

Decisions of the Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 9 December 2014

**These decisions are published for information in
advance of the publication of the Minutes**

DECISIONS:

1. PETITION

Save Queensbury Pool

Resolved –

That the petition be referred to the Executive.

ACTION: Assistant City Solicitor (referral to Committees)

2. MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES

Resolved –

- (1) That the appointment of Joyce Simpson as a voting Church of England co-opted member of the Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the remainder of the 2014/2015 municipal year be confirmed.**
- (2) That Councillor Robinson be appointed to the Bradford South Area Committee in place of Councillor Walls.**
- (3) That Councillor Ahmed be appointed to the Bradford West Area Committee in place of Councillor Thirkill and Councillor Thirkill be a Labour Group alternate.**
- (4) That Councillor Morris be appointed to the Keighley Area Committee in place of Councillor Atkinson and Councillor Atkinson be an Independents Group alternate.**
- (5) That Councillor Hawarun Hussain be appointed to the Shipley Area Committee in place of Councillor Greenwood and Councillor Greenwood be a Labour Group alternate.**



- (6) That Councillor Miller replace Councillor Shaw as an alternate on the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

ACTION: *Assistant City Solicitor*

3. **RECOMMENDATION FROM THE GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE – ANNUAL TREASURY MANAGEMENT REPORT 2013/14**

Resolved -

That the Annual Treasury Management Report 2013/14 be adopted.

ACTION: *Director of Finance*

4. **RECOMMENDATION FROM THE GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE – TREASURY MANAGEMENT MID YEAR REVIEW UP TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2014**

Resolved-

That the changes to the Treasury Policy set out in section 3.4.2 of Governance and Audit Committee Document “S” be adopted.

ACTION: *Director of Finance*

5. **DEVOLUTION OF POWERS FROM WESTMINSTER AND WHITEHALL**

Resolved-

This Council believes that decisions are best taken at as local a level as possible and we are pleased to see that following the Scottish Referendum and in the run up to the General Election all Parties are committing themselves to greater devolution in England.

This Council believes that the current centralised system we have in England is not only expensive but fails to deliver the best possible services for the people of the District.

We believe that the current discussions about the devolution to the Combined Authority need to be as wide ranging as possible and allow for further devolution of delivery of services to the lowest possible level of administration that is applicable and effective and to cover the widest range of service and fiscal devolution.

We believe that the Governance arrangements for devolved services should be a local matter as long as basic issues of accountability and probity can be satisfied.

ACTION: *Interim Chief Executive*

6. DEVOLUTION OF POWERS TO WEST YORKSHIRE

Resolved-

The Council notes that:

- (1) West Yorkshire and York Combined Authority Council Leaders have made it clear that they are willing to publish details of negotiations with national Government over further devolution.**
- (2) Representatives of national Government have made clear their desire for those details to remain confidential.**

ACTION: Interim Chief Executive

7. TOWNS AGAINST TAX DODGING

Resolved-

This Council notes:

- (1) It has been estimated that the UK Treasury loses as much as £12 billion to tax dodging by multinational companies every year.**
- (2) While many ordinary people face falling household income and rising costs of living, some multinational companies are avoiding billions of pounds of tax from a tax system that fails to make them pay their fair share.**
- (3) Developing countries lose three times more to tax dodging than they receive in aid each year – enough to give a basic education to the 57 million children currently missing out.**
- (4) Local governments in the UK and developing countries alike would benefit from a fairer tax system where multinational companies pay their fair share, enabling authorities around the world to provide good quality public services.**
- (5) The UK has a particular responsibility to end tax dodging, as it is responsible for 1 in 5 of the world's tax havens in the British Overseas Territories and Crown Dependencies.**
- (6) The use of tax havens by UK companies is rife, with 98 of the FTSE 100 companies routinely using tax havens.**
- (7) Large multinational companies pay as little as 5% in corporate taxes globally, while smaller businesses pay up to 30%.**
- (8) That the G8 Summit hosted by the UK in June 2013 made some progress on the issue of tax dodging and that the changes that are needed that were highlighted at the summit need to be implemented.**

This Council believes that:

- (1) Its ability to provide quality local services would be significantly enhanced by the increased revenues from the government doing more to tackle tax dodging.
- (2) All who benefit from public spending, including multinational companies should contribute their fair share.
- (3) The UK must take a lead role in creating a fairer tax system and combating tax dodging.
- (4) The UK government must listen to the strength of public feeling and act to end the injustice of tax dodging by large multinational companies.

The Council resolves to;

- (1) Support the campaign for tax justice - "Towns Against Tax Dodging"
- (2) Call on the Government to do more to prevent the tax avoidance by multinational companies that costs the UK up to £12 billion a year at a time when public services are under increasing financial pressure and that harms ordinary people around the world.

ACTION: *Interim Chief Executive*

8. HOT FOOD TAKEAWAYS

This motion was defeated.

9. PROMOTING PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT WITH PLANNING

Resolved-

Council notes:

- (1) Criticisms from the public, from parish councils and from members about the way in which the planning system operates
- (2) That the purpose of development control and management is to ensure planning decisions comply with the adopted development plan and that, so far as is possible, the expectations of that plan are met
- (3) That many people are not fully aware of the constraints and limitations on planning and development control

Council requests that the Strategic Director, Regeneration:

- (1) Develops a communications plan around the Local Plan process that seeks to inform the public about the planning process
- (2) Ensures that pre-application and other development engagement is undertaken as transparently as commercial confidence permits
- (3) Encourages developers, especially for significant and strategic proposals, to undertake more public consultation
- (4) Continues to develop and improve online promotion of public engagement with planning including via social media

ACTION: *Strategic Director, Regeneration and Culture/Assistant Director
Communications*

10. **ATTENDANCE AT COUNCIL MEETINGS**

Under the provisions of Standing Order 9 this item was withdrawn from the agenda.

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