

COPELAND BOROUGH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 23 JUNE 2011

Present: Councillors: John Jackson (Mayor) David Banks; Geoffrey Blackwell; John Bowman; Jackie Bowman; Hugh Branney; Yvonne Clarkson; George Clements; Peter Connolly; Margarita Docherty; John Downie; Eileen Eastwood; Anne Faichney; John Fallows; Geoffrey Garrity; Stephen Haraldsen; Ian Hill; Keith Hitchen; Lena Hogg; Allan Holliday; Joan Hully; John Kane; David Moore; Alistair Norwood; Jack Park; David Riley; Sam Pollen; Gilbert Scurrah; William Southward; Peter Stephenson; Graham Sunderland; Peter Tyson; Jeanette Williams; Doug Wilson; Felicity Wilson; Elaine Woodburn; Carole Woodman; Henry Wormstrup.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Brian Dixon; Karl Connor; Fred Gleaves; Phil Greatorex; Reg Heathcote; Alan Jacob; Peter Kane; Michael McVeigh; Robert Salkeld; Dave Smith; Gillian Troughton; Paul Whalley; Norman Williams.

C 07 Minutes

The Minutes of the Meetings held on 17 May 2011 were signed by the Mayor as a correct record

C 08 Declarations of Interests

Councillor Peter Stephenson declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 10 due to being a tenant of Home Group.

Councillor Joan Hully declared a personal interest in Agenda item 8 on issues relating to the Nuclear Industry and the Youth Forum due to having family and friend in the nuclear industry and being the Chair of Cleator Moor Town Council and Agenda Item 10 Due to being a representative on the Home Housing Panel (Community)

C 09 Mayor's Announcements

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

C 10 Petitions

There were no petitions under Procedure Rule 19

C 11 Questions from Members of the Public

There were no questions from Members of the Public.

C 12 Questions from Members of the Council under Procedure Rule 13.1

Written notice of the following questions had been given under Procedure Rule 13.1:

Councillor Stephen Haraldsen asked the following question of the Portfolio Holder Policy and Partnerships Leader of the Council:

“Can the Portfolio holder for Policy and Partnerships provide the costs incurred to date, and the projected total cost (in this, and any applicable subsequent financial years), of the rebranding of Copeland Council, including from design and promotion, through to replacement of stationary and other materials?”

The Leader of the Council, in the absence of the Portfolio holder replied as follows:

The total cost incurred to date for the branding project is £7,725. This cost includes the development of the new logo and associated branding materials, the production of the brand identity guide and the development of templates for a number of documents and publications including Dispatches, Copeland Matters, letterheads, business cards, internal documents and reports, posters and leaflets.

The projected total cost will not be significantly higher as we will implement the branding on a phased basis. This means that as materials are used up, or documents are replaced, the new branding will be introduced to these. From the 1 July we will be using new letterheads and new templates for other documents. These have been created as part of the cost outlined above.

We will not be changing the livery of our vehicles at this time, nor replacing signage in the community. Over time, as these are replaced, the new brand will be introduced.

The cost of the branding development work has been funded through income generated by the communications team for their work on the West Cumbria MRWS Partnership, not through the council’s revenue or capital budgets.

We developed the new brand and logo as part of our new approach to communications, promoting and developing the council and the borough as a whole. The new logo we are introducing offers us a consistent and professional approach to branding the authority, which will ensure that we are recognised for the work we do and for the projects we are associated with, and the new brand will replace a series of different logos, letterheads and symbols which don’t do that and lead to confusion as to the services we provide. In recent years our branding has been inconsistent or even missing from projects we’ve been involved in our work we have produced. By developing a new, more professional approach we can make our products and projects we’re involved match or aspirations as an authority.

The branding changes are very much part of a larger change to how we communicate with the public which are themselves just one element of our transformation as part of the Choosing to Change programme.”

Councillor Haraldsen then asked the following supplementary question:

“How do we square being energised for the future when we are talking Copeland down?”

The Leader of the Council replied as follows:

“The answer is that we have never claimed that Copeland was in recession.”

Councillor Alistair Norwood to the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Resources

“At the last executive 31st of May there was an agenda item (number 7) called "Recession Report"

Can the portfolio holder please tell me what empirical criteria are used to determine that Copeland is in recession?

What economic process models were used to determine these criteria and what other councils use these criteria.

How are they different from the MFI and Bank of England internationally excepted criteria? What are successes criteria that Copeland will use to determine if it has succeeded?”

