

# COUNCIL

**Tuesday, 30 October 2007**

**Present:** Councillor Adrian Lowe (Mayor), Councillor Terry Brown (Deputy Mayor), Councillors Ken Ball, Nora Ball, Eric Bell, Judith Boothman, Alan Cain, Pat Case, Henry Caunce, Alan Cullens, Magda Cullens, Michael Davies, Mike Devaney, David Dickinson, Mrs Doreen Dickinson, Dennis Edgerley, Anthony Gee, Daniel Gee, Peter Goldsworthy, Mrs Marie Gray, Harold Heaton, Catherine Hoyle, Keith Iddon, Margaret Iddon, Kevin Joyce, Hasina Khan, Roy Lees, Laura Lennox, Marion Lowe, Peter Malpas, Thomas McGowan, June Molyneaux, Greg Morgan, Mick Muncaster, Mark Perks, Geoffrey Russell, Rosie Russell, Edward Smith, Iris Smith, Shaun Smith, Joyce Snape, Ralph Snape, John Walker, Mrs Stella Walsh and Mary Wilson

## **07.C.89 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Pat Haughton and Margaret Lees.

## **07.C.90 DECLARATIONS OF ANY INTERESTS**

No Member declared an interest in relation to matters under consideration at the meeting.

## **07.C.91 MAYORAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### Remembrance Day

The Mayor invited Members to accompany him in the procession to St Laurence's Church and to the Cenotaph in Astley Park for Remembrance Sunday. If Members were to assemble in the Council Chamber no later than 9.15am with tea and coffee served afterwards in the Council Chamber.

### Charity Folk Night

The Mayor informed Members that his Charity Folk Night scheduled for Friday, 16 November at St Bede's Social Centre would no longer be taking place. Those who had already paid would receive a full refund.

### Charity Ball

The Mayor commented that Friday, 1 February 2008 would be the date of his Charity Ball to be held at Park Hall Hotel in Charnock Richard. Letters had already been sent out to local businesses offering them the chance to buy tickets but the Mayor wished for as many Councillors as possible to join him for what was sure to be a great night. Tickets would be £30 per person.

The Executive Leader took the opportunity to inform Members that this would be the last Council meeting attended by Paul Morris in his capacity as Deputy Chief Executive pending his retirement at the end of November 2007.

The Executive Leader paid tribute to Mr Morris's period of service with the Council and appreciation of his work in giving advice on a number of important issues.

The Executive Leaders sentiments were echoed by Councillors Dennis Edgerley, Kenneth Ball, Ralph Snape and Anthony Gee, who all thanked Mr Morris for his service to the Council and wished him well in his retirement.

#### **07.C.92 PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

There had been no requests from any member of the public to ask a question on any of the agenda items.

#### **07.C.93 MINUTES**

**RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 18 September 2007 be confirmed as a correct record for signature by the Mayor.**

#### **07.C.94 EXECUTIVE CABINET**

##### **(a) The Annual Refresh of the Corporate Strategy for 2007/08 - 2009/10**

The Executive Member for Corporate Policy and Performance presented a report seeking approval to the re-freshed Corporate Strategy for 2007/08 – 2009/10.

The re-freshed Strategy set out the Council's vision, priorities and strategic objectives for the next three years and how the Authority would measure its achievement of the key projects.

Whilst the overall vision and priorities of the Strategy had remained constant with the 2006/07 Corporate Strategy, a few changes had been made to the strategic objectives and long-term outcomes to enable the development of local solutions to climate change issues and to reflect the main strategic 'Big Issues' facing the Authority (eg citizen engagement, improvement of front line universal services; regeneration; use of resources and attraction and retention of high quality staff; and climate change).

The refreshed Strategy also contained a reduced number of key projects (ie 30) which aimed to assist the achievement of the long-term objectives. The projects had been selected on the basis of their potential feasibility and funding. The number of measurable targets, linked to both the key projects and long-term outcomes, had been increased to 47.

The revised Strategy had been compiled after a series of extensive consultations with internal stakeholders, while taking account of the experiences in delivering the current Strategy, the re-freshed Community Strategy and the new challenges facing the Authority.

The following amendment to the Corporate Strategy was moved by Councillor Dennis Edgerley and seconded by Councillor Laura Lennox.

