

MEETING OF THE COUNCIL



Thursday, 23rd February, 2023

7.00 pm

**Council Chamber
Thanet District Council
Margate**

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01843 577000**



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Date: 22 February 2023
Ask For: Gabriella Stewart
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You are hereby summoned to attend the meeting of the Thanet District Council to be held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Cecil Street, Margate, Kent on Thursday, 23 February 2023 at 7.00 pm for the purpose of transacting the business mentioned below.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sambler".

Interim Head of Legal and Monitoring Officer

To: The Members of Thanet District Council

FIRE ALARM PROCEDURES: If the fire alarm is activated, please vacate the offices via the stairs either through the security door to the left of the Chairman or opposite the lifts in the foyer. Please do not use the lifts. Please assemble in Hawley Square on the green. Officers will assist you and advise when it is deemed safe to return to the Chamber.

AGENDA

Item
No

4. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING** (Pages 3 - 8)

To approve the Minutes of the meeting of Council held on 9th February 2023, copy attached.

15. **CHANGES TO COMMITTEES, PANELS AND BOARDS - 2022/23** (Pages 9 - 16)

COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 9 February 2023 at 7.00 pm in Council Chamber, Council Offices, Cecil Street, Margate, Kent.

Present: Councillors Austin, R Bayford, Braidwood, Smith, Tomlinson, Towning, Wallin, Whitehead, Wing, Wright, Yates, Crittenden, Albon, Ashbee, Bailey, Bambridge, J Bayford, Boyd, Coleman-Cooke, Currie, Dexter, Duckworth, Everitt, Fellows, Garner, Hart, Hopkinson, Huxley, Keen, Kup, Leys, Pat Moore, Paul Moore, Anne-Marie Nixey, Ovenden, Parsons, L Piper, Rev. S Piper, Pugh, Rattigan, Rawf, Rogers, Rusiecki, D Saunders, M Saunders, Savage, Scobie, Scott, Shonk and Shrubbs

1. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements made at the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from the following members:

Councillors Gregory;
Councillor Dennis;
Councillor Farrance;
Councillor Potts.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Piper declared an interest under 2023/24 Budget And 2023-27 Medium Term Financial Plan.

Councillor Boyd declared a significant interest in the 2023/24 Budget And 2023-27 Medium Term Financial Plan as she held a residents parking permit.

4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

It was proposed by the Chair, seconded by the Vice-Chair and agreed that the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 8 December 2022 be approved and signed by the Chair.

5. TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY AND ANNUAL INVESTMENT STRATEGY 2023/24

Councillor Saunders proposed, Councillor Ashbee seconded and Members agreed:

That the Council approves the report and annexes, including each of the key elements below:

- a. The Capital Plans, Prudential Indicators and Limits for 2023-24 to 2025-26, including the Authorised Limit Prudential Indicator;
- b. The Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Policy;

c. The Treasury Management Strategy for 2023-24 to 2025-26, and the Treasurer Indicators.

6. HRA BUDGET 2023/24

It was noted that in accordance with council procedure rule 17.6, a recorded vote would be taken on the motion or any amendments and substantive motions.

It was proposed by Cllr Saunders and seconded by the Leader that:

1. That the HRA budget for 2023/24 is approved;
2. That the revised Housing Revenue Account capital programme (Annex 1) for 2023-27 is approved; and
3. That the HRA business plan is noted.

The Legal and Monitoring Officer conducted a recorded vote on the motion as follows:

49 Councillors voted in favour of the Motion

Councillors Albon, Ashbee, Austin, Bailey, Bambridge, J Bayford, R Bayford, Boyd, Braidwood, Coleman-Cooke, Crittenden, Currie, Dexter, Duckworth, Everitt, Fellows, Garner, Hart, Hopkinson, Huxley, Keen, Kup, Leys, Pat Moore, Paul Moore, Anne-Marie Nixey, Ovenden, Parsons, L Piper, Rev. S Piper, Pugh, Rattigan, Rawf, Rogers, Rusiecki, D Saunders, M Saunders, Savage, Scobie, Scott, Shrubbs, Smith, Tomlinson, Towning, Wallin, Whitehead, Wing, Wright and Yates.

No Councillors voted against the Motion.

No Councillors Abstained.

Councillor Shonk joined the meeting at this point.

