

COPELAND BOROUGH COUNCIL**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 11 SEPTEMBER 2014**

Present: Councillors Eileen Eastwood (Mayor); David Banks; Geoffrey Blackwell; Jackie Bowman; John Bowman; Hugh Branney; Yvonne Clarkson; George Clements; Peter Connolly; Brian Dixon; Margarita Docherty; Anne Faichney; John Fallows; Allan Forster; Geoffrey Garrity; Fred Gleaves; Phil Greatorex; Stephen Haraldsen; Keith Hitchen; Joan Hully; Allan Holliday; John Jackson; Alan Jacob; John Kane; Peter Kane; Michael McVeigh; David Moore; Alistair Norwood; Sam Pollen; Robert Salkeld; Gilbert Scurrah; Dave Smith; William Southward; Peter Stephenson; Graham Sunderland; Gillian Troughton; Peter Tyson; Jeanette Williams; Elaine Woodburn; Carole Woodman; Henry Wormstrup

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors: Karl Connor; Jon Downie; Reg Heathcote; Ian Hill; Lena Hogg; Jack Park; David Riley; Paul Whalley; Doug Wilson; Felicity Wilson;

C 19 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 19 June 2014 were signed by the Mayor as a correct record subject to Councillor Paul Whalley being included in the attendances.

C 20 Mayor's Announcements

The Mayor referred to the various events she had attended since the last meeting.

C 21 To Receive Petitions under Procedure Rule 19

There were no petitions.

C 22 Questions from Members of the Public

Ms C Arrighi asked the following question to the Leader of the Council "Given the scale of the referendum defeat why has the executive not stood down especially as there are experienced persons who have made it known that they are prepared to care take until the end of May without taking an additional allowance?"

The Leader of the Council Councillor Elaine Woodburn replied as follows "Thank you Lady Mayor just in response if I recall correctly the referendum was asking the public what form of Governance they wanted and not who they wanted the Executive was appointed by this Full Council and will remain in place until the Elected Mayor starts his or her term of office in May 2015 "

Mr G Roberts asked the following question to the Leader of the Council "A study was undertaken some time ago, in fact it was seven years ago, by the Wayne Hemmingway Organisation was a report ever finalised and if so what were the conclusion drawn from it?"

The Leader of the Council Councillor Elaine Woodburn undertook to provide a written reply to Mr Roberts.

C 23 Questions from Members of the Council

There were no questions.

C 24 Executive Report

The Council received and noted the Executive report.

C 25 Hypodermic Needles

Arising from the Executive report and in response to a request from Councillor Jackie Bowman Portfolio Holder for the Environment undertook to provide a written reply on what the Council's responsibility is regarding the removal of hypodermic needles found in the Borough and if this information is available on the web site or in any other form of publication.

C 26 Accommodation Working Group

Arising from the Executive report and in response to a question from Councillor Brian Dixon the Portfolio Holder for Finance undertook to provide a written reply on the key principles and guidelines discussed at the accommodation working group.

C 27 Effectiveness of Audit Committee

Consideration was given to a report reviewing the work of the Audit and Governance Committee against the core functions of an audit committee as defined within the CIPFA Position Statement on Audit Committees 2013.

RESOLVED – That the following decisions made by Audit and Governance Committee on the 25 June 2014 be noted: -

- a) Agreed the report and confirm the assessment of the effectiveness of the Committee in delivering the core functions of an audit committee per the 2013 CIPFA Guidance as set out at Appendix 1 of the report; and
- b) Approved a further review of Audit and Governance Committee Effectiveness against the checklist contained within the CIPFA Guidance following the training on the new guidance to be delivered in September.

C 28 Outside Bodies Annual Review

RESOLVED – That a) the annual reports from Outside Body representatives for 2013/14 be noted; and

b) the new reporting arrangements for representatives to report on outside body activity during 2014/15 be noted and implemented with a review being undertaken in 6 months.

C 29 Community Governance Review Report – Recommendations from Whitehaven Community Governance Review Panel

Consideration was given to a report detailing the results of the two consultation exercises and to decide whether to parish the currently unparished area of the Borough.

RESOLVED - That a) a single Parish Council be set up which encompasses the currently unparished area of the Borough, namely Whitehaven and Sandwith;

b) the new Parish Council be divided into seven wards with boundaries that are co-terminous with the Copeland Borough Council wards within the area (excluding those areas already parished); and

c) a report be made to Council in December 2014 with the final recommendations of the Whitehaven Community Governance Review Group.

C 30 Openness of Local Government Regulations 2014

Consideration was given to a report following recent changes to legislation the report set out rights of the public to film/record meetings of the Council and also introduced a requirement to publish certain decisions taken by officers.

RESOLVED – That a) Approve the Protocol for the Recording of Public Meetings of the Authority be approved: and

b) it be noted that the Monitoring Officer will ensure that the authority complies with the requirements of the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 in respect of the publication of officer decisions.

C 31 Unitary Government in Cumbria

(Note: Councillor Stephen Haraldsen left the meeting during consideration of this item)

Consideration was given to a report updating Members on the current position on unitary Government in Cumbria.

Councillor Brian Dixon asked that it be recorded that he did not support the involvement of the Council in progressing Unitary Government options for Cumbria.

RESOLVED – That the Council's continued involvement in progressing Unitary Government options for Cumbria be supported.

The Meeting closed at 4.35pm

Mayor