

Minutes of the Council meeting held on 4 December 2013

Present: The Right Worshipful, The Lord Mayor Councillor Hassan – in the Chair

Adams, Ahmed, Akbar, A. Ali, N. Ali, Sameen Ali, Shaukat Ali, Amesbury, Andrews, Austin, Barrett, R. Battle, Boyes, Chamberlain, Chappell, Chohan, Clayton, Cookson, Cooley, Cooper, Cowell, Cox, Craig, Curley, Davies, Di Mauro, Ellison, Fairweather, Fender, Flanagan, Fletcher-Hackwood, Gillard, Grimshaw, Hackett, Hennigan, Hewitson, Hitchen, Hughes, Hyde, Judge, Kamal, Karney, Keegan, Khan, Kirkpatrick, Lanchbury, Leese, Lewis, Longsdon, Loughman, Ludford, Lyons, Midgley, M. Murphy, N. Murphy, P. Murphy, S. Murphy, E. Newman, S. Newman, Ollerhead, Barbara O'Neil, Brian O'Neil, Paul, Peel, Priest, Pritchard, Rahman, Raikes, Rawlins, Razaq, Reeves, Reid, Richards, Royle, Siddiqi, Simcock, Shone, Smith, Smitheman, Stogia, Stone, Strong, Tavernor, Taylor, Trotman, Walters, Watson and Wheale

Honorary Aldermen of the City of Manchester-
Peter Morrison, Keith Whitmore

CC/13/80 Filming of the Proceedings

In accordance with Procedural Rule 28, the Council agreed to the proceedings being filmed and photographs being taken during the meeting.

CC/13/81 Urgent Business

The Lord Mayor informed the Council that he had consented to the minutes of the Constitutional and Nomination Committee on 4 December being submitted for consideration as urgent business.

CC/13/82 Pride of Britain Awards

The Lord Mayor offered the Council's congratulations to June Kelly, a Manchester resident who was recently presented with the FA Football Champion award at the ITV Pride of Britain Awards for her work to set up and run a thriving junior football team in Abraham Moss.

Decision

To congratulate Ms June Kelly on her recent FA Football Champion award at the ITV Pride of Britain Awards.

CC/13/83 Clutha Helicopter Crash, Glasgow

The Lord Mayor informed the Council that he had written to the Lord Provost of the City of Glasgow to offer the Council's condolences for the nine lives lost in a helicopter crash in Glasgow the previous weekend.

CC/13/84 Former Councillor Alfred Home

The Lord Mayor reported the death of Councillor Alfred Home. Council recalled that Alfred Home served as a councillor between 1979 and 1990. He served on a number

of committees throughout his terms of office including Highways, Personnel, Economic Development and Trading Services. He also served as Deputy Chair of Environmental Services Committee.

The Council and those present at its meeting then observed a period of silence in memory of former councillor Alfred Home and in recognition of the tragedy of those lives lost in Glasgow.

CC/13/85 Alliance Project

The Council received a presentation from Ms Lorna Fitzsimons from New Economy Manchester on the Alliance Project, which is conducting research on the UK based textiles industry. Following the presentation, Ms Fitzsimons answered questions from Council members.

CC/13/86 Minutes

Decision

To approve as a correct record the proceedings of the special meeting and the meeting held on 9 October 2013.

CC/13/86 Proceedings of the Executive.

The proceedings of Executive on 23 October and 20 November 2013 were submitted. The Council considered the following recommendations.

Exe/13/142 Global Revenue Budget Monitoring to the end of August 2013

To recommend Council to approve the use of grants which the Council has received for 2013/14 which were announced after the financial settlement, therefore not included in the budget we approved on 13 February 2013.

Exe/13/143 Capital Programme – proposed increases

To recommend Council to approve the increase the capital budget by £100k in 2013/14, funded by capital fund for Manchester Business Park.

Exe/13/145 New Smithfield Market: Development Strategy

To recommend Council to approve the increase to the Capital Programme by a total of £5.55 million: £4.5m in relation to the development of a new Fish Market hall and associated works and the remaining £1.05m in 2013/14, to kick-start the refurbishment programme for the units within the Wholesale Fruit/Vegetable Market and the former Fresh Direct building to return them to a marketable standard.

