

## PROCEEDINGS

A meeting of the Lancaster City Council was held in the Town Hall, Morecambe, at 6.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 13 April 2016, when the following Members were present:-

Jon Barry (Mayor)	Caroline Jackson (Deputy Mayor)
Sam Armstrong	June Ashworth
Lucy Atkinson	Stuart Bateson
Alan Biddulph	Eileen Blamire
Carla Brayshaw	Tracy Brown
Abbott Bryning	Susie Charles
Darren Clifford	Brett Cooper
Claire Cozler	Sheila Denwood
Rob Devey	Charlie Edwards
Andrew Gardiner	Nigel Goodrich
Mel Guilding	Janet Hall
Tim Hamilton-Cox	Janice Hanson
Colin Hartley	Brendan Hughes
Joan Jackson	Andrew Kay
Ronnie Kershaw	Geoff Knight
James Leyshon	Karen Leytham
Roger Mace	Matt Mann
Terrie Metcalfe	Abi Mills
Rebecca Novell	Jane Parkinson
Margaret Pattison	Robert Redfern
Sylvia Rogerson	Ron Sands
Elizabeth Scott	Roger Sherlock
David Smith	Susan Sykes
Malcolm Thomas	Andrew Warriner
David Whitaker	Anne Whitehead
John Wild	Peter Williamson
Phillippa Williamson	Paul Woodruff
Peter Yates	

**160 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Dave Brookes, Helen Helme and Nicholas Wilkinson. Apologies were received from Councillors Stuart Bateson, Tracy Brown, Brett Cooper, Mel Guilding, Tim Hamilton-Cox, Sylvia Rogerson, Ron Sands, Liz Scott and Malcolm Thomas for the reconvened meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> April. Councillor Sykes having declared an interest in the item being considered at the adjourned meeting was not present when the meeting reconvened.

**161 MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2016 were signed by the Mayor as a correct record.

**162 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members advised of the following interests at this stage:

The following Councillors declared interests in relation to Morecambe Business Improvement District (BID) Ballot: Councillor Gardiner in view of having a shop in the West End of Morecambe, Councillor Cooper in view of having a shop in Morecambe and Councillor Hughes as Chairman of the Morecambe BID (Minute 166 refers).

Councillor Sykes declared an interest in relation to Morecambe Football Club in view of her brother being a Director and Vice Chairman of the club. (Minute 183 refers).

**163 ANNOUNCEMENTS - REFRESHMENTS**

The Mayor advised that he intended to adjourn the meeting at 8pm for refreshments in view of this being his last meeting as Mayor, unless it seemed as though business could be finished before 8.30pm.

**164 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.

**165 PETITIONS AND ADDRESSES**

The Mayor informed Council that Ms Fiona Kacani, the manager of Next and a member of the Morecambe BID Steering Group had registered to speak on the Morecambe Business Improvement District (BID) Ballot. A copy of her address had been circulated.

The Mayor thanked Ms Kacani and invited Councillor Hanson to respond. Councillor Hanson expressed her agreement with the content of the address and urged all members to support the proposal.

The Mayor advised of a revision to the order of the agenda with the Morecambe Business Improvement District (BID) Ballot item being considered next.

***Councillors Cooper, Gardiner and Hughes having previously declared an interest in the following item left the meeting at this point.***

**166 MORECAMBE BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (BID) BALLOT - CITY COUNCIL'S VOTING INTENTION**

The Chief Officer (Regeneration & Planning) submitted a report which provided information for a decision on the use of the City Council's voting entitlement in the ballot of local town centre ratepayers on Morecambe BID's proposal to initiate a Business Improvement District in Morecambe, which is scheduled to run from 28 April to 26 May 2016.

Members asked a number of questions, which the Senior Regeneration Officer responded to.

Councillor Clifford, seconded by Councillor Brayshaw, proposed:

'(1) Members agree to use the council's voting allocation in favour of the Morecambe BID Proposal.

(2) The Chief Officer (Resources) is instructed to complete the ballot papers accordingly and submit them by the end of the ballot period on 26 May 2016."

A vote was then taken on the proposition, which was clearly carried.

