

COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Council on Wednesday, 17 July 2013 in the Council Chamber, Runcorn Town Hall

Present: Councillors Ratcliffe, Baker, J. Bradshaw, M. Bradshaw, D. Cargill, E. Cargill, Cole, Dennett, Edge, Fraser, Fry, Gilligan, Harris, P. Hignett, R. Hignett, S. Hill, V. Hill, Hodge, Horabin, Howard, Jones, Lea, M Lloyd Jones, P. Lloyd Jones, C. Loftus, K. Loftus, Logan, A. Lowe, J. Lowe, A. McInerney, T. McInerney, Morley, Nelson, Osborne, Parker, Philbin, Polhill, C. Plumpton Walsh, N. Plumpton Walsh, Roberts, Rowe, Sinnott, G. Stockton, J. Stockton, Thompson, Wainwright, Wallace, Wharton, Woolfall and Zygadlo

Apologies for Absence: Councillors Cassidy, Gerrard, MacManus, McDermott, Nolan and Wright

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: M. Reaney, A. Scott, D. Johnson, G. Meehan and D. Parr

Also in attendance: L. Shears and K. Brooks – Cheshire Fire Service

Action

COU12 CHESHIRE FIRE SERVICE

Council received a presentation from Lee Shears and Keith Brooks of Cheshire Fire Service on the use of sprinklers in domestic and commercial buildings in the Borough.

They then answered Members' questions before being thanked for their informative presentation.

COU13 COUNCIL MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of Annual Council held on 16 May 2013, having been printed and circulated, were taken as read and signed as a correct record.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting be confirmed and adopted.

COU14 THE MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor made the following announcements:

- The Mayoral delegation had been presented with

a photograph of the old market in Leiria and a silver pendant to mark the occasion of their recent visit to the twin town of Leiria in May 2013;

- The Mayor had been presented with a copy of Gideons New Testament and Psalms by Gideons International;
- The Mayor had been presented with a Euro Bocce Challenge (2013) Bronze pendant by Mr Andy Shard; and
- The Mayor described her attendance at a number of events since her installation in May 2013.

COU15 LEADER'S REPORT

The Leader advised that he had recently circulated his briefing note to all Councillors and had nothing further to report.

COU16 MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Council considered the minutes of the Executive Board meetings from 14 May 2013, 23 May 2013, 13 June 2013 and 27 June 2013.

RESOLVED: That the minutes be received.

COU17 MINUTES OF THE MERSEY GATEWAY EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Council considered the minutes of the Mersey Gateway Executive Board meeting from 13 June 2013.

RESOLVED: That the minutes be received.

COU18 MINUTES OF THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

The Council considered the minutes of the Health and Wellbeing Board meeting from 22 May 2013.

RESOLVED: That the minutes be received.

COU19 QUESTIONS ASKED UNDER STANDING ORDER 8

It was noted that no questions had been submitted under Standing Order No. 8.

COU20 JOINT MERSEYSIDE AND HALTON JOINT WASTE LOCAL PLAN - ADOPTION OF PLAN - KEY DECISION (MINUTE EXB 13 REFERS)

Executive Board had considered a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources, on the adoption of the Joint Merseyside and Halton Joint Waste Local Plan.

RESOLVED: That Council

- 1) note the results of public consultation on the proposed modifications to the Merseyside and Halton Joint Waste Local Plan that was undertaken between November 2012 and January 2013 (Appendix 1);
- 2) welcome the report from the Planning Inspector which concluded that, subject to the proposed modifications, the Plan “meets the criteria for soundness in the National Planning Policy Framework” and “provides an appropriate basis for waste planning for Merseyside and Halton over the next 15 years” (Appendix 2);
- 3) agree that the Waste Local Plan (Appendix 3) be adopted as part of the statutory development plan by each of the districts on a single date which shall be one working day after the final (sixth) Full Council resolution has been received;
- 4) note that several of the adopted Unitary Development Plan saved policies (listed in paragraph 4.11, Table 2 of the Report) will be replaced by Waste Local Plan policies including the site allocations; and
- 5) grant delegated authority to the Operational Director, Policy, Planning and Transportation in consultation with the Physical Environment Portfolio Holder to make minor typographical changes to the Waste Local Plan prior to its final publication.

Strategic Director
- Policy &
Resources

COU21 ANNUAL REPORTS OF POLICY AND PERFORMANCE BOARDS 2012/13

The Council considered the report of the Scrutiny Co-ordinator, outlining the Annual Reports for each of the Policy and Performance Boards (PPBs) for 2012/13, which had been submitted and which outlined their work, made recommendations for future work programmes and amended working methods if appropriate.

