

COUNCIL

23 July 2019

Present: Councillors Kitchen (Chair), Affleck, Billington, Bowerman, Boyle, Bray, Cartey, Chadwick, Choksi, Cooney, Cooper, Dickinson, Drennan, Fairfoull, Feeley, J Fitzpatrick, P Fitzpatrick, Glover, Gosling, Gwynne, A Holland, B Holland, Hollinshead, J Homer, S Homer, Huntbach, Jackson, Lewis, Martin, McNally, Mills, Naylor, Newton, Owen, Patrick, Pearce, Reid, Ricci, Robinson, Ryan, Sidebottom, Taylor, Ward, Warrington, R Welsh, Wild and Wills

Apologies for Absence: Councillors Alam , Bowden, Buglass, D Lane, J Lane, Quinn, Sharif, M Smith, T Smith and Sweeton

20. CIVIC MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Civic Mayor led the Council in paying tribute to PC Shazad Saddique an outstanding serving Tameside officer who had passed away, suddenly.

The Civic Mayor paid further tribute to those locally who had received recognition in the Queen's birthday honours. Dr Rajesh Patel, a local GP and national medical director for primary care who had been awarded an MBE; Carol Prowse, a lay member for Commissioning with Tameside and Glossop CCG, had received a British Empire Medal for her services to the community; Detective Chief Superintendent Simon Barraclough had been awarded the Queen's Police Medal.

The Civic Mayor highlighted events in the Borough which he had attended over recent weeks including Tameside Pride, the Whit walks, Armed Forces Day, and the Whit Friday Band contests. The Mayor had also met Ratilal and Shataben Taylor from Ashton to help celebrate their 76th wedding anniversary.

21. AMENDMENT OF ORDER OF BUSINESS

In accordance with Part 4a, paragraph 14.2 of the Council's Constitution, the Chair of Council Business advised Members of an amendment to the order of business. Namely, the motion to be moved in the name of Councillor Dickinson regarding Stamford Park, contained in agenda item 12, would be considered immediately following agenda item 5 and prior to any other business.

22. MINUTES

Consideration was given to the minutes the Annual Meeting and Special Meeting of Council held on 21 May 2019.

Members were asked to agree that Councillor Alam be added to the list of those present for the meeting held on 21 May 2019. Members were asked to agree that Councillor Buglass be removed from the list of those present from the minutes of the meeting held on 26 February 2019.

RESOLVED

- (i) That subject to the inclusion of Councillor Alam as present, the Minutes of the meetings of Council held on 21 May 2019 be approved and signed by the Chair of Council Business as correct records.
- (ii) The Minutes of the meeting of Council held on 26 February 2019 be amended to remove Councillor Buglass from the list of those present.

23. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

24. COMMUNICATIONS OR ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councillor Fairfoull the Deputy Executive Leader and Executive Member for Children's Services referred to the OFSTED Inspection of the Council's Children's Social Care Services in May 2019. This followed the previous inspection in 2016 when Services had been judged as inadequate. Overall the Services were graded as requiring improvement to be good with the report noting a much strengthened 'whole-council' commitment to improving the quality and impact of services for children. This has not only been the case within the children's services department but also more widely within the local multi-agency safeguarding arrangements and political leadership. As a result, there had been a notable increase in the pace and effectiveness of service development. The report also noted areas requiring focus for improvement including the time limits on children in care and assuring that the voice of the child is heard in plans.

Councillor Cooney the Executive Member Housing, Planning and Employment referred to a climate change protest at a Greater Manchester Pension Fund meeting held at Guardsman Tony Downes House on 19 July 2019. Councillor Cooney that there was no dispute with the points being raised by the protesters, however, the actions of those involved had led to employees at the building feeling threatened. It was unacceptable that threats were made to employees working in a public building, particularly one which is a memorial for a young man who was killed while defending his country.

The Executive Leader paid tribute to Sandra Stewart (Director of Governance & Pensions) who had been awarded the Municipal Journal award of Corporate Director of the Year. Tribute was also paid to Kathy Roe (Director of Finance) who had been named Finance Director of the Year at the Healthcare Financial Management Association Awards.

The Executive Leader had been delighted to hear that Stamford Park had been awarded a Green Flag, the international award that recognised public spaces that had the highest possible environmental standards, were beautifully maintained and had good visitor facilities. The two independent judges had found that the management of the park was excellent and it was providing a good healthy recreational area for local people.

