

COPELAND BOROUGH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 28 JULY 2005

Present: Councillors: N Clarkson (Mayor); Mrs W Metherell (Deputy Mayor); M Ashbrook; D Banks; Mrs M Barnes; G Blackwell; E Brenan; Mrs Y R T Clarkson; G Clements; J Close B.E.M; P C Connolly; B A Dixon; Mrs D A Faichney; Mrs C Giel; F J Gleaves; J E Hewitson; A Holliday; J Jackson; Mrs J K Johnston; A J Johnston; M A McVeigh; S J Meteer; D W Moore; A Norwood; J Park; J Prince; R Salkeld; G Scurrah; W Southward; J G Sunderland; P D Tyson; Mrs C Watson; P Watson; N Williams; Miss E M Woodburn; Mrs M B Woodburn; H Wormstrup; K Young.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Anne Bradshaw; R Cole; Mrs M D Docherty; Mrs E Eastwood; D W T Gray; F R Heathcote; K H Hitchen; Mrs J Hully; F McPhillips; J Reed; A Wonnacott; Mrs D A Wonnacott.

C29 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 21 June 2005 were signed by the Mayor as a correct record, subject to substitution of the word "Whitehaven" for the word "Cumbria"; substitution of the words "his spouse's position" for the words "his position"; and substitution of the words "Coalfields Regeneration" for the words "Cumbria Tourist Board" in minute C20.

C30 Mayors Announcements

The Mayor referred to the various engagements he had fulfilled since the last Meeting of the Council.

He thanked all those who had contributed to the success of the 2005 Whitehaven Maritime Festival and the Whitehaven Carnival.

C31 Executive Reports

The following Executive Members gave progress reports on matters coming within their Portfolios: -

Councillor Miss E Woodburn – Leader
 Councillor M Ashbrook – Deputy Leader
 Councillor G Clements – Housing and Community Safety
 Councillor A Holliday – Environmental and Cultural Services
 Councillor N Williams – Resources and Local Democracy
 Councillor J E Hewitson – Business Growth
 Councillor H Wormstrup – Economic Infrastructure
 Councillor G Blackwell – Health and Diversity

(Note: Councillor A W M Norwood declared a personal interest in paragraph 1.1 of the Leader's portfolio report due to his employment by BNG)

C32 West Cumberland Hospital

Arising from the Leader's Portfolio Report, it was moved by Councillor Miss E Woodburn, duly seconded and

RESOLVED – That written representations be made to the Secretary of State for Health and the Chief Executive of the North Cumbria Acute Hospitals Trust reiterating the Council's position on the retention of existing services at the West Cumberland Hospital.

C33 Management Accounts

Arising from the Environmental and Cultural Services Portfolio Report, the Portfolio Holder agreed to clarify for Councillors Sunderland and Mrs Y R T Clarkson the current position on monthly management reports for direct service organisation services, by way of a written reply.

C34 Green Refuse Collection

Arising from the Environmental and Cultural Services Portfolio Report, the Portfolio Holder agreed to provide Councillor Jackson with a written reply on variations to the green refuse collection rounds at Thornhill.

C35 Member Training Budgets

Arising from the Resources and Local Democracy Portfolio Report, the Portfolio Holder agreed to provide Councillor Norwood with a written reply on the levels of Member Training Budgets in adjoining authorities.

C36 Members' Laptops

Arising from the Resources and Local Democracy Portfolio Report, and in response to a question by Councillor A W M Norwood, the Portfolio Holder agreed to provide a written reply on the number of Member laptops returned to IT for repairs in the last three months, and the nature of the repairs involved.

C37 Helipad

Arising from the Business Growth Portfolio Report, and in response to a question by J G Sunderland, the Portfolio Holder agreed to provide a written

reply on whether there is any difficulty with noise nuisance from houses in the vicinity of the helipad.

C38 Local Bus Services

Arising from the Economic Infrastructure Portfolio Report, it was moved by Councillor Miss E Woodburn, duly seconded and

RESOLVED – That a meeting of the Transport Working Group be convened as soon as possible to discuss proposed changes in local bus services in the area.

(NOTE: Councillor J G Sunderland declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this discussion and withdrew from the room for its duration.)

C39 Final Unaudited Accounts 2004/2005

Consideration was given to a report seeking approval for the publication of the unaudited final accounts for 2004/2005 and recommending use of the underspend and reserves.

RESOLVED – That Council agrees a) to approve the unaudited accounts and their publication;

b) To approve the carry forward of earmarked reserves;

c) To approve a transfer of £333,000, from the underspend in the year to the Major Project Fund;

d) To approve the release of previously earmarked reserves as shown in para 3.5 of £80,652.81 for use in the 2006/07 budget process;

e) To release the unallocated reserve for post ballot costs of £296,096.72 to the Major Project Fund;

f) To note the requirement for the final accounts for 2005/2006 to be closed by the end of June 2006 and consideration be given to the most appropriate member body to scrutinise the accounts for that year.

C40 Good Governance Standards for Public Services

Consideration was given to a report setting out a proposed Code of Good Governance in the public services, which was recommended to the Council together with an action plan for adoption and implementation.

RESOLVED – That the Good Governance Standard for public services and the associated action plan be approved and implemented.

C41 Nuclear Policy Issues

(NOTE: Councillors J Jackson, Mrs J K Johnston, M McVeigh, Mrs W Metherell, S Meteer, G Scurrah and W Southward declared personal and prejudicial interests in this item due to their membership of the Planning Panel and withdrew from the meeting for its duration.)

Consideration was given to a report outlining progress on a number of nuclear policy issues and related proposed actions in connection with low-level radioactive waste deposits at Drigg and associated matters.

RESOLVED – That a) The Cumbria County Council should be informed of this Council's view that the current and proposed planning applications related to low level radioactive waste repository at Drigg should be refused until an offset package is agreed with the Borough Council; and

b) a provision of £150,000 is allocated from the Major Projects Fund to support the Council's campaign to introduce offset packages as used in other parts of the European Union.

C42 Statement of Internal Control

Consideration was given to a proposed Statement on Internal Control which was required by the Council Audit Regulations 2003 to be published with the Council's financial statements.

RESOLVED – That the Statement and Action Plan be approved and implemented.

The Meeting closed at 4.50 pm

Mayor