



PRESENT:

Deputy Mayor (Councillor Charlie Treloggan)

Councillors:

Mike Adam
Colin Aherne
Emile Al-Uzaizi
Mrs Adronie Alford
Chris Allen
Will Bethell
Brendan Bird
Nick Botterill
Charlie Boyle
Stephen Burke
Dominic Church
Siobhan Coughlan
Steve Cowan

Huw Davies
Sian Dawson
Caroline Donald
Gavin Donovan
Fiona Evans
Ivan Gibbons
Chris Graham
Stephen Greenhalgh
Greg Hands
Wesley Harcourt
Alex Karmel
Jafar Khaled
Antony Lillis
Amanda Lloyd-Harris

Mark Loveday
Reg McLaughlin
Charlie Napier
Jolyon Neubert
Colin Pavelin
Sally Powell DBE
Andrew Slaughter
Frances Stainton
Mercy Umeh
Dr. Jenny Vaughan
Josie Wicks
David Williams

69. ELECTION OF CHAIR

Councillor Aherne moved, seconded by Councillor Evans, that in the absence of the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Treggan, take the Chair for the duration of the meeting under Council Procedure Rule 8.2. The motion was agreed unanimously.

7.00pm – **RESOLVED** accordingly.

70. MINUTES – 26 MARCH 2003

7.01pm - The minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 26 March 2003 were confirmed and signed as an accurate record.

71. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Birdsey, Cartwright, Jones, Karian, Smallman, and Stanley. (Apologies for lateness - Councillor Napier).

72. MAYOR & MANAGING DIRECTOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS (IF ANY)

The Mayor's Announcements were circulated to all Councillors and in the Chamber (Copy attached as **APPENDIX 1** to these Minutes).

73. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Councillor Graham declared a personal interest on item 6 – Special Motion No.1 – Direct Services Department Losses – as a member of her family held a junior administrative post in DSO1. Councillor Graham stayed at the meeting and spoke and voted on the item.

74. ITEMS FOR DECISION / COMMITTEE REPORTS (IF ANY)

7.06 pm - **Council's 2003/04 Capital Programme Monitoring Report**

The report and recommendations were moved for adoption by the Leader, Councillor Andrew Slaughter, seconded by Councillor Graham.

Speeches on the report were made by Councillors Greenhalgh and Lillis (for the Opposition), with Councillor Slaughter replying on behalf of the Administration.

The report and recommendations were put to the vote:

FOR	- 21
AGAINST	- 17
ABSTENTIONS	- 0

The report and recommendations were declared **CARRIED**.

7.27pm – **RESOLVED –**

1. That a capital programme of £73.712 million for 2003/04 be approved, plus over-programming of £6.96 million (20%).
2. That capitalisation of revenue (of a capital nature) of £6 million be approved within the General Fund and the Housing Revenue Account.
3. That the Leader's Committee be asked to approve schemes within this overall programme.

75. SPECIAL MOTIONS

7.28pm – **Special Motion No.1 – Direct Services Department Losses**

(Councillor Graham declared a personal interest on this item, as a member of her family held a junior administrative post in DSO1. Councillor Graham remained at the meeting and spoke and voted on the item).

Councillor Botterill moved, seconded by Councillor Hands, the special motion standing in their names:

" This Council calls for a public inquiry into the £5. 4 million losses in its Direct Services Department."

Speeches on the motion were made by Councillors Botterill, Greenhalgh, Alford, Karmel, Bethell, Slaughter, Cowan and Graham.

The Motion was then put to the vote:

FOR	- 17
AGAINST	- 23
ABSTENTIONS	- 0

The motion was declared **LOST**

8.03pm - **Special Motion No.2 – Changes to the Council's Constitution**

Councillor Hands moved, seconded by Councillor Greenhalgh, the special motion standing in their names:

" This Council resolves to increase public participation at Council meetings, and to seek changes in the Council's Constitution in line with the recommendations made by the Leadership Scrutiny Panel on 18 March 2003."

Speeches on the motion were made by Councillors Loveday, Lloyd-Harris and Hands.

Councillor Allen moved, seconded by Councillor Evans, an amendment (**No.1**) to the motion to delete all words after the word “meetings” in the first line of the motion.

Speeches on the amendment were made by Councillors Allen, Coughlan, McLaughlin, Stainton and Slaughter.

The amendment to the motion was then put to the vote:

FOR	- 23
AGAINST	- 17
ABSTENTIONS	- 0

The motion was declared **CARRIED**

Councillor Lillis moved, seconded by Councillor Stainton, a further amendment (**No.2**) to the motion to insert after the word “meetings”:

“... and further resolves that changes are made to the Constitution to be presented to the Annual Council meeting that there should be a public question time of 20 minutes duration at future full Council meetings.”

Councillor Lillis made a speech on the amendment.

Councillor Ahene moved under Council Procedure Rule 14(e)(viii) that the question now be put.

