

Minutes

Sunderland City Council

At a meeting of SUNDERLAND CITY COUNCIL held in the CIVIC CENTRE on WEDNESDAY 21 SEPTEMBER 2016 at 6.00pm

Present: The Mayor (Councillor A Emerson) in the Chair
The Deputy Mayor (Councillor D MacKnight)

Councillors	Allan	Fletcher	Lawson	Stewart
	Allen	Foster	Leadbitter	Taylor
	Atkinson	Francis	Marshall	Trueman, D
	Ball	Galbraith, G	McClennan	Trueman, H
	Beck	Galbraith, I	Middleton	Turner
	Bell	Gibson, E	Miller, F	Tye
	Blackburn	Gibson, P	Miller, G	Walker, G
	Chequer	Gofton	Mordey	Walker, P
	Cummings	Heron	Oliver	Waller
	Davison	Hodson	O'Neil	Waters
	Dixon, D	Howe	Scanlan	Watson, P
	Dixon, M	Hunt	Scullion	Watson, S
	Elliott	Jackson	Smith	Williams
	English	Johnston	Snowdon, David	Wilson, A
	Essl	Kay	Snowdon, Dianne	Wood
	Farthing	Kelly	Speding	Wright, T

Also Present:-

Honorary Aldermen: - M L Arnott
M Greenfield

The notice convening the meeting was read.

Minutes

The Mayor referred to the minutes of the last meeting held on 22nd June, 2016. He advised that there were four members for whom no vote had been recorded in respect of the motion that was considered at that Council meeting and one of those members had queried this with officers. He informed Members that the voting equipment had been tested both before and after the meeting and it was in full working order.

He advised however, that if any member wished it to be noted in the minutes that they had attempted to exercise their vote and it had not been recorded, they should raise their hand. Councillor Hodson indicated accordingly.

Subject to the above it was:-

18. RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 22nd June 2016 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

Declarations of Interest

Item 16 – Request for Financial Assistance	Councillor Christine Marshall	Family member employed by the organisation
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Announcements

At this juncture the Mayor announced that the Deputy Mayor had kindly agreed to commence this evening's announcements:-

- (i) Mayoress Janice Emerson
Former Mayoress Sonia Slater
Former Councillor Eric Timmins**

The Deputy Mayor referred to the recent deaths of the Mayoress, Janice Emerson, former Mayoress Sonia Slater and former Councillor Eric Timmins and paid tribute to the service they had given and the contributions they had made to civic life in Sunderland.

Members stood for a minute's silence in memory of their former friends and colleagues.

- (ii) Provision of Refreshments following Meetings of the Council**

In view of recent media reports, the Mayor stated that he would like to clarify the position in respect of the provision of refreshments after the Council meeting.

The meeting was advised that members of the public were welcome to observe Council meetings and it was recognised that there may be occasions when a councillor wished to invite a resident or other individual to join them in the dining area afterwards. No provision was made for this when arranging catering, however, as there had only ever been a small number of guests joining members, they had been welcome to stay. However as the dining area was not open to the general public at this time, anyone other than a councillor or officer should be present there only by invitation.

In the interests of security, the Mayor reminded members that should they wish a guest to join them after the Council meeting, they should notify Governance Services in advance, providing details of whom they had invited. Members were also made aware that they were responsible for accompanying their guest and ensuring that they remained within the dining area or other "public" areas of the building.

(iii) Framed Picture

The Mayor displayed a framed picture which he had received from Michael Ganley of the SAFC Museum following a Supporting Sunderland Libraries event held at the Museum and Winter Gardens in March 2016 when he was Deputy Mayor.

(iv) Stonewall Award

At the invitation of the Mayor, Councillor Farthing informed Members that the Council had been named as winner of the Stonewall award for the 'Best New Entrant' in the Education Equality Index 2016. Councillor Farthing paid tribute to Dorothy Maddison, the Council's Anti Bullying / Child Protection Volunteer Coordinator for her work in striving to achieve the award.

Reception of Petitions

19. RESOLVED that the petitions listed below submitted by the Councillors named, be received and referred for consideration in accordance with the Council's Petitions Scheme: -

Councillor Heron – Petition from residents of Fencehouses requesting assistance to reinstate the X64 bus service.

