

# Public Document Pack

Subject to approval at the next Full Council meeting

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## **MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ARUN DISTRICT COUNCIL HELD IN THE ARUN CIVIC CENTRE ON 8 NOVEMBER 2023 AT 6.00 PM**

Present: Councillors Mrs Cooper (Chair), Walsh (Vice-Chair), Ayling, Batley, Bicknell, Birch, Blanchard-Cooper, Mrs Bower, Bower, Brooks, Cooper, Elkins, English, Greenway, Goodheart, Gunner, Hamilton, Haywood, Huntley, Jones, Kelly, Lawrence, Lloyd, Long, Lury, Madeley, May, McAuliffe, McDougall, Nash, Needs, Northeast, O'Neill, Oppler, Partridge, Pendleton, Pencyate, Stainton, Stanley, Stainton, Tandy, Turner, Wallsgrove, Warr, Wiltshire, Woodman, Mrs Worne, Miss Worne and Yeates.

Honorary Alderman Mr Dingemans was also in attendance at the meeting.

[Note: The following Councillors were absent from the meeting during consideration of the matters detailed in the Minutes indicated – Councillor Bicknell – Minute 342 to Minute 344 [Part] and Councillor Goodheart – Minute 342 to Minute 345 ]Part]].

### 342. WELCOME

The Chair welcomed Councillors, representatives of the public, press and officers to the meeting.

A special welcome was extended to Honorary Alderman Mr Dingemans.

### 343. FORMER MEMBER AND CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL - MR DON AYLING

The Chair stated that it was with great sorrow that she had to commence the meeting by announcing some sad news which was the death of former Councillor and Chair of the Council, Don Ayling.

The Chair confirmed that the Council had received an email on 10 August 2023 to confirm that Don Ayling has passed away on 6 August 2023.

Don Ayling had first become a Councillor on 1 May 2003 and had given twelve years of dedicated service to the Council standing down on 7 May 2015. During that time, Don has represented the Arundel Ward and had been a former Chair of the Council as well as serving on the Licensing Committee for many years.

The Council's condolences were extended to Don's family, friends and colleagues.

Having received tributes from Councillors Cooper and Walsh, the Council then undertook a minute's silence to his memory.

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344. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Bence, Butcher, Edwards, Patel, and Purser.

345. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Declaration of Interest Sheet set out below confirms those Members who had made a declaration of their personal interest as a Member of a Town or Parish Councillor or a West Sussex County Councillor, as confirmed in their Register of Interest as these declarations could apply to any of the issues to be discussed at the meeting.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Town or Parish Council or West Sussex County Council [WSSC]</b>
Councillor Kenton Batley	Bognor Regis
Councillor Trevor Bence	WSSC
Councillor Paul Bicknell	Angmering
Councillor Carol Birch	Aldwick
Councillor Billy Blanchard-Cooper	Littlehampton
Councillor Jim Brooks	Bognor
Councillor Alan Butcher	Littlehampton
Councillor Andy Cooper	Rustington
Councillor Alison Cooper	Rustington and WSSC
Councillor Roger Elkins	Ferring and WSSC
Councillor Steve Goodheart	Bognor
Councillor Keir Greenway	Bersted and WSSC
Councillor Thomas Harty	Felpham
Councillor Shirley Haywood	Middleton-on-Sea
Councillor David Huntley	Pagham
Councillor Lesley-Anne Lloyd	Rustington
Councillor Jill Long	Littlehampton
Councillor Martin Lury	Bersted
Councillor Maralyn May	Littlehampton
Councillor Roger Nash	Bognor Regis
Councillor Claire Needs	Bognor Regis
Councillor Mike Northeast	Littlehampton
Councillor Peggy Partridge	Rustington
Councillor Jacky Pendleton	Middleton-on-Sea and WSSC
Councillor Matt Stanley	Bognor Regis
Councillor Freddie Tandy	Littlehampton
Councillor Sue Wallsgrove	Barnham and Eastergate
Councillor Jeanette Warr	Bognor Regis

Councillor Christine Wiltshire	Littlehampton
Councillor Bob Woodman	Littlehampton
Councillor Amanda Worne	Ford and Yapton
Councillor Amelia Worne	Littlehampton
Councillor Gillian Yeates	Bersted and Bognor Regis

Councillor Huntley declared a Personal Interest in Agenda Item 8 [Urgent Items – Storm Ciaran and Flooding Impacts] as he lived in a property that was very close to the beach.

346. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The Chair confirmed that five questions had been submitted for this meeting. All five questions were from Mrs Smith to the Chair of the Planning Committee, Councillor Hamilton, and related to various issues relating planning application AL/52/19/DOC.

The Chair then drew Public Question to a close.

*(A schedule of the full questions asked, and the responses provided can be found on the Public Question Web page at: [Arun District Council](#))*

347. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS WITH PECUNIARY/PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS

The Chair confirmed that there were no questions for this meeting.

348. PETITIONS

The Chair confirmed that no petitions had been received.

349. MINUTES

The minutes from the last meeting of the Council held on 19 July 2023 were approved by the Council as a correct record and would be signed by the Chair at the end of the meeting.

350. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair provided an update to Members on Civic activities attended since the last Full Council meeting held on 19 July 2023, these had been emailed to all Councillors in advance of tonight's meeting and have been summarised below:

- 19 July – Afternoon Reception, Bishops Palace Gardens in Chichester
- During the summer break supporting her chosen charity AJs Legacy attending a sports day where over £2k was raised

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- August – visited the Littlehampton Love Local Arts Kids Fun Day with Councillor Tandy as Mayor supporting a fabulously fun event for the children of Littlehampton and the surrounding areas
- The official opening of the wet change facilities at the Arun Leisure Centre
- 3 September – attended The Coppice and Angmering Surgeries Boot Sale and Health Awareness Day
- 17 September attended the West Sussex County Council's Scouts AGM
- Taking full advantage of the September sunshine also attending the opening of the newly refurbished tennis courts at Swansea Gardens
- 27 September – numerous events were attended. Firstly, to the Greenleas MacMillan Cancer Support Big Coffee Morning and then onto Voluntary Action Arun & Chichester AGM
- 28 September attended the launch of a new restaurant venture called The Landing Place in Bognor Regis
- 8 October – attended Horsham District Council's Civic Service
- 12 October attended the Bognor Regis in Bloom and Allotments Award Evening
- 24 October attended the Lord-Lieutenant's Annual Awards Ceremony at Lancing College
- 28 October had been planning to attend the Littlehampton Bonfire Celebration, but this had been sadly cancelled due to the poor weather
- Early November attended the NSPCC South and Mid Sussex AGM at Arundel Castle and then finally raised the flag at Brookfield Park for the Green Flag Awards.
- Many invites had been received to attend carol services and tree lighting events in the build up to Christmas, these would be reported to the next meeting of Full Council
- Finally, the Chair reminded Members of the Special Meeting of the Council taking place on 29 November to honour former Councillor Paul English as an Honorary Alderman.

351. URGENT MATTERS - STORM CIARAN AND FLOODING IMPACTS

The Chair confirmed that there was one urgent item for this meeting to consider which was a report setting out the impacts of Storm Ciaran. This report has been uploaded to the Full Council web pages earlier on in the day as a second supplement pack and had also been circulated to the meeting.

The Chair invited the Joint Interim Chief Executive and Director of Environment and Communities to present her report. It was explained that this report had been considered as urgent considering the unprecedented flooding in the district that the storm had caused.

The Director of Environment and Communities confirmed that the report set out the Council's emergency planning response under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004. Its purpose was to update Members on the impacts following Storm Ciaran; setting out the multi-agency response that had taken place; and how the Council proposed to review the various issues following the incident by taking steps to reduce impacts in the future.

