

Proceedings of the Meeting of the Leeds City Council held  
Civic Hall, Leeds on Wednesday, 6th April, 2011

**PRESENT:** The Lord Mayor Councillor James McKenna in the Chair

**WARD**

**ADEL & WHARFEDALE**

Clive Fox  
Barry John Anderson

**ALWOODLEY**

Peter Mervyn Harrant  
Ronald David Feldman  
Ruth Feldman

**ARDSLEY & ROBIN HOOD**

Lisa Mulherin  
Karen Renshaw  
Jack Dunn

**ARMLEY**

Janet Harper  
Alison Natalie Kay Lowe

**BEESTON & HOLBECK**

David Congreve  
Angela Gabriel  
Adam Ogilvie

**BRAMLEY & STANNINGLEY**

Neil Taggart  
Angela Denise Atkinson  
Ted Hanley

**BURMANTOFTS & RICHMOND HILL**

Ron Grahame  
Ralph Pryke  
Richard Brett

**WARD**

**CALVERLEY & FARSLEY**

Rod Wood  
Andrew Carter  
Joseph William Marjoram

**CHAPEL ALLERTON**

Jane Dowson  
Eileen Taylor  
Mohammed Rafique

**CITY & HUNSLET**

Mohammed Iqbal  
Elizabeth Nash  
Patrick Davey

**CROSS GATES & WHINMOOR**

Peter John Gruen  
Suzi Armitage  
Pauleen Grahame

**FARNLEY & WORTLEY**

John Hamilton Hardy  
David Blackburn  
Ann Blackburn

**GARFORTH & SWILLINGTON**

Thomas Murray  
Andrea McKenna  
Mark Dobson

**GIPTON & HAREHILLS**

Alan Leonard Taylor  
Arif Hussain

**GUISELEY & RAWDON**

Pat Latty  
Graham Latty  
Paul Wadsworth

**HAREWOOD**

Matthew James Robinson  
Ann Castle  
Rachael Procter

**HEADINGLEY**

Martin Hamilton  
Jamie Matthews  
James John Monaghan

**HORSFORTH**

Brian Cleasby  
Christopher Townsley

**HYDE PARK & WOODHOUSE**

Javaid Akhtar  
Penny Ewens  
Gerry Harper

**KILLINGBECK & SEACROFT**

Brian Michael Selby  
Graham Hyde  
Veronica Morgan

**KIPPAX & METHLEY**

Keith Ivor Wakefield  
John Keith Parker  
James Lewis

**KIRKSTALL**

Bernard Peter Atha  
Lucinda Joy Yeadon  
John Anthony Illingworth

**MIDDLETON PARK**

Kim Groves  
Geoffrey Driver  
Judith Blake

**MOORTOWN**

Sharon Hamilton  
  
Brenda Lancaster

**MORLEY NORTH**

Thomas Leadley  
Robert Finnigan  
Robert William Gettings

**MORLEY SOUTH**

Shirley Varley  
Judith Elliott  
Terrence Grayshon

**OTLEY & YEADON**

Ryk Downes  
Graham Peter Kirkland  
Colin Campbell

**PUDSEY**

Mick Coulson  
Josephine Patricia Jarosz  
Richard Alwyn Lewis

**ROTHWELL**

Barry Stewart Golton  
  
Steve Smith

**ROUNDHAY**

Ghulam Hussain  
Matthew Lobley  
Valerie Kendall

**TEMPLE NEWSAM**

Michael Lyons  
William Schofield Hyde  
David Schofield

**WEETWOOD**

Judith Mara Chapman  
Ben Chastney  
Susan Bentley

**WETHERBY**

John Michael Procter  
Gerald Wilkinson  
Alan James Lamb

## 81 Announcements

- a) The Lord Mayor welcomed Mr Bob Pritchard, the temporary City Solicitor, to his first meeting of Council in his new capacity and in doing so, thanked Nicolé Jackson who had recently left the City Council following 20 years of service.
- b) The Lord Mayor informed Council that he had recently attended the unveiling of the memorial plaque in honour of the late Danny Freeman.
- c) The Lord Mayor informed Council that on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2011, he had attended the decommissioning of HMS Ark Royal and asked Members for any comments they may have in respect of a proposal to rename the Blue Room to the Ark Royal Room.
- d) The Lord Mayor invited Members of Council to attend the Thanksgiving Service on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2011.
- e) The Lord Mayor informed Council that he had written to the Japanese Prime Minister expressing sympathy in respect of the recent disaster in that country.
