

Minutes of Meeting of the Full Council

Meeting Date: Tuesday, 2 March 2010 starting at 6.30pm
Present: Councillor B Jones (Chairman)

Councillors:

P Ainsworth	E M H Ranson
J E Alcock	L Rimmer
D A Berryman	M Robinson
S Brunskill	J Rogerson
R J Elms	C Ross
S Farnsworth	I Sayers
G Geldard	G Scott
A Gridley	R E Sherras
R Hargreaves	D T Smith
J B Hill	J S Sutcliffe
T Hill	M E Sutcliffe
B Hilton	D Taylor
K Hind	M Thomas
S A Hirst	R J Thompson
J Holgate	J Waddington
S Hore	N C Walsh
C Punchard	J White

In attendance: Chief Executive, Director of Community Services, Director of Development Services, Director of Resources, HR Manager and Legal Services Manager.

813 PRAYERS

The Mayor's Consort opened the meeting with prayers. Members observed a minute's silence in respect of Councillor Stanley Taylor who had recently died.

814 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors R Croasdale, D Eccleston, A Knox and A Yearling.

815 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

816 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr Jo Harding of Clitheroe asked two questions relating to the proposal to grant the Freedom of the Ribble Valley to the Duke of Lancaster's Regiment. Firstly, he asked if the Regiment had sufficient connections to the borough to warrant the honour, and secondly he questioned the financial implications of granting the Freedom of the Borough to the Regiment.

The Leader thanked Mr Harding for his comments and confirmed that the Duke of Lancaster's Regiment had been formed in 2006 following the merger of the Kings Own Royal Border Regiment, the King's Regiment and the Queen's Lancashire Regiment, and that whilst the Regiment did not have a base in the Ribble Valley, a number of residents had served both in the past and continued to serve today. There were currently approximately 40 members of the Regiment from the Ribble Valley. In relation to the cost of granting the Freedom of the Borough, he confirmed that this was very modest and would be funded from the Council's existing budget for civic functions.

817 COUNCIL MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 15 December 2009 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

818 MAYORAL COMMUNICATIONS

The Mayoral communications were received and noted. The Mayor reported on a range of visits which she had carried out since the last meeting including visits to new community facilities, the retirement of a long serving member of staff and the awarding of a certificate to Mr E Bowden to commemorate 50 years service as a Parish Councillor. She also reported on her attendance at the National Youth Parliament elections which had been held in the Council Chamber in February 2010.

819 FREEDOM OF THE BOROUGH

Consideration was given to the written report of the Chief Executive asking Council to consider a recommendation of Policy and Finance Committee that the Council grant the Freedom of the Borough of Ribble Valley to the Duke of Lancaster's Regiment. The Leader of the Council proposed the recommendation and outlined the background to the proposals and what it would mean in practice. The proposal was seconded by Councillor S Sutcliffe.

RESOLVED: That the Freedom of the Borough of the Ribble Valley be granted to the Duke of Lancaster's Regiment.

820 BUDGET CONSULTATION WITH NON-DOMESTIC RATEPAYERS

Consideration was given to the written report of the Director of Resources referring to a meeting which had taken place with representatives of non-domestic rate payers on the Council's budget proposals. The meeting has been attended by Mr Atherton of Whalley Chamber of Trade, Mr Nigel Pratt, Mr Ian Sowerbutts and Mr John Turner of Clitheroe Chamber of Trade. Approval of the report was proposed by Councillor E M H Ranson and seconded by Councillor R Sherras.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

REVENUE BUDGET 2010/2011

Consideration was given to the written report of the Director of Resources concerning the budget for 2010/2011 and the setting of the different amounts of Council Tax for different parts of the Council's area where special items applied (Parish Precepts).

Enclosed with the report was the budget summary for the financial year 2010/2011 which contained details of revenue and capital requirements. Approval of the budget proposals as contained in the report were proposed by Councillor E M H Ranson and seconded by Councillor R Sherras.