Councillor Hodson – Petition from residents of St Mark's Terrace and Matamba Terrace regarding inconsiderate parking.

Councillor Hodson – Petition from residents of Chester Street, Millfield regarding potholes and poor condition of the road surface.

Apologies

Apologies for absence were submitted to the meeting on behalf of Councillors Curran, Lauchlan, Porthouse, M. Turton, D. Wilson and N. Wright.

Report of the Cabinet

The Cabinet reported and recommended as follows: -

1. Revenue Budget Outturn for 2015/2016 and First Revenue Review 2016/2017

That they had given consideration to a report of the Interim Director of Corporate Services on the Revenue Budget Outturn for 2015/2016 and First Revenue Review 2016/2017 namely requesting the Council to approve the transfer of funds.

In accordance with the Council's Budget and Policy Framework certain transfers required Council approval. An attached extract set out the relevant extract from the Cabinet report, which referred to a proposal that £0.220m underspend was transferred to the Strategic Investment Reserve to support transitional arrangements arising from implementation of the savings programmes for 2016/2017 and future years.

They had also referred the extract of the budget transfer to the Scrutiny Committee, for advice and consideration. The Scrutiny Committee supported the transfer of funds to the Strategic Investment Reserve to support transitional arrangements arising from implementation of the savings programmes for 2016/2017 and future years and supported the Cabinet recommendation that the transfer be submitted to Council for approval.

Accordingly the Cabinet recommended the Council to approve the budget transfer as set out above and in the attached extract.

2. Capital Programme Outturn 2015/2016 and First Capital Review 2016/2017 (including Treasury Management)

That they had given consideration to a report of the Interim Director of Corporate Services which detailed the Capital Programme Outturn for 2015/2016, the outcome of the First Capital Review for 2016/2017 taking account of the Capital Programme Outturn, changes made to the Capital Programme 2016/2017 since its approval, and an update on the outturn position for 2015/2016 and progress in implementing the Treasury Management Borrowing and Investment Strategy for 2016/2017.

They had referred the report to the Scrutiny Committee to note the variation to the Capital Programme 2015/2016 with an estimated cost variance of £250,000 or more, details of which are set out in an attached extract. The Scrutiny Committee resolved that it was satisfied with the capital budget scheme variations and had no additional comment to make.

Accordingly, the Cabinet recommended the Council to note the proposed variation to the Capital Programme for 2016/2017 with an estimated cost variance of £250,000 or more as set out in the extract.

3. Appointment of Honorary Aldermen of the City of Sunderland

That they had given consideration to a report of the Chief Executive proposing the appointment of two former councillors as Honorary Aldermen of the City of Sunderland.

In accordance with the agreed arrangements the following former Councillors had been nominated, in recognition of their eminent service to the Council and to the people of the city of Sunderland;

- Mr David Tate
- Mrs Margaret Forbes

Accordingly the Cabinet recommended the Council to formally confer the title of Honorary Alderman of the City upon the former Councillors so nominated by passing the following resolutions; namely:-

(i) that the Council convenes an extraordinary meeting of Council to be held on 26 January 2017 for the following purpose;

(ii) that in pursuance of the provisions of Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 the Council do confer the title of Honorary Alderman of the City on former Councillors Mr David Tate and Mrs Margaret Forbes, in recognition of their eminent service to the Council and to the people of the city of Sunderland.

The Leader of the Council, Councillor P Watson, duly seconded by the Deputy Leader, Councillor H Trueman, moved the report of the Cabinet.

Upon the report of the Cabinet being put to the Council it was: -

20. RESOLVED that the report of the Cabinet be approved and adopted.

Report of the Human Resources Committee

The Human Resources Committee reported and recommended as follows:-

1. Future Shape of the Council

That they had considered a report of the Chief Executive on changes to the Council's senior organisation structure to respond to known and anticipated changes to its priorities and the context in which the Council operates.

The Human Resources Committee was invited to consider proposals regarding changes to the senior structure, to come into effect on 1 October 2016, as described below.

