

EAST STAFFORDSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

Minutes of an Extraordinary Meeting of East Staffordshire Borough Council held in a virtual environment on Monday 17th August 2020.

Present:

Councillor C Wileman (Mayor) in the Chair

Councillors	Mrs P L Ackroyd (Deputy Mayor)	H Hall
	G A Allen	P Hudson
	Mrs B Ashcroft	S A Hussain
	E W R Barker	Mrs J Jones
	L Beech	Mrs J A Killoran
	Mrs B Brady	G Lamb
	K J Builth	Ms A J Legg
	A A Chaudhry	S McGarry
	A Clarke	S McKiernan
	R A Faulkner	M Metcalfe
	M T Fitzpatrick	B G Peters
	D F Fletcher	G Raybould
	D Florence-Jukes	S Sankey
	S P Gaskin	M Shrive
	D Goodfellow	C Sylvester
	Mrs V Gould	Mrs B Toon
	R G W Grosvenor	P Walker
	G Hall	C V Whittaker

Officers Present:

The Chief Executive, the Heads of Service (Sal Khan and Mark Rizk), the Monitoring Officer, the Chief Accountant, the Senior Solicitor, the Environmental Health Manager, the Shared Services Manager (HR, OD and Payments), the Corporate and Commercial Manager, the Enterprise Manager, the Principal Democratic Services Officer and the Senior Democratic Services Officer

Also Present:

Lisa Forsyth (Consultant - Max Associates).

84/20 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor R G W Grosvenor declared an ordinary interest at minute number 88/20 (Review Of The Council's Economic Partnerships Across Staffordshire And The West Midlands). He left the meeting whilst this matter was discussed and did not vote thereon.

85/20 **URGENT BUSINESS**

No urgent business had been received prior to the meeting.

ANNUAL TREASURY MANAGEMENT REPORT 2019/20

At this juncture Councillor G Hall joined the meeting.

The report of the Head of Service (Sal Khan) on the review of treasury activities during the year against the approved Treasury Management Strategy Statement was considered. Appendix A – Annual Treasury Management Report had been circulated with the report.

Council noted the contents of the report as follows:

- The Council's treasury position as at 31st March 2019 (Section 3);
- The strategy for 2019/20 - a summary (Section 4);
- Borrowing and Investments outturn (Sections 5 & 6);
- An update on the economy and interest rates (Section 7);
- Compliance with treasury limits and prudential indicators (Section 8);
- An update on other treasury matters (Section 9).

Resolved:

That the Annual Treasury Management Report for 2019-20 and associated Prudential Code Indicators be approved.

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

THOSE VOTING FOR THE MOTION Councillor	THOSE VOTING AGAINST	THOSE ABSTAINING
Mrs P L Ackroyd		
G Allen		
Mrs B Ashcroft		
E W R Barker		
L Beech		
Mrs B Brady		
K J Builth		
A A Chaudhry		
A Clarke		
R A Faulkner		
M T Fitzpatrick		
D F Fletcher		
D Florence-Jukes		
S P Gaskin		
D Goodfellow		
Mrs V J Gould		
R G W Grosvenor		
G Hall		
H Hall		

P Hudson		
S A Hussain		
Mrs J Jones		
Mrs J A Killoran		
G Lamb		
Ms A J Legg		
S McGarry		
S McKiernan		
M Metcalfe		
B G Peters		
G Raybould		
S Sankey		
M Shrive		
C Sylvester		
Mrs B Toon		
P Walker		
C V Whittaker		
C Wileman		

87/20

CLIMATE CHANGE DECLARATION AND ACTION PLAN

The report of the Head of Service (Mark Rizk) on the options appraisal of climate change mitigation and adaption in East Staffordshire was considered.

The following appendices had been circulated with the report:

- Appendix 1: CO2 Emissions Data;
- Appendix 2: Climate Change Action Plan.

Council noted that the current performance of climate change in East Staffordshire was “average” compared with other Staffordshire authority areas. There were 13 large industrial installations within East Staffordshire and this sector accounted for the majority of Carbon Dioxide emissions with 41% compared to 34% from transport and 25% from housing. The Council had provided support to mitigate climate change with a number of strategies for climate change which were introduced between 2009 and 2013 and the adoption of climate local in 2014. .

Council noted the contents of the report as follows:

- East Staffordshire Borough Council Carbon Dioxide Emissions;
- Current Climate Change Projects;
- Options for Climate Change Mitigation and Adaption;
- Climate Emergency Declaration Options;
- East Staffordshire Climate Change Action Plan.