RESOLVED: That the Council

1. approve the following submitted by the Policy and Finance Committee and included in the summary budget book:
 - (a) the revised revenue estimates for 2009/2010 and the revenue estimates for 2010/2011;
 - (b) the revised capital programme for 2009/2010;
 - (c) the capital programme for 2010/2011 and the forward five-year capital programme for 2010/2015
2. approve the prudential indicators, borrowing limits and MRP policy statement as set out in Annex 1 of the report; and
3. note that the Director of Resources had determined the following amounts for 2010/2011, in accordance with regulations made under Section 33(5) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:
 - (a) 22,357 being the amount calculated by the Council in accordance with Regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulation 2003, as its Council tax base for the year;
 - (b) Part of the Council's area:

Aighton, Bailey & Chaigley	440
Balderstone	200
Bashall Eaves, Great Mitton & Little Mitton	198
Billington & Langho	2,155
Bolton by Bowland, Gisburn Forest & Sawley	477
Bowland Forest (High)	59
Bowland Forest (Low)	83
Bowland with Leagram	82
Chatburn	400

Chipping	480
Clayton le Dale	524
Clitheroe	5,141
Dinckley	39
Downham	56
Dutton	105
Gisburn	209
Grindleton	364
Horton	44
Hothersall	73
Longridge	2,746
Mearley	8
Mellor	1,011
Newsholme	20
Newton	143
Osbaldeston	105
Paythorne	40
Pendleton	107
Ramsgreave	286
Read	557
Ribchester	663
Rimington & Middop	226
Sabden	511
Salesbury	175
Simonstone	507
Slaidburn & Easington	152
Thornley with Wheatley	156
Twiston	34
Waddington	448
West Bradford	370
Whalley	1,466
Wilpshire	999
Wiswell	455
Worston	43
	22,357

being the amounts calculated by the Council, in accordance with Regulation 6 of the regulations, as the amounts of its council tax base for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate.

- (c) Calculate the following amounts for 2010/11, in accordance with Sections 32 to 36 of the Local Government and Finance Act 1992:
- a) £26,254,260 Being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(2) (a) to (e) of the Act;
 - b) £18,605,270 Being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(3) (a) to (c) of the Act;
 - c) £7,648,990 Being the amount by which the aggregate at a) above exceeds the aggregate at b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 32(4) of the Act as its budget requirement for the year;
 - d) £4,130,407 Being the aggregate of the sums which the Council estimates will be payable for the year into its general fund in respect of redistributed non domestic rates and revenue support grant and adjusted by the amount which the Council estimates will be transferred in the year to/from its collection fund from/to its general fund pursuant to the collection fund directions under Sections 97(3);
 - e) £157.38 Being the amount at c) above less the amount at d) above all divided by the amount at 3(a) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 33(1) of the Act as the basic amount of council tax for the year;
 - f) £373,143 Being the aggregate amount of all special items referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act;
 - g) £140.69 Being the amount at e) above less the result given by dividing the amount at f) above by the amount at 3(a) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act as the basic amount of its council tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no special item relates;

(d) Parts of the Council's area:

	Band D £
Aighton, Bailey & Chaigley	150.92
Balderstone	147.19
Bashall Eaves, Great Mitton & Little Mitton	146.07
Billington & Langho	152.75
Bolton by Bowland, Gisburn Forest & Sawley	159.56
Bowland Forest Higher	170.05
Bowland Forest Lower	155.15
Bowland with Leagram	150.45
Chatburn	165.91
Chipping	155.27
Clayton le Dale	144.51
Clitheroe	159.82
Dutton	153.07
Gisburn	159.83
Grindleton	161.29
Hothersall	150.96
Longridge	162.66
Mellor	155.53
Newton	158.17
Osbaldeston	147.83
Pendleton	153.77
Ramsgreave	146.63
Read	153.26
Ribchester	152.37
Rimington & Middop	157.50
Sabden	169.26
Salesbury	150.98
Simonstone	155.29
Slaidburn & Easington	152.20
Thornley with Wheatley	150.31
Waddington	167.48
West Bradford	156.10
Whalley	162.58

	Band D £
Wilpshire	154.70
Wiswell	152.78
All other parts of the Council's area	140.69

being the amounts given by adding to the amount at 3g) above the amounts of the special item relating to dwellings in those parts of the Council's area mentioned above, divided in each case by the amount in 3(b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 34(3) of the Act as the basic amount of its council tax for dwellings in those parts of its area to which the special item relates;

(e) Parts of the Council's area:

