) subject to a viable alternative being confirmed before the Council meeting on the 10 December 2024, approve the disposal on an open market basis of the former Westbourne Plus site including St Ambrose Cottage on such terms to be approved by the Director of Finance also acting in his capacity as Corporate Property Officer, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Finance.

[PLEASE NOTE: Should the Council wish to discuss the detail of the confidential appendices the meeting will be required to move into Confidential (Exempt) Session].

8. Audit and Governance Committee 28 November 2024 - Minute No. 54 - Review of the Council's Constitution - Recommendations of the Constitution Review Working Group

91 - 108

RECOMMENDED that: -

- (a) in relation to Issue 1 (Article 4 – The Full Council) the proposed amendments to Part 2, Article 4 (The Full Council), as set out in Appendix 1 to the report, be approved;
- (b) that the Council meeting scheduled for Tuesday, 25 February 2025 be designated as the Annual Budget Council Meeting and that an additional ordinary meeting of Council be scheduled for Tuesday, 11 February 2025 at 7.00pm;
- (c) in relation to Issue 2 (Part 3A Responsibility for Functions – Planning Committee) the proposed amendments to Part 3A (Responsibility for Functions), as set out in Appendix 2 to the report, be approved, subject to the addition of the words ‘part or all of’ in section 2.3.7 (a) to read:

“in the opinion of the Councillor making the request, the application raises material planning issues that affect part or all of their ward or would affect the wider public interest that would warrant debate and consideration by a planning committee; and”
- (e) any necessary and consequential technical and formatting related updates and revisions to the Constitution be delegated to the Monitoring Officer.

Note – resolution (d) was a resolved matter by the Committee

9. Recommendations from the Cabinet - 10 December 2024

To consider the recommendations arising from the Cabinet meeting scheduled for 10 December 2024. The recommendations will be circulated as soon as practicably possible following the meeting of the Cabinet. A copy of the reports and appendices to the Cabinet have been published and are available on the Councils website on the following link:

<https://democracy.bcpccouncil.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=285&MId=5906&Ver=4>

10. Review of the political balance of the Council, the allocation of seats on Committees to each political group and the appointment of Councillors to Committees and Outside Bodies	109 - 116
<p>The Council is asked to consider and approve the review of the political balance of the Council, the allocation of seats on Committees to each political group, the appointment of Councillors on Committees and appointments to outside bodies following the result of the by-election in the Muscliff and Strouden Park Ward on 24 October 2024.</p>	
11. Members Allowances Scheme	117 - 148
<p>This report seeks Council's approval of the Scheme of Allowances for 2025-2026 Municipal Year and incorporates the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP) on their review of the Members' Scheme of Allowances for 2025/26.</p>	
12. Non-compliance with Standards Complaints Process - Determination	149 - 152
<p>This report is for information and provides the Council with details of a complaint where the subject councillor has failed to comply with a determination requesting that an apology be made following the informal resolution stage of the complaints process.</p>	
13. Hurn Neighbourhood Plan	153 - 198
<p>The Hurn Neighbourhood Plan was subject to independent examination May to August 2024. The examiner's report received on 9 August 2024, concluded that subject to modifications, the neighbourhood plan meets basic and legal conditions. Cabinet on 4 September 2024 agreed the examiner's modifications, together with the council's decision statement and approved the modified plan for referendum.</p> <p>The referendum took place on 24 October 2024 within the Hurn area.</p> <p>The referendum question asked:</p> <p>'Do you want BCP Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Hurn to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?'</p> <p>Since the result of the referendum was positive, with more than 50% of those voting, agreeing with the above question, the council must now bring the plan into force so that it forms part of the statutory development plan. It will be used alongside the Local Plan to determine planning applications in the Hurn Neighbourhood area.</p>	
14. Notices of Motions in accordance with Procedure Rule 10	
Housing Targets	
<p>The following motion submitted in accordance with Procedure Rule 10 of the Meeting Procedure Rules has been proposed by Councillor P Broadhead and seconded by Councillor B Dove: -</p> <p>This Council is proud of the extensive work that was put into our recently submitted Draft Local Plan. This Local Plan was the first for the BCP Council area and was broadly realistic but also aspirational in its future housing needs, especially concerning annual housing targets.</p>	

It plans for 1600 homes per annum through the life of the Plan, which is already a 35% increase on the maximum number of homes ever delivered in the BCP area, to date, in a one year period. This figure was calculated on actual housing need from our independently produced Housing Needs Sensitivity report.

