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# COUNCIL

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**Thursday, 11th January, 2018**

**Present:** Councillor Peter Britcliffe (Mayor), Councillors Judith Addison, Lisa Allen, Mohammad Ayub, Noordad Aziz, Jean Battle, Stephen Button, Clare Cleary, Loraine Cox, Paul Cox, Munsif Dad, Bernard Dawson, Tony Dobson, Stewart Eaves, Diane Fielding, Melissa Fisher, Glen Harrison, June Harrison, Terry Hurn, Abdul Khan, Julie Livesey, Gareth Molineux, Jenny Molineux, Ken Moss, Tim O'Kane, Bernadette Parkinson, Miles Parkinson, Joyce Plummer, Kath Pratt, Malcolm Pritchard, Jeff Scales and Paddy Short

**Apologies:** Councillors Stephanie Haworth and Eamonn Higgins

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## **290 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were submitted from Councillors Stephanie Haworth and Eamonn Higgins.

## **291 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations**

There were no declarations of interest or dispensations.

## **292 Announcements**

### 1) The Late Derek Scholes and Geoffrey Hanson

The Mayor paid tribute to Derek Scholes and Geoffrey Hanson who had both died in November 2017. Derek had been a Hyndburn Borough Councillor from 1994 to 2002, representing the Baxenden Ward, and had held the position of Deputy Mayor for the Municipal Year 2001/02. Geoffrey had been awarded the Honour of Freeman of the Borough of Hyndburn in May 2017 and had been well-known for his work in the Great Harwood area, particularly in regard to the Great Harwood Agricultural Show.

**A minutes silence was held as a mark of respect.**

### 2) Lancashire County Council Health Scrutiny Committee

The Mayor reported that at a meeting of the Lancashire County Council Health Scrutiny Committee held on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2017, it had been agreed that each District Council in Lancashire be requested to consider identifying an elected member for the role of Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Champion to take part in meetings and activities with the aim of reducing suicides by 10%. Hyndburn was one of the two top affected areas in Lancashire.

### 3) NHS Stay Well This Winter Campaign

The Mayor referred to the NHS Stay Well This Winter Campaign and reported that Lancashire County Council had made adult flu vaccine available to staff. The Mayor asked

the Leader of the Council to consider making flu jabs available to Hyndburn Borough Council employees in preparation for Winter 2018/19.

4) Mayoral Charity Ball 2018

The Mayor informed Councillors that the 2018 Mayoral Charity Ball was to be held on Saturday, 10<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at Accrington Town Hall and asked that they support the event in order to help raise funds for the chosen Mayoral Charities.

5) Accrington Market Hall

The Leader of the Council invited the Portfolio Holder for Housing and Regeneration (Councillor Clare Cleary) to report in relation to a proposed rent and service charge reduction for Accrington Market Hall Tenants during 2018. Councillor Cleary indicated that a report seeking approval of those proposals was to be submitted to a meeting of the Council's Cabinet in February 2018 and that a Cabinet Working Group was to be set up to look at a new charging policy.

**293 Confirmation of Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2017 were submitted for approval as a correct record.

**Resolved** - **That the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2017 be approved as a correct record.**

**294 Question Time**

The Mayor reported that the following question had been received from Mr. Nick Whittaker of Accrington in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 2.2(vi). The question was put to the Leader of the Council (Councillor Miles Parkinson):-

“Can the Leader of the Council call on all Members of Hyndburn Borough Council to work with Hyndburn's Member of Parliament to create legislation which would mean that all stone merchants and transporters of stone are accountable in the same way as scrap metal dealers, this issue is at epidemic rates in Hyndburn and it would seem obvious and sensible to me that we mirror image the “scrap metal act” for this particular issue.”

The Leader of the Council responded that he had been in contact with the local Member of Parliament (Graham Jones) and read out the contents of the resultant reply. Mr. Whittaker was present at the meeting and the Leader of the Council indicated that his request would be taken on board.

**295 Police Inspector Steve Rides**

Police Inspector Steve Rides who had replaced Inspector Pam Holgate at Hyndburn Police indicated that he was looking forward to working with the Council and in the Hyndburn area. He referred to his background as a police officer, having worked in the Lancashire area since 2007 and reported that police officers in the Great Harwood area would be utilising facilities at the Great Harwood Fire Station. The Mayor and Councillors welcomed Inspector Rides to the area.

