



Minutes

COUNCIL

Date:	Monday, 17 October 2016
Venue:	AKS Independent School, Clifton Drive South, Lytham St Annes.
Members:	Mayor (Councillor Christine Akeroyd) Deputy Mayor (Councillor Angela Jacques) Councillors Ben Aiken, Peter Anthony, Brenda Blackshaw, Karen Buckley, Alan Clayton, Delma Collins, David Donaldson, David Eaves, Susan Fazackerley, Tony Ford JP, 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, Linda Nulty, Elizabeth Oades, Sandra Pitman, Albert Pounder, Richard Redcliffe, Louis Rigby, Vince Settle, Elaine Silverwood, John Singleton JP, Roger Small, Heather Speak, Richard Taylor, Raymond Thomas, Thomas Threlfall, Vivienne Willder
Officers Present:	Allan Oldfield, Tracy Morrison, Simon Stott, Alex Scrivens, Katharine McDonnell, Sharon Wadsworth and Tara Walsh.
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.

There were no declarations of interest.

2. Confirmation of minutes

RESOLVED: To approve the minutes of the Council meeting held on 4 July 2016 as a correct record for signature by the Mayor.

3. Mayor's Announcements

The Mayor advised that she had attended many varied events throughout the borough since the last meeting. She commented that being Mayor was a huge privilege.

The Mayor extended her thanks to the Guides who organised the coffee morning and all the Councillors and staff who had attended. The Mayor advised that the next coffee morning would be held on Tuesday 29 November between 10am and noon in the Town Hall. All proceeds from the morning would be for Homestart.

In conclusion the Mayor offered her congratulations to the medallists in the Britain in Bloom awards.

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

Mr Neil Curtis asked the following question:

“Could the council look to allowing high speed cable/fibre optic broadband into the St Annes on sea area. We as a town are being left behind in the competitive business and social environment. Fibre optic connection to the internet will only get worse for us a town”.

Councillor Susan Fazackerley responded advising Fylde Council had supported the Lancashire Superfast Broadband initiative since it was first introduced several years ago, County Council was the lead local authority working directly with private sector providers to facilitate the provision of superfast fibre optic broadband to as many businesses and residential properties as possible. Fylde Council had made a commitment to support the programme and would always allow high speed cable and fibre optic to any area of the borough that it could reach, there were no policies or barriers in place from a planning perspective to prevent this. The challenge to get superfast broadband to every area of the borough was economic viability and whilst the County Council and partners like Fylde had helped to secure grant funding where possible particularly towards rural accessibility there were still some areas that remained economically unviable. However, Mr Curtis would be delighted to know that St Annes was an economically viable area and commercial operators did not require any incentive to provide superfast optic fibre in his area, it was either already available or the existing network was being upgraded by commercial operators to fibre optic. Details could be found on the ‘Superfast Lancashire’ website.

Decisions Items:

7. The Corporate Plan 2013-16 Closure Report

Councillor Susan Fazackerley proposed the Corporate Plan 2013-16 Closure report advising that the report provided closing commentary on the final set of short term actions from the Corporate Plan for the period 2013-16, and commenting that all actions were complete.

Councillor Karen Buckley seconded the proposal.

It was RESOLVED to note the progress reported against the 2013 to 2016 Corporate Plan and confirm the closure of the plan.

8. Parliamentary Boundary 2018 Review

Councillor Karen Buckley introduced the item advising that the Finance and Democracy Committee had recommended the item to Council to consider whether to make representations to the Boundary Commission's consultation on the proposed boundary changes. The proposals were to reduce the overall number of constituencies in England, which in the North West would see the number of constituencies reduce from 75 to 68, and the constituencies would contain between 70,031 and 78,507 electors.

She advised that the Boundary Commission had noted that the Blackpool constituencies were too small and required enlargement to increase the number of electors. As part of this proposal the Boundary Commission was proposing the inclusion of Kilnhouse and St Leonard's wards into a newly enlarged Blackpool South constituency. This would split the town of St Annes on Sea with around a third of the electorate moving into Blackpool South constituency.

