

SALFORD CITY COUNCIL

20th July, 2016

Meeting commenced: 9.30 a.m.
“ adjourned: 10.45 a.m.
“ re-convened: 11.00 a.m.
“ ended: 11.40 a.m.

PRESENT: Councillor Karen Garrido - Chair of the Council and Ceremonial Mayor

Councillors Derek Antrobus, Howard Balkind, Michele Barnes, Samantha Bellamy, Barbara Bentham, Paula Boshell, Adrian Brocklehurst, Tanya Burch, Bob Clarke, Christopher Clarkson, Jillian Collinson, Peter Connor, Richard Critchley, Jim Dawson, Sareda Dirir, Peter Dobbs, John Ferguson, Heather Fletcher, Robin Garrido, Stephen Hesling, Bill Hinds, Christine Hudson, Jimmy Hunt, David Jolley, Roger Jones, Tracy Kelly, Jim King, David Lancaster, Bernard Lea, Kate Lewis, Iain Lindley, Paul Longshaw, Charles McIntyre, Ray Mashiter, John Merry, Margaret Morris, John Mullen, Joe Murphy, Stephen Ord, Gina Reynolds, Brendan Ryan, Robert Sharpe, Peter Taylor, Les Turner John Walsh, John Warmisham, Colette Weir, Michael Wheeler, Paul Wilson and Ronnie Wilson.

1. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Ceremonial Mayor asked members to join her in a moment of silent reflection to mark the recent death of Jo Cox MP, those who had lost their lives in both the terrorist attack in Nice and the attempted coup in Turkey and the 21st anniversary of Srebrenica Massacre.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Paul Dennett and Councillors Neil Blower, Graham Compton, Harry Davies, Jane Hamilton, Ann-Marie Humphreys, Lisa Stone, Barry Warner and Peter Wheeler.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

4. COUNCILLOR BERNARD LEA

The Ceremonial Mayor presented Councillor Bernard Lea with a long service medal in recognition of the 20 years he had been a member of the Council.

5. MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

The minutes of the meeting held on 18th May 2016 were approved as a correct record.

6. RECEIPT OF PETITIONS/COMMUNICATIONS

Councillor Charlie McIntyre submitted a petition on behalf of the Salford Disability Forum and Access 2 All Areas Salford, seeking support to keep pavements clear of obstruction, to assist people with visual impairment issues and mobility difficulties, wheelchair users and parents with children in prams.

Councillor Robin Garrido submitted a report on behalf of local residents raising concerns at the possibility of 28 Cavendish Road, Broughton being converted in a multi-occupancy residence.

Councillor Michele Barnes submitted a petition on behalf of Salford residents regarding the lack of public toilet facilities in Eccles Town Centre.

7. MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES AND PANELS 2016/17
(Previous Minute 85 - 18th May 2016)

The Assistant Director Legal and Governance submitted a report seeking appointments and amendments to the membership of committees and panels for the Municipal Year 2016/17.

RESOLVED: (1) THAT approval be given to the following appointments to the committees and panels respectively indicated:-

- Overview and Scrutiny Board - Councillor Christine Hudson
- Health and Adults Scrutiny Panel - Councillor Christine Hudson*
- Licensing and Regulatory Panel - Councillor Colette Weir
- Licensing and Regulatory Panel - Councillor Barry Warner
- Planning and Regulatory Panel - Councillor Jane Hamilton
- Council Agenda Setting Group - Councillor Paula Boshell+
- Council Agenda Setting Group - Councillor David Lancaster

(2) THAT approval be given to the cessation of Councillor Michele Barnes' membership of the Health and Scrutiny Panel.

* also appointed as Deputy Chair of the Panel
+ As statutory Deputy City Mayor

8. APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT MEMBER

The Assistant Director Legal and Governance submitted a report indicating under the provisions of the Localism Act 2011, the Council has a local Code of Conduct and arrangements in place to deal with complaints about member conduct. As a part of

that, the City Council was looking to appoint one independent person to help discharge these arrangements.