Exe/13/146 Subvention

To recommend Council to approve the allocation from Capital Reserves of £2.9m over a 5 year period, from 2015/6 – 2019/20.

Exe/13/152 Localised Council Tax Support Scheme 2014

- a) To recommend Council to delegate authority to the City Treasurer to make minor technical changes to the Council Tax Support Scheme to provide for uprating of applicable amounts, disregards and non-dependant deduction levels and income bands and approve the revised Council Tax Support Scheme and;
- b) To recommend the revised Council Tax Support Scheme to Council.

Exe/13/155 Long Leasehold disposal of 37 Tyldesley Street, Moss Side, Manchester M14 4JW

To recommend Council to authorise the City Solicitor to obtain the consent of the Secretary of State to dispose of the property at less than best consideration.

Exe/13/159 Capital Programme – proposed increases

- a) To recommend that Council to approve an increase in the capital budget by up to £500k (£400k in 2013/14 and £100k in 2014/15), funded by City Council resources through the Clean and Green Fund for Neighbourhood Services - Litter Bin Procurement, and
- b) To approve an increase the capital budget by £350k in 2013/14, funded by City Council resources and to delegate responsibility to negotiate the terms of the loan to the City Treasurer for Children's & Commissioning Services - Loan to Bright Futures Education Trust.

Exe/13/160 Proposed Hough End and Levenshulme Leisure Facilities Update

To recommend Council to approve an increase in the capital budget of £18.198 million for the development of the new leisure and library facilities at Levenshulme and leisure facilities at Hough End.

Decision

1. To receive the minutes of the Executive meetings.
2. Global Revenue Budget Monitoring to the end of August 2013

To approve the use of grants which the Council has received for 2013/14 which were announced after the financial settlement, therefore not included in the budget the Executive approved on 13 February 2013.

3. Capital Programme – proposed increases

To approve the increase the capital budget by £100k in 2013/14, funded by capital fund for Manchester Business Park.

4. New Smithfield Market: Development Strategy

To approve the increase to the Capital Programme by a total of £5.55 million: £4.5m in relation to the development of a new Fish Market hall and associated works and the remaining £1.05m in 2013/14, to kick start the refurbishment programme for the units within the wholesale fruit/vegetable market and the former Fresh Direct building to return them to a marketable standard.

5. Subvention

To approve the allocation from Capital Reserves of £2.9m over a 5 year period, from 2015/6 – 2019/20.

6. Localised Council Tax Support Scheme 2014

a. To delegate authority to the City Treasurer to make minor technical changes to the Council Tax Support Scheme to provide for uprating of applicable amounts, disregards and non-dependant deduction levels and income bands and approve the revised Council Tax Support Scheme.

b. To adopt the Council Tax Support Scheme.

7. Long Leasehold disposal of 37 Tyldesley Street, Moss Side, Manchester M14 4JW

To authorise the City Solicitor to obtain the consent of the Secretary of State to dispose of the Property at less than best consideration.

8. Capital Programme – proposed increases

a. To approve an increase in the capital budget by up to £500k (£400k in 2013/14 and £100k in 2014/15), funded by Council resources through the Clean and Green Fund for Neighbourhood Services - Litter Bin Procurement.

b. To approve an increase the capital budget by £350k in 2013/14, funded by Council resources and to delegate responsibility to negotiate the terms of the loan to the City Treasurer for Children's & Commissioning Services - Loan to Bright Futures Education Trust.

9. Proposed Hough End and Levenshulme Leisure Facilities Update

To approve an increase in the capital budget of £18.198 million for the development of the new leisure and library facilities at Levenshulme and leisure facilities at Hough End.

(Councillor Davies declared a personal interest in this item, relating to Exe/13/138)

(Councillor E Newman declared a personal interest in this item relating to Exe/13/153)

(Councillor P Murphy declared a personal interest in this item relating to Exe/13/153)

(Councillor Walters declared a personal interest in this item relating to Exe/13/155)

(Councillor Longsden declared a personal interest in this item, relating to Exe/13/161)

CC/13/87 Questions to Executive Members under Procedural Rule 23.

