

Council Minutes

The minutes of the Council meeting held on Thursday, 15 June 2017 at the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Poulton-le-Fylde.

Councillors present:

The Mayor, Councillor Alice Collinson

Councillors Ian Amos, Rita Amos, Emma Anderton, Marge Anderton, Michael Barrowclough, Lorraine Beavers, Roger Berry, Lynne Bowen, Simon Bridge, Sue Catterall, Ian Duffy, Ruth Duffy, Emma Ellison, Rob Fail, Peter Gibson, Ron Greenhough, David Henderson, John Hodgkinson, Graham Holden, John Ibison, Tom Ingham, Kerry Jones, Andrea Kay, Terry Lees, Paul Moon, Pete Murphy, Phil Orme, Patsy Ormrod, Christine Smith, Brian Stephenson, Evelyn Stephenson, Vivien Taylor, Ann Turner, Shaun Turner, Alan Vincent, Matthew Vincent, Michael Vincent, Lynn Walmsley and Val Wilson

Apologies: Councillors Robinson, Atkins, Ballard, Balmain, B Birch, C Birch, McKay, Pimbley and Shewan

Officers present:

Garry Payne, Chief Executive
Marianne Hesketh, Service Director Performance and Innovation
Mark Broadhurst, Service Director Health and Wellbeing
Roy Saunders, Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager
Carole Leary, Democratic Services Officer
Hayley McGuffie, Engagement Team

Also present: Six members of the public.

COU10 Confirmation of minutes

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 6 April 2017 be confirmed as a correct record (by 25 votes to 10) and that the minutes of the Annual Council meeting held 11 May 2017 be confirmed as a correct record (unanimously).

COU11 Declarations of Interest

None.

COU12 Announcements

1. The Mayor said that she had been pleased to attend the presentation evening for the Lord Lieutenant of Lancashire Cadet Poppy Appeal Awards. Three young people from Wyre - Cadets Clifton, Hall and Kelly - who are all students at Garstang Academy, had received awards for their fantastic work in support of the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal and for raising large amounts of money for the charity.

2. The Mayor said that she was happy to announce that Jessica Basquill's term of office as Youth Mayor for Wyre had been extended until May 2018. This would allow time for major changes taking place in the provision of support services for young people in Lancashire to be implemented and would enable the election process to be realigned to the Council year. She said she knew that Jessica has been very active as Youth Mayor and she was looking forward to working with her.

3. The Mayor said that she had been delighted to attend the event earlier in the day held by the BBC, as part of its national music day, to unveil a blue plaque at the Marine Hall commemorating the venue's links with internationally acclaimed local singing star Alfie Boe. This was one of forty-seven plaques which had been unveiled across the UK to recognise pioneering musicians and music venues around the country. It had been an honour to welcome Alfie Boe back to Marine Hall, where he made his first public appearance at the age of 14.

COU13 Public questions or statements

None.

COU14 Questions "On Notice" from councillors

None.

COU15 Executive reports

- (a) Leader of the Council (Councillor Gibson)

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

Councillor Gibson responded to comments and questions from:

- Councillor Beavers about the implications of the outcome of the Lancashire County Council elections in May for the future operation of the Fleetwood to Knott End ferry service;

- Councillor B Stephenson about the result in the Lancaster and Fleetwood constituency at the general election on 8 June.

RESOLVED: that the report be noted.

(b) Resources Portfolio Holder (Councillor A Vincent)

The Resources Portfolio Holder (Councillor A Vincent) submitted a report.

Councillor A Vincent responded to comments and questions from Councillors Fail and Beavers about the implications of the outcome of the General Election in June for the Councils financial position and future provision of services.

(The Chief Executive advised Cllr Fail that some of his comments did not comply with the requirement in paragraph 11.3 of the Council Procedure Rules that questions or comments must relate to the contents of the Portfolio Holder's report or to an issue which fell within his area of responsibility)

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

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

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

Cllr Henderson responded to comments and questions from Councillors Bridge, E Anderton, and B Stephenson. He made the following commitments:

- to thank Street Scene staff for the excellent work they had done cleaning up after the Poulton Gala;
- to ask officers to ensure that ward councillors were informed of any future dog-chipping events which were arranged to take place in their area;
- to ask officers if it would be possible to include in the proposed Public Space Protection Order relating to dog control measures a simple table illustrating the controls to be imposed at each specified location, similar to the summary included as Appendix A of the recently published Portfolio Holder decision report on this subject.

