

COUNCIL

21 July 2011
6pm – 10.25pm

Present: Councillors Nimmo-Smith (Chair), Hart (Vice-Chair), Al Bander, Ashton, Benstead, Bick, Bird, Blackhurst, Blencowe, Boyce, Brierley, Brown, Dryden, Herbert, Kerr, Kightley, Marchant-Daisley, McGovern, McPherson, Moghadas, O'Reilly, Owers, Pippas, Pogonowski, Price, Reid, Reiner, Rosenstiel, Saunders, Smart, Smith, Stuart, Swanson, Taylor, Todd-Jones, Tucker, Tunnaclyffe, Ward, Wright and Znajek

FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE COUNCIL

11/41/CNL To approve as a correct record the minutes of the Extra-Ordinary Meeting and the Annual Meeting held on 26 May 2011

The minutes of the Extra-Ordinary Meeting and the Annual Meeting held on 26 May 2011 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

11/42/CNL Mayors Announcements

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors Cantrill and Hipkin.

2. CAMBRIDGE/HEIDELBERG/MONTPPELLIER YOUTH ORCHESTRA

Members were reminded that the Cambridge Heidelberg Montpellier Youth Orchestra would be playing a concert at the Guildhall on the evening of Sunday 7th August at 5pm. The Mayor encouraged members to attend.

3. MAYOR'S DAY OUT

Members were reminded that the Mayor's Day Out to Great Yarmouth would take place on Thursday, 1st September. Members who wished to attend as stewards were encouraged to contact the Arts and Recreation Team.

4. CAMBRIDGE OPEN WEEKEND

The Mayor reported that the City Council had again joined with the University of Cambridge to participate in the Open Cambridge weekend. Members were advised that the Council Chamber and civic suite would be open to the public on Friday, 9th and Saturday, 10th September with timed talks about the civic insignia on both dates.

5. HARVEST FESTIVAL CIVIC SERVICE

Members were reminded that the Harvest Festival Civic service would take place on Sunday, 9th October at 9.30 a.m. at Great St. Mary's Church.

6. PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTION OF THANKS

The Mayor presented Councillor Sheila Stuart a framed copy of the Council's 'Resolution of Thanks' for her year of mayoralty.

11/43/CNL Declarations of Interest

11/46/CNLc	Saunders	Personal	Employed part time in the licence trade
11/46/CNLc	Brown	Personal	Member of CAMRA
11/46/CNLc	McGovern	Personal	Member of CAMRA
11/46/CNLc	Reiner	Personal	Member of CAMRA
11/46/CNLc	Rosenstiel	Personal	Member of CAMRA
11/48/CNLa	Brown	Personal	Wife volunteer at Citizen Advice Bureau
11/48/CNLa	Kightley	Personal	Property Landlords
11/48/CNLa	Reid	Personal	Property Landlords
11/48/CNLa	Taylor	Personal	Property Landlords
11/48/CNLa	Ward	Personal	Property Landlords
11/48/CNLb	Bird	Personal	Member of Unison
11/48/CNLb	Dryden	Personal	Member of Unite
11/48/CNLb	Kightley	Personal	Member of Unite
11/48/CNLb	Moghadas	Personal	Member of NASUWT
11/48/CNLb	Price	Personal	Member of Unite
11/48/CNLb	Rosenstiel	Personal	Member of Unite
11/48/CNLb	Taylor	Personal	Member of Unite
11/48/CNLb	Todd-Jones	Personal	Member of Unison
11/48/CNLb	Ward	Personal	Freelance worker
11/48/CNLc	Reid	Personal	Family members used 191 bus
11/48/CNLd	Taylor	Personal	Employed in the publishing industry and supplies independent shops
11/48/CNLe	Al Bander	Personal	Member of Cambridge Cycling Campaign
11/48/CNLe	O'Reilly	Personal	Member of Cambridge Cycling Campaign
11/48/CNLe	Reid	Personal	Member of Cambridge Cycling Campaign
11/48/CNLe	Reiner	Personal	Member of Cambridge Cycling Campaign
11/48/CNLe	Rosenstiel	Personal	Member of Cambridge Cycling Campaign
11/48/CNLe	Saunders	Personal	Member of Cambridge Cycling Campaign
11/48/CNLe	Taylor	Personal	Member of Cambridge Cycling Campaign
11/48/CNLe	Wright	Personal	Member of Cambridge Cycling Campaign
11/48/CNLf	Rosenstiel	Personal	Daughter an instructor in the Sea Cadets
11/48/CNLf	Kightley	Personal	Daughter in the Royal Navy and previous association with a previous ice patrol ship operating in the South Atlantic.

