

COUNCIL

6 December 2022

Commenced: 5.00pm

Terminated: 5.50pm

Present: Councillors Affleck, Alam, Billington, Bowden, Bowerman, Boyle, Bray, Cartey, Chadwick, Choksi, Colbourne, Cooney, Cooper, Costello, Dickinson, Drennan, Fairfoull, Glover, Gwynne, A Holland, B Holland, J Homer, S Homer, Huntbach, Jones, Kitchen, Lane, Martin, McNally, Mills, Naylor, Newton, North, Owen, Patel, Patrick, Pearce, Quinn, Reid, Ricci, Robinson, Roderick, N Sharif, T Sharif, M Smith, T Smith, Sweeton, Taylor, Turner, Ward, Warrington, Welsh and Wills

Apologies for Councillors Feeley, Gosling, Jackson and Ryan
Absence:

53. CIVIC MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Civic Mayor was very sad to announce the recent death of Alderwoman Margaret Downes. Margaret represented Denton South Ward, she was first elected to Tameside Council in 1992 and held the position of Civic Mayor 2003-2004. She would be greatly missed and the Civic Mayor extended deepest sympathy to her family.

He further announced the death of Janet Evans, a Deputy Lieutenant of Greater Manchester, who had died suddenly. Janet was a dedicated servant, not only in her ceremonial role, but also in her youth work and especially with the Royal Naval Reserve and the navy cadets where she held the title of Commander. She would be greatly missed and the Civic Mayor extended the Borough's sympathies to her husband, Mark, and family.

The Civic Mayor then commented on a very busy period attending pantomimes, community parties and lights switch-on events, in the approach to Christmas. He was delighted to attend the Northern Lights lantern parade through Ashton, which was a spectacular event and he congratulated the Arts, Events and Culture teams who did a splendid job in organising it.

The Civic Mayor made reference to the recent season of remembrance and it had been his immense honour to represent the Borough at remembrance ceremonies including in his home town of Ashton where he attended the service at the parish church and then laid a wreath at the near-by war memorial.

The Civic Mayor further commented on his attendance at events including, Diwali, a foster-care celebration event, Tameside Beer Festival and the Amazing Ashton Awards.

The Civic Mayor made particular reference to his attendance at junior mayor assemblies at Oasis Academy, Hyde, and Stalyhill Infants, Stalybridge, and he was pleased to welcome two ten-year-old Buckton Vale Primary pupils into the parlour; Maisie Kelly and Isla Thornley, who completed a ten-mile walk to raise £330 for the BowelBabe charity.

He had also organised a competition to design the mayoral Christmas card. Many schoolchildren took part and there were some super entries. The winner was Sofia from Godley Primary in Hyde who submitted a very colourful and festive design.

The Mayor concluded by thanking the Mayoress and the Deputy Mayor for their continued support and wished everyone a safe and happy festive period.

Councillor Kitchen in the Chair

54. COUNCIL MINUTES

RESOLVED

It was moved by Councillor Cooney and seconded by Councillor Fairfoull that the Minutes of the meeting of Council held on 4 October 2022 be approved as a correct record.

55. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest submitted by Members of the Council.

56. COMMUNICATIONS OR ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Executive Leader began by commenting on the many, fantastic events taking place across the Borough during the festive period and congratulated all involved in organising them.

He also expressed concerns in respect of vulnerable members of the community and announced that the Council continued to run the Warm Welcome Hubs, Helping Hands service and community outreach events and urged everyone to be mindful of those in need of support.

The Executive Leader thanked everyone who had supported the Care for Children Gift Collection, as well as the Tameside Toy Appeal and Food Bank Collections.

The Executive Leader then highlighted achievements during 2022, which included:

- Stalybridge year of culture;
- The securing of £1.6m from the Department for Education, (which would be match-funded) for a new state of the art home for cared for children with disabilities; and
- Ashton and Hyde town centre renewal projects.

He further announced that the Greater Manchester Pension Fund recently won the Investment and Pensions Europe 2022 UK Pension Fund of the Year award and was shortlisted for the Public Sector Pension Fund award.

The Executive Leader observed that 2023 would be a challenging year both for the Council and community. He then thanked all public service workers, community volunteers and all Members and officers for their hard work throughout the year.

The Executive Leader announced that this was the last meeting of Kathy Roe, Director of Finance, who was leaving the authority at the end of December 2022 to take up the role of Deputy Chief Finance Officer for the NHS. He thanked Kathy for her hard work and dedication during her time at TMBC and wished her well in her future endeavours.

The Executive Leader concluded by extending his very best wishes to everyone for the forthcoming festive period.

57. COUNCIL BIG CONVERSATION

The Chair reported that there were no questions submitted by members of the public in accordance with Standing Orders 31.12 and 31.13.

58. MEETINGS OF EXECUTIVE CABINET

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the meetings of the Executive Cabinet held on 26 October and 23 November 2022.

It was moved by Councillor Cooney and seconded by Councillor Fairfoull and it was:

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meetings of the Executive Cabinet held on 26 October and 23 November 2022 be received.

