

**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD AT NELSON TOWN HALL  
ON 28<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2023**

*PRESENT –*

*His Worship the Mayor (Councillor B. Newman – in the Chair)*

**Councillors**

<i>M. Adnan</i>	<i>Y. Iqbal</i>
<i>N. Ahmed</i>	<i>M. Kaleem</i>
<i>S. Ahmed</i>	<i>S. Land</i>
<i>M. Ammer</i>	<i>D. Lord</i>
<i>R. Anwar</i>	<i>A. Mahmood</i>
<i>N. Ashraf</i>	<i>K. Salter</i>
<i>M. Aslam</i>	<i>M. Strickland</i>
<i>M. Butterworth</i>	<i>M. Stone</i>
<i>R. Carroll</i>	<i>A. Sutcliffe</i>
<i>C. Church</i>	<i>Y. Tennant</i>
<i>M. Hanif</i>	<i>D. Whipp</i>
<i>M. Iqbal</i>	<i>T. Whipp</i>

*(Apologies for absence were received from Councillors F. Ahmad, D. Albin, Z. Ali, D. Cockburn-Price, S. Cockburn-Price, D. Gallear and K. McGladdery).*



**27. JAMES KEITH STARKIE**

Members observed a minute's silence following the recent passing of former Mayor Councillor James Keith Starkie. Group Leaders also acknowledged James' work within the community during his time as Councillor and Mayor and also the humour he brought to the roles. They also expressed their condolences to his family.

**28. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

**29. MINUTES**

It was moved by Councillor A. Mahmod, seconded by Councillor D. Whipp and –

**RESOLVED**

That the minutes of the Annual Council meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> July, 2023 be agreed as a correct record and signed by His Worship the Mayor.

**30. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE MAYOR AND LEADER OF THE COUNCIL**

His Worship the Mayor reminded Members of the need to follow the Councillor Code of Conduct which everyone had signed up to, not only in Council meetings but also when attending events.

**31. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE FROM THE PUBLIC TO THE LEADER**

There were no questions from members of the public.

**32. 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.

**33. REPORT BY THE LEADER ON THE WORK OF THE EXECUTIVE**

The Leader of the Council submitted a report on the work of the Executive.

The Leader answered questions on the Home Energy Efficiency Scheme, Budget Working Group and the Leisure Review.

**34. REPORT BY THE CHAIR OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

The Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee submitted a report on the work of the Committee.

**35. MEMBERSHIP OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

The Head of Legal and Democratic Services reported that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee scheduled for 14<sup>th</sup> September only two members attended and therefore the meeting was consequently inquorate and could not carry out its business.

Council were asked to increase membership of the Committee from seven to nine (based on a political balance of Conservatives 4, Labour 3 and Liberal Democrat 2) in order to reduce the likelihood of the same situation arising.

It was moved by Councillor D. Whipp, seconded by Councillor A. Mahmood and –

**RESOLVED**

That the membership of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee be increased from 7 to 9.

**36. CORPORATE PLAN 2023/27**

At a meeting of the Executive on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2023 it was resolved “that Council be recommended to approve the Council’s Corporate Plan for 2023/27.”

**MOTION**

It was moved by Councillor A. Mahmood and seconded by Councillor N. Ahmed –

That the Corporate Plan for 2023/27 be approved.

### **AMENDMENT**

It was moved by Councillor D. Whipp and seconded by Councillor T. Whipp –

That the Corporate Plan for 2023/27 be referred back to the Executive for further work.

Upon being put to the vote the amendment was LOST.

### **FURTHER AMENDMENT**

It was moved by Councillor D. Whipp and seconded by Councillor N. Ahmed –

That the following be inserted in the Corporate Plan 2023/27:

That as an overarching requirement we prioritise closing the Council's budget gap by achieving real budget savings.

Upon being put to the vote the amendment was CARRIED.

### **FURTHER AMENDMENT**

It was moved by Councillor D. Whipp and seconded by Councillor A. Mahmood –

That the following be inserted in the Corporate Plan 2023/27:

To restructure the Senior Management Team with a view to joint working and shared services with neighbouring authorities.

Upon being put to the vote the amendment was CARRIED.

