

Minutes

At a meeting of the Full Council held at Council Chamber, County Hall, Preston,
on Thursday, 22nd February, 2018

Present:

County Councillor Terry Aldridge (Chairman)

County Councillors

A Ali	J Fillis	M Parkinson
T Ashton	A Gardiner	J Parr
A Atkinson	J Gibson	M Pattison
M Barron	G Gooch	M Perks
L Beavers	M Green	E Pope
J Berry	P V Greenall	J Potter
P Britcliffe	P Hayhurst	J Purcell
I Brown	N Hennessy	J Rear
P Buckley	S Holgate	P Rigby
T Burns	A Hosker	A Riggott
J Burrows	D Howarth	M Salter
Mrs S Charles	K Iddon	A Schofield
A Cheetham	M Iqbal	J Shedwick
S Clarke	A Kay	D T Smith
A Clempson	H Khan	K Snape
Ms L Collinge	E Lewis	A Snowden
L Cox	Ms S Malik	P Steen
C Crompton	J Marsh	J Sumner
M Dad	T Martin	M Tomlinson
B Dawson	J Mein	C Towneley
F De Molfetta	J Molineux	S Turner
G Dowding	S C Morris	A Vincent
G Driver	Y Motala	C Wakeford
J Eaton	E Nash	D Whipp
C Edwards	D O'Toole	G Wilkins
K Ellard	Mrs L Oades	P Williamson
D Foxcroft	G Oliver	

1. Apologies and Announcements

Apologies for absence were presented on behalf of County Councillors Joe Cooney and Barrie Yates.

Announcements

Death

The Chair reported the recent sad death of former County Councillor George Woods MBE, who passed away on 23 January 2018.

The Council stood in silent tribute.

Award of MBE

Afrasiab Anwar, Community Faith Co-ordinator in the School Improvement Service, was recently awarded an MBE by Her Majesty The Queen in the New Year's Honours List.

The award was in recognition of the pivotal role which Afrasiab had played in promoting inclusion and community relations across Lancashire and beyond through his work with schools, community and faith organisations, and partners.

Afrasiab, together with his line manager, Alison Lloyd, was present at Full Council and was congratulated by the Full Council on his award and his work.

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Name of Councillor	Agenda Item Number	Nature of Interest (non-pecuniary unless stated)
Peter Steen	Notice of Motion 3 - Grant Maintained Nurseries	Wife is a Governor of Bacup Maintained Nursery

3. Confirmation of the Minutes from the Meetings held on 14 December 2017 and 8 February 2018

Resolved: - That the minutes of the meetings of Full Council held on 14 December 2017 and 8 February 2018 be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

4. Finding of the Local Government Ombudsman - 7 November 2017

County Councillor Graham Gooch, Cabinet Member for Adult Services, moved a report setting out details of actions that had already been taken in response to the Ombudsman's recommendations following an investigation into a complaint about adult social care services.

Resolved: - That:

- (i) The recommendations set out in the Local Government Ombudsman's report, as set out at Appendix 'A' of the report now presented, be noted.
- (ii) The actions already taken be noted and the further steps proposed in response to the report's recommendations, as set out in the report now presented, be endorsed.

5. Members' Allowance Scheme 2018/19

County Councillor Geoff Driver moved a report setting out the proposed Members' Allowance Scheme for 2018/19.

County Councillor David Whipp proposed the following amendment, seconded by County Councillor David Howarth:

The addition to the existing recommendation of "That the Leader's Special Responsibility Allowance be reduced by 10%, with pro-rata reductions to other Special Responsibility Allowances".

The amendment was put to the vote and was LOST.

County Councillor Paul Greenall proposed the following further amendment, seconded by County Councillor Paul Hayhurst:

In view of the recent 5.99% increase in Council Tax and the ongoing need for the County Council to make savings, the following modest reductions to the members allowance scheme will be made with effect from April 1st, 2018:

- (i) Councillors will not be entitled to claim travel expenses from home to County Hall as this should be treated as their normal place of work and covered by their basic allowance.
- (ii) Councillors will not be entitled to claim subsistence allowances when attending meetings at County Hall as this should be considered as covered by their basic allowance.
- (iii) The special responsibility payments made to political group whips and secretaries will cease.
- (iv) In accordance with current and historical practice within Parliament, the percentage of Councillors who receive a special responsibility allowance will be set to a maximum of 22% of all elected members.

