

COPELAND BOROUGH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 15 APRIL 2008

Present: Councillors: Councillors K Hitchen (Deputy Mayor in the Chair); D Banks; G Blackwell; J W Bowman; H Branney; E Brenan; A Carroll; N Clarkson; Mrs Y R T Clarkson; G Clements; P C Connolly; Mrs E Eastwood; G Garrity; F Gleaves; J Jackson; A E Jacob; J Kane; T J Knowles; M A McVeigh; S J Meteer; W Metherell; D W Moore; A D Mossop; A Norwood; R F Pitt; J Prince; G Scurrah; W Southward; J G Sunderland; Mrs C Watson; P 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 R Cole; B A Dixon; Mrs M Docherty; Mrs D A Faichney; Mrs C A Giel; F R Heathcote; A Holliday; Mrs J I Hully; J Park; R Salkeld; P D Tyson; A Wonnacott.

Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 26 February 2008 were signed by the Deputy Mayor as a correct record.

C 203 Mayor's Announcements

The Deputy Mayor welcomed representatives of the Whitehaven Amateur Football Club to the meeting and congratulated them on winning the Monk Weirmouth Ship Owners' Trophy. The Football Club representatives then addressed the meeting briefly at the invitation of the Deputy Mayor.

C 204 Executive Report

The Leader of the Council, Councillor E Woodburn, Councillor T Knowles (Achieving Transformation) and the Deputy Leader (Promoting Prosperity) Councillor G Clements gave progress reports on matters considered by the Executive since the last Council meeting.

(Note: Councillor A D Mossop declared a personal interest in the Achieving Transformation report)

C 205 Disposal of Plastic Wastes

Arising from the Promoting Prosperity report, the Deputy Leader (Promoting Prosperity) undertook to provide a written reply to Councillor Pitt on the costs of re-cycling plastic wastes.

C 206 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 207 Corporate Plan

This item was withdrawn from the agenda for further consultation with Members.

C 208 Post Office Closures

The Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for Economic Development and Enterprise reported on matters discussed at the meeting of the Committee when the proposed closure of Post Office branches in Cumbria was reported. It was intended to hold a special meeting of the Committee over two days on 16 and 17 May to hear evidence from witnesses so as to enable an informed decision on the consultation paper on the closures to be reached.

RESOLVED – that the position be noted and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for Economic Development and Enterprise be delegated authority to respond to the consultation proposals on the Council's behalf.

C 209 Terms of Reference of Corporate Improvement Board

RESOLVED - that the proposed revised terms of reference of the Corporate Improvement Board be approved as submitted.

C 210 Notice of Motion Under Standing Order 8 – Post Office Closures

RESOLVED - that the notice of motion under Standing Order 8 submitted by Councillor C J Whiteside be referred to the special meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for Economic Development and Enterprise referred to in Minute C208 above.

C 211 Notice of Motion Under Standing Order 8 – Parishing of Whitehaven

It was moved by Councillor R Pitt by way of amendment to a motion of which notice had been given under Standing Order 8, duly seconded and

RESOLVED – that the Council grants the Parish Review Working Party delegated power to undertake consultation on the possibility of a Whitehaven Town Council as soon as possible after the Working Party's meeting on 25 April 2008 on the basis of a consultation timetable including advertising in July and responses by August 2008.

C212 Notice of Motion Under Standing Order 8 – Direction of Travel Statement

It was moved by the Leader of the Council, Councillor E Woodburn, duly seconded and

RESOLVED – that, pursuant to Standing Order 8.5(a) the motion be referred to the Audit Committee without discussion.

C213 West Cumbria Joint Leadership Committee

The minutes of the meeting of the West Cumbria Joint Leadership Committee meeting on 22 February 2008 were noted.

C214 Nominations of Mayor and Deputy Mayor, 2008/2009

It was moved by Councillor D Moore, duly seconded and

RESOLVED – that Councillor K Hitchen be nominated for election as Mayor of the Borough for 2008/2009.

It was then moved by Councillor G Blackwell duly seconded and

RESOLVED – that Councillor H Wormstrup be nominated for appointment as Deputy Mayor of the Borough for 2008/2009.

C 215 Locality Working

The Council considered a report setting out the options for future locality working in Copeland. The report set out an outline of the kind of work which locality boards could undertake and some preliminary proposals for locality areas in Copeland which would need to be subject to further discussion with local members and partner organisations.

Following a discussion it was

RESOLVED – that the report and conclusions be noted and further discussions held with partner organisations on the way forward for locality working in Copeland.

C 216 Exclusion of Press and Public

RESOLVED - That pursuant to Section 100 (A) of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds of likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act.

C 217 Sale of Land at Pica

(Note: Councillors Mrs W Metherell and J G Sunderland declared personal interests in this item as residents of Pica).

The Council considered proposals for sale of land at Pica held under the Charities Act 1933 as custodian trustee, which requires completion of certain formalities before land can be disposed of, including agreement by the Council in full assembly to disposal.

RESOLVED – (a) that taking into account (i) the written report received from the Council's appointed surveyor; (ii) that no responses were received to the statutory advertisement proposing the sale; and (iii) that the terms on which the sale is proposed are the best that can reasonably be obtained; that the disposal of the former Pica Miner's Welfare Hall on behalf of the Oatlands (Pica) Miners' Welfare Hall, Pica to Mr S Wilson or KMS Developments Limited (or a person associated with them provided that there is no change to price), on the terms set out in paragraph 2.3 of the report, be approved; and

(b) that, if required, by the relevant purchasers that the Mayor and Deputy Mayor (or any two other members) on behalf of the Council be authorised to witness the affixing of the Council's seal to the relevant transfer document and to certify compliance by the Council with the requirements of the Charities Act 1993;

(c) that the Coal Industry Social Welfare Organisation be asked to consider use of the proceeds of sale in the Pica area.

The meeting closed at 4.17 pm

Mayor