A new smaller Executive Management Team structure was proposed, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report. It was proposed that the new structure would comprise the Chief Executive, 3 posts of Executive Director plus the Director of Strategy, Partnerships and Transformation (redesignated from Assistant Chief Executive). The Executive Director portfolios would be:

- People
- Economy & Place
- Corporate Services

Executive Directors would be primarily policy-and strategy-focussed, would have an external perspective and would each deputise for the Chief Executive in respect of their own field of responsibility.

The proposed structure in respect of posts at Head of Service level was set out in Appendices 2, 3, 4 and 5 to the report. There was a statutory requirement to designate a Scrutiny Officer and it was proposed that this role sit with the new post of Head of Member Support and Community Partnerships.

Once Executive Directors had been appointed, they would be asked to review the appropriateness of the directorate structures below them. This would also give senior officers and members the opportunity to understand the full impact on support services of the transfer of services to the children's company, Together for Children, on 1st April 2017. This work was currently being completed. For information and completeness, the senior structure of Together for Children was shown in Appendix 6 to the report

Any employees displaced from their post as part of the implementation of the proposals would have the option to apply for severance and leave the Council, no later than 31 October 2016, under the Council's workforce planning arrangements that would expire on that date. Any displaced employees who chose not to apply for severance would be eligible for redeployment search, if available, under the terms of the Redundancy Policy and Procedure.

The grading of all of the posts within the scope of the report was governed by the arrangements introduced in 2016 as part of the Workforce Transformation Project and previously approved by the Human Resources Committee. All Executive Director, Director and Head of Service positions were covered by the Strategic Leadership Family of role profiles and the evaluation of each post being created or changed by the report would be carried out by the Council's retained independent consultants, Robertson Human Resources Consulting, to ensure compliance with the existing framework. The framework allowed for the possibility of Market Pay Supplements to be attached to specific posts in approved cases where there is concrete evidence that the Council's grade is less than the prevailing market rate and that this would cause a recruitment or retention problem. Recent advertisements for Executive Directors by authorities in this region and elsewhere had shown that the Council's current grade for Executive Directors (£100,256 - £118,996) was likely to be insufficient to attract candidates of an appropriate calibre and it was proposed that the positions be advertised at a salary of circa £130,000.

A timetable of senior recruitment had been developed so that if Council approved the new senior organisation structure on 21 September, the relevant posts could be advertised immediately with the aim of committee interviews, where applicable, being held before the end of October. It was proposed that the appointment process for the relevant Head of Services posts be delegated to the Chief Executive or her nominee(s), in consultation with the relevant Portfolio Holder.

Accordingly the Human Resources Committee recommended the Council to:

- (i) Approve the new Executive Management Team and Heads of Service structure,

- (ii) Approve the implementation arrangements as set out in the report to Council,
- (iii) Note and endorse the delegation to the Chief Executive or her nominee, in consultation with the relevant Portfolio Holder, of the making of appointments to Head of Service posts and of selecting posts for redundancy at all levels within the senior management structure, as a consequence of the restructuring exercise, and
- (iv) Authorise the Head of Law and Governance, in consultation with the Leader, to amend the Constitution to reflect the new management structure and resulting transfers of delegated functions.

The Leader of the Council, Councillor P Watson, duly seconded by the Deputy Leader, Councillor H Trueman, moved the report of the Human Resources Committee.

Upon the report of the Human Resources Committee being put to the Council it was:

21. RESOLVED that the report of the Human Resources Committee be approved and adopted.

Report of the Audit and Governance Committee

The Audit and Governance Committee reported and recommended as follows:-

1. Annual Report on the work of the Audit and Governance Committee 2015/16

That the Audit and Governance Committee had given consideration to a report by the Interim Director of Corporate Services on the work of the Audit and Governance Committee during 2015/16, demonstrating how they have fulfilled their delegated responsibilities.

Accordingly, the Committee recommended the Council to note the Annual Report on the Work of the Audit and Governance Committee 2015/16.

Councillor O'Neil, duly seconded by the Cabinet Secretary, Councillor M. Speding, moved the report of the Audit and Governance Committee.

Upon the report of the Audit and Governance Committee being put to the Council it was:

22. RESOLVED that the report of the Audit Human Resources Committee be approved and adopted.

Written Questions under Rule 8.2

Pursuant to Rule 8.2 of the Council Rules of Procedure, Members of the Council asked questions of the Leader and Members of the Executive.

