

BOLTON METROPOLITAN BOROUGH

2021/2022

23rd JUNE 2021

Present - Councillors Mrs. Thomas (Mayor), Mrs. Fairclough (Deputy Mayor), Abdullah, Ayub, Bagnall, Baines, Brady, Challender, Connor, Cox, Dean, Donaghy, Finney, Flitcroft, Galloway, Grant, Greenhalgh, Hartigan, Haslam, Hayes, Haworth, Hewitt, Hill, Ibrahim, Iqbal, Jiva, Khurram, McGeown, McKeon, Mistry, Morgan, Murray, Muslim, Parkinson, Peel, Rimmer, Sanders, Sherrington, Silvester, Taylor-Burke, Veevers, Walsh, Warren, Weatherby, D. Wilkinson, T. Wilkinson, Wright and Zaman.

8. PETITION

A petition was received relating to the creation of a long term plan for the improvement of Chorley New Road and was referred to the Director of Place.

9. MINUTES

The minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of Annual Council held on 26th May, 2021 were submitted and signed as a correct record.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL – MAKING THE BLACKROD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

It was moved by Councillor Hewitt and seconded by Councillor Baines and agreed –

That it be agreed that the Blackrod Neighbourhood Plan should be made as a part of the statutory Development Plan, following the referendum which was held on 6th May, 2021.

The Motion was then put to the vote when the voting was as follows:-

For the Motion, 47 viz:

Councillors Abdullah, Ayub, Bagnall, Baines, Brady, Challenger, Connor, Cox, Dean, Donaghy, Mrs. Fairclough, Finney, Flitcroft, Galloway, Grant, Greenhalgh, Hartigan, Haslam, Hayes, Haworth, Hewitt, Hill, Ibrahim, Iqbal, Jiva, Khurram, McGeown, McKeon, Mistry, Morgan, Murray, Muslim, Parkinson, Peel, Rimmer, Sanders, Sherrington, Silvester, Taylor-Burke, Veevers, Walsh, Warren, Weatherby, D. Wilkinson, T. Wilkinson, Wright and Zaman.

Against the Motion, 0

Abstained, 0

Whereupon, the motion was declared carried.

11. CHANGES IN COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP AND APPOINTMENTS TO OTHER BODIES

It was moved by Councillor Dean, seconded by Councillor Khurram and agreed –

1. That Councillor Mistry replace Councillor Adia on the Corporate and External Issues Scrutiny Committee
2. That Councillor Adia replace Councillor Khurram on the Children's Services Scrutiny Committee
3. That Councillor Khurram replace Councillor Mistry on the Health Overview and Adult Services Scrutiny Committee
4. That Councillor Taylor-Burke replace Councillor D Wilkinson on the Licensing and Environmental Regulation Committee
5. That Councillor Heslop replace Councillor Allen on the Place Scrutiny Committee
6. That Councillor Heslop replace Councillor Zaman on the Standards Committee
7. That Councillor Evans replace Councillor Brady on the Standards Committee

8. That Councillor Hornby replace Councillor Fletcher on the Children's Services Scrutiny Committee
9. That Councillor Hornby replace Sherrington on the Standards Committee

12. QUESTIONS/COMMENTS UNDER STANDING ORDER 9(a)

The following questions were asked under Standing Order 9(a) –

- (i) by Councillor Pattison relating to Bolton NICE

The Leader of the Council replied to this question.

- (ii) by Councillor Ayub relating to the frequency of street cleaning

The Executive Cabinet Member for Environmental Services Delivery replied to this question.

- (iii) by Councillor Ayub relating to road markings

The Executive Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport replied to this question.

- (iv) by Councillor Donaghy relating to a local enquiry into the effects of the Covid pandemic

The Leader of the Council replied to this question.

- (v) by Councillor Hayes relating to the budget amendment

The Leader of the Council replied to this question.

- (vi) by Councillor Hayes relating to the Government's Planning White Paper

The Executive Cabinet Member for Strategic Housing and Planning replied to this question.

- (vii) by Councillor Veevers relating to the management of allotments

The Executive Cabinet Member for Environmental Services Delivery replied to this question.

- (viii) by Councillor McGeown relating to the Kickstart Scheme

The Deputy Leader of the Council replied to this question.

- (ix) by Councillor McGeown relating to mental health services

The Executive Cabinet Member for Wellbeing replied to this question.

- (x) by Councillor D. Wilkinson relating to gully cleaning

The Executive Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport replied to this question.

- (xi) by Councillor D. Wilkinson relating to Daisy Hill Railway Bridge

The Executive Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport replied to this question.

- (xii) by Councillor Wright relating to affordable places for Voluntary Groups

The Leader of the Council replied to this question.