The Executive Leader acknowledged the recently received letter from Ofsted following their full re-inspection of Children's Services in May 2019, it was reported that Children's Services had moved from a rating of Inadequate to Requires Improvement to be Good. Significantly, Ofsted not only noted a much strengthened whole Council commitment to improving the quality and impact of children's services but improvements within the multi-agency safeguarding arrangements and political leadership as well.

The Executive Leader updated those in attendance on the strategic priorities outlined within her address to Annual Council. Members were informed that Executive Cabinet had agreed to move forward with the process to submit a formal application to join the Co-Operative Councils Innovation Network. The Co-operative Councils' Innovation Network was a collaboration between local authorities who were committed to finding better ways of working for, and with, local people for the benefit of their local community. Co-operative councils were defined by their adherence to the principles and values of the wider International Co-Operative Alliance, as represented by 313 co-operative federations in 109 countries. Generally membership would commit the Council to find better ways of working for, and with, the people of Tameside for the benefit of Tameside's communities. It provided an opportunity to build upon the consultations and conversations already undertaken with residents to create deeper engagement and partnerships, coming together to share innovation and learning to co-produce services that meet the needs of those that depend on them.

As the democratically-elected leaders and civil society partners in their local area, Councils were in a unique position to drive and support this improvement and change.

The Executive Leader stated that there were examples in Tameside where this was happening already. The Tameside Digital Infrastructure Co-Operative offered its members wholesale access to publically-owned dark fibre infrastructure which allowed them to build and operate cutting-edge broadband and digital connectivity services while retaining ownership and guarantying neutrality. Other current partners included the Hospital, College and Jigsaw Homes, and it was reported that advanced discussions were ongoing about extending the model out to organisations from the private sector.

The Executive Leader stated that the Home Start service brought together a network of charities from Oldham, Stockport and Tameside to offer early intervention for families with at least one child under five. Volunteers were recruited and trained to go into homes for a few hours a week, supporting parents to give their children the best possible start in life, improving the ability of parents to care for their children, and preventing crisis by ensuring that the health and social needs of parents and their children are met.

The Executive Leader stated that community centres are where co-operative values and principles could be seen the most clearly. There were a number of these centres in Tameside, providing volunteer-led, thriving and fully inclusive spaces for residents and communities. The Grafton Centre in Hyde runs a wide range of health and wellbeing, social and learning activities for 480 local residents of all ages. The Together Centre at Loxley House offered a community space for residents who may otherwise be vulnerable to loneliness and isolation, working in partnership with other local organisations to put on activities such as The Shed, art groups and Sing Together.

Members were informed that talks were taking place about the possibility of extending “The Bread and Butter Thing”, a Hattersley-based project that brings together public, private and community sectors to tackle food waste and food poverty. The Executive Leader stated that Councillor Cooper was a key contact for Members who wished to receive further information about the existing project in Hattersley.

The second key strategic strand for the vision for Tameside was to improve social justice and mobility. This was a crisis effecting not only Tameside but the nation as a whole. The evidence of this crisis was visible in Tameside. On the one hand, more young people than ever felt that in terms of housing, stable jobs, being able to have their own children, they will be worse off than their parents. The slow death of social mobility wasn't just confined to the top and bottom of society, it cut across every possible demographic, including class, disability, ethnicity, age and gender.

Those from better off backgrounds were now almost 80% more likely to be in a professional job than their working class peers. Just 21% of people with disabilities from working class backgrounds enter the highest occupations. The proportion of 25-34 year olds who owned their own house had fallen from 55% to 35% in twenty years. The Executive Leader stated that this had been the inevitable result of conscious and politically-motivated choices. The most obvious and damaging of which had been the imposition of austerity since 2010.

The damage caused by austerity to every part of the economy and society would be impossible to quantify but focussing on education a number of key facts were clear. Funding for children's centres such as Sure Centre had been cut by 62%, and school funding, despite ever-increasing number of young people entering education, had faced cuts of 8% with sixth forms and local authority support being hit disproportionately hard. The decimation of adult and further education was even starker. Despite rhetoric that acquiring new skills and qualifications was more essential than ever to getting by in the modern workplace, the number of Level 2 England and Maths courses had declined by 45%, and the number of adults achieving those qualifications had dropped to 60%.