**Resolved** - **That Police Inspector Rides be invited to attend a future meeting of the Council to take part in a question and answer session with elected members in regard to the**

**prevention of anti-social behaviour and criminal activities in the Hyndburn area.**

**296 Suspension of Council Procedure Rules**

The Mayor submitted a report proposing the suspension of Council Procedure Rules to facilitate a presentation by the Skipton East Lancs Rail Action Partnership (SELRAP).

**Resolved** - **That the Council Procedure Rules be suspended for the purposing of receiving a presentation by the Skipton East Lancs Rail Action Partnership.**

**297 Presentation from Skipton East Lancs Rail Action Partnership (SELRAP)**

Mr. Peter Byron, accompanied by Messrs. Derek Jennings and Andy Shackleton, gave a presentation to Councillors regarding the role the Skipton East Lancs Rail Action Partnership (SELRAP) was playing in relation to the Skipton to Colne Project, The Northern Link. The presentation comprised the following:-

- a) SELRAP Stakeholders
- b) Fast Tracking the Project
- c) Project Agenda
- d) Connecting Communities Across the North and Completing the Northern Link (The Missing Link)
- e) East – West Strategic Rail Freight Route
- f) Regeneration and Economic Growth
- g) Stakeholder Comments

Mr. Byron responded to questions raised by Councillors.

**Resolved** - **That the SELRAP representatives be thanked for the presentation and that the Mayor and Leader of the Council be requested to send a joint letter to Lancashire County Council in support of SELRAP's aims and proposed needs for the area.**

**298 Development Management Development Plan Document Adoption**

The Leader of the Council submitted a report advising Council of the receipt of the Planning Inspector's Report following the Examination in Public of the Hyndburn Development Management Development Plan Document. The main points of the Inspector's Report were outlined and approval for adoption of the Development Plan Document was sought.

The Development Plan Document formed an important part of the new Local Plan for Hyndburn and set out the more detailed planning policies to be used by Development Management Officers and Planning Committee in determining planning applications for the Borough. Once adopted, the Document would sit alongside the Core Strategy and Accrington Area Action Plan and parts of the Local Plan already adopted by the Council. It would replace the majority of Local Plan policies (1996) that remained extant).

**Resolved** **(1) That the Planning Inspector's Report and recommendations on 'Main Modifications' necessary to make the Development Management Development Plan Document sound, be noted; and,**

- (2) That the incorporation of all 'Main Modifications' recommended by the Planning Inspector into the Development Management Development Plan Document and the formal adoption of that Document be approved.

## 299 Nominations for the Title of Honorary Freeman

The Leader of the Council submitted a report seeking approval for the conferment of the title of Honorary Freeman of the Borough of Hyndburn to Councillor Bernard Dawson and Mr. David Lloyd. The title was the highest honour that the Council could award, the right being contained in Section 249(5) of the Local Government Act 1972. In accordance with the Council's Constitution, the nominations had been considered in the first instance by the Leader's Policy Development Board who had recommended that the nominations be supported. The Leader of the Conservative Group (Councillor Tony Dobson) and the Leader of the Council respectively proposed and seconded the nominations. Councillor Dawson and Mr. Lloyd had both been consulted and had agreed to accept the title.

### Resolved

- (1) That in accordance with Section 249(5) of the Local Government Act 1972, Councillor Bernard Dawson and Mr. David Lloyd be conferred with the title of Honorary Freeman of the Borough and be presented with the award at the Mayor-making meeting of the Council on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2018, or should that not prove possible due to the unavailability of the recipients, at some stage during the remainder of the Municipal Year 2018/19; and,
- (2) That the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Resources, be authorised to make the necessary arrangements.

## 300 Minutes of Cabinet

The Minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2017 were submitted.

### Resolved

- That the Minutes be received and noted.

## 301 Minutes of Committees

The Minutes of the following meetings were submitted:-

<u>COMMITTEE</u>	<u>DATE</u>
Communities and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee	25 <sup>th</sup> October 2017
Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee	26 <sup>th</sup> October 2017
Planning Committee	15 <sup>th</sup> November 2017
Judicial Committee (Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Licensing)	20 <sup>th</sup> November 2017
Management Review Committee	28 <sup>th</sup> November 2017
Audit Committee	11 <sup>th</sup> December 2017

Planning Committee	13 <sup>th</sup> December 2017
Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee	14 <sup>th</sup> December 2017
Licensing Sub-Committee	14 <sup>th</sup> December 2017

**Resolved - That the Minutes be received and noted.**

**302 Motion Submitted on Notice - Shadow Lancashire Combined Authority - East-West Connectivity**

The following **motion** was moved by Councillor Noordad Aziz and seconded by Councillor Munsif Dad under Council Procedure Rule A9:-

“That this Council resolves to write to the Shadow Lancashire Combined Authorities and approves Leader Miles Parkinson, to request that they adopt a position of support in calling for better East-West Connectivity in Lancashire by the Department of Transport and Transport for the North (TfN), undertaking a significant investment programme in Road and Rail Infrastructure development, especially the following two infrastructure schemes:

1. The Re-Establishment of the Skipton to Colne Rail Link.
2. The M65 linking to Yorkshire potential to the A1 (M) and M62.

