

Minutes of a meeting of the Executive held on Thursday, 2 January 2020 in Committee Room 1 - City Hall, Bradford

Commenced 10.35 am
Concluded 12.35 pm

Members of the Executive – Councillors

LABOUR
Hinchcliffe (Chair)
I Khan
Ross-Shaw
Ferriby
Jabar
Farley

Observers: Councillors K Green, Pennington and Pollard

52. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

The following declarations of interest were received:

- (i) The Leader, Councillor Hinchcliffe declared an interest in the items relating to the Housing Strategy for Bradford district 2020-2030 (Minute 60) and Bradford Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2020-2025 (Minute 61) as she was the owner of an empty home as a result of inheritance, and she left the meeting during consideration and voting on both of the items
- (ii) The following Members of the Executive had also been granted dispensations under the Localism Act 2011 in relation to declared Disclosable Pecuniary Interests relating to employment, sponsorship and land for the purposes of speaking and voting at this meeting in relation to the Budget Consultation item (Minute 56):

Employment

Councillor Imran Khan

Sponsorship

Councillor Farley
Councillor Hinchcliffe

Councillor Jabar
Councillor Imran Khan
Councillor Ross-Shaw

Land

Councillor Farley
Councillor Ferriby
Councillor Hinchcliffe
Councillor Jabar
Councillor Imran Khan
Councillor Ross-Shaw

(iii) The following members disclosed a personal interest in the item on the agenda relating to the Budget 2020-21 and of the nature and description indicated by each category:

Members with a spouse, partner or close relative in the employment of the Council

Councillor Jabar
Councillor Imran Khan

Members employed by or who have a spouse, partner or close relative employed by a voluntary organisation/public body funded by the Council.

Councillor Imran Khan

Members who occupied land or who had a spouse, partner or relative who did or who were directors of companies or sat on the management committee of an organisation that occupies land under a lease or licence granted by the Council.

Councillor I Khan
Councillor Ross-Shaw

Members of other public authorities.

Airedale Partnership
Councillor Ross Shaw

Bradford Business Improvement District
Councillor Ross-Shaw

Bradford Economic Partnership
Cllr Hinchcliffe
Cllr Ross-Shaw

City Regions Board (LGA)
Councillor Hinchcliffe

Drake and Tonson Foundation
Cllr Farley

Haworth Exhibition Trust
Cllr Farley

Ilkley Business Improvement Board
Councillor Ross-Shaw

Key Cities
Councillor Hinchcliffe
Councillor Imran Khan

Leeds Bradford International Airport – Consultative Committee
Councillor Ross-Shaw

Leeds City Region Local Enterprise Partnership
Councillor Hinchcliffe

Nell Bank Outdoor Education Centre
Councillor Ferriby

Sir Titus Salt Trust
Councillor Hinchcliffe

University of Bradford - Court
Councillor Hinchcliffe

West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Councillor Hinchcliffe
Councillor Imran Khan (alternate)

West Yorkshire Combined Authority Inclusive Growth and Public Policy
Councillor Ross-Shaw

West Yorkshire Combined Authority West Yorkshire & York Investment Panel
Councillor Ross-Shaw

West Yorkshire Combined Authority Business Innovation and Growth Panel
Councillor Ross-Shaw

West Yorkshire Combined Authority Business Investment Panel
Councillor Ross-Shaw

West Yorkshire Combined Authority Employment Skills Panel
Councillor Hinchcliffe
Councillor Imran Khan

West Yorkshire Combined Authority Governance and Audit
Councillor Hinchcliffe
Councillor Imran Khan (alternate)

West Yorkshire Combined Authority Green Economy Panel
Councillor Ferriby

West Yorkshire Combined Authority City Region Partnership
Councillor Hinchcliffe

West Yorkshire Combined Authority Place Panel
Councillor Hinchcliffe
Councillor Ross-Shaw

West Yorkshire Joint Services Committee
Councillor Hinchcliffe
Councillor Imran Khan

Wrose Carnival Management Committee
Councillor Hinchcliffe
Councillor Ross-Shaw

Yorkshire Libraries and Information
Cllr Ferriby

Parish Councillors

Councillor Hinchcliffe
Councillor Ross-Shaw

Members who sit on the management committee/ trustee of a voluntary organisation in receipt of Council Funding.

Councillor Ferriby
Councillor Hinchcliffe
Councillor Jabar
Councillor Imran Khan

Members who are members of a Council funded organisation.

Councillor Imran Khan
Councillor Ross-Shaw

Members appointed by the Council to a public body with an interest in the Council's budget

Keighley Business Improvement District Board
Councillor Ross-Shaw

Members who are appointed to external bodies

Bradford City Challenge Foundation Limited
Councillor Imran Khan

Canal Road Urban Village
Councillor Ross-Shaw

City of Film
Councillor Ferriby

Friends of Brackenhill Park
Councillor Jabar

Great Horton Partnership
Councillor Jabar

Ummid/Himmat Management Board
Councillor Jabar

Other Interests

Unison Calderdale
Councillor Jabar

Members who are school governors
Councillor Farley
Councillor Ferriby

Members entitled to receive an allowance paid by the Council

All members of the Executive in attendance.

