



Minutes COUNCIL

Date:	Monday, 5 December 2016
Venue:	AKS Independent School, Clifton Drive South, Lytham St Annes.
Members:	<p>Mayor (Councillor Christine Akeroyd)</p> <p>Deputy Mayor (Councillor Angela Jacques)</p> <p>Councillors Ben Aiken, Frank Andrews, Peter Anthony, Tim Ashton, Jan Barker, Keith Beckett <i>iso</i>, Karen Buckley, Maxine Chew, Alan Clayton, Delma Collins, Peter Collins, Michael Cornah, David Donaldson, David Eaves, Susan Fazackerley, Trevor Fiddler, Tony Ford JP, Richard Fradley, Gail Goodman, Shirley Green, Peter Hardy, Neil Harvey, Paul Hayhurst, Karen Henshaw JP, Paul Hodgson, Cheryl Little, Roger Lloyd, Barbara Nash, Edward Nash, Linda Nulty, Elizabeth Oades, Sandra Pitman, Albert Pounder, Richard Redcliffe, Louis Rigby, Vince Settle, Elaine Silverwood, John Singleton JP, Roger Small, Raymond Thomas, Thomas Threlfall, Vivienne Willder</p>
Officers Present:	Allan Oldfield, Tracy Morrison, Ian Curtis, Simon Stott, David Oxley, Katharine McDonnell, and Sharon Wadsworth.
Other Attendees:	Three 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.

Councillors Ashton, Buckley, Cornah, P Collins, Fiddler, Harvey and Threlfall declared an interest in agenda item 13, Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2017/18. 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 17 October 2016 as a correct record for signature by the Mayor.

3. Mayor's Announcements

The Mayor commented that she had attended many varied events throughout the borough since the last meeting.

The Mayor advised the Christmas Carol Service would be held on 18 December 2016, starting at 6pm at St Cuthbert's Church, Lytham.

She also drew councillors' attention to the Christmas Bottle Raffle, and advised members how they could enter. All proceeds would go to the Mayor's Charities.

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

There were no questions from members of the public.

Decisions Items:

7. Notice of Motion – Lancashire Police Authority

Following notice given under rule 12 of the Council Procedure Rules, the following Motion was proposed by Councillor Ben Aitken.

“Fylde Borough Council believes that it does not receive value for money from the Lancashire Police Authority”.

Councillor Aitken recognized that the ‘Lancashire Police Authority’ no longer exists and clarified the motion by removing the word ‘*authority*’ from the motion to read thus,

“Fylde Borough Council believes that it does not receive value for money from the Lancashire Police”.

Before a vote was taken Councillor Aitken then moved a further amendment, that

“Fylde Borough Council would like to see a fundamental increase in the number of police officers working throughout the borough.”

The amended motion was seconded by Councillor Susan Fazackerley.

Following a debate, a vote by way of a show of hands, was taken and the motion was CARRIED. Before a vote was taken on the substantive motion, Councillor Fazackerley moved a further motion, that

“Fylde Borough Council believes that it does not receive value for money from Lancashire Police and would like to see a fundamental increase in the number of police officers working throughout the borough.”

The amendment was seconded by Councillor Aitken.

A vote by way of a show of hands, was taken and the amendment was CARRIED. A further vote was taken on the substantive motion and the motion as so amended was then CARRIED.

8. Independent Remuneration Panel Appointment

Councillor Fazackerley introduced the item advising that following the retirement of two members of the Independent Remuneration Panel, a new appointee had been recruited. The Council were asked to formally appoint the successful candidate.

Councillor Karen Buckley seconded the proposal.

After a discussion, it was RESOLVED to

1. Appoint Karen Eaton to the Independent Remuneration Panel in succession to Mary Wilson and Michael Brown; and
2. To record the Council’s thanks to Michael Brown, who had been a longstanding member of the Panel, together with Mary Wilson, who has been a more recent appointee.

9. Review of Honoraria Payment to Standards Independent Persons

Councillor Fazackerley proposed the approval of the Independent Remuneration Panel's recommendations to increase the honoraria payment to Independent Persons in acknowledgement of their increased responsibilities and service to the Council.

Councillor Buckley seconded the proposal.

It was RESOLVED to

1. Accept the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Independent Persons and set the honoraria payment at £700, per Independent Person, per annum effective from 1 April 2017/18; and
2. Approve the proposal that the remuneration be included in the members allowance scheme and that a review of the allowance should be considered after a period of three years (alongside a review of other allowances within the scheme), unless circumstances require a review in the meantime.

10. Members' Allowances

Councillor Fazackerley proposed the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel in regards to the members allowance scheme.

Councillor Buckley seconded the proposal.

It was RESOLVED, with effect from 1 April 2017 to

1. Maintain the present level of basic allowance, special responsibility allowances, travel and subsistence allowances and dependent carers' allowance for 2017/18; and
2. Excepting for the proposed change to the allowance for independent persons allowance which is an overall increase in total costs of £350 per annum, per Independent Person with effect from the 1st April 2017.