Councillor Speding moved a 15 minute extension to the time for responding to Written Questions which was agreed.

Action on Petitions

The Council received and noted the report below which detailed the action taken in relation to the following petitions which had been presented to the Council at its meetings held on 23rd March and 22 June 2016 respectively.

(i) Petition relating to the number of cars parked on Toward Road outside of Nelson Close - Presented to Council by Councillor V. O'Neill on 23 March 2016

The petition, which had 83 signatures, was worded as follows:-

“This is about the cars parked on Toward Road outside of Nelson Close. We feel that this is a hazard to tenants who use public transport as most of the time buses have to stop in the middle of the road to let passengers on and off the bus. We feel this is an accident waiting to happen. Something needs to be done before someone is hurt or worse killed.”

After consideration by officers within the Infrastructure and Transportation Service Area, the petitioners' request to address parking issues was upheld for the following reasons:-

The bus stop located outside of Nelson Close on Toward Road is a well-used bus stop by residents of Nelson Close and the wider community. Following receipt of the petition, site investigations were undertaken and showed that vehicles are parked the length of this road for extended periods during the day. Observations on site highlighted the difficulties experienced by bus drivers. They could neither align the bus with the kerb or activate their low floor access, resulting in passengers having to board and alight in the middle of the road. There are no waiting restrictions present to prevent this type of parking behaviour. However, their introduction would be an expensive solution to the issues. The most cost effective solution is the introduction of a bus stop clearway to this location.

Councillor O'Neill and the Lead Petitioners had been advised of the decision.

(ii) Petition requesting the provision of a Dog Park at Silksworth Sports Complex – Presented to Council by Councillor P. Gibson on 23 March 2016

The petition, which had 295 signatures, was worded as follows:-

“We are Committee Members of the Friends of Silksworth Lakes and we are trying to persuade Sunderland City Council to provide an outside dog park. There are no other facilities in the Sunderland area and it would benefit both dogs and their owners to exercise their dogs in a safe and friendly environment.

Sunderland has over 275,000 people and many are dog owners, and yet it has no safe and secure outside dog park access for dog walkers who want to let their dogs off their leashes in a safe, secure and enclosed space.

Silksworth Sports Complex has astroturf football pitches which have not been used for a number of years and could be transformed into two huge outside dog parks, which are already securely fenced and have the facilities for dog waste disposal.

We, the undersigned, are calling for Sunderland City Council to prioritise funding to get Silksworth Sports Complex a safe and secure outside dog walking park for its users.”

In June 2015, Everyone Active was appointed as the City Council's Leisure partner to manage the city's leisure facilities on behalf of the City Council, including the artificial turf pitches (ATP) located at Silksworth Sports Complex.

Within the business plan for the facility Everyone Active identified that within the first year of operation they would be progressing with resurfacing the Artificial Turf Pitches and bringing them back into use.

This work was completed in the summer and the artificial pitches are now in operation. Therefore, it is not possible to provide this area as a space for a dedicated dog park.

Councillor P. Gibson and the Lead Petitioners had been advised of the decision.

(iii) Petition regarding Barnes Park Warden and Locking/Unlocking of gates at night – Presented to Council by Councillor P. Wood on 22 June 2016

The petition, which had 2,220 signatures, requested the Council not to remove the security warden and leave the park unlocked twenty four hours a day.

The Council understood the concerns of local residents and users of the Park however they needed to be aware of the enormity of the task to deliver savings across Council budgets. The Medium Term Financial Plan which was agreed at full Council in January included the proposal to save £0.078 million per annum on Security Services by discontinuing the locking and unlocking of parks and cemeteries across the city. Mowbray Park, due to its City Centre location, the recorded levels of crime, anti-social behaviour and the vulnerability of people using the park as a shortcut at night and the early hours of the morning, would continue to be locked/opened dusk till dawn. The proposal also removes the final two park wardens in Mowbray and Barnes Park.

Therefore as of the 1 June the Park Wardens at Mowbray and Barnes Park were removed along with the opening and closing of 15 Sunderland parks and cemeteries.