RESOLVED: THAT approval be given to the appointment of Shazia Nazir to act as independent person in accordance with the requirements of the Localism Act 2011, as summarised above.

9. APPOINTMENT OF INTERIM DEPUTY MONITORING OFFICER

The Assistant Director Legal and Governance submitted a report indicating the Council was required to nominate an officer to act as the Deputy Monitoring Officer in the absence of the Monitoring Officer.

RESOLVED: THAT approval be given to the appointment, on an interim basis, of Jacqui Dennis, Head of the Shared Legal Service, as Deputy Monitoring Officer for Salford City Council.

10. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

(a) Fixed Odds Betting Terminals

Councillor John Warmisham moved the following motion, which was seconded by Councillor Christopher Clarkson.

This council notes:

- 1. The prevalence of Fixed Odds Betting Terminals (FOBTs) in betting shops, often referred to in the media as “the crack cocaine of gambling”.***
- 2. That, unlike fruit machines in pubs, bingo halls and amusement arcades where cash stakes are limited to £2, gamblers can bet with cash or via a debit card up to £100 every 20 seconds on FOBTs, more than four times as fast as the rate of play in casinos.***
- 3. That in 2012, over £1.5bn was lost on FOBTs across the UK. More profit was made from FOBTs than from the National Lottery, when according to the most recent British Gambling Prevalence Survey, 56% of the population play the Lottery, but just 4% play FOBTs.***
- 4. Empirical evidence that suggests FOBTs are the most addictive form of gambling.***
- 5. Research carried out by Geofutures, which found there to be four times as many betting shops in areas of high unemployment than in areas of low unemployment.***
- 6. Research carried out by 2CV in Newham, which found that the average bet per spin on FOBTs is £17, and the average amount of cash inserted into the machine is £55 per session, with one in five putting in over £100 a time.***
- 7. Nationally, more than 80% of turnover in betting shops and more than half of profits are derived from FOBTs. Less than 20% of stakes in betting shops are over the counter.***
- 8. A recent economic analysis undertaken by Landman Economics, commissioned by the Campaign for Fairer Gambling, which assessed the impact of FOBTs on local economies and across the wider economy. The***

report concluded that every £1bn spent on FOBTs produces a net reduction of 13,000 jobs, compared to if spent in the wider consumer economy. The projected doubling of revenue from FOBTs by 2023 could cost a further 23,000 jobs across the economy.

9. Concern that the Government has not addressed the issues caused by FOBTs, and the announcement made by Maria Miller MP, Secretary of State for Culture Media and Sport, on 10th October 2013 in response to the Triennial Review of gaming machine stakes and prizes, where the stakes on FOBTs were unchanged.

10. The Government has proposed measures that will require players who wish to stake over £50 per spin to seek permission from staff. This wrongly implies stakes up to £50 are safe, and that staff intervention is an effective means of ensuring player protection.

11. The position in the Republic of Ireland where the Government has introduced legislation to outlaw FOBTs in betting shops.

This council believes that the increase in FOBTs is causing significant problems and believes that the Government should either use the existing legislative framework, or introduce legislation to outlaw B2 casino games in betting shops.

At the very least, local authorities should be given the powers to protect the local amenity and wellbeing of communities by (1) stopping the proliferation of betting shops and (2) reducing the maximum stakes and slowing down the speed of play.

This council therefore requests that:

- 1. The City Mayor writes to the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, Karen Bradley MP, recommending a reduction in the maximum bet per spin on FOBTs to £2 in line with all category B machines.**
- 2. Work is undertaken by the Greater Manchester Combined Authority to look at proposing under devolution Greater Manchester has the autonomy to introduce its own Gambling Act or the flexibility to set its own limits in relation to FOBT's.**
- 3. The City Mayor writes to all 3 Salford MP's asking them to support the work being undertaken by The Parliamentary FOBT All Party Group.**
- 4. That this City Council supports the LGA Campaign asking Government to immediately review the UK FOBT's Policy.**

Councillor John Warmisham and Councillor Christopher Clarkson both spoke in favour of the motion.