11. Appointment to Outside Bodies

Councillor Fazackerley propose that the Council appoint the Chairman of Environment, Health and Housing Committee to the Community Safety Partnership. She advised members the proposal was the recommendation of the Environment, Health and Housing Committee.

Councillor Viv Willder seconded the proposal.

It was RESOLVED to appoint the Chairman of Environment, Health and Housing Committee to the Community Safety Partnership.

12. Financial Forecast Update (including Revenue, Capital & Treasury Management) 2016/17 to 2020/21

Councillor Buckley introduced the Financial Forecast Update for 2016/17 to 2020/21. Councillor Buckley provided background information to each of the three recommendations, advising that the implications of each had been considered and debated in full at the recent meeting of the Finance and Democracy committee. The Council were asked to note the implications detailed in the updated financial forecast and accept the recommendations of the Finance and Democracy committee.

Councillor Roger Small seconded the recommendations.

It was RESOLVED to

1. To note the implications of the updated financial forecast;

2. With regards to the transfer of funds into earmarked reserves as described within the report, the Finance and Democracy Committee considered the proposed transfers to reserves at its meeting of 21st November 2016 and recommended:
 - a) That Council approve a transfer into the Accommodation Project Reserve in the sum of £320k to be funded from forecast favourable in-year revenue budget variances in 2016/17, and to note that this would provide sufficient funds for completion of the Accommodation Project;
 - b) That Council approve a Transfer into the M55 Link Road Reserve totalling £804k split between 2016/17 and 2017/18, to be funded from forecast favourable in-year revenue budget variances in the respective years, and to note that the balance on the reserve would then total £1M in line with Council's previous recommendation as an "in-principle" contribution to the Link Road project; and
 - c) That Council approve a transfer into the Funding Volatility Reserve in the sum of £2M to be funded from forecast favourable in-year revenue budget variances in 2017/18 in order to mitigate against the removal of safety-net protection as a result of the decision to enter the Lancashire Business Rate Pool for 2017/18 in order for the Council to retain a greater share of Business Rate income in that year.

13. Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2017/18

Councillor Small introduced the Council Tax Reduction Scheme report. He explained that the scheme would be self-funding, neutral to the financial impact of the council, that being subject to the central government funding. He reminded members that it was only applicable to working age claimants and the maximum reduction was set at 22.7%. The discretionary award scheme would also continue to operate.

Councillor Richard Redcliffe seconded the proposal.

So having due regard to the deliberations of the Finance and Democracy Committee on 21 November 2016 and the Equality Analysis as detailed in section 3.7 of the report, and the consultation responses, it was RESOLVED:

1. To approve the continuation of the existing CTRS scheme for 2017/18 as set out in section 3 of the report, subject to the minor amendments to the scheme as detailed in paragraph 3.4 of the report;
2. To approve the continuation of Discretionary Hardship Relief for 2017/18 to provide additional support for claimants in exceptional circumstances and the Council's Discretionary Discount Policy which details discounts and reliefs in respect of Council Tax and Business Rates; and
3. To approve, as necessary, that the financial implications are reflected in the Council's Revenue Budget and Financial Forecast for 2017/18 onwards.

(Councillor Ashton left the meeting).

14. Council Tax Reduction Scheme – Grants to Town & Parish Councils 2017/18

Councillor Buckley introduced the Council Tax Reduction Scheme – Grants to Town & Parish Councils 2017/18 report. She advised members of a minor correction in the figures of Appendix A which had erroneously included special expenses.

Councillor Buckley advised that the Finance and Democracy Committee recommended that grants to Town and Parish Councils should cease when the Revenue Support Grant to Fylde Borough Council

ceased. She provided background to the grant and the purpose of the grant to the Town and Parish Councils.

Councillor Small seconded the proposal.

During the course of the debate Councillor Elizabeth Oades proposed an amendment to the recommendations, that

“A modest amount be set aside from the New Homes Bonus to replace this grant so the Town and Parish Councils, particularly those taking excessive amounts of development will benefit from the funding as was envisaged when the funding was first put in place.”

Councillor Elaine Silverwood seconded the amendment.

A debate on the amendment followed and on the conclusion of the debate, a vote was taken on the amendment, by way of a show of hands, the amendment was LOST.

Councillor Buckley acknowledged the concerns raised by Councillor Oades and undertook to discuss the issue at a future meeting of the Budget Working Group.

After a further debate on substantive motion, and having regard to the deliberations of the Finance and Democracy Committee on 21 November 2016, it was RESOLVED

1. To approve option 4 as set out in section 1.6 of the report in respect of the payment of grants to Town and Parish Councils. That is, for 2017/18 onwards Fylde Council will provide grants to Town and Parish Councils to compensate them for income foregone as a consequence of the local CTRS in a total sum of £27.2k in 2017/18 and £3.6k in 2018/19 (resulting in the grant allocations for those years as set out in Appendix B to the report), with no payments thereafter, to reflect the reduction in total Revenue Support Grant that is received by Fylde Council over that period;
2. To determine that the distribution methodology for payment of grants to Town and Parish Councils relating to the introduction of the Council Tax Reduction Scheme will be such that the grant allocation will be calculated by reference to the reduction in the tax-base of each Town and Parish Council in 2017/18 as a result of the Council Tax Reduction Scheme in that year, this being consistent with the methodology applied in respect of previous years; and
3. To approve, as necessary, that the financial implications are reflected in the Council's Revenue Budget and Financial forecast for 2017/18 onwards.