11/44/CNL Public Questions Time

1) Mr Taylor addressed the Council and highlighted the following concern regarding the proposed Business Improvement District scheme (CBDID).

- The proposal was a tax on business.
- Insufficient information available about the proposal, CBBid and its governance arrangements.
- The lack of reference to tax increase in the consultation document and a lack of transparency about future roles.
- The blanket nature of any tax on the city centre.
- The appropriateness of various options for spending the additional tax levy was questioned, such as Meet and Greet Staff or additional Policing.
- The implications of the scheme for non-retail businesses and whether it would result in those (non-retail) businesses moving away from the city centre.
- The lack of openness and transparency associated with Love Cambridge and the project.

The Executive Councillor for Customer Services and Resources thanked Mr Taylor and made the following points in response.

- CBBid was a EU funded project to explore the possibility of establishing a Business Improvement District in central Cambridge the questionnaire was designed to explore views at an early stage.
- Love Cambridge had secured the funding, but the Association of Town Centre Managers in conjunction with two other locations in the East of England was delivering the project.
- The survey had made no reference to a tax or levy as the purpose of the survey was to begin dialogue on the wider issues, and it was currently too soon to make specific proposals.

- A levy would only be imposed on business if 51% of the business rate voters in terms of ratable value and 51% of the business rates voters in terms of number of business voted in favour of the proposals.
- If the proposals were successful a separate company would be established to progress the application.
- Previous references to the project in the Love Cambridge Report presented to the Strategy and Resources Scrutiny Committee were highlighted.

In response Mr Taylor questioned the value of the survey if the possibility of a business levy was not referenced in the supporting information. Further concerns were raised about the accountability of Love Cambridge.

The Executive Councillor for Customer Services and Resources re-iterated that the survey was designed to establish what businesses wanted, and would only proceed if businesses supported the proposals.

2) Mr Sykes addressed the Council and asked the following question:

- Cuts to public transport are forcing local residents to consider alternative and sustainable forms of transport. Councillors should be setting an example with regard to cycle safety and should follow the Highway Code.

The Executive Councillor for Planning and Sustainable Transport responded that transport issues are generally a County Council responsibility. However, the City Council does have officers in place to promote cycling and walking. It was also noted that many councillors did use bicycles.

In response Mr Sykes reiterated that that Councillors were leaders of the community and should be setting a good example. In addition he asked if money saved on other budget items could be spent on transport?

The Executive Councillor for Planning and Sustainable Transport further responded that funding was complicated and whilst transport was seen as important it was not possible to make any promises on this issue.

11/45/CNL To consider the recommendations of the Executive for AdoptionAppointment to Cam Conservators (Executive Councillor for Planning and Sustainable Transport)

Resolved (by 37 votes to 2) to:

Appoint Councillor Price as the representative until 31 December 2012.

Annual Treasury Management Report 2010/11 (Leader of the Council)

Resolved (by 24 votes to 0) to:

Approve the Annual Treasury Management Report 2010/11.

2010/11 Revenue and Capital Outturn, Carry Forwards and Significant Variances - General Fund - Overview - (Leader of the Council)

Resolved (by 24 votes to 0) to;

Revenue

a) Agree carry forward requests, totalling £768,010, as detailed in Appendix C of the officer's report subject to the final outturn position.

Capital

b) Carry forward (net) capital resources to fund re-phased capital spending of £9,071,000 as shown in Appendix D (Overview) of the officer's report.

Additions to the Capital Plan

c) Approve the inclusion of the "Refurbishment of the Former Crematory" in the capital plan.

