

Council

Minutes of the meeting on 23 September 2015

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

Adams, Ahmed, Akbar, Ahmed Ali, N. Ali, Sameem Ali, Shaukat Ali, Amesbury, Andrews, Appleby, Austin, Barrett, Battle, Bridges, Chappell, Chohan, Collins, Connolly, Cookson, Cox, Craig, Curley, Dar, Davies, Ellison, Evans, Farrell, Fender, Flanagan, Fletcher-Hackwood, Gillard, Green, Grimshaw, Hacking, Hassan, Hitchen, Hughes, S Judge, T Judge, Kamal, Karney, Kirkpatrick, Knowles, Lanchbury, Lone, Loughman, Ludford, Marshall, Midgley, Monaghan, Moore, N. Murphy, P. Murphy, S. Murphy, E. Newman, S. Newman, Noor, Ollerhead, O'Neil, Paul, Peel, Priest, Pritchard, Rahman, Raikes, Rawlins, Rawson, Razaq, Reeves, Reid, Richards, Rowles, Russell, Sheikh, Shilton Godwin, Siddiqi, Simcock, Stogia, Stone, Strong, Swannick, Trotman, Watson, Webb and Wilson

Honorary Aldermen of the City of Manchester

Peter Morrison and Bill Egerton

CC/15/62 Urgent Business

The Lord Mayor informed the Council that he had consented to the minutes of the Constitutional and Nomination Committee on 23 September 2015 being submitted for consideration as urgent business.

CC/15/63 Award to the Manchester Trading Standards Service

The Lord Mayor informed the Council that Manchester's Trading Standards Service had recently been awarded the Touchstone Award for 2015 from the British Hallmarking Council. The Council then welcomed Mr Christopher Jewitt, Chairman of the British Hallmark Council to present the award. The Lord Mayor received the award on behalf of the Council.

CC/15/64 Presentation – Manchester Airport Transformation Programme

The Council received a presentation from Ken O'Toole, Managing Director of Manchester Airport Group and Brad Miller, Programme Director of the Transformation Programme. The presentation described the Manchester Airport Transformation Programme, which is a long term investment programme to improve facilities for passengers and businesses at the airport. Following the presentation, Mr O'Toole answered questions from members.

CC/15/65 Statement from the Lord Mayor – Refugee Crisis

Councillor Andrews and the Lord Mayor made statements to inform the Council about the Lord Mayor's appeal to donate money to charities working to support the Syrian refugee crisis.

CC/15/66 Statement from the Councillor Judge – Canada Street

Councillor Judge made a statement in support of the regeneration project to renovate a number of vacant properties on Canada Street and New Street in Newton Heath for armed forces veterans Canada Street Newton Heath. The project was being delivered in partnership with Walking with the Wounded and as part of a BBC DIY SOS Big Build programme to create a veteran's community within Canada Street and New Street.

CC/15/67 Minutes

Decision

To approve the minutes of the meeting on 15 July 2015 as a correct record.

CC/15/67 Proceedings of the Executive

The proceedings of the 29 July 2015 and 9 September 2015 were submitted. The Council considered the following recommendations:

Exe/15/084 Capital Programme Monitoring

To recommend that Council approve the in-year budget transfers over £0.5m between capital schemes to maximise use of funding resources available to the City Council.

Exe/15/106 Capital Programme Proposed Increase: Belle Vue Sports Village

To recommend that the Council approves an increase the capital scheme budget by £747k, funded by £554k Capital Fund and £193k budget virement where funds have been released from the Belle Vue Sports Village project (£113k) and Beswick Community Hub project (£80k).

Exe/15/108 Acquisition of Homes and Communities Agency Assets at Central Park

To recommend that the Council approve an increase of the Capital Programme by £4.2m to be funded from the Capital Fund in order to acquire the Homes and Communities Agency's (HCA's) assets at Central Park.

Decision

1. To receive those minutes.
2. Capital Programme Monitoring

To approve the in-year budget transfers over £0.5m between capital schemes to maximise use of funding resources available to the City Council.

3. Capital Programme Proposed Increase: Belle Vue Sports Village

To approve an increase the capital scheme budget by £747,000, which will be funded, by £554,000 Capital Fund and £193,000 budget virement where funds have been released from the Belle Vue Sports Village project (£113,000) and Beswick Community Hub project (£80,000).

4. Acquisition of Homes and Communities Agency Assets at Central Park

To approve an increase of the Capital Programme by £4.2m to be funded from the Capital Fund in order to acquire the Homes and Communities Agency's assets at Central Park.

(Councillor Grimshaw declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in this item and withdrew from the meeting.)

