

Minutes of: COUNCIL

Date of Meeting: 20 March 2024

Present: The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor , in the Chair)
Councillors A Arif, S Arif, N Bayley, R Bernstein, D Berry, C Birchmore, C Boles, A Booth, N Boroda, R Brown, C Cummins, L Dean, D Duncalfe, U Farooq, E FitzGerald, N Frith, I Gartside, R Gold, D Green, J Grimshaw, S Haroon, J Harris, M Hayes, K Hussain, B Ibrahim, J Lancaster, G Marsden, L McBriar, G McGill, C Morris, E Moss, E O'Brien, T Pilkington, A Quinn, D Quinn, T Rafiq, M Rubinstein, J Rydeheard, L Ryder, M Smith, G Staples-Jones, T Tariq, S Thorpe, D Vernon, S Walmsley, M Walsh, M Whitby and Y Wright

Apologies for Absence Councillor L Smith

Public Attendance: 40 members of the public attended the meeting.

C. 7 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors, Booth, Berry, Birchmore and Harris declared a personal interest in the Places for Everyone item as members of "Bury Folk Keep It Green".

Councillor S Arif declared a prejudicial interest in respect of the Licensing Committee review of the emissions standard and left the meeting for consideration of this item.

Councillor J Rydeheard declared a personal interest in the item, review of the emissions standards, when working for his previous employer, he had undertaken legal work for the Licensing Trade.

C. 8 MAYORAL COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Madam Mayor updated Members on duties undertaken as Bury first citizen since the last Council meeting.

C. 9 MINUTES

That the minutes be approved and signed by the Mayor.

C. 10 NOTICE OF MOTION - YOUTH CABINET

Council considered a motion received by Members of the Youth Cabinet

In December 2023 young people from Bury's secondary schools came together to meet with decision makers and discuss issues around safety at Bury's First Circles of Safety Conference. Following the conference Bury Youth Cabinet sent a survey to all secondary schools to gain the views of a wider cohort of pupils on the issues raised. Over 1000 pupils took part. The biggest issue that young people raised as making them feel unsafe was vaping. Young people said that:

- Witnessing vaping in school makes pupils feel the environment is unsafe
- Seeing the sale of vapes to young people makes young people feel unsafe
- Young people worry about the content of vapes
- The sale of vapes causes arguments among young people
- Young people have witnessed vapes being stolen which makes them feel unsafe
- Young people are unsure about the risks of using vapes
- Young people feel vapes are targeted at children and young people

Bury Youth Cabinet acknowledges that young people are susceptible to marketing and many become addicted to vaping. Therefore they resolve that there needs to be a careful balance between sanctions and deterrents for young people who are caught vaping. Youth Cabinet resolves that there must be robust mechanisms for tackling the sales of vapes to anyone under the age of 18.

This council notes:

- According to data held by Early Break: Levels of tobacco smoking amongst young people in the local authority area continue to fall but the percentage of young people in Bury claiming to vape regularly continues to rise (16% claimed to vape more than once a week, compared to 10% in 2020)
- Increasingly young people are trying vapes either before or instead of tobacco cigarettes.
- Young people try out of curiosity and because their friends vape.
- The flavours are a key factor in tempting young people to vape, and also in what they buy.
- Vapes contain chemicals that can cause lung disease as well as cardiovascular disease.

Therefore this council resolves to:

- Ensure schools have relevant information for their pupils about vaping.
- Ensure schools are delivering PSHE lessons that examine assertiveness and peer pressure.
- Support Youth Cabinet with a vape amnesty project where a number of vape bins are placed around the borough. Youth Cabinet would like funds to commission an artist who would work with pupils in our schools to use the discarded vapes to build a sculpture which would then be used as part of a wider education programme delivered by Bury Youth Service.
- Lobby the government about making disposable vapes illegal and tighter restrictions on marketing.
- Investigate the sales of vapes to young people under 18.

On being put, with 43 Members voting in favour, 3 members voting against and 2 members abstaining, the Mayor declared the Motion carried.

NB: Councillor Haroon was not in the Chamber when the vote took place.