11/46/CNL To consider the recommendations of Committees for Adoption**Civic Affairs (29 June 2011)**Code of Corporate Governance

Resolved (Unanimously) to;

Approve the Code of Corporate Governance

Interim Amendments to the Contract Procedure Rules

Resolved (24 votes to 0) to;

- i. Approve the amendments to rule 21 of the Contract Procedure rules as set out in Appendix 1 of the officer's report.
- ii. Approve the additional amendments to the Contract Procedure Rules by the substitution of the following references
 - a. Director of Finance becomes Director of Resources
 - B. Head of Legal and Democratic Services becomes Head of Legal Services.

Licensing Committee (6 June 2011)

Licensing Act 2003 Statement of Licensing Policy - results of public consultation on the section of Hills Road between the junctions of Regent Street and Purbeck Road as a fourth cumulative impact area and extension of the Leisure Park cumulative impact (CI) area to include the section of Cherry Hinton Road running from Hills Road to Clifton Road.

Resolved (Unanimously) to;

To adopt, within the Statement of Licensing Policy, the amendments outlined in the committee report and to revise paragraph 5.8 of the Statement of Licensing Policy as set out in Appendix C of the committee report.

11/47/CNL To deal with Oral Questions**1. Councillor Dryden to the Executive Councillor for Arts, Sport and Public Places**

Recently in Cherry Hinton we have had trees felled at sites that can be seen from the public highways and as a result have destroyed the outlook of the landscape in our village. Could the council send Arboricultural Offices to survey the trees in Cherry Hinton and put TPO's on trees which are not only important to our scenery but also to birds and other wild life?

The Leader responded on behalf of the Executive Councillor and explained that 12 separate Tree Protection Orders protected presently 100 trees. The Leader encouraged all Councillors to submit details of trees to officers, which may meet the criteria for protection.

The Leader also explained that the forthcoming arboricultural strategy would consider some of the issues raised.

2. Councillor O'Reilly to the Executive Councillor for Community Development and Health

Do you agree, especially given recent events that the politicisation of local policing is a dangerous thing?

The Executive Councillor for Community Development and Health agreed with the suggestion in the question.

3. Councillor Kightley to the Leader (in place of Executive Councillor Arts, Sport and Public Places)

Can the Leader give us a brief report on the effectiveness of the Council's preparation for, and input to, Strawberry Fair this year?

The Leader responded on behalf of the Executive Councillor and explained that the Council had been working with the police, the local community and the Strawberry Fair Committee over a number of years to make the event safe and enjoyable, and to minimise the adverse impact on the local neighbourhood. This had included dealing with anti-social behaviour; excessive alcohol

consumption; urinating in public places; illegal camping; and car parking, amongst other local concerns. Significant improvements had been made as a result of collaborative working, sustained over a number of years. This year had seen much greater control of access and egress, and pre publicity by the Strawberry Fair Committee on acceptable behaviour had resulted in far fewer arrests.

The Leader reported that the Council supported and input into to this year's Strawberry Fair was highly successful.

Internal officer planning meetings and external meetings had been held with partner agencies and residents groups throughout the months leading up to this years Strawberry Fair.

It was noted that the internal officer group had identified early on the key issues to be addressed and an action plan of activities that needed to be undertaken. Those identified as partner organisation actions were highlighted to the appropriate organisation.

The Councils actions covered the whole remit of services provided by the Council including those in Streets and Open Spaces, Arts and Recreation and Refuse and Environment. The internal officer group was a good example of how we work was undertaken across all departments to achieve measurable outcomes and benefits taking the 'one Council' approach.

This group would meet on regular basis increasing in frequency nearer the event.

It was noted that the stakeholder group brought together partner agencies and residents groups. This group met on several occasions and enabled clear communication of arrangements and plans for the Strawberry Fair to be shared and importantly offered the residents groups an opportunity to share their concerns.

The Councils input into the Strawberry Fair included an important presence in the Community Hub. Officers from the Council were an integral part of the Community Hub, which was established in Wesley Church on the day of the Fair. The Hub was the community's point of contact to report unauthorised camping, street cleaning and litter, stray dogs, noise, and nuisance.