The unprecedented rainfall received during October 2023 was highlighted. A major impact of Storm Ciaran following this high level of rainfall [on 2 November 2023] had been that of flooding in numerous areas of the district to include homes, businesses and roads. The storm, although significant, had not been declared as a major incident however the Council's emergency planning role in dealing with such an event had followed the Civil Contingencies Act (CCA) 2004 and had been supported by other lead agencies such as the Environment Agency (EA), supported by West Sussex County Council (WSSCC) as the flood authority. A full list of the involvement of the Emergency Planning Officer and others involved in responding to matters that had arisen over the past week had been set out in Appendix 2. Services provided by the Council had continued as normal during the storm period and had included the removal of fallen trees; ensuring that streets remained clear of debris; checking and clearing drain grates; inspecting the condition of the coast, breaches, promenades and sea defences. The council's refuse collection service had continued as normal.

Communications during this period had been key and had been issued almost daily with the Communications Team distributing information using various channels and heavily using social media platforms. The full impact of the storm was still being assessed and it had been reported that at least 5 properties had endured internal flooding requiring the assistance of the fire service. Other reports of flooding in other properties had also been received via the multi-agency recovery process and several businesses had been badly affected. Numerous information sources had provided Members with details on how to report flooding which was via the Storm Ciaran email address. It was the Council's responsibility to take the lead role in coordinating the recovery from such an incident with the aim of restoring key services, and establishing a collaborative approach to help communities recover to achieve relative normality and to establish communication channels with the public, partners and other stakeholders.

In taking this forward it was proposed that the council, via its Environment Committee, should establish a 'Forum' made up of various partners responsible for flood preparation, planning and response, to investigate and consider the contributing factors, impacts and possible solutions.

Councillor Stanley, as Leader of the Council, then presented the report and in doing so applauded the work of Councillors and Officers who had worked exceptionally hard in very challenging times to support residents and businesses in the district. In response to this, Councillor Stanley confirmed how necessary it was to support the numerous recommendations detailed.

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Councillor Stanley then referred to Appendix 2 of the report detailing the extensive work and meetings that had been undertaken and he thanked officers for pulling this vital information together within a very short period of time. Councillor Stanley stated that it was essential for the council to continue with this cross party and cross organisation work as these events were still very real and were live situations that required a continued multi-agency approach. The second recommendation in the report addressed how the council would work to mitigate similar events in the future.

In formally proposing the recommendations, Councillor Stanley confirmed that he wished to make an amendment to Recommendation 2 (C) to read as follows [additions have been shown in **bold** with deletions shown using ~~strikethrough~~].

(2) This Council recommends to the Environment Committee that a 'Forum' is established made up of various partners responsible for flood preparation, planning and response, including the Environment Agency, Southern Water, West Sussex County Council and others, to investigate and consider the contributing factors, impacts and possible solutions;

A) The Forum is to be chaired by a suitably qualified independent person;

B) The Forum's findings be reported back to the Environment Committee and Full Council;

C) Authority is delegated to the ~~Interim Chief Executives in consultation with the Leader of the Council and the Chair of the~~ Environment Committee to agree the terms of reference and arrangements for the establishment of the forum.

Councillor Tandy then seconded this amendment.

The Chair then invited debate on the amendment. This saw widespread and varied discussion. Thanks were extended by Councillor Wallsgrove to Councillor Gunner who had provided her with information allowing her to establish direct contact with the Chief Executive at Southern Water. This had allowed her to have progressed many conversations covering the severity of numerous flooding incidents in Barnham and where it had been critical to have removed two residents from their properties having only just returned following severe flooding in 2022. It was agreed that Southern Water and the EA needed to address and be looking to rectify such ongoing flooding and the reasons for them urgently.

All Councillors agreed that the Forum needed to be established and that it should be chaired by a suitably qualified independent person. Questions were asked as to who this would be and how long it might take to secure such an individual before the Forum could meet. In response it was explained that Officers were planning to approach an independent expert, possibly through the University of Chichester, who would have the ability to take on this responsibility using an academic and dispassionate approach to the problem.