Councillor Chappell responded to a question from Councillor Chamberlain about action taken to tackle fixed odds betting terminals.

Councillor Chappell answered a question from Councillor Lewis about highway and pavement renewal in Chorlton after the work on the Metrolink is completed.

CC/13/88 Scrutiny Committees

The minutes of the following meetings were submitted:

- Young People and Children – 15 October and 12 November 2013
- Communities – 16 October and 13 November 2013
- Neighbourhoods – 15 October and 12 November 2013
- Economy – 16 October and 13 November 2013
- Health – 17 October and 14 November 2013
- Finance – 17 October and 14 November 2014

Decision

To receive the minutes.

(Councillor Curley declared a disclosable pecuniary interest relating to the minutes of the Young People and Children Scrutiny Committee on 12 November 2013 and Economy Scrutiny Committee on 13 November 2013, and he withdrew from the meeting for this item)

CC/13/89 Proceedings of Committees

The minutes of the following meeting were submitted:

Constitutional and Nomination Committee - 4 December 2013

The Committee made recommendations about the recruitment of new co-opted members and appointment of a chair of the standards committee, the appointment of co-opted members to the Young People and Children Scrutiny Committee, and about membership of Council committees.

Decision

1. To receive those minutes
2. To appoint Amanda Isles as Chair of the Standards Committee for the remainder of the municipal year.
3. To delegate authority to the Monitoring Officer to make arrangements for the recruitment and selection of a co-opted independent member of the committee in consultation with Councillor Andrews and one minority group member of the Standards Committee.

4. To approve the appointment of Mrs. Marion Gadian and Mr Liam Duffy to serve as co-opted members on the Young People and Children Scrutiny Committee for a period of two years from 1 December 2013.
5. To approve the recommendations relating to membership of Council committees and joint committees.

Audit Committee – 28 November 2013

Health and Wellbeing Board – 6 November 2013

Licensing and Appeals Committee – 28 October 2013

Licensing Committee – 28 October 2013

Personnel Committee – 23 October 2013

Planning and Highways Committee – 24 October and 21 November 2013

Wythenshawe Area Committee – 28 November 2013

Standards Committee - 18 November 2013

Decision

To receive the minutes of these committee meetings.

CC/13/90 Questions on the Business of the Combined Authority, Joint Authorities and Joint Committees (Agenda item 8)

The Leader responded to a question from Councillor Wheale about arrangements for reviewing Police Community Support Officer working hours in local communities.

CC/13/91 Key Decisions

The report of the City Solicitor on key decisions exempted from call in was noted by the Council.

CC/13/92 Executive Member Portfolios

The Council noted the report of the Leader which provided details of new Executive members and changes to the Executive member portfolios.

Decision

1. To note the appointment of Councillor Kate Chappell as Executive Member for Environment
2. To note the appointment of Councillor Nigel Murphy as Executive Member for Housing and Regeneration.
3. To note the changes to the Executive Member portfolios.

CC/13/93 Motion – Backing small businesses in Manchester

Motion made and seconded:

This Council notes that Small and Medium sized shops and businesses are vital to our city's economy and provide employment to thousands of Manchester residents.

This Council recognises the difficulties faced by our business community, particularly, the small independent retailers who bring much vibrancy and character to our high streets and district centres. This Council notes that many high streets are struggling with the influx of pay day loan companies, bookmakers, pawnbrokers and businesses too reliant on the night time economy.

This Council welcomes and pledges its support for the upcoming Small Business Saturday, due to be held on Saturday 7th December, at the peak of the Christmas shopping season, as an excellent opportunity to showcase the hundreds of independent smaller businesses across Manchester and to encourage people to shop in small, local shops.

The Independent newspaper campaign, which has received backing from traders groups across Manchester and from American Express - who started the equivalent successful campaign in the US - also has the support of a wide range of business organisations including the Federation of Small Businesses, the British Chamber of Commerce, the Association of Convenience Stores, the Association of Town and City Management and the Forum for Private Business.

