

## Minutes of Meeting of the Council

Meeting Date: Tuesday, 15 July 2014, starting at 6.30pm  
Present: Councillor EMH Ranson (Chairman)

### Councillors:

P Ainsworth	S Knox
J E Alcock	G Mirfin
R Bennett	L Rimmer
S Bibby	J Rogerson
I Brown	C Ross
S Carefoot	I Sayers
P Dowson	G Scott
R Hargreaves	R E Sherras
J B Hill	J Shervey
T Hill	D T Smith
B Hilton	R Swarbrick
K Hind	D Taylor
S A Hirst	M Thomas
J Holgate	R J Thompson
S Hore	N C Walsh
K Horkin	J White
A M Knox	A Yearling

In attendance: Chief Executive, Director of Community Services, Director of Resources, Head of Legal and Democratic Services.

### 140 PRAYERS

The Mayor's Chaplain, the Reverend Roger Wood, opened the meeting with prayers.

### 141 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors S Brunskill, R Moores, R Newmark and M Robinson.

Councillors not in attendance were Councillor R Elms.

### 142 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor K Horkin declared several business interests in Clitheroe.

### 143 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Mayor welcomed Mr Tedd Walmsley from the Save Longridge Campaign to the meeting who presented a petition containing over 900 signatures. He outlined the objection of the petition which was to:

- maintain and support the new housing numbers proposed in the Ribble Valley Development Plan;
- support and maintain the 200 homes reduction in the number of new homes to be built in Longridge contained in the Ribble Valley Development Plan known as the “Longridge Adjustment”; and
- resist the arguments of Taylor Wimpey, Barratt’s, Miller’s and Gladman’s to increase new home numbers and Longridge and recognise that this is a device by each to build on their chosen sites.

The Leader responded and assured the Save Longridge Campaign that the petition would be put before the Planning and Development Committee and a formal response would follow in due course.

A question was then asked by Ms Clothior regarding fracking in the Ribble Valley. Her statement included facts and figures about the fracking process and culminated in her asking the elected representatives of the Ribble Valley to say no to fracking and yes to keeping East Lancashire frack free.

The Leader responded in that the Council has no view as yet on fracking but that a watching brief was being kept upon the debates discussions and deliberations on fracking both at a Lancashire and national level. He did however inform Ms Clothior that the Ribble Valley Borough Council has no direct responsibilities or duties as the Department of Energy and Climate Change and the Environment Agency would deal with the licensing of operators and the Lancashire County Council would deal with associated planning applications. The Council would of course respond appropriately to any fracking planning applications that were likely to impact upon the borough.

144 COUNCIL MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 29 April 2014 and of the Annual Meeting held on 13 May 2014 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

145 MAYORAL COMMUNICATIONS

The Mayor reported on some 50 engagements that he had attended since the Mayor Making in May. He commented upon how rewarding it was and the huge diversity of the engagements. He had attended the Borough Council’s Sport and Arts Excellence Awards evening, 3 Scouts AGM’s the Freedom Parade in Hyndburn, 2 100<sup>th</sup> birthdays, the opening of a tattoo parlour and art gallery as well as hosting his own charity golf day at Clitheroe Golf Club for which he had received generous sponsorship from Simpsons Skoda.

He went on to encourage as many Councillors as possible to support him at 2 World War I Commemoration events to be held on 3 and 4 August namely a Civic Church Service at St Mary’s, Clitheroe and a tree planting and tea lighting ceremony in the Castle grounds.

## LEADER'S REPORT

The Leader gave a brief feedback on the LGA Conference he had recently attended where current Local Authority issues had been discussed. The two main issues he went on to refer to were planning policy and the waste collection service. He reminded the Council that its Core Strategy was a tool for use for local priorities and that the emerging Strategy carries significant weight.

With regard to the waste collection service he informed Council of recent developments with regard to the Lancashire County Council giving notice that they had taken a policy decision to no longer pay recycling credits from April 2015. This would have a major effect on the Council's budget and as such had set the following action in motion:

- A meeting with Senior Officers of the Lancashire County Council scheduled for August.
- Joining with other District Councils to seek legal advice on the withdrawal of the recycling credits.
- He and the Chief Executive and MP had recently met with Brandon Lewis who had agreed to respond to a written question in the House of Commons.

## LEADER'S QUESTION TIME

The Leader of the Opposition, Councillor Alan Knox asked if the Leader had any information as yet as to when the report regarding listed building consents referred to at the last Council would be presented to the Planning and Development Committee. The Leader confirmed that this report is expected to be submitted to the September meeting of the Planning and Development Committee.

The next question that Councillor Knox asked was whether the Leader could give comparative figures between what was spent on Public Health in the Ribble Valley between when the NHS were in charge of public health funding and when Lancashire County Council were in charge of public health funding. The Leader responded that this information had not been published by either Public Health of the County Council but that he would ask Councillor Hilton in her position on the Lancashire Health and Wellbeing Partnership if this information could be provided. He added that as a Council we should continue to fight to ensure our residents receive a fair share of the County Council's budget spending whether its public health, education, highways or any of the services provided by the County Council in our area.

Finally Councillor Knox asked if the Leader could give an update on the kerb recycling and waste paper collection services that the Council considered a red risk. The Leader confirmed that kerbside recycling had been identified as a red risk to the Council because of the on-going dispute with the County Council over

the ownership of the waste paper collected and referred to the information he had already given as part of his Leader's report.

148 COMMITTEE MINUTES

(i) Special Planning and Development Committee – 8 May 2014

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

(ii) Community Committee – 27 May 2014

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

(iii) Personnel Committee – 28 May 2014

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

(iv) Planning and Development Committee – 29 May 2014

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

(v) Health and Housing Committee – 5 June 2014

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

(vi) Policy and Finance Committee – 10 June 2014

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

(vii) Parish Council Liaison Committee – 12 June 2014

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

(viii) Accounts and Audit Committee – 25 June 2014

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

(ix) Planning and Development Committee – 26 June 2014

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the above meeting be received.  
The meeting closed at 7.20pm.

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