7. 2023/24 BUDGET AND 2023-27 MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN

It was noted that in accordance with council procedure rule 17.6, a recorded vote would be taken on the motion or any amendments and substantive motions.

It was proposed by Councillor D Saunders and seconded by the Cllr Ashbee, that the recommendations set out in the report be agreed, namely:

1. The 2023/24 General Fund revenue budget is approved
2. The 2023/24 schedule of Fees and Charges is approved
3. The 2023-27 General Fund capital programme is approved.

Councillor Yates proposed and Councillor Everitt seconded the following amendment:

“To remove the planned increase in charges for resident and visitor permits, resulting in charges being frozen at their 2022/23 level; with the corresponding reduction in forecast income managed through the Council’s earmarked reserve for on-street parking;”

The Interim Head of Legal and Monitoring Officer conducted a recorded vote on the motion as follows:

47 Members voted in favour of the amendment:

Councillors Albon, Ashbee, Austin, Bailey, Bambridge, J Bayford, R Bayford, Braidwood, Coleman-Cooke, Crittenden, Currie, Dexter, Duckworth, Everitt, Fellows, Garner, Hart, Hopkinson, Huxley, Keen, Kup, Leys, Pat Moore, Paul Moore, Anne-Marie Nixey,

Ovenden, Parsons, L Piper, Pugh, Rattigan, Rawf, Rogers, Rusiecki, D Saunders, M Saunders, Savage, Scobie, Scott, Shonk, Shrubb, Smith, Tomlinson, Towning, Wallin, Whitehead, Wright and Yates

No Members voted against amendment:

Three members abstained:

Councillors Boyd, Stuart Piper and Wing.

The amendment was AGREED.

Councillor Albon proposed and Councillor Everitt seconded the following Amendment:

To remove £85k growth from the estates budget for on-going staffing resources, to be replaced by a £170k allocation from the risk reserve to provide temporary staffing resources in the estates budget over two years; the £85k saved being allocated to the Street Cleansing Budget to provide additional resources for the creation of three full time equivalent Environmental Operative roles within the base budget.

The Interim Head of Legal and Monitoring Officer conducted a recorded vote on the motion as follows:

20 members voted in favour:

Councillors Albon; Austin, Bailey; Crittenden; Currie; Duckworth; Everitt; Garner; Hopkinson; Huxley; Keen; Pat Moore; Ann-Marie Nixey; Ovenden; Rawf; Scobie; Smith; Whitehead; Wing; Yates.

28 Members voted against:

Councillors Ashbee, Bambridge; Jill Bayford; Robert Bayford; Braidwood; Coleman-Cooke; Dexter; Fellow; Hart; Kup; Leys; Paul Moore; Parsons; Linda Piper; Pugh; Rattigan; Rogers; Rusiecki; David Saunders; Mave Saunders; Savage; Scott; Shonk; Shrubb; Tomlinson; Towning; Wallin; Wright

2 abstained:

Councillor Boyd and Councillor Stuart Piper.

The amendment was LOST.

Councillor Duckworth proposed and Councillor Everitt seconded the following Amendment:

“To remove £25k growth for seaweed removal from the budget and, in view of the consensus this item is needed, ask cabinet to consider a different way to fund it at its March meeting; the £25k saved to be allocated to a new permanent role of tree planting and biodiversity gain officer;”

The Interim Head of Legal and Monitoring Officer conducted a recorded vote on the motion as follows:

16 members voted in favour:

Councillors Albon; Crittenden; Currie; Duckworth; Everitt; Garner; Hopkinson; Huxley; Keen; Pat Moore; Ann-Marie Nixey; Ovenden; Rawf; Scobie; Whitehead and Yates.

