

COPELAND BOROUGH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 29 JULY 2008

Present: Councillors: Councillors K Hitchen (Mayor); D Banks; G Blackwell; J W Bowman; H Branney; N Clarkson; Mrs Y R T Clarkson; G Clements; R Cole; P C Connolly; Mrs E Eastwood; Mrs C A Giel; F Gleaves; F R Heathcote; A Holliday; J Jackson; A E Jacob; J Kane; M A McVeigh; W Metherell; D W Moore; A Norwood; J Park; R F Pitt; J Prince; R Salkeld; G Scurrah; W Southward; P D Tyson; Mrs C Watson; P Whalley; C J Whiteside; Mrs J Williams; N Williams; D A Wilson; E M Woodburn; Mrs M Woodburn; H Wormstrup.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors E Brenan; A Carroll; B A Dixon; Mrs M Docherty; Mrs D A Faichney; G Garrity; Mrs J I Hully; T J Knowles; S J Meteer; A D Mossop; J G Sunderland; P Watson; A Wonnacott.

Minutes

The Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 24 June 2008, as amended, were signed by the Mayor as a correct record.

C 21 Mayor's Announcements

The Mayor referred to the Royal Garden Party given by Her Majesty The Queen at Buckingham Palace on 22 July which he and the Mayoress had attended.

The Mayor then thanked all Members and officers of the Council, and others who had attended the Civic Parade and Service at Bootle on 29 June.

C22 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Mrs C Giel declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Agenda Item 10 (Appointments to the Copeland Community Fund Project Board) as an employee of LLWR and withdrew from the room during consideration of the item.

C 23 Executive Reports

The Deputy Leader (Effective Leadership) Councillor A Holliday, the Deputy Leader (Achieving Transformation) Councillor C Giel and the Deputy Leader (Promoting Prosperity), Councillor G Clements gave progress reports on matters considered by the Executive since the last Council meeting.

C 24 Energy Coast Masterplan

Arising from the Effective Leadership report, Councillor Holliday agreed to provide Councillors Yvonne Clarkson and Moore with a written reply on costs and delivery timescales for the Energy Coast Masterplan.

C 25 Pow Beck/Whitehaven Rugby League Football Club

Arising from the Achieving Transformation report, Councillor Giel agreed to provide Councillor Y Clarkson with a written reply on outstanding land ownership issues in relation to the Pow Beck development.

C 26 CCTV

Arising from the Promoting Prosperity report, Councillor Clements agreed to provide Councillor J Jackson with a written reply on the current status of CCTV in Workington.

C27 Audit Commission Report on Strategic Housing

Arising from the Promoting Prosperity Executive report, Councillor Clements agreed to provide Councillor Moore with clarification on whether the section of the Audit Commission report on Strategic Housing referring to missed opportunities for securing external funding can be quantified.

C 28 Local Area Agreement for Cumbria

RESOLVED – that Executive Decision EXE08/024 (endorsement of Local Area Agreement)) be approved.

C 29 Overview and Scrutiny Report

The Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee gave an update on overview and scrutiny activities since the last meeting of the Council.

C 30 Terms of Reference of Resource Planning Working Group

The Council considered proposed revised Terms of Reference for the Resource Planning Steering Group.

RESOLVED – that the revised Terms of Reference be approved as submitted be approved as submitted

C 31 Motion Under Standing Order 8

Notice having been given under Standing Order 8, it was moved by Councillor C Whiteside and seconded by Councillor D Moore that -

“1 This Council notes with concern that, despite employing outside help described by the Whitehaven News as having cost £93,875, the accounts for last year are still not in a position to be closed and the Council’s Chief Executive has stated that the Council has “no choice” but to hire more external support to complete the accounts.

2 This Council considers that the impact of these costs on Council services needs to be assessed and an analysis made of how accounts can be completed

on time in future for the lowest cost consistent with the publication of accurate and transparent accounts.

3 This Council resolves to instruct the officers to prepare a report for circulation to all Councillors which will cover:

- How the situation that the accounts are so late has arisen, and how this can be avoided in future.
- What the total cost of putting this right will be, how this will affect the Council's overall financial situation and whether there will be an impact on services
- Whether all the published reports from officers to the Executive and Audit Committee about the accounts in the past six months have been fully accurate, and if not, why not.

4. This report should be completed in time to be circulated with the agenda for the next full Council meeting and debated at that meeting.”

It was then moved by Councillor A Holliday by way of an amendment and seconded by Councillor E Woodburn that the following be substituted for paragraph 4 of the motion:

“4 This report be submitted to the appropriate Committee when complete.”

A recorded vote on the amendment having been requisitioned under Standing Order 12.26, a vote was taken and the voting was as follows:

FOR the amendment: Councillors Banks, Blackwell, Bowman, Branney, Clements, Connolly, Giel, Holliday, Kane, McVeigh, Metherell, Park, Prince, Southward, Tyson, C Watson, Whalley, J Williams, N Williams, E Woodburn, M Woodburn, Wormstrup.

AGAINST the amendment: Councillors N Clarkson, Y R T Clarkson, Cole, Gleaves, Heathcote, Hitchen, Jackson, Jacob, Moore, Norwood, Pitt, Salkeld, Scurrah, Whiteside, Wilson.

The amendment was declared **CARRIED** by 22 votes to 16.

It was therefore then

RESOLVED – that

1 This Council notes with concern that, despite employing outside help described by the Whitehaven News as having cost £93,875, the accounts for last year are still not in a position to be closed and the Council's Chief Executive has stated that the Council has “no choice” but to hire more external support to complete the accounts.

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- Whether all the published reports from officers to the Executive and Audit Committee about the accounts in the past six months have been fully accurate, and if not, why not.

4. This report be submitted to the appropriate Committee when complete.

C 32 Appointments to Outside Bodies

RESOLVED – that (a) the following appointments be made:

<u>Organisation</u>	<u>Appointment</u>
Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership Management Group	Councillor G Blackwell in place of Councillor Mrs M Woodburn
Burglary Task Group	Councillor Mrs C Watson
Cumbria Joint Overview Scrutiny Group Substitute Representatives	Councillors J Kane, P Tyson and 1 Conservative Representative
Local Government Association Cumbria Branch	Delete
North West Regional Assembly	Delete
Parton/Lillyhall Improvement Liaison	Councillor J Bowman in place of Councillor B Dixon
South Whitehaven Neighbourhood Management Board	Councillor J Williams

West Cumbria Crime and Disorder
Reduction Partnership Scrutiny

Councillors J Bowman,
A Norwood, P Tyson, P
Whalley

Whitehaven Maternity Charity

Add Councillor Mrs C
Watson

(b) the remaining appointments be confirmed as set out at Appendix "A" to the report.

C 33 Copeland Community Fund Project Board

RESOLVED – that Councillors D Moore and E Woodburn be appointed as the Council's representatives on the Copeland Community Fund Project Board.

The meeting closed at 4.00 pm.

Mayor