

## **Council**

### **Minutes of the meeting on 12 July 2017**

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

#### **Councillors –**

Akbar, Ahmed Ali, N. Ali, Sameem Ali, Shaukat Ali, Alijah, Amesbury, Andrews, Appleby, Barrett, Battle, Bridges, Chohan, Collins, Connolly, Cookson, Cooley, Craig, Curley, Ellison, Evans, Farrell, Fender, Flanagan, Fletcher-Hackwood, Green, Hassan, Hewitson, Hitchen, Hughes, Igbon, S Judge, T Judge, Kamal, Karney, Kirkpatrick, Knowles, Lanchbury, Leech, Leese, Ludford, Manco, Midgley, Madeleine Monaghan, Mary Monaghan, Moore, N. Murphy, S. Murphy, E. Newman, S. Newman, Noor, Ollerhead, O'Neil, Paul, B Priest, H Priest, Pritchard, Raikes, Reeves, Reid, Russell, Sadler, Sharif Mahamed, Sheikh, Shilton Godwin, Siddiqi, A Simcock, Smitheman, Stogia, Stone, Strong, Taylor, Watson, Webb, Wills and Wilson

#### **CC/17/51 Lord Mayor's Special Business – Remembering Srebrenica**

The Lord Mayor invited those present at the meeting to observe a minute's silence in memory of the lives lost in the Srebrenica genocide which took place in 1985.

#### **CC/17/52 Lord Mayor's Special Business – Counterfeiting award**

The Lord Mayor informed the Council that the Authority's Trading Standards department had been presented with an award at the annual Trading Standards Institute conference for its partnership work on tackling counterfeit goods.

#### **CC/17/53 Lord Mayor's Special Business: Donation from Brendan Foster**

The Council was donated an oil painting by Brendan Foster, friend of the city.

#### **CC/17/54 Lord Mayor's Special Business – Honours List**

The Lord Mayor informed the Council that he had written to the following Mancunians to congratulate them on their recent honour.

Sir Mark Philip Elder CBE - Member of the Order of the Companions of Honour  
Professor Graeme Black - OBE  
Dr Kathy Oldham - OBE  
Dr Sohail Munshi - BEM  
Nigel James Travis - BEM  
Chief Superintendent John O'Hare - QPM

**CC/17/55 Lord Mayors Special Business – Presentation – Resilience and Emergency Planning**

The council received a presentation on resilience and emergency planning measures from Dr Kathy Oldham, OBE (Head of Greater Manchester Civil Contingencies) and Fiona Worrall (Director of Neighbourhoods, Manchester City Council).

**CC/17/56 Minutes**

**Decision**

To agree the minutes of the budget meeting on 17 May 2017 as a correct record.

**CC/17/57 Proceedings of the Executive**

The proceedings of the Executive on 17 May and 28 June 2017 were submitted. The Council was asked to give particular consideration to the following recommendations:

Exe/17/090 Development of the City's Digital Asset base

1. that the Council approve a Capital Budget increase of £4.27m on top of the existing capital approval of £5.3m, relating to the refurbishment of OCP (£8.97m) and the fit-out of office Space known as 'Silver' at The Sharp Project (£0.6m), funded from prudential borrowing, the cost of which will be funded from increased rental income.
2. that the Council authorise the City Treasurer in consultation with the Leader and Executive Member for Finance and Human Resources to approve the capital budget and phasing of repayments subject to the development of a robust business case.
3. that the Council approve the carry forward request of £159,000 for the 2016/17 Space/Sharp surplus from 2016/17 to be transferred to the Manchester Creative Digital Assets Ltd company.

**Decisions**

1. To receive the minutes of the Executive on 17 May 2017 and 28 June 2017.
2. To approve a capital budget increase of £4.27m on top of the existing capital approval of £5.3m, relating to the refurbishment of OCP (£8.97m) and the fit-out of office Space known as 'Silver' at The Sharp Project (£0.6m), funded from prudential borrowing, the cost of which will be funded from increased rental income in respect of the Development of the City's Digital Asset Base (Exe/17/090)
3. To authorise the City Treasurer in consultation with the Leader and Executive Member for Finance and Human Resources to approve the capital budget and

phasing of repayments subject to the development of a robust business case in respect of the Development of the City's Digital Asset Base (Exe/17/090).