28 Members voted against:

Councillors Ashbee; Bambridge; Jill Bayford; Robert Bayford; Braidwood; Coleman-Cooke; Dexter; Fellows; Hart; Kup; Leys; Paul Moore; Parsons; Linda Piper; Pugh; Rogers; Rusiecki; David Saunders; Mave Saunders; Savage; Scott; Shonk; Shrubb; Tomlinson; Towning; Wallin; Wing; Wright

6 Members abstained:

Councillors Austin; Bailey; Boyd; Stuart Piper; Rattigan; Smith

The amendment was LOST

Councillor Everitt proposed and Councillor Albon seconded the following amendment:

Removal £20k growth for seaweed removal and, in view of the consensus that this item is needed, ask cabinet to find a different way to fund it at its March meeting and reallocate the £20k funding to remove the planned increase in charges at the Royal Harbour car park in Ramsgate in acknowledgement of the long-term lack of working lifts and ongoing environmental issues;

The Legal and Monitoring Officer conducted a recorded vote on the motion as follows:

19 Members voted for the amendment:

Councillors Albon; Austin; Crittenden; Currie; Duckworth; Everitt; Garner; Hopkinson; Huxley; Keen; Pat Moore; Ann-Marie Nixey; Ovenden; Rawf; Scobie; Smith; Whitehead Wing and Yates

29 Members voted against:

Councillors Ashbee; Bailey; Bambridge; Jill Bayford; Robert Bayford; Braidwood; Coleman-Cooke; Dexter; Fellows; Hart; Kup; Leys; Paul Moore; Parsons; Linda Piper; Pugh; Rattigan; Rogers; Rusiecki; David Saunders; Mave Saunders; Savage; Scott; Shonk; Shrubb; Tomlinson; Towning; Wallin; Wright.

2 Abstained:

Councillors Boyd and Piper

The amendment was LOST.

The Substantive motion was then put to the vote:

The Interim Head of Legal and Monitoring Officer conducted a recorded vote on the motion as follows:

44 members voted for:

Councillors Albon; Ashbee; Bailey; Bambridge; Jill Bayford; Robert Bayford; Braidwood; Coleman-Cooke; Crittenden; Currie; Dexter; Duckworth; Everitt; Fellows; Garner; Hart; Hopkinson; Huxley; Keen; Kup; Leys; Pat Moore; Paul Moore ; Ovenden; Parsons; Linda Piper; Pugh; Rattigan; Rogers; Rusiecki; David Saunders; Mave Saunders; Savage;

Scobie; Scott; Shrubbs; Smith; Tomlinson; Towing; Wallin; Whitehead; Wright and Yates.

One member voted against:

Councillor Rawf.

5 Members abstained:

Councillors Austin; Boyd; Anne-Marie Nixey; Stuart Piper and Wing.

The Motion was AGREED.

8. BUDGET MONITORING 2022/23: REPORT NO.1

It was proposed by Councillor D Saunders and seconded by the Cllr Ashbee, and Members agreed the recommendations set out in the report, namely:

“1. That Council approves a one-off supplementary General Fund 2022/23 revenue budget of £100,000 be approved for the creation of a fund for coastal projects; to be wholly funded from an external contribution from Southern Water.

2. That Council approves a supplementary General Fund revenue budget of £63,000 be approved for additional resources to support the delivery of regeneration schemes in the district; to be funded from a corresponding increase in the income budget for retained business rates.

3. That Council approves a supplementary General Fund revenue budget of £100,000 be approved for additional resources to support the delivery of property related services; to be funded from the Repairs Reserve.

4. That Council approves the 2022/23 supplementary capital budgets, numbered 1 to 4, as set out in section 5.”

9. BUDGET MONITORING REPORT Q2: 2022/23

It was proposed by Councillor D Saunders and seconded by the Cllr Ashbee, and Members agreed the recommendations set out in the report, namely:

“That Council approves a supplementary General Fund Revenue Budget of £48,000 for the appointment of two interim property surveyors, to be wholly funded from an associated increase in property income streams.”

10. CHANGES TO COMMITTEES, PANELS AND BOARDS - 2022/23

The agenda item was deferred to the Full Council meeting of Thursday 23rd February 2023.

Meeting concluded 8.55pm.

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CHANGES TO COMMITTEES, PANELS AND BOARDS - 2022/23

Full Council	23 February 2023
Report Author	Committee Services Manager
Status	For Decision
Classification:	Unrestricted
Key Decision:	No
Ward:	All Wards

Executive Summary:

The report allows Council to agree on the number and size of the Committees, Panels and Boards for the remainder of the municipal year and then subsequently the proportionality of the Council as a result of Cllr Wallin joining the Thanet Independent Group, Cllr Hart leaving the Conservative Group, Cllr Hopkinson leaving the Labour Group and creation of the Appointments Working Party.

