

Minutes COUNCIL

Date:

Monday, 3 April 2017

Venue:

Lowther Pavilion, Lytham St Annes.

Members:

Mayor (Councillor Christine Akeroyd)

Deputy Mayor (Councillor Angela Jacques)

Councillors Ben Aitken, Peter Anthony, Jan Barker, Keith Beckett ISO, Brenda Blackshaw, Karen Buckley, Maxine Chew, Alan Clayton, Delma Collins, Peter Collins, Michael Cornah, David Donaldson, David Eaves, Susan Fazackerley, Trevor Fiddler, Tony Ford, Richard Fradley, Gail Goodman, Shirley Green, Peter Hardy, Neil Harvey, Paul Hayhurst, Karen Henshaw JP, Paul Hodgson, Cheryl Little, Roger Lloyd, Kiran Mulholland, Barbara Nash, Edward Nash, Graeme Neale, Linda Nulty, Elizabeth Oades, Sandra Pitman, Richard Redcliffe, Louis Rigby, Elaine Silverwood, John Singleton JP, Roger Small, Heather Speak, Thomas Threlfall, Vivienne Willder

Officers Present:

Allan Oldfield, Tracy Morrison, Ian Curtis, Simon Stott, Lewis Middleton, Katharine McDonnell and Sharon Wadsworth.

Other Attendees:

Two members of the public were in attendance.

Prayers

Prayers were offered by Reverend Wells.

1. Declarations of interest

Members were reminded that any disclosable pecuniary interests should be declared as required by the Localism Act 2011 and any personal or prejudicial interests should be declared as required by the Council's Code of Conduct for Members. There were none on this occasion.

2. Confirmation of minutes

The Mayor proposed the minutes of the last meeting and the Deputy Mayor seconded the proposal.

Councillor P Collins proposed the following,

“an amendment to the draft minutes of the Council meeting held on 2nd March 2017 by replacing the words ‘the amendment was lost’ to ‘the amendment was carried’ in respect of the second amendment as proposed by Councillor Oades”.

Following discussion and advice from the Head of Governance, a request for a recorded vote was received and supported by five members, therefore a recorded vote was taken and the amendment was LOST.

Votes for the proposal (10) – Councillors Barker, Beckett, Chew, Clayton, P Collins, Hodgson, Lloyd, Nulty, Oades and Silverwood.

Votes against the proposal (23) – Councillors Aitken, Akeroyd, Anthony, Blackshaw, Buckley, D Collins, Donaldson, Fazackerley, Fiddler, Fradley, Goodman, Green, Harvey, Jacques, Little, Mulholland, B Nash, E Nash, Pitman, Redcliffe, Singleton, Small and Willder.

Abstentions (9) Councillors Cornah, Eaves, Ford, Hardy, Hayhurst, Henshaw, Neale, Rigby and Speak

(Councillor Threlfall was absent from the room during the vote)

There were no further amendments and, following a request for a recorded vote, supported by five members, a recorded vote was taken on the confirmation of the minutes;

Votes for the proposal (23) – Councillors Aitken, Akeroyd, Blackshaw, Buckley, D Collins, Cornah, Fazackerley, Fiddler, Fradley, Goodman, Green, Harvey, Hodgson, Jacques, Little, Mulholland, B Nash, E Nash, Pitman, Redcliffe, Singleton, Small, and Willder.

Votes against the proposal (12) Councillors Barker, Beckett, Chew, Clayton, P Collins, Donaldson, Henshaw, Hodgson, Lloyd, Nulty, Oades and Silverwood

Abstentions (8) Councillor Anthony, Eaves, Ford, Hardy, Hayhurst, Neale Rigby, Speak

(Councillor Threlfall was absent from the room during the vote)

The proposal was carried and it was thereby RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the Council meeting held on 2 March 2017 as a correct record for signature by the Mayor.

3. Mayor's Announcements

The Mayor thanked everyone who attended and contributed to the Mayoral Ball, she advised that over £5000 was raised on the night. The Mayor commented on the many and various events she had attended and the wonderful, talented people she had met.

4. Chief Executive's Communications

There were no communications from the Chief Executive.

5. Questions from Members of the Council

There were no questions from members of the Council.

6. Questions from Members of the Public

The following question from a member of the public was asked by Mrs Carol Lanyon, St Annes

"At the budget meeting held last month, mention was made again of the fact that St. Anne's residents are paying more in their council tax (Special expenses) than Lytham residents are, and that in effect St Anne's council taxpayers are subsidising Lytham's tax payers to the tune of approximately £21 for a Band D property. This seems to me to be grossly unfair and certainly not a robust and transparent method of collecting council tax. I would like to know A. The reason behind this accounting anomaly for charging special expenses across both areas. B. Why the development and supplies services budgets cannot be split between the two areas separately. C. What steps elected members of Fylde Council are going to take to address this issue, so that St. Anne's residents are not subsidising Lytham residents, as they are at present."

