

Proceedings of the Meeting of the Leeds City Council held at the
Civic Hall, Leeds on Wednesday, 16th January, 2008

PRESENT: The Lord Mayor Councillor Brian Cleasby in the Chair

WARD

ADEL & WHARFEDALE

John Leslie Carter
Clive Fox
Barry John Anderson

ALWOODLEY

Ruth Feldman
Peter Mervyn Harrand
Ronald David Feldman

ARDSLEY & ROBIN HOOD

Jack Dunn
Lisa Mulherin
Karen Renshaw

ARMLEY

James McKenna
Janet Harper
Alison Natalie Kay Lowe

BEESTON & HOLBECK

Adam Ogilvie
David Congreve
Angela Gabriel

BRAMLEY & STANNINGLEY

Ted Hanley
Neil Taggart

BURMANTOFTS & RICHMOND HILL

Richard Brett
David Hollingsworth
Ralph Pryke

WARD

CALVERLEY & FARSLEY

Frank Robinson
Andrew Carter

CHAPEL ALLERTON

Mohammed Rafique
Jane Dowson
Sharon Hamilton

CITY & HUNSLET

Patrick Davey
Mohammed Iqbal
Elizabeth Nash

CROSS GATES & WHINMOOR

Pauleen Grahame
Peter John Gruen
Suzi Armitage

FARNLEY & WORTLEY

Ann Blackburn
Luke Russell
David Blackburn

GARFORTH & SWILLINGTON

Mark Dobson
Thomas Murray
Andrea McKenna

GIPTON & HAREHILLS

Arif Hussain
Roger Harington
Alan Leonard Taylor

GUISELEY & RAWDON

Stuart Andrew
John Bale

HAREWOOD

Rachael Procter
Alec Shelbrooke
Ann Castle

HEADINGLEY

James John Monaghan
Martin Hamilton
David Morton

HORSFORTH

Andrew Barker
Brian Cleasby
Christopher Townsley

HYDE PARK & WOODHOUSE

Linda Valerie Rhodes-Clayton
Penny Ewens

KILLINGBECK & SEACROFT

Veronica Morgan
Brian Michael Selby
Graham Hyde

KIPPAX & METHLEY

James Lewis
Keith Ivor Wakefield
John Keith Parker

KIRKSTALL

John Anthony Illingworth
Bernard Peter Atha
Elizabeth M Minkin

MIDDLETON PARK

Judith Blake
Debra Ann Coupar
Geoffrey Driver

MOORTOWN

Brenda Lancaster
Richard Harker
Mark Daniel Harris

MORLEY NORTH

Robert William Gettings
Thomas Leadley
Robert Finnigan

MORLEY SOUTH

Terrence Grayshon
Christopher James Beverley
Judith Elliot

OTLEY & YEADON

Colin Campbell
Ryk Downes
Graham Peter Kirkland

PUDSEY

Richard Alwyn Lewis
Mick Coulson
Josephine Patricia Jarosz

ROTHWELL

Steve Smith
Barry Stewart Golton
Donald Michael Wilson

ROUNDHAY

Valerie Kendall
Paul Wadsworth
Matthew Lobley

TEMPLE NEWSAM

Jacqueline Langdale
Michael Lyons
William Schofield Hyde

WEETWOOD

Susan Bentley
Judith Mara Chapman
Brian David Timothy Jennings

WETHERBY

Alan James Lamb
John Michael Procter
Gerald Wilkinson

65 Minutes

It was moved by Councillor M Hamilton seconded by Councillor Gruen and

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Extraordinary and ordinary meetings held on 31st October 2007 and of the four Extraordinary meetings held on 12th December 2007 be approved.

66 Declarations of Interest

The Lord Mayor announced that a list of written declarations submitted by Members was on deposit in the public galleries and had been circulated to each Member's place in the Chamber.