Partner Agencies in the Hub included the Police, Strawberry Fair Committee and the County Council.

4. Councillor Brown to the Executive Councillor for Planning and Sustainable Transport

The County Council has recently amended its constitution to remove the setting of on-street parking charges from the Traffic Management Area Joint Committee. The sole responsibility for setting these fees now rests with the County Cabinet. Does the Executive Councillor agree that this decision is contrary to the spirit of devolution?

The Executive Councillor agreed that the decision was contrary to the principles of localism.

It was noted that the coalition government's localism agenda was based on taking decisions at the most local possible level, and it appeared that the Tory County Council simply did not understand this. This was only the latest of a series of cases where they had decided to remove things from the city level and deal with them countywide.

As an example it was noted that the Hurrell Road street sign had recently been knocked down. Whilst previously the City Rangers could be informed and it would be fixed on the same day, now this would need to be reported to the County Council and would take a lot longer to deal with.

5. Councillor Owers to the Executive Councillor for Housing

Since the number of estate housing officer posts were cut in half in 2010, what has been the effect on the responsiveness, appropriateness and efficiency of the service City Homes provides to its tenants, and to Councillors chasing up housing issues?

The Executive Councillor for Housing responded that the number of Housing Officers had been reduced from 8 to 6 in September 2010.

The housing management service to tenants has remained consistent since City Homes restructured in September 2010. Year-end performance indicators at March 2011 showed improvements in most areas e.g. rent arrears improved from 98.33% in March 2010 to 98.51% in March 2011.

The Head of City Homes attended tenants meetings across the City and had not experienced any increase in tenant complaints about housing management services. Also the number of complaints recorded under the Council's complaint procedure had not increased compared to 2010.

It was noted that, in the last two months, the City Homes' south office has had a housing officer vacancy and one housing officer absent from work due to sickness. This had resulted in some re-prioritisation of workloads and both the Area Housing Manager and Head of City Homes were aware that some Councillors had been chasing up some lower priority housing issues. The vacancy had now been filled and temporary help was in place to cover for sickness.

The Executive Councillor for Housing confirmed that within this financial year staffing resources on both housing management and sheltered support services would be reviewed as part of the Housing Revenue Account Self Financing Project.

6. Councillor Ashton to the Executive Councillor for Arts, Sport and Public Places

At a recent meeting of the Cherry Hinton Residents Association, considerable interest was expressed about running the Village Centre, as do the residents north of the city at the Arbury Community centre and also at George V pavilion in Trumpington. Could interested parties meet with council officers to fully explore this opportunity as proposed in the government's localism bill?

The Leader responded on behalf of the Executive Councillor for Arts, Sport and Public Spaces. The Leader advised that the issue had recently been discussed at Community Services Scrutiny Committee and that the full consideration of the Localism Bill and the Open Public Services White Paper needed to be considered.

The recently published Open Public Services White Paper provides for:

- Community Right to Buy – Giving communities a fair chance to buy land and buildings that are important to them.
- Transforming community assets – LAs encouraged to consider community management or ownership; to give proper consideration to requests, with a viable plan.

- **Community Right to Challenge.** - Gives powers to community voluntary sector groups to challenge and run services themselves.

The Leader explained that officers would be happy to meet the Cherry Hinton Residents Association to discuss future options for the centre.

7. Councillor Reiner to the Executive Councillor for Community Development & Health

Would the Executive Councillor update the Council on the service review of CCTV proposed in his portfolio plan?

The Executive Councillor for Community Development and Health explained that a review of CCTV would be reported to a future Community Services Scrutiny Committee (likely to be October 2011).

8. Councillor Wright to the Leader

Since 2005 when Cambridge joined the Mayors for Peace movement, how has Cambridge City Council maintained and furthered this initiative?

The Leader explained that the Mayor of Hiroshima had started the movement in 1982 and that Cambridge City Council had joined in 2005 as part of the Mayoral year of Councillor Hipkin. The Leader further explained that a link had been maintained since then.

9. Councillor Taylor to the Leader

What sponsorship or advertising dealings does the City Council have with News Corps or its constituent parts, and what impact has the News Corps share depreciation had on pension funds?