A number of years ago the Park Wardens were removed from both Roker Park and Thompsons Park and neither of them have seen a significant rise in crime/anti-social behaviour.

Barnes Park benefits from a CCTV system and a link to the City Alarm and Emergency Centre. This allows CCTV operatives the opportunity to view any of the 5 cameras 24/7. The impacts of these changes will be closely monitored by officers. If reported crime and antisocial behaviour escalates then CCTV surveillance can be increased. There is also the option of rapidly deploying additional 4G cameras subject to suitable infrastructure to host the equipment.

Council Officers will continue to work with Elected Members and Friends Groups to try to and ensure that Barnes Park remains a safe and friendly space where residents and visitors can come along and enjoy.

Councillor P. Wood and the Lead Petitioners had been advised of the decision.

(iv) Petition requesting that the Council concrete the grass verges in Kirkstone Avenue, Fulwell – Presented to Council by Councillor Beck on 23 March 2016

The petition was signed by 52 people of whom 23 were residents of properties in Kirkstone Avenue stating that:-

“The state of the grass verges in Kirkstone Avenue is causing problems for the people who live here. The mud is being thrown up by car wheels and encroaching on the pavements causing a danger to residents, some less mobile, of slipping on the wet mud. The problem is made worse by parking around the Metro Station. We want to petition the Council to concrete these verges. The area has a general problem with roads that were built before the advent of great numbers of vehicles and is used as a shortcut between Station Road and Newcastle Road. We believe urgent action is needed to remedy this and provide safe parking without causing problems for the people who live in the Avenue.”

Following receipt of the Petition a site visit to Kirkstone Avenue was made in May 2016 by a highway inspector which revealed that there were no defects warranting immediate repairs, and that the condition of the verge did not warrant any maintenance scheme works at the present time. A Council parking scheme is due to be implemented in the area in the next year and this will assist in controlling behaviour patterns for parking. Consideration should be given to allowing this scheme to settle in before making any decisions regarding works.

The decision made was that the request by the petitioners to carry out hard paving of the verge be declined, however the condition of the verges would be monitored through regular highway inspections and should they significantly worsen then

Kirkstone Avenue would be considered for inclusion in future years' Highway Maintenance Programmes.

The Ward Councillors and lead petitioner had been advised of the outcome.

(v) Petition requesting that the Council resurface the carriageway in Granville Street, Millfield – Presented to Council by Councillor Hodson on 22 June 2016

The above mentioned petition was signed by 24 residents of properties in Granville Street, Millfield stating that:-

“We the undersigned, petition Sunderland City Council to resurface the carriageway along Granville Street, Millfield.”

Following receipt of the Petition a site visit to Granville Street was made in July 2016 by a highway inspector which revealed that there were no defects warranting immediate repairs, and that the condition of the carriageway did not warrant any resurfacing works at the present time.

In addition it was identified that although the road surface was safe, there were areas of local deterioration which contributed to the less than ideal aesthetic look of the street. This year's Highway Maintenance (HM) budget is fully committed however the carriageway condition in Granville Street will be considered alongside the condition of footways and roads in the whole of the city when compiling the Highway Maintenance Programme for 2017/18.

The decision is that the request by the petitioners to resurface the carriageway at the current time be declined.

The Ward Councillors and lead petitioner had been advised of the outcome.

(vi) Petition requesting that the Council resurface the carriageway in Milburn Street, Millfield - Presented to Council by Councillor Hodson on 22 June 2016

The above mentioned petition was signed by 25 residents of properties in Miburn Street, Millfield stating that:-

“We the undersigned, petition Sunderland City Council to resurface the carriageway along Milburn Street, Millfield.”

Following receipt of the Petition a site visit to Milburn Street was made in July 2016 by a highway inspector which revealed that there was one pothole warranting immediate repairs, although the condition of the carriageway did not warrant any resurfacing works at the present time.

In addition it was identified that although the road surface was safe, there were areas of local deterioration which contributed to the less than ideal aesthetic look of the street. This year's Highway Maintenance (HM) budget is fully committed however

the carriageway condition in Milburn Street will be considered alongside the condition of footways and roads in the whole of the city when compiling the Highway Maintenance Programme for 2017/18.

