

MEETING OF THE

COUNCIL

TO BE HELD ON

THURSDAY 25th MARCH, 2021

AT 7.00 p.m.

The meeting is being held remotely and will be live streamed on the Council's YouTube Channel

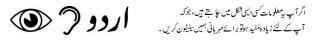
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PHILIP MOUSDALE, CORPORATE DIRECTOR

If you would like this information in a way which is better for you, please telephone us.



Under the Openness of Local Government Bodies 2014, people attending open meetings can film, audio record, take photographs or use social media. Oral commentary is not allowed during meetings as it would be disruptive. If you are attending a meeting you need to be aware that you may be filmed by others attending. This is not within our control.



AGENDA

1. Apologies

2. Declarations of Interest

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

A Member must declare a disclosable pecuniary interest which he/she has in any item on the agenda. A Member with a disclosable pecuniary interest in any item may not participate in any discussion of the matter at the meeting and must not participate in any vote taken on the matter at the meeting.

In addition the Council's Standing Orders require a Member with a disclosable pecuniary interest to leave the room where the meeting is held while any discussion or voting takes place.

3. Minutes of Council

Enc. To approve as a correct record, or otherwise, the Minutes of the meeting held on 10th December, 202 and the Special Budget Council meeting held on 11th February, 2021.

- 4. Announcements from the Mayor and Leader of the Council (if any)
- 5. Mayoralty

Enc. To consider the attached report from the Corporate Director.

- 6. Questions on Notice from the Public to the Leader (if any)
- 7. 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 (if any)
- 8. Report by the Leader on the Work of the Policy and Resources Committee

Enc. A report by the Leader on the Work of the Policy and Resources Committee since the last Council meeting is attached.

9. Post of Chief Financial Officer (s151 Officer)

At the meeting on 17th December, 2019 the Council appointed the Chief Executive as statutory s151 Officer for a temporary period of 12 months.

Following a recruitment exercise the Interview Panel recommends the Council to appoint Fiona Greenway as Chief Finance Officer and statutory s151 Officer.

With the approval of Group Leaders she started work in the post on 8th March.

RECOMMENDATION

That the appointment of Fiona Greenway as Chief Finance Officer (s151 Officer) be confirmed with effect from 8th March, 2021.

10. Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2021/22

Enc. To consider the attached report from the Chief Finance Officer.

11. Consultation on Reorganisation of Local Government in Cumbria and North Yorkshire

Enc. To consider the attached report from the Chief Executive.

12. Pay Policy Statement 2021

Enc. To consider the attached Pay Policy Statement for 2021.

13. Notices of Motion

(a) Levelling Up

To be moved by Councillor D. Whipp and seconded by Councillor T. Greaves –

Council notes Government's stated objective to 'level up' disadvantaged areas.

But notes that recent announcements offer little prospect of genuine levelling up deprived areas such as we have in Pendle. Council finance settlements continue to penalise areas with low valuations leading to Council Tax hitting those in the poorest areas hardest; the impact of austerity is still being felt for authorities like Pendle Council; one-off funding opportunities represent only a fraction of the funding lost to our area in recent years; and financial mechanisms such as New Homes Bonus rob the poor to pay the rich. Council therefore resolves to request the Prime Minister and Chancellor of the Exchequer to consider and implement effective changes to genuinely level up conditions for people in Pendle.

(b) Gib Hill Community Asset Transfer

To be moved by Councillor J. Nixon and seconded by Councillor N. McGowan –

The Council notes the formation of a community group to protect, promote, enhance and manage the natural upland environment in Pendle. This group, which has hundreds of supporters, has applied to the Charity Commission to register "Hillside Heroes" as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. Furthermore, it has received pledges that would pay for a series of survey visits by the Lancashire Wildlife Trust (LWT) to Gib Hill, which straddles the Colne and Nelson border, to fully assess the ecological richness it is thought to host. Hillside Heroes has taken advice from LWT on the optimum land management strategy that would ensure that biodiversity is increased to form a green lung for the residents of Pendle and beyond.

Accordingly, the Council resolves to:

Begin discussions with the proto trustees of this Group prior to beginning a Community Asset Transfer process, so that this Pendle Council owned land is held in trust as a nature reserve for the community in perpetuity by Hillside Heroes.

(c) Pandemic

To be moved by Councillor D. Lord and seconded by Councillor M. Adams –

Though Council notes that the Covid 19 epidemic is not over yet and that the lives and livelihoods of Pendle residents are still very much at risk, Council resolves that the pandemic should be commemorated in remembrance of all those who have passed away through the disease. Council requests that the Policy and Resources Committee considers appropriate ways in which this could be done.

(d) Covid 19

To be moved by Councillor J. Mills and seconded by Councillor T. Whipp -

Council reaffirms previous resolutions about Covid 19 in respect of the Find, Test, Trace, Isolate, Support system and vaccinations. Council notes that local Primary Care Networks (PCNs) together with hospital services, urgently need to resume diagnosis, treatment and management of health conditions other than Covid 19; that local GP services have been overwhelmingly dedicated to the vaccination programme in recent months, but that this is not a sustainable situation given the need to restart regular services. Council also notes the commitment of local GPs to provide first and second dose vaccinations to all those in the priority groups for whom they have been responsible.

Council recognises that vaccination centres at Colne Health Centre and Yarnspinners' Wharf, Nelson have provided an accessible local service that will be sorely missed if PCN staff are carrying out their day job.

Council therefore resolves to make strong representations to the ICS for accessible vaccination centres to be set up in Pendle in advance of the PCN provided services becoming unavailable.

(e) Housing Numbers

To be moved by Councillor D. Clegg and seconded by Councillor B. Newman -

That the housing number requirement in the Local Plan be set at 146.

(f) Community Safety

To be moved by Councillor A. Mann and seconded by Councillor D. Whipp –

This Council notes the extreme concern about the treatment of women and the feelings of safety following the recent tragic loss of life and subsequent events elsewhere in the country.

This Council also notes: the stated intent of Lancashire's Police and Crime Commissioner to provide more police officers through the increase in Council Tax for policing; local concerns about safety on our streets; a lack of visible police presence; and inadequate street lighting.

Council therefore resolves:

(1) To request the Police and Crime Commissioner and Chief Constable to ensure adequate and appropriate visible policing in Pendle with enhanced and effective neighbourhood policing teams.

(2)	To request Lancashire County Council to provide adequate street lighting and scrap their policy of deliberately dimming lamps.

(2)