The amendment to the motion was put to the vote:

FOR	- Unanimous
AGAINST	- 0
ABSTENTIONS	- 0

The second amendment to the motion (as amended) was declared **CARRIED**

Councillor Karmel moved, seconded by Councillor Hands, a further amendment (**No.3**) to the motion to insert after the word “meetings”:

“...and further resolves that changes are made to the Constitution to be presented to the Annual Council meeting that there should be a Councillors’ question time of 20 minutes duration at future full Council meetings”.

Speeches on the amendment were made by Councillors Karmel and Aherne before the amendment was put to the vote:

FOR	- 17
AGAINST	- 23
ABSTENTIONS	- 0

The amendment to the motion was declared **LOST**

Councillor Greenhalgh moved, seconded by Councillor Hands, a further amendment (**No.4**) to the motion to insert after the word “meetings”:

“...and further resolves that changes are made to the Constitution to be presented to the Annual Council meeting that call-ins can be made by any three members of a Scrutiny Panel, or any 9 members of the authority. ”

Councillor Greenhalgh made a speech on the amendment to which Councillor Aherne responded before the amendment was put to the vote:

FOR	- 17
AGAINST	- 23
ABSTENTIONS	- 0

The amendment to the motion was declared **LOST**

Councillor Hands moved, seconded by Councillor Botterill, a further amendment (**No.5**) to the motion to insert after the word “meetings”:

“...and further resolves that changes are made to the Constitution to be presented to the Annual Council meeting that the threshold for key decisions be reduced to £100,000. ”

Councillor Hands made a speech on the amendment to which Councillor Slaughter responded before the amendment was put to the vote:

FOR	- 17
AGAINST	- 21
ABSTENTIONS	- 0

The amendment to the motion was declared **LOST**

Councillor Loveday then made a closing speech on the substantive motion (as amended) before it was put to the vote:

FOR	- Unanimous
AGAINST	- 0
ABSTENTIONS	- 0

The substantive motion was declared **CARRIED**

9.19pm – **RESOLVED**

That this Council resolves to increase public participation at Council meetings and further resolves that changes are made to the Constitution to be presented to the Annual Council meeting that there should be a public question time of 20 minutes duration at future full Council meetings.

9.20pm - **Special Motion No.3 – Child Tax Credit & Working Tax Credit**

Councillor Slaughter moved, seconded by Councillor Graham, the special motion standing in their names:

“This Council welcomes the introduction of child tax credit and working tax credit on 7 April 2003 as a major contribution towards the Government’s drive to end child poverty and resolves:

- (1) to support – in conjunction with local voluntary and statutory services – a benefits take-up campaign, drawing on the Local Government Association’s “Quids for Kids” good practice guide and supporting material;
- (2) to encourage council employees to claim their entitlements;
- (3) to apply the same principles to promote the launch of pension credit on 6 October 2003.”

Speeches on the motion were made by Councillors Slaughter, Lloyd-Harris, Donovan, and Graham.

The motion was then put to the vote:

FOR - 21
AGAINST - 0
ABSTENTIONS - 17

The motion was declared **CARRIED**

Following a request to have names recorded, a roll-call vote was also taken:

FOR - 22
(Aherne, Allen, Burke, Church, Coughlan, Cowan, Davies, Evans, Gibbons, Graham, Harcourt, Khaled, McLaughlin, Napier, Pavelin, Powell, Slaughter, Treloggan, Umeh, Vaughan, Wicks, Williams)

AGAINST - 0

ABSTENTIONS - 17
(Adam, Al-Uzaizi, Alford, Bethell, Botterill, Boyle, Dawson, Donald, Donovan, Greenhalgh, Hands, Karmel, Lillis, Lloyd-Harris, Loveday, Neubert, Stainton)

The motion was declared **CARRIED**

9.45pm – **RESOLVED**

That this Council welcomes the introduction of child tax credit and working tax credit on 7 April 2003 as a major contribution towards the Government's drive to end child poverty and resolves:

- (1) to support – in conjunction with local voluntary and statutory services – a benefits take-up campaign, drawing on the Local Government Association's "Quids for Kids" good practice guide and supporting material;
- (2) to encourage council employees to claim their entitlements;
- (3) to apply the same principles to promote the launch of pension credit on 6 October 2003."

9.46pm - **Special Motion No.4 – Borough Engineer**

Councillor Dame Sally Powell moved, seconded by Councillor Davies, the special motion standing in their names:

"This Council commends the Borough Engineer and his Division on being awarded Beacon Council status for their work in respect of street and highway works"

Speeches on the motion were made by Councillors Dame Sally Powell and Davies (for the Administration) and Councillor Hands (for the Opposition), before the motion was put to the vote:

FOR	- Unanimous
AGAINST	- 0
ABSTENTIONS	- 0

The motion was declared **CARRIED**

9.58pm – **RESOLVED** accordingly.

* * * * * CONCLUSION OF BUSINESS * * * * *

Meeting ended: 9.59 p.m. - Wednesday, 30 April 2003

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MAYOR

jpc/02/05/03