Councillors also praised the work of their fellow Members and affected residents who had been extremely active within their Wards over the past ten days, and they echoed the strength of concern that had been expressed over the severe flooding incidents reported and that urgent action was required within those Wards. The Wards identified as being the most severely impacted were Bersted, Barnham, Climping, Pagham, and Middleton on Sea with sympathy being extended to all residents and businesses affected, as well as other areas across the district. It was acknowledged that Councillors and residents had worked very hard distributing sandbags and passing on information to those that needed it. In view of this, the amendment was welcomed as it would encourage further collaborative working and was a positive way forward.

Questions were asked as to how non-Environment Committee Members could become involved. It was important for the Forum to put in place measures to ensure that the impacts from future storms would not be so severe moving forward. Discussion also focused upon whether the Forum was the correct mechanism to achieve the work required. There were some Councillors who strongly believed that such discussions should sit with Full Council only and that instead a Special Meeting of the Council should be called as soon as possible.

Concern was also expressed over the lack of maintenance and clearance of ditches. In years gone by, the Council had employed a Ditches Officer who had responsibility for assessing who were riparian owners and ensuring that they were aware of and actioned their responsibilities in terms of maintenance. It was felt that this was a major contributing factor to many of the flooding issues within the district. There was concern over the number of ditches that needed to be put back into service and that over time working on this would quickly reduce flooding incidents. The fact that management agents had been passed responsibility for managing ditches was seen to be part of this problem.

Continuing with the debate on ditches and riparian ownership, it was highlighted that many riparian owners did not understand or were not aware of their responsibilities. This was an argument to consider in supporting the Forum as part of its work would look to address such issues. There were some Councillors who agreed that Full Council should have overall responsibility for the Forum and that in receiving reports back, a Special Meeting of the Council should be convened to provide dedicated time for all Councillors to discuss and debate findings.

In continuing debate, many concerns were expressed over the exclusion of Southern Water and their responsibilities. It was felt that they had exacerbated many of the problems with pumping stations having been switched off during the period of the storm and afterwards. Another major problem had been sewage backing up in drainage systems and leaking into houses and business premises. Many Councillors aired their frustration over the lack of response to the sewage flooding situation which had caused misery to many residents. Despite the best efforts of local Members of Parliament, Councillors and residents, the response provided by Southern Water had been poor and so it was vital that they be included in the work that the Forum would initiate.

Further detailed discussion took place where concerns were expressed regarding:

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- The over development of the district in terms of housing
- The impacts caused by a severe lack of funding provided to the EA.
- That natural water courses such as the Aldingbourne Rife were being mismanaged by the EA and were not being dredged
- A poorly maintained Victorian drainage infrastructure that Southern Water were responsible for which was severely outdated and could not cope with today's demands
- The pumping of raw sewage into the sea
- The tankering of flood water with polluted sewage
- Shareholder profits versus public services
- Climate change and rising sea levels
- Large strategic development sites were contributory factors
- A Special Council was needed to add weight and input from all responsible agencies
- Who should be invited and how long would the forum continue, what would its terms of reference be?
- Councillors could and should be given the opportunity to provide real input into the Forum
- The district was only at the start of what looked like to be a terrible flood season and so urgent action was required
- Communication from this council needed to be improved
- The forum needed teeth and could not afford to become a talking shop – action was needed now and plans to prevent repeated incidents in the future
- Residents and businesses should not have to tolerate coping with raw sewage seeping into their homes and businesses
- Parish Councils had not been included as part of this council's communication responses which needed to be rectified.

Councillor Tandy, as seconder to the amendment, thanked Councillors for their detailed debate in response to so many areas having been affected. It was clear that the council needed to work with calm heads without making criticisms of individuals whilst holding statutory agencies to account and as they had failed in their duties. Equally, there was the need to look internally as some of the decisions made by the council had not been perfect. The establishment of the Forum would allow the council to work together in partnership with all agencies.

Councillor Tandy applauded the work of Officers who had worked very hard over the last ten days to help, it was his view that communication had been good and had reached those that needed it. He supported the amendment and views that the Forum's findings be reported back to Full Council.