- f) The Lord Mayor informed Council that Councillors Barker, Brett and Mrs Feldman would not be seeking re-election in the forthcoming local elections and thanked them for their work during the years they had served on the Council.
- g) The Lord Mayor reported that he had admitted to the agenda the following additional information:-
  - Report detailing amendments to the officer delegation scheme(Executive Functions) – Minute 86(a) refers.
  - Recommendations of the General Purposes Committee of the 30<sup>th</sup> March 2011 – Minute 88(b) refers.
  - Minutes of the Executive Board of the 30<sup>th</sup> March 2011 – Minute 89 refers.
  - Minutes of the General Purposes Committee meetings of the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> March 2011 – Minute 89 refers.
  - Minutes of the Employment Committee of the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011 – Minute 89 refers.

## 82 Minutes

It was moved by Councillor Gruen, seconded by Councillor Lobley and

**RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2011 be approved.

## 83 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 Member's Code of Conduct were made as follows:-

- a) Members declared personal interests in minute 87 of this meeting as follows:-
- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| J Chapman | Member of Sinai Synagogue, Roman Avenue LS8                             |
| A Taylor  | Member of St Aidan's Parochial Church Council - by virtue of employment |
- b) Members declared personal interests in minute 91 of this meeting as follows:-
- |                  |                                     |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Judith Blake     | Member of the PCT board             |
| Angela Gabriel   | Works for the NHS                   |
| Sharon Hamilton  | Works for the NHS, based at the LGI |
| Alan Lamb        | Member, Children's Trust Board      |
| Gerald Wilkinson | Member, Children's Advisory Panel   |
- c) Members declared personal interests in minute 92 of this meeting as follows:-
- |                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| Ronald Feldman   | Member, Leeds Jewish Care Services               |
| Bill Hyde        | Chairman of Trustees, Leeds Convalescent Society |
| Matthew Robinson | Member, Anthony Nolan Trust                      |
| Clive Fox        | Has a close relative in receipt of DLA           |
- d) Councillor A Carter declared a personal interest in minute 90 of this meeting as a member of the Leeds Initiative Skills and Economy Partnership.
- e) Councillor Nash declared a personal and prejudicial interest in minute 90 of this meeting as a member of the Co-op Leeds and Wakefield Area Committee which owns a number of post offices and for which Councillor Nash receives an honorarium.
- f) Members declared personal interests in minute 93 of this meeting as follows:-
- |               |  |
|---------------|--|
| Andrew Carter | Member, Assoc. of West Yorks. Authorities                |
| Clive Fox     | Member, WYPTA Passenger Transport Consultative Committee |
- g) Members declared personal interests in minute 94 of this meeting as follows:-
- |               |   |
|---------------|---|
| Andrew Carter | Member, Assoc. of West Yorks. Authorities |
| John Procter  | Member, LGA General Assembly              |
| A Lamb        | Member of Local Government Pension Scheme |
| B Anderson    | Member of Local Government Pension Scheme |