- (xiii) by Councillor McKeon relating to the flooding in Horwich

The Executive Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport replied to this question.

- (xiv) by Councillor D. Wilkinson relating to free advice for developers

The Executive Cabinet Member for Strategic Housing and Planning replied to this question.

13. PLANNING COMMITTEE

It was moved by Councillor Walsh, seconded by Councillor Ayub and agreed –

That the minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 18th March, 1st and 22nd April 2021 be approved.

14. LICENSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION COMMITTEE

It was moved by Councillor Mrs. Fairclough, seconded by Councillor Dean and agreed –

That the minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Licensing and Environmental Regulation Committee held on 9th and 23rd March and 6th April 2021 be approved.

15. SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

It was moved by Councillor Iqbal, seconded by Councillor Brady and agreed –

That the minutes of the meetings of the following Committees be approved:-

Corporate and External Issues Scrutiny Committee – 12th April 2021

Place Scrutiny Committee – 23rd March and 14th April 2021

Children's Services Scrutiny Committee – 29th March 2021

Health Overview and Adult Social Care Scrutiny – 31st
March 2021

Councillor Donaghy made a comment in respect of minute 30 of the meeting of the Health Overview and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee held on 31st March, 2021.

16. MOTION UNDER STANDING ORDER NO. 4 – CARE WORKERS PAY

Councillor Morgan declared an interest the undermentioned motion and left the meeting during consideration and determination thereof.

It was moved by Councillor Sherrington and seconded by Councillor Zaman -

This Council recognises and applauds the vital work that is being carried out by frontline care workers across Bolton, during the Covid 19 pandemic, looking after and protecting some of the most vulnerable people in our society.

Council is resolute in its view that decent care work cannot be done on the cheap, and that the Government should challenge the culture of low paid staff who often feel undervalued, by leading a new national strategy in investment in pay, training and support.

Council therefore calls upon the Government to invest £1.4 billion into care workers pay, meaning that these staff who serve a vital function in society receive a 'real Living Wage' of £9.30 per hour, outside of London and £10.75 in London.

The Motion was then put to the vote when the voting was as follows:-

For the Motion, 46 viz:

Councillors Abdullah, Ayub, Bagnall, Baines, Brady, Challenger, Connor, Cox, Dean, Donaghy, Mrs. Fairclough, Finney, Flitcroft, Galloway, Grant, Greenhalgh, Hartigan, Haslam, Hayes, Haworth, Hewitt, Hill, Ibrahim, Iqbal, Jiva, Khurram, McGeown, McKeon, Mistry, Murray, Muslim, Parkinson, Peel, Rimmer, Sanders, Sherrington, Silvester, Taylor-Burke, Veevers, Walsh, Warren, Weatherby, D. Wilkinson, T. Wilkinson, Wright and Zaman.

Against the Motion, 0

Abstained, 0

Whereupon, the motion was declared carried.

17. MOTION UNDER STANDING ORDER NO. 4 – COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH INITIATIVES

It was moved by Councillor Murray and seconded by Councillor Donaghy -

This Council expresses its serious concern about the issue of speeding cars and reckless driving within our Borough, which is continually leading to needless loss of life resulting in devastating damage to families and communities.

Council accepts that cuts to police budgets has led to a reduction in the ability for the police to effectively enforce speed restrictions. In addition, since the start of the Covid 19 pandemic, police resources have been further stretched.

Council notes that one method by which the issue of speeding cars can be tackled is to tap into the willingness of community groups to organise Community Speedwatch Initiatives, and notes the successful, but informal, pilot that has been operating in Ainsworth Lane, Tonge with the Haulgh Ward. Whilst accepting that CSI's are not a panacea to the problem, Council is nevertheless disappointed that in reply to a question from a member, the GM Neighbourhood Roads Policing Manager did not offer

any reassurance of a full roll out of these initiatives.

Council believes that the issues raised by GM police can be solved in partnership with Bolton Council.

Accordingly, Council asks that early talks be opened between Officers of the Council, the Police and the GM Mayors Office in order to resolve any obstructions that are preventing the roll out of Community Speedwatch Initiatives.

The Motion was then put to the vote when the voting was as follows:-

For the Motion, 45 viz:

Councillors Abdullah, Ayub, Bagnall, Baines, Brady, Challender, Connor, Cox, Dean, Donaghy, Mrs. Fairclough, Finney, Flitcroft, Galloway, Grant, Greenhalgh, Hartigan, Haslam, Haworth, Hewitt, Hill, Iqbal, Jiva, Khurram, McGeown, McKeon, Mistry, Morgan, Murray, Muslim, Parkinson, Peel, Rimmer, Sanders, Sherrington, Silvester, Taylor-Burke, Veevers, Walsh, Warren, Weatherby, D. Wilkinson, T. Wilkinson, Wright and Zaman.

