



Council Minutes

The minutes of the Council meeting held on Thursday, 12 November 2020 at the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Poulton-le-Fylde and remotely via WebEx.

Councillors present:

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

Councillors I Amos, R Amos, Armstrong, Lady D Atkins, Sir R Atkins, Baxter, Beavers, Berry, B Birch, 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, Storzaker, Swales, A Turner, S Turner, A Vincent, Matthew Vincent, M Vincent, D Walmsley, L Walmsley, Webster and Williams

Apologies: Councillor Smith

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
Duncan Jowitt, Democratic Services Officer
Emma Keany, Democratic Services Officer
Marianne Unwin, Assistant Democratic Services Officer
Joanne Billington, Head of Governance
Steve Simpson, Head of ICT

Also present: Members of the public watched the meeting via YouTube.

14 Election of Mayor 2020/22

The Chief Executive, Garry Payne, invited nominations of the office of Mayor for the period from 12 November 2020 to the Annual Meeting in May 2022.

It was proposed by Councillor R Amos, seconded by Councillor A Vincent and **agreed** that Councillor Andrea Kay be elected to the office of Mayor of the Borough of Wyre for the period from 12 November 2020 to the Annual

Meeting in May 2022.

The Chair was then taken by Councillor Kay, who signed the declaration of acceptance of office.

Councillor Kay thanked the Council for electing her as Mayor and said that she was proud and honoured to have been elected to the office. She added that she would commit to the people of Wyre to the best of her ability, with enthusiasm, compassion and dedication.

She announced the Mayor's Charities for 2020/22, confirming that the main charity would be Doherty's Destiny. She also planned to support Men in Sheds and Armed Forces Breakfast Clubs.

15 Election of Deputy Mayor 2020/22

The Mayor invited nominations for the appointment of Deputy Mayor for the period from 12 November 2020 to the Annual Meeting in May 2022.

It was proposed by Councillor Moon, seconded by Councillor S Turner and **agreed** that Councillor Howard Ballard be appointed to the office of Deputy Mayor of the Borough of Wyre for the period from 12 November 2020 to the Annual Meeting in May 2022.

Councillor Ballard thanked the Council for his election.

16 Confirmation of minutes

The Leader of the Council (Councillor Henderson) proposed and the Deputy Leader of the Council (Councillor Alan Vincent) seconded that the minutes of the meeting of the Full Council held on 17 September 2020 be confirmed as a correct record.

Councillor Fail proposed and Councillor Beavers seconded an amendment to the minutes (attached in full as an appendix to these minutes).

Following discussion, the proposed amendment was lost (by 6 votes to 35 with 2 abstentions).

It was **agreed** that the minutes of the meeting of the Full Council held on 17 September 2020 be confirmed as a correct record (by 36 votes to 7 with 2 abstentions).

17 Declarations of Interest

None.

18 Announcements

None.

19 Public questions or statements

None received.

20 Questions "On Notice" from councillors

None received.

21 Mid-Year Treasury Management Report

The Resources Portfolio Holder (Councillor Alan Vincent) and the Corporate Director Resources (Clare James) submitted a report on the overall position and activities in respect of Treasury Management for the first half of the financial year 2020/21, covering the six month period from April 2020 to September 2020.

Agreed that the report be noted, in line with the requirements of CIPFA's 'Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice (revised 2017)'.

22 Localised Council Tax Support

The Resources Portfolio Holder (Councillor Alan Vincent) and the Corporate Director Resources (Clare James) submitted a report to confirm the continuation of the current Localised Council Tax Support (LCTS) Scheme for the 2021/22 financial year.

Agreed (by 46 votes to 0 with 1 abstention):

1. That the current LCTS Scheme be continued into the 2021/22 financial year noting the maximum percentage contribution from working age claimants remains unchanged at 8.5%.
2. That the current policy be confirmed, recognising that it includes a number of specified amounts used to calculate entitlement, which may change in line with up-ratings published by the DWP. Recognising also that there may be minor adjustments to the scheme should further guidance be received from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), and that the roll out of Universal Credit (UC) will ultimately replace existing social benefits. The Head of the Contact Centre is to have the delegated authority to make these minor adjustments.

23 Calendar of Meetings 2021/22

The Leader of the Council (Councillor David Henderson) and the Chief Executive (Garry Payne) submitted a report detailing the proposed programme of meetings involving Councillors for 2021/22.

It was **agreed** that the Calendar of Meetings 2021/22 be noted.

24 **Appointments to Committees**

The Leader of the Council (Councillor Henderson) and the Chief Executive (Garry Payne) submitted a report that detailed changes to the appointments to committees for the remainder of the 2020/21 Municipal Year, following the election of Councillor Andrea Kay as Mayor.

It was **agreed** (unanimously)

1. That Councillor Ann Turner of the Conservative group be appointed to the Licensing Committee in place of Councillor Andrea Kay.
2. That Councillor Sue Catterall of the Conservative group be appointed to the Councillor Development Group in place of Councillor Andrea Kay.
3. That Councillor Ann Turner of the Conservative group be appointed as a nominated substitute for Code of Conduct Hearings (if required) in place of Councillor Andrea Kay.
4. That Councillor Peter Le Marinel be appointed as the Armed Forces Champion in place of Councillor Andrea Kay.

25 **Notices of Motion**

None.

The meeting started at 7.00 pm and finished at 7.41 pm.

APPENDIX TO MINUTES

Proposed amendment under item 4

Item 4 – Council Minutes Amendment

Amendment to Para 9 – Lancashire Combined Authority

Insert the following sub paragraphs

- 1) Cllr Beavers asked that members reject the recommendations as she felt the middle of a pandemic was not the right time to dissolve our local District Councils and Lancashire County Council. Cllr Beavers suggested the proposals were rushed and that there was a need to carry out a consultation with the residents of Wyre.

- 2) Cllr Fail referred to ‘The Proposition for Local Government Reorganisation in Lancashire’, and highlighted concerns that this was a single option paper with no other options considered. In particular Cllr Fail asked where were the options for 2, 3, and 4 unitaries, where were the options for different geographical groupings, where was the no Mayor option, and where was the status quo option?

Cllr Fail felt it was wrong to proceed with a fait accompli proposition, and concluded by requesting that the Council undertake thorough discussions, formally review options and do things in an ordered fashion.

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