The amendment was put to the vote and was LOST. The substantive motion was then put to the vote and was CARRIED. It was therefore:

Resolved: - That:

The 2018/19 Members' Allowance Scheme, as presented at Appendix 'A' to the report now presented, be approved.

6. The Localism Act 2011 - Pay Policy Statement 2018/19

County Councillor Geoff Driver moved a report setting out details of the County Council's proposed 2018/19 Pay Policy Statement as required by the Localism Act 2011.

Resolved: - That:

- (i) The recommendations of the Employment Committee be noted and that the 2018/19 Pay Policy Statement, as set out at Appendix 'A' to the report now presented, be approved.
- (ii) The annual adjustment to the Living Wage for centrally employed staff for 2018/19, as set out in the report now presented, be approved.

7. Amendments to the Constitution - Development Control Committee and Regulatory Committee

County Councillor Paul Rigby moved a report setting out details of proposed changes to the County Council's Constitution in relation to the Development Control Committee and the Regulatory Committee.

County Councillor Steve Holgate proposed the following amendment, seconded by County Councillor Lizzi Collinge:

The addition of "and Scrutiny Committee Chairs and Deputy Chairs" at the end of item (ii) in the Executive Summary.

The amendment was put to the vote and was LOST. The substantive motion was then put to the vote and was CARRIED. It was therefore:

Resolved: - That:

- (i) The changes, as set out in the report now presented, to Standing Order 19(2) and to the Terms of Reference of the Development Control Committee, be approved.
- (ii) The Director of Corporate Services be authorised to make any other consequential changes to the Council's Constitution arising from this report.

8. Financial Threshold for Key Decisions

County Councillor Geoff Driver moved a report setting out details of the financial threshold above which decisions should be treated as Key Decisions as defined in Standing Order 25(1).

Resolved: - That the financial threshold for Key Decisions, for the purposes of Standing Order 25(1), as set out in the report now presented, should remain at £1.5m for 2018/19.

9. Report of the Cabinet (Part B)

County Councillor Geoff Driver moved the report of the Cabinet from its meetings on 18 January and 1 February 2018.

Resolved: - That the report of the Cabinet, now presented, be noted.

10(a) The Urgency Committee

County Councillor Geoff Driver moved the report of the Urgency Committee setting out details of decisions taken by the Council's Monitoring Officer and the Interim Chief Executive and Director of Resources under the County Council's Urgent Business Procedure on behalf of the Urgency Committee.

Resolved: - That the report of the Urgency Committee, now presented, be noted.

10(b) The Audit, Risk and Governance Committee

County Councillor Alan Schofield moved the report of the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee from its meeting on 29 January 2018.

Resolved: - That the report of the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee, now presented, be noted.

10(c) The Overview and Scrutiny Committees

County Councillor David O'Toole moved the report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees from their meetings as follows:

- Children's Services Scrutiny Committee - 6 December 2017 and 31 January 2018
- Education Scrutiny Committee - 28 November 2017
- Health Scrutiny Committee - 12 December 2017 and 23 January 2018
- Internal Scrutiny Committee - 19 January 2018

Resolved: - That the report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees, now presented, be noted.

11. Report of the Lancashire Combined Fire Authority

County Councillor Frank De Molfetta moved the report of the Lancashire Combined Fire Authority from its meeting on 18 December 2017.

Resolved: - That the report of the Lancashire Combined Fire Authority, now presented, be noted.

**12. Notices of Motion submitted under Procedural Standing Order
14.2.1(a) (Part C)**

**1. It was moved by County Councillor Gina Dowding and seconded by
County Councillor Paul Hayhurst that:**

According to recent research, eight million metric tons of plastic waste ends up in the world's oceans each year [1], endangering marine life. There is also a growing understanding of the risks posed to human health by toxic chemicals present in plastics [2]. Less than a year after the introduction of the 5p bag charge, use of single-use plastic bags had already dropped by 85% [3], 300 million tons of plastic are produced around the globe each year. Public awareness of the problems of our throwaway culture is at an all-time high.

It is time for Lancashire to take a lead on this issue.

