# OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

6.10 P.M. 14TH APRIL 2016

PRESENT:-

Councillors Nigel Goodrich (Chairman), Lucy Atkinson, Alan Biddulph, Rob Devey, Caroline Jackson, Roger Mace (Substitute for Brett Cooper), David Whitaker and Phillippa Williamson

Also in Attendance:-

Councillors Tim Hamilton-Cox and Joan Jackson

**Apologies for Absence:-**

Councillors June Ashworth and Brett Cooper

Officers in attendance:-

Nadine Muschamp

Chief Officer (Resources) and Section 151 Officer

Debbie Chambers

Monitoring Officer & Democratic Services Manager

Angela Parkinson Senior Solicitor

Stephen Metcalfe Principal Democratic Support Officer

Gary Watson Senior Property Officer

Jenny Kay Civic & Ceremonial Democratic Support Officer

### 78 ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS AUTHORISED BY THE CHAIRMAN

There were no items of urgent business to consider.

#### 79 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made at this stage.

### 80 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

#### 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.

# 81 REQUEST TO CALL-IN CABINET DECISION - ST LEONARD'S HOUSE - LANCASTER - CABINET MINUTE 90 (PAGE 3)

Members were advised that the Cabinet decision in relation to St Leonard's House, Lancaster - Cabinet Minute 90 had been called-in by the following 5 Members:

Councillors Caroline Jackson, Tim Hamilton-Cox, Joan Jackson, Roger Mace and Phillippa Williamson.

Members were informed that the Call-in had been made on the basis that the decision had not been made in accordance with all the principles set out in Article 13 (Decision Making) of the Constitution, in particular:

- (b) Lack of, or insufficient consultation and the taking of professional advice from Officers.
- (d) Lack of openness.
- (e) The aims and desired outcomes of the decision are not clearly expressed.
- (f) Insufficient information about the options that were considered or the reasons for arriving at the decision.
- (g) Other (reasons contained in the Call-in notice).

The Chairman outlined the procedure to be followed and invited the Councillors who had made the Call-in request to summarise the reasons for the Call-in. Councillor Mace set out the reasons for the Call-in.

The Chairman invited Councillor Eileen Blamire (Leader of the Council) and Councillor Abbott Bryning (Cabinet Member with responsibility for Property Services, Rural Areas and Car Parking) to explain the reasons for the decision of Cabinet.

The Chairman invited signatories to the Call-in to ask questions and Councillor Bryning, Councillor Blamire, the Chief Officer (Resources) and Senior Property Officer responded.

# The meeting adjourned at 6.35pm and re-convened at 7.00pm to allow background papers to be circulated.

The Call-in signatories were, at this point, invited to ask further questions.

The Chairman invited signatories to the Call-in to ask questions and Councillor Bryning, Councillor Blamire, the Chief Officer (Resources) and Senior Property Officer responded.

It was proposed by Councillor Mace and seconded by Councillor Caroline Jackson:-

"That Cabinet reconsider the decision regarding St. Leonard's House" (the full recommendation is set out in a minute exempt from publication under Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972).

Upon being put to the vote 4 Members voted in favour of the proposal and 4 against, whereupon the Chairman, using his casting vote, declared the proposition carried.

#### Resolved:

That Cabinet reconsider the decision regarding St. Leonard's House (the full resolution is set out in a minute exempt from publication under Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972).

Chairman

(The meeting ended at 8.00 p.m.)

Any queries regarding these Minutes, please contact Jenny Kay, Democratic Services - telephone (01524) 582065 or email jkay@lancaster.gov.uk

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

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