The decision was that the request by the petitioners to resurface the carriageway at the current time be declined.

The Ward Councillors and lead petitioner had been advised of the outcome.

23. RESOLVED that the action taken on petitions be noted.

Notices of Motion

(i) Women Against State Pension Inequality (WASPI)

Councillor Jackson, duly seconded by Councillor Farthing, moved the following motion:-

“This Council supports Women Against State Pension Inequality (WASPI) and calls upon the Government to make fair transitional state pension arrangements for all women born on or after 6th April 1951, who have unfairly borne the burden of the increase to the State Pension Age (SPA) with lack of appropriate notification.

This Council further calls upon the Government to reconsider transitional arrangements for women born on or after 6th April 1951, so that women do not live in hardship due to pension changes they were not told about until it was too late to make alternative arrangements.”

Upon being put to the meeting the motion was unanimously carried and accordingly it was:-

24. RESOLVED that:-

“This Council supports Women Against State Pension Inequality (WASPI) and calls upon the Government to make fair transitional state pension arrangements for all women born on or after 6th April 1951, who have unfairly borne the burden of the increase to the State Pension Age (SPA) with lack of appropriate notification.

This Council further calls upon the Government to reconsider transitional arrangements for women born on or after 6th April 1951, so that women do not live in hardship due to pension changes they were not told about until it was too late to make alternative arrangements.”

(ii) Financial Transaction Tax Extension

Councillor G. Walker, duly seconded by Councillor Mordey, moved the following motion:-

“This Council deplores the cuts to public services, jobs and benefits that is being imposed on this city by central government and notes that by extending the current Financial Transaction Tax (FTT) legislation to shares and other asset classes such as bonds and derivatives could raise £20bn of additional annual revenue in the UK, which could be used to offset these cuts to public services and local authorities.

This Council therefore calls upon the Government to work towards the implementation of an extended FTT by international agreement to ensure that all major financial centres are subject to the tax and that additional revenues are available for domestic public services and international development; and directs that a copy of this motion be sent to the Prime Minister and Chancellor of the Exchequer.”

Upon being put to the meeting the motion was unanimously carried and accordingly it was:-

25. RESOLVED that:-

“This Council deplores the cuts to public services, jobs and benefits that is being imposed on this city by central government and notes that by extending the current Financial Transaction Tax (FTT) legislation to shares and other asset classes such as bonds and derivatives could raise £20bn of additional annual revenue in the UK, which could be used to offset these cuts to public services and local authorities.

This Council therefore calls upon the Government to work towards the implementation of an extended FTT by international agreement to ensure that all major financial centres are subject to the tax and that additional revenues are available for domestic public services and international development; and directs that a copy of this motion be sent to the Prime Minister and Chancellor of the Exchequer.”

(iii) Review of Library Provision

Councillor Wood, duly seconded by Councillor Oliver, moved the following motion: -

This Council notes that a further review of library provision in the city is taking place, particularly the proposed re-location of the central library, and believes it is important for all elected members to be able to make a contribution to the outcomes of that review.

Upon being put to the meeting the motion was unanimously carried and accordingly it was:-

26. RESOLVED that:-

“This Council notes that a further review of library provision in the city is taking place, particularly the proposed re-location of the central library, and believes it is important for all elected members to be able to make a contribution to the outcomes of that review”.

(iv) Nissan – Anniversary of Production in Sunderland

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Paul Watson, duly seconded by Councillor Wood moved the following motion:-

“As September is the 30th anniversary of the first car rolling off the production line at the Nissan plant in Sunderland, this Council acknowledges and pays tribute to the company’s investment in the City. The Council recognises the immense benefits that Nissan has brought to the economy both of Sunderland and the wider North East and the enhancement of the global reputation of Sunderland, which is now recognised for excellence in advanced manufacturing.

Nissan’s significant investment in the plant is testimony to its relationship with the Council and with the people of the City and North East, and this Council looks forward to the continuation of this productive and dynamic relationship.”

Upon being put to the meeting the motion was unanimously carried and accordingly it was:-

27. RESOLVED that:-

“As September is the 30th anniversary of the first car rolling off the production line at the Nissan plant in Sunderland, this Council acknowledges and pays tribute to the company’s investment in the City. The Council recognises the immense benefits that Nissan has brought to the economy both of Sunderland and the wider North East and the enhancement of the global reputation of Sunderland, which is now recognised for excellence in advanced manufacturing.