CC/15/68 Questions to Executive Members under Procedural Rule 23

Councillor N Murphy responded to a question from Councillor Craig about the Council's support for Project Ark.

Councillor Andrews responded to a question from Councillor Watson about the links between "good neighbour schemes" and Living Longer Living Better.

CC/15/69 Scrutiny Committees

The minutes of the following committees were submitted:

Young People and Children – 21 July 2015 and 1 September 2015
Neighbourhoods – 21 July 2015 and 1 September 2015
Economy – 22 July 2015 and 2 September 2015
Communities – 28 July 2015 and 2 September 2015
Finance – 23 July 2015 and 3 September 2015
Health – 23 July 2015 and 3 September 2015
Manchester and Trafford Joint Health Scrutiny Committee – 30 June 2015

Decision

To receive those minutes.

CC/15/70 Proceedings of Committees

The minutes of the following committees were submitted:

a) **Constitution and Nomination Committee – 23 September 2015**

The Committee made recommendations about changes to the membership of Council committees.

Decision

1. To receive the minutes of the Constitutional and Nomination Committee on 23 September 2015.
 2. To approve the changes to membership of Council committees.
- b) **Personnel Committee – 29 July 2015 and 9 September 2015**

In particular, the Council was asked to consider the following recommendations:

PE/15/23 Director of Children’s Services (DCS) Recruitment

To recommend that Council approve the recruitment of a permanent Director of Children’s Services

PE/15/24 Revised management arrangements – ICT

To recommend that Council suspends Procedure Rule 25 so that the Council’s decision on the remuneration for the post of Chief Information Officer, made on 1 April, can be revised and the recommendation below can be considered.

To recommend that Council agrees the revised remuneration for the Chief Information Officer (CIO) post in response to market feedback and the recruitment activity undertaken. The revised package to retain the £100k base salary level with the additional time-limited market supplement increased from £50k to £75k for the two year period previously agreed.

Decision

1. To receive the minutes of the Personnel Committees on 29 July 2015 and 9 September 2015.
2. Director of Children’s Services (DCS) Recruitment

To approve the recruitment of a permanent Director of Children’s Services.

3. Revised management arrangements – ICT

To agree to suspend Procedure Rule 25.1 so that the decision on the remuneration for the post of Chief Information Officer (made on 1 April 2015) can be revised.

To agree the revised remuneration for the Chief Information Officer post in response to market feedback and the recruitment activity undertaken. The revised package to retain the £100k base salary level with the additional time-limited market.

The following minutes were also submitted for consideration:

Audit Committee – 28 July 2015
Health and Wellbeing Board – 16 September 2015

Licensing Committee – 7 September 2015
Planning and Highways Committee – 30 July 2015, 27 August 2015 and 17
September 2015
Wythenshawe Area Committee – 23 July 2015

Decision

To receive those minutes.

(councillor Ellison declared a prejudicial interest in the minutes of the Planning and Highways Committee on 30 July 2015)

CC/15/71 Key Decisions

The Council noted the report of the City Solicitor on key decisions that had been exempted from call in.

CC/15/72 Approval to Greater Manchester Combined Authority joining the Association of Greater Manchester Authorities

The Council considered a report of the City Solicitor which sought approval for the Greater Manchester Combined Authority to join the Association of Greater Manchester Authorities as a member organisation. The proposal required approval from each of the existing member authorities.

Decision

1. To agree to the Greater Manchester Combined Authority joining the Association of Greater Manchester Authorities as a full member in its own right.
2. To approve consequential changes required to the Association of Greater Manchester Authorities Constitution as a result of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority becoming a full member of the Association of Greater Manchester Authorities.

CC/15/73 Members Allowance Scheme

The Council considered proposed recommendations from the Independent Remuneration Panel on changes to the Member Allowances Scheme. The Panel met in May to clarify three minor aspects of the Allowances Scheme. These were the Dependents Carers Allowance, the Broadband Allowance and the Indexation of Allowances.

Decision

1. To agree that the maximum hourly rate for care costs within the Dependents Carers' Allowance is aligned with the Manchester Minimum Wage Policy for a "fully fledged" employee of the Council, currently £7.85 per hour.