Councillor Karen Buckley responded stating that residents in the same council tax band of properties paid the same amount of special expenses regardless of whether they lived in Lytham or St Annes. For 2017/18 the special expense charge was £71.77 for a Band D property in each of the two areas. She advised that the only parks and open spaces owned by Fylde Council were in the Lytham St Annes area and accordingly Fylde Council had a special expense policy to charge for the maintenance of these assets. The policy expressly treated the whole area as a single tax base and charged the same amount to residents across the whole area. Councillor Buckley explained that the approach allowed for operational flexibility to the Parks Team in the delivery of the high standard of parks and open spaces across the whole area.

She further explained that elsewhere in the borough assets of this nature were owned and managed by Town and Parish Councils and the cost of their upkeep were charged to residents via the parish precept. She concluded by stating that the existing policy was clear and transparent.

The Mayor asked if Mrs Lanyon had a supplementary question, Mrs Lanyon asked

“Is Councillor Buckley suggesting that this method of taxation is considered to be equitable as residents of St Leonards ward, that I have spoken to, don’t consider it to be so?”

Councillor Buckley responded advising that to charge Lytham and St Annes separately would be a departure from the approved method. The present method was open and transparent and the Council’s policy on special expenses was reviewed every year.

Decisions Items:

7. Confirmation of Leader and Deputy Leader 2017/18

Councillor Roger Small proposed that Councillor Susan Fazackerley and Councillor Karen Buckley be invited to accept the appointment of Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council respectively for the municipal year 2017/18.

Councillor David Eaves seconded the proposal, and it was RESOLVED to

1. Confirm Councillor Susan Fazackerley as Leader of Fylde Borough Council for the municipal year 2017/18; and
2. Confirm Councillor Karen Buckley as Deputy Leader of Fylde Borough Council for the municipal year 2017/18.

8. Confirmation of Committees and Allocation of Membership

Councillor Susan Fazackerley, Leader of the Council, introduced the report regarding the confirmation of committees and allocation of membership. Councillor Fazackerley explained that the allocation of the committee membership had been undertaken in accordance with the principles of political balance where applicable.

Councillor Fazackerley advised of a number of changes to committees requested by the Conservative group, namely Councillor Eaves would replace Councillor Taylor on the Chief Officers Employment Committee, Councillor Jacques would replace Councillor Taylor on the Environment, Health and Housing Committee, Councillor Harvey would replace Councillor Taylor on the Finance and Democracy Committee, Councillor Pitman would become Vice Chairman of Operational Management Committee and Councillor Settle would become Vice Chairman of Tourism and Leisure Committee.

Invited by Councillor Fazackerley to do so, Councillor Oades advised of a change requested by the Independent group, namely that Councillor Hardy would replace Councillor Speak on Environment, Health and Housing Committee.

Councillor Fazackerley moved and Councillor Karen Buckley seconded the proposal.

It was therefore RESOLVED:

1. To appoint the committees as set out below for the municipal year 2017-18, with the terms of reference as presently set out in the constitution;
2. To allocate the committee seats in accordance with the principles of political balance as set out in the table below;

Committee	Total seats	Con	Ind	Lib Dem	Others
Finance and Democracy	12	7	3	1	1
Environment, Health and Housing	12	8	4	0	0
Operational Management	12	7	3	1	1
Tourism and Leisure	12	8	3	0	1
Planning	12	7	3	1	1
Public Protection	11	7	3	0	1
Audit and Standards	9	6	3	0	0
Chief Officers Employment	6	4	2	0	0

3. That the following Councillors be appointed to the following committees, with the Chairmen and Vice Chairmen (as indicated below) be duly appointed, and that in accordance with legislation that Mr T Mozley, Mrs H Broughton and Mr B Horrocks be appointed as Independent Persons to the Chief Officers Employment Committee.

Audit and Standards Committee

D Donaldson (VC) D Collins
P Collins P Hayhurst
R Lloyd E Nash
G Neale **J Singleton (C)**
R Small

Chief Officer Employment Committee

K Beckett J Brickles
K Buckley (VC) D Eaves
S Fazackerley (C) R Small

Environment, Health and Housing Committee

B Aitken (C) P Anthony
M Chew D Collins
G Goodman S Green
P Hardy A Jacques
R Lloyd G Neale
L Rigby **V Willder (VC)**

Finance and Democracy Committee

K Buckley (C) D Donaldson
T Ford N Harvey
A Jacques K Mulholland
L Nulty L Oades
R Redcliffe V Settle
E Silverwood **R Small (VC)**

Operational Management Committee

F Andrews	J Brickles
A Clayton	D Eaves (C)
R Fradley	K Henshaw
P Hodgson	E Nash
A Pounder	S Pitman (VC)
T Threlfall	

Planning Committee

C Akeroyd	J Barker
M Cornah	T Fiddler (C)
N Harvey	K Mulholland
B Nash	L Nulty
L Oades	A Pounder
R Redcliffe (VC)	H Speak

Public Protection Committee

F Andrews	J Barker
K Beckett	B Blackshaw
A Clayton	G Goodman
S Green	P Hardy
N Harvey	A Jacques (C)
B Nash (VC)	

