

## Council Minutes

The minutes of the Council meeting held on Thursday, 22 April 2021 in the Members' Lounge, Civic Centre, Poulton-le-Fylde and remotely via WebEx.

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### Councillors present:

The Mayor, Councillor Andrea Kay and the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Howard Ballard

Councillors A Turner, B Birch, I Amos, R Amos, Armstrong, Lady D Atkins, Sir R Atkins, Baxter, Beavers, Berry, C Birch, Bowen, Bridge, Cartridge, Catterall, Collinson, Cropper, E Ellison, P Ellison, Fail, Fairbanks, Gerrard, George, Henderson, Holden, Ibison, Ingham, Le Marinel, Leech, Longton, McKay, Minto, Moon, Orme, O'Neill, Raynor, Robinson, Smith, Stirzaker, Swales, S Turner, A Vincent, Matthew Vincent, M Vincent, D Walmsley, L Walmsley, Webster and Williams

**Apologies:** None.

### Officers present:

Garry Payne, Chief Executive  
Mark Billington, Corporate Director Environment  
Marianne Hesketh, Corporate Director Communities  
Clare James, Corporate Director Resources and Section 151 Officer  
Peter Foulsham, Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager  
Marianne Unwin, Democratic Services Officer

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### 39 Confirmation of minutes

Comment was made that Minute 34 (Members' Allowances Scheme) recorded that the recommendations had been agreed by 35 votes to 9. It was accepted that it was a proposal by Councillor Sir R Atkins that had been supported by 35 votes to 9. The reference to the recommendations being accepted by 35 votes to 9 was incorrect, and the decision for Minute 34 should more accurately read:

*"It was agreed by a majority*

- (i) *That, in line with the formula applied since 2012 and endorsed last year, the Basic Allowance paid to each Councillor be increased by 2.75%, from £4,347 per annum, to £4,467 with*

- effect from 2 May 2021, and*  
(ii) *That no other changes be made to the Scheme for 2021/22.”*

It was proposed by Councillor Henderson and seconded by Councillor Alan Vincent that the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 11 March 2021 be **approved** as an accurate record, subject to the above and another amendment to minute 34, Councillor Fairbanks having seconded a further amendment, which had been proposed by Councillor O'Neill, and not Councillor George as originally recorded (by 39 votes to 8, with 1 abstention).

**40       Declarations of Interest**

None.

**41       Announcements**

The Chief Executive, Garry Payne, informed councillors that both the Conservative and Labour Associations in Wyre had agreed that they would not use tellers at the forthcoming elections in order to reduce the risk of transmitting the COVID-19 virus.

**42       Public questions or statements**

None received.

**43       Questions "On Notice" from councillors**

None received.

**44       Treasury Management Policy and Annual Investment Strategy, Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement and Capital Strategy 2021/22**

Councillor Alan Vincent, Resources Portfolio Holder and Clare James, Corporate Director Resources and S151 Officer submitted a report.

It was proposed by Councillor Alan Vincent, seconded by Councillor Henderson and **agreed**, unanimously, that the Treasury Management Policy and Annual Investment Strategy, MRP Policy Statement and Capital Strategy for 2021/22 be approved.

**45       Appointment of Monitoring Officer**

Councillor David Henderson, Leader of the Council and Garry Payne, Chief Executive, submitted a report.

Councillor Henderson paid tribute to Liesl Hadgraft, Head of Business Support, who was retiring after 34 years' service to Wyre, having also been the Monitoring Officer since 1 April 2016.

It was proposed by Councillor Henderson, seconded by Councillor Alan Vincent and **agreed**, unanimously, that the Legal Services Manager, Mary

Grimshaw, be appointed to role of Monitoring Officer from 1 June 2021.

#### **46 Constitution amendments**

Councillor David Henderson, Leader of the Council and Garry Payne, Chief Executive submitted a report.

An amendment was proposed by Councillor Fail and seconded by Councillor Beavers, in two parts:

- (i) that paragraph 9.3 of the Local Code of Good Practice for Councillors and Officers involved in the Planning Process be amended to refer to “a Ward councillor” rather than “the Ward councillor”, and
- (ii) that the following sentence in paragraph 9.5 be deleted: “Only one Parish or Town Councillor, one adjoining Ward Councillor (if they called in the application) and the County Councillor, may speak”.

Following a debate the proposed amendment was lost by 11 votes to 34.

During the debate the meeting was suspended for four minutes while a disturbance outside the Civic Centre was dealt with.

It was proposed by Councillor Henderson, seconded by Councillor Alan Vincent and **agreed**, by 37 votes to 9, that the recommendations in the report be accepted.

#### **47 Overview and Scrutiny Committee Annual Report**

Councillor John Ibison, Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, submitted a report.

The report was noted.

#### **48 Notices of Motion**

None.

The meeting started at 7pm and finished at 7:43pm.