

COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 5 April 2022 at 6.00 pm in Council Chamber, Council Offices, Cecil Street, Margate, Kent.

Present: Councillor Jason Savage (Chair); Councillors Albon, Ara, Ashbee, Austin, Bailey, Bambridge, R Bayford, Boyd, Braidwood, Coleman-Cooke, Crittenden, Currie, Day, Dennis, Dexter, Duckworth, Everitt, Farrance, Fellows, Garner, Gregory, Hart, Hopkinson, Huxley, Kup, Leys, Pat Moore, Paul Moore, Anne-Marie Nixey, Parsons, L Piper, Rev. S Piper, Potts, Pugh, Rawf, Rogers, Rusiecki, D Saunders, M Saunders, Scobie, Scott, Shrubbs, Smith, Tomlinson, Towing, Wallin, Whitehead, Wing, Wright and Yates

ADJOURNMENT

Upon opening the meeting, the Chair advised that the meeting would be adjourned for 30 minutes. The meeting recommenced at 18:30.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councilors J Bayford, Keen, Ovenden, Rattigan and Shonk

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

The Chair proposed, the Vice-Chair seconded and Members agreed that the public and press be excluded from the meeting for agenda item four as it contained exempt information as defined in paragraph 1 of part 1 of schedule 12a of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

4. EMPLOYMENT MATTERS

The Chair introduced those present for the benefit of the Members:

Mr Howes - Director of Corporate Governance and Monitoring Officer

Ms Thelen – Barrister, 39 Essex Chambers, to provide legal advice to the Council.

Mr Mant – Barrister, 39 Chambers, who provided legal advice to the Investigations and Disciplinary Sub-Committee (IDSC) and who would present the sub-committee's findings.

The Chair outlined the order of proceedings, and Members agreed to suspend the rules of procedure to allow the meeting to be conducted in accordance with the special procedure as set out in Annex 2 of the report.

Ms Thelen provided some opening remarks.

The Leader introduced the report, and proposed that Council considered the report and approve the recommendation of the IDSC, namely; to dismiss Mr Howes. Councillor Everitt seconded the motion.

Mr Mant presented the decision of the IDSC

Mr Howes made his representations.

Members asked Mr Howes questions.

Ms Thelen presented the recommendations of the Independent Persons Panel and advised of the outcome of the executive objection procedure.

Mr Mant made his final comments.

Mr Howes made his final comments.

Mr Mant and Mr Howes left the meeting to allow Members to come to a decision.

Following the debate Members voted and approved the decision of the IDSC, namely; that Mr Howes be dismissed.

Meeting concluded: 8.00 pm