	VALUATION BANDS							
	A £	B £	C £	D £	E £	F £	G £	H £
Aighton, Bailey & Chaigley	100.61	117.39	134.15	150.92	184.45	218.00	251.53	301.84
Balderstone	98.12	114.49	130.84	147.19	179.89	212.61	245.31	294.38
Bashall Eaves, Great Mitton & Little Mitton	97.38	113.61	129.84	146.07	178.53	210.99	243.45	292.14
Billington & Langho	101.83	118.81	135.78	152.75	186.69	220.64	254.58	305.50
Bolton by Bowland, Gisburn Forest & Sawley	106.37	124.11	141.83	159.56	195.01	230.48	265.93	319.12
Bowland Forest Higher	113.36	132.27	151.16	170.05	207.83	245.63	283.41	340.10
Bowland Forest Lower	103.43	120.68	137.91	155.15	189.62	224.11	258.58	310.30
Bowland with Leagram	100.30	117.02	133.74	150.45	183.88	217.32	250.75	300.90
Chatburn	110.60	129.05	147.48	165.91	202.77	239.65	276.51	331.82
Chipping	103.51	120.77	138.02	155.27	189.77	224.28	258.78	310.54
Clayton le Dale	96.34	112.40	128.46	144.51	176.62	208.74	240.85	289.02
Clitheroe	106.54	124.31	142.06	159.82	195.33	230.85	266.36	319.64
Dutton	102.04	119.06	136.06	153.07	187.08	221.10	255.11	306.14
Gisburn	106.55	124.32	142.07	159.83	195.34	230.87	266.38	319.66
Grindleton	107.52	125.45	143.37	161.29	197.13	232.98	268.81	322.58
Hothersall	100.64	117.42	134.19	150.96	184.50	218.05	251.60	301.92
Longridge	108.44	126.52	144.59	162.66	198.80	234.95	271.10	325.32
Mellor	103.68	120.97	138.25	155.53	190.09	224.66	259.21	311.06
Newton	105.44	123.03	140.60	158.17	193.31	228.47	263.61	316.34
Osbaldeston	98.55	114.98	131.41	147.83	180.68	213.53	246.38	295.66
Pendleton	102.51	119.60	136.69	153.77	187.94	222.11	256.28	307.54
Ramsgreave	97.75	114.05	130.34	146.63	179.21	211.80	244.38	293.26

	VALUATION BANDS							
	A £	B £	C £	D £	E £	F £	G £	H £
Read	102.17	119.21	136.23	153.26	187.31	221.38	255.43	306.52
Ribchester	101.58	118.51	135.44	152.37	186.23	220.09	253.95	304.74
Rimington & Middop	105.00	122.50	140.00	157.50	192.50	227.50	262.50	315.00
Sabden	112.84	131.65	150.46	169.26	206.87	244.49	282.10	338.52
Salesbury	100.65	117.43	134.21	150.98	184.53	218.08	251.63	301.96
Simonstone	103.52	120.79	138.04	155.29	189.79	224.31	258.81	310.58
Slaidburn & Easington	101.46	118.38	135.29	152.20	186.02	219.85	253.66	304.40
Thornley with Wheatley	100.20	116.91	133.61	150.31	183.71	217.12	250.51	300.62
Waddington	111.65	130.27	148.87	167.48	204.69	241.92	279.13	334.96
West Bradford	104.06	121.42	138.76	156.10	190.78	225.48	260.16	312.20
Whalley	108.38	126.46	144.52	162.58	198.70	234.84	270.96	325.16
Wilpshire	103.13	120.33	137.51	154.70	189.07	223.46	257.83	309.40
Wiswell	101.85	118.83	135.81	152.78	186.73	220.68	254.63	305.56
All other parts of the Council's area	93.79	109.43	125.06	140.69	171.95	203.22	234.48	281.38

being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at 3g) and 3(d) by the number which, in proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation band D, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands.

- 4 Note, that for 2010/11 Lancashire County Council has stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of dwellings shown below.

Valuation Bands							
A £	B £	C £	D £	E £	F £	G £	H £
738.87	862.01	985.16	1,108.30	1,354.59	1,600.88	1,847.17	2,216.60

5. Note, that for 2010/11 Lancashire Police Authority has stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of dwellings shown below.

Valuation Bands							
A £	B £	C £	D £	E £	F £	G £	H £
97.51	113.77	130.02	146.27	178.77	211.28	243.78	292.54

6. Note, that for 2010/11 Lancashire Combined Fire Authority has stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of dwellings shown below.

