

**COUNCIL BUSINESS  
COMMITTEE**

6.00 P.M.

25TH MARCH 2021

**PRESENT:-** Councillors Joyce Pritchard (Chair), Joan Jackson, Paul Stubbins, Katie Whearty and David Whitaker

Apologies for Absence:

Councillor Victoria Boyd-Power

Officers in attendance:

Luke Gorst	Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer
Debbie Chambers	Head of Democratic Services and Deputy Monitoring Officer
Maurice Brophy	Planning and Housing Policy Manager
Diane Neville	Senior Planning Officer (Policy)
Rebecca Richards	Planning Policy Officer
Susanna Dart	Climate Change Policy Officer
Isabelle Guyler	Climate Change Policy Assistant
Sarah Moorghen	Democratic Support Officer

Also in attendance:

Patrick Cunningham	Planning Policy Consultant – Barnet Council (note 23 only)
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**20 MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 10th December 2020 were accepted as a correct record. It was noted that these would be signed by the Chair when a paper copy was available.

**21 ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS AUTHORISED BY THE CHAIR**

There were no items of urgent business.

**22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

***Item 5, Amendments to the Councils Constitution, started briefly and was then deferred by the Chair, with Councillors agreement, until later in the meeting in order to allow Councillor Paul Stubbins to take part. He was experiencing some technical issues with his audio connection.***

**23 THE FUTURE BUILDINGS CONSULTATION**

The Principal Planning Policy Officer presented a report of the Director of Economic Growth and Regeneration to advise the Committee on Part Two of the Government's consultation on changes to Part L (conservation of fuel and power) and Part F (ventilation) of the Buildings Regulations for non-domestic building and dwellings; and overheating in new residential buildings. A consultation response was required to be submitted by 13<sup>th</sup> April 2021. A draft response was appended to the report.

The Chair welcomed Patrick Cunningham from Barnet Council who provided further background on the proposed amendments to the Regulations and answered a number of questions from the Committee.

It was proposed by Councillor David Whitaker and seconded by Councillor Joan Jackson:

"That the recommendations as set out in the report be approved".

It was agreed by all, and the Chair declared the proposal to be carried.

***Resolved:***

That the draft response to the consultation, at Appendix 1 of the Report, is submitted as a formal response from Lancaster City Council.

***The Committee briefly attempted to return to Item 5, Amendments to the Councils Constitution, however Councillor Paul Stubbins' audio connection was still malfunctioning and the item was deferred again to allow time for Councillor Stubbins to log on to a different device.***

**24 NATIONAL PLANNING POLICY FRAMEWORK AND NATIONAL MODEL DESIGN CODE: CONSULTATION PROPOSALS**

The Planning Officer presented a report of the Director of Economic Growth and Regeneration informing the Committee of the consultation on draft revisions to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and the consultation on new National Model Design Code. Both documents were out for consultation with comments required by the 27<sup>th</sup> March 2021. A draft response was appended to the report.

The Committee asked a number of questions which the Planning Officer responded to.

It was proposed by Councillor Joyce Pritchard and seconded by Councillor David Whitaker:

"That the recommendations as set out in the report be approved".

It was agreed by all, and the Chair declared the proposal to be carried.

**Resolved:**

- (1) That the comments raised in appendix 1 of the Report are submitted to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government as a formal response from the City Council.
- (2) That officers keep Members informed of progress on the implementation of these revisions.

**25 AMENDMENTS TO THE COUNCIL'S CONSTITUTION**

It was noted that Councillor Paul Stubbins now had a fully functioning connection to the meeting and could take part from this point forwards.

The Monitoring Officer presented a report which required the Committee to consider several amendments to the constitution. The amendments were sent out in the report.

The Committee asked a number of questions relating to legal matters and the grounds for call-in which the Monitoring Officer responded to.

It was proposed by Councillor Paul Stubbins and seconded by Councillor Joan Jackson:

“That Members approve the requests for amendments to the Constitution detailed in the report, subject to the following change; that the words ‘other reasons’ in the grounds for call-in, in Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rule 16 shown in 2.3 of the report, be replaced with ‘where due diligence has not been followed.’”

Upon being put to the vote 4 Councillors voted in favour of the proposition. Councillor David Whitaker voting against and the Chair declared the proposal to be carried.

Councillor David Whitaker wished it to be noted in the minutes that he agreed with the officer recommendation that the words “or other reasons” be removed.

**Resolved:**

That Members approve the requests for amendments to the Constitution detailed in the report, subject to the following change; that the words ‘other reasons’ in the grounds for call-in, in Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rule 16 shown in 2.3 of the report, be replaced with ‘where due diligence has not been followed’.

**26 ELECTORAL REVIEW OF THE CITY COUNCIL - WARDING PATTERN CONSULTATION**

The Head of Democratic Support presented a report which required the Committee to consider whether or not to respond to the Local Government Boundary Commission (LGBCE)’s current consultation requesting submissions of warding patterns for the City Council as part of the electoral review process.

The timeframe for warding proposals to be submitted to the LGBCE was 23<sup>rd</sup> February – 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2021. The LGBCE would then produce its warding proposals for the district and

hold a further consultation on those proposals. This was scheduled to run from the 3<sup>rd</sup> August – 11<sup>th</sup> October 2021.

The Committee asked a number of questions which the Head of Democratic Services responded to.

It was proposed by Councillor Joyce Pritchard and seconded by Councillor Paul Stubbins:

“That the Committee does not submit warding pattern proposals on behalf of the Council to the LGBCE at this stage but does encourage groups to make their individual submissions to the timescales advised by the Boundary Commission.”

It was agreed by all, and the Chair declared the proposal to be carried.

***Resolved:***

That the Committee does not submit warding pattern proposals on behalf of the Council to the LGBCE at this stage but does encourage groups to make their individual submissions to the timescales advised by the Boundary Commission.

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Chair

(The meeting ended at 7.20 p.m.)

**Any queries regarding these Minutes, please contact  
Debbie Chambers, Democratic Services - email [dchambers@lancaster.gov.uk](mailto:dchambers@lancaster.gov.uk)**