Council resolves to ask Cabinet to:

- (i) Develop a robust strategy to make Lancashire County Council a 'single-use-plastic-free' authority by the end of 2018 and encourage the county's institutions, businesses and citizens to adopt similar measures;
- (ii) End the sale and provision of SUP products such as bottles, cups, cutlery and drinking straws in council buildings, events and services;
- (iii) Encourage schools and social care facilities to adopt measures, with the aim of phasing out single-use plastic, for example containers and cutlery in their premises by the end of 2018;
- (iv) Ensure that the County Council, via its procurement of goods and suppliers, has integrated the aim to end SUPs by suppliers by 2018 wherever feasible and appropriate.

[1] <http://www.sciencemag.org/content/347/6223/768>

[2] <http://rstb.royalsocietypublishing.org/content/364/1526/2153.short#sec-5>

[3] <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2016/jul/30/england-plastic-bag->

The following amendment was proposed by County Councillor Graham Gooch and seconded by County Councillor Philippa Williamson:

According to recent research, eight million metric tons of plastic waste ends up in the world's oceans each year, endangering marine life. There is also a growing understanding of the risks posed to human health by toxic chemicals present in plastics.

Less than a year after the introduction of the 5p bag charge, use of single-use plastic (SUP) bags had already dropped by 85%, 300 million tons of plastic are produced around the globe each year. Public awareness of the problems of our throwaway culture is at an all-time high.

It is time for Lancashire to take a lead on this issue.

Council resolves to ask Cabinet to work towards:

- (i) Developing a robust strategy to make Lancashire County Council a 'single-use-plastic-free' authority and encourage the county's institutions, businesses and citizens to adopt similar measures;
- (ii) Ending the sale and provision of SUP products such as bottles, cups, cutlery and drinking straws in council buildings, events and services;
- (iii) Encouraging schools and social care facilities to adopt measures, with the aim of phasing out single-use plastic, for example containers and cutlery in their premises;
- (iv) Ensuring that the County Council, via its procurement of goods and suppliers, has integrated the aim to end the use of SUP products by suppliers wherever feasible and appropriate;
- (v) Exploring measures to encourage District and Borough Councils and other statutory partners of Lancashire County Council within Lancashire to adopt a rigorous enforcement policy on disposal of SUP products.

The amendment was accepted and became the substantive motion. The substantive motion was then put to the vote and was CARRIED. It was therefore:

Resolved: - That:

According to recent research, eight million metric tons of plastic waste ends up in the world's oceans each year, endangering marine life. There is also a growing understanding of the risks posed to human health by toxic chemicals present in plastics.

Less than a year after the introduction of the 5p bag charge, use of single-use plastic (SUP) bags had already dropped by 85%, 300 million tons of plastic are produced around the globe each year. Public awareness of the problems of our throwaway culture is at an all-time high.

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- (i) Developing a robust strategy to make Lancashire County Council a 'single-use-plastic-free' authority and encourage the county's institutions, businesses and citizens to adopt similar measures;
- (ii) Ending the sale and provision of SUP products such as bottles, cups, cutlery and drinking straws in council buildings, events and services;
- (iii) Encouraging schools and social care facilities to adopt measures, with the aim of phasing out single-use plastic, for example containers and cutlery in their premises;
- (iv) Ensuring that the County Council, via its procurement of goods and suppliers, has integrated the aim to end the use of SUP products by suppliers wherever feasible and appropriate;

- (v) Exploring measures to encourage District and Borough Councils and other statutory partners of Lancashire County Council within Lancashire to adopt a rigorous enforcement policy on disposal of SUP products.

2. It was moved by County Councillor Christian Wakeford and seconded by County Councillor Jenny Purcell that:

Lancashire County Council welcomes the announcement made by the Secretary of State for Transport, Rt. Hon. Chris Grayling that the Department for Transport and Transport for the North are funding a feasibility study into the reopening of the Colne to Skipton railway line. The study which will report by Summer 2018 will take into account the viability and business case for reopening the line.

Council recognises the huge benefit the reopening of the line could have for East Lancashire both economically and connectivity but Council also recognises there are further opportunities to improve connectivity East to West and will continue to work towards a deliverable plan for a Colne and villages bypass that would not only ease congestion but also provide a huge economic boost.