Councillor Henderson also confirmed that he had no knowledge of any plans for the long term development of the area between the pitch and putt course and Fleetwood Golf Club in Warren Ward. (Cllr A Vincent said that he too was unaware of any such plans).

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

- (d) Planning and Economic Development Portfolio Holder (Councillor Murphy)

The Planning and Economic Development Portfolio Holder (Councillor Murphy) submitted a report.

Cllr Murphy responded to comments and questions from:

- Councillor S Turner about the size of possible investment proposals at the Hillhouse Enterprise Zone site and the potential levels of employment that might be generated;
- Councillor Wilson asked two questions; one about the number of new houses likely to be built in Forton and secondly; the Portfolio Holders views on pressure gas pipelines which cross in Forton and their possible constraint on development within Forton and neighbouring parishes.
- Councillor E Anderton about the latest position with regard to Coastal Community Team funding for improvements to shop fronts in Fleetwood.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

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

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

Cllr Berry responded to comments and questions from Cllr E Anderton about an increase in incidents of anti-social behaviour and actions being taken by the police and the Council to tackle the problem.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

- (f) Leisure and Culture Portfolio Holder (Councillor Bowen)

The Leisure and Culture Portfolio Holder (Councillor Bowen) submitted a report.

Councillor Bowen responded to a question from Councillor E Anderton about burial costs and undertook to arrange for a written response to be sent to her on the particular issue which a local resident had raised.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

- (g) Health and Community Engagement Portfolio Holder (Councillor V Taylor)

The Health and Community Engagement Portfolio Holder (Councillor V Taylor) submitted a report.

Councillor V Taylor responded to questions and comments from:

- Councillor Barrowclough about activities provided under the Healthier Fleetwood funding project;
- Councillor E Anderton about problems with seagulls;
- Councillor Beavers about possible health and wellbeing implications for Wyre residents of decisions to be made about the future operation of the Fleetwood to Knott End Ferry;
- Councilor S Turner about the Lancaster Canal tow path project.

Cllr V Taylor agreed to discuss with officers whether it would be possible, within current guidelines, to make the advice about not feeding seagulls published on the Council's website stronger and also to consider the possibility of writing to residents known to feed seagulls in their gardens advising them of the negative impact of doing so.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

(h) Comments and questions from Cabinet members

The Planning and Economic Development Portfolio Holder responded to a question from the Health and Community Engagement Portfolio Holder about the future funding of the Fleetwood to Knott-End ferry.

COU16 Planning Committee Periodic Report

The Chairman of the Planning Committee (Councillor Greenhough) submitted a report summarising the work undertaken by the Committee since the previous periodic report had been submitted.

Councillor Greenhough responded to comments and questions from:

- Councillor Orme about training for members of the Planning Committee;
- Councillor E Anderton about staffing levels in the Planning Team, staff morale and the effectiveness of the new planning applications system.

Cllr Greenhough said that he would ask the Head of Planning and Regeneration to circulate, if possible, any available presentation slides or summary information from the recent "Making Defensible Planning Decisions" training session to those members of the Planning Committee who had been unable to attend.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

COU17 Treasury Management Activity 2016/17

The Resources Portfolio Holder (Councillor A Vincent) and the Head of Finance submitted a report on the overall position and activities in respect of treasury management for the financial year 2016/17

RESOLVED (unanimously): that the annual report on treasury management activity for the 2016/17 financial year be approved.

COU18 Notices of Motion

The following notice of motion had been submitted under Procedure Rule 14 by Councillors B Stephenson, Beavers, E Anderton and Barrowclough:

“This Council considers it is vitally important that the Planning Committee remains free from Party Whips.”

The motion was proposed by Councillor B Stephenson and seconded by Councillor Beavers.

Councillors Bridge, Greenhough, Murphy, Moon, Gibson, A Turner, E Anderton, S Turner, Michael Vincent and Henderson also spoke during the debate.

The motion was carried (unanimously) and, it was **RESOLVED**, that:

This Council considers it is vitally important that the Planning Committee remains free from Party Whips.

The meeting started at 7.00 pm and finished at 8.46 pm.