



# Minutes Council

<b>Date:</b>	Monday, 26 January 2015
<b>Venue:</b>	Lowther Pavilion, Lytham
<b>Members:</b>	Mayor (Councillor Kevin Eastham) Deputy Mayor (Councillor Karen Henshaw JP)  Councillors Ben Aitken, Christine Akeroyd, Frank Andrews, Tim Armit, Susan Ashton, Tim Ashton, Keith Beckett ISO, J Brickles, Karen Buckley, David Chedd, Maxine Chew, Alan Clayton, Peter Collins, Fabian Craig-Wilson, Susanne Cunningham, John Davies, Leonard Davies, David Donaldson, Charlie Duffy, Sue Fazackerley, Dr Trevor Fiddler, Tony Ford JP, Gail Goodman JP, Nigel Goodrich, Peter Hardy, Paul Hayhurst, Paul Hodgson, Angela Jacques, Cheryl Little, Kiran Mulholland, Barbara Nash, Linda Nulty, Elizabeth Oades, Albert Pounder, Richard Redcliffe, Louis Rigby, Elaine Silverwood, John Singleton JP, Heather Speak, Thomas Threlfall, Vivienne M Willder.
<b>Officers:</b>	Allan Oldfield, Tracy Morrison, Andrew Turpin, Ross McKelvie, David Oxley, Sharon Wadsworth
<b>Other attendees:</b>	Reverend Alan Clark and approximately 10 members of the public.

## Prayers

Prayers were offered by the Mayor's Chaplin, the Reverend Alan Clark.

### 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.

Councillors Brickles, Chedd, Chew, Fazackerley, Jacques, Little, Pounder, Rigby and Singleton declared a personal interest in agenda item 12, Council Tax and Business Rates Discretionary Discount Policy 2015/16 Update.

Councillors T Ashton, Collins, Duffy, Dr Fiddler, Mulholland, Silverwood and Threlfall declared a personal and prejudicial interest in agenda item 12, Council Tax and Business Rates Discretionary Discount Policy 2015/16 Update. They withdrew from the meeting during the consideration and voting on this item.

### 2. Confirmation of minutes

RESOLVED: To approve the minutes of the Council meeting, held on 1 December 2014, as a correct record for signature by the Mayor.

### 3. Mayor's Announcements

The Mayor, Councillor Kevin Eastham, wished everyone a belated happy and successful New Year.

The Mayor provided a summary of his engagements since the last meeting giving mention to his morning interview on Radio Lancashire on Living in the Borough of Fylde, Uclan graduation ceremonies, the judging of the Christmas window displays in St Annes and Kirkham and his visit to British Aerospace to present an award to a group of young people involved in a project organised through the Princes Trust.

The Mayor also mentioned the upcoming Mayoral Ball to be held at The Grand Hotel on 27 March 2015.

### 4. Chief Executive's Communications

Allan Oldfield, Chief Executive brought to members attention that the next full council meeting would be on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March at St Margaret of Antioch Community Centre.

### 5. Questions from Members of the Council

There were no questions from members of the Council on this occasion.

### 6. Questions from Members of the Public

There were no questions from members of the public on this occasion.

### 7. Invitation to Accept Appointment of Mayor

Councillor Liz Oades introduced the report and proposed Councillor Peter Hardy to accept appointment as Mayor of the Borough of Fylde for the ensuing municipal year.

Councillor Linda Nulty seconded the proposal, and it was RESOLVED unanimously to appoint Councillor Peter Hardy as Mayor of the Borough of Fylde for the municipal year 2015/16, at the next Annual Meeting.

### 8. Invitation to Accept Appointment of Deputy Mayor

Councillor Hardy introduced the report and proposed Councillor Heather Speak to accept appointment as Deputy Mayor of the Borough for the ensuing municipal year.

Councillor Oades seconded the proposal and it was RESOLVED to appoint Councillor Heather Speak as Deputy Mayor of the Borough of Fylde for the municipal year 2015/16, at the next Annual Meeting.

### 9. Members' Allowances

Councillor Karen Buckley introduced the report detailing the independent remuneration panel recommendations for councillors' allowances for the financial year 2015-16.

Councillor Buckley proposed that Council should accept the independent remuneration panel recommendation with the following amendments.

1. The present members allowances for 2014/15 should continue up until 20 May 2015.
2. The member allowance scheme, as set out in the report, to take effect from 20 May 2015 and be revisited at the first meeting of council after the 2015 Annual General Meeting.

Councillor Buckley explained that this proposal would enable the new council to readdress the recommendations following the move from a Cabinet system to a Committee system.

Councillor Susan Fazackerley seconded the proposal, and following a show of hands it was RESOLVED to adopt the recommendations of the independent remuneration panel, with

effect from 20 May 2015, with the scheme to be revisited at the first meeting of the council after the 2015 AGM.

10. The Pay Policy Statement 2015/16

Councillor Buckley presented the report that provided details of the Pay Policy Statement for Fylde Council which is required to be adopted annually. It was noted that there were no proposed changes from the statement approved in 2014

Councillor Pounder seconded the proposal, and it was RESOLVED to approve the Pay Policy Statement for Fylde Council.

11. Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act (RIPA) Policy

Councillor Buckley introduced the report detailing the requirements the council must have in place for a system of authorising, recording and reviewing any surveillance that it carries out under the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000. The Council system must comply with the act, regulations and codes of practice and must have its own RIPA policy. Legislation under RIPA requires annual review and re-adoption of the RIPA guidance by the full council.

Councillor Buckley proposed to adopt the policy, as detailed within the agenda papers, with the addition of paragraph 1.9

“In certain circumstances, use of social media sites such as Facebook, or using the internet for research in other ways could need authorisation as directed surveillance or use of a covert human intelligence source. The Office of Surveillance Commissioners has given guidance on when the use of social media and the internet might need authorisation on RIPA. You can read the guidance at appendix 4.”

Appendix 4 was available for all members to review prior to the discussion of the item.

It was noted that the council had not used RIPA during 2013/14 or during 2014/15 to date.

Councillor John Singleton seconded the proposal, and it was RESOLVED to note the information about the council’s use of surveillance powers and to adopt the updated policy with the addition of paragraph 1.9 and Appendix 4.

12. Council Tax and Business Rates Discretionary Discount Policy 2015/16 Update

(Councillors T Ashton, Brickles, Collins, Duffy, Fiddler, Jacques, Mulholland, Silverwood, Singleton and Threlfall left the room during the consideration of the item.)

Councillor Buckley introduced and proposed to accept the report in respect of both Council Tax and Business Rates national schemes of discounts and exemptions. Fylde Council, in line with all local authorities, implemented the schemes of discounts and exemptions as directed by central government.

It has been necessary to update the Council’s policy of Discretionary Discounts to include a section on Rural Rate Relief. The section on discretionary relief to charitable organisations had also been revised.

Councillor Cheryl Little seconded the proposal, and it was RESOLVED to approve and adopt the Council Tax and Business Rates Discretionary Discount Policy (2015/16 update).

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