

Council

Minutes of the meeting on 13 July 2016

Present: The Right Worshipful, The Lord Mayor Councillor Austin-Behan – in the Chair

Akbar, Ahmed Ali, Azra Ali, N. Ali, Alijah, Amesbury, Andrews, Appleby, Barrett, Battle, Bridges, Chappell, Chohan, Collins, Connolly, Cookson, Cooley, Craig, Curley, Dar, Davies, Ellison, Evans, Farrell, Fender, Flanagan, Fletcher-Hackwood, Green, Grimshaw, Hacking, Hassan, Hewitson, Hughes, Igbon, S Judge, T Judge, Kamal, Karney, Kirkpatrick, Knowles, Lanchbury, Leech, Leese, Longsdon, Loughman, Ludford, Manco, Marshall, Midgley, Madeleine Monaghan, Mary Monaghan, N. Murphy, S. Murphy, E. Newman, S. Newman, Noor, Ollerhead, O'Neil, Paul, Peel, B Priest, H Priest, Pritchard, Rahman, Rawlins, Rawson, Reeves, Reid, Richards, Rowles, Russell, Sadler, Sharif Mahamed, Sheikh, Shilton Godwin, Siddiqi, A Simcock, K Simcock, Smitheman, Stogia, Stone, Strong, Taylor, Teubler, Watson, Webb, and Wills.

CC/16/48 Urgent Business

The Lord Mayor informed the Council that he had consented to the minutes of the Constitutional and Nomination Committee on 13 July 2016 being submitted for consideration as urgent business.

CC/16/49 Lord Mayor's Special Business – Birthday Honours List

The Lord Mayor informed the Council that he had written to the following Mancunians who had been honoured in the Queen's Birthday Honours List.

Steve Mycio OBE
Mohammed Amin MBE
John Baron MBE
Gary Etchells MBE
Robert Palmer MBE
Neil Thomas MBE
Ariana Yakas MBE
Joen Yockney MBE
Ian Hopkins Queen's Police Medal
Peter O'Reilly, Queens Fire Service Medal

CC/16/50 Lord Mayor's Special Business – Looked After Children Promise

Councillor Sheila Newman made a statement about the Looked After Children Promise, which was an agreement drawn up by Looked After Children, care leavers and the Corporate Parenting Panel about how the Council would do its best for the children in its care. Members of the Council were invited to sign the promise agreement.

CC/16/51 Lord Mayor's Special Business – Manchester Community History Award

The Lord Mayor presented the Manchester Community History Award to the Greater Manchester Coalition of Disabled People for their "Accessibles Comic". The Accessibles tells the story of two time travelling young disabled people who flit through time to look at the relationship between disabled people and Manchester. After the presentation, Councillor Rawlins, the Lead Member for Disabled People made a statement to Council about the work of the group and the Accessibles Comic.

CC/16/52 Lord Mayor's Special Business – Presentation on Corridor Manchester

The Council received a presentation on Corridor Manchester from Professor Dame Nancy Rothwell, Chair of Corridor Manchester. At the end of the presentation, Professor Dame Rothwell answered questions from members.

CC/16/53 Lord Mayor's Special Business – Presentation on Highways Service Update

(Councillor Reid declared a prejudicial interest in this item.)

The Council received a presentation on the review of the Highways Service from Mr Kim Dorrington, Interim Director of Highways. After the presentation, Mr Dorrington answered questions from members.

CC/16/54 Petitions Debate – Piccadilly Gardens

A report of the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit explained that the Council had received a petition organised by the Manchester Evening News. The petition asked the Council to put together a plan with Legal and General for Piccadilly Gardens which would be put out to public consultation. The petition was signed by 20,365 people who lived, worked or studied in Manchester. The Council debated the petition in accordance with the procedure set out in the Council's Petitions Scheme.

The petition organiser, Ms Jen Williams addressed Council and acknowledged that the Council had passed a motion to support the action requested in the petition (at its meeting in March). She described some of the main issues that people raised about Piccadilly Gardens and asked the Council to agree specific actions for the future. The Lord Mayor thanked Ms Williams for her contribution.