Valuation Bands							
A £	B £	C £	D £	E £	F £	G £	H £
42.43	49.51	56.58	63.65	77.79	91.94	106.08	127.30

7. Having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 3(e), 4, 5 and 6 above, the Council, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the following amounts as the amounts of council tax for 2010/11 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

	VALUATION BANDS							
	A £	B £	C £	D £	E £	F £	G £	H £
Aighton, Bailey & Chaigley	979.42	1,142.68	1,305.91	1,469.14	1,795.60	2,122.10	2,448.56	2,938.28
Balderstone	976.93	1,139.78	1,302.60	1,465.41	1,791.04	2,116.71	2,442.34	2,930.82
Bashall Eaves, Great Mitton & Little Mitton	976.19	1,138.90	1,301.60	1,464.29	1,789.68	2,115.09	2,440.48	2,928.58
Billington & Langho	980.64	1,144.10	1,307.54	1,470.97	1,797.84	2,124.74	2,451.61	2,941.94
Bolton by Bowland, Gisburn Forest & Sawley	985.18	1,149.40	1,313.59	1,477.78	1,806.16	2,134.58	2,462.96	2,955.56
Bowland Forest (High)	992.17	1,157.56	1,322.92	1,488.27	1,818.98	2,149.73	2,480.44	2,976.54
Bowland Forest (Low)	982.24	1,145.97	1,309.67	1,473.37	1,800.77	2,128.21	2,455.61	2,946.74
Bowland with Leagram	979.11	1,142.31	1,305.50	1,468.67	1,795.03	2,121.42	2,447.78	2,937.34
Chatburn	989.41	1,154.34	1,319.24	1,484.13	1,813.92	2,143.75	2,473.54	2,968.26
Chipping	982.32	1,146.06	1,309.78	1,473.49	1,800.92	2,128.38	2,455.81	2,946.98
Clayton le Dale	975.15	1,137.69	1,300.22	1,462.73	1,787.77	2,112.84	2,437.88	2,925.46
Clitheroe	985.35	1,149.60	1,313.82	1,478.04	1,806.48	2,134.95	2,463.39	2,956.08
Dutton	980.85	1,144.35	1,307.82	1,471.29	1,798.23	2,125.20	2,452.14	2,942.58
Gisburn	985.36	1,149.61	1,313.83	1,478.05	1,806.49	2,134.97	2,463.41	2,956.10

	VALUATION BANDS							
	A £	B £	C £	D £	E £	F £	G £	H £
Grindleton	986.33	1,150.74	1,315.13	1,479.51	1,808.28	2,137.08	2,465.84	2,959.02
Hothersall	979.45	1,142.71	1,305.95	1,469.18	1,795.65	2,122.15	2,448.63	2,938.36
Longridge	987.25	1,151.81	1,316.35	1,480.88	1,809.95	2,139.05	2,468.13	2,961.76
Mellor	982.49	1,146.26	1,310.01	1,473.75	1,801.24	2,128.76	2,456.24	2,947.50
Newton	984.25	1,148.32	1,312.36	1,476.39	1,804.46	2,132.57	2,460.64	2,952.78
Osbaldeston	977.36	1,140.27	1,303.17	1,466.05	1,791.83	2,117.63	2,443.41	2,932.10
Pendleton	981.32	1,144.89	1,308.45	1,471.99	1,799.09	2,126.21	2,453.31	2,943.98
Ramsgreave	976.56	1,139.34	1,302.10	1,464.85	1,790.36	2,115.90	2,441.41	2,929.70
Read	980.98	1,144.50	1,307.99	1,471.48	1,798.46	2,125.48	2,452.46	2,942.96
Ribchester	980.39	1,143.80	1,307.20	1,470.59	1,797.38	2,124.19	2,450.98	2,941.18
Rimington & Middop	983.81	1,147.79	1,311.76	1,475.72	1,803.65	2,131.60	2,459.53	2,951.44
Sabden	991.65	1,156.94	1,322.22	1,487.48	1,818.02	2,148.59	2,479.13	2,974.96
Salesbury	979.46	1,142.72	1,305.97	1,469.20	1,795.68	2,122.18	2,448.66	2,938.40
Simonstone	982.33	1,146.08	1,309.80	1,473.51	1,800.94	2,128.41	2,455.84	2,947.02
Slaidburn & Easington	980.27	1,143.67	1,307.05	1,470.42	1,797.17	2,123.95	2,450.69	2,940.84
Thornley with Wheatley	979.01	1,142.20	1,305.37	1,468.53	1,794.86	2,121.22	2,447.54	2,937.06
Waddington	990.46	1,155.56	1,320.63	1,485.70	1,815.84	2,146.02	2,476.16	2,971.40
West Bradford	982.87	1,146.71	1,310.52	1,474.32	1,801.93	2,129.58	2,457.19	2,948.64
Whalley	987.19	1,151.75	1,316.28	1,480.80	1,809.85	2,138.94	2,467.99	2,961.60
Wilpshire	981.94	1,145.62	1,309.27	1,472.92	1,800.22	2,127.56	2,454.86	2,945.84
Wiswell	980.66	1,144.12	1,307.57	1,471.00	1,797.88	2,124.78	2,451.66	2,942.00
All Other Parts of the Council's Area	972.60	1,134.72	1,296.82	1,458.91	1,783.10	2,107.32	2,431.51	2,917.82