B Chastney	Member of Local Government Pension Scheme
R Brett	Member of West Yorkshire pension scheme
B Lancaster	Member of West Yorkshire pension scheme
S Smith	Member of West Yorkshire pension scheme
S Bentley	Member of West Yorkshire pension scheme
B Cleasby	Member of West Yorkshire pension scheme Member of West Yorkshire Pension Fund Advisory Group
C Fox	Member of West Yorkshire pension scheme Member of West Yorkshire Pension Fund Advisory Group
P Harrand	Member of West Yorkshire pension scheme
J Marjoram	Member of West Yorkshire pension scheme
R Wood	Member of West Yorkshire pension scheme
J Harper	Member of West Yorkshire pension scheme
R Grahame	Member of West Yorkshire pension scheme
P Gruen	Member of West Yorkshire pension scheme
K Wakefield	Member of West Yorkshire pension scheme
R Lewis	Member of West Yorkshire pension scheme
J Blake	Member of West Yorkshire pension scheme
T Hanley	Member of West Yorkshire pension scheme
J Chapman	Member of West Yorkshire pension scheme
R Gettings	Member of West Yorkshire pension scheme
S Varley	Member of West Yorkshire pension scheme
J Elliott	Member of West Yorkshire pension scheme
T Grayshon	Member of West Yorkshire pension scheme
D Congreve	Member of West Yorkshire pension scheme
B Selby	Member of West Yorkshire pension scheme Chair of Social Services Tribunals

h) Members declared personal interests in minute 95 of this meeting as follows:-

Andrew Carter                      Member, Assoc. of West Yorks. Authorities  
Member, Leeds Initiative Assembly  
Member, Leeds Initiative Executive  
Member, Leeds Initiative Going Up A League Board  
Member, Leeds Initiative Narrowing the Gap Board  
Member, Leeds Initiative Transport Partnership

Clive Fox                              Member, WYPTA Passenger Transport Consultative  
Committee

i) Members declared personal interests in minute 96 of this meeting as follows:-

Barry Anderson                      Member, Leeds Initiative, Climate Change

Andrew Carter                      Member, Leeds Initiative Transport Partnership

Clive Fox                              Member, Wypta Passenger Transport Consultative  
Committee  
Member, Leeds Local Access Forum

Gerald Wilkinson                      Member, Green Leeds

Andrew Carter                      Member, Leeds Initiative Transport Partnership

#### **84      Communications**

The Chief Executive referred to the circulation in the Chamber of correspondence to all Members detailing senior management arrangements within the Council following recent retirements and thanked those who had retired for their services to Leeds.

#### **85      Deputations**

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

- 1)      West Park Residents Association regarding the future use of the West Park Centre.
- 2)      Friends of Bramley Baths regarding the reduction of hours at Bramley Baths.
- 3)      Danoptra Ltd regarding the draft Horsforth and Cragg Hill Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan.
- 4)      Leeds Student Unions regarding the proposed Article 4 Direction affecting HMOs.
- 5)      West Riding Track League highlighting its success over the last 65 years and seeking Council support for the future of league and grass track racing on the historic track at Roundhay Park

**RESOLVED** – That the subject matter in respect of the deputations be referred to the Executive Board for consideration.

#### **86      Reports**

a)      Amendments to the Officer Delegation Scheme (Executive Functions)

It was moved by Councillor Wakefield, seconded by Councillor Gruen and

**RESOLVED** – That the report of the Chief Executive on amendments to the Officer Delegation Scheme (Executive Functions) and other consequential amendments to the Constitution, as detailed in the report, be noted.

b) Leeds Award

It was moved by Councillor Wakefield, seconded by Councillor Gruen, and

**RESOLVED** – That the nomination for the receipt of the Leeds Award be approved, and that the Lord Mayor be requested to undertake an appropriate ceremony.

- Freda Matthews

**87 Questions**

Q1 Councillor A Carter to the Leader of Council:-

Will the Leader of Council explain why he signed the Fairer Fares campaign letter, sent to the Secretary of State for Transport, which referred to the free city bus service in Leeds, when his administration is the only one in West Yorkshire to have voted to cancel funding for this popular free bus service, despite a robust alternative proposal to save the service from the Conservative Group?

The Leader of Council replied.

Q2 Councillor to Pryke to the Executive Member (Environmental Services):-

Can the Executive Member for Environmental Services please give Council details of the remit, cost, progress and level of consultation of his review into the waste PFI project, which he said was taking place in the full council meeting of 19th July 2010?