Council therefore resolves to:

- (i) Welcome the study into the reopening of the Colne to Skipton railway line.
- (ii) Reaffirm its support for the line to be reopened.
- (iii) To contribute and support as necessary the Department for Transport and Transport for the North throughout the study.
- (iv) Pay tribute to SELRAP for all their work and campaign to have the line reopened.
- (v) Thank Andrew Stephenson MP and Julian Smith MP who both played pivotal roles in securing the funding for the study from the Department of Transport.
- (vi) Continue to explore all options for a Colne and villages bypass.

The following amendment was proposed by County Councillor Mohammed Iqbal and seconded by County Councillor Azhar Ali:

Lancashire County Council welcomes the announcement made by the Secretary of State for Transport, Rt. Hon. Chris Grayling that the Department for Transport and Transport for the North are funding a feasibility study into the reopening of the Colne to Skipton railway line. The study which will report by Summer 2018 will take into account the viability and business case for reopening the line.

Lancashire County Council also welcome the announcement by John McDonnell MP to committing to re-opening the Colne to Skipton railway line.

Council recognises the huge benefit the reopening of the line could have for East Lancashire both economically and connectivity but Council also recognises there are further opportunities to improve connectivity East to West and will continue to

work towards a deliverable plan for a Colne and villages bypass that would not only ease congestion but also provide a huge economic boost.

Council therefore resolves to:

- (i) Welcome the study into the reopening of the Colne to Skipton railway line.
- (ii) Reaffirm its support for the line to be reopened.
- (iii) To contribute and support as necessary the Department for Transport and Transport for the North throughout the study.
- (iv) Pay tribute to SELRAP for all their work and campaign to have the line reopened.
- (v) Thank all political parties who are playing a pivotal role in the reopening of the Colne to Skipton railway line.
- (vi) Continue to explore all options for a Colne and villages bypass.

The amendment was put to the vote and was LOST.

The substantive motion was then put to the vote and was CARRIED. It was therefore:

Resolved: - That:

Lancashire County Council welcomes the announcement made by the Secretary of State for Transport, Rt. Hon. Chris Grayling that the Department for Transport and Transport for the North are funding a feasibility study into the reopening of the Colne to Skipton railway line. The study which will report by Summer 2018 will take into account the viability and business case for reopening the line.

Council recognises the huge benefit the reopening of the line could have for East Lancashire both economically and connectivity but Council also recognises there are further opportunities to improve connectivity East to West and will continue to work towards a deliverable plan for a Colne and villages bypass that would not only ease congestion but also provide a huge economic boost.

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- (ii) Reaffirm its support for the line to be reopened.
- (iii) To contribute and support as necessary the Department for Transport and Transport for the North throughout the study.
- (iv) Pay tribute to SELRAP for all their work and campaign to have the line reopened.
- (v) Thank Andrew Stephenson MP and Julian Smith MP who both played pivotal roles in securing the funding for the study from the Department of Transport.
- (vi) Continue to explore all options for a Colne and villages bypass.

3. It was moved by County Councillor Sobia Malik and seconded by County Councillor Nikki Hennessy that:

In Lancashire we are fortunate to have many Ofsted rated outstanding nursery schools across the county. These grant maintained nurseries serve children and their families in our most deprived communities. Having listened to many of those head teachers talk about the pressures they face in their work, it is clear their greatest concern is being able to remain viable up to, and beyond, 2020.

To remain outstanding in socio-economically challenging contexts means caring day in and day out, above and beyond the call of duty. That is the calibre of professionals we have working in early years. It's worth noting the early years sector in Lancashire has a higher proportion of Ofsted rated outstanding schools than any other education sector in the county.

This Council resolves to:

- (i) Instruct the Interim Chief Executive and Director of Resources to write to the Secretary of State for Education asking him for a meeting with an all-party delegation from Lancashire County Council to discuss the early year funding challenges facing our nursery schools.
- (ii) Arrange an all-party meeting with all Lancashire MPs to discuss lobbying for funding changes to support our children.
- (iii) Establish a Scrutiny Task and Finish Group to look in to the difficulties faced by Lancashire grant maintained nursery schools and report back to Full Council in May 2018.

The following amendment was proposed by County Councillor Susie Charles and seconded by County Councillor Philippa Williamson:

In Lancashire we are fortunate to have many Ofsted rated outstanding nursery schools across the county. These grant maintained nurseries serve children and their families in our most deprived communities.