The Executive Leader set out key policies and actions with the aim of reversing the decline of social mobility in Tameside. One of the cornerstones of improving social mobility was access to high quality and high paying jobs. A key to ensuring that Tameside residents were equipped to secure

those jobs was quality and access to education. Through the continued improvement to the Council's children's services, projects such as Tameside Loves Reading and the facilities built as part of Vision Tameside learning in all its forms was within reach of every young person in Tameside, no matter what their ages or life circumstances.

Work was continuing to revolutionise the local public transport infrastructure, not just to improve air quality, but to connect residents to job opportunities in Tameside and beyond. The construction of the new Transport Interchange in Ashton was proceeding on schedule, and Tameside was actively involved in a number of Greater Manchester-wide projects, such as seeking improvements to the Greater Manchester bus network, through the Greater Manchester Transport Strategy 2040.

Each of these plans had been enshrined in the Joint Corporate Plan for the Borough which had been designed to ensure that the priorities of "Starting Well" and "Living Well" receive the attention they deserve at every level and in every project undertaken within Tameside.

25. COUNCIL BIG CONVERSATION

The Chair reported that in accordance with Standing Orders 31.12 and 31.13 a number of questions had been submitted from residents and Councillor Ryan as the appropriate Executive Member provided a response to each question.

Question 1

"It is open knowledge that the Council received £3,995,000.00 from the Lottery Heritage Fund, which specifically stated the following, in its reasons for providing the funding.

Quote: The Investment will repair and conserve key historical buildings and monuments, improve park facilities with a new pavilion, with a café and meeting rooms, restore historic planting, create a new animal area for children and woodland areas will be opened up and restored. There would be additional volunteering opportunities as well as a programme of walks and talks aimed at the whole Community.

The Grade II Listed Stamford Park, had played an important community role for over 130 years, providing a green Oasis for people to enjoy.

The lower part of the park, is largely formal in character and features a flower garden, bowling green, 1907 Conservatory and a wooded area, known as the Dingle. "

Response from Councillor Oliver Ryan (Executive Member for Finance and Economic Growth)

The substantive structure of the current conservatory, the timber frame and the polycarbonate windows was built in the 1980's. At which point the structure lost all of its historical integrity. In 2003 Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council carried out a cosmetic refurbishment of the conservatory which was acknowledged not to be of the highest quality. The Conservatory was not a priority for funding by Heritage Lottery Fund in 2007 as it was not the original glasshouse structure and had been substantially altered.

Question 2

"Can the Council advise, exactly when and how, they carried out, the so called 'extensive discussions with the Community', as those of us, with an interest, cannot find any such records of anything taking place and in particular we would like to understand exactly who 'The Friends of Stamford Park' are, as there appears to be no formal records of their existence and how they are purported to have acted in the public's interests with regard not only to the Park in general, but more specifically with regard to the Conservatory, which has been closed for nearly 5 years."

Response from Councillor Oliver Ryan (Executive Member for Finance and Economic Growth)

In responding Councillor Ryan, highlighted a number of occasions the Council had consulted on the conservatory including in relation to the Heritage Lottery Fund in 2015. In 2018 Officers had consulted with Ward Members on the following occasions: 5th February 2018, 16th August 2018 and finally 1 November 2018, when the plans for the formal garden plan were presented for Member support. A senior Council officer had visited the Samuel Oldham Trust on 16th August 2018. The Service had consulted a representative from Tameside Tourism. There was no Stamford Park Friends Group, despite efforts to set one up during the Heritage Lottery Fund development. Several significant features had been demolished and changed over the years, including the Paddling Pool and Apsley Villa. When Apsley Villa was demolished this was due to the Samuel Oldham Trust which was engaged and the Trust funded the replacement features.

Question 3

“Can the Council advise why it applied for the Heritage Lottery Fund Grant, using the age and historical significance of the Conservatory, as a key element, but in recent correspondence to the public have tried to consistently claim that it has no historical significance whatsoever?”

Response from Councillor Oliver Ryan (Executive Member for Finance and Economic Growth)

The Heritage Lottery Fund Bid never included the refurbishment of the Conservatory. The bid was used to upgrade and maintain the integral historic feature, the flower beds, the stocks. It was noted that Stamford Park has several features of historical significance:

- Jethro Tinker Memorial
- Flower bed designs
- The Stocks
- The Dingle
- The Meteorites.
- The original Ashton Market Cross.
- The conservatory is not part of the historically significant features.

