

Minutes

At an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Full Council, held virtually via Microsoft Teams, on Thursday, 11th February, 2021

Present:

County Councillor Susie Charles (Chairman)

County Councillors

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

1. Apologies and Announcements

Apologies for absence were received from County Councillor Liz Oades.

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

None declared.

3. Motion Submitted by County Councillor Azhar Ali OBE

With the Chairman's agreement, Full Council observed a one minute silence in memory of all those who had died across the country as a result of COVID-19, including Captain Sir Tom Moore.

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

This Council condemns the government decision to cut the number of vaccinations for the people of Lancashire which will result in more deaths across the County and increase the pressure on an already stretched NHS.

This Council resolves to ask the Chief Executive and Director of Resources to urgently write to the Prime Minister asking him to reverse the decision to cut the vaccination programme in Lancashire by a third and save lives.

The following friendly amendment was proposed by County Councillor Charlie Edwards in accordance with Standing Order B42:

This Council recognises the reports in the media that the Government had allegedly planned to reduce the number of vaccines available to Lancashire to allow other areas of the UK to catch up, following the news that the COVID vaccination programme locally had outperformed other areas of the country.

There is strong and growing evidence that vaccinations against COVID not only reduce the risk of serious illness but also significantly reduce the transmission of the virus and pressure on the NHS. For these reasons, if Lancashire is to keep pace with the rest of the country in terms of reducing infection rates and the relaxation of the current restrictions, it is absolutely vital that the excellent progress made in the vaccination programme here in Lancashire is allowed to continue unabated.

Council therefore resolves to request the Chief Executive and Director of Resources to write to the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care seeking clarity on the recent media reports that the Government sought to reduce the supply of vaccines in Lancashire and to ensure that Lancashire gets the supply it needs to maintain an effective vaccination programme and save lives.

Furthermore, the Council thanks the Lancashire Resilience Forum members; the NHS, pharmacists, Primary Care Networks, District Councils, Lancashire Fire Service and the army of volunteers who have worked tirelessly to ensure the most vulnerable in Lancashire have received at least their first dose of the vaccine. The Council encourages everyone who receives an invitation to get vaccinated to get themselves booked in to do so.

The friendly amendment was accepted by County Councillor Ali and became the substantive motion. The substantive motion was then put to the vote and was CARRIED. It was therefore:

Resolved: - That:

This Council recognises the reports in the media that the Government had allegedly planned to reduce the number of vaccines available to Lancashire to allow other areas of the UK to catch up, following the news that the COVID vaccination programme locally had outperformed other areas of the country.

There is strong and growing evidence that vaccinations against COVID not only reduce the risk of serious illness but also significantly reduce the transmission of the virus and pressure on the NHS. For these reasons, if Lancashire is to keep pace with the rest of the country in terms of reducing infection rates and the relaxation of the current restrictions, it is absolutely vital that the excellent progress made in the vaccination programme here in Lancashire is allowed to continue unabated.

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Furthermore, the Council thanks the Lancashire Resilience Forum members; the NHS, pharmacists, Primary Care Networks, District Councils, Lancashire Fire Service and the army of volunteers who have worked tirelessly to ensure the most vulnerable in Lancashire have received at least their first dose of the vaccine. The Council encourages everyone who receives an invitation to get vaccinated to get themselves booked in to do so.

Angie Ridgwell
Chief Executive and Director
of Resources

County Hall
Preston