The Council debated the petition and members described the action that had been taken so far. A motion was proposed and seconded that the Executive be asked to take forward the actions requested in the petition. The motion was then put to Council and voted on and the Lord Mayor declared it to be **carried**.

Decision

To ask the Executive to take forward the actions requested in the Piccadilly Gardens petition.

CC/16/55 Minutes

Decision

To agree the minutes of the Annual General Meeting and the extraordinary meeting on 18 May 2016 as a correct record.

CC/16/56 Proceedings of the Executive

Councillor Amesbury declared a prejudicial interest in minute reference Exe/16/71, Demand and Capacity – Investing to Succeed in Children’s Social Care and withdrew from the meeting for this part of the discussion)

(Councillor Midgley declared a prejudicial interest in minute reference Exe/16/75, Capital Programmes Proposed Increases and withdrew from the meeting for this part of the discussion)

The proceedings of the Executive on 1 June 2016, and 29 June 2016 were submitted. The Council considered the following recommendations:

Exe/16/056 Capital Programme - Proposed Increases

To recommend that the Council approve:

1. Libraries Programme - Refresh of Radio Frequency Identifier (RFID) Equipment. To increase the capital budget by £510k in 2016/17, funded by the use of borrowing.
2. Libraries Programme - Introduction of On-line Payments. To increase the capital budget by £30k in 2016/17, funded by the use of borrowing.
3. Libraries Programme - Upgrade to Customer Facing Furniture in Libraries. To increase the capital budget by £50k in 2016/17, funded by the use of borrowing.
4. Leisure Programme - Alexandra Park. To increase the capital budget by £48k in 2016/17, funded by the use of borrowing.

Exe/16/071 Demand and Capacity – Investing to Succeed in Children’s Social Care

1. To recommend that the Council increase the Children’s Investment Fund Reserve by a further £10.16m for the period 2016/17 to 2020/21, to be funded from the Council’s reserves. This is to meet the expected additional resourcing requirements for those five years, being:
 - £3.568m in 2016/17,
 - £4.905m in 2017/18,
 - £1.065m in 2018/19,
 - £0.311m in 2019/20,
 - £0.311m in 2020/21.

2. To recommend that the Council delegate authority to the City Treasurer, in consultation with the Executive Member for Finance, to approve the additional draw-down from reserves of £3.568m for 2016/2017, and for future years, ensuring that the £10.16m is not exceeded. The City Treasurer to review an updated business case outlining progress before agreeing any such decision.

Exe/16/075 Capital Programmes Proposed Increases

To recommend the Council to approve:

1. Environment and Operations Programme - Replacement Purchase of New Android devices. To increase the capital budget by £88k in 2016/17, funded by the use of the Parking Reserve.
2. Northwards Capital Programme - Retained Housing Reallocation. A budget virement of £4,918k from the Retained Stock programme budget to the Northwards Capital Programme budget across the financial years 2016/17 to 2018/19.

Exe/16/079 The Development of the City Council's Digital Asset Base

To recommend that the Council approve a Capital Budget increase of £6.7m, relating to the refurbishment of OCP (£5.3m) and the tenants fit-out of phase 2 The SPACE Project (£1.4m), funded from prudential borrowing, the cost of which will be funded from increased rental income.

Decision

1. To receive those minutes.
2. Capital Programme - Proposed Increases

To approve:

- (a) Libraries Programme - Refresh of Radio Frequency Identifier (RFID) Equipment. To increase the capital budget by £510,000 in 2016/17, funded by the use of borrowing.
 - (b) Libraries Programme - Introduction of Online Payments. To increase the capital budget by £30,000 in 2016/17, funded by the use of borrowing.
 - (c) Libraries Programme - Upgrade to Customer Facing Furniture in Libraries. To increase the capital budget by £50,000 in 2016/17, funded by the use of borrowing.
 - (d) Leisure Programme - Alexandra Park. To increase the capital budget by £48k in 2016/17, funded by the use of borrowing.
3. Demand and Capacity – Investing to Succeed in Children's Social Care
 - (a) To increase the Children's Investment Fund Reserve by a further £10.16m for the period 2016/17 to 2020/21 to be funded from the Council's reserves. This

is to meet the expected additional resourcing requirements for those five years. These resourcing requirements are:

- £3.568m in 2016/17,
- £4.905m in 2017/18,
- £1.065m in 2018/19,
- £0.311m in 2019/20,
- £0.311m in 2020/21.