Question 4

“Why wasn't the existing heating system maintained years ago to ensure the plants didn't die, including the main banana plant and why they didn't those responsible source our specific help maintaining them if they didn't feel capable? “

Response from Councillor Oliver Ryan (Executive Member for Finance and Economic Growth)

Access was prohibited on safety grounds. The conservatory was unsafe and this precluded the operation and maintenance of the building, including the heating system.

Question 5

“If the council couldn't maintain the conservatory why didn't they rehouse the tropical plants? “

Response from Councillor Oliver Ryan (Executive Member for Finance and Economic Growth)

The Greenhouse was never full of tropical plants in recent decades. It was not the home of rare tropical species. The plants in the conservatory were annuals and cacti commonly available in garden centres.

Question 6

“Why has the date for demolition been brought forward?”

Response from Councillor Oliver Ryan (Executive Member for Finance and Economic Growth)

The date for final demolition has not been determined.

Question 7

“Why have the leaders of Tameside council not communicated effectively enough with outside agencies regarding the future use of Stamford park conservatory. In particular the education authority and the agencies who support those with mental illness. Horticultural courses could offer valuable support, both educationally, emotionally and socially within these sectors.”

Response from Councillor Oliver Ryan (Executive Member for Finance and Economic Growth)

There is an extensive Wildlife Education Programme delivered through Cultural Services in Parks and Countryside across Tameside. Hundreds of Tameside School children visit our Parks and Countryside site throughout the year. The Council engage with vulnerable adults and many specialist user groups. The Council work with community allotment groups, we have a very successful Greenspace Volunteer programme for over 40 years. The Council was very keen to engage will all partners to continue this good work.

Question 8

“Can the Council provide factual evidence of the spending to date, since the receipt of the Funds was made, together with the amounts involved, in the repair and conservation of the key buildings and historical planting that were highlighted in the approval document statement, which clearly and unequivocally cited the 1907 Conservatory as one of the key items, as based on the statement, this should all have been carried out and the people should now be enjoying the undeniable benefits of such a historic facility, that has brought joy to so many, for most of the 112 years of its existence.”

Response from Councillor Oliver Ryan (Executive Member for Finance and Economic Growth)

When a Heritage Lottery Fund is awarded, the fund set out spending limits on individual features The Heritage Lottery Fund specified spending limits on individual features within the park, these excluded the Conservatory. The spend was based on public consultation that set out the priorities.

26. NOTICES OF MOTION

Motion A.

Consideration was given to the following motion received in accordance with Standing Order 16.1 which was proposed by Councillor Dickinson and seconded by Councillor Billington.

That this Council recognises the strength of public feeling and acknowledges the work already undertaken by the Save Stamford Park Greenhouse Group in their efforts to save the building.

Since the demolition plans were announced to the public, the group has formed, has nearly 2,000 members and a petition with over 4,000 signatures.

Despite Stamford Park being the largest park in the Borough and had a £4 million lottery investment, I would like this Council to note that prior to the decision being made only the Stalybridge North Councillors were consulted regarding the proposals.

Given the conservatory has already been fenced off for four years, we strongly believe a further six months will make no difference to this Council.

Therefore, as I am very proud that the people of Tameside have come together to fight this decision, we propose that the scheduled demolition be postponed until March 2020 in order to allow the Save Stamford Park Greenhouse Group to apply for funding and explore options to keep the building.

An amendment to the Motion was moved by Councillor Ryan and seconded by Councillor Gwynne such that the Motion be approved subject to the following:

That this Council recognises that since the formal decision made by the Executive Cabinet on 26 June 2019 was published, a group named "Save Stamford Park Greenhouse" was formed.

It is noted that Stamford Park, being the premier park in Tameside recently benefitted from a £4million lottery grant.

Stalybridge North Councillors, in whose Ward Stamford Park is located, were fully informed and involved in proposals to replace an unsafe structure which had been closed to members of the public for almost 5 years.

At a time of austerity, when Council budgets have been reduced by over 60% it would not be justifiable to commit to spending hundreds of thousands of pounds to replace an unsafe derelict structure. Our focus must be on providing vital services for the most vulnerable residents and for residents in general in Tameside.