This Council welcomes the work that businesses, traders groups and council officers have been doing to promote the campaign. In particular this Council welcomes the visit of the national campaign bus to promote Small Business Saturday on 25 November in Levenshulme and the supporting day long programme of signposting, workshops and 1-2-1 advice drop-ins.

The Council notes that Small Business Saturday could provide a much needed boost in trade for many of our smaller businesses and help reverse the decline of some high streets.

This Council resolves:

- 1) To ask the Chief Executive and Lead Officers to ensure the authority participates fully in Small Business Saturday on 7th December 2013 and any subsequent events;
- 2) To request that officers work closely with local business organisations and smaller enterprises across the City to make them aware of the day and to help them participate in it.
- 3) To request that officers ensure the authority promotes Small Business Saturday via the Council's websites, social media and other marketing and external communication tools.
- 4) To ask the Chief Executive to produce a report after this year's campaign has concluded to assess its success and what lessons can be learnt to continue to support and promote our smaller businesses. In particular how the Council can support independent retailers and residents from the decline some high streets face from pay day loan companies, bookmakers, pawnbrokers and businesses too reliant on the night time economy.

Amendment made and seconded:

insert after "reliant on the night time economy" (*para 2*)

'This council deplores the fact that changes to planning legislation by the Tory/Lib Dem government means many of these types of businesses can open without applying for a change of use for the premises.'

insert after "decline of some high streets."

Many small businesses rely on people who live locally buying their goods. The cost of living crisis, with prices rising faster than wages and utility bills rising faster still, means people are spending less and small businesses are struggling.

add further recommendation:

5) To demand that the coalition government repeal the changes to planning legislation that are blighting our high streets and district centres.'

Resolution

The amendment was put and voted upon, and the Lord Mayor declared that it was **CARRIED**.

The substantive motion was put and voted upon, and the Lord Mayor declared that it was **CARRIED**.

Decision

This Council notes that small and medium sized shops and businesses are vital to our city's economy and provide employment to thousands of Manchester residents.

This Council recognises the difficulties faced by our business community, particularly, the small independent retailers who bring much vibrancy and character to our high streets and district centres. This Council notes that many high streets are struggling with the influx of pay day loan companies, bookmakers, pawnbrokers and businesses too reliant on the night time economy.

This council deplores the fact that changes to planning legislation by the Tory/Lib Dem government means many of these types of businesses can open without applying for a change of use for the premises.'

This Council welcomes and pledges its support for the upcoming Small Business Saturday, due to be held on Saturday 7th December, at the peak of the Christmas shopping season, as an excellent opportunity to showcase the hundreds of independent smaller businesses across Manchester and to encourage people to shop in small, local shops.

The Independent newspaper campaign, which has received backing from traders groups across Manchester and from American Express - who started the equivalent

successful campaign in the US - also has the support of a wide range of business organisations including the Federation of Small Businesses, the British Chamber of Commerce, the Association of Convenience Stores, the Association of Town and City Management and the Forum for Private Business.

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The Council notes that Small Business Saturday could provide a much needed boost in trade for many of our smaller businesses and help reverse the decline of some high streets.

Many small businesses rely on people who live locally buying their goods. The cost of living crisis, with prices rising faster than wages and utility bills rising faster still, means people are spending less and small businesses are struggling.

This Council resolves:

1. To ask the Chief Executive and lead officers to ensure the authority participates fully in Small Business Saturday on 7th December 2013 and any subsequent events;
2. To request that officers work closely with local business organisations and smaller enterprises across the city to make them aware of the day and to help them participate in it.
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4. To ask the Chief Executive to produce a report after this year's campaign has concluded to assess its success and what lessons can be learnt to continue to support and promote our smaller businesses. In particular how the Council can support independent retailers and residents from the decline some high streets face from pay day loan companies, bookmakers, pawnbrokers and businesses too reliant on the night time economy.
5. To demand that the coalition government repeal the changes to planning legislation that are blighting our high streets and district centres.'

CC/13/94 Motion – Raising the starting rate of Income Tax to help Manchester workers

Motion made and seconded:

Council recalls with dismay the abolition of the 10p starting rate of tax by then Chancellor of the Exchequer Gordon Brown in his last budget in 2007. This cost a low income family reliant on a basic wage earner £232 per year.