In response, the Group Head of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer recommended that with Recommendation 2 (B) that the reference to Full Council should be changed to “an Extraordinary Meeting of the Council” to ensure dedicated debate. As this was fully supported by Councillors, the proposer and seconder to the amendment, Councillors Stanley and Tandy confirmed their agreement to this change.

Councillor Stanley, as proposer of the recommendations, thanked Members for a very worthwhile and constructive debate. He reconfirmed that the Environment Committee would decide the terms of reference and arrangements for establishing the Forum which would address two conflicting situations, the urgency in responding to this event, which was not a new situation, and working together to mitigate the problem for the remainder of this year and future years to reduce repeating events moving forward. This would also require input nationally from Government and the need for strong commitment to climate change which had certainly been a contributing factor.

Following further discussion, the Council then

RESOLVED - That

- 1) Arun District Council acknowledges the devastating impact the recent flooding has had on residents and businesses within the district;
- 2) This Council recommends to the Environment Committee that a ‘Forum’ is established made up of various partners responsible for flood preparation, planning and response, including the Environment Agency, Southern Water, West Sussex County Council and others, to investigate and consider the contributing factors, impacts and possible solutions;
  - a) The Forum is to be chaired by a suitably qualified independent person;
  - b) The Forum’s findings be reported back to the Environment Committee and an Extraordinary Meeting of Full Council;
  - c) Authority is delegated to the Environment Committee to agree the terms of reference and arrangements for the establishment of the forum.

352. YAPTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The Chair of the Planning Policy Committee, Councillor Lury, presented a report recommending that the council ‘makes’ the Yapton Neighbourhood Development Plan 2011-2031 and that it should become part of the Development Plan for Arun District Council. This was following a successful Neighbourhood Planning Referendum held on 12 September 2023 where 91.15% of voters had a cast a ‘yes’ vote.

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In formally proposing the recommendation, Councillor Lury praised Councillor Bower, as the former Chair of the Planning Policy Sub-Committee, for his work in pushing forward Neighbourhood Development Plans across the district following the introduction of the Localism Act. Thanks, were also extended to the Planning Policy team for their work with town and parish councils in pulling together the plans.

Councillor Yeates then seconded the recommendation.

Following a brief discussion, the Council

RESOLVED

That Full Council 'makes' the Yapton Neighbourhood Development Plan 2011-2031 and it becomes part of the Development Plan for Arun District Council

The Chair then called a five minute adjournment.

353. USE OF URGENT POWERS BY THE JOINT INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITIES - LOCAL AUTHORITY HOUSING FUND GRANT

The Council received and noted a report from the Joint Interim Chief Executive and Director of Environment and Communities detailing the use made of her urgent powers on 14 August 2023 [in accordance with the Constitution] to sign a Memo of Understanding, which would enable the Council to receive funding of £1,092,000 from The Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities to acquire or develop seven additional temporary accommodation homes to fulfil the council's statutory duties

354. AUDIT & GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE - 25 JULY 2023

The Chair of the Audit & Governance Committee, Councillor Walsh, presented the Minutes from the meeting of the Audit & Governance Committee held on 25 July 2023.

Councillor Walsh drew Members' attention to a range of recommendations at Minute 186 [Treasury Management Annual Report] which he formally proposed.

The recommendations were then duly seconded by Councillor O'Neill.

The Council

RESOLVED - That

1. the actual prudential and treasury indicators for 2022/23 contained in the report be approved
2. the annual treasury management report for 2022/23 be noted
3. the treasury activity during 2022/23 which has generated interest receipts of £1,455,650 (2.35%); budget £370,000 (0.84%) be noted
4. the addition of Handelsbanken Plc (Fitch rating AA, F1+) and Natwest Markets Plc (NRFB–Non Ring Fenced Bank) (Fitch rating A+, F1) to the 2023-24 treasury management strategy, be approved
5. as agreed at Audit & Governance Committee on 28 February 2023, that the Qatar National Bank and First Bank of Abu Dhabi have been removed from the counterparties list in the Council's Treasury Management Strategy, be noted.