The Portfolio Holder for Regeneration Councillor Phil Greatorex, in the absence of The Portfolio Holder Finance and Resources

“The Council made a commitment to quarterly monitoring of key socio economic indicators and areas of council services to identify how the borough is continuing to be affected by the private sector recession of 2008/9. This was in recognition of the delayed affect of the recession in Copeland in line with our high dependency on public sector contracting. The report compares demand and recession indicators in 2010/11 with 2009/10 and highlights activities and performance of Council services and funded activity. Throughout our two year monitoring of recession impacts the council has relied on a package of existing data sets including the Cumbria Observatory and more locally gathered data from other public service partners and our own services performance data. The council in monitoring our response quarterly aims to identify and assess if we are continuing to deliver to our commitments to minimise the impact of the recession on local residents and business eg more favourable local payment terms. It enables executive to be informed and maintain an overview of our ability and capacity to manage additional workload for example increased homelessness presentations to our housing options team, and take any necessary action.”

Councillor David Moore asked the following question to the Leader of the Council

“Can the Leader tell us how many F.O.I’s the council is currently dealing with? How many are past the time limit and are still awaiting a full reply? What date was the most outstanding request received?”

The Portfolio Holder for Performance and Transformation replied as follows:

“20 FOI requests are currently live. 3 are past the time limit awaiting full replies. The longest outstanding request dates from 1 April 2011.

Members may be interested to know that 171 FOI requests have been received so far in the calendar year 2011. This compares with 140 for the same period in 2010, 117 in 2009 and 55 in 2008”

Councillor Moore then asked the following supplementary question:

“I understand that there is one request that has been referred to the Information Commissioner because the person making the request is not happy with the response. Can the Portfolio Holder confirm this?”

The Portfolio Holder replied as follows:

“I can assure the Councillor that all requests have been dealt with in accordance with required procedures.”

C 13 Executive Report

The Council received and noted the Executive report.

C 14 The Coastal Partnership Board

Arising from a question from Councillor David Moore the Leader of the Council undertook to provide a written reply on What the Coastal Partnership Board is, who is on it, who set it up and on what authority.

C 15 Local Enterprise Partnership

Arising from the Executive report the Leader of the Council agreed that a letter be written inviting the Local Enterprise Partnership Board Members to visit Copeland to enable them to see and hear first hand what challenges and opportunities Copeland faces and how by working together we can maximise opportunities to benefit Copeland and West Cumbria as a whole.

C 16 Enterprise Zones in Copeland

Arising from the Executive report the Leader of the Council agreed to provide a written reply to Councillor Yvonne Clarkson on why the sites identified by Copeland as potential Enterprise Zones had failed to meet the criteria set by the Department of Communities and Local Government.

C 17 Carbon Management Plan

Arising from the Executive report the Portfolio Holder for the Environment and Sustainability agreed to provide a written reply on projects in the Carbon Management Plan, costs of the projects and how much carbon they have saved as a percentage of the Council’s carbon budget and how this compare to other authorities of a similar size.

C 18 Social Enterprise - Business Start Up

Arising from the Executive report the Leader of the Council agreed to provide a written reply to Councillor A Norwood clarifying the definition of Social Enterprise and the business start up scheme.

C 19 Copeland Housing Strategy

Consideration was given to a recommendation from the Executive to approve the draft Copeland Housing Strategy. During consideration of this item members asked that a letter be written to Cumbria County Council asking that they consider making a contribution to Cumbrian local authorities Disabled Facilities Grant Budgets.

RESOLVED - That a) the development process and early consultation activity be noted;

b) the draft Copeland Housing Strategy 2011-15 and the supporting evidence of the Copeland Borough 2011 Strategic Housing Market Assessment be endorsed; and

c) the Copeland Housing Strategy 2011-15 and the Strategic Housing Market Assessment be approved; and

d) a letter be sent to Cumbria County Council asking that they consider making a contribution to Cumbrian Local Authorities Disabled Facilities Grant Budgets.

C 20 Copeland Local Development Scheme

Consideration was given to a recommendation from the Executive to approve the draft Local Development Scheme for Copeland 2011.

RESOLVED – That the Local Development Scheme 2011 be approved as the Council's formal programme of work for the next three years

C 21 Changes to the Constitution

The Council considered a report of the Constitution Working Group on Council Procedure Rules 6.

RESOLVED – That the revised procedure rule 6 be approved and implemented.