- (b) To delegate authority to the City Treasurer, in consultation with the Executive Member for Finance, to approve the additional drawdown from reserves of £3.568m for 2016/2017, and for future years, ensuring that the £10.16m is not exceeded. The City Treasurer to review an updated business case outlining progress before agreeing any such decision.

4. Capital Programmes Proposed Increases

To approve:

- (a) Environment and Operations Programme - Replacement Purchase of New Android devices. To increase the capital budget by £88k in 2016/17 funded by the use of the Parking Reserve.
- (b) Northwards Capital Programme - Retained Housing Reallocation. A budget virement of £4,918,000 from the Retained Stock programme budget to the Northwards Capital Programme budget across the financial years 2016/17 to 2018/19.

5. The Development of the City Council's Digital Asset Base

To approve a capital budget increase of £6.7m, relating to the refurbishment of One Central Park (£5.3m) and the tenants fit-out of phase 2 The SPACE Project (£1.4m), funded from prudential borrowing. The cost of this will be funded from increased rental income.

CC/16/57 Questions to Executive Members under Procedural Rule 23

Councillor Chappell responded to a question from Councillor Strong about progress of creating a cycle lane between Chorlton and Manchester city centre.

Councillor Chappell responded to a question from Councillor Ellison about reductions to the highways budget and the impact on Didsbury ward.

Councillor Chappell responded to a question from Councillor Leech about representations received about a possible ban on the use of glyphosate for controlling weeds.

Councillor Nigel Murphy responded to a question from Councillor Stone about action being taken to discourage fly tipping in back entries.

Councillor Nigel Murphy responded to a question from Councillor Peel about repainting mechanical street sweepers as bees.

Councillor Nigel Murphy responded to a question from Councillor Igbon the actions to address the increase in hate crime in the city.

Councillor Nigel Murphy responded to a question from Councillor Kelly Simcock about how the Council is responding to hate crime attacks.

Councillor Bernard Priest responded to a question from Councillor Peel about delivering more affordable and social housing across the city.

Councillor Bernard Priest responded to a question from Councillor Leech about disabled facilities grants for homes of disabled foster carers.

Councillor Leese responded to a question from Councillor Battle about actions to tackle anti social behaviour and noise nuisance for events

Councillor Leese responded to a question from Councillor Leech about the Royal British Legion's "Count them in campaign", to have questions on the armed forces community included in the next census.

Councillor Sheila Newman responded to a question from Councillor Leech about discussions with Chorlton High School Learning Trust regarding plans for a new free school in central/south Manchester area.

Councillor Rahman responded to a question from Councillor Leech about the impact of the new computer system on the borrowing of music scores from the Henry Watson Music Library.

Councillor Flanagan responded to a question from Councillor Leech about the potential savings in waste disposal costs resulting from the acquisition of new wheelie bins.

CC/16/58 Scrutiny Committees

The minutes of the following meetings were submitted:

Children and Young People – 23 May 2016 and 21 June 2016
Neighbourhoods and Environment – 23 May 2016 and 21 June 2016
Economy – 24 May 2016 and 22 June 2016
Communities and Equalities – 24 May 2016 and 22 June 2016
Resources and Governance – 25 May 2016 and 30 June 2016
Health – 25 May 2016 and 30 June 2016

CC/16/59 Proceedings of Committees

To submit for approval the minutes of the following meetings and consider recommendations made by the committee:

Constitutional and Nomination Committee – 13 July 2016

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 13 July 2016
2. To approve the recommendations in relation to membership of Council committees and joint committees.

The following minutes were also submitted to the Council.

Audit Committee – 9 June 2016
Health and Wellbeing Board – 8 June 2016
Licensing and Appeals Committee – 6 June 2016
Licensing Committee – 6 June 2016
Personnel Committee – 1 June 2016
Planning and Highways Committee- 2 June and 30 June 2016
Standards Committee – 16 June 2016
Wythenshawe Area Committee – 26 May 2016

Decision

To receive those minutes.

