

Council Minutes

The minutes of the Council meeting held on Thursday, 19 January 2017 at the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Poulton-le-Fylde.

Councillors present:

The Mayor, Councillor Lees and the Deputy Mayor, Councillor E Anderton

Councillor I Amos	Councillor Fail	Councillor B Stephenson
Councillor R Amos	Councillor Gibson	Councillor E Stephenson
Councillor M Anderton	Councillor Greenhough	Councillor T Taylor
Councillor Lady Atkins	Councillor Henderson	Councillor V Taylor
Councillor Ballard	Councillor Hodgkinson	Councillor A Turner
Councillor Balmain	Councillor Ibison	Councillor S Turner
Councillor Barrowclough	Councillor Ingham	Councillor A Vincent
Councillor Beavers	Councillor Jones	Councillor Matthew Vincent
Councillor Berry	Councillor Kay	Councillor Michael Vincent
Councillor B Birch MBE	Councillor Moon	Councillor Walmsley
Councillor C Birch	Councillor Murphy	Councillor Wilson
Councillor Bridge	Councillor Orme	
Councillor Bowen	Councillor Pimbley	
Councillor Catterall	Councillor Robinson	
Councillor Collinson	Councillor Shewan	
Councillor R Duffy	Councillor Smith	

Apologies: Councillors I Duffy, Holden, McKay, Ormrod and Reeves.

Officers present:

Garry Payne (Chief Executive)
Mark Billington (Service Director People and Places)
Mark Broadhurst (Service Director Health and Wellbeing)
Marianne Hesketh (Service Director Performance and Innovation)
Roy Saunders (Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager)
Peter Foulsham (Democratic Services Officer).

Also present: Aldermen Bannister, Irish, McCann and 3 members of the public.

47 Confirmation of minutes

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 1 December 2016 be confirmed as a correct record.

48 Declarations of Interest

None.

49 Announcements

1. The Mayor reminded Members that his Charity Ball was to be held at The North Euston Hotel, Fleetwood on Friday 24 March 2017 and said that tickets were now available, at a cost of £32.50 each, from Andrea Mullin.
2. The Mayor announced that a concert by the Blackpool Male Voice Choir was to be held in aid of the Mayor's charities at the Thornton Little Theatre on Friday 10 March 2017. Tickets were £6 and were available from Andrea Mullin.
3. The Mayor said there would also be an evening of musical entertainment in aid of the Mayor's charities provided by a number of local schools at Thornton Little Theatre on 21 April, for which tickets would be available soon.
4. The Mayor said that, as already stated in an email to all Councillors, Councillor Ruth Duffy had kindly donated an Apple iPad Air 2 to the Mayor's Charities and a Raffle was being held to raise proceeds to be split equally between NSPCC Blackpool Fylde and Wyre and SSAFA Lancashire. He said that he hoped all Councillors would buy and/or sell some tickets, which were £1 each. Cllr R Duffy thanked Cllr Henderson for again printing the tickets for free.
5. The Mayor said that he was pleased to announce that sales of corporate ties had so far raised £92.00 for the Mayor's charities.
6. The Street Scene, Parks and Open Spaces Portfolio Holder (Cllr Henderson) made an announcement about the Council's excellent achievements at the recent Loo of the Year awards and also for the outstanding recognition for the refuse collection service in Wyre at the Association of Public Service Excellence (APSE) Awards. He presented a trophy and certificates to the Mayor.
7. The Mayor said that he was very pleased to announce that the Mayor Elect for 2017/18 was Cllr Ted Taylor.

Cllr Ted Taylor said that he was honored to be asked to be Mayor and announced that the Deputy Mayor for 2017/18 would be Cllr Marge Anderton.

50 Public questions or statements

None.

51 Questions "On Notice" from councillors

None.

52 Executive reports

(a) Leader of the Council (Councillor Gibson)

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

Councillor Gibson referred to compliments about a number of Council employees recently published on the Council's web site.

Councillor Gibson responded to comments and questions from:

- Councillor Michael Vincent about Labour Party policy on top level pay and senior officer salaries at Lancashire County Council;
- Councillor R Duffy about the impact of Government cuts on the provision of adult social care and health services;
- Councillor Beavers about Wyre's lack of involvement in the proposed Combined Authority for Lancashire.

RESOLVED: that the report be noted.

(b) Resources Portfolio Holder (Councillor A Vincent)

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

There were no comments or questions to Councillor A Vincent.