Any members who are in receipt of a West Yorkshire Pension Fund pension.

ACTION: City Solicitor

53. MINUTES

Recommended –

That the minutes of the meeting held on 8 October and 5 November 2019 be signed as a correct record.

ACTION: City Solicitor

54. INSPECTION OF REPORTS AND BACKGROUND PAPERS

There were no appeals submitted by the public to review decisions to restrict documents.

55. RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE EXECUTIVE

There were no recommendations to the Executive.

LEADER OF COUNCIL & CORPORATE

(Councillor Hinchcliffe)

56. PROPOSED FINANCIAL PLAN UPDATED 2020/21

The report of the Director of Finance (**Document “AB”**) set out the update on budget decisions and Council Tax including new proposals for consultation with the public, interested parties, staff and Trade Unions for 2020/21.

An opposition member in attendance at the meeting welcomed the proposed use of £700,000 Public Health funding on on-going investment to support delivery of Health outcomes within and from libraries and asked whether this would result in a halt to reductions in library staff. He also referred to the Ilkley 20mph zone and the fact that a child had been hit by a car on Grove Road and asked whether there were any plans to extend the 20 mph zone. The member was thanked for his questions and advised that they would be responded to during the course of the meeting.

A representative of UNITE the Union attended the meeting and questioned why the budget covered a two year period stating that the union’s preference would be for a one year budget. He was unaware that any consultation had taken place with the Union on the coming budget over the previous months. He asked where the £21m investment in Children’s Services was to come from.

In response the Leader spoke in favour of a 3 year budget which would give more time to plan, transform and reconfigure services. She added that in previous years changes had been asked for over a short period which had created issues and noted that all staff would like certainty about their future.

It was noted that on 15 October the Council received a petition in respect of Museums and Libraries and referred the petition to the Executive. At the Executive on 5 November 2019 the Leader stated that it should be considered as part of the Budget consultation report at the December meeting and the petitioner be advised accordingly. The December meeting of the Executive having been cancelled the budget report was being considered at this meeting and the petitioners had been invited to the meeting. No representative of the petitioners attended the meeting. It was noted that the budget consultation would be considered by the Executive in February and that the petitioners would have the opportunity to attend the meeting.

The Healthy People and Places Portfolio Holder understood the concerns raised in the petition and referred to the years of austerity since 2010/11. She emphasised the budget proposal to invest £700,000 from Public Health to support delivery of Health outcomes, support the libraries network and create a sustainable network for the future. She noted that 700 residents had responded in the engagement process and the proposals would be brought forward at a future date.

The Leader in presenting and tabling the Labour Group’s Budget and Council Tax proposals for 2020/21, stated that between 2011/12 and 2019/20 the Council had

taken measures to reduce costs and increase income amounting to £278m and that the authority's spending power had been reduced by half over that period. She thanked Council employees in providing more for less. She added that a further £31m reductions would have to be made in the future years and that significant changes would have to be made. She explained that £1.6m investment was proposed to meet demographic pressures in Adult Social Care, additional funding was proposed to support the Keighley and Shipley Stronger Towns programme, that £700,000 Public Health investment was to be allocated to libraries and that the £500,000 reduction to museums was to be postponed. She went on to add that plans for major new capital investments were proposed as part of the Council's response to the climate emergency and referred to the District Heat Network, Renewable Energy Projects and Climate Change Building Controls and the Fleet electric vehicles programme. She referred to the ambitious programme to plant a tree for every primary school child in the District and plans for major capital investments as part of the Council's response to the climate emergency. She emphasised the need to stimulate regeneration of the city and the District by investing in city and town centres to develop the economy and referred to the need to ensure that Bradford had a city centre stop on Northern Powerhouse Rail. She was pleased to announce that no new redundancies were proposed for 2020/21. She stressed that changes were needed to the fair funding formula to ensure that Bradford was not disadvantaged; that the Government should consider the impact of Business Rates Reform on Local Government and that investment in Social Care by the Government was three years overdue.

The Director of Finance set out the key budget messages, provisional budget settlement, additional national funding proposed and budget highlights. The Strategic Director Corporate Resources explained proposals to invest in inclusive and sustainable growth. The Strategic Director of Place highlighted the City Centre regeneration schemes.

The Regeneration, Planning and Transport Portfolio holder commended a strong budget for growth. He referred to the Shipley and Keighley Business Development Zones, District Growth schemes and a number of city centre projects that were moving to delivery phase such as the new City Market, One City Park and Foster Square Station. He also referred to the next generation of projects such as the pedestrianisation of Market Street through the Transforming Cities Fund, the Top of Town, City Village and Northern Powerhouse Rail. He was pleased that it had been possible to postpone the road safety cuts. He referred to the child that had been run over in Ilkley who was in members thoughts and confirmed that it was proposed to roll out the 20 mph zones concentrating on schools. He noted that Ward Councillors would be kept informed about and proposals for a 20 mph zone in Ben Rhydding.