Column 1, Outcome 1.3 second bullet point to read

- "Number of Chorley residents moving into sustainable employment and ceasing to claim incapacity benefit and income support. The target 0.2% below the national average.

Would want the target to be the national average."

The amendment was put to the vote and the Mayor declared it lost.

The following amendment to the Corporate Strategy was moved by Councillor Dennis Edgerley and seconded by Councillor Laura Lennox.

Column 2 Additional Key Project:

- "Revisit and review the Sports Village Feasibility Study in light of the Support England review of sporting villages."

A request was made under the Council Procedure Rule 17(2) for a recorded vote on the Labour Group amendment.

For: Councillors Ken Ball, Nora Ball, Terry Brown, Michael Davies, Dennis Edgerley, Anthony Gee, Daniel Gee, Catherine Hoyle, Margaret Iddon, Hasina Khan, Roy Lees, Laura Lennox, Adrian Lowe, Marion Lowe, Thomas McGowan, June Molyneaux, Joyce Snape, Ralph Snape, Mrs Stella Walsh and Mary Wilson (20).

Against: Councillors Eric Bell, Judith Boothman, Alan Cain, Pat Case, Henry Counce, Alan Cullens, Magda Cullens, Mike Devaney, David Dickinson, Mrs Doreen Dickinson, Peter Goldsworthy, Mrs Marie Gray, Harold Heaton, Keith Iddon, Kevin Joyce, Peter Malpas, Greg Morgan, Mick Muncaster, Mark Perks, Geoffrey Russell, Rosie Russell, Edward Smith, Iris Smith, Shaun Smith and Ralph Snape (25).

Abstentions: None.

The Mayor declared the amendment lost.

The following amendment to the Corporate Strategy was moved by Councillor Dennis Edgerley and seconded by Councillor Laura Lennox.

Column 3 Outcome 3.1

% of Council Buildings accessible to disabled people. Target 96% by March 2008.

"Does the Executive Member accept that this target has been achieved. Might it not have been better to examine ways in which even where access has been facilitated we could seek further improvement, as an example the stage in The Lancastrian is not accessible."

The Executive Member for Policy and Performance reported that much progress had been achieved for the accessibility for disabled people but Officers are seeking further improvements and that officers are continuing to work with disabled groups to continue making improvements in areas that the Council can physically achieve.

The following amendment to the Corporate Strategy was moved by Councillor Dennis Edgerley and seconded by Councillor Laura Lennox.

Column 3 Outcome 3.2

An additional Key Project at second bullet point of outcome 3.2

- Establish a Mayors Award for Voluntary/Community Service

The Executive Leader in response accepted to implement the idea. The amendment was put to the vote and the Mayor declared it carried.

The following amendment to the Corporate Strategy was moved by Councillor Dennis Edgerley and seconded by Councillor Laura Lennox.

Column 4 Additional Key Project

- Establish an invest to save programme for the Council's use of energy.

The Executive Leader in response accepted that if it was not already covered in the Key Project of “Develop a sustainable resources development plan for the Borough” (4.2) it will be.

The amendment was put to the vote and the Mayor declared it carried.

The following amendment to the Corporate Strategy was moved by Councillor Dennis Edgerley and seconded by Councillor Laura Lennox.

Column 5 Additional Key Project

- Affordable dwellings completed target 330 units by March 2009 of which a minimum of 200 should be social rented.

The amendment was put to the vote and the Mayor declared it lost.

The following amendment to the Corporate Strategy was moved by Councillor Dennis Edgerley and seconded by Councillor Laura Lennox.

Column 5 Additional Key Project

- Identify land the Council can make available for Social Rented Housing at little or no cost.

The following amendment to the Corporate Strategy was moved by Councillor Dennis Edgerley and seconded by Councillor Laura Lennox.

Column 5 Additional Key Project

- Investigate extending Chorley’s green corridor particularly the creation of parks at Ellerbeck and Healey Nab.

Would the Executive Member also within the key project be improving the green corridor look as well as the parks of Astley, Duxbury and Yarrow Valley the recreation grounds and the linear parks on former railway land.

The amendment was put to the vote and the Mayor declared it lost.

The following amendment to the Corporate Strategy was moved by Councillor Dennis Edgerley and seconded by Councillor Laura Lennox.

Column 5 Additional Key Project carried out at outcome 5.3

- Establish a programme for alleyways to be delivered in 2008/2009.

