

Council Minutes

The minutes of the Council meeting of Wyre Borough Council held on Thursday, 16 September 2021 in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Poulton-le-Fylde.

Council members present:

Councillors Kay, Ballard, A Turner, Berry, Bowen, Bridge, Catterall, Collinson, Cropper, E Ellison, Fail, George, Henderson, Holden, Leech, McKay, O'Neill, Raynor, Smith, A Vincent, Matthew Vincent, M Vincent and Webster

Apologies for absence:

None.

NOTE – due to ongoing restrictions on indoor gatherings being imposed as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the capacity of the Council Chamber was currently limited. As a result, a number of councillors had been unable to attend the meeting, for which they would not be penalised.

Other councillors present:

Councillor Swales.

Officers present:

Garry Payne, Chief Executive
Peter Foulsham, Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager
Duncan Jowitt, Democratic Services Officer
Amy Collier, Apprentice

Two members of the public attended the meeting.

18 Confirmation of minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 8 July were approved subject to the following amendments:

- (i) Councillor Stirzaker was present at the meeting.
- (ii) Minute 12
The words, "Cllr Collinson responded to questions from Cllr D Atkins and Longton" to be replaced with "Cllr Collinson responded to questions from Cllr Stirzaker, Cllr Lady Atkins and Cllr Longton".

(iii) Minute 14

The following text be added after the sentence: "An amendment was proposed by Cllr Fail and seconded by Cllr Stirzaker":

"Wyre will align with the government's new climate change commitments, bringing the net-zero emissions targets for the council operations and the wider borough forward, from 100% by 2050 to 100% by 2035".

The amendments, proposed by Cllr Henderson, seconded by Cllr Michael Vincent, were approved by 10 votes to 0, with no abstentions.

19 Declarations of Interest

None.

20 Announcements

The Leader announced that he attended the 'Make a Difference' awards in Blackpool on Saturday 11 September. Fleetwood Together had been nominated for the Community Hero Award, which they won.

The Mayor announced that a number of fund-raising events had taken place.

The Deputy Mayor referred to three forthcoming events:

- (i) A Dog Show in Cleveleys this weekend
- (ii) A meal to be held at the Clay Oven on 13 October
- (iii) The Mayor's Ball to be held at the Marine Hall on 1 December.

21 Public questions or statements

None.

22 Questions "On Notice" from councillors

None.

23 Executive reports

(a) Leader of the Council (Councillor David Henderson)

The Leader of the Council (Councillor David Henderson) submitted a report.

Cllr Henderson responded to questions and comments from Cllrs Fail, Cropper and Beavers.

In response to a question from Cllr Fail, Cllr Henderson referred to the Lancashire District Leaders and Lancashire Leaders meetings and confirmed that he would bring all important matters back to the Council for discussion and/or a decision if so required but that he would, as he

has done so far, keep Full Council up to date via his Executive Report.

Cllr Henderson explained, in response to a question from Cllr Cropper, how the Greater Lancashire Plan fitted with the County Deals.

In response to a question from Cllr Beavers the Leader referred to the current arrangements for Full Council Meetings and the six-month rule. The Chief Executive clarified that the rule covered attendance at any arranged meetings of the Council to which Members were invited, including all committees appointed by the Council, task and working groups.

Report noted.

(b) Resources Portfolio Holder (Councillor Michael Vincent)

The Resources Portfolio Holder (Cllr Michael Vincent) submitted a report.

Cllr Vincent responded to a question from Cllr George regarding ICT issues at the Fleetwood and Garstang Tourist Information Centres.

Cllr McKay made a statement thanking the Corporate Director Resources and her team for getting the financial statements prepared within a very tight timescale and with the added pressures brought about by changing legislation and the pandemic.

Report noted.

(c) Street Scene, Parks and Open Spaces Portfolio Holder (Councillor Simon Bridge)

The Street Scene, Parks and Open Spaces Portfolio Holder (Cllr Bridge) submitted a report.

Cllr O'Neill praised officers involved in dealing with fly tipping and street cleaning. Cllr Bridge responded to a further question about weed spraying.

Cllr Catterall thanked Alan Fitzpatrick and his team for their work.

Cllr Matthew Vincent praised officers for the way in which they had kept residents informed about recent difficulties over bin collection.

Cllr Bridge agreed to provide a written response to Cllr Fail about the consideration being given to the location of Changing Places facilities.

Report noted.

(d) Planning Policy and Economic Development Portfolio Holder

(Councillor Alice Collinson)

The Planning Policy and Economic Development Portfolio Holder (Cllr Collinson) submitted a report.

Cllr Fail commented about the recent decision, on appeal, not to list the Burn Naze pub as an asset of community value. He was advised by the Chief Executive to address his concerns to the Head of Planning Services in the first instance.

Report noted.

- (e) Neighbourhood Services and Community Safety Portfolio Holder (Councillor Roger Berry)

The Neighbourhood Services and Community Safety Portfolio Holder (Cllr Berry) submitted a report.

Cllr Berry responded to questions and comments from Cllrs George, Matthew Vincent and, O'Neill, commenting on police response times and staffing. He also referred to the Afghan Resettlement Lancashire Group, who would take Wyre's situation into account, although no formal discussions had yet been held.

Report noted.

- (f) Leisure, Health and Community Engagement Portfolio Holder (Councillor Lynne Bowen)

The Leisure, Health and Community Engagement Portfolio Holder (Cllr Bowen) submitted a report.

Cllr Bowen responded to questions and comments from Cllrs Matthew Vincent, Leech, O'Neill and Webster. Comments were made about the good use being made of the Fleetwood pool, the effective use of social media to promote facilities, the Holiday Club (which Cllr Bowen hoped could be repeated in the Christmas holidays), the recent visit to Wyre of the Silcocks Travelling Fairground and the successful Wyre Walking Festival.

Report noted

24 Lead Member for Older People

The Leader of the Council, Cllr David Henderson, submitted a report.

Cllr Henderson's proposal, seconded by Cllr Michael Vincent, that Cllr Lynne Walmsley be appointed to the role of Lead Member for Older People until the elections in 2023, was approved unanimously.

25 Notices of Motion

None.

The meeting started at 7.00 pm and finished at 8.11 pm.

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