Following an invitation to declare further individual interests declarations in accordance with the Council's Code of Practice were made as follows:

- (a) Councillor Leadley declared a personal interest in minute 67 of this meeting as a member of Plans Panel (West) where submissions may be relevant to future planning applications.
- (b) Members declared personal interests in minute 72 of this meeting as follows:
 - G Hyde - Board Member of East Leeds Family Learning Centre
 - Wakefield - Non Executive Director of the Learning and Skills Council
 - Gettings - Member, Leeds Grand Theatre Board
 - Elliott - Governor of Fountain Primary School
 - Leadley - Carer of a disabled adult
 - Kirkland - Member of Otley Town Council
- (c) Councillor A Carter declared a personal interest in minute 74 of this meeting as a member of the Chamber of Commerce and of the Leeds Initiative Economy Partnership.
- (d) Members declared personal interests in minute 75 of this meeting as follows:
 - Anderson - Director, Green Leeds
 - Member, National Society for Clean Air Divisional Council
 - Member, Investigation of Air Pollution Standing Conference
 - Member, Regional Planning Forum
 - Member, Regional Planning Board
 - Member, Environment Agency – Ridings Area Environment Group
 - Member, Yorkshire Power Station Joint Environment Committee
 - Member, Yorkshire and Humber Assembly
 - Andrew - Leeds Architecture and Design Committee
 - Mrs A Carter - Chair, West Yorkshire Housing Partnership
 - Member, Yorkshire and Humber Housing Forum Executive
 - Chair, Leeds Bradford Corridor Group
 - A Carter - Local Government Yorkshire and Humber Executive Committee
 - Yorkshire and Humber Executive Board
 - Leeds Architecture and Design Committee
 - Fox - Member, Leeds Architecture and Design Initiative
 - Bale - Society for the Environment (Chartered Environmentalist)
 - Chartered Institute of Building Fellow and Past President
 - J L Carter - Member, Local Construction and Training Agency
 - Lowe - Member of WNWHL

- Gruen - Member of Aire Valley Homes
- Driver - Member of Aire Valley Homes
- G Hyde - Member of ENEHL
- Ewens - As she has, or is in the process of having solar panels fitted
- Brett - As he has, or is in the process of having solar panels fitted
- A Blackburn - Member of West North West Homes Leeds
- Lobley - Employee of British Telecom

(e) Members declared personal interests in minute 76 of this meeting as follows:

- Harrand - Making Leeds Better Project Board
- Wilkinson - Partner currently undergoing treatment at this centre
- Blake - Leeds PCT Board Member
- Gabriel - Employee of Leeds PCT
- S Hamilton - Unison Health Convenor
- Langdale - Employee of Leeds PCT
- Lowe - CEO of Touchstone which receives funding from LCC and PCT
- Harris - A Trustee of the John Westmoreland Trust which raises funds to support cancer treatment

(f) Councillor Murray declared a personal and prejudicial interest in minutes 69 (Question 2) and 74 as an employee of Learning Partnerships which is in direct receipt of Neighbourhood Renewal Funding

67 Deputations

Five deputations were admitted to the meeting and addressed Council as follows:

- 1 Pupils of Cardinal Heenan Catholic High School on matters referred to in the 'Mayor for the Day' Manifesto - Improving the Environment.
- 2 Representatives of the charity Relate regarding its funding.
- 3 Tinshill Recreation De-Fence Group regarding the use of permitted development to fence off green space including Tinshill Recreation Ground.
- 4 Local residents requesting the Council to purchase facilities at Leeds Girls High School for use by primary schools and the local community.
- 5 Headingley Network regarding the use of the Elinor Lupton Centre.

RESOLVED – That the subject matter of deputation 1 be referred to the Leader of Council and that of the other four deputations be referred to the Executive Board for consideration.