59. MEETING OF STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the meeting of the Standards Committee held on 1 November 2022.

It was moved by Councillor Ricci and seconded by Councillor McNally and it was:

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Standards Committee held on 1 November 2022 be received.

60. MEETING OF OVERVIEW PANEL

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the meeting of the Overview Panel held on 21 November 2022.

It was moved by Councillor Naylor and seconded by Councillor Mike Smith and it was:

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Overview Panel held on 21 November 2022 be received.

61. MEETING OF THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESSES WORKING GROUP

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the meeting of the Democratic Processes Working Group held on 29 November 2022.

It was moved by Councillor Cooney and seconded by Councillor Fairfoull and it was:

RESOLVED

- (i) That the Minutes of the meeting of the Democratic Processes Working Group held on 29 November 2022 be received;**
- (ii) That the following changes to Polling Districts and Polling Stations be agreed, to be implemented for use in the new register of electors and for elections after 6 December 2022:**

Ashton Hurst

- (i) That HURST3 polling district be expanded to account for the new ward boundary and that HURST4 polling district be reduced to account for ward boundary change.**

Ashton St Michael's

- (ii) That the polling districts remain the same other than to reflect new ward boundaries**
- (iii) That Albion Church be used as the polling station for STMIC3 polling district**

Ashton Waterloo

- (iv) That the boundary between polling districts WAT3 and WAT2 be amended to incorporate part of Newmarket Road that was an anomaly and would be better served by Waterloo Primary School in WAT2 polling district. The WAT3 polling district to be split as it was too large, with an additional polling station at Richmond Leisure Centre.

Audenshaw

- (v) That the size of polling district AUD5 be increased to account for the new Ward Boundary and the size of polling district AUD2 be decreased to account for the new Ward Boundary.

Denton North East

- (vi) That polling district DENNE2 be increased in size to account for the new Ward Boundary, and the size of polling district DENNE4 be decreased to account for the new Ward Boundary.

Denton South

- (vii) That Denton South polling district DENS1 be increased to account for the new Ward Boundary.

Denton West

- (viii) That polling district DENW1 be redrawn to reflect the new Ward Boundary.

Droylsden East

- (ix) That polling district DROYE4 be redrawn to reflect the new Ward Boundary.

Droylsden West

- (x) That polling district DROYW1 be redrawn to reflect the new Ward Boundary.

Dukinfield/Stalybridge

- (xi) That polling district DU/ST3 be redrawn to reflect the new Ward Boundary.

Dukinfield

- (xii) That the number of polling districts in Dukinfield Ward be increased from 4 to 5 with a mobile polling station on the site of Old Hall Chapel replacing the existing polling station and the addition of a polling station at Jigsaw Hub on Wellington Parade with polling district boundaries being redrawn to ensure that electors were able to vote at most convenient polling station.

Hyde Godley

- (xiii) That the polling district known as NEW3 be renamed GOD2 and the rural area of GOD2 be moved into GOD3 and GOD3 be redrawn to reflect small boundary changes with Hyde Werneth Ward.
- (xiv) That the small number of electors who used to vote at Hyde Flowery Centre but are now part of Hyde Godley ward be allocated to GOD2 with polling station at St Paul's RC Primary School.

Hyde Newton

- (xv) That polling district NEW2 be redrawn to reflect the new Ward Boundary, keeping the remaining polling district boundaries the same apart from the minor changes suggested by Ward Members and making no changes to the polling stations within the Ward. The district currently referred to as NEW5 to become NEW3.

Hyde Werneth

- (xvi) That WER4 polling district be redrawn to reflect the new Ward Boundary taking

on the Kingston area, keeping the remaining polling district boundaries the same apart from the minor changes suggested to correct the anomalies in WER5.

Longdendale

(xvii) That the new area from moved from Hyde Godley be a new polling district named LDALE7, other than those properties identified as more conveniently voting at Ken Ward Centre, these properties to be moved to LDALE2 polling district. LDALE3, 4 and 5 to be adjusted in line with the new ward boundary. Also, subject to discussions with the school proposed to replace Hollingworth Community Centre with the Children's Centre at Hollingworth Primary.

Mossley

(xviii) That no changes be made.

Stalybridge North

(xix) That the boundaries around STNTH5 be redrawn to reflect the Ward Boundary changes. To change the polling station from Buckton Vale Primary School to Buckton Vale Bowls Pavilion.

Stalybridge South

(xx) That St Paul's Church replace St Paul's Primary School as polling station for STSTH3, and those electors previously part of Longdendale Ward form a new polling district and a suitable polling station for the polling district be identified

62. ESTABLISHMENT OF ENFORCEMENT CO-ORDINATION PANEL

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Member, Climate Emergency and Environmental Services, which proposed that the Council re-establish an Enforcement Co-ordination Panel and agree to the terms of reference for the meetings as set out in an appendix to the report.

It was explained that the purpose of the Panel would be to receive reports on enforcement activity from across the Council and ensure there was a co-ordinated approach across service areas and with partners to tackling the issues presented.