355. PLANNING POLICY COMMITTEE - 21 SEPTEMBER 2023

The Chair of the Planning Policy Committee, Councillor Lury, presented recommendations from the meeting of the Planning Policy Committee held on 21 September 2023.

Councillor Lury alerted Members to the first set of recommendations at Minute 261 [Local Development Scheme] which he formally proposed. The recommendations were then seconded by Councillor Yeates.

The Council

RESOLVED

That the draft Local Development Scheme September 2023 for the period 2023-2025 as amended (and set out in Background Paper 2) be adopted.

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356. AUDIT & GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE - 28 SEPTEMBER 2023

The Chair of the Audit & Governance Committee, Councillor Walsh, presented the Minutes from the meeting of the Audit & Governance Committee held on 28 September 2023.

Councillor Walsh drew Members' attention to a range of recommendations at Minute 283 [Treasury Management Quarter 1 Report 2023/2024] which he formally proposed.

The recommendations were then duly seconded by Councillor O'Neill.

In discussing the recommendations, a question was asked in relation to Recommendation 2.2 and if this could be explained further as in terms of the generated estimated receipts of just under £0.5m (4.27%) against a budget of £1,540 (3.20%)

Councillor Walsh responded confirming that extra income was being received due to a steady rise in interest rates. The Group Head of Finance and Section 151 Officer confirmed this and stated that the £460,918 was in addition to the budget but that he would circulate an explanatory note following the meeting.

The Council

RESOLVED - That

1. the quarter 1 treasury management report for 2023/24 be noted;
2. they note the treasury activity for the quarter ended 30 June 2023, which has generated interest receipts of £460,918 (4.27%). Budget £1,540,000 (3.20%); and
3. the quarter 1 actual prudential and treasury indicators for 2023/24 contained in the report be noted.

357. POLICY & FINANCE COMMITTEE - 26 OCTOBER 2023

The Chair of the Policy and Finance Committee, Councillor Stanley, presented the minutes from the meeting of the Policy and Finance Committee held on 26 October 2023, which had been circulated separately to the agenda.

Councillor Stanley alerted Members to a recommendation at Minute 328 [Housing and Wellbeing Committee – 12 September 2023 – Local Authority Housing fund] which he formally proposed.

The recommendation was then seconded by Councillor Nash.

The Council,

RESOLVED

That this includes this scheme within the Council's capital programme at a total cost of £2.7m with £1.09m to be funded from central government grant and £1.6m to be funded by the Council through additional borrowing.

358. MOTIONS

The Chair confirmed that in line with requirements of the Constitution a motion had been submitted in accordance with Council Procedures 15.1 and 15.2.

The Chair invited Councillor McAuliffe to present his motion.

Councillor McAuliffe stated that when he had first come across the Rights to Rivers concept, he had questioned what this meant and so he had undertaken some research. This had revealed that we afford rights, as a society, to entities all the time, examples were The Albert Hall, Arundel Cathedral and Castle. They were all afforded special rights and protection under the listed buildings process. Trees were protected by Tree Protection Orders and even companies were afforded legal rights under English law. As part of his role as this council's appointed representative on the South Downs National Park, an authority that had 27 Councillors to speak up for and to protect the park's area, why could we not do something similar for rivers and the River Arun? It was accepted that the public wanted councils to afford greater protection to rivers; the anger relating to sewage discharge and the anger and anguish relating to village ponds littered with dead and dying fish due to a lack of oxygen and wildlife choking due to plastic waste was all there to be seen.

The existing protections had clearly failed and so it was time to rethink our relationship now with rivers and do better. Councillor McAuliffe outlined that he was suggesting that the council look at the possibilities of where it could provide extra protection and that as a council we should look at the options coming forward from external stakeholders and engage with those people that work, live and care for the River Arun every day so that we could understand the issues and where the council could play a part whether that was through the Local Plan, the council's Vision and objectives. This process needed to start now, and it was suggested that this work commence over a two year period to look at feasibility before reporting back to Council with outcomes.

