

Minutes of: AN ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

Date of Meeting: 11 December 2013

Present: The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor S Briggs), in the Chair; Councillors D Bailey, M Bailey I Bevan, J Black, P Bury, G Campbell, S Carter, R A Caserta, D M Cassidy, J Columbine, M Connolly, A J Cummings, J Daly, E FitzGerald, L Fitzwalter, I B Gartside, J Grimshaw, D L Gunther, M Hankey, S Haroon, P Heneghan, T Holt, K Hussain, A Isherwood, M A James, D Jones, J S Lewis, A Matthews, S Nuttall, D O'Hanlon, N Parnell, T D Pickstone, A Quinn, K Rothwell, R Shori, A Simpson, J Smith, S Smith, S Southworth, T Tariq, B Vincent, R E Walker, S Walmsley, J F Walton and Y Wright

Apologies for Absence: Councillors A Audin, K Audin, N Bayley, J Frith and M Wiseman

Public attendance: 27 members of the public attended the meeting

C.608 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

1. Councillor Connolly declared an interest in any item which related to staffing as his partner is an employee of Bury Council.
2. Councillor Jones declared an interest in any item which related to staffing as his wife is an employee of Bury Council.
3. Councillor Bevan declared an interest in items relating to staffing and education as his wife is employed at Summerseat Methodist Primary School.
4. Councillors Black, Columbine, Heneghan, Southworth and Tariq declared a Prejudicial Interest in Minute C.615 Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel, as the report makes recommendations in respect of Deputy Cabinet Members, and each left the meeting during consideration of this item.
5. Councillor Holt declared a Personal Interest in minute C.615, Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel, as he is a Deputy Cabinet Member who is already in receipt of a Special Responsibility Allowance as Chair of the Human Resources and Appeals Panel.
6. Councillors Connolly and Quinn declared Personal Interests in a question relating to Digital Inclusion as they are Members of Unite the Union.
7. Councillor O'Hanlon declared a Personal Interest in a question relating to Business Rates as he is employed by a business with retail interest in the Borough.
8. Councillor Daly declared a Personal Interest in a question relating to local breweries as he is a Member of CAMRA.

C.609 MINUTES**RESOLVED:**

That the minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 16 October 2013 be signed by the Mayor as a true and correct record.

C.610 MAYORAL COMMUNICATIONS

1. The Mayor referred to the recent Homecoming Parade of the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers and the opening of "In Step", a new support group for ex-Forces personnel and their families.
2. The Mayor thanked those who had supported her Civic Ball which had helped raise £735 for the Mayor's Charities.

C.611 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The Mayor reported that there had been two questions received as follows:-

Issue	Questioner	Answered By
1. Representations to Secretary of State for Education regarding the academisation of Elton Primary School.	Ms B Reeves	Councillor Connolly
2. Views of Conservative Councillors regarding the academisation of Elton Primary School.	Mr P Sandiford	Councillor Connolly

The Mayor invited questions from members of the public present and the following issues were raised:-

Issue	Questioner	Answered By
3. Petition organised by the Save Bury Library Group and scope for ongoing discussion.	Ms S Smith	Councillor Connolly
4. Consultation and Transparency regarding plans for Bury Library.	Mr R Trueblood	Councillor Connolly
5. Resignation of elected member from the Conservative Group	Mr J Mallon	Councillor Connolly

6. Arrangements for coping with adverse weather conditions.	Mr A Miller	Councillor Connolly
7. Assistance with organising survey of parental views regarding the academisation of Elton Primary School.	Mr D Jones	Councillor Connolly

C.612 RECOMMENDATIONS OF CABINET AND COUNCIL COMMITTEES

(1) Minutes CA.566 of the meeting of the Cabinet on 27 November 2013 – Treasury Management Strategy – Mid Year Review 2013/14.

It was moved by Councillor Connolly and seconded by Councillor John Smith and it was:-

RESOLVED:

That in accordance with CIPFA's Code of Practice on Treasury Management, the report be noted.

(2) Minute 7 of the meeting of the Corporate Parenting Board on 28 November 2013 – Corporate Parenting Board Annual Report.

It was moved by Councillor Heneghan and seconded by Councillor Campbell and it was:-

RESOLVED:

That the Annual Report of the Corporate Parenting Board be endorsed.

