



# MINUTES

## Operational Management Committee

<b>Date:</b>	Thursday, 17 December 2020
<b>Venue:</b>	Remote meeting via Zoom.
<b>Committee Members Present:</b>	Councillor Roger Small (Chairman) Councillor John Kirkham (Vice-Chairman)  Councillors Mark Bamforth, Alan Clayton, Paul Hodgson, Bobby Rigby, Stan Trudgill, Viv Willder.
<b>Other Councillors Present:</b>	Councillors Buckley and O'Rourke
<b>Officers Present:</b>	Allan Oldfield, Paul Walker, Ian Curtis, Kathy Winstanley and Katharine McDonnell

### 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. No interests were declared on this occasion.

### 2. Confirmation of Minutes

RESOLVED: To approve the minutes of the Operational Management Committee meetings held on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> November 2020 as correct records for signature by the Chairman.

### 3. Substitute Members

There were no substitutions on this occasion.

### Decision Items

#### 4. Public Spaces Protection Orders for Enforcement of Dog Control

The Chairman, Councillor Roger Small, introduced the report regarding public spaces protection orders (PSPOs) for the enforcement of dog control under the Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014.

He advised that the orders had been scheduled to lapse during October 2020. At a meeting of the Operational Management Committee in November 2020, Members agreed to extend all the public spaces protection orders beyond January 2021, for a further three years, including changes to the beach exclusion order.

Subsequently a notice of motion was given by eight members to reopen the decision made in relation to item 4 of the meeting of the Operational Management Committee held on 10 November 2020 insofar as it related to the extent of the exclusion zone to allow further consideration of the effects of the decision on the environmental recognitions that presently applied to the amenity beach.

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The Council at its meeting on 7th December debated the motion and resolved that the decision be reopened to allow further consideration of the effects of the decision on the environmental recognitions that presently apply to the amenity beach and that a special meeting of the committee be arranged for the purpose of such consideration.

Councillor Small advised that at the last meeting of the committee, it had been hoped that the Environment Agency and the Keep Britain Tidy Campaign would be sympathetic to what the Committee were wanting to achieve with altering the extent of the exclusion zone. However, these agencies had subsequently advised that the alteration would fall short of the requirements to qualify for a Seaside award and in turn Blue Flag Award, both of which were Corporate Plan actions. This had necessitated the motion to Council to reopen the decision for further consideration.

It was the Chairman's recommendation that the existing exclusion zone should continue, alongside improved signage and enforcement of the exclusion zone having a focus on education and encouragement before the issuing of a Fixed Penalty Notice.

Councillor Small concluded by advising there was some urgency in reconsideration of this matter to ensure the PSPOs could be confirmed within the 3-month extension period previously agreed, which would expire on 31 December 2020.

In response to questions from the committee, Kathy Winstanley, Health of Health and Environment, advised that thirty-eight new signs would be erected along the promenade and at entrances to the beach. She further advised that physical signage on the beach was unlikely given the coastal conditions, shifting sands, tides as well as health and safety considerations.

With no further debate, it was RESOLVED to extend the public spaces protection orders until October 2023, with no changes to the current beach exclusion order.

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