Recommendation(s):

- 3.6 That Council approves the proportionality between groups (allocation of seats) for Committees, Panels and Boards for the remainder of the 2022/23 municipal year.
- 4.3 To note the corresponding group nominations to Committees, Panels and Boards for the remainder of the 2022/23 municipal year. (The names of those Councillors so nominated will be presented at the meeting)

Corporate Implications

Financial and Value for Money

There are no direct financial implications from this report. However members allowances included in the annual budget are based on the existing structure and any increase in size or number of committees would require approval of the resulting increase in the budget.

Legal

The composition and allocation of membership of committees has been based on the relevant legislative requirements.

Risk Management

There are no Corporate risks identified within this report.

Corporate

There are no direct Corporate Implications

Equality Act 2010 & Public Sector Equality Duty

Members are reminded of the requirement, under the Public Sector Equality Duty (section 149 of the Equality Act 2010) to have due regard to the aims of the Duty at the time the decision is taken. The aims of the Duty are: (i) eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act, (ii) advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it, and (iii) foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.

Protected characteristics: age, sex, disability, race, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, religion or belief and pregnancy & maternity. Only aim (i) of the Duty applies to Marriage & civil partnership.

This report relates to the following aim of the equality duty: -

- To eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act.
- To advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it
- To foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.

Corporate Priorities

This report relates to the following corporate priorities: -

- Communities

1.0 Introduction and Background

1.1 The report allows Council to agree on the number and size of the Committees, Panels and Boards for the remainder of the municipal year and then subsequently the proportionality of the Council as a result of Cllr Wallin joining the Thanet Independent Group, Cllr Hart leaving the Conservative Group Cllr Hopkinson leaving the Labour Group and creation of the Appointments Working Party

2.0 Political Balance

2.1 The current political balance of the Council after changes outlined in the paragraph above is shown in the table below:

Table 1

Political Group	No. of Cllrs	No. of Cllr after changes
Conservative	26	25
Labour	16	15
Green and Independent Group	6	6
Thanet Independent Group	6	6
Independent (not in a group)	2	4

3.0 Political Proportionality

3.1 The Local Government and Housing Act 1989 requires the Council to allocate seats on committees to political Groups in accordance with the size of each group on the Council as a whole and in accordance with the following principles which should be observed as far as is reasonably practicable:

- a) That not all seats on the same committee are allocated to the same political group;
- b) That the majority of the seats on a committee are allocated to a particular political group if the number of persons belonging to that group is a majority of the Council's membership;
- c) That, subject to a) and b) above, the number of seats on committees allocated to each political group bears the same proportion of the total of all the seats on committees;
- d) That, subject to a), b) and c) above, the number of seats on a committee allocated to each political group bears the same proportion to the number of all seats on that committee.

3.2 For the purposes of political balance a Group is required to have at least two members and to have been formally constituted as a political group before the meeting.

3.3 After consulting with Group Leaders a consensus has been achieved with regard to meeting political balance on Committees. This is outlined in table below:

3.4 Option 1

Table 3

Committees	Total	Conservative Group	Labour Group	Greens & Ind.	Thanet Independents
Planning Committee	16	8	5	2	1
Licensing Board	14	7	3	2	2

Overview and Scrutiny Panel	15	7	4	2	2
Gov. and Audit	13	6	4	2	1
General Purposes	12	6	4	1	1
B&EA Working Party	6	3	2	0	1
Disciplinary & Grievance Committee	6	3	2	0	1
D&G Appeals Committee	3	1	1	0	1
CRWP	6	3	1	1	1
Appointments Panel	3	1	1	1	0
Totals	94	45	27	11	11

3.4.1 The overall political balance calculation for the proposal shown above is available at Annex 1.

3.5 Consensus Option

3.5.1 That a seat is removed from the Labour Group on the Licensing Board and that seat is given to the Thanet Independents Group. That a seat is added to the Overview and Scrutiny Panel and that seat is given to the Thanet Independents Group. That a seat is added to the Governance and Audit Committee and that seat is given to the Thanet Independents Group. That a seat is removed from the Green and Independent Group on the Disciplinary and Grievance Committee and that seat is given to the Thanet Independents Group. That an Appointments Panel is created consisting of three seats, these being distributed as follows: 1 seat to each of the Conservative, Labour and Green and Independent Groups. In addition changes will also need to be made to replace Cllr Hart and Cllr Hopkinson on the committees they were members of.