The Executive Member (Environmental Services) replied.

Q3 Councillor to Hanley to the Leader of Council:-

Could the Leader of Council confirm how much this Council spent on external venue hire in 2009/10 and 2010/11?

The Leader of Council replied.

Q4 Councillor Grayshon to the Executive Member (Development and Regeneration):-

Following the tragic accident at the Junction of Water Lane and Victoria Road Leeds, in which a lorry was blown over, killing one pedestrian and seriously injuring another, can the Executive Board Member give an update regarding the unacceptably high winds in that area and tell us what progress is being made to deal with the problem.

The Executive Member (Development and Regeneration) replied.

Q5 Councillor Dobson to the Executive Member (Development and Regeneration):-

Would the Executive Member for Development and Regeneration comment on the planning reforms announced in the recent budget?

The Executive Member (Development and Regeneration) replied.

Q6 Councillor Robinson to the Executive Member (Leisure):-

Would the Executive Board Member for Leisure agree with me that all public consultations initiated by the Council should be both fair and transparent?

The Executive Member (Leisure) replied.

Q7 Councillor Downes to the Executive Member (Development and Regeneration):-

Can the Executive Member for Development tell Council which of Leeds' bus services run directly from the station to the LGI?

The Executive Member (Development and Regeneration) replied.

Q8 Councillor Ogilvie to the Executive Member (Neighbourhoods and Housing):-

Could the Executive Board Member for Neighbourhoods and Housing update Members on the latest position regarding the Little London, Beeston Hill & Holbeck PFI scheme?

The Executive Member (Neighbourhoods and Housing) replied.

Q9 Councillor Dunn to the Executive Member (Development and Regeneration):-

Does the Executive Member for Development and Regeneration join me in welcoming the recent update on the development of Eastgate Quarter in Leeds?

The Executive Member (Development and Regeneration) replied.

Q10 Councillor Wadsworth to the Executive Member (Neighbourhoods and Housing):-

Will the Executive Board Member for Neighbourhoods & Housing confirm that under the new locality working arrangements each area committee will receive the same amount of resources as in financial year 2010/11?

The Executive Member (Neighbourhoods and Housing) replied.

Q11 Councillor Pryke to the Executive Member (Leisure):-

Could the Executive Member for Environment Services explain why his Party's promise to keep East Leeds Leisure Centre open has been broken?

The Executive Member (Leisure) 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 answers would be sent to each Member of Council:-

Q12 Councillor Rafique to the Executive Member (Children's Services).



- Q13 Councillor Harper to the Executive Member (Leisure).
- Q14 Councillor Anderson to the Executive Member (Environmental Services).
- Q15 Councillor Monaghan to the Leader of Council.
- Q16 Councillor Morgan to the Executive Member (Adult Health and Social Care).
- Q17 Councillor Davey to the Executive Member (Children’s Service).
- Q18 Councillor Lobley to the Executive Member (Resources and Corporate Functions).
- Q19 Councillor Golton to the Leader of Council.
- Q20 Councillor P Grahame to the Executive Member (Resources and Corporate Functions).
- Q21 Councillor Wilkinson to the Executive Board Member (Environmental Services).
- Q22 Councillor Pryke to the Leader of Council.
- Q23 Councillor Schofield to the Executive Board Member (Leisure).
- Q24 Councillor Monaghan to the Executive Member (Environmental Services).
- Q25 Councillor Marjoram to the Leader of Council.
- Q26 Councillor Ewens to the Executive Member (Development and Regeneration).
- Q27 Councillor Pryke to the Executive Member (Environmental Services).
- Q28 Councillor Chastney the Executive Member (Development and Regeneration).
- Q29 Councillor Ewens to the Leader of Council.
- Q30 Councillor Monaghan to the Executive Board Member (Development and Regeneration).
- Q31 Councillor Pryke to the Executive Member (Environmental Services).