Members were advised that the Panel would have a minimum of six Members to include the Assistant Executive Member with responsibility for enforcement matters, the Chairs of the Neighbourhood Forums and one opposition councillor (to reflect political balance on the Council). The Panel would be chaired by the elected member who had the responsibility for enforcement. The Quorum for the Panel would be three elected members. The Panel will be supported by Heads of Service and Managers from Public Protection, Planning, Building Control and Community Safety. Democratic Services would facilitate the meetings and a legal representative would also be in attendance.

As an internal Working Group the Enforcement Co-ordination Panel would be held in private, where necessary decisions will be considered through the Council's formal decision-making process.

It was moved by Councillor Ward and seconded by Councillor Boyle and it was:

RESOLVED

- (i) That the re-establishment of the Enforcement Panel be agreed; and
- (i) That the terms of reference for the Enforcement Panel, as set out in an appendix to the report, be agreed.

63. AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION RELATING TO THE STRATEGIC PLANNING & CAPITAL MONITORING PANEL

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Leader seeking an amendment to the Constitution relating to the Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel.

It was explained that Council Constitution Part 2 - Articles of the Constitution Article 9 - Speakers Panel (Planning) stated at 9.1 Regulatory and Non-Executive Functions 1. – *“The Council will appoint the Speakers Panel (Planning) to discharge its quasi-judicial and regulatory functions, as set out in Schedule 1 of the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000. These include functions relating to Town and Country Planning and development control (strategic planning matters are within the terms of reference of the Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel).”*

Part 3a - Terms of Reference and Scheme of Delegation 11. STRATEGIC PLANNING AND CAPITAL MONITORING PANEL 1. Terms of Reference The Strategic Planning and Capital Project Monitoring Panel shall have delegated powers to deal with the following:-

Within the framework of Council Policy, and having regard to the Development Plan, Local Development Documents, other planning guidance and development briefs approved by the Council, the Panel shall exercise the Council's functions relating to town & country planning & development control, the protection of important hedgerows, the preservation of trees and the regulation of high hedges set out in the Local Authorities (Functions & Responsibilities)(England) Regulations 2000 (as amended). Most of these functions are delegated to the Speakers (Planning) committee and then onwards to the Director or Head of Planning but the following are reserved to the Strategic Planning and Capital Project Monitoring Panel 1. applications for Large Scale Major Development, defined from time to time by Department for Communities and Local Government. Currently this includes residential developments of 200 dwellings or more, or 4 ha or more and 10,000 square metres or more, or 2 ha or more of retail, commercial or industrial or other floorspace. 2. Smaller scale major applications contrary to Development Plan Policy; 3. All significant applications which would depart from Green Belt policy shall be referred to the Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel for determination. ‘Significant’ will be defined by the Executive Leader and Chief Executive or their nominees;

Members were advised that there were a number of applications that, whilst falling within the delegated authority for determination by the Strategic Planning & Capital Monitoring Panel, the Executive Leader as Chair of Strategic Planning & Capital Monitoring was of the view they would be more expediently dealt with by Speakers Panel and therefore would like the delegated discretion to refer such matters in consultation with the Chair of Speakers Panel Planning and the Director of Place.

It was moved by Councillor Cooney and seconded by Councillor Fairfoull and it was:

RESOLVED

That the Constitution be amended so that the Executive Leader, in consultation with the Chair of Council’s Speakers Panel (Planning) and the Director of Place, can, at their absolute discretion, refer such matters as would ordinarily fall within the delegation and scope of Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel to Speakers Panel, where considered expedient to do so.

Sandra Stewart, Interim Chief Executive, left the meeting at this juncture, during consideration of following item

64. MEETING OF HEAD OF PAID SERVICE APPOINTMENTS PANEL

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the meeting of the Head of Paid Service Appointments Panel held on 28 November 2022.

It was moved by Councillor Cooney and seconded by Councillor Fairfoull and it was:

RESOLVED

- (i) That the Minutes of the meeting of the Head of Paid Service Appointments Panel held on 28 November 2022 be received;**
- (ii) That Sandra Stewart be appointed to the statutory role of Chief Executive (Head of Paid Service) on a permanent basis to be paid at the relevant salary scale, currently £184,767 (subject to the current pay award outcome);**
- (iii) That Sandra Stewart continue in her role as Director of the Greater Manchester Pension Fund;**
- (iv) That Sandra Stewart be permanently appointed as Electoral Registration Officer for any constituency, or part of a constituency coterminous with, or contained in Tameside Metropolitan Borough and Returning Officer for Local, Parliamentary and other elections/referenda;**
- (v) That the role of Place Based Lead as determined by the GM NHS ICB continue to be held by the Chief Executive (Head of Paid Service); and**
- (vi) That arrangements for appointment to key statutory roles Monitoring Officer, along with a review of senior leadership roles, along with an independent salary review be undertaken in January 2023.**

65. QUESTIONS

The Chair reported that no questions had been received in accordance with Standing Order 17.2.

66. URGENT ITEMS

The Chair reported that there were no urgent items of business for consideration.

CHAIR