

Minutes of Meeting of the Council

Meeting Date: Tuesday, 10 July 2018, starting at 6.30pm
Present: Councillor S Carefoot (Chairman)

Councillors:

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|--------------|--------------|
| P Ainsworth | J Holgate |
| J E Alcock | S Hore |
| S Atkinson | A M Knox |
| A Brown | S Knox |
| I Brown | G Mirfin |
| S Brunskill | R Newmark |
| P Dowson | M Robinson |
| R J Elms | I Sayers |
| M Fenton | G Scott |
| M French | R E Sherras |
| L Graves | D T Smith |
| R Hargreaves | R Swarbrick |
| B Hilton | D Taylor |
| K Hind | R J Thompson |
| S Hind | N C Walsh |
| S A Hirst | |

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

154 PRAYERS

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

155 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors R Bennett, S Bibby, P M Dobson, P Elms, G Geldard, T Hill, J Rogerson and J White.

156 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST

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

157 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Steven Rush of the Clitheroe Residents' Action Group addressed the Council regarding the proposed market redevelopment. He urged the Council to respect the wishes of residents and not to destroy the outdoor market. He referred to a recent survey that he had undertaken.

The Leader responded by saying that the Council had listened to the views of the local residents via the Infusion Survey that had been carried out.

Mrs Baron also spoke on the redevelopment of the market and referred to 800 years of heritage and asked that the regeneration of this area be sympathetic.

As a market trader she reported that a market hall was not wanted by the traders rather they needed a traditional open market. She expressed concern that the future of the market was being decided behind closed doors.

The Leader responded again that the Council had listened to the views of the public and that hopefully the Council would produce something for Clitheroe that would regenerate the area.

Mr Sowter also spoke on the redevelopment of the market. As a user of the market he also suggested that a market hall was not wanted but that a simple low cost scheme to refurbish and cover the existing market would be adequate. He also referred to the discussions being taken in private.

The Leader responded by explaining that the redevelopment was commercially sensitive and therefore had to be kept confidential at this time.

The Mayor thanked the public participants.

At this point in the meeting a proposal was made under Standing Order 8.1.3 to move that the agenda be re-organised so that the item on the market redevelopment could be considered at this point. This proposal was seconded and voted upon and was subsequently lost.

158 COUNCIL MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 24 April 2018 and the Annual Council on 8 May 2018 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

159 MAYORAL COMMUNICATIONS

The Mayor reported on a varied range of engagements that he had attended since the last meeting as well as those attended by the Deputy Mayor. These included an afternoon tea at Simonstone School, two 90th birthdays, Burnley at Home, Chipping Steam Fair and tea with the High Sheriff at Hoghton Tower.

He thanked the Deputy Mayor for standing in for him whilst he had his hip replacement operation.

160 LEADER'S SPEECH

The Leader reported that the 12 Leaders of the boroughs and districts in Lancashire had elected him as Vice-Chairman of the Leaders' Group and as a consequence he was now one of the 12 Directors on the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership.

He also reminded Councillors that the new Director of Economic Development and Planning commences her role with the Council on 6 August and along with the Chairman of Economic Development Committee would design an Economic Development Strategy for the borough. He also proposed that the new Director and the Chair of Economic Development Committee and himself would attend LEP meetings on behalf of the borough.

The Leader informed Councillors that a recent appeal in Longridge for 123 homes in Higher Road had been lost.

The Planning and Development Committee will be considering the Council's Housing Land Availability at a special meeting on 17 July 2018. In the near future as a Council we would be considering the Government's new NPPF which may solve this problem for us. In parallel the Council would also be carrying out a 5 year review of the Core Strategy and looking at CIL.

The Leader reported that on behalf of the Council he had attended, along with the Leader of the Liberal Democrats and the Chief Executive, the Local Government Association Conference in Birmingham which had been dominated by the issues of Brexit, social care, housing and economic development.

The Conference had received a report from the Local Government Association post-Brexit England Commission, the findings of which he endorsed to allow Local Government to do more. The key recommendation being to allow Local Authorities to raise borrowing caps to enable more affordable homes to be built.

Finally the Leader was pleased to report having enjoyed the excellent Jazz Festival and that working groups were now involved in the launching of the new promotional website and finalising the details of the Clitheroe Food Festival.

161

LEADER'S QUESTION TIME

The Leader of the Opposition, Councillor Alan Knox, asked the Leader to give an update on the plight of the Hen Harrier in the Forest of Bowland.

The Leader was pleased to report that the RSPB Wardens had discovered two Hen Harrier nests with 8 chicks in total on the United Utilities Bowland Estate in early spring and had been monitoring them closely ever since.

Next Councillor Knox asked if the Leader thought there would be any skills shortages post-Brexit in the Ribble Valley. The Leader responded to say that much would depend on what the actual Brexit deal finally reached with the EU was and that at this moment in time it was still far from certain, however there was an emerging concern that we may lose skilled workers in the food processing, tourism and agricultural sectors following our exit from the EU.

Finally Councillor Knox asked about the usage of plastic cups, bottles and straws that the Council had gone through in the past 3 years. The Leader gave details of bottled water and purchase of plastic cups for the Council for the years 2015/16, 2016/17 and 2017/18.