C.613 LEADER'S STATEMENT AND CABINET QUESTION TIME

(a) Written questions (Notice given)

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

No.	Issue	Questioner	Answered by (and action)
1.	Library Provision in Bury	Councillor Jones	Councillor Lewis
2.	Greater Manchester Smart Motorway	Councillor Pickstone	Councillor Isherwood
3.	Support for small businesses	Councillor Bevan	Councillor Connolly
4.	Investment in Radcliffe	Councillor Cummings	Councillor Connolly

5.	Business Rate Discount	Councillor O'Hanlon	Councillor John Smith
6.	Sunday Car Parking Charges in Bury	Councillor Walker	Councillor Isherwood
7.	Provision of grey bins	Councillor Black	Councillor Southworth
8.	Adult Home Care	Councillor Pickstone	Councillor Shori
9.	Airport Dividend	Councillor Vincent	Councillor John Smith
10.	Foster Carers	Councillor Southworth	Councillor Campbell
11.	Winter Weather Arrangements	Councillor O'Hanlon	Councillor Isherwood
12.	Parking outside schools	Councillor Daly	Councillor Isherwood
13.	Voluntary and Community Support – Police and Crime Commissioner	Councillor Simpson	Councillor Walmsley
14.	Mondi Paper Mill –Ramsbottom	Councillor Bevan	Councillor Isherwood
15.	20 mph speed zones	Councillor Carter	Councillor Isherwood
16.	Support for local breweries	Councillor Daly	Councillor Connolly
17.	Food banks operating in Bury	Councillor Stella Smith	Councillor Walmsley
18.	Community Awards	Councillor Parnell	Councillor Walmsley
19.	Digital Exclusion	Councillor Fitzwalter	Councillor Holt

Due to the lack of time to answer questions 11 to 19 inclusive, the Leader gave an undertaking that copies of the answers to those questions will be circulated to all Councillors. The Leader also gave an undertaking to make these available on the Council Web Site.

(b) Oral questions on the work of the Cabinet since the last Council meeting (without Notice)

20.	Corporate Financial Monitoring – Non Service specific elements	Councillor Gartside	Councillor John Smith
21.	Re-instatement of employee incremental progression	Councillor Holt	Councillor Connolly
22.	Parking Enforcement Contract	Councillor Walker	Councillor Connolly
23.	Support for Big Coat Day – FC United	Councillor Quinn	Councillor Connolly

24.	Broadband provision in rural areas	Councillor Bevan	Councillor Connolly
25.	Peer Review – Action Plan and Feedback	Councillor O’Hanlon	Councillor Connolly
26.	Early Break – Community Café	Councillor Tariq	Councillor Connolly
27.	Ofsted Inspection Regime	Councillor Caserta	Councillor Connolly

C.614 JOINT AUTHORITIES – REPORTS BY THE COUNCIL’S REPRESENTATIVE AND QUESTIONS

- (a) Councillor Cummings, the Council’s representative on the Greater Manchester Waste Disposal Authority, gave a verbal report on the work of the Committee to all Members of the Council.
- (b) The following questions had been received in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11.2.

No.	Issue	Questioner	Answered by
1.	Petition relating to re-routing of the 154 bus route.	Councillor Pickstone	Councillor Grimshaw (Representative on the Committee for Greater Manchester)
2.	Household Waste Disposal Facilities	Councillor Pickstone	Councillor Cummings (Representative on the Committee for Greater Manchester Waste Disposal Authority)

C.615 REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL

A report of the Independent Remuneration Panel was submitted which made recommendations to introduce Special Responsibility Allowances for Deputy Cabinet Members and the Standards Independent Person.

It was moved by Councillor Connolly and seconded by Councillor John Smith that the recommendations be approved.

Prior to the vote on the motion, in excess of the required eight Councillors requested that voting be recorded to show how each Member cast their vote, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 17.5.

The result of the vote was as follows:-

For the Motion:

Councillors D Bailey, M Bailey, Bury, Campbell, Carter, Cassidy, Connolly, Cummings, FitzGerald, Fitzwalter, Grimshaw, Haroon, Holt, James, Jones, Lewis, Matthews, Parnell, Quinn, Rothwell, Shori, Simpson, J Smith, S Smith and Walmsley

Against the Motion:-

Councillors Bevan, Caserta, Daly, Gartside, Gunther, Hankey, Hussain, Nuttall, Vincent, Walker, Walton and Wright

Abstaining from the Vote:

The Worshipful the Mayor, Councillors O'Hanlon and Pickstone

The Mayor declared the motion carried and it was

RESOLVED:

That the following additional Special Responsibility Allowances be approved:-

1. £1200 per annum for Deputy Cabinet Members;
2. £350 per annum plus £30 per hour for each Hearing Panel attended for Standards Independent Persons.

C.616 LOCAL SCHEME OF COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT

A report of the Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Affairs was submitted which provided Members with an up-date on the local Council Tax Support Scheme and set out recommendations to continue to deliver a local scheme within the available budget.

It was moved by Councillor John Smith and seconded by Councillor Connolly and it was:-

RESOLVED:

1. That the Scheme introduced with effect from 1 April 2013 be continued without change from 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2015.
2. That agreement of the specific legal wording of the local Regulations enacting the Council Tax Support Scheme set out in the report be delegated to the Executive Director of Resources in consultation with the Leader of the Council, the Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Affairs and the leaders of the two other political parties represented on the Council.