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:

- Councillor Michael Vincent about a possible Scrutiny Task Group review of the refuse collection contract, prior to a decision being made in 2020 on whether or not to extend the contract with the current providers;
- Councillor Hodgkinson about action taken by the Engineering Team to protect cyclists emerging from Jubilee Gardens;
- Councillor M Anderton about the number of reports of dog fouling

- and arrangements for the introduction of a new Dog Control Order;
- Councillor Barrowclough about the frequency of refuse collections and the restoration of the Mount Pavilion.

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.

Councillor Murphy said that a press release was due to be made the following day about the outcome of the Council's application for a further round of Coastal Communities Funding, referred to in paragraph 2.1 of his report.

Councillor Murphy also said that indications about the outcome of the bid for Government funding to encourage businesses to come to the Hillhouse Enterprise Zone, referred to in paragraph 5.4 of his report, appeared to be quite positive.

Councillor Murphy responded to comments and questions from:

- Councillor B Birch about the Annual Wyre Business Awards Dinner;
- Councillors Lady Atkins, S Turner, Beavers and Shewan about the timescale for receipt from Lancashire County Council of evidence on the capacity of the local road network needed for the Local Plan.

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 thanked the volunteer CCTV operators for their work over the Christmas holiday period.

Councillor Berry also referred to a conference organised by the Churchtown Flood Action Group which was to be held on Saturday 28 January at Myerscough College. He said that there was an excellent list of speakers and asked any Members interested in attending to contact him as soon as possible.

Councillor Berry responded to a question from Councillor Hodgkinson about the possibility of using CCTV footage to identify owners who allowed their dogs to foul public areas.

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.

There were no comments or questions to Councillor Bowen.

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.

Cllr Taylor responded to comments and questions from:

- Cllr Beavers about future meetings of the Healthier Fleetwood group;
- Cllr Ballard about the community engagement skills training session for Councillors referred to in paragraph 2.2 of her report, which she confirmed was taking place at 5.30pm on Wednesday 1 February.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

- (h) Comments and Questions from Cabinet Members

The Planning and Economic Development Portfolio Holder responded to comments made by the Leader about potential investment from Chinese businesses at the Hillhouse Enterprise Zone.

The Leader endorsed comments made by the Health and Community Engagement Portfolio Holder praising Carole Leary, in her role as Out of Hours Duty Officer, for her actions when supporting a number of local families evacuated from their homes in Pilling because of a fire in a nearby industrial unit.

53 Lead Members Periodic Report: Young People

The Lead Member for Young People (Cllr Kay) submitted a report on the activities she had been involved in over the last year in her role as Lead Member for Young People.

There were no comments or questions to Cllr Kay.

RESOLVED the report be noted.

54 Members' Allowances Scheme

The Service Director Performance and Innovation submitted a report on the outcome of an interim review of the Members Allowances Scheme undertaken by the Independent Remuneration Panel.

RESOLVED (unanimously):

1. That the implementation from 11 May 2017 of the previously agreed 1% increase in the Basic Allowance paid to all Councillors, be noted.
2. That no changes be made to any Special Responsibility Allowances prior to the next full review of the Members Allowances Scheme to be undertaken in the Autumn of 2017.
3. That the two additional conditions for the payment of Carer's and Dependent Carers' Allowances set out in paragraph 5.5 of the report be approved, namely: that receipts for care costs must be provided; and, that allowances cannot be claimed for care provided by an immediate family member or a member of the Councillors household.

55 Localised Council Tax Support

The Resources Portfolio Holder (Councillor A Vincent) and the Head of Contact Centre submitted a report on arrangements for the continuation of the current Localised Council Tax Support Scheme, which had originally been implemented on 1 April 2013.

RESOLVED (unanimously):

1. That the current Localised Council Tax Support Scheme be continued into the 2017/18 financial year with the additional maximum percentage contribution from working age claimants being no more than 8.5%.
2. That the original policy be confirmed, recognising that it included a number of specified amounts used to calculate entitlement which might change in line with up-ratings published by the Department of Work and Pensions, that there might also be minor adjustments to the scheme should further guidance be received from the Department for Communities and Local Government and that the roll out of Universal Credit would ultimately replace existing benefits.

56 Public Sector Audit Appointments from 2018/19

The Leader of the Council (Councillor Gibson) and the Head of Finance submitted a report on arrangements for the appointment of External Auditors from 2018/19.

RESOLVED (unanimously) that approval be given to opt into the Public Sector Audit Appointments (PSAA) Scheme for the appointment of External Auditors from 2018/19.

57 Notices of Motion

None received.

The meeting started at 7.00 pm and finished at 8.25 pm.