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Councillor McAuliffe outlined that this was a global movement with many cities around the world having adopted Rights for Rivers. Adur District Council had recently passed this very Motion for the River Adur and Lewes District Council had adopted rights for the River Ouse. The council would not be working in isolation and should find ways of achieving this to better protect the River Arun. Councillor McAuliffe hoped that Councillors would give his motion consideration in an attempt to explore a legacy of protection and enhancement for the River Arun. He hoped that Councillors would give their consideration in protecting the river that defined Arun's landscape and gave the district its name.

Councillor Wallsgrove then seconded the Motion.

The Chair confirmed that the Motion would now stand referred to the Environment and that this had been decided in consultation with Councillors McAuliffe and Wallsgrove.

### 359. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS

The Chair referred Councillors to the Questions from Members that had been submitted in line with Council Procedure Rule 14.3 and the schedule of questions that had been circulated to the meeting. This confirmed that nine questions had been received.

The Chair invited questioners to read out their questions which would be responded to by the appropriate Committee Chair. It was explained that the schedule of questions would be updated to include the responses provided and would be uploaded to the Council's web page within ten working days of the meeting, in line with the Council's Constitution.

Nine questions had been submitted as bullet pointed below:

- (1) From Councillor Kelly to the Chair of the Housing & Wellbeing Committee, Councillor Birch regarding an item to refer to the Sussex Police and Crime Panel;
- (2) From Councillor Kelly to the Chair of the Environment Committee, Councillor Wallsgrove regarding car parking;
- (3) From Councillor Greenway to the Chair of the Policy & Finance Committee, Councillor Stanley regarding recent flooding in the District;
- (4) From Councillor Pendleton to the Chair of the Policy & Finance Committee, Councillor Stanley regarding the recent flooding in the District;
- (5) From Councillor Purser to the Chair of the Policy & Finance Committee, Councillor Stanley regarding the recent flooding in the District;

- (6) From Councillor Bower to the Chair of the Planning Policy Committee, Councillor Lury regarding the recent flooding in the District and changes to planning policy;
- (7) From Councillor Lloyd to the Chair of the Policy & Finance Committee, Councillor Stanely regarding the recent flooding in the District;
- (8) From Councillor Gunner to the Chair of the Policy & Finance Committee, Councillor Stanely regarding the alliance administration; and
- (9) From Councillor Gunner to the Chair of the Economy Committee, Councillor Nash regarding statements made online and decision making.

360. COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS

The Leader of the Opposition, Councillor Gunner, confirmed the following changes to Committee Memberships which were noted by the Council:

- Councillors Stainton and Pendleton were confirmed as named substitutes on the Planning Committee;
- Councillor Greenway would fill the conservative vacancy on the Constitution Working Party;
- Councillors Elkins and Pendleton would fill the two conservative vacancies on the CEO Remuneration Committee;
- Councillor Andy Cooper would replace Councillor Gunner as the conservative member on the CEO Appraisal Panel; and
- Councillors Gunner and Pendleton would fill the two conservative vacancies on the CEO Statutory Officers' investigatory and Disciplinary Committee

361. REPRESENTATION ON OUTSIDE BODIES

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Stanley, formally proposed a change to the representation to an existing Outside Body and a newly created Outside Body:

- (1) Councillor Walsh would replace Councillor Nash on the Littlehampton Town Centre Action Group; and
- (2) Councillor Wallsgrove to be confirmed as this Council's nominated representative on the Southern Water Local Authorities Stakeholders Action Group

Councillor Nash then seconded these changes.

The Council then

RESOLVED – That

The following changes be made to representation on Outside Bodies:

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(3) Councillor Walsh would replace Councillor Nash on the Littlehampton Town Centre Action Group; and

(4) Councillor Wallsgrove to be confirmed as this Council's nominated representative on the Southern Water Local Authorities Stakeholders Action Group

(The meeting concluded at 8.29 pm)