68 Reports

Reports admitted to the agenda in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 2.2(f) were considered as follows:

(a) Amendments to the Constitution

It was moved by Councillor M Hamilton seconded by Councillor J Procter and

RESOLVED - That the report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Corporate Governance) on changes to the Officer Delegation Scheme (Executive Functions) and other consequent amendments to the Constitution be noted

- (b) It was moved by Councillor A Carter seconded by Councillor M Hamilton and

RESOLVED - That in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Tax Base) Regulations 1992 (as amended), the amount calculated by the Council as its Council Tax Base for the year 2008/2009 shall be 233,204 and for each parish as listed below:

Aberford and District	781
Allerton Bywater	1,410
Arthington	288
Austhorpe	26
Bardsey cum Rigton	1,138
Barwick in Elmet and Scholes	2,018
Boston Spa	1,847
Bramham cum Oglethorpe	702
Bramhope and Carlton	1,801
Clifford	740
Collingham with Linton	1,600
Drighlington	1,879
Gildersome	1,943
Great and Little Preston	495
Harewood	1,814
Horsforth	6,878
East Keswick	583
Kippax	3,056
Ledsham	91
Ledston	164
Micklefield	574
Morley	9,674
Otley	4,897
Pool in Wharfedale	964
Scarcroft	667
Shadwell	947
Swillington	1,069
Thorner	741
Thorp Arch	363
Walton	120
Wetherby	4,609
Wothersome	7

69 Questions

- 1 Councillor Wakefield to the Executive Member (Central and Corporate)

Can the new Executive Board member for Resources confirm that he is still committed to providing council services in all parts of the city?

The Executive Member (Central and Corporate) replied.

- 2 Councillor Anderson to the Leader of Council

Would the Leader of Council care to comment on the impact of the financial settlement from Central Government on the Council's budget for 2008/9?

The Leader of Council replied

- 3 Councillor Townsley to the Executive Member (Environmental Services)

Would the Executive Board member responsible for Environmental Health care to comment on the situation regarding fuel poverty in Leeds.

The Executive Member (Environmental Services) replied.

- 4 Councillor Rhodes-Clayton to the Executive Member (Leisure)

What plans does the Council have to minimize the carbon footprint of crematoria run by Leeds City Council, as has been proposed by Tameside Council?

The Executive Member (Leisure) replied.

- 5 Councillor Mulherin to the Executive Member (Central and Corporate)

Could the new Leader of the Liberal Democrat Party in Leeds please confirm that helping those most in need will be one of his top priorities?

The Executive Member (Central and Corporate) replied.

- 6 Councillor Castle to the Executive Member (Neighbourhoods and Housing)

Would the Executive Member for Neighbourhoods and Housing care to comment on the government withdrawal of the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund at the end of this financial year, and the failure of the government to include Leeds on the list of Local Authorities eligible for the Working Neighbourhoods Fund?'

The Executive Member (Neighbourhoods and Housing) replied

- 7 Councillor Pryke to the Executive Member (Neighbourhoods and Housing)

Last week an inquest into the deadly scalding of Rhianna Hardie revealed that the failure of a hot water tank thermostat was responsible for this awful incident. It is estimated that there are at least 3.5 million similar cheap thermostats still in use in England and Wales, with no requirement on councils to fit new thermostats with automatic cut-outs. Would the Executive Board member for Neighbourhoods and Housing tell Council what discussions he and the Director are having or will have with the three ALMOs on this potential threat to our tenants?

The Executive Member (Neighbourhoods and Housing) replied.

- 8 Councillor Gruen to the Leader of Council

Can the Leader of Council please tell me how many staff the council currently employs?

The Leader of Council replied.

- 9 Councillor Anderson to the Executive Member (Development and Regeneration)

Would the Executive Member for Development reaffirm this administration's commitment to investing into the continued prosperity of Kirkgate Market?

The Executive Member (Development and Regeneration) replied.

10 Councillor Lyons to the Executive Member (Environmental Services)

Could the Executive Board Member for Environmental Services please tell me where his administration plan to site their proposed incinerator?

The Executive Member (Environmental Services) replied.