Council recognises that although the 1980 structure has been deemed by structural engineers to be both unsafe and beyond restoration, there are original features that may be able to be salvaged for future incorporation into the park.

Council recognises that the Stamford Park Greenhouse is in a dangerous condition, is a threat to public safety and that ultimately demolition remains the intention.

Council welcomes input from a formally constituted Community Group to determine future options for the site of the Greenhouse emphasising that external funding would be required.

Upon being put to the vote, the amendment to the Motion was carried, the substantive motion was put to the vote and it was:

RESOLVED

That this Council recognises that since the formal decision made by the Executive Cabinet on 26 June 2019 was published, a group named "Save Stamford Park Greenhouse" was formed.

It is noted that Stamford Park, being the premier park in Tameside recently benefitted from a £4million lottery grant.

Stalybridge North Councillors, in whose Ward Stamford Park is located, were fully informed and involved in proposals to replace an unsafe structure which had been closed to members of the public for almost 5 years.

At a time of austerity, when Council budgets have been reduced by over 60% it would not be justifiable to commit to spending hundreds of thousands of pounds to replace an unsafe derelict structure. Our focus must be on providing vital services for the most vulnerable residents and for residents in general in Tameside.

Council recognises that although the 1980 structure has been deemed by structural engineers to be both unsafe and beyond restoration, there are original features that may be able to be salvaged for future incorporation into the park.

Council recognises that the Stamford Park Greenhouse is in a dangerous condition, is a threat to public safety and that ultimately demolition remains the intention.

Council welcomes input from a formally constituted Community Group to determine future options for the site of the Greenhouse emphasising that external funding would be required.
Motion B

Consideration was given to the following motion received in accordance with Standing Order 16.1 which was proposed by Councillor Mills and seconded by Councillor Cooney.

That this Council believes that bus services are crucial to our residents when travelling around our borough and Greater Manchester as a whole. This Council also believes that buses are vital for residents accessing important health services such as GP surgeries; getting to and from places of employment and living day to day lives. Furthermore, this Council believes that the regulation of buses is essential in the creation of a sustainable and environmentally healthy city region.

Under deregulation the existing bus system across Greater Manchester has not been fit for purpose. It is important that as a result of this we note the following:

- *80% of public transport journeys in Greater Manchester are done by bus.*
- *Bus deregulation happened across most cities and towns in the UK in the 1980s, meaning that bus companies can run whatever routes they like, charging whatever they choose, with various ticketing structures. 140 types of tickets are available in Greater Manchester.*
- *A regulated network is how buses are in London and Jersey. In these places a local transport authority sets prices, routes and develops standard ticketing systems. In London, Transport for London puts all bus routes out to tender and buys the service from a company.*
- *Regulation mean profits can be used to subsidise socially necessary services. It also allows a simple smart ticket system, with an automatic daily cap of spend, like the oyster card in London. Without regulation, a simple and single area-wide zonal ticket, with an automatic cap on spend (examples include London's oyster card), is impossible.*
- *76% of people in Greater Manchester want buses to be regulated, according to recent polling.*
- *Bus journeys have declined by 40% in Greater Manchester since deregulation, while in London bus use has doubled. In Jersey, bus ridership has gone up by 32% in the last five years alone.*

This Council believes that local government should have the ability to plan, join up and design the bus network in Greater Manchester, and compel bus companies to deliver certain standards. Our current bus network is far too vulnerable to instabilities as we have seen, with routes changed and fares raised, hitting some of our most vulnerable residents. The announcement of the Our Pass and Our Network schemes by the Mayor of Greater Manchester are welcomed, along with the recent public announcement by the Greater Manchester Combined Authority that bus franchising is the preferred option for buses across the city region. However this council believes that these are only the first steps in ensuring that the best bus services possible are delivered to not only the residents of our borough but of the city region as a whole.

Therefore, this Council resolves to support the Better Buses for Greater Manchester campaign, which is calling for better, regulated buses.

Upon being put to the vote, the Motion was carried and it was therefore -

RESOLVED

That this Council believes that bus services are crucial to our residents when travelling around our borough and Greater Manchester as a whole. This Council also believes that buses are vital for residents accessing important health services such as GP surgeries; getting to and from places of employment and living day to day lives. Furthermore, this Council believes that the regulation of buses is essential in the creation of a sustainable and environmentally healthy city region.

