

COUNCILLOR CHRISTINE GILL, MAYOR

MINUTES OF: THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF ROSSENDALE

Date of Meeting: 25 June 2008

**PRESENT: The Mayor Councillor C. Gill (in the Chair)
Councillors Aldred, A. Barnes, L Barnes, Challinor,
Cheetham, Essex, Evans, Farrington, Forshaw,
Gledhill, Gill, Lamb, Lynskey, May, Morris, Neal,
Nuttall, Pawson, C Pilling, J Pilling, Robertson,
Sandiford, Smith, D Stansfield, H Steen, P Steen,
Swain, Thorne, Unsworth**

**IN ATTENDANCE: Carolyn Wilkins, Chief Executive
Bill Lawley, Interim Legal and Democratic Services
Manager
Pat Couch, Scrutiny Support Officer**

**ALSO PRESENT: County Councilor Sean Serridge
5 Member of the Public
1 Press**

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor Crawforth, Driver, Eaton, Graham, Haworth and Wilson.

2. MINUTES

Resolved:

That the minutes of the Council meeting held on 16 May 2008 be signed by the Mayor as a correct record.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were made.

4. URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS

The Mayor reported that there were no urgent items of business.

5. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR, THE LEADER, OR THE HEAD OF PAID SERVICE

The Leader of the Council reported that he had sent a letter to the Government on behalf of the Council in relation to Landfill Tax, which until recently any money raised from Councils had been returned for investment in refuse and recycling facilities. A response had been received from the Government, which indicated that no commitment had been made on future plans for Council to continue to be reimbursed.

The Chief Executive reported that George Graham, Executive Director of Resources had been seconded to work with Team Lancashire on the Councils' Improvement Agenda and thanked him for his very important contribution to the work of the Council.

6. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Mr Leonard Entwistle asked the following questions in relation to

- Community Engagement
- Council information to the public
- Centralisation of Council services

The Leader responded to the questions raised.

7. QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

The Leader of the Council and the relevant Portfolio Holders answered questions raised by Councillors on the following issues:-

No.	Issue	Questioner	Answered by (and action)
1.	Cost of renovation of the chapels and grounds at Whitworth Cemetery	Councillor Aldred	The Leader/Councillor Essex
2.	Possible return to weekly bin collections in Facit & Shawforth	Councillor Nuttall	Councillor Steen
3.	Reduction in the number of councillors on Development Control from 11 to 7 or a maximum of 9	Councillor Nuttall	The Leader
4.	Accident and Emergency Services	Councillor J Pilling	Leader agreed to discuss further the possibility of a letter being sent to the Hospital Trust
5.	Proposed closure of certain Post Offices in Lancashire	Councillor C Pilling	Leader agreed to keep Members updated on the issue
6.	Disc Parking in three car parks in Haslingden	Councillor Sandiford	The Leader
7.	Update on joint working initiatives	Councillor A Barnes	Leader who agreed to provide feedback
8.	Review of Traffic Regulation Orders currently in place	Councillor A Barnes	The Leader
9.	Regeneration and Employment Creation	Councillor Neal	The Leader

No.	Issue	Questioner	Answered by (and action)
10.	Revisit the Scheme of Delegation in relation to Development Control	Councillor Neal	Leader agreed to investigate
11.	Section 106 agreements	Councillor Neal	The Leader
12.	Christmas Lights	Councillor Lamb	The Leader
13.	Petition for Sub-Post Offices	Councillor Cheetham	Leader agreed to sign the petition

8. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CABINET

8a. Corporate Plan

The Council considered the report of the Chief Executive outlining the final draft of the Council's Corporate Plan including Best Value Performance Plan.

The Council noted the recommendation of the Cabinet in respect of the Council's Corporate Plan and Best Value Performance Plan.

Resolved:

That the Corporate Plan 2008 to 2011, including Best Value Performance Plan be approved.

8b. Hypnotism Act

The Council considered the recommendation of the Licensing Committee in respect of the Hypnotism Act.

Resolved:

1. That the Report be approved.
2. That the Constitution be updated to include the Hypnotism Act 1952 and to delegate authority to the Licensing Manager to determine requests/applications under the Act.
3. That Council agree to adopt the proposed conditions to be attached to consents for the performance of stage hypnotism.
4. That Council approve the application fee of £35.00 and determine this fee as non-refundable.

9. ROLE OF FULL COUNCIL

The Council considered the report of the Executive Director of Regulatory Services which provided details on suggestions for future Council meetings.

Members agreed to the proposals indicating that they may improve public attendance at Full Council meetings.

A comment was made in relation to the Council providing grants to outside bodies such as Credit Union and the Citizens Advice Bureau, indicating that it would be beneficial if they were asked to attend a future Council meeting to provide details on the how the grants had helped support their organisation.

Resolved:

1. That the report be approved.
2. That the Credit Union, Citizen Advice Bureau and other Outside Bodies be invited to the budget Council Meeting on 26th February 2009.

10. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT 2007/08

Councillor Sandiford presented the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report for 200708 indicating that this was the third report of the Committee.

Councilor Sandiford informed Members that new legislation would impact on the future work of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees and explained the remit of Lancashire County Council's Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee, of which she is a co-opted member.

Councillor Sandiford thanked all Members and Officers that had participated in scrutiny during the year.

Councillor Sandiford also thanked Pat Couch, the Scrutiny Support Officer for her invaluable support over the year.

Resolved:

1. That the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2007/08 be approved.
2. That the report be forwarded to all Heads of Service, Lancashire County Council and other relevant organisations.

11. URGENT DECISIONS

The Mayor reported that there had been one urgent decision taken during the period April to June 2008 relating to a joint committee arrangement to operate the parking and traffic adjudication service and that Councilor Challinor had been appointed to serve on the Committee

Resolved:

That the urgent decision be noted.

(The meeting started at 7.00pm and concluded at 8.05pm)

Signed.....
(Chair)

Date