

GATESHEAD METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday, 17 March 2016

PRESENT: THE MAYOR COUNCILLOR A GEDDES

Councillors: A Thompson, J Adams, R Beadle, C Bradley, M Brain, L Caffrey, M Charlton, B Clelland, B Coates, P Craig, S Craig, D Davidson, W Dick, S Dickie, P Dillon, C Donovan, A Douglas, K Ferdinand, P Foy, M Gannon, B Goldsworthy, M Goldsworthy, J Graham, M Graham, T Graham, G Haley, M Hall, J Hamilton, M Henry, F Hindle, M Hood, H Hughes, J Lee, K McCartney, J McClurey, J McElroy, C McHatton, P Mole, C Ord, M Ord, D Robson, S Ronchetti, C Simcox, J Simpson, J Turnbull, L Twist, J Wallace, N Weatherley and A Wheeler

APOLOGIES: Councillors: K Dodds, John Eagle, M Foy, J Green, L Green, S Green, S Hawkins, C McHugh, E McMaster, P McNally, M McNestry, B Oliphant and P Ronan

Rabbi Abraham Katz, Principal of the Gateshead Jewish Academy for Girls, gave the opening address

Sheila Johnston, Assistant Chief Executive

The Leader advised Council that this was Sheila Johnston's last meeting before her retirement from the Council. The Council thanked Sheila for her commitment and service to the Council and wished her well for the future.

CL99 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD 4 FEBRUARY AND 25 FEBRUARY 2016

COUNCIL RESOLVED - That the minutes of the meetings held 4 and 25 February 2016 be approved

CL100 OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Special Olympics

The Mayor announced that Jemma Robinson, a Powerlifter within Gateshead's Special Olympics sporting club had won four gold medals within competitions in Dundee, Gateshead and Ashington and the National Powerlifting Games in Bradford during 2015.

Jemma's performances had led to her selection by Special Olympics Great Britain to represent Great Britain in the Commonwealth Powerlifting Federation Championships in Canada on 1 December 2015 at which Jemma won a Gold and Silver medal.

In recognition of these achievements, the Mayor presented Jemma with her medals.

CL101 PETITIONS

There were no petitions submitted

CL102 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

There were no questions from members of the public

CL103 PARENT GOVERNOR REPRESENTATIVES ON COUNCIL BODIES DEALING WITH EDUCATION

Consideration was given to a report seeking approval of the appointment of a parent governor representative to the overview and scrutiny committee that consider education matters.

COUNCIL RESOLVED - That the appointment of the following Parent Governor Representatives be approved:

Name	School
Ms Sasha Ban	Whickham School & Sports Collge
Mrs Maveen Pereira	Dryden and Hilltop Learning Federation
Mrs Jill Steer	Whickham Parochial C of E Primary School

CL104 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 - SECTION 85

Consideration was given to a report advising of the reasons why Councillor P McNally has been unable to attend meetings of the authority since 13 October 2015.

COUNCIL RESOLVED - That for the purpose of Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972, the ill health of Councillor P McNally be agreed as the reason for his failure to attend meetings

CL105 REALLOCATION OF FUNCTIONS

Consideration was given to a report seeking approval for the re-organisation of functions within the Council's management structure.

COUNCIL RESOLVED - That the management structure changes detailed in paragraphs 7-14 of the report be approved, effective from the following dates in respect of:

- i) Policy, Economic Growth & Transformation (paragraphs 7-9) – 1 April 2016
- ii) Emergency, Planning and Resilience and Council

Housing and housing support functions, and Transport Strategy (paragraphs 10-14):

- a) 29 February 2016, for those transferring to Council Housing, Design & Technical Services
- b) 1 April 2016, for those transferring to the Gateshead Housing Company

CL106 ADDRESSING 'LOW PAY' WITHIN THE WORKFORCE - IMPACT OF THE NATIONAL LIVING WAGE

Consideration was given to a report seeking approval of a revised grading structure that would enable the Council to continue to address the issue of low pay within the workforce, implement the National Living Wage and move further towards the UK Living Wage.