2. To agree that the Broadband Allowance is amended so that it is paid for the actual cost of a members' broadband up to a maximum of £15.00 per month and is only paid upon a member providing proof of the cost they are incurring.
3. To adopt and apply the following indices to the remuneration and allowances paid to members of Manchester City Council:-
 - a. Basic allowance, special responsibility allowances and co-optees allowance – indexed to the annual percentage salary increase for local government staff (at SCP 49) to be implemented from the start of the financial year, for which year it is applicable;
 - b. Dependent's Carers Allowance – the maximum hourly rate claimable to be indexed to the Manchester Minimum Wage;
 - c. That (without prejudice to the separate implementation date in relation to 3(a), i.e. 1 April 2015 being the start of the financial year) the other recommendations should be implemented from 23 September 2015.
4. To instruct the City Solicitor to amend the Council's Members' Allowance Scheme set out in Part 7 of the Council's Constitution accordingly.

CC/15/74 Northwards Housing Solar Photovoltaic Proposal

The Council considered a report of the Strategic Director (Strategic Development) and the City Treasurer. The report sought approval for the installation of up to 1,400 photovoltaic panels to Council owned homes in North Manchester and an increase to the capital budget of £5.513m. The proposals required immediate approval due to the recent Government announcement to reduce support funding for any solar photovoltaic schemes installed after 31 December 2015.

Decision

To approve a capital budget increase of £5.513m to cover the cost of installing 1400 solar photovoltaic panels on properties managed by Northwards Housing.

(Councillor Midgeley declared a prejudicial interest and withdrew from the meeting for this item)

(Councillors Hassan and Councillor Trotman declared a personal interest in this item as board members of Northward Housing)

CC/15/75 Healthy Schools Team

Motion proposed and seconded:

The Council welcomes the work of the Healthy Schools Team who work with schools on sex and relationships including issues such as domestic abuse, child sexual exploitation and female genital mutilation.

We believe that the work of the local authority is vital in making sure Manchester's young people are equipped with the knowledge and confidence to ask for help and support.

Council resolves to continue the work to promote healthy relationships within every Manchester primary and secondary school.

Council resolves to continue to prioritise this work with young people across the city by working with partners such as GMP, GMPCC, Unity Radio and other partner agencies.

Although schools and academies do currently discuss domestic abuse CSE and FGM is covered very briefly within PSE and citizenship curriculum, as little as one 50 minute session or lesson is used to cover such serious topics, and almost no time at all left to discuss domestic abuse in same sex relationships or cultural difference within different ethnic minority groups due to the restraint of the national curriculum. There is a direct correlation between poverty and domestic abuse, with the pending cuts coming and further destruction of the benefits system there will almost certainly be an increase of reports of abuse and even more unreported cases.

Although there is great work going on in our city through our partner agencies still 1 in 5 young people will be exposed to some form of abuse. Domestic abuse is a factor in 60% of all serious case reviews.

More needs to be done.

Resolution

The motion was put to Council and voted on, and the Lord Mayor declared that it was carried.

Decision

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CC/15/76 The Human Rights Act

Motion proposed and seconded:

Manchester City Council expresses support for the Human Rights Act and the positive impact it has had on rights protection of individuals in the UK and welcomes the guidance the Human Rights Act provides for public authorities in ensuring policies are developed in line with international human rights standards. The Council calls on Government to retain the Human Rights Act, the protections within it and the UK's international obligations under the European Convention on Human Rights.

Resolution

The motion was put to Council and voted on, and the Lord Mayor declared that it was carried.

Decision

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CC/15/77 European Union Referendum

Motion proposed and seconded:

This Council:

Welcomes the upcoming referendum on Britain's membership of the European Union and the opportunity it provides for a debate on this issue with the people of Manchester.

Recognises the significant investment there has been in Manchester over the last two decades as a result of funding from the European Union and continued investment over the next seven year EU budget cycle. Investment which helped to rebuild Manchester after the 1996 bomb, which has helped to create thousands of

jobs, supported hundreds of local businesses and funded cutting edge research and innovation in our universities.

Acknowledges the major role of the European Union in advancing many of the social and employment rights we now take for granted - the guarantee of four weeks paid annual leave, strong health and safety protection in the workplace, statutory maternity rights and paid parental leave and protection from discrimination, to name just a few.

Notes with concern the many risks involved in leaving the European Union and the impact 'Brexit' would have not only on jobs and investment in Manchester but also on the employment, social and consumer rights and protections our residents enjoy as a result of EU membership.

The Council resolves to:

- Ask the Executive to produce an economic impact study to highlight the effects of EU membership on the city of Manchester and the risks of 'Brexit'.
- Request that the Chief Executive explores ways in which the council working with partners could better promote European investment in local projects, organisations and businesses - and report the findings to the Economy scrutiny committee.
- Recommend to the Executive that the council hosts a summit bringing together representatives from trade unions, local businesses, universities and civil society organisations to discuss the referendum campaign and the impact possible outcomes would have on the city.

Decision

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