
LEADER'S POLICY DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Tuesday, 13th September, 2016

Present: Councillors Miles Parkinson (in the Chair), Councillors Paul Cox, Tony Dobson, Terry Hurn and Paul Thompson

Apologies Councillors Clare Cleary

1 Apologies for Absence and Substitutions

2 Minutes of the last meeting

Agreed - That the minutes of the last meeting, held on 20th July 2016, be received and agreed as a correct record.

3 Matters arising - Website

Councillor Dobson asked if there had been any developments in the suggestion he made at the last meeting, to provide signposting to local community groups on the Council's website. As no-one present had any further information, it was suggested that this be pursued with the Head of ICT and Cabinet Portfolio Holder, Councillor Gareth Molineux.

4 Vehicle Insurance and Business Cover for Councillors

Members were advised of the need to ensure that Councillors arrange for their vehicle to be insured for use by themselves for business purposes on the advice of the Council's insurance advisors and the Head of Internal Audit. Before giving all Councillors this advice, it was thought appropriate to raise the matter at Leader's Board, in case any Members had any questions or concerns.

Agreed - That the advice be noted and all Councillors be informed accordingly.

5 Armistice Day, 11th November and Remembrance Sunday, 13th November 2016

The Democratic Services Manager informed Members of arrangements for the commemorations on Armistice Day, 11th November (in front of the Town Hall) and the various services to take place throughout the borough on Remembrance Sunday, 13th November 2016.

It was pointed out that a formal road closure had been put in place and a traffic company engaged for Oswaldtwistle, due to police safety concerns. In addition, the route had been shortened, again due to safety concerns.

Agreed - That the Oswaldtwistle Councillors be informed of the changed route, if they had not been already.

6 Appointment of Co-opted Members on Overview and Scrutiny Committees

Council on 15th September, was being asked to approve the appointment of co-opted members to the overview and scrutiny committees. There was a discussion at this meeting about the criteria for selection and to what extent nominees should not be actively involved in local politics. The general conclusion was that the current criteria should remain and each nominee would be considered on its merits.

7 Combined Authority for Lancashire

The Leader informed Members of discussions across Lancashire regarding the proposed combined authority. It was envisaged that a model for devolution/a combined authority in Lancashire would be brought forward in the spring of 2017. The Leader was keen for scrutiny to be involved in examining the proposal and its implications in detail.

Some of the issues which would need to be addressed and clarified included:-

- the scope of devolution
- a “devolution levy” - the financial implications for local Council Tax payers
- an elected Mayor
- Management costs
- Timescale and costs

Members asked that they be briefed on developments at the appropriate time.

8 Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting would be arranged when necessary.

Signed:.....

Date:

Chair of the meeting
At which the minutes were confirmed