

Minutes of Meeting of the Council

Meeting Date: Tuesday, 24 April 2018, starting at 6.30pm
Present: Councillor S Carefoot (Chairman)

Councillors:

P Ainsworth	S A Hirst
J E Alcock	S Hore
S Atkinson	A M Knox
S Bibby	S Knox
A Brown	G Mirfin
S Brunskill	R Newmark
P M Dobson	M Robinson
P Dowson	J Rogerson
P Elms	G Scott
M Fenton	R E Sherras
L Graves	R Swarbrick
R Hargreaves	D Taylor
T Hill	R J Thompson
B Hilton	N C Walsh
K Hind	J White
S Hind	

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

774 PRAYERS

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

775 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors R Bennett, I Brown, R J Elms, J Holgate, I Sayers, D T Smith and Director of Resources.

776 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interest.

777 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

778 COUNCIL MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 6 March 2018 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

779 MAYORAL COMMUNICATIONS

The Deputy Mayor reported on events he had attended since the last meeting. These had included a commemoration of the Battle of Manchester, the Mayor of Lancaster's Tour, prize giving events and events for St George's Day.

780 LONG SERVICE AWARD

The Deputy Mayor made a presentation to Alison Carins – part-time Clerical Assistant in the Finance Section who had achieved 25 years' service with the Council. The Deputy Mayor thanked Alison for her loyalty and commitment to the Council and for her dedicated work over the years.

781 LEADER'S SPEECH

The Leader reported that the Appointment Sub-Committee had interviewed for the post of Director of Economic Development and Planning and were in a position to make an appointment. He reminded Councillors that the first key task for the new Director would be to join together the Development Control, Forward Planning, Housing and Economic Development Sections into a new Directorate and the creation of an Economic Development Strategy.

The Leader reported that in response to one of the recommendations of the Peer Challenge, officers and Councillors had recently met for an "Away Day" to build understanding and co-operation on a wide range of policies involving the Council. Matters discussed included the governance of the Council, staff and Councillor relations, planning, economic development and transport.

Next the Leader reported that the Council would be responding to the Government's consultation exercise in relation to the reform of Planning Regulations as outlined in the proposals for a National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).

Moving on to other matters, the Leader reported that the Lancashire Leaders had recently met and had agreed to write to Lancashire County Council to press for full payment of recycling credits following the recent findings of an inspection in relation to financial arrangements at Northamptonshire County Council.

Next the Leader gave an update on the Clitheroe Market development. He confirmed that a final outline design had been received which the Market Working Group had considered. Their views would be submitted to the next meeting of Policy and Finance Committee.

Finally the Leader was pleased to announce that the new Economic Development website would be going live in late May/early June.

782 LEADER'S QUESTION TIME

The Leader of the Opposition, Councillor A Knox, asked if the Leader could provide comparative figures for expenditure on Public Health in Ribble Valley from when the NHS had been in charge of Public Health funding to now when Lancashire County Council were in charge of Public Health funding.

The Leader thanked Councillor Knox for his question and confirmed that as far as could be ascertained there was no spending information available that would show Public Health expenditure in the Ribble Valley under the previous regime, or since the responsibility of Public Health had been transferred to Lancashire County Council. He confirmed that the Council had asked the County Council if they could provide a comparison and awaited a response.

Next Councillor Knox asked if the Council had responded to the Local Government Association's (LGA) call for information on Brexit. The Leader confirmed that the Council has responded to the LGA regarding Brexit and had asked that the Government be lobbied to ensure that any grant funding previously originating from the EU was replaced by grants from Central Government.

The Council had also asked that if there were any changes in legislation or regulations that would have an impact on Local Government, that Councils be consulted and their views taken into account before any changes were made.

Finally Councillor Knox asked what measures or reporting methods were in place to evaluate the effectiveness of Public Space Protection Orders which had been implemented last year. The Leader confirmed that the Environmental Health team had introduced the new audit in October 2017 with a 1 month grace period. Dog Wardens had since been exercising their discretion at the early stages and were working to change dog owner behaviour. He confirmed that a report would go to the next meeting of Health and Housing Committee to update Members on the implementation of the Public Space Protection Orders.

783 COMMITTEE MINUTES

(i) Planning and Development Committee – 8 March 2018

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

(ii) Community Services Committee – 13 March 2018

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

(iii) Personnel Committee – 14 March 2018

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

(iv) Health and Housing Committee – 15 March 2018

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

(v) Policy and Finance Committee – 20 March 2018

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the above meeting be received with the exception of Minute Numbers 692, 694 and 697.

MINUTE 692 – TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2018/19

RESOLVED: That the Treasury Management Policies and Procedures for 2018/19 be approved.

MINUTE 694 – MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2018/2019 – 2021/2022

RESOLVED: That the Medium Term Financial Strategy for 2018/19 – 2021/22 be approved.

MINUTE 697 – ANNUAL REVIEW OF STANDING ORDERS

RESOLVED: That the amended Standing Orders for 2018/19 be approved.

(vi) Parish Council Liaison Committee – 28 March 2018

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

(vii) Economic Development Committee – 5 April 2018

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

(viii) Policy and Finance Sub-Committee – 10 April 2018

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

(ix) Licensing Committee – 10 April 2018

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

(x) Accounts and Audit Committee – 11 April 2018

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

(xi) Planning and Development Committee – 12 April 2018

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

The meeting closed at 7.15pm.

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