162

REVIEW OF POLITICAL BALANCE FOR MUNICIPAL YEAR 2018/19 ARISING FROM THE RESIGNATION OF COUNCILLORS FROM THE CONSERVATIVE GROUP

The Chief Executive submitted a report revising the Council's current Committee arrangements following a review of the political balance calculation. Three Members of the Council had resigned from the Conservative Group and had set up their own political group called the Democratic Conservatives. This meant that the overall political balance of the Council had changed and must therefore

be recalculated to take this into account. This also meant the membership on Committees would change as well as there being a vacancy for a Conservative Councillor on the Police and Crime Panel.

RESOLVED: That the Council

1. approved the allocation of Committee seats and confirmed the appointment of Members to Committees as set out in the report; and
2. that Councillor Ged Mirfin be appointed as the Council's Representative on the Police and Crime Panel.

163 COMMITTEE MINUTES

(i) Policy and Finance Sub-Committee – 23 and 24 April 2018

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

(ii) Council – 24 April 2018

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

(iii) Annual Council – 8 May 2018

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

(iv) Community Committee – 22 May 2018

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

(v) Planning and Development Committee – 24 May 2018

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

(vi) Health and Housing Committee – 7 June 2018

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

(vii) Licensing Committee – 12 June 2018

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

(viii) Personnel Committee – 13 June 2018

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

(ix) Economic Development Committee – 14 June 2018

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

(x) Policy and Finance Committee – 19 June 2018

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

(xi) Parish Council Liaison Committee – 21 June 2018

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

(xii) Emergency Committee – 28 June 2018

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

(xiii) Planning and Development Committee – 28 June 2018

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

164 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That by virtue of the next item of business being exempt information under Category 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public be now excluded from the meeting.

An amendment was made to this resolution that this next item of business not be taken in Part 2 but be considered in Part 1 of the Agenda as it was such an important issue to the public. A recorded vote was requested and the appropriate number of Councillors supported this.

A debate ensued as to the implications of considering this issue in Part 1 and it was again reiterated that there were commercial reasons why it should continue to be discussed in Part 2.

At the end of the debate a recorded vote was taken.

The following Members voted for the motion:

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| I Brown | S Knox |
| M Fenton | M Robinson |
| M French | G Scott |
| R Hargreaves | D Smith |
| A Knox | R Thompson |

The following Members voted against the motion:

| | |
|-------------|-------------|
| P Ainsworth | S Hirst |
| J Alcock | J Holgate |
| S Atkinson | S Hore |
| A Brown | G Mirfin |
| S Brunskill | R Newmark |
| P Dowson | I Sayers |
| R Elms | R Sherras |
| L Graves | R Swarbrick |
| B Hilton | D Taylor |
| K Hind | N Walsh |

The following Members abstained:

S Carefoot
S Hind

The motion was lost and the next item of business was considered under Part 2 of the Agenda.

165

CALL-IN OF AGENDA ITEM 28 POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING 19 JUNE 2018

The Chief Executive submitted a report asking Council to consider the decision of Policy and Finance Committee relating to the proposed Clitheroe Market Redevelopment that had been called-in under Standing Order 29.

A proposal was made that the plan considered by Policy and Finance Committee on 19 June 2018 should not be acted upon and that the Market Redevelopment Working Group should be re-established in order to consider options for regeneration of the market based on the Council's public consultation of 2016/17.

A recorded vote was requested and the appropriate number of Councillors supported this.

Councillors debated the issue and in particular the points that the Working Group had concluded that the scheme should be amended to reflect. It was again emphasised that the resolution of the Policy and Finance Committee was to move the scheme forward a step but that at this point there was no commitment to a contract. The debate covered detailed elements of the proposals for the re-development of the market area and the pros and cons of them.

At the end of the debate a recorded vote was taken.

The following Members voted for the proposal:

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| I Brown | A Knox |
| P Dowson | S Knox |
| M Fenton | M Robinson |
| M French | G Scott |
| R Hargreaves | R Thompson |
| S Hind | |

The following Members voted against the proposal:

| | |
|-------------|-------------|
| P Ainsworth | J Holgate |
| J Alcock | S Hore |
| S Atkinson | G Mirfin |
| A Brown | R Newmark |
| S Brunskill | I Sayers |
| R Elms | R Sherras |
| L Graves | D Smith |
| B Hilton | R Swarbrick |
| K Hind | D Taylor |
| S Hirst | N Walsh |

The following Member abstained:

S Carefoot

The motion was lost.

The Leader then proposed that the Council support the decision of the Policy and Finance Committee made at their meeting on 19 June 2018. Again a recorded vote was requested and sufficient Councillors supported this action.

The following Members voted for the motion:

| | |
|-------------|-------------|
| P Ainsworth | J Holgate |
| J Alcock | S Hore |
| S Atkinson | G Mirfin |
| A Brown | R Newmark |
| S Brunskill | I Sayers |
| R Elms | R Sherras |
| L Graves | D Smith |
| B Hilton | R Swarbrick |
| K Hind | D Taylor |
| S Hirst | N Walsh |

The following Members voted against the motion:

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| I Brown | A Knox |
| P Dowson | S Knox |
| M Fenton | M Robinson |
| M French | G Scott |
| R Hargreaves | R Thompson |
| S Hind | |

The following Member abstained:

S Carefoot.

RESOLVED: That the Council support the decision of Policy and Finance Committee at their meeting on 19 June 2018 to:

1. approve the scheme as now proposed in principle for it to move to the next stage;
2. agree that heads of terms, a development agreement and financial appraisal be prepared based upon the scheme as now presented and reported back to Policy and Finance Committee for consideration; and
3. delegate to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of Policy and Finance Committee, a strategy for publicising the scheme as it develops.

The meeting closed at 8.55pm.

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