

PROCEEDINGS

A meeting of the Lancaster City Council was held in the Town Hall, Morecambe, at 6.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 24 April 2024, when the following Members were present:-

Roger Dennison (Mayor)

Joanne Ainscough

Mandy Bannon

Phillip Black

Gerry Blaikie

Dave Brookes

Roger Cleet

Tom Fish

Martin Gawith

Erin Hall

John Hanson

Prof Chris Harris

Colin Hartley

Peter Jackson

Jack Lenox

Sophie Maddocks

Metcalf-Riener

Paul Newton

Margaret Pattison

Joyce Pritchard

Robert Redfern

Paul Stubbins

Paul Tynan

John Wild

Jason Wood

Suhir Abuhajar

Catherine Armistead

Matthew Black

Louise Belcher

Phil Bradley

Keith Budden

Gina Dowding

Andrew Gardiner

Alan Greenwell

Tim Hamilton-Cox

Chris Hanna

Paul Hart

Caroline Jackson

Kate Knight

John Livermore

Sarah McGowan

Hamish Mills

Jean Parr

Catherine Potter

Sarah Punshon

James Sommerville

Sandra Thornberry

David Whitaker

Nick Wilkinson

Before starting the meeting the Mayor welcomed Councillor Metcalf-Reiner to her first Council meeting since being elected to represent Castle Ward in the by-election held on 14th March.

145 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ruth Colbridge, Brett Cooper, Claire Cozler, Ross Hunter, Sally Maddocks, Hamish Mills, Sue Penney, Sam Riches and Sue Tyldesley.

146 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 March 2024 were signed by the Mayor as a correct record.

147 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Pattison reported that she was a member of Lancashire County Council should there be discussion about the former Supaskips site on the Lune Industrial Estate, mentioned in the Leader's report. (Minute No. 152 refers.)

148 ANNOUNCEMENT - FORMER COUNCILLOR JUDITH JONES (FORMERLY NEWTON)

The Mayor reported the sad death of former Councillor Judith Jones (formerly Newton) in March 2024.

Judith was a Councillor for the Carnforth Ward from 2004-07. Her funeral was held at Beetham Hall Crematorium on Thursday 28th March.

Members stood in a minute's silence in her memory.

149 ANNOUNCEMENT - TRUCK PULL AT SALT AYRE LEISURE CENTRE

The Mayor thanked all the Council Officers and those who attended the Truck Pull on Sunday 21 April at Salt Ayre Leisure Centre, which raised money for his two chosen charities. It was a fun day which everyone enjoyed. The Mayor was grateful to all who took part and donated.

150 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 11

The Mayor advised that no questions had been received from members of the public in accordance with the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 11.

151 PETITIONS AND ADDRESSES

The Mayor informed Members that no petitions or requests to address Council had been received from members of the public.

152 LEADER'S REPORT

The Leader presented his report updating Members on various issues since his last report to Council. He then responded to a number of questions from Councillors. He agreed to supply a written update to Councillors regarding the former Revolution building in

Lancaster in response to a question from Councillor Gardiner about enforcement.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

153 MAYOR'S ANNUAL REPORT

In accordance with Part 1, paragraph 7.1(i) of the Constitution, the Mayor presented his Annual Report for 2023/24.

Resolved:

That the report be received.

154 CABINET ANNUAL REPORT

In accordance with Part 2, Section 4 paragraph 3.1(j) of the Constitution, the Leader and each Member of Cabinet had produced a written progress report for 2023/24. The Leader presented his annual report and answered a number of questions.

Councillors, Dowding, Jackson (Peter), Wood, Ainscough, Hamilton-Cox, Jackson (Caroline), Parr, Potter and Wilkinson then presented their annual reports and responded to Members' questions.

Councillor Parr agreed to provide a written answer to Councillors regarding whether the income figures for the car parks quoted in her report were gross or net figures. She also agreed to look into the feasibility of Parent and Child parking on some car parks for Councillor Redfern and whether a half-hour parking rate could be introduced on the Pedder Street car park in Morecambe, following a question from Cllr Hart.

In response to questions from Councillor Knight and Councillor Gardiner, Councillor Wilkinson agreed to supply details to all Councillors of the decision making and procurement steps that had been followed to bring Centenary House back into use.

Resolved:

That the reports of the Leader and Cabinet Members Councillors Dowding, Jackson (Peter), Wood, Ainscough, Hamilton-Cox, Jackson (Caroline), Parr, Potter and Wilkinson be received.

155 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT

In accordance with Part 2, Section 5 paragraph 9.13 of the Constitution, the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report for 2023/24 had been published.

The Chair and Vice-Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Chair of the Budget and Performance Panel had given apologies for the meeting so were unable to present the report or take questions. However, no questions were raised.

Resolved:

That the Overview & Scrutiny Annual Report be received.

156 AUDIT COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

In accordance with Part 3, Section 5 paragraph 6.30 of the Council's Constitution, the Chair, Councillor Stubbins, presented the 2023/24 Annual Report of the Audit Committee. He thanked officers who had supported the Committee and the Council's governance during the year, before responding to questions from Councillors.

Resolved:

That the report be received

157 STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY 2023-2027 LICENSING ACT 2003

Councillor Jason Wood, Cabinet Member with particular responsibility for Corporate Services presented the revised Statement of Licensing Policy 2023-2027 to Council for approval. He proposed:

"That the revised Statement of Licensing Policy (2023-2027) be adopted, with immediate effect."

Councillor Pattison seconded the proposal.

There was no debate and the proposal was carried unanimously when put to the vote.

Resolved unanimously:

- (1) That the revised Statement of Licensing Policy (2023-2027) be adopted, with immediate effect.

158 COUNCILLORS' CODE OF CONDUCT: REPORTING OFFERS OF GIFTS AND/OR HOSPITALITY

The Monitoring Officer had submitted a report for noting the new requirements in the Councillor Code of Conduct to register offers of gifts and/or hospitality. These had been recommended by the Standards Committee and approved by Council Business Committee on 29 February 2024.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

159 APPOINTMENTS AND CHANGES TO COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The Mayor reported several changes to committee memberships which had been made since the last meeting of Council:

The Green Group had replaced Councillor Hamish Mills as a substitute on Overview and Scrutiny Committee with Councillor Metcalf-Riener. They had also added Councillor Tyldesley as a substitute member of Standards Committee.

Additionally, Councillor Metcalf-Riener had replaced Councillor Sally Maddocks on Audit Committee with Councillor Sally Maddocks becoming a substitute member in place of Councillor Fish.

160 QUESTIONS UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 12

The Mayor advised that there were no questions.

161 MINUTES OF CABINET

Council considered the Cabinet minutes of the meeting held on 27 February 2024.

Resolved:

That the minutes be noted.

Mayor

(The meeting finished at 7.55 p.m.)

**Any queries regarding these minutes,
please contact Debbie Chambers, Senior Manager, Democratic Support & Elections/Deputy
Monitoring Officer - email dchambers@lancaster.gov.uk**