

COUNCILLOR ANNE CHEETHAM, MAYOR

MINUTES OF: THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF ROSSENDALE

DATE OF MEETING: 5th October 2022

PRESENT: The Mayor Councillor Cheetham (in the Chair)
Councillors Adshead, Ashworth, A. Barnes, Brennan,
Foxcroft, Hodgkiss, Hughes, Johnson, Kenyon, Lythgoe,
McInnes, McMahon, MacNae, Marriott, Morris, Neal, Oakes,
Rigby, Rooke, Serridge, M. Smith, S. Smith, Thompson,
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
3 members of the public
By remote access (Zoom): 1 public observer.

A short silence was held as a mark of respect on the passing of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received for Councillors S. Barnes, Coogan, James Eaton, Janet Eaton, Pendlebury, Powell, Procter, Snowden and Steen.

2. Minutes

Resolved:

That the minutes of the meetings held on 18th August 2022 dates 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. Election of Councillors

The Chief Executive reported that the following persons had been elected councillors on 29th September 2022 and had each made the necessary Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

Resolved:

That it be noted that the following persons were duly elected at the by-election on 29th September 2022.

Name of Person Elected Ward

Scott Smith	Facit and Shawforth
Ann Hogdkiss	Helmshore

The Mayor wished them well in their role as a councillor.

6. 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 welcomed the new councillors to the meeting.

ORDINARY BUSINESS

7. Climate Change Strategy Update

The Council considered the Climate Change Strategy Update.

In response to questions from members it was confirmed that:

- There was a need to engage with the community to prevent vandalism where the tree plantings had taken place.
- Grants to business were making the businesses look at other measures to complement what was already happening.
- Consideration would be given to detailing the successes of the conference and how it was being measured.
- It was hoped to raise the level of ambition around cycling.
- The Leader of the Council would speak to the Director of Communities to regarding grants to see whether the lack of specification was a barrier.

Thanks was given to the officers who had worked on the strategy and it was agreed that Council would formally congratulate Viva PR for their work.

Resolved:

1. That Council note the progress in year two of the Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan.
2. That Council agree the priority actions for the coming year.

Reason for Decision

In 2020, the Council made an ambitious commitment to play its part in reducing carbon emissions. The following two years have seen significant progress towards achieving this. Continued development of the outlined priorities will allow us to move forward further and even faster to ensure we reach our net zero ambitions by 2030.

Alternative Options Considered

None.

8. Introduction of charges for permits for kerbstones in cemeteries

The Council considered introducing charges for permits for kerbstones in cemeteries.

In response to questions from members it was confirmed that:

- Whitworth Town Council would need to give permission as burial authority.
- Charges would not be applied retrospectively.
- The fee was an administration cost.
- The purchase of a kerbstone was a choice.

Councillors Neal, Foxcroft and Rigby requested a named vote.

Members voted as follows:

Name	Vote
Cllr Adshead	For
Cllr Ashworth	For

Cllr Alyson Barnes	For
Cllr Brennan	For
Cllr Cheetham	Abstain
Cllr Foxcroft	Against
Cllr Hodgkiss	Against
Cllr Hughes	For
Cllr Johnson	For
Cllr Kenyon	For
Cllr Lythgoe	For
Cllr McInnes	For
Cllr McMahon	For
Cllr MacNae	For
Cllr Marriott	For
Cllr Morris	Against
Cllr Neal	For
Cllr Oakes	For
Cllr Rigby	Against
Cllr Rooke	For
Cllr Serridge	For
Cllr M. Smith	For
Cllr S. Smith	Against
Cllr Thompson	Against
Cllr Walmsley	For
Cllr Whitehead	For
Cllr Woods	Against
For:	19
Against:	7
Abstentions:	1

Resolved:

1. That Council approve the introduction of a £595 permit charge for kerbstones on graves at all four council owned cemeteries.
2. That Council approves amendment to the Council's Rules and Regulations relating to Cemeteries and the Memorials on Graves Guidance document to reflect the introduction of the kerbstone permit, the wording of such amendments to be delegated the Director of Communities in consultation with the Lead Member.

Reason for Decision

The introduction of a permit charge for kerbstones will help to ensure that families do have the option of having a kerbstone installation, but will ensure that it will be of high quality. The charge for the kerbstone permit will ensure that funding is in place to manage the scheme effectively, with any surplus contributing towards the funding gap in the Councils Medium Term Financial Strategy.

Alternative Options Considered

None.

9. Rough Sleeping Funding 2022/25

The Council considered the Rough Sleeping Funding 2022/25 report.

In response to questions from members it was confirmed that:

- The Council would be the lead authority and ensure the monitoring was carried out.

Resolved:

1. That Council accept Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities Rough Sleeping funding of £418,916 on behalf of Rossendale, Burnley and Pendle councils.
2. Council approve the continued appointment of Calico Homes to deliver the outreach service required under the terms of the agreement following a waiver of the council's contract procedure rules.
3. To delegate authority to the Director of Economic Development to enter into a framework agreement and service level agreements with Burnley and Pendle councils and Calico Homes and to ensure the legal agreements (including indemnities) are completed before receipt and distribution of funding.

Reason for Decision

This represents an opportunity to continue and build upon the work already delivered by the rough sleeping navigators to bring rough sleepers in from the streets, ensure that they do not return to the streets and those at greatest risk of becoming a rough sleeper do not sleep rough.

Alternative Options Considered

None.

(The meeting commenced at 6.42pm and concluded at 7.38pm)

Signed.....

(Chair)

Date