***Resolved:***

That:

(1) Members agree to use the council's voting allocation in favour of the Morecambe BID Proposal.

(2) The Chief Officer (Resources) is instructed to complete the ballot papers accordingly and submit them by the end of the ballot period on 26 May 2016.

***Councillors Cooper, Gardiner and Hughes returned to the meeting at this point.***

**167 LEADER'S REPORT**

The Leader presented her report updating Members on various issues since her last report to Council and responded to a question from a Member.

***Resolved:***

That the report be noted.

**168 MAYOR'S ANNUAL REPORT**

In accordance with Article 5.02(g) of the Constitution, the Mayor presented his Annual Report for 2015/16. There were no questions.

***Resolved:***

(1) That the Mayor's Annual Report for 2015/16 be noted.

**169 EXECUTIVE ANNUAL REPORT**

In accordance with Article 7.06(j), the Leader and each Member of Cabinet had produced a written progress report for 2015/16.

The Leader responded to a number of questions about her report.

The reports of Councillors Bryning, Clifford, Hanson, Leytham, Pattison, Smith and Whitehead were then considered and they responded to questions as appropriate.

***Resolved:***

- (1) That the reports of Cabinet Members Blamire, Bryning, Clifford, Hanson, Leytham, Pattison, Smith and Whitehead be received.

**170 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT**

In accordance with Article 6.03(c) the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report for 2015/16 had been submitted to Council by the Chairman, Councillor Goodrich.

***Resolved:***

- (1) That the Overview & Scrutiny Annual Report for 2015/16 be received.

**171 AUDIT ANNUAL REPORT**

In accordance with Section 8.19 of Part 3 of the Council's Constitution, the Chairman, Councillor Matt Mann, had submitted the 2015/16 Annual Report of the Audit Committee.

***Resolved:***

- (1) That the report be received.

**172 MEMBER CHAMPIONS' ANNUAL REPORT**

In accordance with Part 6, Section 5 of the Constitution, annual reports had been submitted to Council by the Member Champions: Councillor Scott (Veterans' Champion); Councillor Brown (Champion for Young People), Councillor Whitehead (Champion for Older People) and, Councillors Guilding and Cozler (Champions for the Disabled). Councillor Brown responded to a question from a Member.

***Resolved:***

- (1) That the reports be received.

**173 CORPORATE PLAN 2016 - 2020**

Councillor Blamire introduced a report of Cabinet presenting the draft Corporate Plan 2016/20, which formed part of the corporate policy framework.

Councillor Blamire responded to questions from Councillors before proposing the recommendation as set out in the report. Councillor Leyshon seconded the proposition.

After a short debate, a vote was taken on the motion, which was carried with 29 Members voting for the proposition, 17 against and 9 abstentions.

**Resolved:**

- (1) That the Corporate Plan for 2016/20, which forms part of the Corporate Policy Framework, be approved.

**174 MOTION ON DEMENTIA**

The following motion of which notice had been given to the Chief Executive in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 15 was moved by Councillor Goodrich and seconded by Councillor Phillippa Williamson:-

- (1) This Council instructs the Chief Executive to write a letter of thanks to Dr Foulds, Honorary Researcher, Lancaster University for her presentation to the O&S Committee and commend Lancaster University on their research into Alzheimer's Disease.
- (2) This Council approves raising the profile of Lancaster University's Alzheimer's research with council staff, in Council buildings open to the public, and through our website, and encourages all Councillors to undertake Dementia training.

Background information had been supplied in an officer briefing note prepared by the Monitoring Officer.

A short debate followed before a vote was taken on the motion, which was clearly carried.

**Resolved:**

- (1) This Council instructs the Chief Executive to write a letter of thanks to Dr Foulds, Honorary Researcher, Lancaster University for her presentation to the O&S Committee and commend Lancaster University on their research into Alzheimer's Disease.
- (2) This Council approves raising the profile of Lancaster University's Alzheimer's research with council staff, in Council buildings open to the public, and through our website, and encourages all Councillors to undertake Dementia training.

