

Minutes of Emergency Committee

Meeting Date: Monday, 10 August 2020 starting at 4pm
Present: Councillor S Atkinson (Chairman)

Councillors:

A Brown
S Hore
A Knox

In attendance: Chief Executive, Director of Resources, Director of Community Services, Director of Economic Development and Planning, Solicitor, Head of Legal and Democratic Services, Head of Regeneration and Housing.

682 APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for absence from the meeting.

683 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST

Councillor Hore declared a non-pecuniary interest in Agenda Item 4 – Request for Grant Towards the Purchase of Fourth Bungalow in Chipping.

684 CHANGES TO COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

The Chief Executive submitted a report asking Committee to appoint a new Chair and Vice Chair to Community Services Committee; recalculate political balance following the deaths of two Councillors and decide upon the subsequent membership of committees and outside bodies.

The Chair expressed his condolences to the families of the two Councillors who had recently passed away.

By virtue of the Coronavirus Act 2020 and the Local Government and Police and Crime Commissioner (Coronavirus) (Postponement of Elections and Referendums) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 the by-elections would not currently take place. The details of the necessary changes to political balance were outlined, along with the suggested changes in personnel from each political group.

RESOLVED That Committee:

1. Agreed to appoint Councillor Richard Newmark as Chair of Community Services Committee and Councillor Louise Edge as the Vice Chair for the remainder of the municipal year 2020/21;
2. Approved the recalculated political balance and the subsequent membership of committees as outlined in the Appendix until such a time as by-elections take place; and
3. Appoint Councillor Tony Austin to serve on Langho Football Club outside body.

685

REVIEW OF APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT PERSONS

The Chief Executive submitted a report seeking Committee's approval of the continuation in the post of the Council's Independent Person and to put in place arrangements for review and recruitment of the same.

The Council appointed two Independent Persons in July 2012. In March 2017 the Accounts and Audit Committee resolved to review the position in a further 3 years' time. In early 2020 one of the Independent Persons indicated that he no longer wished to continue in post. A review did not take place in March 2020 due to Covid-19, and therefore there was a need to approve the continuation of the one remaining Independent Person until a review can take place.

It is proposed to carry out this review at the next scheduled meeting of Accounts and Audit Committee in November 2020 as well as consider the recruitment of additional Independent Persons.

The LGA had recently launched a consultation upon a Model Code of Conduct and issued guidance on best practice. A comprehensive report on this issue will also be presented to the next Accounts and Audit Committee for their consideration and approval.

RESOLVED: That Committee:

1. approved the review of the appointment of Independent Persons be postponed until the next meeting of the Accounts and Audit Committee on 25 November 2020;
2. approved the continuation of the appointment of Mr B Dearing as the Council's Independent Person until the next Accounts and Audit Committee on 25 November 2020; and
3. approved the recruitment of additional/replacement Independent Persons take place following the recommendations of the next meeting of the Accounts and Audit Committee on 25 November 2020.

686

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That by virtue of the following items of business being exempt information under Part 1, Category 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public be now excluded from the meeting.

(Councillor S Hore declared an interest in the next item of business and left the meeting.)

687

REQUEST OF GRANT TOWARDS THE PURCHASE OF A FOURTH BUNGALOW IN CHIPPING

The Director of Economic Development and Planning submitted a report proposing that the Council support the Chipping Community Land Trust in purchasing a fourth bungalow at the Fellside, Church Raike, Chipping.

In 2018 the Council had previously approved a 50% grant to the same body to purchase 3 affordable bungalows on this development. The grant conditions were very specific with the funding going to community led housing provision. The opportunity had now arisen to purchase a fourth bungalow under the same conditions.

Members considered the request.

RESOLVED: That Committee approved the contribution of a grant towards the purchase of a fourth affordable bungalow on the scheme at Fellside, Church Raiké, Chipping, with all four bungalows to be delivered as affordable rent (Local Housing Allowance rates) to tenants over 55 years of age with a local connection.

(Councillor S Hore returned to the meeting.)

688 PURCHASE OF LAND BEHIND OLD ROW, BARROW

The Director of Community Services submitted a report seeking approval to acquire a piece of land in Barrow in order to secure its continued availability for community use.

He gave the background to the specific piece of land and outlined its current state and use and the reasons for the Council's interest in retaining it for community use. He reported that some preliminary negotiations had taken place with the landowner and a price agreed.

RESOLVED: That Committee:

1. approved the acquisition of the site in question from Admiral Taverns Ltd for the sum set out in the report subject to the appropriate agreements being secured;
2. approved an additional budget of up to £5k for the demolition and removal of existing garages;
3. agreed that a licence to occupy the site for use as an informal car parking and amenity space be offered to Barrow Parish Council with an appropriate annual fee to be negotiated; and
4. on completion, recommend to Policy and Finance Committee that the asset be added to the Council's asset register.

The meeting closed at 4.22pm.

