

COPELAND BOROUGH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 13 APRIL 2010

Present: Councillors: H Wormstrup (Mayor); D Banks; G Blackwell; J W Bowman; H Branney; Mrs Y R T Clarkson; P C Connolly; B A Dixon; Mrs M Docherty; Mrs E Eastwood; Mrs D A Faichney; G Garrity; Mrs C A Giel; F Gleaves; F R Heathcote; A Holliday; Mrs J I Hully; J Jackson; A E Jacob; J Kane; T J Knowles; M A McVeigh; S J Meteer; Mrs W Metherell; D W Moore; A D Mossop; A Norwood; J Park; R F Pitt; J Prince; R Salkeld; G Scurrah; W Southward; J G Sunderland; Mrs C Watson; P Watson; P Whalley; C J Whiteside; Mrs J Williams; N Williams; E M Woodburn; Mrs M B Woodburn; A Wonnacott.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors E Brenan; A Carroll; N Clarkson; G Clements; R Cole; K Hitchen; P D Tyson; D A Wilson.

Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held 2 March 2010 were signed by the Mayor as a correct record.

C 227 Mayor's Announcements

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

The Mayor then presented the bronze award certificate of the Cumbria Business Environment Network to the Portfolio Holder, Councillor A Holliday and the Sustainability Officer, Rachel Osborn.

C 228 Declarations of Interests

Councillor J Hully declared a personal interest in Connected Communities (Executive Report) and a personal and prejudicial interest in MRWS due to a family member's employment in the nuclear industry.

Councillor C Giel declared a personal interest in MRWS due to employment in the nuclear industry.

Councillor A Mossop declared a personal interest in page 11 of the Executive report (Backing Businesses) due to being a member of the FSB.

Councillor D Banks, T Knowles and W Southward declared personal interests as Directors of Phoenix Enterprise Centre.

Councillor G Sunderland declared a personal interest in Landlords Forum as a landlord.

C 229 Choosing to Change Update Report

The Council considered a report on matters discussed at the Choosing to Change Board on 30 March, comprising Governance and Leadership, peer support from the IDeA, LSP arrangements, bidding for additional resources and corporate planning.

RESOLVED – that

- (a) the proposals for disbanding the Corporate Improvement Board and transferring its responsibilities elsewhere be agreed;
- (b) the proposals for additional support from IDeA as outlined in paragraph 2.3 of the report be agreed;
- (c) progress made in establishing local LSP arrangements for Copeland be noted;
- (d) the proposed bid to NWIEP for additional resources of £85m be agreed for completion of Phase I of Choosing to Change and a further bid for Phase II authorized once the new Chief Executive has been appointed.

C 229 Choosing to Change – Constitution Review Phase 1

Consideration was given to a report of the Choosing to Change Board and Constitution Working Group on proposed changes to standing orders governing full Council meetings, Member Officer Protocol and outside bodies.

RESOLVED – that

- (a) the Council agrees to the proposed changes to the current standing orders governing meetings of the Council as set out at Appendix A to the report, and to the consequent amendment of the Council's Constitution by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services
- (b) the Council agrees that the proposed new Member/Employee protocol at Appendix B of the report replaces the current Member/Officer Protocol, and to the consequent amendment of the Council's Constitution by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services.
- (c) the Council agrees to the proposed procedure and protocol governing outside bodies and to the approved outside bodies list at Appendix C to the report.

C 230 Choosing to Change – Overview and Scrutiny Review

Consideration was given to a report of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee on proposals for reviewing the Council's overview and scrutiny structures, and for introducing appropriate protocols on overview and scrutiny activities.

Consideration was also given to proposals for interim arrangements for covering statutory overview and scrutiny functions from the Annual Meeting on 11 May until the appointment of the new Committees at the first ordinary Council Meeting after the Annual Meeting.