**175 MOTION ON WASTE**

The following motion of which notice had been given to the Chief Executive in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 15 was moved by Councillor Hamilton-Cox and seconded by Councillors Caroline Jackson, Abi Mills and Andrew Kay:-

"In the context of the mothballing of the waste processing plants at Thornton and Leyland, full council mandates officers to approach County with a view to joint working in order to develop locally-sourced solutions to processing the district's domestic and commercial waste (including organic waste) and solid recyclables, solutions which aim to minimise transportation and other environmental impacts; and which maximise employment in the district. Full council further asks officers to include in their assessment a full investigation of the potential of facilities in both the

public and private sectors and to report back in September 2016 on how the aims set out in this motion are being, or are planned to be, achieved in conjunction with County.”

An officer briefing note accompanied the motion and the Chief Officer (Environment) responded to questions about the briefing note.

At the conclusion of a lengthy debate a vote was taken on the motion. 23 Councillors voted in favour of the motion and 32 against, therefore the motion was lost.

## 176 CHAMPION FOR OLDER PEOPLE

The Chief Executive submitted a report which advised that special responsibility for Older People was now included in a Cabinet portfolio and sought Council's consideration of the role of non-executive Champion for Older People.

The Democratic Services Manager responded to questions from Members.

Councillor Whitehead, seconded by Councillor Leyshon proposed:

“That the role of non-executive Member Champion for Older People be held vacant whilst special responsibility for Older People is included in a Cabinet portfolio.”

A vote was taken on the proposition which was clearly carried.

### **Resolved:**

- (1) That the role of non-executive Member Champion for Older People be held vacant whilst special responsibility for Older People is included in a Cabinet portfolio.

## 177 LANCASHIRE COMBINED AUTHORITY

The Chief Executive submitted a report which updated members on the progress on the Lancashire Combined Authority proposals, outlined the response to the public consultation exercise and sought agreement for the Council to become a constituent member of a Combined Authority for Lancashire.

Members asked a number of questions, which the Chief Executive responded to.

Councillor Blamire, seconded by Councillor Hanson, proposed a motion which had been laid out on Councillors' tables before the meeting:

“That

- (1) The City Council considers that the principal reason for forming a Combined Authority is to provide the basis to assist more effectively in the delivery of the Strategic Economic Plan produced by the Lancashire Economic Partnership.
- (2) The City Council considers it essential that the decision to form a Lancashire Combined Authority should fully align with detail of Lancashire's Strategic Economic Plan and in particular should include clearer objectives to work closely across the county boundary with Cumbria in supporting the significant economic growth associated with advanced manufacturing, the defence and the energy industries which the two counties share in their contribution to the Northern

- Powerhouse.
- (3) The City Council agrees to become a constituent member of a Lancashire Combined Authority and submit proposals to do so to the Secretary of State subject to the Council
  - (4) In the interim period, the council agree to form a shadow Lancashire Combined Authority
  - (5) At the earliest opportunity the Lancashire Combined Authority set a clear timetable for introducing a system of inclusive voting for all constituent councils on transport related matters
  - (6) The Council reserves the right to withdraw from the Lancashire Combined Authority if its benefits and financial commitment are not clearly demonstrated to be in the best interests of Lancaster District residents and its important spatial and economic links with Cumbria.
  - (7) Any future proposals for a devolution deal with the Government be brought back to council for consideration and agreement.
  - (8) Council notes that resources are currently being provided by officer support from Lancashire councils and that any future costs will need unanimous agreement by all councils who make up the combined authority."

There followed a lengthy debate. Just before a vote was taken, it became clear that Councillors were unsure of the wording of the proposition that had been moved, believing it to be the five recommendations in the original report, not the tabled motion. To avoid confusion, Councillor Blamire and her seconder withdrew the proposition and again proposed the right points set out above, making the content clear to all Councillors.

By way of an amendment which was accepted as a friendly amendment by Councillors Blamire and Hanson, Councillor Edwards proposed that recommendations (1) and (2) be removed from the above proposition.

Councillors then voted on the substantive motion. 53 Members voted for the substantive motion, 1 Member voted against and 1 Member abstained.