The Leader responded that the Council currently had a sponsorship agreement in the form of a media partnership with Sky Arts (BSkyB) for the television broadcast coverage of The Co-operative Cambridge Folk Festival 2011.

The agreement provided Sky Arts with the right to record the 2011 event and broadcast recorded coverage on television for up to 3 years. The agreement permitted Sky Arts to access the event in order to undertake the recordings.

The agreement also incorporated the provision of a range of marketing benefits which included: credit as an official Folk Festival "media partner" in print & publicity including the Festival website, branding on site at the event, an allocation of tickets & passes, a programme advertisement and inclusion in relevant PR.

The Council received a fee for the partnership and benefits from Sky Arts' marketing of the Festival through their TV coverage and associated publicity.

It was noted that the Council did not currently have any relationships with News Corp companies with regard to advertising or notably within recent years.

There were no other sponsorship deals with News Corps in the Council's central register or known advertising deals.

The following Oral Questions were also tabled, but owing to the expiry of the period of time permitted, were not covered during the meeting:

10. Councillor Pogonowski to the Leader of the Council

Is the role of Mayor the City of Cambridge a politically neutral role, as I was once told was the case by the former Mayor, Cllr. Stuart? The former Mayor adopted a politically neutral role by not sitting on scrutiny committees or endorsing or rejecting political groupings coming into our city. Is this the case with the current Mayor?

11. Councillor Herbert to the Executive Councillor for Planning and Sustainable Transport

Given that the redrafted Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) for Cambridge identifies a serious medium term shortage of preferred housing sites in and near Cambridge, will he instigate a joint process with South Cambridgeshire and the County Council to undertake a fresh trawl for future sites, using a set of transparent sustainability and other assessment criteria to be developed jointly including wider consultation?

12. Councillor McPherson to the Executive Councillor for Housing

At the last Community Services Scrutiny Committee meeting it was decided to look again at demolishing the Coville Road bungalows and as local Ward Councillor I was only made aware this had happened after a phone call when the meeting had ended. Again there seems to be no consultation with us or the residents until after you have made your decision. Can we be assured that you will be treating the residents with more respect than you did last time when you tried to evict them from their homes?

13. Councillor Price to the Executive Councillor for Community Development and Health

Are you still proud of the punt touting training programme?

14. Councillor Bird to the Executive Councillor Arts, Sport and Public Places

Given the vital importance of disabled access at events that the city council puts on like the Big Weekend, what arrangements were made to ensure that the disabled platform was reserved only for people with disability and their guests?

15. Councillor Stuart to the Executive Councillor for Customer Services and Resources

I note the Busker's Festival, which took place earlier this month at various locations around the City. How many such festivals have taken place in Cambridge? How do these festivals benefit the City of Cambridge? Which other cities in the UK offer similar festivals?

16. Councillor Wright to Leader

What European Union Funding does Cambridge City Council receive, how are any such monies deployed?

17. Councillor Pogonowski to the Executive Councillor for Customer Services and Resources

A survey has been put out to businesses in Cambridge from an “organisation” called CBbid, which other than in logo form, doesn’t exist. Could the Executive Councillor please clarify for the city's businesses what CBbid is?

What is the Council’s involvement in CBbid? Does Love Cambridge have a role in CBbid? Why has the Council attempted to hide its involvement in CBbid in its questionnaire?

18. Councillor Herbert to the Executive Councillor for Housing

What additional costs, programme delays and other impacts resulted from the 3.5month delay in the transfer of housing maintenance to Apollo?

11/48/CNL To consider the following Notices of Motion, notice of which has been given by:

11/48a/CNL Motion A

Councillor Marchant-Daisley proposed and Councillor Owers seconded the following motion:

“The Council is deeply concerned at projected housing and wider impacts on hundreds of Cambridge households caused by

- Multiple allowance and benefit cuts,
- Further cuts in local housing allowances payable under the Broad Rental Market Area policy, and
- Planned Localism Bill changes that will reduce the rights of people to housing.