Councillors Roger Jones, Gina Reynolds, Robin Garrido, Charlie McIntyre, John Ferguson and John Mullen all added their own support for the motion.

The Ceremonial Mayor then put the motion to Council.

RESOLVED: THAT the motion moved by Councillor John Warmisham, as detailed above, be approved and adopted.

(b) Corporate Tax Evasion and Avoidance

Councillor Jim King moved the following motion, which was seconded by Councillor Adrian Brocklehurst.

Council notes that:

Fair taxes paid by all who should pay is the fairest policy and helps to build a fairer society. Corporate tax evasion and avoidance, for example, are having a damaging impact on the world's poorest countries, to such a level that it is costing them far more than they receive in aid. This is costing the UK as much as £30bn a year. This practice also has a negative effect on small and medium-sized companies who pay more tax proportionately

Council further notes:

The UK Government has taken steps to tackle the issue of tax avoidance and evasion by issuing Procurement Policy Note (PPN) 03/14, which applies to all central government contracts worth more than £5m.

The availability of independent means of verifying tax compliance, such as the Fair Tax Mark.

In early 2015 new regulations required public bodies, including councils, to ask procurement qualification questions of all companies for tenders over £173,000 for service contracts and £4m for works contracts. However, these questions are not as detailed as the PPN 03/14.

Council believes that bidders for Council contracts should be asked to account for their past tax record, using the standards in PPN 03/14, rather than the lower standards in the recent regulations. Council therefore calls for procurement procedures to be amended to require all companies bidding for council contracts to self-certify that they are fully tax-compliant in line with central government practice, using the standards in PPN 03/14, applying to contracts of the size specified above.

Council asks the Cabinet to publicise this policy and to report on its implementation annually for the next three years.

Council also aims to become a Fair Tax Mark Organisation.

Councillor Jim King and Councillor Adrian Brocklehurst both spoke in favour of the motion.

Councillors Robert Sharpe, John Merry, Howard Balkind, Bill Hinds and Paula Boshell all added their own support for the motion.

Councillors Les Turner, Robin Garrido and Christopher Clarkson indicated they were unable to give their support to the motion.

The Ceremonial Mayor then put the motion to Council.

RESOLVED: THAT the motion moved by Councillor Jim King, as detailed above, be approved and adopted.

11. STATEMENT OF CITY MAYOR

In the absence of the City Mayor, Councillor Paula Boshell, Statutory Deputy City Mayor made a number of announcements, highlighted issues and made comments as follows:-

- (a) The recent referendum on the United Kingdom's membership of the European Union and the unknown impact of the arising result to leave it, both nationally and locally.
- (b) The resignation of David Cameron and his replacement by Theresa May as Prime Minister and the potential change in H.M. Government policies which could arise.
- (c) The City Mayor had attended the first meeting of the Salford Poverty Truth Commission. This brought together those who had experienced poverty first hand with key decision makers, with a view to creating a new innovative approach to developing policies to tackle the problem and challenge the stigma which was often attached to it .
- (d) A recent Ofsted (Office for Standards in Education) report had highlighted that almost 8 in10 of young people leaving care in Salford went straight into full time employment, training or further education. Congratulations were extended to the young people concerned, as well as residential care workers and foster parents who helped create the stable supportive environments which allowed them to flourish.
- (e) Work continued on the implementation of the devolution proposals for Greater Manchester with public consultation running from 6th July to 15th August on how powers for the region should be distributed. Separately the City Mayor was taking the lead on Low Carbon Environment and Waste in Greater Manchester.
- (f) Locally the City Council was adopting new ways of delivering services, this was demonstrated in the creation of the pioneering Integrated Care Organisation (ICO) which brought together health and social care provision in Salford. Thanks were extended to the those who had played a part in making the ICO a reality.
- (g) Local politicians needed to listen to the electorate and connect with all communities in Salford. As part of this a series of "Meet the Mayor" surgeries were planned. It was vital that local residents were engaged with, to ensure any

resulting policies and strategies fully reflected their needs and aspirations.