### **CLOSURE MOTION**

It was moved by Councillor M. Iqbal and seconded by Councillor N. Ashraf –

That the question be put that a vote be taken on the original motion.

Upon being put to the vote this motion was CARRIED.

His Worship the Mayor put the original motion to Council and upon being put to the vote the motion was LOST.

## **37. REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGET MONITORING 2023/24 – QUARTER 1**

At a meeting of the Executive on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2023 it was resolved: "that the changes to the 2023/24 Capital Programme, as detailed in the report, be noted and referred to Council for consideration."

### **MOTION**

It was moved by Councillor D. Whipp and seconded by Councillor A. Mahmood –

Council (27.07.2023)

That the changes to the 2023/24 Capital Programme, as detailed in the report, be approved.

Upon being put to the vote it was –

**RESOLVED**

Accordingly.

**38. UPDATED RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY**

The Director of Resources submitted an updated Risk Management Strategy for consideration.

**MOTION**

It was moved by Councillor A. Mahmood, seconded by Councillor D. Whipp –

That the updated Risk Management Strategy be approved and adopted.

Upon being put to the vote it was –

**RESOLVED**

Accordingly

**39. FINANCIAL PROCEDURE RULES AND CONTRACT PROCEDURE RULES**

The Director of Resources submitted a report on the updated Financial Procedure Rules and Contract Procedure Rules.

**MOTION**

It was moved by Councillor D. Whipp, seconded by Councillor A. Mahmood –

That the updated Financial Procedure Rules and Contract Procedure Rules be adopted.

Upon being put to the vote it was –

**RESOLVED**

Accordingly.

**40. COLNE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

The Assistant Director Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services submitted a report on the outcome of the referendum on the Colne Neighbourhood Plan with a request that it be formally adopted.

**MOTION**

It was moved by Councillor D. Lord and seconded by Councillor D. Whipp –

Council (27.07.2023)

- (1) That the Colne Neighbourhood Plan be adopted.
- (2) That the Council's Decision Statement be publicised.

Upon being put to the vote it was –

**RESOLVED**

Accordingly.

#### **41. NOTICES OF MOTION**

##### **(a) GP Appointments**

It was moved by Councillor D. Lord and seconded by Councillor C. Church:

Council notes the increasing problems for Pendle residents trying to get appointments to see their GPs and the impact on people's health.

Council resolves that the Secretary of State be requested to take urgent action to fill GP vacancies and cut waiting times, and that Pendle MP Andrew Stephenson be asked to support this request.

Upon being put to the vote it was –

**RESOLVED**

Accordingly.

##### **(b) Sustainable and Active Travel**

It was moved by Councillor T. Whipp and seconded by Councillor S. Land:

This Council notes the efforts of Lancashire County Council to promote sustainable and active travel.

Council also notes that the County Council, the highway authority responsible for roads and pavements, is failing to deal with hazards that are dangerous to pedestrians and cyclists, describing them as not meeting "investigatory levels."

Council resolves that Lancashire County Council is requested to review its Highway Safety Inspection policies to take into account safety issues for pedestrians and cyclists, and that an all-party member level meeting be sought with the County Council to pursue this issue.

Upon being put to the vote it was –

**RESOLVED**

Accordingly.

**(c) Member Champion for Disabled People**

It was moved by Councillor D. Whipp and seconded by Councillor M. Strickland:

That the Council appoints a Member Champion for Disabled People.

Upon being put to the vote it was –

**RESOLVED**

That Councillor D. Lord be appointed as Member Champion for Disabled People for the remainder of the 2023/24 Municipal Year.

**42. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

Members agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during the following item of business in pursuance of the power contained in Section 100(A) (4) of the Local Government Act, 1972 as amended, in relation to exempt information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

**43. LIBERATA CONTRACT UPDATE**

At a meeting of the Executive on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2023 it was resolved “that Council be recommended to authorise that negotiations continue.”

**MOTION**

It was moved by Councillor D. Whipp and seconded by Councillor A. Mahmood –

That negotiations continue in relation to the Liberata Contract.

Upon being put to the vote it was –

**RESOLVED**

Accordingly.

His Worship the Mayor \_\_\_\_\_