

**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT NELSON TOWN HALL
ON 21st DECEMBER, 2017**

PRESENT –

His Worship the Mayor (Councillor David Whalley – in the Chair)

Councillors

*G. Adam
M. Adams
Nadeem Ahmed
M. Ammer
Mohammed Arshad
N. H. Ashraf
W. Blackburn
R. E. Carroll
D. Clegg
T. A. Cooney
L. M. Crossley
L. Davy
M. S. Foxley
M. Goulthorp
A. R. Greaves
K. Hartley
J. M. P. Henderson
M. Horsfield*

*M. Iqbal
Y. Iqbal
D. E. Lord
P. A. McCormick
A. Mahmood
B. Newman
J. A. Nixon
B. N. Parker
M. Sakib
K. E. Shore
J. K. Starkie
C. Teall
K. Turner
C. Wakeford
D. M. Whipp
S. Wicks
N. Younis*

(Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Nawaz Ahmed, E. Ansar, N. Butterworth, J. Cooney, S. Petty, S. E. Cockburn-Price, G. Roach, G. Waugh and P. White).



45. MINUTES

It was moved by Councillor David Whalley, seconded by Councillor James Starkie and –

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Council meeting held on 26th October, 2017 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

46. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were reminded of the legal requirements concerning the declaration of interests.

47. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE MAYOR AND LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

The Mayor invited Members to take part in a Charity Walking Football Challenge which was scheduled for Sunday 18th February, 2018 at Primet Academy Indoor Sports Hall. All proceeds would go towards the Mayor and Mayoresses charities.

Members were also invited into the Mayor's Parlour after the meeting for drinks and mince pies.

The Leader made reference to the Government's disappointing recent financial settlement which did not provide anything for District Councils. He said that Council's had been given the option to increase Council Tax from 1.99% to 2.99%. He said this was the Government cutting the grant but allowing Councils to take money from council tax payers.

The Leader also provided an update on the current position regarding the Combined Authority. At the last meeting of the Shadow Combined Authority three district councils had decided not to proceed and therefore the Combined Authority would not go ahead. The County Council had also asked for more votes and the Leader said he would be making representations about this at the Northern Powerhouse meeting in January, 2018.

The Leader also reported on the recent Sport England grant of £100m which Pendle Leisure Trust, as part of Pennine Lancashire, would benefit from. This funding was to help target people who needed help exercising and people with mental health issues.

The Leader reported he had met recently with County Councillor Keith Iddon and officers from the County Council regarding recent flooding issues on the M65.

Council were also informed that Dean Langton had withdrawn his resignation and was now staying on at the Council.

48. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE FROM THE PUBLIC TO THE LEADER

There were no questions from members of the public.

**49. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE BY MEMBERS TO THE LEADER,
A COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN OR A REPRESENTATIVE ON AN OUTSIDE BODY
ON MATTERS NOT OTHERWISE ON THE AGENDA**

There were no questions from Members to the Leader, a Committee Chairman or a representative on an outside body on matters not otherwise on the agenda.

50. REPORT BY THE LEADER ON THE EXECUTIVE'S WORK

The Leader submitted, for information, a report on the work of the Executive since the last meeting.

51. REPORT BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT TEAM

The Chairman of the Scrutiny Management Team submitted a report on Overview and Scrutiny activity since the last meeting of the Council.

52. RECORDED VOTES

Members were reminded that in accordance with Rule 17 of the Procedure at Full Council all votes on budget issues would be recorded. This was in reference to minute number 53 (General Fund Revenue Budget 2018/19) and minute number 54 (Waste Collection, Recycling and Street Cleansing).

53. GENERAL FUND REVENUE BUDGET 2018/19

At its meeting on 14th December, 2017 the Executive considered a report from the Financial Services Manager on the Council's General Fund Revenue Budget for 2018/19. At that meeting it was resolved "that the Pendle Leisure Trust's savings proposals, detailed in Appendix F(ii) to the report, be noted and, with the exception of the redevelopment of Colne Leisure Centre and the proposed price increase, the other reductions listed 8-18 be accepted and recommended to Council for approval."

It was moved by Councillor M. Iqbal , seconded by Councillor A. R. Greaves and –

RESOLVED

That the Pendle Leisure Trust's savings proposals, detailed in Appendix F(ii) to the report, be noted and, with the exception of the redevelopment of Colne Leisure Centre and the proposed price increase, the other reductions listed 8-18 be approved - subject to agreement with Colne Town Council with regards to Colne Municipal Hall.

