

Minutes

At a meeting of the Full Council held at Council Chamber, County Hall, Preston,
on Thursday, 26 February, 2015

Present:

County Councillor Kevin Ellard (Chair)

County Councillors

M Brindle	J Fillis	Mrs L Oades
T Aldridge	J Gibson	J Oakes
A Ali	G Gooch	M Otter
A Atkinson	M Green	M Parkinson
A Barnes	J Hanson	N Penney
M Barron	Dr M Hassan	S Perkins
L Beavers	P Hayhurst	C Pritchard
D Borrow	C Henig	S Prynne
P Britcliffe	N Hennessy	P Rigby
I Brown	S Holgate	A Schofield
K Brown	D Howarth	K Sedgewick
T Brown	K Iddon	S Serridge
P Buckley	M Iqbal	J Shedwick
A Cheetham	A James	R Shewan
A Clempson	M Johnstone	D T Smith
D Clifford	A Jones	K Snape
Mrs F Craig-Wilson	J Lawrenson	D Stansfield
C Crompton	D Lord	J Sumner
M Dad	T Martin	V Taylor
B Dawson	J Mein	M Tomlinson
F De Molfetta	G Molineux	D Westley
C Dereli	Y Motala	D Whipp
M Devaney	B Murray	G Wilkins
G Dowding	R Newman-Thompson	B Winlow
G Driver	D O'Toole	B Yates

1. Apologies and Announcements

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Apologies

Apologies for absence were presented on behalf of County Councillors T Ashton, S Charles, A Kay, M Perks, C Wakeford, P White and D Watts

Death

The Chairman reported the sad death on 21 February of former County Councillor Jeremiah Jenkinson.

Mr Jenkinson was elected as a Conservative county councillor to the Preston Rural electoral division in 1977 until 1981 and was then elected to represent South Ribble West from 1981 until 1993. He was also a South Ribble borough councillor and was Mayor of South Ribble from 1985 to 1986.

A number of members spoke in his memory and offered condolences to his family. The Full Council stood in silent tribute.

New Year Honour

The Chairman was proud to announce that Julie Morrow, Head of Appletree Nursery School in Lancaster and Stoneygate Nursery School in Preston, and their associated Children's Centres, had been awarded an OBE in the New Year Honours List for her services to children and families.

The Chairman asked that the congratulations of all councillors to Ms Morrow for her achievements be placed on record.

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

None disclosed.

3. Confirmation of Minutes from meeting held on 18 December (Special Meeting) and 18 December (Ordinary Meeting)

Resolved: That the Minutes of the meetings of the County Council held on the 18 December 2014 be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

4. Appointment of Section 151 Officer

The Full Council was asked to approve the appointment of Damon Lawrenson as the Council's Section151 officer with effect from 2 March 2015 on the basis set out in the report now presented.

Resolved: That the appointment of Damon Lawrenson as the County Council's Section 151 officer with effect from 2 March 2015, on the basis set out in the report now presented, be approved.

5. The Localism Act 2011 - Pay Policy Statement 2015/16

The Leader reported that the Employment Committee, at its meeting on 23 February, had agreed that the 2015/16 Pay Policy statement, as set out in the report now presented, be approved by the Full Council. The Pay Policy statement would be amended to reflect the new senior officer management structure from 1 April 2015.

Resolved: That the 2015/16 Pay Policy Statement, as set out at Appendix A to the report now presented, and amended from 1 April 2015 to reflect the new senior officer management structure, be approved.

6. Members Allowance Scheme 2015/16

The report set out the proposed Members' Allowance Scheme for 2015/16.

Resolved: That the 2015/16 Members' Allowance Scheme, as set out in the report now presented, be approved.

7. Financial Threshold for Key Decisions 2015/16

The report explained that the Council was required, each year, to specify the financial threshold above which "domestic" decisions (affecting the internal workings of the Authority) should be treated as Key Decisions as defined in Standing Order 25(1)(b).

It was recommended that the financial threshold for Key Decisions should remain unchanged at £1.4m for 2015/16.

Resolved: That the financial threshold for Key Decisions, for the purposes of Standing Order 25(1)(b), remain at £1.4m for 2015/16.

8. Appointment of Chair and Deputy Chair - Audit and Governance Committee

The Full Council was asked to approve the appointment of:

- i. County Councillor Clare Pritchard to replace County Councillor Terry Brown as chair of the Audit and Governance Committee with immediate effect.

