

PROCEEDINGS

A meeting of the Lancaster City Council was held in the Town Hall, Morecambe, at 6.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 23 March 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	Dave Brookes
Tracy Brown	Abbott Bryning
Susie Charles	Darren Clifford
Brett Cooper	Claire Cozler
Charlie Edwards	Andrew Gardiner
Nigel Goodrich	Mel Guilding
Janet Hall	Tim Hamilton-Cox
Janice Hanson	Colin Hartley
Helen Helme	Brendan Hughes
Joan Jackson	Ronnie Kershaw
Geoff Knight	James Leyshon
Karen Leytham	Matt Mann
Terrie Metcalfe	Abi Mills
Rebecca Novell	Margaret Pattison
Robert Redfern	Sylvia Rogerson
Ron Sands	Elizabeth Scott
Roger Sherlock	David Smith
Malcolm Thomas	Andrew Warriner
David Whitaker	Anne Whitehead
Nicholas Wilkinson	Peter Williamson
Phillippa Williamson	Paul Woodruff
Peter Yates	

151 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Denwood, Devey, Mace, Parkinson, Sykes and Wild

152 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 2 March 2016 were signed by the Mayor as a correct record.

153 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made at this stage.

154 ANNOUNCEMENTS - BRUSSELS ATTACK

The Mayor asked that members stand in silence to remember the victims of the attacks in Brussels on 22nd March.

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

155 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.

156 PETITIONS AND ADDRESSES

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

157 APPOINTMENT OF A NEW CHIEF EXECUTIVE

A report had been submitted to enable Council to approve the appointment of the Chief Executive in order that a formal offer of employment, subject to pre-placement screening, could be made to the recommended candidate.

In response to questions from Members the HR Services Manager confirmed that the position of Chief Executive was subject to a 6 month appointment review period, which was distinct from probation, as appointment review applied to those individuals who had continuous Local Government service on appointment and who therefore normally had full employment rights having had more than 2 years continuous service in a local authority. The 6 month appointment review period would be linked to the Chief Executive's performance appraisal process.

Councillor Blamire, as Chairman of the Chief Executive Recruitment Committee summarised the recruitment procedure and advised the meeting that Susan Parsonage was the Committee's preferred candidate.

It was moved by Councillor Blamire and seconded by Councillor Phillippa Williamson:

“That Council approve the appointment of the Chief Executive in order that a formal offer of employment be made to the preferred candidate, Susan Parsonage, subject to pre-placement screening.”

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

Resolved:

- (1) That Council approve the appointment of the Chief Executive in order that a formal offer of employment be made to the preferred candidate, Susan Parsonage, subject to pre-placement screening.

Having an interest in the following item, the Chief Executive and Democratic Services Manager left the meeting at this point.

158 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 Ashworth moved, seconded by Councillor Gardiner:

“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 1 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 1 of Schedule 12A of that Act.”

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

159 EMPLOYMENT MATTER

A report was submitted to enable Council to make a decision in relation to the contractual notice submitted by the Chief Executive. The HR Services Manager responded to questions from Members and the Head of Legal and Democratic Services at Preston City Council confirmed that the Returning Officer’s fee for the European Union referendum would be paid by the Cabinet Office and not paid by Lancaster City Council.

Councillor Blamire proposed, seconded by Councillor Peter Williamson:

“That the contractual notice by the Chief Executive be noted and that option (1) of the contingency arrangements be approved.”

There was no debate and the proposition was clearly carried.

Resolved:

- (1) That the Council accept the Chief Executive's offer to work on in an effort to assist the Council, subject to the arrangements not compromising his role as non-executive Director with Blackpool Hospital Trust.

Mayor

(The meeting finished at 6.20 p.m.)

**Any queries regarding these Minutes,
please contact Liz Bateson, Democratic Services - telephone (01524) 582047 or email
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