C. 11 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Notice had been received of the following questions:

Questioner	Topic	Responding
Harriet Levy	Prestwich Park Road South	Cllr A Quinn
Dr Binns	Independent Conservation Appraisals	Cllr A Quinn
Josh Harcup	Radcliffe SRF	Cllr O'Brien
Jodie Hook	Croft lane resurfacing	Cllr A Quinn
Andrew Luxton	Places for Everyone (PfE)	Cllr O'Brien
Adam Loster	Brandleshome Road Safety	Cllr A Quinn
Philip Smith Lawrence	Northern Gateway	Cllr O'Brien
Insufficient time to answer		
Stephen Cleur	PfE	Cllr O'Brien

C. 12 PLACES FOR EVERYONE

It was moved by Councillor O'Brien and seconded by Councillor A Quinn and following a request for a recorded vote, from 8 Councillors present, it was agreed with;

Councillors A Arif, Bayley, Boles, Boroda, Cummins, Farooq, Fitzgerald, Frith, Gold, Green, Grimshaw, Haroon, Hayes, Ibrahim, McGill, Morris, Moss, O'Brien, Pilkington, Quinn Alan, Quinn Deborah, Rafiq, Rubinstein, Ryder, Staples-Jones Gareth, Tariq, Thorpe, Walmsley, Whitby **voting for**;

And

Councillors S Arif, Bernstein, Brown, Dean, Gartside, Harris, Hussain, Lancaster, McBriar, Rydeheard, Vernon, Birchmore, Berry, Booth, Duncalfe, Marsden, Mike Smith, Walsh and Y Wright **voting against**.

The Mayor declared that the motion was carried and Council agreed to:

Accept the findings of the Inspectors' Report and approve the Main Modifications to the Places for Everyone Joint Development Plan Document proposed by the independent Inspectors, as set out in [Appendix 1.1 and 1.2](#) to this report, for incorporation into the final version of the Places for Everyone Joint Development Plan Document;

Approve the amendments to the Places for Everyone Joint Development Plan Document Policies Map, as set out in [Appendix 2](#) to this report, for incorporation of all the changes which relate to Bury Council's administrative area into the Bury Policies Map;

Approve the Additional Modifications to the Places for Everyone Joint Development Plan Document, as set out in [Appendix 3](#) to this report, for incorporation into the final version of the Places for Everyone Joint Development Plan Document;

Adopt the Places for Everyone Joint Development Plan Document 2022 – 2039 (provided in [Appendix 4](#)), with effect from 21 March 2024 – incorporating the Main Modifications and Additional Modifications – as part of the Development Plan for Bury, in accordance with Section 23 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended);

Adopt the Policies Map ([Appendix 5](#)) which incorporates the Modifications to it ([Appendix 2](#)) and is necessary to give effect to the policies of the Places for Everyone Joint Development Plan Document; and

Delegate authority to the Executive Director (Place), to make any minor non-material editorial amendments to the Places for Everyone Joint Development Plan Document and Policies Map ahead of its final publication, subject to consultation and agreement with the eight other Places for Everyone authorities. These amendments will be limited to correcting minor errors and formatting text.

C. 13 CONSTITUTIONAL UPDATE REPORT

It was moved by Councillor Rafiq and seconded by Councillor O'Brien and it was agreed, with all Members voting in favour and the Mayor abstaining:

The following wording to be included in the Constitution:

Candidates are not allowed to use Bury Town Hall as their address on their imprints on electronic campaigning material.

C. 14 RECOMMENDATIONS OF CABINET AND COUNCIL COMMITTEES

(I) Democratic Arrangements Forum – Meetings Timetable

It was moved by Councillor O'Brien and seconded by Councillor Bernstein and it was agreed, with all Members voting in favour and the Mayor abstaining that:

The meeting timetable was agreed for 2024.25.

(II) Licensing Safety Committee – review of the emissions standards

It was moved by Councillor Morris and seconded by Councillor McGill and it was agreed, with all Members voting in favour, the Mayor and Councillors Bernstein, Brown, Dean, Gartside, Harris, Hussain, Lancaster, McBriar, Rydeheard and Vernon, abstaining that:

Full Council approves, for existing vehicle licence proprietors:

That the transitional arrangements amended by Full Council on 22 March 2023, in relation to age and emissions, previously extended from 1 April 2024 to 1 April 2026, are amended again and to be in effect from 1 January 2026. This will enable hackney carriage and private hire vehicle owners to meet the agreed GM emissions standard outlined in the revised GM Clean Air Plan submissions. The amended policy will state that from 31 December 2024 a vehicle licence will not be renewed if the vehicle does not meet the current emission standard.

