

COUNCILLOR JOYCE THORNE, MAYOR

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

Date of Meeting: 3rd November 2009

**PRESENT: The Mayor Councillor Thorne (in the Chair)
Councillors Aldred, A. Barnes, Challinor, Cheetham,
Crawforth, Dickinson, Driver, Eaton, Essex, Evans,
Farrington, Gill, Gledhill, Graham, Haworth, Lamb, May,
Morris, Neal, Nuttall, C. Pilling, J. Pilling, Robertson,
Sandiford, Smith, Stansfield, Swain and Unsworth.**

**IN ATTENDANCE: Helen Lockwood, Chief Executive
Stuart Sugarman, Director of Business
Carolyn Sharples, Acting Committee and Member Services
Manager
Michelle Hargreaves, Committee Officer
Caroline Brennan, Clerical Assistant (Part)
Caroline Ridge, Forward Planning Assistant
Richard Elliott, Planning Officer
Anne Storah, Senior Forward Planning Officer
Stephen Stray, Planning Manager**

ALSO PRESENT: 1 Member of the Public

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors L. Barnes, Forshaw, Milling, P. Steen, H. Steen and Wilson.

2. MINUTES

Resolved:

That the minutes of the Council meeting held on 7th October 2009 be signed by the Mayor as a correct record.

3. URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS

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

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

5. OUTSTANDING ITEMS OF BUSINESS FROM THE LAST MEETING

There were no outstanding actions to report.

6. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The Leader of the Council answered questions raised by members of the public on the following issues:

No.	Issue	Answered by (and action)
1.	Member of public asked about the progress on the developments at New Hall Hey, the Valley Centre and the Bus Station.	Councillor Swain

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

The Mayor had no communications to report.

The Leader had no communications to report.

The Chief Executive had no communications to report.

8. QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

The following issues were raised by Councillors and answered by the Leader or designated person:

No.	Issue	Questioner	Answered by (and action)
1.	Clarification of who responds to questions asked by Councillors.	Councillor Aldred	Councillor Swain and the Director of Business would confirm the procedure.
2.	Re-opening the public toilets in Rawtenstall.	Councillor Cheetham	Councillor Swain to check with police and update Members
3.	Enquired if the flower baskets above the shop fronts in the Valley Centre could be removed as they are filled with debris and nesting pigeons.	Councillor Gill	Councillor Swain
4.	Consultation with Whitworth Town Council and the diversity of businesses.	Councillor Neal	Councillor Swain
5.	Enquired why a paper shop was changed to selling hot food.	Councillor Neal	Councillor Swain
6.	Future plans for Rakehead Tip.	Councillor Lamb	Councillor Swain
7.	Valley Centre meeting to be convened at the earliest time. Meeting LCC to discuss issues on street signage and lighting. Copies of the Standing Orders to be distributed to all Councillors. Would like to resurrect topics at	Councillor A Barnes	Councillor Swain agreed Standing Orders would be distributed.

	Council e.g. health issues.		
8.	Recycling plastics is it only types 1 and 2 for Rossendale? Plastic sheeting at the bus station.	Councillor Crawforth	Councillor Swain agreed clarification would be sought on recycling.
9.	Updated on the Performance Reward Grants.	Councillor Robertson	Councillor Swain to send criteria out to Members.
10.	Funding for empty shops.	Councillor Roberston	Councillor Swain

9. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE CABINET AND OTHER COMMITTEES

9a. Recommendation of the Cabinet

Pennine Lancashire Development Company Limited

The Council considered the recommendations of the Cabinet in respect of Pennine Lancashire Development Company.

In considering the report and recommendations, members identified the following issues to which the Leader of the Council responded:

- Ensuring Members will be informed on what items will be considered at meetings.

Resolved

Council agreed to:

- The formation and membership of the company.
- Authorise the Leader and Chief Executive to take seats or make nominations at the Governing Body/Board.
- finalise: members agreement; memorandum of association; and articles of association.

9b. Recommendation of Cabinet

PLACE Leaders Group- Joint Committee

The Council considered the recommendations of the Cabinet in respect of the PLACE Leaders Group- Joint Committee.

In considering the report and recommendations, members identified the following issues to which the Leader of the Council responded:

- Making sure PLACE update was a standing item are on the agenda.

Resolved:

The Council agreed to:

- The Place Constitution and it being signed on behalf of the Council.
- Approve the Leader of the Council to join the PLACE Joint Committee.
- The constitution being amended in order to give effect to the new body.

10. CORE STRATEGY

The Council considered the report on the Core Strategy. A presentation was provided by the Planning Team detailing the Core Strategy Report.

In considering the report, members identified the following issues to which the Planning Officers responded:

- The covering report and reference to impact assessments.
- Misleading sentence on Page 23.
- Provision for tourism - caravan sites.
- Distribute sooner rather than later.
- 5 targeted areas for public consultation.
- Appendix 2, suggestions for words.
- Evening meeting cover.
- Consultation Period.
- LSP Consultation.

In response to some of the issues above, the Forward Planning Assistant and the Planning Manager confirmed the following:

- A leaflet was shown to the Members stating when and where the public consultations are to be taken place.
- Evening meetings had been provided for organised groups.
- Amendments have been made since the production of the document.

Councillors congratulated the Forward Planning Team for their hard work on the Core Strategy.

Resolved:

The Council agreed:

- On the content of the Report and approved *The Core Strategy: the Way Forward* for consultation with all stakeholders within the Borough as well as other interested parties and the statutory consultees, from 16th November to 18th December 2009. Consultation will also take place on accompanying documents including the Sustainability Appraisal, Habitat Regulations Assessment and the Core Strategy Background Supporting Information

- To note in particular the key milestones in the production and adoption of the Core Strategy for incorporation in the Local Development Scheme for Rossendale.

11. URGENT DECISIONS

The Mayor reported that the Cabinet had not taken any urgent decisions since the last meeting.

(The meeting started at 7.00pm and concluded at 7.55pm)

Signed.....

(Chair)

Date