**88 Recommendations of the General Purposes Committee**

a) Budget and Policy Framework

It was moved by Councillor Wakefield, seconded by Councillor Gruen and

**RESOLVED** – That the recommendations of the General Purposes Committee to amend the Policy Framework (Article 4 of the Constitution) as detailed in the report and other consequential amendments, as detailed in the report, be approved.

b) Reallocation of Senior Management Responsibilities

It was moved by Councillor Wakefield, seconded by Councillor Gruen and

**RESOLVED –**

- i) That the delegations to the Assistant Chief Executive (Corporate Governance) under the Officer Delegation Scheme (Council Functions) be withdrawn.
- ii) That the delegation to the Chief Executive, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report be amended.
- iii) That the delegation to the Director of Resources, as set out in Appendix 2 to the report be amended.
- iv) That the City Solicitor be designated as Monitoring Officer.
- v) That the City Solicitor and the Head of Licensing and Registration be appointed as Deputy Electoral Registration Officers.
- vi) That the proposed appointment by the Chief Executive of the City Solicitor and Head of Licensing and Registration as Deputy Returning Officers be noted.
- vii) That the constitution be amended, as set out in appendix 3 to the report.

**89 Minutes**

It was moved by Councillor Wakefield, seconded by Councillor Gruen and

**RESOLVED –** That the minutes be received in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 2.2(i).

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

(The meeting was suspended at 4.55 pm and resumed at 5.25 pm.)

**90 White Paper - Sub-Post Offices and Council Services**

It was moved by Councillor Hamilton, seconded by Councillor Lamb that this Council believes there are many potential benefits to local communities from delivering Council services through sub post offices including saving taxpayers money, improving access to local services for residents and assisting in the revival of our sub post offices by improving the revenues that flow through them.

Council therefore calls on the Chief Executive to contact the senior management of Post Office Limited (POL) with a formal request to enter into discussions with a view to establishing a new partnership with POL, that aims to use the network of local sub post offices across our community to deliver Council services where that is in the best interests of the citizens of Leeds and to report back regularly to the Council so we can monitor progress. Council further requests that a report is presented to Executive Board updating members on the outcome of this request and any subsequent discussions with POL.

An amendment was moved by Councillor Gruen, seconded by Councillor Dunn to delete all after 'This Council believes' and replace with

'that post offices are an important part of the fabric of local communities. Council notes the extensive work that has already taken place

between the Council and the Post Office and we continue to be supportive of the Post Office providing relevant services on our behalf.

We note with regret that the Post Office was recently unsuccessful in its bid to provide benefit payment services on behalf of the Government's Department of Work and Pensions. Council notes that the Government is considering the role of Post Offices in relation to providing a verification service for people claiming the new Universal Credit.

Council therefore reaffirms its support for post offices and resolves that the Chief Executive should write to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions expressing our support for Posts Offices undertaking a verification service for customers applying for Universal Credit.'

The amendment was carried and upon being put as the substantive motion it was

**RESOLVED** – That this Council believes that post offices are an important part of the fabric of local communities. Council notes the extensive work that has already taken place between the Council and the Post Office and we continue to be supportive of the Post Office providing relevant services on our behalf.

We note with regret that the Post Office was recently unsuccessful in its bid to provide benefit payment services on behalf of the Government's Department of Work and Pensions. Council notes that the Government is considering the role of Post Offices in relation to providing a verification service for people claiming the new Universal Credit.

Council therefore reaffirms its support for post offices and resolves that the Chief Executive should write to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions expressing our support for Posts Offices undertaking a verification service for customers applying for Universal Credit.

At the request of the Lord Mayor, the electronic voting system was used to determine the outcome of the vote on the amendment in the name of Councillor Guren.

There were 46 in favour of the amendment and 43 against.

**91 White Paper - Yorkshire Heart Centre at the Leeds General Infirmary**

It was moved by Councillor Dobson, seconded by Councillor Lobley and

**RESOLVED** – That this Council supports the excellent work of the Yorkshire Heart Centre at Leeds General Infirmary, and notes with concern the unit's limited inclusion in NHS proposals for the national reconfiguration of children's cardiac surgery services.