15. Subscription Based Green Waste Service

Councillor David Eaves presented recommendations from the Operational Management Committee regarding the introduction of a subscription based green waste service. He explained that the need to introduce such a service had been triggered by the withdrawal of funding through the cost sharing agreement by Lancashire County Council. It is the cost sharing funding that has been used to finance the collection of separated recycle material.

Having been considered by the Operational Management Committee, the recommendation was to introduce a year round subscription based scheme from 1 April 2017, at the charge of £30 per bin per annum. Councillor Eaves advised that the detail of how the scheme would operate would be agreed by the Operational Management Committee prior to implementation of the scheme.

Councillor Albert Pounder seconded the proposal.

During the course of the debate Councillor Oades moved an amendment to the recommendation that

“The charge will be reviewed each year and the subscription adjusted the following year to reduce or recover any variance from actual expenditure on the green bin collection service and that the accounting of income and expenditure of green bin collection should be separately identified and published in the Council’s accounts.”

The amendment was seconded by Councillor Peter Hardy.

A debate on the amendment followed and on the conclusion of the debate, a vote was taken on the amendment, by way of a show of hands, the amendment was LOST.

A debate then followed on the substantive motion. A request, in accordance with the Council’s Constitution, for a recorded vote was received, and a recorded vote was held;

Votes for the recommendation (28) – Councillors Aiken, Andrews, Anthony, Buckley, D Collins, Cornah, Donaldson, Eaves, Fazackerley, Fiddler, Fradley, Goodman, Green, Harvey, Little, B Nash, E Nash, Pitman, Pounder, Redcliffe, Settle, Singleton, Small, Thomas, Threlfall, Willder, Akeroyd and Jacques.

Votes against the recommendation (15) Barker, Beckett, Chew, Clayton, P Collins, Ford, Hardy, Hayhurst, K Henshaw, Hodgson, Lloyd, Nulty, Oades, Rigby and Silverwood.

Abstentions (0)

The proposal was carried and it was therefore RESOLVED to approve the introduction of a year-round green waste subscription service, at a charge of £30 per waste bin per annum, for implementation in 2017; and that income arising from the introduction of the charge, if approved, be reflected within the Council’s budget for 2017/18 onwards and that the Operational Management Committee agree the operational detail of the scheme prior to implementation.

16. Proposed Increase to Car Park Pay and Display Fees

Councillor Eaves presented recommendations from the Operational Management Committee regarding the proposed increase of 5% to car park pay and display fees. It was explained that the recommendations were as a result of the work of the car park member working group and supported by the Operational Management Committee.

Councillor Pounder seconded the proposal.

It was RESOLVED to increase car park tariffs by an average 5% with effect from 1 April 2017 as set out in appendix 1 of the report.

17. Mid Year Prudential Indicators and Treasury Management Report 2016/17

Councillor John Singleton presented the recommendations of the Audit and Standards Committee to approve the updated Prudential Indicators and Investment Limits. He provided detailed information and background to the report, explaining the economic background and outlook of the UK, interest rate forecast, debt management of the council, investment activity and compliance with prudential indicators.

Councillor David Donaldson seconded the proposal.

It was RESOLVED to accept the recommendation of the Audit and Standards Committee and approve the updated Prudential Indicators and Investment Limits, as shown in Appendix B of the report.

(Councillor Peter Collins left the meeting)

18. Declaration of Vacancy – St John’s Ward

Councillor Fazackerley reported that Councillor Mark Bamforth had ceased to be a member of the council due to his non-attendance at meetings and that the council was required to declare his seat vacant. Councillor Fazackerley moved a proposal that the declaration of vacancy be made. The proposal was seconded by Councillor Buckley

A request, in accordance with the Council’s Constitution, for a recorded vote was received, and a recorded vote was held;

Votes for the declaration (33) – Councillors Aiken, Andrews, Anthony, Barker, Beckett, Buckley, Collins, Cornah, Donaldson, Eaves, Fazackerley, Fiddler, Ford, Fradley, Goodman, Green, Hardy, Harvey, Henshaw, Hodgson, Little, B Nash, E Nash, Pitman, Pounder, Redcliffe, Settle, Singleton, Small, Thomas, Willder, Akeroyd and Jacques.

Votes against the declaration (0)

Abstentions (9) Chew, Clayton, Hayhurst, Lloyd, Nulty, Oades, Rigby, Silverwood and Threlfall.

It was RESOLVED, as required by section 86 of the Local Government Act 1972, that the office of Councillor in St Johns Ward previously held by Councillor Mark Bamforth be declared vacant.

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