At the conclusion of Question Time the following questions remained unanswered and it was noted that under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 11.6 written responses would be sent to each Member of Council:

- 11 Councillor Lamb to the Executive Member (Neighbourhoods and Housing)
- 12 Councillor Lowe to the Executive Member (Children's Services)
- 13 Councillor Kendall to the Executive Member (Health and Adult Social Care)
- 14 Councillor Coupar to the Executive Member (Health and Adult Social Care)
- 15 Councillor Illingworth to the Executive Member (Leisure)

70 Recommendations of the Executive Board

(a) It was moved by Councillor A Carter seconded by Councillor Brett and

RESOLVED - That the Resolution of this Council passed at a meeting of the Council held on Wednesday 31st October 2007 to promote a Bill in the present Session of Parliament, pursuant to which the Bill intituled 'A Bill to confer powers on Leeds City Council for the better control of street trading in the city of Leeds' has been deposited in Parliament, be and the same is hereby confirmed.

(In accordance with the provisions of Section 239(2)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972 this resolution was passed by a majority of the whole number of the members of the authority)

(b) It was moved by Councillor A Carter seconded by Councillor Brett and

RESOLVED - That the budget adjustments as described in paragraph 3.9 of the report of the Director of Resources and as recommended by the Executive Board on 14th November be approved.

71 Recommendations of the Scrutiny Board (Health and Adult Social Care)

Under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 14.11, with the consent of the seconder and of Council, the motion in the name of Councillor A Carter at item 8 on the Summons was withdrawn.

72 Minutes

It was moved by Councillor A Carter seconded by Councillor M Hamilton

That the minutes submitted to Council in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 2.2(m) be received.

An amendment (reference back) was moved by Councillor Wakefield seconded by Councillor G Hyde.

To add the following words at the end of item 9:

“but to ask the Executive Board to reconsider the decision in relation to the Capital Programme – 2007/8 Mid Year Financial Update as contained in minute 110 of the Executive Board minutes of the 14th November 2007”

The amendment was lost and upon the motion being put to the vote it was

RESOLVED – That the minutes submitted to Council in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 2.2(m) be received.

Council Procedure Rule 4 providing for the winding up of business was applied prior to all notified comments on the minutes having been debated.

On the requisition of Councillors Gruen and Parker the voting on the amendment was recorded as follows:

YES

Armitage, Atha, Beverley, Blake, Congreve, Coulson, Coupar, Davey, Dobson, Dowson, Driver, Dunn, Gabriel, Grahame, Gruen, S Hamilton, Hanley, Harington, Harper, A Hussain, G Hyde, Illingworth, Jarosz, Langdale, J Lewis, R Lewis, Lowe, Lyons, A McKenna, J McKenna, Minkin, Morgon, Mulherin, Murray, Nash, Ogilvie, Parker, Rafique, Renshaw, Selby, Wakefield

41

NO

Anderson, Andrew, Bale, Barker, Bentley, A Blackburn, D Blackburn, Brett, Campbell, A Carter, J L Carter, Castle, Chapman, Downes, Elliott, Ewens, Mrs R Feldman, R D Feldman, Finnigan, Fox, Gettings, Golton, Grayshon, M Hamilton, Harker, Harrand, Harris, Hollingsworth, W Hyde, Jennings, Kendall, Kirkland, Lamb, Lancaster, Leadley, Lobley, Monaghan, Morton, J Procter, R Procter, Pryke, Rhodes-Clayton, Russell, Shelbrooke, Smih, Taylor, Townsley, Wadsworth, Wilkinson, Wilson

50

(The meeting was suspended at 5.00 pm and resumed at 5.25 pm)

73 White Paper Motion - "Contact Leeds" Call Numbers

It was moved by Councillor Wakefield seconded by Councillor A McKenna

That this Council condemns the ruling Conservative / Lib Dem administration's use of 0845 numbers at their flagship Contact Centre, "Contact Leeds".

This Council demands that the Administration immediately scrap these 0845 numbers. Furthermore this council calls for the Chief Executive to immediately examine the effectiveness of the contact centre and report back to the next meeting of the Executive Board.

This Council recognises the dedication and hard work of all its staff who work at "Contact Leeds" and holds the administration totally responsible for the faults of the contact centre and not the staff.