This Council requests that the Chief Executive write to the Secretary of State for Health in order to call for the retention of these vitally important surgical services in Leeds. It also recognises the ongoing efforts of Leeds MPs to lobby the Secretary of State to the same effect.

**92 White Paper - Mobility Component of the Disability Living Allowance**

It was moved by Councillor Yeadon, seconded by Councillor Selby that this Council is deeply concerned by the proposal in the Welfare Reform Bill to remove the mobility component from Disability Living Allowance for people living in registered care homes.

The mobility component provides essential support for many vulnerable people living in care homes. It helps people with disabilities live independent lives by taking part in every day activities that require them to spend more money on mobility costs. Removing the benefit will cut this vital avenue for inclusion and empowerment, which is something that should be protected.

Council asks the Chief Executive to write to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions to urge that the proposal to remove the mobility component from Disability Living Allowance for people living in registered care homes be withdrawn from the Welfare Reform Bill.

An amendment was moved by Councillor Golton, seconded by Councillor G Latty in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4.2 to replace the words:-

‘This Council is deeply concerned by the proposal in the Welfare Reform Bill’

With:-

‘This Council welcomes the government’s recognition of the widespread concern raised by the proposal’

Following words ‘registered care homes.’, insert words:

‘This Council therefore further welcomes the government’s decision to leave this measure out of the Welfare Reform Bill.’

Delete all from words ‘The mobility component provides’ to the end of the motion and replace with:-

‘This Council acknowledges the need to reform welfare as part of a number of difficult funding decisions required in order for the country’s economy to return to sustained growth, following a disastrous period of economic boom and bust under the previous government and welcomes the government’s decision to look at this measure as part of the introduction of a new Personal Independence Payment which will ensure the mobility needs of people in residential care are guaranteed in the most appropriate way.

This Council resolves to participate fully in any consultation on this issue and ensure that the voices of Leeds residents are clearly heard by the government.’

The amended motion would then read:-

‘This Council welcomes the government’s recognition of the widespread concern raised by the proposed removal of the mobility component from the Disability Living Allowance. This Council therefore further welcomes the government’s decision to leave this measure out of the Welfare Reform Bill.

This Council acknowledges the need to reform welfare as part of a number of difficult funding decisions required in order for the country’s economy to return to sustained growth, following a disastrous period of economic boom and bust under the previous government and welcomes the government’s decision to look at this measure as part of the introduction of a new Personal Independence Payment which will ensure the mobility needs of people in residential care are guaranteed in the most appropriate way.

This Council resolves to participate fully in any consultation on this issue and ensure that the voices of Leeds residents are clearly heard by the government.'

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

#### **RESOLVED –**

That this Council is deeply concerned by the proposal in the Welfare Reform Bill to remove the mobility component from Disability Living Allowance for people living in registered care homes.

The mobility component provides essential support for many vulnerable people living in care homes. It helps people with disabilities live independent lives by taking part in every day activities that require them to spend more money on mobility costs. Removing the benefit will cut this vital avenue for inclusion and empowerment, which is something that should be protected.

Council asks the Chief Executive to write to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions to urge that the proposal to remove the mobility component from Disability Living Allowance for people living in registered care homes be withdrawn from the Welfare Reform Bill.

(The provisions of Council Procedure Rule 3.1(d) was applied at the conclusion of the debate on the above motion.)

#### **93 White Paper Submitted Under the Provisions of Council Procedure Rule 12.2 (b)(c) - Frontline Services**

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 12.3(b), Councillor Lobley sought leave of Council to introduce the following motion in the name of Councillor A Carter in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 12.2(b):-

Given the strong public opposition to the cuts to frontline services proposed by the Labour led administration at the Council's budget meeting in February, this Council believes that the ruling administration should give further consideration to the unnecessary decisions to cut popular frontline services, namely Bramley Baths, the Leeds Crisis Centre, the Mental Health Day Centres, the free City Centre Bus, East Leeds Leisure Centre, Garforth Leisure Centre and the plans to close 20 of the city's much valued libraries.