CC/16/60 Business of the Combined Authority, Joint Authorities and Joint Committees

Councillor Fender responded to a question from Councillor Leech about representations Received about allowing motorcycles into bus lanes across Greater Manchester.

Councillor Nigel Murphy responded to a question from Councillor Leech about recycling rates in blocks of flats across Greater Manchester.

CC/16/61 Demand and Capacity – Investing to Succeed in Children’s Social Care

The Council considered a report of the Strategic Director of Children’s Services that proposed an adjustment to the investment strategy for Looked After Children and described how Children’s Services will deliver the required improvements to services. The Council approved the increase to the Children’s Investment Fund Reserve for additional resourcing requirements totalling £10.160m (funded from the Council’s reserves) under the Proceedings of the Executive (minute reference CC/16/55).

Decision

To note the increased demand and approve the additional resources by use of the Council’s reserves, in 2016/17 of £3.568m.

CC/16/62 Urgent Key Decisions

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

CC/16/63 Motion - Academies

Motion proposed and seconded:

This Council recognises that:

- (a) this government has created a fragmented school system.
- (b) Manchester has a strong single family of schools with a broad mix of types of schools which include academies, free schools, community schools and faith schools.
- (c) Manchester's family of schools have an emphasis on local leadership structures and a developing and strengthening self-improvement system.
- (d) Manchester has a primary school system where 90 per cent of children attend a good or outstanding school.

The Council notes that the Government in its White Paper has expressed its intention to force all schools to become Academies by 2022. Following widespread criticism of the plans, the Government have since stated they will not legislate to force successful schools to become Academies. However many parents, teachers and governors are worried that the government still intends to force schools to become academies against their will.

This Council rejects the government's attempts to force good and outstanding schools to academies and recognises it as driven by ideology rather than improving schools. This Council supports the LGA position and asserts we are opposed to successful schools being forced to become Academies. We believe schools rated Good or Outstanding should be allowed to determine their own future.

The implications of the Next Steps are that schools could be forced into academisation in local authority areas where it is judged the LA is no longer viable to support schools - either where a critical mass of schools are academies or the LA fails to meet a minimum performance threshold.

We instruct the Chief Executive to write to the Department of Education and ask them to clarify what the implications of the Next Steps will be for Manchester Schools. The Government must not be allowed to carry out their plans by the back door- a proposed "tipping point" should not be used by the Government to carry out their plans without legislation and we urge that the figure for a critical mass of schools being Academies to be set at a level that is genuinely unsustainable.

The Government obsession with school structures based on ideology has nothing to do with raising standards or outcomes for children in Manchester. Primary schools in Manchester are facing significant challenges with budget pressures and changes to curriculum and assessment and forcing good and outstanding schools to academise is an unnecessary distraction.

Manchester Council will campaign to oppose the enforced academisation of our very successful primary school sector and work with all schools in the city to improve outcomes for Manchester children.

Resolution

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

Decision

This Council recognises that:

- (a) this government has created a fragmented school system.
- (b) Manchester has a strong single family of schools with a broad mix of types of schools which include academies, free schools, community schools and faith schools.
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CC/16/64 Motion - Gender Balance

Motion proposed and seconded:

This Council welcomes that the majority of elected members are now women.

This Council has worked hard to ensure that there is a gender balance to reflect the communities it represents.

From this achievement, this Council must work further towards its departments reflecting the make up of Manchester. This hard work must continue so that this Council fully represents its communities.

All parties on this Council commit to ensuring gender equality

We thank those who have put in all the hard work to make this success achievable.

Resolution

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

Decision

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This Council has worked hard to ensure that there is a gender balance to reflect the communities it represents.

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All parties on this Council commit to ensuring gender equality

We thank those who have put in all the hard work to make this success achievable.

