

**BOLTON METROPOLITAN BOROUGH**

**2006/2007**

---

**MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

**28<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2007**

Present - Councillors Hall (The Mayor), White (Deputy Mayor), Allen, Ayub, Ashcroft, Ball, Bashir-Ismail, Burrows, J. Byrne, L. Byrne, Clare, Connell, Cox, Critchley, Darvesh, Mrs. Fairclough, Gradwell, Greenhalgh, Hamilton, Hayes, Higson, Hollick, Hornby, Hussain, Ibrahim, Idrees, Kay, Lever, Lord, Morgan, Morris, Peel, Price, Rock, Mrs. Ronson, R. Ronson, J. Rothwell, Mrs. Rothwell, Rushton, Sherrington, J. Silvester, R. Silvester, Spencer, Mrs. Thomas, A.S. Walsh, J. Walsh, A. Wilkinson, David Wilkinson, R. Wilkinson, Williamson, Woodward and Zaman.

**76. MINUTES**

The minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Council held on the 21<sup>st</sup> February, 2007 were submitted and signed as a correct record.

**77. CONSTITUTION - APPOINTMENT OF RETURNING OFFICER AND ELECTORAL REGISTRATION OFFICER**

It was moved by Councillor Morris, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Thomas and approved –

That Mr. Sean Harriss be appointed Returning Officer and Electoral Registration Officer for Bolton with effect from 1st April 2007 as a consequence of the retirement of Mr. B. Knight as Chief Executive.

**78. CONSTITUTION - INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL**

It was moved by Councillor Morris, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Thomas and approved –

That the Council approves the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel with regards to the review of the current Scheme of Members' Allowances, as detailed in the report now circulated to members, subject to the correction now made regarding payment of an allowance to independent members of the Standards Committee.

**79. RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL - STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT SUBMISSION DOCUMENT**

It was moved by Councillor Peel, seconded by Councillor Ibrahim and approved –

That the Statement of Community Involvement Submission Document be approved and submitted to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government.

**80. CHANGES IN COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP AND APPOINTMENTS TO OTHER BODIES**

It was moved by Councillor Peel, seconded by Councillor Ibrahim and agreed –

That the following appointments and changes in membership be approved:-

- (1) That Councillors J. Byrne, Clare, Morris, Rock, R. Ronson, Rushton, Shaw, J. Walsh and Zaman be appointed to the Heaton Fold and Bolmoor Policy Development Group (Task and Finish).
- (2) That Councillors Darvesh, Greenhalgh, Hamilton, Hollick, Hornby, Ibrahim, J. Silvester, Williamson and R. Wilkinson be appointed to the Library Review Policy Development Group (Task and

Finish).

- (3) That Councillor Greenhalgh replace Councillor Ashcroft as Councillor Mrs. Brierley's deputy on the Planning and Highways Committee.
- (4) That Councillor Peel replace Councillor Adia on the Recycling and Waste Policy Development Group.

**81. QUESTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDER 9(a)**

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

-

- (i) by Councillor A. Connell relating to Moss Bank Park;
- (ii) by Councillor Hornby relating to the budget allocation on highways in Bolton;
- (iii) by Councillor Ayub relating to play areas in Bolton;
- (iv) by Councillor Darvesh relating to alley gating schemes in Bolton;
- (v) by Councillor Lord relating to Equal Pay;
- (vi) by Councillor Kay relating to energy efficiencies;
- (vii) by Councillor Price relating to the Smoking Cessation Policy;
- (viii) by Councillor Hornby relating to consultancy work;
- (ix) by Councillor White relating to the 2012 Olympics;
- (x) by Councillor Mrs. Ronson relating to cardboard collections;
- (xi)

- by Councillor Mrs. Ronson relating to recycling plastic;
- (xii) by Councillor Williamson relating to parking at Royal Bolton Hospital
  - (xiii) by Councillor Williamson relating to Premium Rate Insurance
  - (xiv) by Councillor Cox relating to work experience for looked after children;
  - (xv) by Councillor Idrees relating to the Installation of Traffic Lights at the junction of Weston Street/Crescent Road/Nelson Street;
  - (xvi) by Councillor Rushton relating to an emergency loan to Bernstein Company;
  - (xvii) by Councillor Rushton relating to Credit Unions; and
  - (xviii) by Councillor Critchley relating to a skateboard park.

