

Minutes of: AN EXTRA ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

Date of Meeting: 22 November 2010

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

Apologies for absence Councillors A Audin, K Audin, D.B. Bigg and A Isherwood

Public attendance: 30 members of the public attended the meeting

C.278 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

1. Councillor Connolly declared a personal interest in items/discussions relating to Council employees as his partner is employed by Bury Council.
2. Councillor Yvonne Wright declared a personal interest in Minute C.280, Notice of Motion – Radcliffe Civic Suite.

C.279 PETITION FOR DEBATE

A petition containing 4,500 signatures was before Members for debate. The petition, submitted by the Radcliffe Civic Suite Action Group, called for:

"Bury Council to scrap proposed plans to implement external private management, approved at the Executive meeting on 10 March 2010. Instead, the Suite must be run more efficiently, by the management as required by and for our local community".

The petition organiser, Mr George Ramsey, was present at the meeting and asked his colleague, Mr Clarkson, to make a statement in support of the petition.

The Mayor informed the Council that under its Petitions Procedure, the matter was then open for debate by Councillors for a maximum of 15 minutes. However, as this issue was the subject of a Notice of Motion he intended to move directly to that item following the statement and allow a full debate at that stage.

This extra ordinary meeting of the Council had been called by Councillors Connolly, Holt, Isherwood, Shori and Smith to debate two Notices of Motion.

C.280 NOTICE OF MOTION – RADCLIFFE CIVIC SUITE

The following motion had been received and set out in the Summons. It was moved by Councillor Shori and seconded by Councillor Parnell that:-

“This Council recognises the strength of feeling generated by the proposal to externalise the management of Radcliffe Civic Hall as reflected in the presentation of a petition signed by 4,500 residents.

The Council, therefore, asks the Cabinet Member responsible for the decision to externalise the management of Radcliffe Civic Hall to:-

- (i) Retain the management of Radcliffe Civic Hall “In House;”
- (ii) Draw up a business plan and marketing strategy for Radcliffe Civic Hall similar to that developed for the Prestwich Longfield Suite.”

In the name of Councillors M Connolly, T Holt, A Isherwood, R Shori and J Smith.

Prior to the vote on the motion, Councillor Connolly and at least seven other Councillors, requested that voting to be recorded to show how each Member cast their vote.

The result of the vote was as follows:-

For the Motion:

Councillors, Boden, Cassidy, Connolly, Costello, Cummings, Grimshaw, Holt, Lewis, Matthews, Parnell, Quinn, Rothwell, Shori, Smith, Tariq, Walmsley (16).

Against the Motion:

Councillors Ahmed, Bevan, Bibby, Brown, Caserta, Cohen, Creswell, Gartside, Gunther, Hankey, Harris, Higgin, Hurst, Magnall, Penketh, Taylor, Theckston, Vincent, Walker, Walton, Wiseman and Y S Wright (22).

Abstaining from the Vote:

The Worshipful the Mayor, Councillors Baum, M D’Albert, V D’Albert, Davison, Garner, O’Hanlon, Pickstone and S Wright (9).

In the absence of a majority, the Mayor declared the motion lost.

C.281 NOTICE OF MOTION – HUMAN RESOURCES AND APPEALS PANEL

The following motion had been received and set out in the Summons. It was moved by Councillor Connolly and seconded by Councillor Smith:-

“This Council has no confidence in Councillor J Walton, Chair of the Human Resources and Appeals Panel and Chair of Corporate JCC and therefore demand that he formally tenders his resignation from these positions.”

In the name of Councillors M Connolly, T Holt, A Isherwood, R Shori and J Smith.

The motion on being put, 16 members voted for, 22 against and with 9 abstentions, was declared lost.

THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR

(NOTE: The meeting started at 7.00 pm and ended at 9.05 pm)