822

LEADER'S REPORT

The Leader began by highlighting some of the positive things that had been taking place in the Ribble Valley, with particular reference to the positive impact of tourism on the business life of the borough, for example the Food Trail. He was pleased to report that the Food Trail was being updated and expanded and co-ordinated with the Lancashire and Blackpool Tourist Board so that participants could be accredited with the 'Taste Lancashire' brand. In addition, in order to further promote Clitheroe and the Ribble Valley, he reported that discussions had taken place with the Chamber of Trade, the Ribble Valley Tourist Association and the Lancashire and Blackpool Tourist Board regarding the designation of Clitheroe as 'The Food Town of Lancashire'. As a result, the Leader was delighted to announce that Clitheroe had now been given approval to use the title 'Lancashire's Food Town' in its marketing and promotional activities.

The Leader when on to report that the Ribble Valley Strategic Partnership (RVSP) had recently proposed substantial financial support for the development of a new Visitor Information Centre to be situated at the Castle Gate entrance. This would be taken to the next meeting of Policy and Finance Committee for approval. Once approved, and subject to planning permission and receipt of matched funding, he was hopeful that the scheme would be completed by May 2011. The Leader also highlighted the successful initiative in conjunction with Longridge Social Enterprise and opening of the Freedom Fitness Room at Longridge Civic Hall where nearly 100 Longridge residents had taken part in free sport and leisure sessions on 1 February 2010. He wished to record his congratulations to the Council's communication and freedom fitness team for publicising the event widely.

He also reported that the Council had recently launched an Arts Excellence grant scheme to help young people excel in dance, drama and music. The scheme aimed to emulate the Council's successful sporting excellence grants programme, which had supported young Ribble Valley athletes at county and national level. He confirmed that grants would be available from April 2010 for dance, drama and music.

Finally, the Leader mentioned the recent closure of Berry's at Chipping and the sad loss of such an old established firm and the jobs that went with it. He reported that officers had worked hard to give advice and support to those who had lost their jobs and that Councillor Hore and Councillor White had been particularly active in supporting the workforce in conjunction with the unions in the development of re-training initiatives.

The Leader ended by reminding everyone that the Ribble Valley remained within the top five safest places to live in the country and that that was thanks to the hard work and co-operation of the Crime and Disorder Partnership, which worked very effectively for the residents of the borough.

823

LEADER'S QUESTION TIME

The Shadow Deputy Leader, Councillor S Sutcliffe, asked if the Leader could confirm when the Visit Ribble Valley website would go live. The Leader thanked Councillor Sutcliffe for his question and confirmed that the Ribble Valley tourism website would go live on 31 March 2010.

Next Councillor Sutcliffe asked if the Leader would agree that strong representation needed to be made to Lancashire County Council's Sustainable Development Overview and Scrutiny Committee regarding the future of both the Petre Arms and Padiham Household Waste Recycling Centre. The Leader agreed and confirmed that the matter would be considered at the next meeting of Community Services Committee.

Finally, Councillor Sutcliffe asked if the Leader could give a commitment that the work of the Play Builders Scheme for Salthill Play Area would go ahead as planned. The Leader confirmed that instruction had been given for the project to

be treated as a high priority in order to secure the investment that had been won by the project group, and that he would make sure that the scheme was delivered on schedule.

Councillor J B Hill asked the Leader to comment on the provisions within the Conservative Party policy paper entitled 'Control Shift' which advocated a move towards the establishment of a system of local government that allow individual Councils to effectively shape their own communities and to better respond to the needs of those who lived there.

