



Minutes of Council

Meeting Date Tuesday, 13 April 2021

Members present: Councillor Steve Holgate (Mayor), Councillor Julia Berry (Deputy Mayor) and Councillors Aaron Beaver, Martin Boardman, Alistair Bradley, Val Counce, Mark Clifford, Jean Cronshaw, John Dalton, Graham Dunn, Christopher France, Gordon France, Margaret France, Peter Gabbott, Anthony Gee, Danny Gee, Tom Gray, Yvonne Hargreaves, Alex Hilton, Keith Iddon, Hasina Khan, Zara Khan, Margaret Lees, Roy Lees, Laura Lennox, Sheila Long, Adrian Lowe, Marion Lowe, June Molyneaux, Alistair Morwood, Steve Murfitt, Beverley Murray, Debra Platt, Gillian Sharples, Paul Sloan, Kim Snape, John Walker, Paul Walmsley, Neville Whitham, Alan Whittaker and Peter Wilson

Officers: Gary Hall (Chief Executive), Chris Sinnott (Deputy Chief Executive), Chris Moister (Director of Governance), James Thomson (Deputy Director of Finance) and Ruth Rimmington (Democratic Services Team Leader)

Apologies: Councillors Terry Brown, Matthew Lynch and Joyce Snape

21.C.23 Minute's silence

The Mayor invited Members to observe a minute's silence in memory of His Royal Highness The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh.

21.C.24 Minutes of meeting Tuesday, 23 February 2021 of Council

Decision (unanimous) that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 23 February 2021 be approved as a correct record for signature by the Mayor.

21.C.25 Declarations of Any Interests

There were no declarations of interests received.

21.C.26 Mayoral Announcements

The Mayor invited members to sponsor Councillors Hasina and Zara Khan who are undertaking fasting for Ramadan.

The Mayor advised that he will be attending the Service of Thanksgiving at Blackburn Cathedral on Sunday for HRH Prince Philip.

The Mayor referred to the forthcoming elections, wishing all Members well in contesting their councillor seats.

Councillors Alistair Bradley and John Walker paid tribute to the work of the retiring Councillors. In particular, they referred to those twelve Councillors who were not seeking re-election and wished them well for the future. A special event will be held once restrictions have been removed.

21.C.27 Public Questions

There were no public questions for consideration.

21.C.28 Executive Cabinet

Members considered a general report of the meetings of Executive Cabinet held on 21 January, 25 February and 25 March.

The Executive Leader, Councillor Alistair Bradley proposed and the Deputy Leader, Councillor Peter Wilson seconded the **Decision that the report be noted.**

21.C.29 Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Task and Finish Groups

Members considered a general report of the meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 28 January and 18 March, the Overview and Scrutiny Performance Panel held on 4 March and Task Group update.

The Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Councillor John Walker proposed and the Vice-Chair, Councillor Roy Lees seconded the **Decision that the report be noted.**

21.C.30 Governance Committee

Members considered a general report of the meetings of the Governance Committee held on 20 January and 1 April 2021.

The Chair of the Governance Committee, Councillor Debra Platt proposed and the Vice-Chair, Councillor Anthony Gee seconded the **Decision that the report be noted.**

21.C.31 General Purposes Committee

Members considered a general report of the meeting of the General Purposes Committee held on 11 March.

The Chair of the General Purposes Committee, Councillor Aaron Beaver proposed and the Vice-Chair, Councillor Gordon France seconded the **Decision that the report be noted.**

21.C.32 Area Boundary Consultation for Bretherton Neighbourhood Plan

The Executive Member (Public Protection), Councillor Alistair Morwood, presented the report of the Director of Planning and Development.

Bretherton Parish Council wishes to develop a Neighbourhood Plan and has requested the parish boundary be designated as a Neighbourhood Area. The Council held a six-week statutory consultation, inviting interested parties to make representations to the Council on the proposed boundary for the area of the Neighbourhood Plan. Once designated, Bretherton Parish Council will prepare an evidence-based draft Neighbourhood Plan.

The Executive Member (Public Protection), Councillor Alistair Morwood proposed and the Executive Leader, Councillor Alistair Bradley seconded the unanimous **Decision to approve the designation of the Neighbourhood Plan area boundary for Bretherton as shown at Appendix 1.**

21.C.33 Questions Asked under Council Procedure Rule 8

No questions were asked under Council Procedure Rule 8.

21.C.34 To consider the Notices of Motion given in accordance with Council procedure Rule 10

No Notices of Motion were submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 10.

21.C.35 Exclusion of the Public and Press

The Executive Leader, Councillor Alistair Bradley proposed and the Deputy Leader, Councillor Peter Wilson seconded the **Decision that the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the disclosure of exempt information as defined by paragraph 3 of Part 1 of schedule 12A to the Local Government Act.**

21.C.36 Wholly Owned Leisure Company

The Executive Member (Early Intervention), Councillor Beverly Murray, presented the confidential report of the Deputy Chief Executive which proposes the establishment of a wholly-owned company with charitable purposes to manage the council's leisure centres.

Councillor Murray set out the business case for the establishment of a wholly owned leisure company for the council and the different options available to the council in determining the management model for its leisure centres.

Members considered the establishment of the company, governance arrangements, financial considerations and staffing arrangements (including terms and conditions and staffing structure).

Members supported this proposal, particularly for the staff involved.

The Executive Member (Early Intervention), Councillor Beverly Murray proposed and the Executive Leader, Councillor Alistair Bradley seconded the unanimous **Decision**

2. That the council agrees the establishment of a wholly-owned company with charitable purposes as set out in the attached business case, and delegates to the Director of Governance authority to finalise the arrangements for its creation.

3. The council appoints the Director of Finance, Director of Governance and Director of Commercial Services as Directors of the company when it is formed.

4. The council notes the financial model for the company and approves the creation of additional capacity in support services.

5. The council approves for consultation the proposed terms and conditions for staff working for the company and delegates to the Executive Member (Resources) authority to agree the implementation.

6. The council approves for consultation the proposed staffing structure and delegates to the Executive Member (Early Intervention) authority to agree the implementation.

Mayor

Date