In order to carry weight with the Boundary Commission, Councillor Buckley explained that instead of simply rejecting the proposal an alternative was proposed. The proposal was to retain the wards of St Leonards and Kilnhouse within Fylde constituency, and to move two of the Poulton-le-Fylde wards to Blackpool North constituency. The proposal would maintain the integrity of the Fylde constituency whilst ensuring the constituencies achieved the prescribed limits of electorate.

Councillor Roger Small seconded the proposal.

Councillor Shirley Green provided additional information, advising that the Boundary Commission's proposal would result in a Fylde constituency electorate of 72,103, whereas the proposal before Council would result in an electorate of 72,193.

After a discussion, it was RESOLVED to

1. Reject the Boundary Commission parliamentary proposals for Fylde with respect to St Annes on Sea wards of Kilnhouse and St Leonard's;
2. Direct the Chief Executive to write on behalf of the Council to the Boundary Commission setting out the Council's position; and
3. Submit proposals that
 - a. Reinstate Kilnhouse and St Leonard's wards within the Fylde constituency
 - b. Reassign the Poulton wards of Breck, Carleton from Fylde to Blackpool North and Warbreck ward from Blackpool to Blackpool South

which would ensure the number in each constituency remain within the prescribed limits.

9. Approval for S106 Funded Scheme – Church Road Methodist Church, St Annes

Councillor Richard Redcliffe proposed the approval of a fully funded addition to the Capital Programme for an affordable housing scheme at Church Road Methodist Church. He reported that the scheme had been approved at Environment, Health and Housing Committee, and the committee recommended to Council the addition to the Capital Programme. Additionally he advised that the scheme allowed for regeneration of a brownfield scheme and improvement of community facilities. He further advised it would help meet the assessed housing need particularly in regards to affordable housing and 1 bedroomed accommodation in St Annes. Councillor Redcliffe concluded by stating there would no revenue implications for the Council arising from the scheme.

Councillor Ben Aitken seconded the proposal.

It was RESOLVED to

1. Approve a fully funded addition to the Capital Programme in the sum of £550,00 – "Affordable Housing Scheme at Church Road Methodist Church" – for 2017/18 to be fully-funded from part of the balance of S106 developer contributions for affordable housing currently held by the Council for this purpose (from Agreement Ref: 03/0157 – Queen Mary School Development: a total capital contribution of £550,000 to deliver 10 units for affordable rent at Church Road Methodist Church, St Annes to Great Places Housing Association); and

2. Authorise expenditure in the sum of £550,000 to Great Places Housing Association in relation to the scheme after regard and consideration of the compliance with the financial regulations covered within the body of the report.

10. Accommodation Project – Phases 6 and 7 Works

Councillor Susan Fazackerley proposed the use of several earmarked/general fund reserves to allow the continuance of the accommodation project works at the Town Hall, into Phase 6 and part of Phase 7, in accordance with the recommendation from Finance and Democracy Committee.

Councillor Karen Buckley seconded the proposal.

It was RESOLVED to

1. Approve monies from the following earmarked revenue reserves be transferred into the Accommodation Project Reserve to fund the works, with the balance of £151k to be met from General Fund Reserves in 2016/17;
 - a. The Land Charges New Burdens: £28k
 - b. The Vehicle Maintenance Reserve: £127k
 - c. The Vehicle Replacement Financing Reserve: £212k; and
2. Note that subject to 1 (above), the financing of the remaining phases of the Accommodation Scheme (currently shown within the approved Capital Programme by way of a capital receipt arising from the sale of the former public offices site) will be amended to show the increase in total project cost of £194k and the financing by way of the use of revenue reserves in the total sum of £518k as detailed in 1 (above).

12. Appointment of Elected Member to the Blackpool Airport and Hillhouse Enterprise Zone Project Board

Councillor Roger Small propose that the Council appoint the Chairman of Finance and Democracy Committee to the Blackpool Airport and Hillhouse Enterprise Zone Project Board. He advised members the proposal was the recommendation of the Finance and Democracy Committee.