NB : Councillor S Arif was not in the Chamber when the vote took place.

(III) Standards Committee – review of the code of conduct

It was moved by Councillor Rafiq and seconded by Councillor Walmsley and it was agreed, with all Members voting in favour that:

That Full Council approve the updated and amended Model Code produced by the Monitoring Officer following work undertaken by the Standards Committee and their working groups.

(IV) Employment Panel - Changes to the Officer Employment Procedure Rules

It was moved by Councillor Rafiq and seconded by Councillor O'Brien and it was agreed, with all Members voting in favour and the Mayor Abstaining that:

Council approves, the revised Officer Employment Procedure Rules.

(V) Employment Panel – Annual Pay Statement

It was moved by Councillor Rafiq and seconded by Councillor O'Brien and it was agreed, with all Members voting in favour and the Mayor Abstaining that:

Council approves the proposed Pay Policy Statement for 2024/2025.

(VI) Cabinet – Proposed appointment of Deputy Mayor

It was moved by Councillor O'Brien and seconded by Councillor Whitby and it was agreed, with all Members voting in favour that:

That Councillor Noel Bayley be appointed as Deputy Mayor for the Civic year 2024/25, to be approved at the Council's annual mayor making ceremony.

C. 15 LEADER' STATEMENT AND CABINET QUESTION TIME

(a) Written question (Notice given)

The Leader of the Council, Councillor E O'Brien, 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:

	Questioner	Cabinet Member	Topic
1	Cllr Lancaster	Cllr Gold	White Ribbon Campaign
2	Cllr Haroon	Cllr Tariq	Real Living Wage
3	Cllr FitzGerald	Cllr Gold	Spending Cuts
4	Cllr Dean	Cllr Gold	Bury Times Spend
5	Cllr Birchmore	Cllr Thorpe	School Place Allocations
6	Cllr Pilkington	Leader	CRSTS funding
7	Cllr D Quinn	Cllr Tariq	Household support fund
8	Cllr McBriar	Cllr Thorpe	Secondary Schools in the Borough
9	Cllr M Smith	Leader	Radcliffe Market
10	Cllr Ryder	Cllr Gold	Knife agent
11	Cllr Staples Jones	Cllr A Quinn	3G football facility
12	Cllr Brown	Cllr Morris	Market hall
13	Cllr Frith	Cllr Thorpe	Circles of influence event

Due to the lack of time to answer questions 14 to 19 inclusive, the Leader gave an undertaking that copies of those questions and responses will be circulated to all Councillors. The Leader also gave an undertaking to make these available on the Council Web Site.

b) Verbal Questions

Questioner	Cabinet Member	Topic
Cllr Bernstein	Cllr O'Brien	Policing in Bury Town Centre
Cllr M Smith	Cllr Cummins	Housing Advisory Board
Cllr B Ibrahim	Cllr Morris	Bury FC
Cllr Farooq	Cllr O'Brien	Bus control
Cllr McBriar	Cllr S Thorpe	Planning
Cllr Staples Jones	Cllr O'Brien	Lets Fix it
Cllr Vernon	Cllr A Quinn	Council Communications
Cllr Green	Cllr O'Brien	Roll out of 5G
Cllr N Frith	Cllr A Quinn	Drop down kerbs
Cllr J Lancaster	Cllr A Quinn	Drainage and cleansing regime

C. 16 COUNCIL MOTION TRACKER

The Council motion tracker was circulated for information.

C. 17 SCRUTINY REVIEW REPORTS AND SPECIFIC ITEMS "CALLED IN" BY SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

There were no scrutiny review reports and specific items called in.

C. 18 QUESTIONS ON THE WORK OF OUTSIDE BODIES OR PARTNERSHIPS

There were no questions on the work of the outside bodies.

THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR

(Note: The meeting started at 7.05pm and ended at 22.40pm)