
ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING 11 October 2011 Order Paper

Agenda Item

- 4 Minutes**
To note an amendment to those present – as attached.
- 6 Political proportions applying to committee memberships.**
The Chief Executive confirms that the arrangements and allocations as set out in item 6 comply with Regulation 17 of the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990.
- 9 Report of Council Issues.**
Committee Memberships – to note that the Liberal Democrat Group have removed Councillor Mike Mackrory from the Executive Scrutiny Committee.
- 12(b) Questions (Standing Order 17.11.3)**
- 1. By Councillor Gerard McEwen of the Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Waste and Recycling.**

'The proposal to cease operating the Civic Amenity Site in High Ongar has provoked a storm of protest as demonstrated by the petition presented to the Chairman this morning with well over 3,000 signatures.

The calculations used to justify closure make no allowance for the loss of amenity to this large rural area (of something over 70 square miles) which is served by the site. The next nearest CAS in Brentwood is 6 miles away but it will mean a round trip of up to 25 miles for many of the users coming from the surrounding villages. This would also create additional serious traffic problems on the extremely busy A128 road.

A reduction in hours and days of operation as proposed for the other sites would be a far more acceptable option.

Whilst accepting the need for you to find maximum budget savings

from your portfolio, I ask that the intended proposal - to close this site altogether before the year end - should be reviewed, to allow time for alternative solutions to be evaluated.

Following the meeting with Chairmen and Clerks of affected Parishes which you attended with the Head of Waste Management, a possibility has arisen which could result in a form of 'partnership contract'. This might even extend beyond the operation in High Ongar, resulting in further savings for the County Council.

May I extend to you an invitation to meet for discussions with interested parties, with a view to maintaining this valuable amenity?'

2. By Councillor Mike Mackrory of the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transportation.

'In a recent press release, reference was made that the £5.3m of DfT funding for pothole repairs "has now been allocated".

Can the Cabinet Member confirm that these funds will be allocated solely for pothole repairs, of which there are many thousands outstanding?'

3. By Councillor Mike Mackrory of the Cabinet Member for Procurement, Property & Major Projects.

With the Magistrates Courts vacating Shire Hall in April 2012, what proposals does the Cabinet Member have for the future use of this fine historic building?'

Minutes of a meeting of Essex County Council held at County Hall, Chelmsford on 12 July 2011

Present

Chairman: Councillor R L Bass

Vice-Chairman: Councillor K Twitchen

Councillors:

J F Aldridge	R G Gooding	Mrs M A Miller
B Aspinell	C Griffiths	G Mitchinson
Mrs S Barker	A M Hedley	D Morris
L Barton	Mrs T M A Higgins	A Naylor
J Baugh	Mrs S Hillier	M J Page
K Bentley	R C Howard	R A Pearson
R G Boyce	N J Hume	J W Pike
G Butland	A J Jackson	C C Pond
R Callender	E C Johnson	Mrs I Pummell
S Candy	J G Jowers	Mrs J M Reeves
S C Castle	D J Kendall	C G Riley
R P Chambers	J Knapman	D C F Robinson
P Channer	M C M Lager	Mrs T L Sargent
J A Deakin	D Louis	J M Schofield
W J C Dick	J R Lucas	M Skeels
J Dornan	G W McEwen	Mrs A Turrell
T Durcan	M Mackrory	S M Walsh
N D C Edey	R A Madden	R G Walters
D Finch	P J Martin	Mrs E A Webster
M D Fisher	S Mayzes	Mrs M J Webster
M Garnett	L Mead	B Wood
	Mrs V Metcalfe	J A Young

1. Apologies for Absence.

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors D Abrahall, A Brown, Mrs T M Chapman, Mrs E M Hart, J Roberts, T C Smith-Hughes and Mrs J H Whitehouse.