***Resolved:***

That:

- (1) The City Council agrees to become a constituent member of a Lancashire Combined Authority and submit proposals to do so to the Secretary of State.
- (2) In the interim period, the Council agree to form a shadow Lancashire Combined Authority.
- (3) At the earliest opportunity the Lancashire Combined Authority set a clear timetable for introducing a system of inclusive voting for all constituent councils on transport related matters.
- (4) The Council reserves the right to withdraw from the Lancashire Combined Authority if its benefits and financial commitment are not clearly demonstrated to be in the best interests of Lancaster District residents and its important spatial and economic links with Cumbria.
- (5) Any future proposals for a devolution deal with the Government be brought back to council for consideration and agreement.
- (6) Council notes that resources are currently being provided by officer support from Lancashire councils and that any future costs will need unanimous agreement by all councils who make up the combined authority.

**178 COUNCIL BUSINESS COMMITTEE – CHANGE TO DATE OF SCHEDULED MEETING**

The Chief Executive submitted a report which sought Council's approval for a change of date to a scheduled Committee meeting. Council was requested to agree to reschedule the date of the next Council Business Committee from 23rd June in view of the government's announcement of the European Referendum on that date and the involvement of all Democratic Services staff in that process.

Councillor Charles, seconded by Councillor Phillippa Williamson, proposed:

"That the date of the next Council Business Committee be changed from 23 June 2016 to 30 June 2016."

There was no debate and the proposition was clearly carried when put to the vote.

***Resolved:***

- (1) That the date of the next Council Business Committee be changed from 23rd June 2016 to 30th June 2016.

**179 COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW: PETITION TO CREATE AN ALDCLIFFE-WITH-STODDAY PARISH COUNCIL**

The Chief Executive submitted a report which advised Council of the receipt of a valid petition requesting the creation of a Parish Council for Aldcliffe-with-Stodday and sought the Council's views in taking the necessary Community Governance Review forward.

Councillor Leytham, seconded by Councillor Phillippa Williamson, proposed:

"(1) That responsibility for setting the terms of reference for the Community Governance review of Aldcliffe-with-Stodday and overseeing the review be delegated to the Council Business Committee, with special meetings of the Committee being convened if necessary and final proposals considered by Council in Autumn 2016."

A vote was then taken on the proposition, which was clearly carried.

***Resolved:***

- (1) That responsibility for setting the terms of reference for the Community Governance review of Aldcliffe-with-Stodday and overseeing the review be delegated to the Council Business Committee, with special meetings of the Committee being convened if necessary and final proposals considered by Council in Autumn 2016.

**180 QUESTIONS UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 12 (Pages 11 - 12)**

The Mayor advised that 2 questions had been received by the Chief Executive in accordance with Council Procedure Rules as follows:

- (1) Councillor Edwards to Councillor Smith regarding costs at Happy Mount Park.
- (2) Councillor Mace to Councillor Clifford regarding the museum VAT refund eligibility scheme.



Details of the questions and answers are appended to the minutes.

### 181 MINUTES OF CABINET

Council considered the Cabinet minutes of the meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> March 2016.

***Resolved:***

(1) That the minutes be noted.

### 182 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

The Mayor reminded Council that it had been recommended to exclude the press and public from the meeting for the following item on the grounds that it could involve the possible disclosure of exempt information.

Councillor Gardiner moved, seconded by Councillor Whitaker:

“That, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business, on the grounds that it could involve the possible disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of that Act.”

A vote was taken and the motion was carried.

***Resolved:***

“That, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business, on the grounds that it could involve the possible disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of that Act.”

***(Members of the public left the Council Chamber at this point).***

***Councillor Sykes, having previously declared an interest in the following item also left the meeting at this point.***

### 183 MORECAMBE FOOTBALL CLUB (Pages 13 - 14)

Council considered a report of the Chief Executive regarding Morecambe Football Club. The report was exempt by virtue of Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

After questions and debate, Council

***Resolved:***

(1) That the meeting be adjourned and the item considered at a reconvened Council meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2016.