An amendment was moved by Councillor Brett seconded by Councillor Golton

Delete all after 'This Council' and replace with

"congratulates staff working at the Council's flagship contact centre, 'Contact Leeds' and notes the greatly increased performance in answering telephone calls from the public over the last three years.

In particular Council notes that :-

- at the beginning of 2004 only 38% of telephone calls from members of the public to the Council were answered, but that the latest figures for the last three months of 2007 show that over 95% were answered;
- that the contact centre has been awarded
 - European Contact Centre of the Year Awards 2006 – runner up in Environment category;
 - Yorkshire & Humberside Contact Centre Awards 2007 – Innovation category (for the Academy);
 - Communications in Business Awards 2006 – Call Centre Project of the Year;
- that the use of the 0845 number has been kept under review for over 12 months, awaiting a decision by OFTEL and the telecommunications companies on the introduction of new '03' numbers which will address issues of different charging policies for 0845 numbers from different companies;
- that alternative 0113 numbers are available for members of the public to contact the Council's Call Centre if they do not wish to use 0845 numbers.

Council welcomes moves to adopt a new 'Golden Number' in 2008 which should further improve the ability of members of the public to contact the Council.

The amendment was carried and upon being put as the substantive motion it was **RESOLVED** – That this Council congratulates staff working at the Council's flagship contact centre, 'Contact Leeds' and notes the greatly increased performance in answering telephone calls from the public over the last three years.

In particular Council notes that :-

- at the beginning of 2004 only 38% of telephone calls from members of the public to the Council were answered, but that the latest figures for the last three months of 2007 show that over 95% were answered;
- that the contact centre has been awarded
 - European Contact Centre of the Year Awards 2006 – runner up in Environment category;
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- that alternative 0113 numbers are available for members of the public to contact the Council's Call Centre if they do not wish to use 0845 numbers.

Council welcomes moves to adopt a new 'Golden Number' in 2008 which should further improve the ability of members of the public to contact the Council.

74 White Paper Motion - Draft Local Government Funding Settlement

It was moved by Councillor Brett seconded by Councillor A Carter and

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY – That this Council expresses its concern at the draft funding settlement announced by central Government in December 2007, in particular its implications for the Council's ability to deliver services that the people of Leeds value and deserve

(Following the moving and seconding of the above motion the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 4.2(a) were applied with the consequence that an amendment in the name of Councillor Wakefield was not moved or put to the vote)

(Councillor Murray having declared a personal and prejudicial interest in relation to this matter left the Chamber during the debate and voting thereon)

(The provisions of Council Procedure Rule 3.1(d) were applied from this point in the meeting)

75 White Paper Motion - Renewable Energy in New Developments

It was moved by Councillor D Blackburn seconded by Councillor Russell and

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY – That this Council notes:

The proposed removal of the target for renewable energy in new developments in the Secretary of State's recommended changes to the draft Yorkshire and Humber Regional Spatial Strategy.

That the target was established in consultation with all key regional agencies and local authorities. It had successfully passed through the Examination in Public stage and was endorsed in the recommendations put forward by the Independent Panel. That only 5 months earlier a similar policy in the North East Regional Spatial Strategy passed through virtually unchanged in the Secretary of State's list of proposed changes to that document.

That as a percentage renewable energy target, the policy encourages greater energy efficiency in new developments and is a driver to reduce carbon emissions

That the policy had been proven to be effective by those Councils already implementing this policy such as the London Borough of Croydon, which had now applied it to over 130 planning applications.

This Council calls on the Chief Executive to write to the Minister for Housing and Planning, calling on the Minister to:

Reconsider her recommendation to delete the renewable energy target in new development from the Yorkshire and Humber Regional Spatial Strategy

76 White Paper Motion - NHS Yorkshire Cancer Centre

It was moved by Councillor Hanley seconded by Councillor Langdale and

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY - That this Council congratulates: the NHS on opening the Yorkshire Cancer Centre in Leeds which will be at the forefront of cancer research and treatment world wide; the government for making the resources

available; the staff which command international recognition and the YEP for its sustained and invaluable support for the centre appeal.

(Council rose at 7.10 pm)