The amendment was put to the vote and the Mayor declared it lost.

It was moved by the Executive Member for Corporate Policy and Performance and seconded by the Executive Leader, and consequently **RESOLVED:**

- 1) That the re-freshed Corporate Strategy for 2007/08 – 2009/10 be approved and accepted as the key strategic document for the Authority.
- 2) That an additional key project at second bullet point of outcome 3.2 to “Establish a Mayors Award for Voluntary/Community Service.”
- 3) That an additional key project, if not already covered in the key project of “Develop a Sustainable Resources Development Plan for the Borough”. (4.2), to “Establish an Invest to save programme for the Council’s use of energy.”

**(b) Capital Programme 2007/08 - Monitoring**

The Executive Member for Resources presented a report updating Members on the progress of the 2007/08 Capital Programme.

The report outlined the principal reasons for the recommended revision and increase of the agreed capital budget of £8,383,450 to £8,798,310 within which a sum of £40,000 was to be allocated for alleygate schemes.

It was moved the Executive Member for Resources and seconded by the Executive Leader and subsequently **RESOLVED** that the revised Capital Programme for 2007/08 in the sum of £8,798,310 and the appropriate financing arrangements, as set out in the appendices to the established report.

**(c) General Report from Executive Cabinet meeting on 4 October 2007**

The Executive Leader presented a report which summarised the principal matters considered at the meeting of the Executive Cabinet held on 4 October 2007.

It was moved by the Executive Leader, seconded by the Deputy Leader of the Council and subsequently **RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

**07.C.95 DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE**

The Chair of the Development Control Committee (Councillor H Heaton) presented a report which commented on a few of the more significant planning applications that had been obtained at meetings held on 11 September 2007 and 9 October 2007.

It was moved by the Chair of the Development Control Committee, seconded by the Vice Chair, and subsequently **RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

**07.C.96 LICENSING AND SAFETY COMMITTEE/STATUTORY LICENSING COMMITTEE**

The Chair of the Licensing and Safety Committee and Statutory Licensing Committee (Councillor Mrs I Smith) presented a report which summarised the principal matters which had been considered by the Licensing and Safety Committee and Statutory Licensing Committee held on 19 September 2007 and 17 October 2007.

It was moved by the Vice-Chair (Councillor Edward Smith), seconded by Councillor John Walker and subsequently **RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

**07.C.97 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AND PANELS**

The Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Councillor Dennis Edgerley) presented a report which summarised briefly the recent matters discussed at meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 1 October 2007. The report also summarised the activities and issues considered by the Committee's associate Environment and Community and Corporate and Customer Overview and Scrutiny Panels of their recent meetings.

It was moved by the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Councillor Dennis Edgerley), seconded by the Vice-Chair (Councillor Laura Lennox) and subsequently **RESOLVED** that the report be noted subject to an amendment in paragraph 14 by deleting the following "even though it had not" and inserting "and had".

#### **07.C.98 AUDIT COMMITTEE**

The Chair of the Audit Committee (Councillor Anthony Gee) presented a report of the Audit Committee summarising the items discussed at the meeting of the Audit Committee held on 27 September 2007.

It was moved by the Chair of the Audit Committee, seconded by Councillor Mike Devaney and subsequently **RESOLVED** that the report and resolutions be noted.

#### **07.C.99 PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE COUNCIL'S CONSTITUTION**

The Deputy Leader of the Council presented a report on proposed revisions to the rules governing debate at Council meetings.

The proposals aimed to ensure that decisions are made in an effective manner, that the rules for debate at Council meetings are clear and easily understood and that the Council meeting provided a forum for quality political debate.

It was moved by the Deputy Leader of the Council, seconded by the Leader of the Council and subsequently **RESOLVED** that in accordance with Paragraph 27.2 of the Council's Procedure Rules the recommendations contained in the report be adjourned without further discussion to the next Ordinary Council meeting on 18 December 2007.

#### **07.C.100 LANCASHIRE LOCAL COMMITTEE FOR CHORLEY**

It was moved by the Leader of the Council, seconded by the Deputy Leader of the Council and subsequently **RESOLVED** that Councillor John Walker replaces Councillor Alan Cain as one of the Council's representatives on the Lancashire Local Committee for Chorley.

Mayor