- ii. County Councillor Terry Brown to replace County Councillor Darren Clifford as deputy chair of the Audit and Governance Committee with immediate effect.

Resolved: That County Councillor Clare Pritchard and County Councillor Terry Brown be appointed Chair and Deputy Chair of the Audit and Governance Committee respectively, with immediate effect.

9. Report of the Cabinet (Part B)

The Leader of the Council moved Part B of the report of the Cabinet from its meetings on the on the 8 January and 5 February 2015.

Resolved: That the report of the Cabinet from its meetings on the 8 January and 5 February 2015

10. Report of Urgent Key Decisions

Resolved: That the report of urgent key decisions taken by the Leader, Deputy Leader, Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport, and the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Schools during the preceding three months, as now presented, be noted.

11a. The Overview and Scrutiny Committees

County Councillor Bill Winlow presented the reports of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees from their meetings as follows:

Committee	Date of Meeting
Scrutiny Committee	05 December 2014 16 January 2015
Health Scrutiny Committee	13 January 2015

Resolved: That the reports of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees, as now presented, be received.

11b. Audit and Governance Committee

County Councillor Clare Pritchard presented the report of the Audit and Governance Committee from its meeting on the 26 January 2015.

Resolved: That the report of the Audit and Governance Committee, as now presented, be received.

12. Report of the Combined Fire Authority

County Councillor Frank De Molfetta presented the report of the Lancashire Combined Fire Authority from its meetings on the 15 December 2014 and 16 February 2015.

Resolved: That the report of the Lancashire Combined Fire Authority, as now presented, be received.

Notices of Motion submitted under Procedural Standing Order 14.2.1(a).

County Councillor Gina Dowding had submitted a Notice of Motion under Procedural Standing Order 14.2.1(a) that related to the Defra report 'Shale Gas Rural Economy Impacts', however, she withdrew it at this point because a similar Motion had been submitted by County Councillor Marcus Johnstone as set out at number 1 below.

1. It was moved by County Councillor Marcus Johnstone and seconded by County Councillor Gina Dowding that:

Lancashire County Council calls on the Government to release a full version of the report 'Shale Gas Rural Economy Impacts' which was published by Defra in July 2014.

The report was heavily redacted when published and to date the Government has not been willing to release the full document. The Council however recognises that there is community concern regarding regulatory regimes and the availability of information relating to shale gas development.

In the interests of transparency the Council calls on the Government to release the report in full.

On being put to the vote the Motion was carried and it was:

Resolved: That,

Lancashire County Council calls on the Government to release a full version of the report 'Shale Gas Rural Economy Impacts' which was published by Defra in July 2014.

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2. It was moved by County Councillor David Whipp and seconded by County Councillor Dorothy Lord that:

County Council notes the continuing poor ambulance response times affecting Lancashire, especially in the east of the county, with performance significantly under target for Red 1 calls (the most urgent cases). Council also notes that a contributory factor to this underperformance is the queueing affecting Accident and Emergency departments.

County Council resolves that the North West Ambulance Service ,be requested to take urgent action to improve response times for casualties in those areas of Lancashire most affected by poor Red 1 performance.

There then followed a period of debate during which a number of further changes and additions were suggested.

The mover of the original Motion accepted the changes suggested and a revised Motion as set out below:

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County Council resolves that:

The North West Ambulance Service and north west CCGs be requested to take urgent action to improve response times for casualties in those areas of Lancashire most affected by poor Red 1 performance.

The county council resolves that the chairman and chief executive of the North West Ambulance Service and north west CCGs be requested as a matter of urgency to attend a meeting of the LCC Health Scrutiny Committee Steering Group to advise what measures are being undertaken to improve response times across the county including those areas most affected by poor Red 1 performance.

The revised Motion was put to the vote, and it was:

Resolved: That,

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3. It was moved by County Councillor Lord and seconded by County Councillor Whipp that:

County Council notes that passengers on Preston/Colne journeys suffer a second class rail service, with poor rolling stock, unreliable timekeeping, overcrowding, crumbling infrastructure and cancellations.

County Council calls for urgent action to remedy these failings to improve the situation in the short term and resolves to support the long term future, and consequent improvement in services, with the re-opening of the Colne to Skipton line to create an additional trans-Pennine route.

County Council instructs the Chief Executive to write to Government and relevant bodies to express the County Council's concerns and achieve these aims.

Following a period of debate the Motion was put to the vote and was carried and it was:

Resolved: That,

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Jo Turton
Chief Executive

County Hall, Preston