The Executive Member for Environmental Services replied to questions (i), (ii), (iii), (iv)(xii) and (xv), the Executive Member for Human Resources and Diversity replied to questions (v) and (vii) (and with respect to equal pay paid tribute to the work of the Assistant Chief Executive and staff involved in taking this work forward), the Executive Member for Adults Social Care and Health replied to questions (vi) and (xii), the Executive Member for Corporate Strategy and Finance replied to questions (viii), (xiii), (xiv), (xvi), (xvii) and (xviii), the Executive Member for Culture and Community Services replied to question (ix), the Executive Member for Recycling and Waste Disposal replied to questions (x) and (xi) and the Executive Member for Schools replied to question (xii).

## **82. PLANNING AND HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE**

It was moved by Councillor Peel seconded by Councillor Woodward and agreed – Page 4 of 11

That the minutes of the proceedings of the meetings of the Planning and Highways Committee held on 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2006 and 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> January and 8<sup>th</sup> February, 2007 be approved.

### **83. LICENSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATIONS COMMITTEE**

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

That the minutes of the proceedings of the meetings of the Licensing and Environmental Regulation Committee held on 12<sup>th</sup> December, 2006 and 9<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> January, 2007 be approved.

### **84. SCRUTINY COMMITTEES**

It was moved by Councillor Ashcroft, seconded by Councillor Morgan and agreed –

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

Corporate Issues Scrutiny Committee – 5<sup>th</sup> February, 2007

Development and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee – 29<sup>th</sup> January 2007

Environmental Services Scrutiny Committee – 7<sup>th</sup> February, 2007

Adult Services Scrutiny Committee – 6<sup>th</sup> February, 2007

Children's Services Scrutiny Committee – 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2007

Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 16<sup>th</sup> January and 6<sup>th</sup> February, 2007(submitted for information only)

Councillor Cox declared a prejudicial interest in the following two items and left the meeting.

**85. REFERRED ITEM - DEANE CHURCH LANE –  
PROPOSED TRAFFIC CALMING – OBJECTIONS**

Councillor A.S. Walsh submitted a motion which was seconded by Councillor Morgan -

That the implementation of the Traffic Calming Scheme is premature pending the outcome of the work of the Road Safety Issues Scrutiny Panel and that, consequently, the matter be referred back to the Executive Member for Environmental Services with a recommendation that consideration be deferred until after the Panel's recommendations have been considered.

The motion was put to the vote, when the voting was as follows:-

For the motion 16, viz:-

Councillors Ashcroft, Critchley, Mrs. Fairclough, Greenhalgh, Higson, Hollick, Hussain, Idrees, Lever, Morgan, Rushton, A. Walsh, J. Walsh, A. Wilkinson, R. Wilkinson and Woodward.

Against the motion 33, viz:-

Councillors Ayub, Ball, Bashir-Ismail, Burrows, L. Byrne, J. Byrne, Clare, Connell, Darvesh, Gradwell, Hamilton, Hayes, Hornby, Ibrahim, Kay, Lord, Morris, Peel, Price, Rock, Mrs. Ronson, R. Ronson, J. Rothwell, Mrs. Rothwell, Sherrington, J. Silvester, R. Silvester, Spencer, Mrs. Thomas, White, David Wilkinson, Williamson and Zaman.

Abstentions 1, viz:-

Councillor Allen.

Whereupon the motion was declared lost.

**86. REFERRED ITEM - CROMPTON WAY – ROUTE  
MANAGEMENT – OBJECTIONS**

Councillor J. Walsh submitted a motion which was seconded  
by Councillor Critchley -

That the implementation of the Traffic Calming Scheme is  
premature pending the outcome of the work of the Road  
Safety Issues Scrutiny Panel and that, consequently, the  
matter be referred back to the Executive Member for  
Environmental Services with a recommendation that  
consideration be deferred until after the Panel's  
recommendations have been considered.

The motion was put to the vote, when the voting was as  
follows:-

For the motion 16, viz:-

Councillors Ashcroft, Critchley, Mrs. Fairclough,  
Greenhalgh, Higson, Hollick, Hussain, Idrees, Lever,  
Morgan, Rushton, A. Walsh, J. Walsh, A. Wilkinson,  
R. Wilkinson and Woodward.

Against the motion 33, viz:-

Councillors Ayub, Ball, Bashir-Ismail, Burrows, L. Byrne,  
J. Byrne, Clare, Connell, Darvesh, Gradwell, Hamilton,  
Hayes, Hornby, Ibrahim, Kay, Lord, Morris, Peel, Price,  
Rock, Mrs. Ronson, R. Ronson, J. Rothwell,  
Mrs. Rothwell, Sherrington, J. Silvester, R. Silvester,  
Spencer, Mrs. Thomas, White, David Wilkinson,  
Williamson and Zaman.