This is summarised in the table below:

Committee/Group	Current Position	New Position
Planning Committee		
Conservative Group	Cllr Hart	New nomination needed
Licensing Board		
Labour Group	3 seats	2 Seat (1 Councillor to be removed)
Thanet Independents Group	1 seats	2 seats (1 Councillor to be added)
Scrutiny Panel		

Thanet Independents Group	1 seats	2 seats (1 Councillor to be added)
Governance and Audit		
Labour Group	Cllr Hopkinson	New nomination needed
Green and Independent Group	1 seats	2 seats (1 Councillor to be added)
D&G Committee		
Thanet Independents Group	0 seat	New nomination needed
Green and Independent Group	1 seat	0 Seat (1 Councillor to be removed)
Joint Transport Board		
Conservative Group	Cllr Hart	New nomination needed
CRWP		
Conservative Group	Cllr Hart	New nomination needed
Labour Group	Cllr Hopkinson	New nomination needed
Appointments Panel		
Conservative Group	0 seat	New nomination needed
Labour Group	0 seat	New nomination needed
Green and Independents Group	0 seat	New nomination needed

3.6 Recommendation

That Council approves the proportionality between groups (allocation of seats) for Committees, Panels and Boards for the remainder of the 2022/23 municipal year.

4.0 Nominations of Members to serve on Committees

4.1 Members are reminded that Section 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 states that where the Council has determined the allocation to different groups of the seats to which the Act applies, it shall be the duty of the authority to give effect to a Group's wishes about who is to be appointed to the seats that they have been allocated.

4.2 Therefore the corresponding amendments to group nominations in accordance with the proportionality shown in the table at paragraph 3.4 must also be made.

4.3 Recommendation

To note the corresponding group nominations to Committees, Panels and Boards for the remainder of the 2022/23 municipal year. (The names of those Councillors so nominated will be presented at the meeting)

Contact Officer: Nicholas Hughes (Committee Services Manager)

Reporting to: Sameera Khan (Interim Head of Legal & Monitoring Officer)

Annex List

Annex 1: Proportionality calculations for main committees covered by Local Government & Housing Act 1989 Option 1

Background Papers

None

Corporate Consultation

Finance: Chris Blundell, Head of Financial Services

Legal: Sameera Khan, Interim Head of Legal

	Members	Conservative	Labour	TIC	Green	Non group
Overall Council	56	25	15	6	6	4
Groups only	52	25	15	6	6	check
Under s15 LGHA 1989 proportionality	100.00%	48.08%	28.85%	11.54%	11.54%	100.00%
Applies in full	Members	Conservative	Labour	Thanet Ind	Green & Ind.	Check
Planning Committee	16	8	5	1	2	
	100.00%	50.00%	31.25%	6.25%	12.50%	100.00%
Licensing Board	14	7	3	2	2	
	100.00%	50.00%	21.43%	14.29%	14.29%	100.00%
Scrutiny Panel	14	7	4	2	2	
	100.00%	50.00%	28.57%	13.33%	13.33%	100.00%
Governance & Audit	12	6	3	1	2	
	100.00%	50.00%	25.00%	7.69%	15.38%	100.00%
General Purposes	12	6	4	1	1	
	100.00%	50.00%	33.33%	8.33%	8.33%	100.00%
BEAWP	6	3	2	1	0	
	100.00%	50.00%	33.33%	16.67%	0.00%	100.00%
D&G Committee	6	3	2	1	0	
	100.00%	50.00%	33.33%	16.67%	0.00%	100.00%
D&G Appeals Committee	3	1	1	1	0	
	100.00%	33.33%	33.33%	33.33%	0.00%	100.00%
CRWP	4	2	1	1	0	
	100.00%	50.00%	25.00%	25.00%	00.00%	100.00%
Appointments Panel	3	1	1	0	1	
	100.00%	33.33%	33.33%	0.00%	33.33%	100.00%
Totals allocated	94	45	27	11	11	
	100.00%	47.87%	28.72%	11.70%	11.70%	100.00%
Totals entitlement	94	45.19	27.12	10.85	10.85	94.00
Difference from entitlement no.	0	-0.19	-0.12	0.15	0.15	0.00
Difference from entitlement %		-0.2046	-0.1227	0.1637	0.1637	

Agenda Item 15

Annex 1