C 22 Appointment to Outside Bodies

To consider a report informing Members of the conclusion of the Chief Executive's review of Outside Bodies carried out in consultation with the Leader of the Council, revised reporting back procedures for members sitting on outside bodies and guidance for Members on outside bodies.

RESOLVED - That

- a) the overall Chief Executive review of Outside Bodies and its outcome at Part 5, revised reporting back procedures for Members of the Council sitting on Outside Bodies and revised guidance for Members on Outside bodies be noted;
- b) the the revised Guidance for Members on Outside Bodies at Appendix B of the report be agreed
- c) the inclusion of the revised Guidance for Members on Outside Bodies in the Council's Constitution and a new Chapter on Outside Bodies is added be agreed;
- d) the revised reporting back procedure at Appendix E of the report be agreed;
- e) the inclusion of the revised reporting back procedure in the Council's Constitution in the new Chapter on Outside Bodies be agreed;
- f) the revised reporting back requirements for each outside body as listed at 5.3.5 (Portfolio Specific) and Appendix C (all others) of the report be agreed;
- g) the review of outside bodies will be an annual process (as highlighted at Part 6 of the report) with findings reported to full council be noted;
- h) the Terms of Reference at Appendix D of the report for supporting contact officers be noted;
- i) the information on indemnities at 3.3.2 and 7.2 for Members appointed to Outside Bodies is pending and the course of action at para 7.2.2 of the report is agreed once all information is received be noted;
- j) other issues raised during the review at Part 7 of the report and the advice issued be noted; and
- k) the appointments to Outside Bodies as appended to these minutes be approved with the remaining appointments being delegated to the relevant Panel/Committee to be confirmed by the appropriate Panel/Executive at the earliest available meeting; and
- l) the appointments to West Cumbria Site Stakeholder Group Socio Economic and Environmental Health be delegated to the Leader of the Council and the Leader of the Main Opposition Group.

The meeting closed at 6.40pm

Mayor

Review Outside Bodies 2011-12

Outside Bodies to be **retained** for 2011-12 (Outside bodies which are of statutory and/or of high level strategic interest)

Outside Body	Original reporting back forum	Proposed reporting back forum & frequency	Future Appointing Committee	Does the outside body hold an indemnity?	CBC Officer
EXECUTIVE					
Britain's Energy Coast	Council	Executive 6 monthly	Executive – Portfolio Specific		Julie Betteridge
Cumbria Member Equality Champions' Group		Executive	Executive – Portfolio Specific		Alison Walton
Cumbria Leadership Forum	Council	Executive 6 monthly	Executive – Portfolio Specific	No	Paul Walker
Cumbria Waste Partnership	Council	Executive 6 monthly	Executive – Portfolio specific	Not at present	Janice Carrol
Joint District Leaders Board	n/a	Executive 6 monthly	Executive – Portfolio specific		Paul Walker

Outside Body	Original reporting back forum	Proposed reporting back forum & frequency	Future Appointing Committee	Does the outside body hold an indemnity?	CBC Officer
Lake District National Park Authority	Council	Executive 6 monthly	Executive – Portfolio specific	Yes	Paul Walker
MRWS Partnership	Council via Executive Report	Council due to nature of outside body	1 Executive Councillor Elaine Woodburn Councillors Yvonne Clarkson & John Kane; Allan Holliday		Head of Nuclear Projects and Programmes
North Country Leisure	Council	Executive 6 monthly and Full Council	1 Executive Councillor Stephen Haraldsen	Yes	Julie Betteridge/Pat Graham
North West Improvement and Efficiency Partnership & Cumbria Improvement and Efficiency Partnership	Council	Executive 6 monthly	Executive – Portfolio Specific	No – indemnity through respective authorities	Jo Wagstaffe

Outside Body	Original reporting back forum	Proposed reporting back forum & frequency	Future Appointing Committee	Does the outside body hold an indemnity?	CBC Officer
North West Employers Organisation	Council	Executive 6 monthly	Executive – Portfolio Specific		Jo Wagstaffe
West Cumbria Community Safety Partnership		Executive 6 monthly (the CSP is also scrutinised by the External Overview and Scrutiny Committee)	Executive – Portfolio Specific		Julie Betteridge
West Cumbria Strategic Forum		Executive 6 monthly	Executive – Portfolio Specific		
FULL COUNCIL					
Coalfields Alliance (North West Coalfield Regional Board)	Council	Council Annually	Council Councillor H Wormstrup		Julie Betteridge

APPENDIX C (with information received as of 14 June 2011)