Council welcomes the substantial and progressive increases in the single person's allowance from £6,345pa after the 2010 general election to £10,000 from next April. This will give a direct boost to the pay packet of adults on minimum wage of £705 a year.

Council welcomes the proposal of the Deputy Prime Minister that this allowance should increase to £10,500 in 2015 to particularly help workers on low and middle incomes in Manchester.

Given the large proportion of lower paid residents in Manchester, this Council agrees to lobby the Government to increase the single person's starting rate of tax to the same level as the National Minimum Wage for a thirty five hour week, (currently £11,484.20p), and to lock the two together so that in future a full time worker on the minimum wage will not pay any Income Tax.

Amendment made and seconded:

Delete all after "...recalls with dismay" and replace with:

that prices have risen faster than wages for 40 of the 41 months since the coalition government has been in office. Working people are now on average over £1,600 a year worse off than they were at the time of the last General Election.

Council notes that the last Labour government introduced the national minimum wage, and Labour in Manchester introduced our own Manchester minimum wage, to give real help to the lowest paid workers. Since then three damaging years of a flatlining economy mean that working people are facing a cost of living crisis.

Council welcomes Labour proposals to deal with this: an energy price freeze and long term reforms to the energy market; an extension of free childcare for working parents of 3 and 4 year olds; and a compulsory jobs guarantee for young people and the long term unemployed.

Council calls on the Government to act now to introduce these measures to tackle the cost of living crisis facing Manchester residents.

Resolution

The amendment was put and voted upon, and the Lord Mayor declared that it was **CARRIED**.

The substantive motion was put and voted upon, and the Lord Mayor declared that it was **CARRIED**.

Decision

Council recalls with dismay that prices have risen faster than wages for 40 of the 41 months since the coalition government has been in office. Working people are now on average over £1,600 a year worse off than they were at the time of the last General Election.

Council notes that the last Labour government introduced the national minimum wage, and Labour in Manchester introduced our own Manchester minimum wage, to give real help to the lowest paid workers. Since then three damaging years of a flatlining economy mean that working people are facing a cost of living crisis.

Council welcomes Labour proposals to deal with this: an energy price freeze and long term reforms to the energy market; an extension of free childcare for working parents of 3 and 4 year olds; and a compulsory jobs guarantee for young people and the long term unemployed.

Council calls on the Government to act now to introduce these measures to tackle the cost of living crisis facing Manchester residents.

CC/13/95 Motion – Action on 'To Let' Board blight

Motion made and seconded:

This Council:-

Acknowledges that 'To Let' and 'Let By' signs can be erected on some properties for months despite the property being occupied. These signs can attract crime and anti-social behaviour as well as having a detrimental effect on the appearance of the area.

Notes the success of the code on the erection of residential letting boards in inner North West Leeds which led to a reduction in crime and anti-social behaviour and improved the appearance of the Headingley and Hyde Park areas.

Agrees to introduce such a code in Manchester, (based on the Leeds scheme), on the erection of residential letting boards, with specific areas of Special Control, that will start with pilot areas in the wards of Fallowfield, Levenshulme, Old Moat and Withington and be expanded as soon as possible across the city.

The code should state:

1. Only one board per building will be permitted.
2. Each board will conform to the following layout: 34cm x 48cm or 48cm x 34cm.
3. The board shall be mounted flush to the wall above/around the front door, or if that is not possible, it shall be mounted flush to the wall on the street frontage elevation. In either instance, no part of the board shall be higher than first-floor window sill level.
4. The board shall have a white background with black text. Up to 20% of the board may be occupied by a logo (which may be in colour).
5. One board shall be permitted per landlord/agent per street. However, if a landlord/agent specifies on the board, the number of bedrooms in the advertised property, one board shall be permitted per type of property, up to a maximum of three per street.
6. There shall be no 'Let By' signs.
7. 'To Let' boards shall be removed not later than 14 days after the granting of a tenancy for the room, house or flat in question.