It was reported that the Annual Reports had been submitted to the appropriate PPBs for consideration and had all been agreed.

RESOLVED: That the 2012/ 2013 Annual Reports, submitted from the Policy and Performance Boards, be received.

COU22 HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENTS AT A 558 DARESBUY EXPRESSWAY UNDER THE DEPARTMENT FOR TRANSPORT'S LOCAL PINCH POINT PROGRAMME (MINUTE EXB 32 REFERS)

Executive Board had considered a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources, which advised Members of the award of grant funding through the Department for Transport's Local Pinch Point Programme.

RESOLVED: That Council

- 1) note the award of £1.675M grant funding for the Daresbury Enterprise Zone / East Runcorn Housing Access Improvement Scheme under the DfT's Local Pinch Point Programme;
- 2) approve the inclusion of the LPPP scheme into the Council's Capital Programme at a total estimated cost of £2.394M to be phased over 2013/14 and 2014/15; and
- 3) note that, in accordance with Procurement Standing Order (PSO) 1.8.4, PSO 4.1 (Competition Requirements) be waived and design and scheme preparation services be procured from Mott MacDonald Ltd. for reasons of urgency, as set out in the report.

Strategic Director
- Policy &
Resources

COU23 HALTON HOUSING STRATEGY 2013/18 - KEY DECISION
(MINUTE EXB 30 REFERS)

Executive Board had considered a report of the Strategic Director, Communities which presented a finalised version of Halton's Housing Strategy 2013/18.

RESOLVED: That the revised Housing Strategy, attached at Appendix A and supporting evidence document attached at Appendix B, be approved.

Strategic Director
- Communities

COU24 LIBRARY STRATEGY 2013/16 - KEY DECISION (MINUTE
EXB 31 REFERS)

Executive Board had considered a report of the Strategic Director, Communities, on the Library Strategy 2013/16.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the Library Strategy 2013/16 be approved; and
- 2) any further editorial changes/corrections required following the close of consultation be delegated to the Strategic Director, Communities, in conjunction with the Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhood, Leisure and Sport.

Strategic Director
- Communities

(N.B. Councillor Roberts declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in Minute HEA 6 of the Health Policy and Performance Board, as he was employed by Wirral University Teaching Hospitals Foundation Trust)

COU25 MINUTES OF THE POLICY AND PERFORMANCE
BOARDS AND THE BUSINESS EFFICIENCY BOARD

The Council considered the reports of the following Boards in the period since the meeting of Council on 16 May 2013:

- Children, Young People and Families;
- Employment, Learning , Skills and Community;
- Health;
- Safer;
- Environment and Urban Renewal;
- Corporate; and
- Business Efficiency.

In considering the minutes, the following comments/observations were made:-

Councillor Gilligan highlighted the achievements of a number of Services (Minute CS8 referred) and wished to place on record his congratulations to staff in Revenues and Benefits, Legal Services and the Stadium's Catering Service for their respective team achievements.

COU26 COMMITTEE MINUTES

The Council considered the reports on the work of the following Committees in the period since the meeting of Council on 16 May 2013:-

- Development Control; and
- Regulatory.

In considering the minutes, the following comments/observations were made:-

Councillor G Stockton wished to place on record his thanks for the cross party support on the Development Control Committee item referred to in minute number DEV 4.

COU27 SCHEDULE 12A OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

Council considered:

- (1) whether Members of the press and public should be excluded from the meeting of Council during consideration of the following item of business in accordance with Sub-Section 4 of Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 because it was likely that, in view of the nature of the business to be considered, exempt information would be disclosed, being information defined in Section 100 (1) and paragraphs 3 and 5 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972; and
- (2) whether the disclosure of information was in the public interest, whether any relevant exemptions were applicable and whether, when applying the public interest test and exemptions, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed that in disclosing the information.

RESOLVED: That as, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption

outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information, members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business in accordance with Sub-Section 4 of Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 because it was likely that, in view of the nature of the business, exempt information would be disclosed, being information defined in Section 100 (1) and paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

COU28 FORMER CROSSVILLE DEPOT, RUNCORN AND LAND AT EARLE ROAD, WIDNES WATERFRONT REGENERATION (MINUTE EXB 15 REFERS)

Executive Board had considered a report of the Chief Executive on the development of the former Crossville Depot, Runcorn and land at Earle Road, Widnes Waterfront.

The report advised on the progress that had been made to bring about the development of both sites, and noted the commercial changes to the terms of the respective development agreements.

RESOLVED: That the changes made under the powers of delegation, as detailed in the report, be noted.

Chief Executive

Meeting ended at 7.20 p.m.