The Leader thanked Councillor Hill for his question and agreed that the central control and monitoring by central government had been a feature of national policy for some time and that he would expect a Conservative government to increase local decision making.

824

COMMITTEE MINUTES

(i) Planning and Development Committee – 17 December 2009

Councillor J B Hill submitted a written question under Standing Order 9 and asked if the Chairman of Planning and Development Committee would clarify what further comments and observations residents in Read and Simonstone could make in response to any further consultation exercise that may be carried out in respect of the inclusion of 'Hammond Field' in the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA). The Chairman of Planning and Development Committee, Councillor R Sherras, thanked Councillor Hill for his question and confirmed that the SHLAA was an important piece of the Council's evidence base that it was required to have in place for the Local Development Framework (LDF). The survey did not allocate land, or convey any planning status or grant planning permission to any individual sites. He reminded Members that the consultation on the SHLAA had focused on the SHLAA process and the need to consider matters of technical detail such as site areas and ownership issues. The consultation had not considered the selection of development sites. The consideration of possible development sites would be carried out through the ongoing work of the LDF. As areas of search and individual sites were identified through that process, there would be further consultation.

Councillor Sherras confirmed that officers were in the process of preparing the draft Core Strategy that would be brought to the Planning and Development Committee to approve for consultation in due course. This document would have to contain a number of possible options for development areas. It was important that residents reiterated and added to their comments and observations, if appropriate, at that time. He explained that comments had to relate to relevant planning issues generated by any of the options put forward.

Finally, Councillor Sherras confirmed that anyone who had previously responded and had indicated that they wished to be kept informed would be contacted by the Council. The Council would also be undertaking a full, formal statutory consultation as part of the LDF process that would be subject to widespread publicity.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the above meeting be received.

(ii) Community Committee – 12 January 2010

Consideration was given to the written question from Councillor Hill submitted under Standing Order 9. Councillor Hill asked if the Chairman could confirm that a report would be presented to the next meeting of the Community Committee on the implications of any of the waste disposal sites within the Ribble Valley being lost.

The Chairman of Community Services Committee, Councillor R Thompson, thanked Councillor Hill for his question and confirmed that a report had been prepared for the next meeting of Community Services Committee outlining the position regarding the suggestion that the Petre Arms site and the Padiham site might be closed down.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the above meeting be received.

(iii) Planning and Development Committee – 14 January 2010

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the above meeting be received.

(iv) Personnel Committee – 20 January 2010

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the above meeting be received.

(v) Health and Housing Committee – 25 January 2010

Consideration was given to a written question submitted by Councillor J Rogerson under Standing Order 9. Councillor Rogerson asked if the Chairman could explain why it had taken the Council so long to complete the purchase of 35 Fairsnape Avenue, Longridge, given that it had been acquired under a compulsory purchase order in December 2008.

The Chairman, Councillor S Hirst, thanked Councillor Rogerson for his question and reported that the compulsory purchase procedure was complex and that the making of the order on 15 December 2008 was only one of several stages in the procedure that the Council had to follow. Once possession had been secured, the property had been surveyed and valued, and negotiations commenced with several housing associations. The authority to dispose of the property had been given by Policy and Finance Committee on 28 July 2009 and contracts had then been sent out on 16 September 2009.

The Chairman reported that the conveyancing process was nearly completed but had been linked to finalising other statutory consequences of the compulsory purchase order. Until the property was transferred, Ribble Valley Borough Council would deal with any problems created by unlawful access. Once transferred, the property would be the responsibility of the new owners, however in order to ensure that the property was renovated, the transfer deed contained a

covenant that the new owners repair and renovate the property and have the property occupied within two years of the date of transfer.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the above meeting be received.

(vi) Policy and Finance Committee – 26 January 2010

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the above meeting be received.

(vii) Parish Council Liaison Committee – 28 January 2010

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the above meeting be received.

(viii) Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 2 February 2010

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the above meeting be received.

(ix) Standards Committee – 3 February 2010

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the above meeting be received.

(x) Planning and Development Committee – 4 February 2010

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the above meeting be received.

(xi) Special Policy and Finance Committee – 9 February 2010

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the above meeting be received.

The meeting closed at 8.08pm.

If you have any queries on these minutes please contact Marshal Scott (414400).