The Executive Councillor for Community Development and Health is asked to bring a report to the Autumn Community Services Scrutiny Committee quantifying the number of Cambridge households affected by these changes including

- the planned maximum allowance and benefit cap that takes no account of family size, which a DCLG projection says could also lead to 20,000 additional homeless families
- the numbers of Cambridge households affected by the doubling of social rents for new housing association tenants, of families then newly forced to depend on housing benefit, or by other Localism Bill changes including ending lifetime security of tenure for new housing association tenants and
- quantifying the number of isolated or vulnerable Cambridge households including disabled people who are suffering benefit cuts without clear support to retain their entitlement.

The planned report will also identify

- Support and benefit advice issues and service gaps that need to be urgently addressed by council advice and housing teams, and by other local agencies including support needed by Cambridge CAB
- Issues to be raised with the Conservative/Liberal Democrat Government via the city's two MPs, focusing on urgent changes needed to national policy."

Councillor Smart proposed the following amendment

"This Council is deeply concerned at projected housing and wider impacts on hundreds of Cambridge households caused by

- Multiple allowance and benefit cuts
- Further cuts in local housing allowances payable under the Broad Market Rental Area policy, and
- Planned Localism Bill changes that will reduce the rights of people in housing.

The Council notes that

- Protecting services for the most vulnerable was agreed as a priority in the Annual Statement
- A motion affirming the importance of life-time tenancies in council housing was passed by this Council in October 2010
- Lobbying by Julian Huppert MP and others, resulted in the dropping of the suggested 10% cut in housing benefit for those on Job Seekers Allowance
- Lobbying by the Leader and others has resulted in grants being awarded by the Homes and Communities Agency for new housing in this area without the requirement to charge 80% of market rent
- Lobbying on the inappropriate size of the Broad Market Rental Area has been continuous since the last Labour Government brought it in: this has been by both the Liberal Democrat MPs and by Liberal Democrat councillors.
- That there is already a requirement in the Equalities Plan to track the effect of changes to allowances and benefits
- That there are commitments listed in several of the Portfolio Plans to track and mitigate the impact of changes on the most vulnerable

This Council therefore calls on the Executive Councillors to

- Take the steps already outlined in the Portfolio plans
- Identify what else can be done and include appropriate actions in the next Portfolio Plans
- Ensure that fairness and social cohesion are given their full weight when drawing up the Local Tenancy Strategy
- Ensure that members are kept briefed on an ongoing basis

This Council further calls on all its members to lobby on the issues which cause particular concern in Cambridge including:

- The extent and impact of the former Labour Government's Broad Market Rental Area
- The suggested cap on the universal credit for those out of work
- The impact of benefit reassessment on the most vulnerable, including the mentally ill."

On a show of hands the amendment was carried by 24 votes to 16.

Resolved (24 votes to 1) that

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- Further cuts in local housing allowances payable under the Broad Market Rental Area policy, and
- Planned Localism Bill changes that will reduce the rights of people in housing.

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- The suggested cap on the universal credit for those out of work
- The impact of benefit reassessment on the most vulnerable, including the mentally ill.

11/48b/CNL Motion B

Under Council procedure rule 26.1, and with the consent of the Council Councillor Herbert tabled an amended motion to replace that included on the agenda.

Councillor Herbert proposed and Councillor Price seconded the following amended motion.

“The Council is committed to employing Contractors who treat their staff well, and who consistently and fully meet expected employment and health and safety standards.

The Council calls on the Executive Councillor for Customer Services and Resources to bring forward a report to the Strategy and Resources Scrutiny Committee to review its existing standards for contractors seeking future contracts, including,

- appropriate pay rate policies
- pension scheme entitlement for all staff
- health and safety, including provision and wearing of Personal Protective Equipment
- trade union recognition
- regular reporting of compliance with equalities and employment legislation, and
- appropriate wider terms and conditions for the work involved and to also minimise all inappropriate use of agency workers, whether by Contractors or by the Council.”

Resolved (Unanimous) that the motion be agreed as set out above.

11/48c/CNL Motion C

Under Council procedure rule 27.1, and with the consent of the Council, Councillor Ward and Reid withdrew the Motion.

