

PROCEEDINGS

A meeting of the Lancaster City Council was held remotely via MS Teams Live, at 5.00 p.m. on Tuesday, 8 December 2020, when the following Members were present:-

Malcolm Thomas (Mayor)

Paul Anderton

Stephie Barber

Alan Biddulph

Dave Brookes

Keith Budden

Darren Clifford

Roger Dennison

Adrian Duggan

Kevin Frea

Jake Goodwin

June Greenwell

Tim Hamilton-Cox

Colin Hartley

Caroline Jackson

Mandy King

Sarah Knight

Cary Matthews

Jean Parr

Joyce Pritchard

John Reynolds

Stewart Scothern

Paul Stubbins

Katie Whearty

Anne Whitehead

Joanna Young

Joan Jackson (Deputy Mayor)

Mandy Bannon

Phillip Black

Victoria Boyd-Power

Abbott Bryning

Roger Cleet

Tim Dant

Gina Dowding

Merv Evans

Andrew Gardiner

Mike Greenall

Mel Guilding

Janice Hanson

Tricia Heath

Debbie Jenkins

Geoff Knight

Erica Lewis

Jack O'Dwyer-Henry

Faye Penny

Robert Redfern

Oliver Robinson

Alistair Sinclair

Sandra Thornberry

David Whitaker

Jason Wood

65 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Tony Anderson, Richard Austen-Baker, Abi Mills, John Wild, David Whitworth and Peter Yates.

(It was noted that Councillor Carrington was on parental leave.)

66 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Mayor reminded Councillors that the Monitoring Officer had granted a dispensation to all Members with regard to allowances in respect of matters relating to Local Government Reform and Devolution for a period of four years.

Councillors Lewis, Gardiner and Parr each declared an interest in Local Government Reform Developments, as Members of Lancashire County Council.

67 PUBLIC SPEAKING

The Mayor advised that no requests to speak had been received from the public.

68 LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM PROPOSAL FOR THE BAY AREA

Councillor Lewis introduced the report of the Chief Executive. It was noted that an updated proposal document had been published and circulated to Members shortly before the meeting. This document was not substantially different to the one published with the agenda on Friday. Typographical errors had been corrected, minor amendments made and recently received stakeholder letters had been added.

Councillor Lewis responded to numerous questions from Councillors before proposing:-

- (1) That the full proposal for a unitary council for the Bay area (attached at Appendix 1 of the report) be approved and recommended for submission by the Leader and Chief Executive to the government by 9 December 2020; and
- (2) That the Chief Executive be authorised, in consultation with the Leader, to approve any minor amendments that may arise following consideration of the proposal by Barrow Borough and South Lakeland District Councils, prior to submission the recommendations as set out in the report, seconded by Councillor Parr.

There was a lengthy debate, before the Mayor called for a vote. With 42 Members voting for the proposals, 5 against and 4 abstentions, the proposal was clearly carried.

Resolved:

- (1) That the full proposal for a unitary council for the Bay area (attached at Appendix 1 of the report) be approved and recommended for submission by the Leader and Chief Executive to the government by 9 December 2020; and
 - (2) That the Chief Executive be authorised, in consultation with the Leader, to approve any minor amendments that may arise following consideration of the proposal by Barrow Borough and South Lakeland District Councils, prior to submission.
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Mayor

(The meeting finished at 6.22 p.m.)

**Any queries regarding these minutes,
please contact Debbie Chambers, Democratic Services - email dchambers@lancaster.gov.uk**