Under deregulation the existing bus system across Greater Manchester has not been fit for purpose. It is important that as a result of this we note the following:

- 80% of public transport journeys in Greater Manchester are done by bus.
- Bus deregulation happened across most cities and towns in the UK in the 1980s, meaning that bus companies can run whatever routes they like, charging whatever they choose, with various ticketing structures. 140 types of tickets are available in Greater Manchester.
- A regulated network is how buses are in London and Jersey. In these places a local transport authority sets prices, routes and develops standard ticketing systems. In London, Transport for London puts all bus routes out to tender and buys the service from a company.
- Regulation means profits can be used to subsidise socially necessary services. It also allows a simple smart ticket system, with an automatic daily cap of spend, like the oyster card in London. Without regulation, a simple and single area-wide zonal ticket, with an automatic cap on spend (examples include London's oyster card), is impossible.
- 76% of people in Greater Manchester want buses to be regulated, according to recent polling.
- Bus journeys have declined by 40% in Greater Manchester since deregulation, while in London bus use has doubled. In Jersey, bus ridership has gone up by 32% in the last five years alone.

This Council believes that local government should have the ability to plan, join up and design the bus network in Greater Manchester, and compel bus companies to deliver certain standards. Our current bus network is far too vulnerable to instabilities as we have seen, with routes changed and fares raised, hitting some of our most vulnerable residents. The announcement of the Our Pass and Our Network schemes by the Mayor of Greater Manchester are welcomed, along with the recent public announcement by the Greater Manchester Combined Authority that bus franchising is the preferred option for buses across the city region. However this council believes that these are only the first steps in ensuring that the best bus services possible are delivered to not only the residents of our borough but of the city region as a whole.

Therefore, this Council resolves to support the Better Buses for Greater Manchester campaign, which is calling for better, regulated buses.

Motion C

Consideration was given to the following motion received in accordance with Standing Order 16.1 which was proposed by Councillor Cooney and seconded by Councillor J. Fitzpatrick.

The Council notes that:

Unite has members across many different sectors of the economy and following the merger with UCATT last year, represent a significant amount of people employed in the construction industry.

Unite Union contacted Tameside Council as part of their campaign to engage with all Council / Group Leaders across the country regarding their Construction Charter, seeking support to have these terms nationally agreed as minimum standard in any local authority procurement policy.

The Unite Construction Charter is part of a priority campaign within this sector to address the practices by some firms that compromise employment protections that their members should enjoy.

The Council recognises that it has a major part to play in this ongoing strategy, specifically relating to the role of construction projects within the local authority.

The Unite Construction Charter is aligned to the Councils ethical approach to procurement and contains many beneficial clauses including essential points on Health and Safety, standards of work, apprenticeship training and implementation of appropriate nationally agreed terms and conditions of employment.

The Charter applies to contractors, sub-contractors and their supply chain engaged on construction projects awarded by a local authority.

By approving and including the Charter in the Council's ethical approach to procurement, contracts between the Council and contractors in the construction industry will be strengthened. This Charter also aligns itself to the modern slavery and Human Trafficking Policy the Council has already adopted.

Unite is calling on the Council to sign the attached charter.

This Council resolves that:

- (i) The Council signs the attached Unite Construction Charter.*
- (ii) The Charter is incorporated in to the Councils Procurement Rules and applied to all new construction projects commissioned by the Council.*

Upon being put to the vote, the Motion was carried and it was therefore -

RESOLVED

The Council notes that:

Unite has members across many different sectors of the economy and following the merger with UCATT last year, represent a significant amount of people employed in the construction industry.

Unite Union contacted Tameside Council as part of their campaign to engage with all Council / Group Leaders across the country regarding their Construction Charter, seeking support to have these terms nationally agreed as minimum standard in any local authority procurement policy.

The Unite Construction Charter is part of a priority campaign within this sector to address the practices by some firms that compromise employment protections that their members should enjoy.

The Council recognises that it has a major part to play in this ongoing strategy, specifically relating to the role of construction projects within the local authority.

The Unite Construction Charter is aligned to the Councils ethical approach to procurement and contains many beneficial clauses including essential points on Health and Safety, standards of work, apprenticeship training and implementation of appropriate nationally agreed terms and conditions of employment.