8. All 'To Let' boards shall be removed by 1st November each year with no new boards being erected until 1st December.

Amendment made and seconded:

Delete all after "This Council" and replace with:

"Is determined to tackle the problems of blight and detrimental image caused by the growth of 'To Let' and unauthorised 'Let By' and 'Managed By' signs in the residential and commercial sectors.

Notes that the Tory Coalition's policies have:

- a. led to a surge of To Let signs as businesses struggle with depressed economic conditions and living standards
- b. impaired the capacity of the Planning Department to police and prioritise this growing problem with the withdrawal of one million pounds a week from the Council

The City Council resolves:

- to call a city summit with invitations to all leading estate agents, landlords and commercial agents in the city to draw up a new code of practice
- to lead a delegation to the Planning Minister Nick Boles to secure Regulation 7 powers to tackle this problem through the planning process
- to ask the Chief Executive to bring a report to the Council detailing positive actions in Leeds and Westminster in tackling residential and commercial To Let signs.

Resolution

The amendment was put to the Council:

For the amendment (72)

Adams, Ahmed, Akbar, A. Ali, N. Ali, Sameen Ali, Shaukat Ali, Amesbury, Andrews, Austin, Barrett, R. Battle, Chappell, Chohan, Cookson, Cooley, Cowell, Cox, Craig, Curley, Davies, Ellison, Fairweather, Fender, Flanagan, Gillard, Grimshaw, Hackett, Hassan, Hewitson, Hitchen, Hughes, Judge, Kamal, Karney, Keegan, Khan, Kirkpatrick, Lanchbury, Leese, Longsdon, Loughman, Ludford, Midgley, M. Murphy, N. Murphy, P. Murphy, S. Murphy, E. Newman, S. Newman, Ollerhead, Paul, Peel, Priest, Rahman, Raikes, Rawlins, Razaq, Reeves, Reid, Richards, Siddiqi, Simcock, Shone, Smith, Stogia, Stone, Strong, Tavernor, Trotman, Walters, and Watson.

Against the amendment (0)

None

Abstaining (8)

Boyes, Chamberlain, Clayton, Di Mauro, Hennigan, Lewis, Taylor and Wheale

The Chair declared the amendment **CARRIED**.

The substantive motion was then put to the Council.

For the motion (72)

Adams, Ahmed, Akbar, A. Ali, N. Ali, Sameen Ali, Shaukat Ali, Amesbury, Andrews, Austin, Barrett, R. Battle, Chappell, Chohan, Cookson, Cooley, Cowell, Cox, Craig, Curley, Davies, Ellison, Fairweather, Fender, Flanagan, Gillard, Grimshaw, Hackett, Hassan, Hewitson, Hitchen, Hughes, Judge, Kamal, Karney, Keegan, Khan, Kirkpatrick, Lanchbury, Leese, Loughman, Ludford, Lyons Midgley, M. Murphy, N. Murphy, P. Murphy, S. Murphy, E. Newman, S. Newman, Ollerhead, Paul, Peel, Priest, Rahman, Raikes, Rawlins, Razaq, Reeves, Reid, Richards, Siddiqi, Simcock, Shone, Smith, Stogia, Stone, Strong, Tavernor, Trotman, Walters, and Watson

Against the motion (0)

None

Abstaining (8)

Boyes, Chamberlain, Clayton, Di Mauro, Hennigan, Lewis, Taylor and Wheale

Decision

This Council:-

Is determined to tackle the problems of blight and detrimental image caused by the growth of 'To Let' and unauthorised 'Let By' and 'Managed By' signs in the residential and commercial sectors.

Notes that the Tory Coalition's policies have:

- a. led to a surge of To Let signs as businesses struggle with depressed economic conditions and living standards
- b. impaired the capacity of the Planning Department to police and prioritise this growing problem with the withdrawal of one million pounds a week from the Council

The City Council resolves:

- to call a city summit with invitations to all leading estate agents, landlords and commercial agents in the city to draw up a new code of practice
- to lead a delegation to the Planning Minister Nick Boles to secure Regulation 7 powers to tackle this problem through the planning process
- to ask the Chief Executive to bring a report to the Council detailing positive actions in Leeds and Westminster in tackling residential and commercial To Let

signs.