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

CONSERVATIVE		LIBERAL DEMOCRAT	INDEPENDENT	
COMMUNITY SERVICES (15)				
	(10 seats)	(4 seats)	(1 seat)	
Chairman:	Ricky Newmark	Mary Robinson	David Birtwhistle	
Vice Chairman:	Louise Edge	Sue Knox		
	Jan Alcock	Simon O'Rourke		
	Stephen Atkinson	Jenni Schumann		
	Tony Austin			
	Stuart Carefoot			
	Angeline Humphreys			
	Ged Mirfin			
	Sarah Rainford			
	Gary Scott			
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT (15)				
	(10 seats)	(4 seats)	(1 seat)	
Chairman:	Alison Brown	Sue Knox	Robert Thompson	
Vice Chairman:	Richard Sherras	Bob Buller		
	Tony Austin	Mark French		
	Ian Brown	Simon O'Rourke		
	Stuart Carefoot			
	Judith Clark			
	Louise Edge			
	Brian Holden			
	Angeline Humphreys			
	Jim Rogerson			
HEALTH & HOUSING (15)				
	(10 seats)	(4 seats)	(1 seat)	
Chairman:	Bridget Hilton	Mary Robinson	David Birtwhistle	
Vice Chairman:	Jan Alcock	Jonathan Hill		
	Stephen Atkinson	Allan Knox		
	Tony Austin	Donna O'Rourke		
	Rosie Elms			
	Mark Hindle			
	Brian Holden			
	Ricky Newmark			
	David Peat			
	Richard Sherras			

CONSERVATIVE		LIBERAL DEMOCRAT	INDEPENDENT	
PERSONNEL (9)				
	(7 seats)	(2 seats)	(0 seats)	
Chairman:	Rosie Elms	Jenni Schumann		
Vice Chairman:	Sue Bibby	Donna O'Rourke		
	Stephen Atkinson			
	Richard Bennett			
	David Berryman			
	Mark Hindle			
	Sarah Rainford			
LICENSING (15)				
	(11 seats)	(4 seats)	(0 seat)	
Chairman:	Ged Mirfin	Simon O'Rourke		
Vice Chairman:	David Berryman	Donna O'Rourke		
	Jan Alcock	Mary Robinson		
	Richard Bennett	Allan Knox		
	Rosie Elms			
	Bridget Hilton			
	Stuart Hirst			
	Simon Hore			
	Ricky Newmark			
	Sarah Rainford			
	Gary Scott			
POLICY & FINANCE (15)				
	(10 seats)	(4 seats)	(1 seat)	
Chairman:	Stephen Atkinson	Allan Knox	Robert Thompson	
Vice Chairman:	Simon Hore	Mark French		
	Sue Bibby	Stewart Fletcher		
	Alison Brown	Jonathan Hill		
	Stuart Carefoot			
	Judith Clark			
	Mark Hindle			
	Stuart Hirst			
	David Peat			
	Jim Rogerson			

CONSERVATIVE		LIBERAL DEMOCRAT	INDEPENDENT	
ACCOUNTS & AUDIT (11)				
	(7 seats)	(3 seats)	(1 seat)	
Chairman:	Richard Bennett	Bob Buller	David Birtwhistle	
Vice Chairman:	Ian Brown	Jonathan Hill		
	Louise Edge	Stewart Fletcher		
	Angeline Humpheys			
	Ricky Newmark			
	David Peat			
	Richard Sherras			
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (15)				
	(10 seats)	(4 seats)	(1 seat)	
Chairman:	Stuart Hirst	Mark French	David Birtwhistle	
Vice Chairman:	Jim Rogerson	Stewart Fletcher		
	Sue Bibby	Bob Buller		
	Ian Brown	Sue Knox		
	Judith Clark			
	David Berryman			
	Rosie Elms			
	Mark Hindle			
	Simon Hore			
	Ged Mirfin			
PARISH COUNCIL LIAISON (10 + 2 + 1)				
	(10 seats)	(2 seats)	(1 seat)	
Vice Chairman:	David Peat	Jenni Schumann	Robert Thompson	
	Richard Bennett	Bob Buller		
	Alison Brown			
	Bridget Hilton			
	Stuart Hirst			
	Brian Holden			
	Simon Hore			
	Ged Mirfin			
	Gary Scott			
	Richard Sherras			

CONSERVATIVE		LIBERAL DEMOCRAT	INDEPENDENT	
COMMUNITY SERVICES (15)				
	(10 seats)	(4 seats)	(1 seat)	
Chairman:	Ricky Newmark	Mary Robinson	David Birtwhistle	
Vice Chairman:	Louise Edge	Sue Knox		
	Jan Alcock	Simon O'Rourke		
	Stephen Atkinson	Jenni Schumann		
	Tony Austin			
	Stuart Carefoot			
	Angeline Humphreys			
	Ged Mirfin			
	Sarah Rainford			
	Gary Scott			
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT (15)				
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	Louise Edge			
	Brian Holden			
	Angeline Humphreys			
	Jim Rogerson			
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	(10 seats)	(4 seats)	(1 seat)	
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	Richard Sherras			