

Minutes of: AN ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

Date of Meeting: 16 December 2009

Present: The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor S P Magnall) in the Chair;
Councillors I Ahmed, D M Ashworth, P Ashworth, K Audin, R L Baum, C A Berry, R A Bibby, D B Bigg, D Boden, K S Briggs, R C A Brown, J Byrne, D M Cassidy, F A Chaudhry, S Cohen, S Costello, Y Creswell, A J Cummings, M D'Albert, V D D'Albert, W J Davison, A J Garner, I B Gartside, J Grimshaw, D L Gunther, M Hankey, J Harris, D M Higgin, T Holt, S Hurst, A Isherwood, A K Matthews, D O'Hanlon, S P Penketh, T D Pickstone, P H Redstone, K Rothwell, R Shori, J Smith, B J Sullivan, J W H Taylor, B Theckston, B Vincent, R E Walker, J F Walton, M J Wiseman, S D Wright and Y S Wright

Apologies for absence: Councillors M Connolly and A S Garner

Public attendance: 17 members of the public attended the meeting

C.527 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- (a) Councillor Walton declared a personal and prejudicial in Minute LHP.01 of the Licensing Hearings Panel held on 5 November 2009 – Application for a Premises Licence – Stand Cricket and Tennis Club, Hamilton Road, Whitefield – as a member of that organisation.
- (b) Councillors Gartside and Smith both declared personal interests in written question 16 in Minute C.532 below, (Policy of Six Town Hosing in relation to the rent-free period allowed to clear properties following the death of the single tenant) – as Members of the Board of Six Town Housing Limited.
- (c) Councillor O'Hanlon declared a personal interest as a Governor of St Monica's RC High School, Prestwich, which was referred to in the Leader's Statement (Minute C.532 below).

C.528 MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 28 October 2009 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

C.529 MAYORAL COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Worshipful the Mayor informed the Council that the Colonel and all ranks of the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers had expressed their appreciation to the Borough for the warm reception they had received on the occasion of the 'Welcome Home March' through the Town.

The Mayor expressed good wishes for a continued return to good health to Councillor Vincent following his recent illness.

The Mayor also offered her best wishes for Christmas and the New Year to those present at the meeting and all residents of the Borough.

C.530 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Written notice had been given of three questions from the following members of the public:-

Name	Subject	Answered By
Jane Hall	Radcliffe Riverside School	Councillor D Ashworth
Colin Jones	Regeneration of Radcliffe	Councillor Hankey

A third question had been received from Mr McDonagh relating to the Council's procedures relating to contracts. Mr McDonagh was not present at the meeting.

C.531 RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE AND COUNCIL COMMITTEES

(a) Minute EX.360 of the meeting of the Executive held on 14 October 2009 – Proposed amendments to the Association of Greater Manchester Authorities' Constitution.

It was moved by Councillor Bibby and seconded by Councillor Creswell that the recommendations be approved.

On being put, with no Member voting against and with the Mayor abstaining, it was:-

RESOLVED:

That the recommendations be approved and adopted.

(b) Minute L.417 of the meeting of the Licensing and Safety Panel held on 9 November – 2009 – Revision of the Gambling Policy.

It was moved by Councillor Brown and seconded by Councillor Costello that the revisions to the Policy be approved.

On being put, with no Member voting against and with the Mayor abstaining, it was:-

RESOLVED:

That the recommendations in Minute L.417 be approved and adopted.

(c) Minute EX.482 of the meeting of the Executive held on 2 December 2009 – Executive Arrangements.

It was moved by Councillor Bibby and seconded by Councillor Creswell that the recommendations be approved.

On being put, with no Member voting against and with the Mayor abstaining, it was:-

RESOLVED:

That the recommendations set out in Minute EX.482 be approved and adopted.