Nissan’s significant investment in the plant is testimony to its relationship with the Council and with the people of the City and North East, and this Council looks forward to the continuation of this productive and dynamic relationship.”

(v) City Library and Northern Gallery for Contemporary Art

Councillor Hodson, duly seconded by Councillor Allen moved the following motion:-

“This Council believes that the decision to move the City Library and Northern Gallery for Contemporary Art should be subject to consultation with residents and a vote of elected members.”

Councillor Tye proposed that under Rule 20.1 of the Council’s Rules of Procedure the motion should be suspended.

The Mayor ruled that the motion needed to be considered and dealt with and that there would be a vote on whether the question be now put, followed by a vote on the substantive motion.

On being put to the meeting, the motion that the question be now put was carried with 53 Members voting in favour: -

Councillors	Allan	Fletcher	Marshall	Truman H.
	Atkinson	Foster	McClennan	Turner
	Ball	Galbraith G.	Middleton	Tye
	Beck	Galbraith I.	Mordey	Walker G.
	Bell	Gibson E.	O'Neil	Walker P.
	Blackburn	Gibson P.	Scanlan	Waters
	Chequer	Gofton	Scullion	Watson S.
	Cummings	Heron	Smith	Watson P.
	Davison	Hunt	Snowdon D.	Williams
	Dixon D.	Jackson	Snowdon D. E.	Wilson A.
	Elliott	Johnston	Speding	Wright T.
	English	Kay	Stewart	
	Essl	Kelly	Taylor	
	Farthing	Lawson	Trueman D.	

7 Members voting against: -

Councillors	Allen	Francis	Leadbitter	Wood
	Dixon M.	Howe	Oliver	

And no members abstaining

Upon being put to the meeting, the substantive motion that "This Council believes that the decision to move the City Library and Northern Gallery for Contemporary Art should be subject to consultation with residents and a vote of elected members" was defeated with 8 Members voting in favour:-

Councillors	Allen	Francis	Howe	Oliver
	Dixon M.	Hodson	Leadbitter	Wood

55 Members voting against:-

The Deputy Mayor (Councillor MacKnight)

Councillors	Allan	Fletcher	Marshall	Trueman D.
	Atkinson	Foster	McClennan	Truman H.
	Ball	Galbraith G.	Middleton	Turner
	Beck	Galbraith I.	Miller G.	Tye
	Bell	Gibson E.	Mordey	Walker G.
	Blackburn	Gibson P.	O'Neil	Walker P.
	Chequer	Gofton	Scanlan	Waters
	Cummings	Heron	Scullion	Watson S.
	Davison	Hunt	Smith	Watson P.
	Dixon D.	Jackson	Snowdon D.	Williams
	Elliott	Johnston	Snowdon D. E.	Wilson A.
	English	Kay	Speding	Wright T.

Essl
Farthing

Kelly
Lawson

Stewart
Taylor

And no Members abstaining

Accordingly it was:-

28. RESOLVED that the motion be defeated.

Appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies

The Head of Law and Governance submitted a report which requested the Council to consider a change in the appointments to the Licensing and Regulatory Committees together with the Planning and Highways Committee and the Development Control (South Sunderland) Sub-Committee and in the Council's representation on the North East Regional Employers' Organisation, the Tyne and Wear Trading Standards Joint Committee, the North East Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Sherburn House Charity.

At the Annual Meeting of the Council held on 18 May, 2016, Councillor D. Wilson was appointed to the Licensing and Regulatory Committees.

Councillor Wilson had subsequently advised that he was no longer able to serve on the Licensing and Regulatory Committees and Council was asked to consider a replacement Member from the Majority Party to serve on the Committees.

At the Annual Meeting of the Council held on 18 May, 2016, Councillor Tye was appointed to the Planning and Highways Committee and the Development Control (South Sunderland) Sub-Committee.

Councillor Tye had subsequently advised that he was no longer able to serve on the Planning and Highways Committee and the Development Control (South Sunderland) Sub-Committee and Council was asked to consider a replacement Member from the Majority Party to serve on the Committee and Sub-Committee.