Councillor Vince Settle seconded the proposal.

It was RESOLVED to appoint the Chairman of Finance and Democracy Committee to the Blackpool Airport and Hillhouse Enterprise Zone Project Board.

13. Committee Membership Nomination

Councillor Susan Fazackerley proposed amendments to the committee membership following requests from the Conservative and Independent groups.

Councillor Karen Buckley seconded the proposal.

It was RESOLVED to

1. Appoint Councillor Peter Anthony as a member of the Environment, Health and Housing Committee ;
2. Appoint Councillor Thomas Threlfall as a member of Operational Management Committee; and
3. Appoint Councillor Paul Hayhurst as a member of Audit and Standards Committee

14. Contract Procedure Rules

Councillor John Singleton proposed the adoption of the changes to contract procedure rules. He explained that the matter had been considered at Audit and Standards Committee, and the changes were recommended to Council.

Councillor David Donaldson seconded the proposal.

It was RESOLVED to adopt the changes to the contract procedure rules as set out in paragraph 3 and 4 of the report.

15. Licensed Vehicle Exceptional Quality Policy

Councillor Angela Jacques presented the Licensed Vehicle Exceptional Quality Policy. She advised that Public Protection Committee recommended the policy to Council. Councillor Jacques explained that previously licensed vehicles over the age of 12 years had not been eligible for a renewed license, indeed many vehicles in the past had not reached 12 years to trigger the rule. However with improved build quality and better vehicle maintenance by proprietors, there were more vehicles approaching the trigger point. With the introduction of the policy, licensed vehicles over 12 years which were deemed to be of exceptional quality and passed an emissions test, could continue as licensed vehicles.

Councillor Barbara Nash seconded the proposal.

It was RESOLVED to adopt the Licensed Vehicle Exceptional Quality Policy.

16. Hackney Carriage Fares

Councillor Angela Jacques presented recommendations from the Public Protection Committee regarding an amendment to the Table of Fares for hackney carriage fares. She explained that when fuel prices were high, drivers were allowed to add a fuel surcharge to their fare. As fuel prices fluctuated between retailers, a benchmark price had been added to the Table of Fares. Unfortunately as that garage was no longer trading, it was necessary to amend the Table of Fares. In addition the committee recommended an amendment of the delegations to committee, to allow future fare increases and amendments to the Table of Fares, to be determined by committee.

Councillor Barbara Nash seconded the proposal.

It was RESOLVED to

1. Amend the Table of Fares for the purposes of the fuel surcharge to refer to the Shell Heyhouses Garage, in place of the Kilnhouse Garage which is no longer trading; and
2. Delegate to the Public Protection Committee responsibility for determining increases in the level of Hackney Carriage Fares.

17. Mobile Home Fee Policy

Councillor Angela Jacques presented recommendations from the Public Protection Committee regarding minor administrative amendments to the Mobile Home Fee Policy. In addition the committee recommended an amendment of the delegations to committee, to allow future administrative changes to the Mobile Home Fee Policy to be determined by committee.

Councillor Barbara Nash seconded the proposal.

It was RESOLVED

1. To approve the amendments to the Mobile Home Fee Policy; and
2. That any future administrative changes to the Mobile Home Fee Policy are delegated to the Public Protection Committee.

18. Revenue and Benefits Shared Service

Councillor Susan Fazackerley presented the recommendations of the Finance and Democracy Committee to approve a continuation of the arrangements with Blackpool Council for the discharge of the revenues and benefits functions on a five year rolling contract.

Councillor Karen Buckley seconded the proposal.

It was RESOLVED to endorse the recommendation of the Finance and Democracy Committee and approve future arrangements with Blackpool Council for it to continue to discharge revenues and benefits functions on its behalf pursuant to Regulation 6 of the Local Authorities (Arrangements for the Discharge of Functions) (England) Regulations 2012 and in this regard to enter into a rolling five year agreement.

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