The above two are vital connections for infrastructure to link East and West in the North of England. The benefits of these two infrastructure projects to the whole region would be considerable. East Lancashire communities are amongst the most deprived in the UK and improved transport links would provide a significant boost to economic and social mobility of many of these communities, as well as provide improved infrastructure for business. The economic and social impact of these two infrastructure projects would extend across the North connecting millions of people in the North East with millions of people in the North West and provide relief to the congested M62. It would help the North redress the imbalance of infrastructure investment in comparison to the South and shows that Government is serious in its vision of the ‘Northern Powerhouse’.

This continues the calls by this Council to drive economic growth in the region as we require substantial infrastructure investment to unlock significant economic growth areas.”

After a debate, the **motion** was put to the vote and declared carried.

**Resolved - That this Council resolves to write to the Shadow Lancashire Combined Authorities and approves Leader Miles Parkinson, to request that they adopt a position of support in calling for better East-West Connectivity in Lancashire by the Department of Transport and Transport for the North (TfN), undertaking a significant investment programme in Road and Rail Infrastructure development, especially the following two infrastructure schemes:**

1. The Re-Establishment of the Skipton to Colne Rail Link.
2. The M65 linking to Yorkshire potential to the A1 (M) and M62.

The above two are vital connections for infrastructure to link East and West in the North of England. The benefits of these two infrastructure projects to the whole region would be considerable. East Lancashire communities are amongst the most deprived in the UK and improved transport links would provide a significant boost to economic and social mobility of many of these communities, as well as provide improved infrastructure for business. The economic and social impact of these two infrastructure projects would extend across the North connecting millions of people in the North East with millions of people in the North West and provide relief to the congested M62. It would help the North redress the imbalance of infrastructure investment in comparison to the South and shows that Government is serious in its vision of the 'Northern Powerhouse'.

This continues the calls by this Council to drive economic growth in the region as we require substantial infrastructure investment to unlock significant economic growth areas.

### 303 Motion Submitted on Notice - VAT on Defibrillators

The following **motion** was moved by Councillor Noordad Aziz and seconded by Councillor Bernadette Parkinson under Council Procedure Rule A9:-

"That this Council resolves to write to the Department of Health and the Treasury Department to review the addition of VAT on automated external defibrillators (AEDs) and look at abolishing the charge of VAT on this vital medical aid which has been proven to save lives. In Great Harwood, we have the Philip Maher foundation, a UK registered charity, who provide Defibrillator in memory of an active Great Harwood resident who lost his life after a sudden heart attack. The charity's aim is providing public access to automated external defibrillators (AEDs). The impact of no VAT on AEDs to this charity would lead them to be able to provide 20% more defibrillators to the residents of Hyndburn and Lancashire.

That Council also recognises the impact of abolishing VAT on the AEDs will reduce the cost in purchasing them and will lead to them being more readily available in more public places, therefore potentially saving lives."

After a debate, the **motion** was put to the vote and declared carried.

#### Resolved

- (1) That this Council resolves to write to the Department of Health and the Treasury Department to review the addition of VAT on automated external defibrillators (AEDs) and look at abolishing the charge of VAT on this vital medical aid which has been proven to save lives. In Great Harwood, we have the Philip Maher foundations, a UK registered charity, who provide Defibrillator in memory of an active Great Harwood resident who lost his life after a sudden heart attack. The charity's aim is providing public access to automated external defibrillators (AEDs). The impact of

**no VAT on AEDs to this charity would lead them to be able to provide 20% more defibrillators to the residents of Hyndburn and Lancashire;**

- (2) That Council also recognises the impact of abolishing VAT on the AEDs will reduce the cost in purchasing them and will lead to them being more readily available in more public places, therefore potentially saving lives; and,**
- (3) That when writing to the Department of Health and the Treasury Department, the letters be signed by both the Leader of the Council and the Leader of the Conservative Group.**

Signed:.....

Date: .....

Chair of the meeting  
at which the minutes were confirmed