4. Development of the City's Digital Asset base: That the Council approve the carry forward request of £159,000 for the 2016/17 Space/Sharp surplus from 2016/17 to be transferred to the Manchester Creative Digital Assets Ltd company in respect of the Development of the City's Digital Asset Base (Exe/17/090)

#### **CC/17/58      Questions to Executive Members under Procedural Rule 23**

Councillor Stogia responded to a question from Councilor Leech about blocked drains on the highway.

Councillor Rahman responded to a question put by Councillor Leech about the proposed closure of certain bowling greens.

Councillor Stogia responded to a question from Councilor Leech about the number of Freedom of Information requests received about the Council's carbon footprint.

Councillor Stogia responded to a question from Councilor Leech about the number trees felled without permission by developers in the last 5 years.

Councillor Stogia responded to a question from Councilor Leech about the use of the chemical glyphosphate.

Councillor Craig responded to a question from Councillor Leech about Cash Individual budgets

Councillor Bernard Priest responded to a question from Councillor Leech about refugee children who are now Greater Manchester residents.

Councillor Sue Murphy responded to a question from Councillor Leech about a decision to withdraw funding for Ladybarn Community Association.

Councillor Sue Murphy responded to question from Councillor Leech about multi-disciplinary discussions with Ladybarn Community Association.

Councillor Sue Murphy responded to a question from Councillor Leech about the perceived impact of the decision to withdraw funding for Ladybarn Community Association.

Councillor Sue Murphy responded to a question from Councillor Leech about the implications for staff at Ladybarn Community Association in light of the withdrawal of funding.

Councillor Bernard Priest responded to a question from Councillor Leech about the number of appeals against accommodation offers tendered by homeless people who had been deemed vulnerable.

## **CC/17/59 Scrutiny Minutes**

The minutes of the following meetings were submitted:

Children and Young People – 20 June 2017  
Health – 20 June 2017  
Neighbourhoods and Environment – 21 June 2017  
Economy – 21 June 2017  
Communities and Equalities – 22 June 2017  
Resources and Governance – 22 June 2017

### **Decision**

To receive those minutes.

## **CC/17/60 Proceedings of Committees**

The minutes of the following meetings were submitted:

Audit Committee – 23 June and 27 June 2017  
Constitutional and Nomination Committee – 12 July 2017  
Planning and Highways Committee – 1 June 2017 and 29 June 2017  
Standards Committee – 15 June 2017  
Personnel Committee – 28 June 2017

### **Decision**

To receive those minutes

## **CC/17/61 Business of the Combined Authority, Joint Authorities and Joint committees**

Councillor Fender (Spokesperson for Transport for Greater Manchester Committee) responded to a question from Councilor Leech about the involvement of privately owned companies in the running of Manchester Metrolink services.

Councillor Nigel Murphy (Spokesperson for Greater Manchester Waste Disposal Authority) responded to a question from Councillor Leech about renegotiation of the waste disposal contract.

## **CC/17/62 Urgent Key Decision**

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

### **Decision**

To note the report.

## **CC/17/63     Motion – Manchester’s Women**

Motion proposed and seconded.

Through the dialogue with local communities following the Arena attack we know that women and girls from all backgrounds have been impacted.

Younger women and girls are fearful of being caught up in another attack and express concerns about going to places they would usually go to or want to go to.

Muslim women, particularly those identifiable by the clothing they wear have reported an increased fear of hate crime and reprisal attacks. Some have experienced hate crime or hate incidents directly and haven't always felt empowered to report this as many regard it as an ongoing pattern evident well before the attack.

All women need to feel safe to go about their daily lives and interact with others.

There is a need for encouraging women to speak out about their experiences and fears, to be listened to and to feel that they can report Hate Crime when and if it happens.

There is also a need for empowering the community to combat ‘bystander apathy’ and to harness people’s capacity to safely practically support someone who is being targeted or is at risk of being targeted.

Women are strong influencers in their homes and in communities and it is recommended that the Council uses the principles embedded in the ‘Our Manchester’ strategy to:

- 1     Look at how we can amplify women’s voices and listen to what they have to say;
- 2     Encourage them to come together as groups of women in a variety of local settings across the cultural and religious groupings;
- 3     Feel able to report incidents of hate crime, certain that they will be taken seriously;
- 4     Become more actively involved in shaping their communities and making decisions which positively impact on themselves and their families.