Outside Body	Original reporting back forum	Proposed reporting back forum & frequency	Future Appointing Committee	Does the outside body hold an indemnity?	CBC Officer
Copeland Community Fund	Council	Council Annually	Council Councillors Elaine Woodburn & David Moore		Julie Betteridge
Cumbria Community Foundation	Council	Council Annually	Council		None
Cumbria Community Foundation – West Cumbria Grants Panel	None	To be reported on website	Councillors Geoff Garrity, Keith Hitchen and Elaine Woodburn		None
Cumbria Tourist Board	Council	Council	Council Portfolio Holder Councillor Hugh Branney		Julie Betteridge
Derwent and Solway Housing Association – Routes to Work	Council	Council Annually	Council Councillor John Kane		Chris Pickles
Invest in Cumbria	Council	Council Annually	Council Councillor Phil Greateorex		Julie Betteridge

Outside Body	Original reporting back forum	Proposed reporting back forum & frequency	Future Appointing Committee	Does the outside body hold an indemnity?	CBC Officer
Lake District National Park Partnership	Council	Council Annually	Council Councillor Keith Hitchen	Yes	Julie Betteridge
Nuleaf	Council	Council Annually	Council Councillor Allan Holliday	No	Head of Nuclear Projects and Programmes
West Cumbria Site Stakeholder Group (WCSSG)	Council	Council Annually	Council Councillor Dave Banks, Henry Wormstrup & Elaine Woodburn		Head of Nuclear Projects and Programmes
WCSSG – Low Level Waste Repository	As above	Council Annually	Councillors Carol Woodman; Henry Wormstrup; Jackie Bowman; Elaine Woodburn		As above
WCSSG – Socio Economic	As above	Council Annually	Delegated to the Leader of the Council and Leader of the Main Opposition Group		As above

Outside Body	Original reporting back forum	Proposed reporting back forum & frequency	Future Appointing Committee	Does the outside body hold an indemnity?	CBC Officer
WCSSG – Commercial	As above	Council Annually	Councillors John Kane; Henry Wormstrup; Alistair Norwood; Felicity Wilson		As above
WCSSG – Decommissioning	As above	Council Annually	Councillors David Banks; Peter Connolly; Jon Downie & Lena Hogg		As above
Western Lake District Tourism Partnership	Council	Council Annually	Council Councillor Hugh Branney	No – provided via the Council as the source of representation on the partnership	Julie Betteridge
West Lakes Renaissance Board (in process of closing down)	Council	Council Annually	Council Councillor Elaine Woodburn		
STRATEGIC HOUSING PANEL					

Outside Body	Original reporting back forum	Proposed reporting back forum & frequency	Future Appointing Committee	Does the outside body hold an indemnity?	CBC Officer
Cumbria Supporting People	Strategic Housing Panel	Strategic Housing Panel (frequency to be determined by Panel) Council Annually	Strategic Housing Panel	Yes	Laurie Priebe
Cumbria Housing Executive	Strategic Housing Panel	Strategic Housing Panel Council Annually	Strategic Housing Panel		Laurie Priebe
Home Steering Group		Strategic Housing Panel Council Annually	Strategic Housing Panel		Laurie Priebe
West Cumbria Housing Association Forum	Strategic Housing Panel	Strategic Housing Forum Council Annually	Strategic Housing Panel		Laurie Priebe
EXTERNAL OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE					

Outside Body	Original reporting back forum	Proposed reporting back forum & frequency	Future Appointing Committee	Does the outside body hold an indemnity?	CBC Officer
Cumbria Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee	External Overview & Scrutiny Committee	External OSC (each meeting bi-monthly) Council Annually	External OSC		Jessica Hall
LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK WORKING GROUP					
Cumbria Planning Group	Council	LDF Working Group Council Annually	LDF Working Group		John Hughes

Proposed organisations to be removed from the Outside Body List

Outside Body	
Cumbria Joint Scrutiny Committee	Disbanded
Cumbria Pension Forum	Appointment now with Joint Districts
Cumbria Playing Fields	

Outside Body	
Duddon Estuary Partnership	
Solway Firth Partnership	
West Cumbria Cycleway Partnership	
West Cumbria Development Agency	Incorporated into Britain's Energy Coast (BEC)
West Cumbria Development Fund	Incorporated in BEC

Other Outside Bodies

Outside Body	
Whitehaven Maternity Charity	To be delegated to the appropriate officer to hold discussions with other bodies which support the charity and for the officer to consult with the responsible Member.