

COUNCIL

28th September 2017

PRESENT – The Mayor; Councillors Baldwin, Carson, Cartwright, Copeland, Cossins, Coultas, Crichlow, Crudass, Crumbie, Mrs. Culley, Curry, Dixon, Donoghue, Galletley, Harker, I. G. Haszeldine, C. L. B. Hughes, L. Hughes, Johnson, Kane, Kelley, Lawton, Lee, Lister, Lyonette, McEwan, Mills, Newall, K. Nicholson, M. Nicholson, Nutt, Regan, E. A. Richmond, S. Richmond, A. J. Scott, C. Taylor, Tostevin, Wallis and Wright.

(40)

APOLOGIES – Councillors Grundy, L. Haszeldine, B. Jones, Mrs. D. Jones, Kelly, Knowles, Mrs. H. Scott, Storr and York.

(9)

19. MINUTES – Submitted – The Minutes (previously circulated) of the meeting of this Council, held on 20 July 2017.

RESOLVED – That the Minutes be approved as a correct record.

20. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – There were no declarations of interest reported at the meeting.

21. ORDER OF SEALING DOCUMENTS – Presented – The Register showing the documents which had been sealed since the last meeting of Council.

22. ANNOUNCEMENTS – (1) Death of Former Councillor David Buckle – The Mayor reported on the death of Former Councillor David Buckle, who had sadly passed away, and referred to Former Councillor Buckle's years of service, and roles on the Council.

(2) Death in Service of Michael Murphy – The Mayor announced the Death in Service of Michael Murphy on 14 September 2017. Mr. Murphy was employed as a as a School Crossing Patroller in the Road Safety Team, within the Economic Growth Group. The Mayor reported that Mr. Murphy was 65 years old and had joined the Council in February 2015.

(3) Death of Former Employee Sara Cox – The Mayor paid tribute to former employee Sara Cox, who had passed away on 10 September 2017. Ms. Cox joined the local authority in March 2001 and was employed as a Print Finisher. Ms. Cox subsequently left the local authority on 23 May 2008.

As a mark of respect, Members held a short silence in memory of those who had recently passed away.

23. QUESTIONS – TO ANSWER QUESTIONS (WHERE NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN) FROM – (1) The Public – There was one question, with notice, from a member of the public, who received a response thereon.

(2) Members to Cabinet/Chairs – There were no questions from Members, where notice had been given, for the Mayor, Members of the Cabinet, or the Chairs of the Scrutiny Committees.

(3) Police, Crime and Victims’ Commissioner for Durham and Darlington – The Mayor reported that the Police, Crime and Victims’ Commissioner for Durham and Darlington, had submitted his apologies for the meeting.

24. COUNCIL REPORTS – (a) Mowden Ward Casual Vacancy - The Chief Executive and Returning Officer submitted a report (previously circulated) to notify Members of a casual vacancy for the Mowden Ward following the resignation of Councillor Stenson.

The submitted report stated that Councillor Bill Stenson was first elected to the Council on 13 May 1965, however that he had a break in service from May 1971 to June 1973, and was subsequently re-elected on 7 June 1973. It was reported that Councillor Stenson completed his 50 years’ service as a Councillor for Darlington on 6 June this year.

The submitted report informed Members that, due to his ongoing ill health, Councillor Stenson had resigned as a Councillor for the Mowden Ward with effect from 21 September 2017. The Mayor read Councillor Stenson’s letter of resignation to Members at the meeting.

RESOLVED – (a) That the casual vacancy for the Mowden Ward be noted.

(b) That the thanks and appreciation of the Council be conveyed to Councillor Stenson for his 50 years’ service and for a return to good health.

REASONS – (a) To meet legislative requirements.

(b) To place on record the Council’s appreciation of Councillor Stenson’s 50 years’ service.

25. CABINET REPORTS – (a) Overview Reports of Cabinet Members – The Cabinet Members each gave a report (previously circulated) on the main areas of work undertaken under their relevant portfolio during the previous cycle of meetings. Cabinet Members answered questions on their portfolios.

(b) Children and Young People’s Plan 2017-2022 – The Director of Children and Adults Services submitted a report (previously circulated) requesting that Members approve the content of the draft Children and Young People’s Plan (CYPP), as a strategic plan for delivering outcomes for children and young people and the setting of priorities for the medium term is considered best practice.

The submitted report informed Members that the CYPP is one of the identified delivery plans within the Sustainable Community Strategy, and outlined the key actions that would be taken to deliver the agreed Sustainable Community Strategy priority of 'the best start in life for every child'. It was reported that the CYPP formed part of the Council's Policy Framework and must therefore be approved by Council, and that engagement activity with a wide range of stakeholders, including children and young people had been used to develop the plan.

The submitted report stated that the CYPP was considered and approved by Cabinet on the 12 September 2017, and it was agreed that it should be submitted to Council for consideration and approval.

RESOLVED – That the draft Children and Young People's Plan, as appended at Appendix A of the submitted report, be approved.

REASON – To have in place an updated Children and Young People's Plan for Darlington.

(c) Cabinet Urgent Decisions – The Director of Children and Adults Services submitted a report (previously circulated) detailing decisions taken by Cabinet as a matter of urgency and to which the procedure for call-in could not be applied.

RESOLVED – That the urgent decisions taken by Cabinet be noted.

REASON – To comply with the Council's Constitution.

26. SCRUTINY REPORTS – OVERVIEW REPORTS – The five Scrutiny Committee Chairs each submitted a report (previously circulated) on the main areas of work undertaken by their relevant Scrutiny Committee during the last cycle of Committee meetings.

27. MEMBERSHIP CHANGES – Consideration was given to membership changes of the Committees, Subsidiary Bodies and Other Bodies for the remainder of the Municipal Year 2017/18.

RESOLVED – (a) That Councillor McEwan be appointed to the Planning Applications Committee in place of Councillor Ian Haszeldine.

(b) That Councillor Grundy be appointed to the Place Scrutiny Committee in place of Councillor Tostevin.