**The meeting adjourned at 21.35pm and reconvened at 6pm on 27 April 2016.**

Apologies were received from Councillors Stuart Bateson, Tracy Brown, Brett Cooper, Mel Guilding, Tim Hamilton-Cox, Sylvia Rogerson, Ron Sands, Liz Scott and Malcolm Thomas

when the meeting reconvened.

Council debated the issue and the options fully and

**Resolved:**

(1) That Option 1 of the exempt report be approved.

*(Details are set out in a minute which is exempt from publication by virtue of paragraph 3, of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.)*

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Mayor

The reconvened meeting finished at 7.00pm on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2016

**Any queries regarding these Minutes,  
please contact Liz Bateson, Democratic Services - telephone (01524) 582047 or email  
ebateson@lancaster.gov.uk**

### Question from Councillor Charlie Edwards to Councillor David Smith

Could you please provide Council with a full breakdown of the amount of money spent on the maintenance, construction, staffing, marketing and other related costs to Happy Mount Park in the years 2014/2015, 2015/2016 and proposed for the 2016/2017 and 2017/2018 budgetary periods?

Councillor Smith handed Councillor Edwards the following table with breakdown and said that he would forward the table to all Councillors after the meeting.

2014/15 Actual	2015/16 Revised	Happy Mount Park	2016/17 Estimate	2017/18 Forecast	2018/19 Forecast	2019/20 Forecast	Notes
39,239	60,200	Employees	62,100	63,300	64,200	66,300	Includes HMP attendant, 3 seasonal splash park attendants plus 50% of resort parks team
35,000	35,000	Grounds Maintenance	35,700	36,400	37,100	37,800	GM costs held within Parks & Open Spaces
27,275	28,700	Utilities	13,500	13,900	14,200	14,400	Water and electricity charges
47,006	11,600	Repairs & Maintenance	22,600	10,000	15,600	10,300	Mainly splash park renewals and maintenance
3,619	4,200	Vehicles	3,300	3,400	3,600	3,700	Vehicle charges for 50% of resort park team
3,487	3,500	Supplies & Services	49,700	3,400	3,400	3,500	Miscellaneous expenditure plus 16/17 splash park charging installation costs
<b>155,627</b>	<b>143,200</b>	<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>186,900</b>	<b>130,400</b>	<b>138,100</b>	<b>136,000</b>	
0	0	Income (Splash Park)	-50,000	-60,100	-61,500	-63,000	Income from concessions plus predicted income for splash park
-28,677	-34,400	Income (Concessions)	-34,900	-35,500	-36,200	-36,900	Income from concessions (mainly café)
<b>-28,677</b>	<b>-34,400</b>	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>-84,900</b>	<b>-95,600</b>	<b>-97,700</b>	<b>-99,900</b>	
<b>126,950</b>	<b>108,800</b>	<b>Net Expenditure</b>	<b>102,000</b>	<b>34,800</b>	<b>40,400</b>	<b>36,100</b>	

### Question from Councillor Roger Mace to Councillor Darren Clifford

George Osborne appears to have recognised the importance of local museums offering free entry to the public by extending in his 2016 budget the museum VAT refund eligibility to any museum or gallery that offers free entry and has slightly offset the "the fundamental problem of diminishing local authority funding" in this respect.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/vat-refunds-for-museums-and-galleries>

The refund scheme, which allows organisations to "claim back VAT incurred on most goods and services purchased in order to grant free rights of admission to collections", has previously only been available to national and university museums and galleries.

Please estimate the expenditure on our district's museums subject to VAT and thus estimate the potential refund in the event that the City's museums qualified for the extended VAT refund eligibility, which appears unlikely - as they are not in purpose built buildings.

Councillor Clifford replied:

There are no calculations to be done or refund due as the City Council (and the County Council) already recover VAT back for museums. The scheme referred to does not relate to such local authorities. I guess the scheme's more to do with

organisations that wouldn't generally have 'turnover' as they don't charge, so they wouldn't normally be VAT registered.

Councillor Mace asked a supplementary question:

Would you join with me in drawing attention that our museums are not purpose built and write to the Chancellor and Minister, copying in Cat Smith MP to ask for support for museums which are listed buildings to help them stay open.

Councillor Clifford replied:

I'm more than happy to join with you and write to MPs.

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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