This Council is therefore concerned about the new Labour Government's announced plans to centralise housing targets. This plan, as outlined in their new Revised Planning Policy Framework, will remove the ability for our local area to decide our own housing numbers, and instead impose a new, Westminster-dictated figure of almost 3000 homes per year. This is almost TRIPLE the number ever delivered in our best year, and almost DOUBLE the number in our submitted Local Plan.

There is simply no way these numbers can be delivered without widescale change to the physical fabric of our delicate geography.

The new Government also plans to remove the protection of our precious Green Belt by providing for the option for it to be redefined as Grey Belt. It is clear that these new targets will require extensive Green Belt release, and destruction, to provide for these new centralised targets.

This Council therefore:

Argues strongly that housing targets should remain decided locally and not dictated by Government.

Asks the Lead Member for Local Plan Delivery to write to the Secretary of State Angela Raynor to:

- **ask her to think again on these plans to remove the ability for local areas to decide their own housing figures**
- **inform her that we strongly oppose the new centrally imposed figure of 2962 new homes per annum being forced to be built in the BCP Council Area**
- **tell her that we want our Green Belt protected and not redefined as Grey Belt**

We also ask the Council to publicly publish its formal response to the Government's Consultation to the proposed revised NPPF for transparency purposes.

Remote Attendance and Proxy Voting

The following motion submitted in accordance with Procedure Rule 10 of the Meeting Procedure Rules has been proposed by Councillor P Broadhead and seconded by Councillor J Challinor: -

The Government has recently opened a consultation on "Enabling remote attendance and proxy voting at local authority meetings". Typically for Government, the deadline for consultation responses is very tight, with the consultation due to close on 19th December – only 9 days away from today's meeting.

In the Ministerial foreword, the Minister states:

"The attendance of elected members at local authority meetings is a core part of the democratic process at the local level and is integral to members

carrying out their functions effectively. In addition to the value of members coming together to debate and discuss the issues which impact the lives of the people they represent; it is also important that local residents have the opportunity to engage directly with the people they have elected to take key decisions on their behalf.”

However, the Government then goes on to say that, subject to the consultation, they are minded “to amend the law to introduce provisions for remote attendance at local authority meetings”.

This Council believes:

- **While there are benefits to virtual and/or hybrid meetings, especially for informal meetings and training sessions, the current regulations which require a physical presence for Councillors to vote at formal meetings are sufficient.**
- **It is important, for formal Council meetings, for the public to see their Elected Members coming together to debate, discuss and vote on the issues in person, with the benefit of all of the information being received at the same time and in the same way. Our residents expect our physical attendance, and it would erode the accountability and view of Councillors by the public should this requirement be removed.**
- **That the Leader of the Council respond formally to the consultation on behalf of the Council to say that we do not agree with a change in the regulations to enable remote attendance and proxy voting at local authority meetings.**

Van life - Supporting all communities

The following motion submitted in accordance with Procedure Rule 10 of the Meeting Procedure Rules has been proposed by Councillor P Cooper and seconded by Councillor P Canavan: -

Van dwellers, including van lifers and members of the Gypsy and Traveller communities, often face challenges that highlight a complex tension between individual lifestyle choices and community regulations. This can lead to friction and a sense of exclusion among residents who feel their natural surroundings are being monopolised.

Meanwhile, Gypsy and Traveller communities often find themselves moved on by local authorities. This incurs significant costs and frustrations for both the travellers and the councils involved. These issues underscore the broader debate on the right to live according to personal or cultural circumstances, whether out of choice or economic necessity. While everyone has the right to choose their way of life, there is a growing need for balanced solutions that respect both the rights of individuals and the interests of local communities.

This Council acknowledges the travelling community and van dwellers as valuable members of our society who contribute to the diversity and cultural richness of our area and commits to fostering a respectful and inclusive environment where all individuals, regardless of their housing situation, are treated with dignity and fairness.

