

## **COUNCILLOR ANNE CHEETHAM, MAYOR**

**MINUTES OF: THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF ROSSENDALE**

**DATE OF MEETING: 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2023**

**PRESENT:** The Mayor Councillor Cheetham (in the Chair)  
Councillors Adshead, Ashworth, A. Barnes, Brennan, Coogan, James Eaton, Janet Eaton, Foxcroft, Johnson, Kenyon, Lythgoe, McInnes, McMahon, MacNae, Marriott, Morris, Neal, Oakes, Powell, Procter, Rigby, Rooke, Serridge, M. Smith, S. Smith, Snowden, Thompson, Walmsley, Whitehead and Woods.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Adam Allen, Acting Chief Executive/Director of Communities  
Clare Birtwistle, Head of Legal Services / Monitoring Officer  
David Smurthwaite, Director of Economic Development  
George Taylor, Mayor's Attendant

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: 4 public**

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Prior to the meeting the Rossendale Male Voice Choir delivered a performance to the Council members and officers and the Mayor presented a certificate of appreciation on behalf of the Council in recognition of their achievements and in advance of their 100 year anniversary. Thanks was also given to their predecessors.

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### **1. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received for Councillors S. Barnes, Hodgkiss, Hughes, Pendlebury and Steen.

### **2. Minutes**

#### **Resolved:**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2023 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**

The following non-pecuniary declarations of interest were made:

- Councillor Marilyn Procter - Trustee of Veterans in Communities (minute 7).
- Councillor Alan Woods - Trustee of Veterans in Communities and member of Royal British Legion (minute 7).
- Councillor Liz McInnes - Friends of Whitaker Park (minute 8).

### **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 confirmed the excellent result in being successful in the £18million Capital LUF bid, with a lot of work being put in by officers to get it over the line. It was good news for Rossendale and the Council would write to thank all those involved.

## **ORDINARY BUSINESS**

### **6. Shared Prosperity Fund Update**

The Council considered the Shared Prosperity Fund Update.

In response to questions from members it was confirmed that:

- Any funding was to be welcomed.
- The fund would be available to the Bloom group in Whitworth and funding had been increased to the caretaker in Whitworth.
- The Council would do all they could to accelerate the work in Waterfoot.
- Government set the funding criteria.

#### **Resolved:**

To note progress of the introduction of the Shared Prosperity Fund in Rossendale.

#### **Reason for Decision**

To note the progress that has been made to deliver the SPF across Rossendale.

#### **Alternative Options Considered**

None.

### **7. Armed Forces Covenant**

The Council considered the Armed Forces Covenant report.

In response to questions from members it was confirmed that:

- There was a new charity formed called Get Together After Serving CIC who could assist.
- The Council had funded the traffic management for the Remembrance Parades since the Police had withdrawn their support.

#### **Resolved:**

That Council adopt the Armed Forces Covenant in full.

#### **Reason for Decision**

The principles of the Armed Forces Covenant are in line with the Council's core values. Putting customers first and meeting the emerging needs of our communities is at the heart of Rossendale Council's values and the Covenant is a mechanism to assist in meeting the needs of armed forces personnel, their families and veterans wherever practicable and feasible.

#### **Alternative Options Considered**

None.

### **8. Council Achievements 2022/23**

The Council considered the Council Achievements 2022/23.

The Leader agreed to send thanks to staff for going the extra mile, and also acknowledged that the Council could not do what it needed to do without the support of all the community groups and volunteers within Rossendale.

#### **Resolved:**

That Council note the summary of achievements for the past financial year.

#### **Reason for Decision**

To highlight the achievements of the Council in the past financial year.

**Alternative Options Considered**

None.

**(The meeting commenced at 7.22pm and concluded at 8.15pm)**

Signed.....

(Chair)

Date .....