Resolved:

1. That a ‘Climate Emergency’ be declared with the following pledge:

- i. To make the Council's operations and activities carbon neutral by 2040.
- ii. To aspire to reach carbon neutrality for the borough geography as a whole and to work towards achieving this by 2040.
- iii. To work with partners across the borough to reduce emissions to achieve the aspiration of carbon neutrality by 2040.
- iv. To call on government to provide the powers and resources to achieve these targets.
- v. To report progress to Cabinet on an annual basis.
- vi. To report progress to Scrutiny (Community Regeneration, Environment and Health and Well Being) Committee on an annual basis

2. That the climate change action plan (as set out in Appendix 2 of the report) be adopted and continually developed, to provide a route towards carbon neutrality by 2040.

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

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E W R Barker		
L Beech		
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D Florence-Jukes		
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D Goodfellow		
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R G W Grosvenor		
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S A Hussain		
Mrs J Jones		
Mrs J A Killoran		
G Lamb		
Ms A J Legg		
S McGarry		
S McKiernan		
M Metcalfe		
B G Peters		
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S Sankey		

M Shrive		
C Sylvester		
Mrs B Toon		
P Walker		
C V Whittaker		
C Wileman		

88/20

REVIEW OF THE COUNCIL'S ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIPS ACROSS STAFFORDSHIRE AND THE WEST MIDLANDS

At this juncture Councillor R G W Grosvenor declared an ordinary interest, as he had been approached by a recruitment company wishing to put him forward for a role with the GBSLEP. He left the meeting whilst this matter was discussed and did not vote thereon.

Councillor S McKiernan stated that she had been appointed by the Council to the Birmingham and Greater Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership Joint Scrutiny Committee. Councillor D Florence-Jukes stated that she had been appointed by the Council as the substitute representative on the Birmingham and Greater Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership Joint Scrutiny Committee.

The report of the Chief Executive on the current landscape around Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) and Mayoral Combined Authorities, such as the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) was considered. The following appendices had been circulated with the report:

- Appendix 1: Secretary of State Letter to WMCA & LEPs
- Appendix 2: Tim Pile, Chair of GBSLEP, email;
- Appendix 3: SSLEP Articles of Association.

Council noted the emerging dynamic between the Greater Birmingham and Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership (GBSLEP) and WMCA and the proposal to join the Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire Local Enterprise Partnership (SSLEP). The potential implications of a diminished, or even abolished, GBSLEP were significant, leaving East Staffordshire as the only area in Staffordshire, and possibly the West Midlands, without any strong regional representation for economic growth. With the exception of East Staffordshire, all Local Authorities in Staffordshire were members of the SSLEP partnership, including Staffordshire County Council and Stoke-on-Trent City Council, with some also being members of the SSLEP Board. The Council had been invited to formally become a member of the SSLEP Board and had been provisionally allocated one of the 4 seats on the Board reserved for 8 District/Borough Local Authority members. The Council would not only be representing East Staffordshire on the SSLEP Board, it would also specifically be representing southern Staffordshire (i.e. the transitional area) as well as being one of a few Local Government representatives for the whole of the County. Neither joining the SSLEP partnership nor taking up a seat on the Board required the Council to leave the GBSLEP and it would be possible to be involved with both LEPs, subject to any future implementation of the LEP review and a realignment of LEP geographies.

Resolved:

That the approval of arrangements relating to East Staffordshire Borough Council:

- Formally joining the SSLEP operational partnership, building on existing strong working relations;
- Becoming a member of Stoke-on-Trent Local Enterprise Partnership Ltd, the SSLEP company;
- Accepting an offer from SSLEP to represent southern Staffordshire on the Board;

be delegated to the Deputy Leader for Regeneration and Planning Policy.

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

THOSE VOTING FOR THE MOTION Councillor	THOSE VOTING AGAINST	THOSE ABSTAINING
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G Allen		
Mrs B Ashcroft		
E W R Barker		
L Beech		
Mrs B Brady		
K J Builth		
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A Clarke		
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D F Fletcher		
D Florence-Jukes		
S P Gaskin		
D Goodfellow		
Mrs V J Gould		
G Hall		
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P Hudson		
S A Hussain		
Mrs J Jones		
Mrs J A Killoran		
G Lamb		
Ms A J Legg		
S McGarry		
S McKiernan		
M Metcalfe		
B G Peters		
G Raybould		
S Sankey		
M Shrive		
C Sylvester		
Mrs B Toon		
P Walker		
C V Whittaker		
C Wileman		

STATUTORY ANNUAL PAY POLICY STATEMENT – 2020 UPDATE

At this juncture Councillor R G W Grosvenor re-joined the meeting.

The report of the Chief Executive on the changes to the Pay Policy Statement for 2019/20 was considered. Appendix 1: Pay Policy Statement with tracked changes had been circulated with the report.

Resolved:

That the Pay Policy Statement as presented be agreed.

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

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B G Peters		
G Raybould		
S Sankey		
M Shrive		
C Sylvester		

Mrs B Toon		
P Walker		
C V Whittaker		
C Wileman		

90/20 **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Resolved:

That, in accordance with Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972 the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the Meeting as it was likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that there would be disclosed exempt information as defined in the paragraph of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

