



# Minutes of the Partnership for South Hampshire (PfSH) Joint Committee

*Minutes of a meeting held on 07 July 2020  
Virtually via Microsoft Teams*

**Members:**

**Councillors:** Seán Woodward (Chairman)  
Judith Grajewski  
Neil Cutler  
Nick Adams-King  
Stephen Philpott  
Michael Wilson  
Keith House  
Edward Heron  
Patrick Heneghan

**Authority Represented:**

Fareham BC  
Hampshire CC  
Winchester CC  
Test Valley BC  
Gosport BC  
Havant BC  
Eastleigh BC  
New Forest DC  
New Forest NP

**Officers:**

Richard Jolley  
Andy Ferrier  
Laura Taylor  
Stuart Jarvis  
Claire Upton-Brown  
David Hayward  
Nick Tustian  
David Williams  
Alison Barnes  
Sandy Hopkins

**Authority Represented:**

Fareham BC  
Test Valley BC  
Winchester CC  
Hampshire CC  
New Forest DC  
Havant BC & East Hants DC  
Eastleigh BC  
Portsmouth CC & Gosport BC  
New Forest NP  
Southampton CC

**Co-opted Members:**

Paddy May  
Charlotte Lines  
Brian Johnson

**Organisation represented:**

PfSH  
Environment Agency  
Solent LEP

**Also in Attendance:**

Councillor A Glass (Chairman of PfSH Overview  
and Scrutiny Committee)  
Johnathan Evans (Item 10)

New Forest DC  
Southampton CC

Claire Upton-Brown (Item 8)  
Mike Allgrove (Item 8)  
David Bibby (Item 11)  
Graham Horton (Item 11)  
Rachel Jones (Item 11)

New Forest DC  
PfSH Consultant  
Test Valley BC  
Natural England  
Natural England

For further information, please contact Democratic Services at Fareham Borough  
Council Tel: 01329 824594  
[democracticservices@fareham.gov.uk](mailto:democracticservices@fareham.gov.uk)

**1. ELECTION OF A CHAIRMAN**

Having been proposed and seconded, it was RESOLVED that Councillor S Woodward from Fareham Borough Council be elected as Chairman for the 2020/21 municipal year.

**2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN**

Having been proposed and seconded, it was RESOLVED that Councillor C Hammond from Southampton City Council be elected as Vice-Chairman for the 2020/21 municipal year.

**3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND CHANGES IN JOINT COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

Apologies for absence were received from:

Oliver Crosthwaite-Eyre (New Forest National Park) with Patrick Heneghan deputising, Gill Kneller (Havant & East Hants DC) with David Hayward deputising, Peter Grimwood (Fareham Borough Council) with Richard Jolley deputising, Councillor Christopher Hammond (Southampton CC), Councillor Ken Moon (East Hampshire DC).

**4. MINUTES**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the PFSH Joint Committee meeting held on 10 February 2020 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

**5. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements made at the meeting.

**6. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest received at this meeting.

**7. DEPUTATIONS**

A deputation was received, along with a supporting presentation, from Dee Haas, Chairman of CPRE Hampshire in relation to item 8 – Statement of Common Ground.

**8. STATEMENT OF COMMON GROUND – PROGRESS**

The Joint Committee received a report from Claire Upton-Brown which provided an update on the progress towards the Statement of Common Ground.

RESOLVED that the Joint Committee NOTES the progress made on the Statement of Common Ground set out in this report.

## **9. PFSH CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT**

The Joint Committee received a report by the PFSH co-ordinator, Paddy May, that covered issues which are significant, but do not justify a full report to be brought to the attention of the Joint Committee for decision or for information. The report is divided into Parts A and B, with Part A outlining matters for decision and Part B providing information for the Joint Committee on a variety of PFSH matters.

RESOLVED that the Joint Committee: -

- a) AGREED that the existing 2019-20 PFSH Business Plan is rolled forward for 2020-21 and that work takes place to present a medium-term business plan from 2021; and
- b) NOTES the matters for Information outlined in Part B of this report.