Against the Motion, 0

Abstained, 0

Whereupon, the motion was declared carried.

18. MOTION UNDER STANDING ORDER NO. 4 – CLIMATE AND ECOLOGICAL EMERGENCY BILL

It was moved by Councillor McKeon and seconded by Councillor Abdullah -

That building on the decision of the Council to declare a Climate Emergency and the significant amount of work currently in train to make that declaration a reality, this Council expresses, in a vote, its support for the Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill currently before the House of

Commons. Furthermore, the Council agrees to contact the three MPs who represent the borough to urge them to support the bill.

Next year the UK is to co-host the 26th Climate Change Conference and thus has an opportunity to show leadership in combating what is possibly the greatest challenge humanity has ever faced. The evidence of the catastrophic effects of climate change is now too obvious to enumerate. The related ecological disaster is only too apparent with the decimation of species the most egregious example.

The objectives of the bill are to ensure that the UK plays it's fair and proper role in limiting global temperature rise to 1.5 degrees C and actively conserving the natural world by protecting and restoring the UK's ecosystems.

It also calls for a temporary Citizens Assembly to help the Government and Parliament to decide on the measures to include in the strategy necessary to achieve the objectives.

This Council, on behalf of the people of Bolton, who we represent, expresses its support for a bill which contains measures which are potentially lifesaving for ecosystems, species and humanity.

The Motion was then put to the vote when the voting was as follows:-

For the Motion, 25 viz:

Councillors Abdullah, Ayub, Bagnall, Brady, Challender, Donaghy, Flitcroft, Grant, Hayes, Haworth, Jiva, Khurram, McGeown, McKeon, Mistry, Murray, Peel, Sanders, Sherrington, Silvester, Veevers, Weatherby, D. Wilkinson, T. Wilkinson and Zaman.

Against the Motion, 19 viz:

Councillors Baines, Connor, Cox, Dean, Finney, Galloway, Greenhalgh, Hartigan, Haslam, Hewitt, Hill, Morgan,

Muslim, Parkinson, Rimmer, Taylor-Burke, Walsh, Warren and Wright.

Abstained, 0

Whereupon, the motion was declared carried.

19. MOTION UNDER STANDING ORDER NO. 4 – ACTION PLAN FOR GREATER MANCHESTER POLICE

It was moved by Councillor Hayes and seconded by Councillor Veevers -

Council considers that the majority of members of Greater Manchester Police perform their duties with a high degree of dedication and professionalism and wishes to thank them for their work during such hard times.

Council recognises that Government cuts to the Greater Manchester Police budget of £215 million over 10 years, which resulted in cuts of 2,000 officers and 1,000 support staff, has inevitably led to a reduction in the standard of service provided to the residents of Greater Manchester and Bolton. However, the recent report by the Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) indicates that the performance of Greater Manchester Police is far worse than that of the majority of other forces. HMICFRS found that over 80,000 crimes had not been recorded in the year ending on 30th June and the force was placed in 'Special Measures'.

Council considers that the recent damning HMICFRS report indicates a serious lack of organisation and leadership in Greater Manchester police, for which senior officers must be held largely responsible.

Council notes however, that the role of Elected Mayor for Greater Manchester incorporates the responsibilities of the Police and Crime Commissioner, with responsibility to ensure efficient and effective policing in the area. The existing Elected Mayor appointed a Deputy Mayor to carry

out this role on his behalf. Council is concerned that despite warnings from HMICFRS in 2016, 2018 and earlier in 2020, no action appears to have been taken by either the Mayor or Deputy Mayor to deal with the very real concerns, and believes that they have seriously let down the residents of Bolton and Greater Manchester as a whole by their inactivity.

Council resolves to request that the Mayor prepares a detailed report to Bolton Council indicating the action plan to return policing in the Borough to an efficient and effective level.

The Motion was then put to the vote when the voting was as follows:-

For the Motion, 30 viz:

Councillors Bagnall, Baines, Brady, Cox, Dean, Mrs. Fairclough, Finney, Flitcroft, Galloway, Grant, Greenhalgh, Hartigan, Haslam, Hayes, Hewitt, Hill, McGeown, Morgan, Muslim, Parkinson, Rimmer, Sanders, Taylor-Burke, Veevers, Walsh, Warren, Weatherby, D. Wilkinson, T. Wilkinson and Wright.

Against the Motion, 14 viz:

Councillors Abdullah, Ayub, Challender, Donaghy, Haworth, Jiva, Khurram, McKeon, Mistry, Murray, Peel, Sherrington, Silvester and Zaman.

Abstained, 0

Whereupon, the motion was declared carried.

(The meeting started at 7.00 p.m. and finished at 10.20 p.m.)