

COUNCILLOR JACKIE OAKES, MAYOR

MINUTES OF: THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF ROSSENDALE

DATE OF MEETING: 31st January 2022

PRESENT: The Mayor Councillor Oakes (in the Chair)
Councillors A. Barnes, Cheetham, James Eaton, Janet Eaton, Essex, Foxcroft, Haworth, Hughes, Johnson, Kempson, Kenyon, Lythgoe, MacNae, Marriott, Morris, Neal, Pendlebury, Powell, Procter, Rigby, Serridge, Steen, Stevens, Walmsley, Whitehead and Woods.

IN ATTENDANCE: Neil Shaw, Chief Executive / Head of Paid Service
Clare Birtwistle, Head of Legal Services / Monitoring Officer
Mandy Lewis, Director of Economic Development
George Taylor Mayor's Attendant

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: 1 Press
By remote access: 1 public observer
Karen Spencer, Head of Finance/S151 Officer
Craig Finn, Finance Manager
Adam Allen, Director of Communities
Lucie Greenwood, Senior Property Officer

A short silence was held as a mark of respect for former Councillor, Mayor and Honorary Alderman Mollie Disley.

1. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received for Councillors Adshead, Ashworth, L.Barnes, S.Barnes, Gill, Kostyan, Rooke and Thompson.

2. **Minutes**

Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 15th December 2021 be signed by the Mayor as a correct record.

3. **Urgent Items of Business**

There were no urgent items of business.

4. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

5. **Communications from the Mayor, the Leader or Head of Paid Service**

There were no communications from the Mayor or Head of Paid Service.

The Leader of the Council provided the following updates:

On 12th January the Overview and Scrutiny Committee requested Full Council to commend RAFT for all the valuable work they had done over the last 10 years. Members commended the valuable work of RAFT and in recognition of the 10th anniversary, the Leader asked for a visit from the Mayor to be arranged to present a certificate of achievement.

ORDINARY BUSINESS

6. Our New Deal for Lancashire

The Council considered the Our New Deal for Lancashire report.

Resolved:

That Full Council:

1. Support the outline "Our New Deal for a Greater Lancashire" at Appendix 1 as the initial draft basis for further discussion and development of a possible County Deal for the Lancashire area.
2. Agree the principles of governance as set out in Appendix 2 for any future deal.
3. Agree that the Leader of the Council continues to work with Lancashire Leaders in line with the principles agreed in recommendations 1.1 & 1.2 above, and note that any formal proposals will require approval by Full Council at the appropriate time.

Reason for Decision

In order for Lancashire to move forward with a strong collective voice, the engagement and support of all councils will be extremely important. This will give Leaders a mandate to collectively move forward on the issues set out in this report, and to engage with government to develop and deliver a great deal for Lancashire, for presentation back to each Full Council in Lancashire to consider and decide.

Alternative Options Considered

None.

7. LGA peer challenge

The Council considered the LGA peer challenge report.

In response to questions from members it was confirmed that:

- A cross party working group had been arranged.

Resolved:

That Full Council:

1. Consider the findings and recommendations of the Local Government Association Corporate Peer Challenge.
2. Agree the action plan to address the challenge's recommendations.

Reason for Decision

The report recognised that the council had a good level of awareness of the challenges it faces and key issues it must address. The action plan puts in place a proposal to clearly explain how the recommendations will be addressed.

Alternative Options Considered

None

(The meeting commenced at 18.40pm and concluded at 19.03pm)

Signed.....

(Chair)

Date