

SOUTH RIBBLE BOROUGH COUNCIL

Council

Meeting held at 6.00pm on Wednesday, 19 July 2017 in Shield Room, Civic Centre, West Paddock, Leyland, PR25 1DH

Present:

Councillor Titherington (Mayor) (in the chair)

Councillors Jane Bell, Warren Bennett, David Bird, Renee Blow, Colin Clark, Colin Coulton, Malcolm Donoghue, Bill Evans, Derek Forrest, Paul Foster, Mary Green, Michael Green, Claire Hamilton, Harry Hancock, Jon Hesketh, Mick Higgins, David Howarth, Cliff Hughes, Ken Jones, Sue Jones, Jim Marsh, Keith Martin, Elizabeth Mawson, Jacqui Mort, Peter Mullineaux, Barbara Nathan, Mike Nathan, Mike Nelson, Rebecca Noblet, Alan Ogilvie, Jim Patten, John Rainsbury, Margaret Smith, Phil Smith, Susan Snape, Caleb Tomlinson, Graham Walton, Karen Walton, Ian Watkinson, Dave Watts, Paul Wharton, Jonathan Woodcock, David Wooldridge, Linda Woollard and Barrie Yates

In Attendance:

The Chief Executive (Heather McManus), the Legal Services Manager (David Whelan) and Senior Democratic Services Officer (Andy Houliker)

Public Attendance: 7**Other Officers: 3****17. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Carol Chisholm, Caroline Moon, David Suthers and Matthew Tomlinson.

18. Declarations of Interest

None.

19. Minutes

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 24 May 2017 be approved as a correct record.

20. Mayor's Announcements

The Mayor provided an update on events recently attended and forthcoming engagements.

21. Report of Cabinet

The Leader presented the report of the Cabinet for the meeting held on 21 June 2017. In doing so he referred to an error in Item 10 in that resolution (4) should be subject to confirmation by council. This resolution would now be withdrawn and re-considered by the Cabinet. This was seconded.

Members of the opposition raised concerns and sought clarification and received responses on aspects of the new charging policy for the collection of green waste and that for replacement waste/recycling containers. If members wanted fuller replies to their questions they were asked to put them in writing.

Responding to comments about the publication of next week's Cabinet agenda, in particular leisure, the Leader confirmed that the council was well aware how important this matter was and all members had been provided with information and had had an offer to give their input. In line with deadlines, this agenda would be published today.

In respect of the Homelessness Strategy, this was commended and appreciation was expressed to the council's officers.

Questions were asked regarding the introduction of domestic charges for rat and mice treatments and it was explained that this was part of the council's business transformation programme towards achieving efficiency savings of £150,000.

In response to concerns it was confirmed there were no plans to introduce car parking charges on the Moss Side Playing Field Car Park.

Regarding the Strategic Review of Property and Assets – Investment Framework there was a discussion and some concerns raised around resolution 10(4) and whether or not this should also be considered by the Governance Committee as part of the referral back for re-consideration by Cabinet. It was confirmed that the sub-group in 10(2) would consist of the Leader and three other members of the Cabinet.

Some members indicated that they wanted to discuss Land at Lostock Hall – Sherdley Road Industrial Estate. This was an exempt item and needed to be discussed in private at the end of the meeting.

Resolved: that the report be noted and that decision 10(4) in the report be referred back for re-consideration by Cabinet.

22. Report of the Scrutiny Committee

In the absence of the Chair, Councillor Coulton (Vice-chair) presented the report of the meeting of the Scrutiny Committee held on 22 June 2017. The report was seconded.

23. Report of the Governance Committee

Councillor Ogilvie (Chair) presented the report of the meeting of the Governance Committee held on 28 June 2017. This included recommended changes to the council's Constitution for confirmation at this meeting (Appendices A, B, C and D to the report). The report was seconded.

Resolved: that the council's Constitution be amended in line with Appendices A, B, C and D to the report.

24. Membership of Committees 2017/18

Following a change in political membership, the Leader presented changes to the membership of committees as set out in Appendix A of the report. In addition he requested that Councillor David Bird be replaced on the Scrutiny Committee by Councillor Barbara Nathan.

Resolved: that the membership of committees for the remainder of 2017/18 be amended as set out in Appendix A of the report and that Councillor David Bird be replaced on the Scrutiny Committee by Councillor Barbara Nathan.

25. Questions to the Leader

The Leader received and responded to a question regarding the City Deal Executive and the possibility of a permanent memorial in Leyland following the attack in Manchester.

26. Questions to Members of the Cabinet

Finance

The Cabinet member responded to a question regarding the introduction of charging for green waste and what consideration of other options took place. A written response would be provided.

Public Health, Safety and Wellbeing

Responding to a question on air quality, the Cabinet member confirmed the information was scheduled to be on CouncillorConnect and for public consumption, she would also write to all councillors.

Strategic Planning and Housing

The Cabinet member responded to members' enquiries about the re-opening of Midge Hall Railway Station, the council's consideration of planning applications for the four strategic sites and the planning conditions relating to an application in Penwortham. He also responded to the written question included on the agenda sheet from a member of the public – he stated that the issues raised were part of an on-going planning application and would be processed as that progressed.

27. Questions to Chairmen of Committees and My Neighbourhood Areas

There was a question to the Chair of the Eastern Neighbourhood Forum relating to attendance by members of the opposition.

28. Questions to Member Champions and Representatives on outside Bodies

Councillor Ogilvie (Armed Forces Champion) provided an update on the Veteran's Café.

29. Exclusion of Press and Public

Further to min. no. 21 above, the press and public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following item of business. As it involved the discussion of information which was defined as exempt from publication paragraph 3 (Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 and in which case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing it.

30. Land at Lostock Hall – Sherdley Road Industrial Estate

The outcome of negotiations relating to this site was discussed. Also, clarification was sought on when such matters were or were not subject to confirmation by council.

..... Chair