RESOLVED – that

- (a) Council agrees the overview and scrutiny protocols set out at Appendix A, and to their consequent inclusion in the Council's Constitution by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services;
- (b) Council agrees that any changes to the protocols be delegated to the Head of Legal and Democratic Services in consultation with the Overview and Scrutiny Committees, to be reported to the next Council for information;
- (c) Council agrees to reduce the number of overview and scrutiny committees from four to two;
- (d) Council agrees that nine members should be on each committee;
- (e) Council agrees that members be selected to the Committees following a process involving a skills audit and expressions of interest;
- (f) That Council agrees that the current terms of reference of Overview and Scrutiny be deleted;
- (g) Council agrees that new terms of reference of each Committee be developed, together with an examination of whether there is a need for an informal co-ordinating group of chairs and vice chairs, to be agreed by full Council following the Annual Meeting on 11th May 2010;
- (h) Council agrees that from 11 May until the first ordinary Council meeting thereafter the Chairs and Deputy Chairs of the 2 overview and scrutiny committees to be appointed on 11 May be appointed as an interim overview and scrutiny committee with terms of reference as set out in the report.

C 231 Executive Report

The Leader of the Council presented a report summarising strategic issues considered by the Executive since the last meeting.

C 232 Mosaic

Arising from the Executive Report and following a question from Councillor A Norwood on Mosaic System access and security The Portfolio Holder Councillor J Bowman undertook to provide Councillor Norwood with a written reply.

C 233 Whitehaven Regeneration

Arising from the Executive Report and following a question from Councillor Moore, the Portfolio Holder Councillor C Giel undertook to provide a full report on Whitehaven Regeneration in the next Executive Report to Council.

C 234 Private Sector Housing Strategy.

Arising from the Executive report it was

RESOLVED – that the Private Sector Housing Strategy 2010/2011 be approved as submitted.

C 235 Overview and Scrutiny Report

The Chairman of Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee gave a progress report on matters considered by overview and scrutiny since the last Council meeting.

C 236 Annual Report of the Standards Committee

The independent Chair of the Standards Committee presented to Council the first Annual Report of the Standards Committee and answered Members' questions on the content.

RESOLVED – that the report be received.

C 237 Recommendation from Planning Panel – Planning Scheme of Delegations

Consideration was given to a proposed change to the Planning Scheme of Delegations to authorise the Head of Development Operations to authorise officers to enter land for planning purposes.

RESOLVED – that the revised Scheme of Delegations be approved as submitted.

C 238 Copeland Local Development Framework

Consideration was given to recommendations of the LDF Working Party on adoption of a Preferred Options Report on the Core Strategy and Development Management Policies and a work programme and timetable for the Local Development Scheme.

RESOLVED – that

(a) the Council approves the recommendations of the Working Party as set out in the report; and

(b) a written reply be sent to Councillor Meteer on the responses to the earlier consultation on the LDF.

C239 Programme of Meetings 2010/2011

Consideration was given to draft programme of meetings for 2010/2011.

RESOLVED – that the programme be agreed subject to any further detailed amendments being agreed with the Leader of the Council and Leader of the Opposition Group, and a final version circulated to all Members by 11 May 2010.

C 240 Nomination of Mayor and Deputy Mayor for 2010/2011

It was moved by Councillor Mrs M Woodburn, duly seconded and

RESOLVED – that Councillor M McVeigh be nominated for election as Mayor for 2010/2011

It was then moved by Councillor D Moore, duly seconded and

RESOLVED – that Councillor J Jackson be nominated for appointment as Deputy Mayor for 2010/2011.

C 241 Exclusion of Press and Public

RESOLVED – that the press and public be excluded for the remaining items of business in view of the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended.

C 242 Land at North Shore Whitehaven

Consideration was given to a report on cliff erosion at North Shore Whitehaven.

RESOLVED - That

(a) the Council purchases the land shown shaded red, blue and green (as contained within title numbers CU 102175, CU107354 and CU120170) on the plan at Appendix 1 to this report at a price up to £280,000 plus reimbursement of the sellers' reasonable conveyancing costs;

(b) that following purchase the works set out in paragraph 6.2(b) of the report be carried out to protect the land from trespass;

(c) that a further report be made to the Executive, if necessary, in respect of the area north of the area shaded yellow on the plan at Appendix 1;

(d) that Council notes the financial implications of the land purchase and associated costs at this stage, which are set out in Table 1 (para 4.2) of Option B. The report on the cliff area set out in para (6.2.) may result in the need for further expenditure; and

(e) that Council approves the expenditure of £64,000 (revenue) and the addition to the capital programme of £289,400. The revised capital programme 2010/11 will be presented to Resources Planning Working Group at its meeting of

The meeting closed at 4.36 pm

Mayor