## **Resolution**

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

## **Decision**

Through the dialogue with local communities following the Arena attack we know that women and girls from all backgrounds have been impacted.

Younger women and girls are fearful of being caught up in another attack and express concerns about going to places they would usually go to or want to go to.

Muslim women, particularly those identifiable by the clothing they wear have reported an increased fear of hate crime and reprisal attacks. Some have experienced hate crime or hate incidents directly and haven't always felt empowered to report this as many regard it as an ongoing pattern evident well before the attack.

All women need to feel safe to go about their daily lives and interact with others.

There is a need for encouraging women to speak out about their experiences and fears, to be listened to and to feel that they can report Hate Crime when and if it happens.

There is also a need for empowering the community to combat 'bystander apathy' and to harness people's capacity to safely practically support someone who is being targeted or is at risk of being targeted.

Women are strong influencers in their homes and in communities and it is recommended that the Council uses the principles embedded in the 'Our Manchester' strategy to:

- 1 Look at how we can amplify women's voices and listen to what they have to say;
- 2 Encourage them to come together as groups of women in a variety of local settings across the cultural and religious groupings;
- 3 Feel able to report incidents of hate crime, certain that they will be taken seriously;
- 4 Become more actively involved in shaping their communities and making decisions which positively impact on themselves and their families.

#### **CC/17/64 Motion – Tenants' Rights**

Manchester City Council sends our sympathies to all those affected by the horrific and preventable deaths in the Grenfell Tower fire last month.

Council welcomes the swift action by Manchester housing providers and the Greater Manchester Fire & Rescue Service, in conjunction with the council, to assess and deal with fire risk in tower blocks in Manchester; and the establishment by GM Mayor Andy Burnham of a task force to provide building-by-building fire safety reassurance across Greater Manchester.

Thousands of renters across the country continue to live in unsafe or substandard conditions with limited means to hold their landlords accountable, and few opportunities to move on given the shortage of affordable housing.

Everyone has the right to safe accommodation. We welcome proposals in the Queen's Speech to ban fees to letting agents, but there is far more the Government must do to protect and support renters.

Manchester City Council will:

- write to Manchester housing providers asking for assurances on both fire safety and on how they respond to health and safety concerns raised by their tenants
- support and promote independent housing advice for everyone, regardless of housing status
- continue to explore landlord licensing and other methods to drive up housing standards
- explore the possibility of requiring property developers building housing in Manchester to publish their financial viability assessments, to encourage the building of more affordable housing.

We call on the GM Mayor to explore the possibility of a Greater Manchester 'name and shame' scheme for criminal landlords, like that introduced by the Mayor of London earlier this year.

We call on the government to take swift and effective action to strengthen accountability for tenants and renters; and to make all necessary support – including financial support – available to local authorities to help them deal with the scale of the fire safety challenge

## **Resolution**

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

## **Decision**

Manchester City Council sends our sympathies to all those affected by the horrific and preventable deaths in the Grenfell Tower fire last month.

Council welcomes the swift action by Manchester housing providers and the Greater Manchester Fire & Rescue Service, in conjunction with the council, to assess and deal with fire risk in tower blocks in Manchester; and the establishment by GM Mayor Andy Burnham of a task force to provide building-by-building fire safety reassurance across Greater Manchester.

Thousands of renters across the country continue to live in unsafe or substandard conditions with limited means to hold their landlords accountable, and few opportunities to move on given the shortage of affordable housing.

Everyone has the right to safe accommodation. We welcome proposals in the Queen's Speech to ban fees to letting agents, but there is far more the Government must do to protect and support renters.

Manchester City Council will:

- write to Manchester housing providers asking for assurances on both fire safety and on how they respond to health and safety concerns raised by their tenants
- support and promote independent housing advice for everyone, regardless of housing status
- continue to explore landlord licensing and other methods to drive up housing standards
- explore the possibility of requiring property developers building housing in Manchester to publish their financial viability assessments, to encourage the building of more affordable housing.

We call on the GM Mayor to explore the possibility of a Greater Manchester 'name and shame' scheme for criminal landlords, like that introduced by the Mayor of London earlier this year.

We call on the government to take swift and effective action to strengthen accountability for tenants and renters; and to make all necessary support – including financial support – available to local authorities to help them deal with the scale of the fire safety challenge