COUNCIL RESOLVED - That the deletion of SCP 8 from the grading structure proposed be approved with effect from 1 April 2016

CL107 ADDITIONAL NON-VOTING MEMBER - CORPORATE PARENTING SUB OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (OSC)

Consideration was given to a report seeking approval of an additional non-voting member being appointed to the Corporate Parenting Sub Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

COUNCIL RESOLVED - That a member of the Families OSC be appointed as an additional non-voting member of the Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee to increase continuity and cement links between the Sub-Committee and the parent Committee

CL108 ADOPTION AND MAINTENANCE OF SUSTAINABLE DRAINAGE SYSTEMS, OPEN SPACE AND PLAY AREAS ON NEW DEVELOPMENTS

Consideration was given to a report seeking approval of the Council acquiring, subject to conditions, Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS), open and/or play areas from residential developers.

COUNCIL RESOLVED - That the Council adopts the Adoption and Maintenance of sustainable drainage systems, open space and play areas on new developments Policy at Appendix 2 of the report, in respect of new residential developments

CL109 RESTRUCTURE OF CARE, WELLBEING AND LEARNING

Consideration was given to a report seeking approval of a new senior management structure within Care, Wellbeing and Learning to ensure that there is the capacity to deliver further redesign across the Group to both improve outcomes for Gateshead residents and deliver savings.

COUNCIL RESOLVED - That the proposed structure detailed in Appendix 2 of the report be approved and implemented for the Care, Wellbeing and Learning Group

CL110 REFRESH OF EQUALITIES OBJECTIVES 2016 - 2020

Consideration was given to a report seeking approval of the refreshed equality objectives which aim to address the challenges of inequality across Gateshead and to demonstrate the Council's compliance with the Public Sector Equality Duty.

COUNCIL RESOLVED - That the refreshed equality objectives be approved

CL111 INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL REVIEW OF MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES SCHEME

Consideration was given to a report seeking approval of the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel following a review of the Members' Allowances Scheme.

COUNCIL RESOLVED - That the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel be approved

CL112 LOCALISM ACT 2011 - PAY ACCOUNTABILITY PAY POLICY STATEMENT

Consideration was given to a report seeking approval of a revised pay policy statement.

COUNCIL RESOLVED - That the pay policy statement as set out in Appendix 2 be approved

CL113 TREASURY POLICY STATEMENT AND TREASURY STRATEGY 2016/17 TO 2018/19

Consideration was given to a report seeking approval of the Treasury Policy Statement and Treasury Strategy for 2016/17 to 2018/19.

COUNCIL RESOLVED - That the Treasury Policy Statement and the Treasury Strategy at Appendix 2 and 3 of the report be approved

CL114 IMPLEMENTATION OF A NEW CHARGEABLE SERVICE - SUPPORTING INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICE

Consideration was given to a report seeking approval of the implementation of a new chargeable service delivered by Facilities Management with effect from 1 April 2016.

COUNCIL RESOLVED - That the implementation of the Supporting Independence Service be approved with effect from 1 April 2016 and introduction of the charge of £11.50 per hour for the service and for this charge to be added to the published list of fees and charges for 2016/17 be approved

CL115 REPORT FROM THE CABINET

The Leader of the Council reported on a number of key issues currently affecting the Council.

COUNCIL RESOLVED - That the information be noted

CL116 NOTICE OF MOTION - NHS

Councillor M Hood moved the following motion (altered in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 12.2):

“This Council commits to working with NHS bodies to ensure that in-patient mental health provision continues to be delivered at a readily accessible site for residents across Gateshead.”

On the motion being put it was declared to be carried

CL117 NOTICE OF MOTION - LANDFILL SITES

Councillor L Twist moved the following motion (altered in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 12.2):

“This Council recognises the concerns of residents in parts of the west of Gateshead regarding the impact of landfill sites on local people. It recognises the enforcement work already undertaken by the Environment Agency but, despite this, the unacceptable odours remain. The Council calls upon the Environment Agency and Council officers to ensure timely implementation of the Odour Management Plan it has received from the operators of Path Head.

It further calls upon the operators and the Environment Agency to ensure adequate monitoring of emissions of gases and odours from the quarries and to work closely with Public Health in continuing to monitor the situation, taking into account the very real concerns of residents about their short and long term health.

The Council further agrees to write out to our local Members of Parliament requesting them to press Government to ensure that the Environment Agency is given greater powers to control and manage operators of landfill sites and to strengthen national planning guidance on landfill sites, to provide stronger protection for our communities.”

On the motion being put it was declared to be carried.

CL118 QUESTIONS

There were no questions submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 8.1.

Mayor.....