CC/16/64 Motion - Highways

Motion proposed and seconded:

1. Council notes the very high frequency with which the condition of Manchester's road network was raised by respondents to the Budget Consultation earlier this year.
2. Council believes that the poor condition of road surfacing is the single most frequently raised issue with members by residents citywide
3. Council realises the very real impact poor road condition has on residents' sense of pride in their streets and their safety as road users as well as being a major inhibitor of the city's potential for economic growth.
4. Council does also recognise that the deterioration of roads is a national issue with the worst affected area being the South West according to a recent RAC survey. The impacts of the LibDem/Tory Coalition cuts have led to an estimated £12billion highways maintenance backlog across the country.
5. Council notes the increased pressure on Highways Reactive Maintenance budgets for temporary road repairs such as pothole filling as a result of the deterioration of road surfacing.
6. Council further notes that the 70% reduction in headcount within Highways Services since 2010 has reduced the capacity of the service to respond to the additional challenges it faces.
7. Despite the above, Council does not believe the current rate of deterioration can be allowed to continue.
8. Council therefore resolves to call on the Executive to consider developing a long term investment plan for the city's highways to bring them up to a decent condition.

Amendment made and seconded:

Retain all and add

9. Highways includes both the carriageways themselves and also for example the footways, cycleways, crossings, junctions, signals, signs, lines and other facilities, which together help all our Manchester people to get round efficiently and in safety and comfort.

The amendment was put to Council and voted on. The Lord Mayor declared that it was carried.

The substantive motion was put to Council and voted on. The Lord Mayor declared that it was CARRIED.

Decision

1. Council notes the very high frequency with which the condition of Manchester's road network was raised by respondents to the Budget Consultation earlier this year.
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9. Highways includes both the carriageways themselves and also for example the footways, cycleways, crossings, junctions, signals, signs, lines and other facilities, which together help all our Manchester people to get round efficiently and in safety and comfort.

CC/16/64 Motion - Better Care: a living wage for social care staff

Motion proposed and seconded:

Manchester Council has a history of listening and acting with the best interests of Manchester people. Manchester City Council introduced the Manchester Minimum Wage in 2008, and in 2014 the Council passed a motion in support of a Living Wage for all directly and indirectly employed staff, including staff employed by MCC's contractors and sub-contractors, and employees in the city's schools. Progress to date is to be commended.

There is a national crisis in the funding of adult social care. This government has left Manchester with a funding crisis and with council budgets stretched and demand increasing, the task of providing quality care services has become more and more difficult. In residential care especially, there is growing private funded market. Academic research (CRESC, 2016) claims that the biggest residential care providers operate on 12% profit margin, which it compares to Tesco who expect a profit margin of 2-4% next year. CRESC, 2016

<http://www.cresc.ac.uk/medialibrary/research/WDTMG%20FINAL%20-01-3-2016.pdf>

Research should be undertaken in Manchester to understand if this is the case.

Manchester's residential and home care market is fragmented with a mixture of social enterprises, charities, housing providers, small companies and large private companies, delivering care. Manchester City Council is committed to delivering a high quality, integrated care system that best meets the needs of its citizens

This council believes:

Across the country the care sector workforce is made up of predominately low paid women, often on precarious contracts with limited terms and conditions. Research shows that care outcomes are improved, when the workforce is properly trained and paid, reducing staff turnover and driving up standards.

In the context of devolution and integration, this is a key time for a new vision of what a coherent and integrated social care system would be. A care system that pays a living wage; provides decent conditions for social care workers and offers future job prospects and training for carers.

We recognise that the Council cannot be a lone voice in driving up standards and wages, and there must be a Greater Manchester wide approach in bringing businesses, social enterprises and voluntary sector providers with us. Manchester should take a lead in influencing this agenda at a Greater Manchester level and ensure that these values are embedded in to Manchester's Locality Plan and its approach to social care.

Therefore, this council resolves:

- Manchester care services to work towards a real living wage for commissioned social care staff.
- Current practises around living wage are monitored within commissioned providers.
- During the review of Manchester's Home Care provision, it takes in to consideration staff pay and training.
- Manchester uses its influence within devolution to argue for a high quality, sustainable and effective residential and home care system, exploring new models of working where appropriate.

Resolution

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

Decision

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