In accordance with minute 52 above a recorded vote was taken on this issue.

Those Members voting in favour of the Motion were Councillors:

G. Adam, M. Adams, Nadeem Ahmed, M. Ammer, Mohammed Arshad, N. H. Ashraf, W. Blackburn, D. Clegg, A. R. Greaves, K. Hartley, J. M. P. Henderson, M. Iqbal, Y. Iqbal, D. E. Lord, A. Mahmood, B. Newman, J. Nixon, M. Sakib, K. E. Shore, C. Teall, C. Wakeford, D. Whalley, D. M. Whipp, S. Wicks and N. Younis.

Those Members abstaining were Councillors:

R. E. Carroll, T. A. Cooney, L. M. Crossley, L. Davy, M. S. Foxley, M. Goulthorp, M. Horsfield, P. A. McCormick, B. N. Parker, J. K. Starkie and K. Turner.

54. WASTE COLLECTION, RECYCLING AND STREET CLEANSING

At its meeting on 14th December, 2017 the Executive considered a report from the Corporate Director on the results of a consultation exercise on waste collection, recycling and street cleansing.

At that meeting it was resolved:-

- (a) That with effect from 1st April, 2018 the household refuse collection service change to fortnightly residual refuse collection with four weekly recyclable waste along with savings proposals from staffing restructure (£30,000) changes to sickness procedures (£15,000) reduction in non-contractual vehicle repairs (£15,000) and additional trade waste income (£40,000).
- (b) That the Environmental Services Manager be granted delegated authority to procure for the lease of 20,000 new wheelie bins; replace 7.5t vehicles and source new 18t vehicles as appropriate and the necessary adjustments to the Council's Capital Programme be agreed."

It was moved by Councillor M. Iqbal, seconded by Councillor D. Clegg and –

RESOLVED

- (1) That with effect from 1st April, 2018 the household refuse collection service change to fortnightly residual refuse collection with four weekly recyclable waste along with savings proposals from staffing restructure (£30,000) changes to sickness procedures (£15,000) reduction in non-contractual vehicle repairs (£15,000) and additional trade waste income (£40,000).
- (2) That the Environmental Services Manager be granted delegated authority to procure for the lease of 20,000 new wheelie bins; replace 7.5t vehicles and source new 18t vehicles as appropriate and the necessary adjustments to the Council's Capital Programme be agreed.

In accordance with minute 52 above a recorded vote was taken on this issue.

Those Members voting in favour of the Motion were Councillors:

G. Adam, M. Adams, M. Ammer, Mohammed Arshad, N. H. Ashraf, W. Blackburn, D. Clegg, T. A. Cooney, L. M. Crossley, L. Davy, M. S. Foxley, M. Goulthorp, A. R. Greaves, K. Hartley, J. M. P. Henderson, M. Horsfield, M. Iqbal, Y. Iqbal, D. E. Lord, P. A. McCormick, A. Mahmood, B. Newman, M. Sakib, K. E. Shore, J. K. Starkie, C. Teall, K. Turner, C. Wakeford, D. Whalley, D. M. Whipp, S. Wicks and N. Younis.

Those Members abstaining were Councillors:

Nadeem Ahmed, R. E. Carroll and B. N. Parker.

55. LOCAL SCHEME OF COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT 2017/18

At its meeting on 14th December, 2017 the Executive considered a report from the Financial Services Manager on the Local Scheme of Council Tax Support for 2017/18.

At that meeting it was resolved:-

- “(1) That the proposed Local Scheme of Council Tax Support, attached to the report at Appendix A, be recommended to Council in December 2017 for approval with an implementation date of 1st April, 2018.
- (2) That the Council grants delegated authority to the Financial Services Manager, in consultation with the Executive Member for Finance, so as to make any amendments to the scheme resulting from the annual updating of the detailed regulations which underpin the primary legislation.”

It was moved by Councillor M. Iqbal, seconded by Councillor A. R. Greaves and –

RESOLVED

- (1) That the proposed Local Scheme of Council Tax Support, attached to the report at Appendix A, be approved with an implementation date of 1st April, 2018.

Council (21.12.2017)

- (2) That the Financial Services Manager be granted delegated authority, in consultation with the Executive Member for Finance, so as to make any amendments to the scheme resulting from the annual updating of the detailed regulations which underpin the primary legislation.