Tourism and Leisure Committee

C Akeroyd	T Ashton
J Barker	B Blackshaw
J Brickles	M Chew
R Fradley	P Hodgson
C Little (C)	S Pitman
V Settle(VC)	R Thomas

4. To appoint the following members to the Licensing Committee, which was not required to be politically balanced:

C Akeroyd	F Andrews
J Barker	K Beckett
B Blackshaw	A Clayton
P Collins	D Donaldson
G Goodman	S Green
P Hardy	N Harvey
A Jacques (C)	B Nash (VC)
R Thomas	

5. To appoint the following members to the Member Development Steering Group:

E Nash (C)	F Andrews (VC)
J Barker	J Brickles
A Clayton	D Collins
B Nash	S Pitman

9. Appointments to Outside Bodies

Councillor Susan Fazackerley introduced the report. She advised that the council made a number of appointments to outside bodies, which were confirmed each year by the council.

Councillor Fazackerley advised that with the resignation of Councillor Taylor, Councillor Singleton had expressed an interest in being appointed to the Fylde Citizens Advice Bureau alongside Councillor Rigby and Councillor Nulty.

Councillor Karen Buckley seconded the proposal.

Councillor Fazackerley thanked all those members who had served on outside bodies over the last 12 months.

It was RESOLVED

1. To confirm nominated appointments to outside bodies for the 2017/8 municipal year, as shown below;

Arts Partnership for Lytham	Councillor Thomas
Arts Working Group	Councillor Settle
Blackpool Airport and Hillhouse Enterprise Zone Project Board	Chairman of Finance and Democracy
Blackpool, Fylde & Wyre Economic Development Committee (EDC)	Leader of the Council
Children's Partnership Board	Councillor Goodman
Coastal Project Board	Councillors Pounder and Threlfall
Community Projects Fund	The Mayor
Community Safety Partnership	Councillor Aitken
Council for Voluntary Services, BWF	Councillor Goodman
Duty to Cooperate	Chairman and Vice Chairman of Planning
East Lytham Working Group	Councillor Lloyd
Education Liaison Committee (Planning)	Councillors Redcliffe and Nulty
Face to Face	Councillor Willder
Fylde Arts Association	Councillor Thomas
Fylde Citizens Advice Bureau	Councillors Rigby, Nulty and Singleton
Fylde Coast LGBT Strategic Partnership	Councillor Green
Fylde Coast Women's Aid	Councillor Willder
Fylde Coast YMCA Partnership Board	Councillor Pitman
Fylde & Wyre Health & Wellbeing Partnership	Councillor D Collins
Fylde Peninsular Coastal Programme Board	Councillor Pounder
Fylde Peninsular Water Management Group	Councillor Aitken
Lancashire Health and Wellbeing Board	Councillor Willder
Lancashire Waste Partnership	Councillor Eaves
LCC Health Scrutiny Committee	Councillor Green
Local Liaison Committee Springfield Works	Councillors Lloyd and Aitken
Lowther Trust	Councillor Blackshaw
Lytham Town Trust	Councillor Ashton
MATAC	Councillor Lloyd
North West Employers	Chairman of Finance and Democracy (named substitute Councillor Small)

North West England & Isle of Man Reserve Forces & Cadets Association	Councillor E Nash
Ormerod Trust	Councillor Jacques
PATROL	Councillor Pounder
Police Crime Commissioner Panel	Councillors Aitken and Oades
Police Crime Commissioner's Forum	Councillor Aitken
Registered Social Landlords (RSL)	Councillor Aitken
Sintropher Working Group	Councillor Pounder
St George's Day Festival Committee	Councillor Fradley

2. To appoint Councillor John Singleton to the Fylde Citizens Advice Bureau as one of the three positions had become vacant since the nominations were made at committee.

10. Exclusion of the Public

The Mayor, Councillor Christine Akeroyd proposed a resolution to exclude members of the public from the meeting for the consideration of item 11 below in accordance with the provisions of Section 100(4) of the Local Government Act 1972. This was on the grounds that the business to be discussed was exempt information as defined in paragraph 1 (Information relating to an individual) of Schedule 12A of the Act.

The Deputy Mayor, Councillor Angela Jacques seconded the proposal.

It was RESOLVED to exclude the public.

(The room was cleared of members of the public)

11. Councillor Mark Bamforth

Councillor Roger Lloyd referred to the report and proposed that the council approve the circumstances set out in it as a reason for Councillor Bamforth's non-attendance at meetings for the purposes of Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972.

Councillor Liz Oades seconded the proposal.

Councillor Buckley proposed an amendment, "that the Member Development Steering Group consider extending their remit to include wellbeing."

Councillor Ed Nash seconded the amendment.

(Councillor Mulholland left the meeting.)

Following a short discussion, a vote was taken and the amendment carried.

As there was no further debate, a vote was taken on the substantive motion and it was RESOLVED

1. To approve the circumstances set out in the report as a reason for Councillor Bamforth's non-attendance at meetings for the purposes of section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972; and
2. To request that the Member Development Steering Group consider extending its remit to include member wellbeing.

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