To remain outstanding means caring day in and day out, above and beyond the call of duty. That is the calibre of professionals we have working in early years. It's worth noting that the early years sector in Lancashire has a higher proportion of Ofsted rated outstanding schools than any other education sector in the county.

This Council notes that grant maintained nurseries will be an item at Education Scrutiny in June for discussion.

The amendment was put to the vote and was CARRIED and became the substantive motion. The substantive motion was then put to the vote and was CARRIED. It was therefore:

Resolved: - That:

In Lancashire we are fortunate to have many Ofsted rated outstanding nursery schools across the county. These grant maintained nurseries serve children and their families in our most deprived communities.

To remain outstanding means caring day in and day out, above and beyond the call of duty. That is the calibre of professionals we have working in early years. It's worth noting that the early years sector in Lancashire has a higher proportion of Ofsted rated outstanding schools than any other education sector in the county.

This Council notes that grant maintained nurseries will be an item at Education Scrutiny in June for discussion.

4. It was moved by County Councillor Steve Holgate and seconded by County Councillor Lizzi Collinge that:

This Council believes that local authorities should retain the powers to approve or reject fracking planning applications. Council instructs the Interim Chief Executive and Director of Resources to respond to the select committee inquiry with a statement that supports retaining local government powers in this area.

The key reasons for this are:

- Decisions should be made at the most local level possible - this is the principle of subsidiarity.
- Fracking is an extremely important issue for local people and their local representatives, accountable to them directly, should be accountable for planning decisions leading to any fracking.
- The exploratory nature of fracking, and the fact that it does not contribute to our energy needs in any significant way, means that it cannot be considered national infrastructure.

The following amendment was proposed by County Councillor Michael Green and seconded by County Councillor Aidy Riggott:

This Council believes that local authorities should retain the powers to approve or reject fracking planning applications. Decisions should be made by the County Council, having due regard to current planning policy as set out in the development plan, Government guidance on the National Planning Policy Framework and material planning considerations.

Council therefore resolves to instruct the Interim Chief Executive and Director of Resources to respond to the select committee inquiry with a statement that supports retaining local government powers in this area. The response should also address the other questions about planning policy and guidance posed by the Committee, drawing on the County Council's unique experience in this area.

The amendment was accepted and became the substantive motion. The substantive motion was then put to the vote and was CARRIED. It was therefore:

Resolved: - That:

This Council believes that local authorities should retain the powers to approve or reject fracking planning applications. Decisions should be made by the County Council, having due regard to current planning policy as set out in the development plan, Government guidance on the National Planning Policy Framework and material planning considerations.

Council therefore resolves to instruct the Interim Chief Executive and Director of Resources to respond to the select committee inquiry with a statement that supports retaining local government powers in this area. The response should also address the other questions about planning policy and guidance posed by the Committee, drawing on the County Council's unique experience in this area.

5. It was moved by County Councillor Lorraine Beavers and seconded by County Councillor Azhar Ali that:

Following the successful free swimming projects in Fleetwood and Pendle it is important to continue to address the health inequalities across Lancashire by expanding the aforementioned schemes across the County.

Therefore, this Council resolves to instruct the Interim Chief Executive and Director of Resources and the Director of Public Health to work with the Clinical Commissioning Groups, Health and Wellbeing Partnerships, Leisure Trusts and other partners to introduce 'free swimming' for all school children residing in Lancashire, in part using the public health grant.

The following amendment was proposed by County Councillor Shaun Turner and seconded by County Councillor David Foxcroft:

Following the free swimming projects in Fleetwood and Pendle it is important to evaluate its success in terms of encouraging children to be more active and whether this could be further expanded.

Therefore, this Council resolves to refer this to the Health and Wellbeing Board so that its impact and effectiveness can be fully considered ahead of committing more funding to this initiative.

The amendment was accepted and became the substantive motion. The substantive motion was then put to the vote and was CARRIED. It was therefore:

Resolved: - That:

Following the free swimming projects in Fleetwood and Pendle it is important to evaluate its success in terms of encouraging children to be more active and whether this could be further expanded.

Therefore, this Council resolves to refer this to the Health and Wellbeing Board so that its impact and effectiveness can be fully considered ahead of committing more funding to this initiative.

Angie Ridgwell
Interim Chief Executive and
Director of Resources

County Hall
Preston