11/48d/CNL Motion D

Under Council procedure rule 26.1, and with the consent of the Council Councillor Smart tabled an amended motion to replace that included on the agenda.

Councillor Smart proposed and Councillor Brown seconded the following amended motion.

“The Council notes that

- diverse high-streets, with a healthy representation of small traders, can form an integral part of the social fabric of local communities
- the competitive environment of the high street increasingly tends to produce generic streets populated by chain stores, resulting in "Clone Towns"
- the Localism Bill is designed to give more powers to local councils and local people to shape their neighbourhoods
- Liberal Democrat parliamentarians have responded to a call for action from Cambridge City and County Councillors by tabling an amendment to the Localism Bill, "The Cambridge Amendment" (153AKC) that would allow councils and the local community to protect the diversity of the local high street by giving councils a new power to protect retail vitality and diversity including taking into account whether the business is "independent" or "multiple".
- Labour parliamentarians have tabled similar amendments, including 153AKA that requires councils to adopt a sequential, "town centre first" approach to development of retail sites in order to stop retail diversity in town centres being harmed by out-of-town developments

The Council asks the Leader to write to both Cambridge MPs and to members of the House of Lords with links to Cambridge to support both amendments to the Localism Bill and invites all Councillors similarly to seek support for the amendments. “

Councillors Pogonowski and Wright proposed the following amendment to insert:

“The City Council further requests that Liberal Democrat Members in the House of Lords push for a vote on the Cambridge Amendment, and do not withdraw it as their colleagues have done on other positive amendments to the Bill in the House of Commons.”

The amendment was lost by 15 votes to 24.

Resolved (39 votes to 0) that

The Council notes that

- diverse high-streets, with a healthy representation of small traders, can form an integral part of the social fabric of local communities
- the competitive environment of the high street increasingly tends to produce generic streets populated by chain stores, resulting in "Clone Towns"
- the Localism Bill is designed to give more powers to local councils and local people to shape their neighbourhoods
- Liberal Democrat parliamentarians have responded to a call for action from Cambridge City and County Councillors by tabling an amendment to the Localism Bill, "The Cambridge Amendment" (153AKC) that would allow councils and the local community to protect the diversity of the local high street by giving councils a new power to protect retail vitality and diversity including taking into account whether the business is "independent" or "multiple".
- Labour parliamentarians have tabled similar amendments, including 153AKA that requires councils to adopt a sequential, "town centre first" approach to development of retail sites in order to stop retail diversity in town centres being harmed by out-of-town developments

The Council asks the Leader to write to both Cambridge MPs and to members of the House of Lords with links to Cambridge to support both amendments to the Localism Bill and invites all Councillors similarly to seek support for the amendments.

11/48e/CNL Motion E

Councillor Brown proposed and Councillor Bick seconded the following motion:

“The Council notes the way 20mph limits have developed in Cambridge has led to a "patchwork" system of multiple schemes. The streets covered by such schemes can seem as though they have been selected in an arbitrary manner, with nearby streets of very similar natures having alternately 20 and 30 limits, depending on what side of a dividing line they fall.

The Council recognises that the 20mph schemes in the city are not consistent with each other and have met with differing levels of success, and the support of local residents is an important factor both in developing the scheme, and in the scheme's operation.

The Council requests the Executive Councillor for Planning and Sustainable Transport to evaluate the current schemes, to look into harmonising best practice within the different schemes in the City, and to consult on expansion of the schemes, subject to consultation of residents, into areas of the city where they would be appropriate.”

Resolved (Unanimous) that the motion be agreed as set out above.

11/48f/CNL Motion F

Councillor Nimmo-Smith proposed and Councillor Hart seconded the following motion.

“The Council welcomes the suggestion that an affiliation might be created between the city of Cambridge and the ice patrol ship HMS Protector and asks the Chief Executive to explore this further with the Royal Navy including potential links with relevant organisations in the city.”

Resolved (35 votes to 2) that the motion be agreed as set out above.

11/49/CNL Written Questions

Members noted the written questions and answers circulated around the Chamber.

The meeting ended at 10.25pm

CHAIR