Abstentions 1, viz:-

Councillor Allen.

Whereupon the motion was declared lost.

## **87. AREA FORUMS**

It was moved by Councillor Lord, seconded by Councillor Williamson and agreed –

That the minutes of the meetings of the following Area Forums be approved:-

Westhoughton with Chew Moor Area Forum – 5<sup>th</sup> December, 2006 and 30<sup>th</sup> January, 2007

Heaton and Lostock and Hulton Area Forum – 24<sup>th</sup> January, 2007

Astley Bridge and Smithills Area Forum – 11<sup>th</sup> January, 2007

Farnworth and Kearsley Area Forum – 15<sup>th</sup> January, 2007

Crompton and Halliwell Area Forum – 16<sup>th</sup> January, 2007

South Area Forum – 17<sup>th</sup> January, 2007

South Turton Area Forum – 6<sup>th</sup> December, 2006

Two Towns Area Forum – 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2007

Leverhulme Area Forum – 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2007

## **88. AUDIT COMMITTEE**

It was moved by Councillor J. Walsh, seconded by Councillor Morgan and agreed –

That the minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Audit Committee held on 6<sup>th</sup> December, 2006 be agreed.



**89. MOTION UNDER STANDING ORDER NO. 4 –  
ADDITION OF FLUORIDE TO DRINKING WATER**

It was moved by Councillor R. Ronson and seconded by Councillor Mrs. Rothwell -

That this Council restates its previous position that fluoride should not be added to the drinking water without full consultation with the people of the Borough.

Upon being put to the vote, the motion was declared carried.

**90. MOTION UNDER STANDING ORDER NO. 4 –  
ADDITION OF FLUORIDE TO DRINKING WATER**

It was moved by Councillor Rushton and seconded by Councillor Critchley -

That this Council determines to hold a referendum to ascertain the views of the people of Bolton as to the addition of fluoride to drinking water.

The motion was put to the vote, when the voting was as follows:-

For the motion 29, viz:-

Councillors Allen, Ashcroft, Ball, Critchley, Gradwell, Mrs. Fairclough, Greenhalgh, Hamilton, Hayes, Hollick, Hussain, Idrees, Lever, Morgan, Rock, Mrs. Ronson, R. Ronson, J. Rothwell, Mrs. Rothwell, Rushton, J. Silvester, R. Silvester, A. Walsh, J. Walsh, White, A. Wilkinson, David Wilkinson, R. Wilkinson and Woodward.

Against the motion 21, viz:-

Councillors Ayub, Bashir-Ismail, Burrows, J. Byrne, L. Byrne, Clare, Connell, Darvesh, Higson, Hornby, Ibrahim, Kay, Lord, Morris, Peel, Price, Sherrington, Spencer, Mrs. Thomas, Williamson and Zaman.

Whereupon the motion was declared carried.

**91. MOTION UNDER STANDING ORDER NO. 4 – MR. BERNARD KNIGHT, M.A.(Cantab); M.Sc; MRTPI; ARICS**

It was moved by Councillors Morris, Rushton and Mrs. Ronson and unanimously resolved –

“That, in order to mark his retirement as Chief Executive of the Metropolitan Borough Council of Bolton on 8<sup>th</sup> April, 2007, this Council records its appreciation of the eminent services rendered to local government in general and Bolton in particular by Mr. Bernard Knight.

Mr. Knight was educated at Cambridge and Edinburgh Universities gaining an MA in Economics and M.Sc in Regional Planning and began his local government career with Manchester City Council in 1971 in the Planning Department. His career brought him via Greater Manchester County Council, where he played a major role in the regeneration of the City Centre; as a Consultant for Coopers and Lybrand to Bolton where he became Assistant Chief Executive in 1988 for two years before taking up the post of Chief Executive at West Lancashire Council.

Bernard Knight was appointed Chief Executive of the Council on 5<sup>th</sup> May, 1997. Since that time he has been a major influence in steering the Council through a series of significant changes and achievements, including achieving Four Star Status for the Council and has greatly assisted the Council in developing a number of fruitful relationships with various organisations via the Local Strategic Partnership and through his work with AGMA, together with overseeing the continued development and regeneration of the Borough.

Bernard Knight is well known for his dedication, honesty, integrity and innovation. In fulfilling his roles, the Council

acknowledge and appreciate the significant support he has received from his wife Helen and family.

The Council extends sincere best wishes to Bernard Knight for a long, happy and healthy retirement”.

(The meeting started at 7.00 p.m. and finished at 10.15 p.m.)