Council further believes that these frontline savings could be achieved by re-examining the decisions taken to reject proposed savings in IT, Trade Unions expenditure, Office furniture expenditure, the publication of brochures, the use of non-Council venues for meetings and for publications and advertising.

Upon being put to the vote, leave of Council was not given to introduce the motion in the name of Councillor A Carter.

#### **94 White Paper Submitted Under the Provisions of Council Procedure Rule 3.1(d) - Proposed Reform of the Local Government Pension Scheme**

It was moved by Councillor J Lewis, seconded by Councillor Mulherin that this Council recognises the cross party concerns relating to the proposed reform of the Local Government Pension Scheme as expressed by LGA representatives Baroness Eaton and Sir Steve Bullock in their co-signed letter to the Chancellor of the Exchequer of the 16<sup>th</sup> of February.

This Council therefore requests that the Chief Executive writes to the Chancellor of the Exchequer in support of these views.

An amendment was moved by Councillor Fox, seconded by Councillor Lobley that this Council recognises that there is increased public interest in the level to which public sector pension schemes are subsidised through tax revenue. This Council sympathises with pension scheme members who have planned their retirement based on the terms of a scheme which is no longer affordable and believes that reforms are necessary to ensure that public sector pensions are viable, fair and offer appropriate recognition for public service both now and into the future.

Council acknowledges that the last Government further exacerbated the problems by dropping similar reforms at the first signs of opposition from pension scheme members. Council further recognises that the need to reform the Local Government Pension Scheme, while inevitable in the long run, has been brought into sharp focus by the economic mismanagement of the last government including the removal of tax relief on pension investment dividends by former Prime Minister, Gordon Brown, which has left an entire generation with inadequate pension funds.

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

**RESOLVED –**

That this Council recognises the cross party concerns relating to the proposed reform of the Local Government Pension Scheme as expressed by LGA representatives Baroness Eaton and Sir Steve Bullock in their co-signed letter to the Chancellor of the Exchequer of the 16<sup>th</sup> of February.

This Council therefore requests that the Chief Executive writes to the Chancellor of the Exchequer in support of these views.

**95 White Paper Submitted Under the Provisions of Council Procedure Rule 3.1(d) - High Speed Rail**

It was moved by Councillor R Lewis, seconded by Councillor Lobley and

**RESOLVED –** That this Council expresses concern that the Government's proposed hybrid bill relating to High Speed Rail will only adopt legal and planning powers for a route from London to the West Midlands.

This Council therefore calls on the Government to reaffirm its commitment to bringing the social, economic and environmental benefits of High Speed Rail to Leeds by expanding the detail of the upcoming hybrid bill to include a framework for the north of England.

This Council requests that the Chief Executive write to the Secretary of State for Transport in support of expanding the scope of the initial bill.

**96 White Paper Submitted Under the Provisions of Council Procedure Rule 3.1(d) - Low Emission Zones**

It was moved by Councillor Monaghan, seconded by Councillor A Blackburn and

**RESOLVED –** That this Council recognises the health and environmental benefits of reduced air pollution to Leeds communities, especially those in inner city areas, and notes the success of the Low Emissions Zones in London and Oxford which prevents the most polluting vehicles from entering the city.

Council therefore requests the Executive Board to undertake a feasibility study with a view to implementing a similar scheme in Leeds.

**97 White Paper Submitted Under the Provisions of Council Procedure Rule 3.1(d) - Highway Planning Issues**

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 12.3(b), Councillor Lobley moved the White Paper in the name of Councillor A Carter, seconded by Councillor Cleasby and

**RESOLVED** – That this Council requests the Executive Board to instruct the Council's Highways Department to ensure that consultation with Ward Members takes place with regard to Planning Applications' highways matters before the Highways Department passes formal comment to Planning Officers. This will ensure that Ward Members' and residents' views on highways issues are properly reflected in Planning Department reports.

Council rose at 7.10 pm.