**56. PENDLE HOMELESSNESS STRATEGY 2017-2022 AND
PENDLE HOMELESSNESS TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION POLICY 2017**

At its meeting on 19th October, 2017 the Executive considered a report from the Housing, Health and Economic Development Services Manager on the Pendle Homelessness Strategy 2017-2020 and the Pendle Homelessness Temporary Accommodation Policy 2017.

At that meeting it was resolved “that Council be recommended to approve the Pendle Homelessness Strategy 2017-2020 and the Pendle Homelessness Temporary Accommodation Policy 2017.

It was moved by Councillor A. Mahmood, seconded by Councillor M. Iqbal and –

RESOLVED

That the Pendle Homelessness Strategy 2017-2020 and the Pendle Homelessness Temporary Accommodation Policy 2017 be approved.

57. APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

Council were advised that with the impending resignation of the Financial Services Manager, Vince Green and in accordance with the Council’s Staff Employment Procedure Rules there was a requirement for a Committee of the Council to be convened, including at least one Member of the Executive, to make the appointment.

Annual Council last May did not appoint such a Committee. In advance of this Council meeting Group Leaders agreed that the Committee should be established with a composition of 2:2:2 so that the post could be advertised and interviews held without delay.

Interviews had been held on 20th December and it was reported that the Committee had been unable to make an appointment.

It was moved by Councillor M. Iqbal, seconded by Councillor A. Mahmood and –

RESOLVED

That the action taken in consultation with Group Leaders of establishing an Appointments Committee with a composition of 2 Conservative: 2 Labour: 2 Liberal Democrat councillors be ratified and the Committee be retained for the remainder of the 2017/18 Municipal Year.

58. NOTICES OF MOTION

(a) Blue Light Services

It was moved by Councillor K. Hartley, seconded by Councillor B. Newman –

Council (21.12.2017)

This Council notes with great concern the extreme strain under which 'blue-light' police, ambulance and health services are currently operating under, with our police and national health services at breaking point.

Council notes the actions of police officers conveying casualties to hospital as a last resort; the increasing burden of the police having to deal with mental health issues; the rise in recorded crime in Pendle and increase in 999 and other calls to the emergency services, leading to them, too, being at breaking point.

Council notes the continuing inadequate resources for these services as a result of so called 'austerity cuts' and the failure of the government to address these issues in the recent budget. Council also notes the impact that these demands are making on policing and ambulance response times etc.

Therefore, Council resolves to request an urgent all party meeting with the Member of Parliament for Pendle to discuss these very serious issues and ask him to use his influence in government to seek to reverse the cuts and ensure adequate resources for these vital services to Pendle residents.

RESOLVED

Accordingly.

(b) Flooding on M65

It was moved by Councillor D. Clegg, seconded by Councillor D. M. Whipp-

Council notes the extremely hazardous travelling conditions on local roads, and especially on the M65, through surface water standing on carriageways and flooding roads.

This Council requests an urgent all party meeting with Lancashire County Council to consider what action will be taken to prevent this highway flooding and reduce the risk of people being injured because of the flooding.

RESOLVED

Accordingly.

(c) Winter Gritting Service

It was moved by Councillor D. M. Whipp, seconded by Councillor D. E. Lord –

Council notes the recent persistent freezing weather and the hazardous conditions caused on roads and pavements in Pendle.

Council thanks the workers from Lancashire County Council and Pendle Borough Council together with private contractors, volunteers and residents who gritted roads and pavements during the icy spell.

However, Council notes with concern that the highway authority was slow to organise gritting of secondary routes and call in additional resources to treat treacherous icy surfaces, with the

Council (21.12.2017)

consequence that vulnerable residents and other road users risked injury for a prolonged period of time.

Council also notes that the period of freezing weather highlighted shortcomings in the provision of grit bins which allow residents to carry out gritting themselves on streets in their neighbourhoods.

Council therefore resolves that Lancashire County Council representatives meet with borough Councillors at the earliest opportunity to discuss how the winter gritting service can be improved for the benefit of Pendle residents.

RESOLVED

Accordingly.

(d) Health, Care and Wellbeing in Pennine Lancashire

It was moved by Councillor K. Hartley, seconded by Councillor A. R. Greaves -

This Council notes the Draft Pennine Plan "Our Proposals for Improving Health, Care and Wellbeing in Pennine Lancashire."

RESOLVED

Accordingly.

His Worship the Mayor _____