12. GENERAL QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS TO THE CITY MAYOR AND LEAD MEMBERS

Q1. Councillor Les Turner referred to the partial collapse of the new relief road bridge across the Manchester Ship Canal at Barton in May and asked whether there had been any progress.

Councillor David Lancaster, Lead Member for Environment and Community Safety, replied that the collapsed section of the bridge would be removed by a special barge at the end of July. After this there would be a full assessment of the damage to the remaining structure and what repair works were required.

Q2. Councillor Heather Fletcher referred to the increase in reported hate crimes nationally following the European Union Referendum. She commented that recent statistics seemed to indicate this trend was not being replicated in Salford, particularly in Swinton and Pendlebury, where there had been very few reports of such crimes in recent weeks.

Councillor Paula Boshell, Statutory Deputy City Mayor, said this apparent reduction in recorded incidents was encouraging, but warned about becoming complacent and the need to continue to report all hate crimes.

Q3. Councillor Ray Mashiter said he welcomed the continued regeneration through residential developments being built on brown field sites, particularly in the inner city areas of Salford, but asked whether this alone was sustainable, both now and in the future, in terms of meeting the needs of citizens.

Councillor Robin Garrido said he welcomed the use of brown field sites and hoped this would be coupled with a continued strong defence to the development of green field land. He continued by referring to the Greater Manchester Low-Emissions Strategy and Air Quality Action Plan which had recently published by the Greater Manchester Combined Authority, particularly highlighting the section on the actions for managing new developments, which he suggested needed to be taken into account in terms of the City Council's own planning policies.

Councillor Derek Antrobus, Lead Member for Planning and Sustainable Development, replied that, all elements of the Greater Manchester Low-Emissions Strategy and Air Quality Action Plan, which were ambitious and wide ranging would be reflected in the City Council's own relevant policies.

In terms of brown field sites, Councillor Derek Antrobus said there was a commitment to develop these rather than green field land, but H.M. Government policy often made this difficult. In addition the increasing population densities in certain areas of the City, meant further residential developments there could not be sustained indefinitely. As a result the housing needs of the growing population had to be spread across Salford as a whole.

Q4. Councillor Jillian Collinson referred to proposals for the creation of Greater Manchester Child Safeguarding Board and asked whether it was envisaged this would lead to a standardised threshold of need across the region, or whether individual local authorities would retain control over this.

Councillor John Merry, Deputy City Mayor, replied the Greater Manchester Child Safeguarding Board was primarily to have a supervisory and supportive role and as such local authorities would continue to operate individual thresholds of need.

Q5. Councillor Les Turner referred to ongoing pressures on GPs (general practitioners) and the difficulty many people had in the City of getting an appointment to see them.

Councillor Tracy Kelly, Lead Member for Adult Services, Health and Wellbeing, replied that, it was an issue which was being addressed on a cross directorate basis in conjunction with the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG).

13. QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS ON THE DISCHARGE OF FUNCTIONS OF JOINT AUTHORITIES AND OUTSIDE BODIES

Updates were provided in relation to the recent activities of the following bodies:-

- Cityco
- Working Class Movement Library

Councillor Iain Lindley referred to the fact that the Working Class Movement Library had a declared a financial surplus in 2015/16 and asked whether as a result they would be considering returning some of the grant they had received from the City Council.

Councillor John Ferguson said the Working Class Movement Library was grateful for all the financial support it received and encouraged all elected members to attend the event they were holding on 2nd September 2016, to gain a better understanding of their activities and how they spent their funding.

RESOLVED: (1) THAT the updates, as listed above, be noted.

(2) THAT the update on the Governing Body of Salford Royal Hospital Foundation Trust, be submitted to a future meeting.

A full audio/visual recording of these proceedings can be found on the Salford City Council website <http://www.salford.gov.uk/councilmeetings.htm>