To this end, the Council resolves to: develop a Community Pact for all vehicle dwellers that will:

- a) Outline a clear plan to establish designated safe parking areas with access to basic amenities for van dwellers that will provide both permanent and temporary sites for vehicle dwellers and ensure that they have secure and legal places to stay.**
- b) Meet anticipated future requirements and facilitate access to essential services such as healthcare, sanitation, and education, ensuring that all residents can live safely and healthily.**
- c) Set up an ongoing forum for dialogue between local communities and travellers as a safe space in which discussion can take place and issues can be resolved quickly.**
- d) Promote anti-discrimination policies that protect these communities from harassment and unfair treatment, whether by private individuals or public authorities, alongside the responsibility of all concerned to abide by existing laws and expectations.**

Climate and Nature

The following motion submitted in accordance with Procedure Rule 10 of the Meeting Procedure Rules has been proposed by Councillor K Salmon and seconded by Councillor C Rigby: -

Climate change is impacting us all. BCP is being directly impacted by climate change, with extreme rainfall causing flooding at Iford Park Home and a serious cliff slip at Durley Chine, to name two significant incidents from the last few weeks alone. The increasing frequency of extreme weather events poses risks to homes and infrastructure and affects decisions about the future of our three towns.

Last year's soaring temperature rises made it clear that the target of restricting global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius is slipping away. International climate officials confirmed that 2023 was the planet's hottest year on record and 2024 is expected to break records once again.

The average global temperature has already increased by 1.2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels. Alongside this the natural world has reached crisis point, with 28% of plants and animals now threatened with extinction.

We have already lost thousands of species to global warming.

The UK is one of the most nature-depleted countries in the world with one in seven of our plants and animals facing extinction and over 40% in decline.

The Climate and Nature Bill, if passed into law, would require the UK to take responsibility for its fair share of greenhouse gas emissions and commit to a carbon budget that would keep temperature rises below 1.5 degrees Celsius.

The Bill has been introduced to Parliament on five occasions since 2020,

most recently in May 2024 when the name of the Bill was changed from *Climate & Ecology Bill* to *Climate & Nature Bill*. The Bill is going back to Parliament on 25 January 2025, backed by over 180 cross party MPs (including two of our local MPs, Vikki Slade and Neil Duncan Jordan) and Peers, around 237 local authorities, and eminent scientists such as Sir David King. Over 1100 leading climate scientists, ecologists, academics and medical professionals have signed a letter calling on MPs to fast track this new legislation. Many organisations are backing it, including the Wildlife Trust, RSPB, The Doctors' Association, Oxfam, Women's Institute, Campaign to Protect Rural England, Cooperative Bank, Riverford Organics, The Body Shop and Trees for Cities.

The Climate and Nature Bill would require the Government to develop a new environmental strategy, which would include:

1. Delivering a joined up environmental plan, as the crisis in climate and nature are deeply intertwined and require a plan that considers them both together.
2. Reducing greenhouse gas emissions in line with 1.5 degrees Celsius to ensure the best chance of meeting the UK's Paris Agreement obligations.
3. Not just halting but reversing the decline in nature, setting nature measurably on the path to recovery by 2030.
4. Taking responsibility for our overseas footprint, both emissions and ecological
5. Prioritising nature in decision making and ending fossil fuel production and imports as rapidly as possible
6. Providing retraining for those currently working in the fossil fuel industries
7. Giving the British people a say in finding ways forward via a temporary independent and representative Climate & Nature Assembly, as part of creating consensus and ensuring that no one and no community is left behind.

BCP Council therefore resolves to:

- 1. Support the Climate and Nature Bill**
- 2. Inform residents and local press/media of this decision**
- 3. Write to the five MPs who represent our local area to inform them that this motion has been passed and to urge those who have not yet done so to support the Climate & Nature Bill**
- 4. Write to Zero Hour, the organisers of the cross party campaign for the Climate & Nature Bill, expressing BCP Council's support**
- 5. Pledge to work with our communities and partners to reverse the decline in biodiversity and protect our town from climate related issues, taking this into account in all decision making**
- 6. Request that the Environment & Place Overview & Scrutiny Committee sets up a cross party working group on Climate Action to identify our priorities with an emphasis on protecting the most vulnerable in society from the effects of climate change. This should include building officer capacity and expertise to apply for**

funding for Climate Action, including for developing a conurbation-wide climate action plan involving all major stakeholders by way of a local citizens assembly, forum or similar. This should also include urgently developing a Climate Adaptation plan for the conurbation, which should support and extend the climate adaptation work already going on around flooding and coastal erosion.

15. Questions from Councillors

The deadline for questions to be submitted to the Monitoring Officer is Monday 2 December 2024.

16. Urgent Decisions taken by the Chief Executive in accordance with the Constitution

To consider any urgent decisions taken by the Chief Executive in accordance with the Constitution.

No other items of business can be considered unless the Chairman decides the matter is urgent for reasons that must be specified and recorded in the Minutes.