Councillors Mordey, P. Watson, A. Wilson and T. Wright are appointed as the Council's representatives on the North East Regional Employers' Organisation.

Councillor T. Wright was appointed as the member of the Executive Committee at the Annual Meeting of the Council on 18 May 2016. Subsequently Councillor Wright had been appointed as the Vice Chair of NEREO therefore a replacement Member was required to serve on the Executive Committee.

At the Annual Meeting of the Council held on 18 May, 2016, it was noted that the Leader had appointed Councillor Scanlan to serve on the Tyne and Wear Trading Standards Joint Committee.

Councillor Scanlan had indicated that she would prefer to be a substitute Member on the Joint Committee in view of her other Council commitments.

The Leader had therefore agreed that Councillor Fletcher, who was currently a substitute Member, swap positions with Councillor Scanlan.

Subsequent to the appointments made to the North East Combined Authority and its Committees at the Annual Meeting of the Council on 18 May 2016, the Monitoring Officer of the Combined Authority had written to the Council seeking a nomination of a substitute member of the North East Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the municipal year 2016/17.

The substitute Member would attend meetings in place of either of the Council's representatives; Councillors D.E. Snowdon and N. Wright.

At the Annual Meeting of the Council on 18 May 2016, Councillor D.E. Snowdon was appointed to serve on the Sherburn House Charity to replace the previous Council representative's term of office. This term of office was up to 28 August 2016.

Council was asked to consider the appointment to the new term of office until 28 August 2020.

Accordingly the Council was recommended to:-

- (i) appoint Councillor A. Lawson to replace Councillor D. Wilson to serve on the Licensing and Regulatory Committees;
- (ii) appoint Councillor P. Smith to replace Councillor Tye on the Planning and Highways Committee and the Development Control (South Sunderland) Sub- Committee;
- (iii) appoint Councillor A. Wilson in place of Councillor T. Wright as the Council's representative on the Executive Committee of the North East Regional Employers' Organisation;
- (iv) note that Councillor Fletcher had become the Council's representative with Councillor Scanlan as the substitute Member on the Tyne and Wear Trading Standards Joint Committee;
- (v) appoint Councillor D. Dixon as the substitute Member to serve on the North East Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the municipal year 2016/17; and
- (vi) re-appoint Councillor D.E. Snowdon to serve on the Sherburn House Charity for a term expiring on 28 August 2020.

Councillor Wood, duly seconded by Councillor Oliver, moved that recommendation (v) above be amended by the removal of the letter 'D' in the first line to be replaced by the letter 'M' so Council were asked to 'appoint Councillor M. Dixon as the

substitute Member to serve on the North East Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the municipal year 2016/17': -

Upon being put to the meeting the amendment was defeated with 10 members voting in favour:-

Councillors	Allen Dixon M. Francis	Gibson E. Hodson Howe	Leadbitter Marshall Oliver	Wood
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52 Members voting against:-

The Deputy Mayor (Councillor MacKnight)

Councillors	Allan Atkinson Ball Beck Bell Blackburn Chequer Cummings Davison Dixon D. Elliott Essl Farthing	Fletcher Foster Galbraith G. Galbraith I. Gibson P. Gofton Heron Hunt Jackson Johnston Kay Kelly Lawson	McClennan Middleton Miller G. Mordey O'Neil Scanlan Scullion Smith Snowdon D. Snowdon D. E. Speding Stewart Taylor	Trueman D. Truman H. Turner Tye Walker G. Walker P. Waters Watson S. Watson P. Williams Wilson A. Wright T.
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And 1 abstention – Councillor English

Accordingly it was:-

29. RESOLVED that the recommendations in the report of the Head of Law and Governance in respect of the appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies be approved.

Quarterly Report on Special Urgency Decisions

The Leader of the Council submitted a quarterly report on executive decisions which had been taken as a matter of special urgency which advised that there were no such instances since the last report.

The Leader of the Council, Councillor P Watson, duly seconded by the Deputy Leader, Councillor H Trueman, moved the report.

30. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

(Signed) A. EMERSON
Mayor

D. MACKNIGHT
Deputy Mayor