## **10. PFSH CAPITAL AND REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING 2019/20 AND PROPOSED INTERIM REVENUE BUDGET 2020/21**

The Joint Committee received a report by John Harrison which was presented to the Committee by Johnathan Evans, on the Capital and Revenue Budget 2020/21.

RESOLVED that the Joint Committee: -

- a) NOTES the outturn for the financial year 2019/20 (table 2);
- b) APPROVED the Statement of Accounts for the 2019/20 financial year and the Annual Governance Statement (appendix 1); and
- c) APPROVED the proposed capital and revenue budgets for 2020/21 as set out in the reports (Tables 4 & 5).

## **11. PFSH NUTRIENT NEUTRALITY UPDATE**

The Joint Committee received a report from David Bibby which provided an update to the Joint Committee on the recent progress made on the work of PFSH and its partners has undertaken to address the nitrate issue of achieving nutrient neutrality from developments across the sub-region.

The Chairman invited Graham Horton from Natural England (NE) to address the Committee. Graham confirmed that, as well as the meeting the MP's in May noted in the report, an additional meeting took place on the 26 June 2020. At this meeting MP's invited NE to write to the them to set out what extra support is needed to unblock issues around land acquisition and what possible funds be allocated to. The hope being that MP's can use this letter, which was sent this week, in discussion with the Treasury to highlight the need to get things moving. NE have also written a letter to the Solent LEP supporting the bid to allow funds to purchase land, the hope being to show NE support for the mitigation schemes being proposed. NE have been approached about several different mitigation options which, it was agreed, along with regular updates, will be shared with the Joint Committee through the Chairman.

The Chairman expressed delight in MP's engaging with the nitrate issue and reminded Members of his meeting earlier this year with Robert Jenrick MP, in which the Chairman discussed funding proposals, by way of using the fines imposed on the biggest polluters to fund the proposed mitigation measures. To this date no response had been received and asked for NE, although not a member of the MHCLG, to assist in ascertaining a response to this proposal.

The Committee discussed concerns around the legality of the mitigation schemes and confirmation was sought. NE confirmed that they are satisfied with all aspects of the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife scheme set out in the report and the Chairman confirmed that not only does the scheme provide mitigation but has the ability to improve the natural environment.

The Committee thanked David and his team for their hard work and welcomed the appointment of a dedicated officer to take the work forward.

Brian Johnson, the Chairman of the Solent LEP addressed the Committee to suggest that he engage in conversations across the South East LEP region, in order to work collaboratively in assisting with authorities in accessing funding, which was welcomed by the Committee.

Councillor Stephen Phillpotts abstained from voting on the recommendations a) and b).

RESOLVED that the Joint Committee: -

- a) ENDORSED the establishment of a dedicated officer resource as a temporary planning officer post to work on the nutrient neutrality issue, and to take forward a pilot sub-regional mitigation scheme;
- b) ENDORSED continued investigation into determining a sub-regional mitigation scheme, including working towards a Solent Nutrient Fund;
- c) ENDORSED PfSH's continued work with wider local authority partners beyond PfSH members in addressing the nutrient neutrality issue, including on potential funding;
- d) NOTE that PfSH continues to seek potential options for suitable mitigation measures, and alternative funding sources; and
- e) NOTE that PfSH will continue to work closely with MHCLG and DEFRA to find mitigation solutions and to SEEK support to assist us in achieving these.

## **12. SOUTHERN POLICY CENTRE**

The Joint Committee received a presentation from John Denham and Dr Simon Eden from the Southern Policy Centre.

*A copy of the presentation has been published on the PfSH website with these Minutes.*

RESOLVED that the Joint Committee NOTE the contents of the presentation 'A strategy for the central south?'

*(The meeting started at 6:00pm and ended at 7.26pm)*

*(NB: The next meeting of the Partnership for South Hampshire (PfSH) Joint Committee will be held on 30 September 2020).*