C.617 NOTICES OF MOTION

Two Notices of Motion have been received in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 12:-

1. Domestic Abuse

A motion had been received and set out in the Summons in the names of:-

Councillors A Audin, K Audin, M Bailey, D Bailey, N Bayley, J Black, P Bury, G Campbell, S Carter, D M Cassidy, J Columbine, M Connolly, A J Cummings, E FitzGerald, L Fitzwalter, J Frith, J Grimshaw, S Haroon, P Heneghan, T Holt, A Isherwood, M A James, D Jones, J S Lewis, A K Matthews, N A Parnell, A Quinn, K Rothwell, R Shori, A Simpson, S Smith, J Smith, S Southworth, T Tariq and S Walmsley

It was moved by Councillor Walmsley and seconded by Councillor Tariq:

"Council notes that domestic abuse affects every community in Bury: rich or poor, white or black, old or young, gay or straight. Over the past 12 months, Greater Manchester Police dealt with 3,570 cases of domestic abuse in Bury.

This represents the tip of the iceberg. It is estimated that one in four women will experience domestic abuse at some point in their life. It doesn't just affect women, 17% of the victims who report domestic abuse to police in Bury are men. Domestic abuse isn't just physical, many people suffer serious emotional turmoil at the hands of abusive partners.

Council notes that help and advice is available to victims of domestic abuse and those who fear their friends or loved ones may be victims at the www.endthefear.co.uk website.

This council resolves to make a stand against domestic abuse by:

- working with the Police and Crime Commissioner, Greater Manchester Police, the NHS, housing associations, other agencies and most importantly of all, local communities across Bury to make clear that domestic abuse in all its forms is unacceptable;
- doing all we can to encourage people to report domestic abuse to the police;
- instructing the Chief Executive to report back by April 2014 on progress made by this Local Authority and partner agencies to improve and enhance services provided to victims of domestic abuse.

The Council agrees to sign up to the Greater Manchester Police and Crime Commissioner's promise to "say no to domestic abuse" at www.gmpcc.org.uk/endthefear and encourage as many Bury residents as possible to do the same."

(At this stage in the Proceedings it was moved by Councillor Gartside and seconded by Councillor Daly that the question be now put which was unanimously agreed.)

On being put, the motion was declared unanimously carried.

2. Bury Library

A motion has been received and set out in the Summons in the names of:-

Councillors I Bevan, R Caserta, J Daly, I Gartside, D Gunther, M Hankey, K Hussain, S Nuttall, B Vincent, R Walker, J Walton and Y Wright

It was moved by Councillor Daly and seconded by Councillor Walker:

"This Council notes the proposal to install a Sculpture Centre in part of the building presently occupying Bury Library. This Council believes Bury Library to be an invaluable and much loved community asset benefiting the residents of our Borough. This Council is opposed to any plan to reduce the present footprint of Bury Library believing there to be no culture, educational and economic argument to support this. We are further opposed to any reduction in books and other material presently held by Bury Library and available for members of the public to borrow. This Council believes the facilities and services presently offered by Bury Library should be maintained at their current level.

THIS COUNCIL therefore resolves to:

1. Cease installation of a Sculpture Centre at Bury Library
2. Not to spend £75,000 or any sum of tax payers money carrying out renovations or alterations to the structure of the building at this time.
3. Allow Bury Library to maintain its present footprint.
4. Retain all lending and reference materials presently held by Bury Library.
5. Retain the present level services and facilities currently offered by Bury Library.
6. To employ a permanent staffing structure solely based at Bury Library to allow for the above."

Prior to the vote on the motion, in excess of the required eight Councillors requested that voting be recorded to show how each member cast their vote, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 17.5.

The result of the vote was as follows:-

For the Motion:

Councillors Bevan, Caserta, Daly, Gartside, Gunther, Hussain, Nuttall, O'Hanlon, Pickstone, Vincent, Walker, Walton and Wright.

Against the Motion:

Councillors D Bailey, M Bailey, Black, Bury, Campbell, Carter, Cassidy, Columbine, Connolly, Cummings, FitzGerald, Fitzwalter, Grimshaw, Haroon, Heneghan, Holt, James, Jones, Lewis, Matthews, Parnell, Quinn, Rothwell, Shori, Simpson, J Smith, S Smith, Southworth, Tariq and Walmsley.

Abstaining from the Vote:

The Worshipful the Mayor.

The Mayor declared the Motion lost.

C.618 SCRUTINY REPORTS AND SPECIFIC ITEMS "CALLED IN" BY SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

There were no Scrutiny Review Reports or specific items "called in" by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to be considered at this Council meeting.

C.619 QUESTIONS ON THE WORK OF OUTSIDE BODIES OR PARTNERSHIPS

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

C.620 DELEGATED DECISIONS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

There were no written questions asked on the delegated decisions of the Committees or Scrutiny Committee contained in the Digest of Decision No.d 5 and 6 (2013-2014).

THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR

(NOTE: The meeting started at 7.00 pm and ended at 10.10 pm)