C.532 LEADER’S STATEMENT AND EXECUTIVE QUESTION TIME

(a) Written questions (four clear days’ notice given)

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Bibby, made a statement on the work of the Executive since the date of the last Council meeting. The Leader and the relevant Executive Members answered questions raised by Councillors on the following issues:-

No	Issue	Questioner	Answered by (and action)
1.	Compensation payments for trip and slip claimants.	Councillor Y Wright	Councillor Gartside
2.	1. Council employees’ Terms and Conditions of Service. 2. Advice to employees affected adversely.	Councillor Holt	Councillor Walton
3.	1. The Council’s Newspaper and its impact on advertising revenues of local newspapers. 2. Council action to support local newspapers.	Councillor Pickstone	Councillor Creswell
4.	1. How the views of Youth Service users were taken into account in planning the future service. 2. The views of young people in particular	Councillor Smith	Councillor D Ashworth

No	Issue	Questioner	Answered by (and action)
5.	1. Consultations on the review of Civic Halls. 2. Analysis of operational costs and usage statistics through the scrutiny process.	Councillor O'Hanlon	Councillor Sullivan
6.	1. Council policy on replying to e-mails from the public. 2. Specific example of a non-response.	Councillor Briggs	Councillor Creswell (Councillor Briggs to supply details of the non-response)
7.	1. Details of any discussions relating to AGMA Authorities signing up to the 10:10 Commitment to Climate Change.	Councillor Pickstone	Councillor Gunther
8.	Implementation of re-organised waste collection routes.	Councillor Smith	Councillor Gunther
9.	Improvement of decision-making and democracy within the Council.	Councillor V D'Albert	Councillor Bibby
10. and 11.	1. Local Area and Partnerships (LAPs) role and the deployment of Managers. 2. Rotation of Managers between LAPs.	Councillors Boden and V D'Albert	Councillor Creswell
12.	Numbers of waste bins, dog excrement bins and recycling centres in each Ward.	Councillor S Wright	Councillor Gunther
13.	Priority gritting of pavements/bin collections in icy weather.	Councillor A S Garner	Councillor Gunther
14.	The questioner's suggestion to allow free parking in Bury Town Centre after 3.00 pm.	Councillor Baum	Councillor Gunther
15.	Success of recent Farmers' Markets in Prestwich	Councillor A J Garner	Councillor Gunther

No	Issue	Questioner	Answered by (and action)
16.	Policy of Six Town Housing in clearance of houses following the death of a single tenant.	Councillor M D'Albert	Councillor Sullivan
17.	Support by the Council for 'Speakeasy', a local charity for sufferers of Aphasia.	Councillor A J Garner	Councillor Creswell
18.	Leader's view of the Government's trial of ID cards	Councillor A J Garner	Councillor Bibby
19.	Support by the Council for 'Project 29' a community charity	Councillor Baum	Councillor Creswell

Due to lack of time to answer questions 8 to 19 inclusive, the Leader gave an undertaking that copies of the answers to those questions will be circulated to all Councillors.

(b) Oral Questions on the work of the Executive since the last Council meeting (without Notice).

No	Issue	Questioner	Answered by (and action)
20.	Letter to all Councillors from the Chief Executive and Council Solicitor regarding ethical standards	Councillor Boden	Councillor Bibby
21.	Town Centre Development Policy – 'Bury but Better'	Councillor Smith	Councillor Bibby
22.	Youth Service – Service Improvement Review	Councillor Byrne	Councillor Bibby

C.533 SCRUTINY REPORTS AND SPECIFIC ITEMS 'CALLED IN' BY SCRUTINY COMMISSIONS

There were no Scrutiny Review Reports or specific items 'called in' by Scrutiny Commissions to be considered at the Council meeting.

C.534 JOINT AUTHORITIES – REPORTS BY THE COUNCIL'S REPRESENTATIVE AND QUESTIONS

- (a) Councillor Creswell, the Council's representative on the Greater Manchester Integrated Transport Authority, gave a verbal report on the work of that Joint Authority.

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- (b) No written questions had been received on the work of the joint Authorities.

C.535 QUESTIONS ON THE WORK OF OUTSIDE BODIES OR PARTNERSHIPS

There were no written questions on the work of outside bodies or partnerships on which the Council is represented, submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11.2.

C.536 DELEGATED DECISIONS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

There were no written questions asked on the delegated decisions of the Regulatory Committees or Scrutiny Commissions contained in the Digests of Decisions 6 and 7 (2009/2010).

THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR

(NOTE: The meeting started at 7.00 pm and ended at 8.30 pm)