The Charter applies to contractors, sub-contractors and their supply chain engaged on construction projects awarded by a local authority.

By approving and including the Charter in the Council's ethical approach to procurement, contracts between the Council and contractors in the construction industry will be strengthened. This Charter also aligns itself to the modern slavery and Human Trafficking Policy the Council has already adopted.

Unite is calling on the Council to sign the attached charter.

This Council resolves that:

- (i) The Council signs the attached Unite Construction Charter.**

- (ii) **The Charter is incorporated in to the Councils Procurement Rules and applied to all new construction projects commissioned by the Council.**

27. MEETING OF EXECUTIVE CABINET

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the meeting of Executive Cabinet held on 26 June 2019.

It was moved by Councillor Warrington and seconded by Councillor Fairfoull that the Minutes of the meeting of the Executive Cabinet held on 26 June 2019 be received and the recommendations contained therein be approved.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Executive Cabinet held on 26 June 2018 be received.

28. MEETING OF DEMOCRATIC PROCESSES WORKING GROUP

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the meeting of Democratic Processes Working Group held on 9 July 2018.

It was moved by Councillor Cooney and seconded by Councillor Warrington that the Minutes of the Democratic Processes Working Group held on 9 July 2018 be received.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Democratic Processes Working Group be received.

29. AMENDMENTS TO AGMA CONSTITUTION

The Executive Leader/Director of Governance and Pensions submitted a report informing the Council that the AGMA Executive Board and Greater Manchester Combined Authority had agreed amendments to the AGMA Constitution; and seeking a nomination to be appointed as a substitute member on the AGMA Executive Board.

It was moved by Councillor Warrington and seconded by Councillor Fairfoull and -

RESOLVED

- (i) **That the amendments to the AGMA Constitution agreed by the AGMA Executive Board and Greater Manchester Combined Authority be noted.**
- (ii) **That the revised AGMA Constitution be agreed as appended to the report.**
- (iii) **That Councillor Fairfoull be appointed as the substitute member on the AGMA Executive Board.**

30. TAXI LICENSING

The Executive Member for Neighbourhoods, Community Safety and Environment/ Director of Operations and Neighbourhoods submitted a report seeking approval of a period of consultation in respect of proposed common minimum standards for the Taxi and Private Hire trade across Greater Manchester.

The key drivers for the review were consideration of public safety, out-of-area operation, vehicle standards, congestion and poor air quality. The proposed approach sought to encourage consistently high standards for Hackney Carriage and Private Hire services in Greater Manchester and to encourage the Government to pursue regulatory reform to ensure high safety standards. These standards would ensure that all Greater Manchester authorities applied rigorous tests and

checks to those engaged in the taxi trade, ensuring that the travelling public across Greater Manchester are suitably protected, and that Greater Manchester puts itself in a strong position to lobby for legislative change.

Consultation would be hosted by Transport for Greater Manchester.

It was moved by Councillor Gwynne and seconded by Councillor Boyle and -

RESOLVED

That the Council approves a period of consultation in respect of proposed common minimum standards for the Taxi and Private Hire trade across Greater Manchester.

31. MEMBERSHIP OF COUNCIL BODIES

Consideration was given to changes to the membership of Council bodies.

It was proposed by Councillor Warrington and seconded by Councillor Fairfoull that the changes be approved and -

RESOLVED

- (i) That Councillors Dawson Lane, J Fitzpatrick, Quinn and Ricci be removed from the Integrated Care and Wellbeing Scrutiny Panel.**
- (ii) That Councillor Alam and Jackson be added to the Integrated Care and Wellbeing Scrutiny Panel.**
- (iii) That Councillors Hollinshead and J Fitzpatrick replace Councillors Gosling and J. Lane on the Place and External Relations Scrutiny Panel.**
- (iv) That Councillor Quinn replace Councillor Hollinshead on the Speakers Panel (Licensing).**
- (v) That Councillor Newton be removed from Speakers Panel (Liquor Licensing).**
- (vi) That Councillor Sharif be removed from Speakers Panel (Planning).**
- (vii) That Councillor Gosling be added to the Carbon and Waste Reduction Panel.**
- (viii) That Councillors Ryan (Tameside) and Pantall (Stockport) be appointed as GM Pension Fund Observers in accordance with statutory guidance.**

32. QUESTIONS

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

14 URGENT ITEMS

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

CHAIR