The Healthy People and Places Portfolio Holder referred to plans for major capital investment in response to the climate emergency such as the fleet electric vehicles programme; she noted the launch of a programme to plant a tree for every primary school child in the district. She commended the proposals that would result in a cleaner and greener environment, improve mental and physical health and reduce the authority's carbon footprint. She referred to the City of Culture 2025 bid and the importance of having a sustainable Museums Service. She added that the proposed on-going £700,000 investment to support an updated offer in libraries would have educational and health benefits. She noted

that childhood obesity was being addressed through the Living Well initiative. She added that the social care precept was proposed at 2% to sustain good quality services and keep pace with the increase in demand to support vulnerable people. She commended the investment in waste services. She noted the investment in mental health initiatives in suicide prevention, tackling isolation and investment in dual trained mental health and drug/alcohol staff.

The Assistant Director, Sport and Culture referred to the member question about libraries opening hours and confirmed that there would be a managed transition period to avoid redundancies and workforce reductions. He added that £700,000 on going investment was proposed to reduce changes going forward and reduce any unplanned library closures.

The Children and Families Portfolio Holder announced a total funding package of £21m to support services to children and added that the current year's budget had invested to recruit and retain social workers and better practice and that the additional funding would be used to respond to rising demands from demographic change. He noted that since 2011 there had been a 41% increase in Looked After Children and that the Local Government Association estimated that councils faced a £1.4 billion funding gap for children's services next year, rising to £3 billion by 2025. He noted the permanent appointment of the Director and Deputy Director of Children's Services and that the recruitment of Heads of Service was underway. He added that Early Help and Prevention was currently being remodelled. He noted that it was proposed to increase Council Tax support for 22-25 year old care leavers. In response to the questions raised by a representative of UNITE the Union he noted that the formal consultation on the budget proposals started on that day, that the remodelling of Early Help and Prevention had been shared with OJC and had concluded by agreement. The Leader added that officers would be happy to go through the budget proposals with UNITE the Union. The Director of Finance confirmed that a consultation meeting was scheduled to take place with unions on 6 January 2020.

The Neighbourhoods and Community Safety Portfolio Holder noted that £700,000 was being committed to Welfare Advice from the Public Health budget to help promote health and wellbeing and mitigate against previous cuts. He added that the planned £513,000 reduction in youth services was to be postponed and called on government to secure more sustainable funding into the future in order to protect youth services.

The Leader stressed the need to engage with young people, regenerate the district and also support more vulnerable people. She added that she wanted everyone in the district to benefit from regeneration. She confirmed that consultation on the budget started on that day and that consultation responses would be reported back to the Executive on 4 February.

Resolved -

That Executive, having considered the Council’s public sector equality duty as set out above:

- (a) Approve for consultation as required with the public, interested parties, staff and Trade Unions the new budget proposals for 2020/21 set out at Appendix E to Document AB**
- (b) Approve for consultation as required with the public, interested parties, staff and Trade Unions the proposed recurrent spending included in the financial estimates as set out in Appendix C and the non recurrent spending plans in Appendix D to Document AB**
- (c) Approve for consultation the proposed new capital schemes PCS1 to PCS16 as set out in section 8 of Document AB**
- (d) Note the proposed use of reserves as set out in Appendix G to Document AB**
- (e) Approve the consultation mechanisms and processes set out in section 9 to Document AB**
- (f) Approve for consultation the extension of the Council Tax Support for care leavers aged 22-25 with a discount of 50% on their Council Tax bill from 1 April 2020**
- (g) Approve for consultation the extension of transitional support from 1 April 2020 for those households adversely affected by more than £17 per week in respect of the Council Tax Reduction Scheme. This transitional support to be reviewed during 2020.**

ACTION: Director of Finance
Overview & Scrutiny Committee: Corporate

REGENERATION, PLANNING & TRANSPORT PORTFOLIO

(Councillor Ross-Shaw)

57. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

58. ONE CITY PARK

The Strategic Director Place submitted a report (**Document “AC” which contains Not For Publication Appendix 2**) which updated Members on the outcome of the process to procure a Development Partner for the One City Park scheme as approved by the Executive at its meeting on the 10 July 2018.

The report also sought approval for the maximum financial commitment required to deliver this project to go into the budget process and upon approval of that

budget for the Strategic Director of Place in consultation with the Strategic Director Corporate Resources to enter into a Development Agreement with the preferred Development Partner to deliver the One City Park scheme.

The Strategic Director of Place outlined the need for new Grade A office space in the city centre and noted that none had been delivered in the last 20 years. He pointed out that this had restricted the city's ability to expand local companies and attract new ones. He was pleased to announce one of the Country's leading names in mixed use development and urban regeneration, Muse as the preferred Development Partner. It was reported that Muse had worked in partnership with a number of authorities such as Salford, Stockport, Manchester and Leeds.

The Regeneration, Planning and Transport Portfolio Holder was pleased that Muse, a major national name in mixed use development was coming to Bradford which demonstrated its confidence in the District. He emphasised the quality of the development which was worthy of One City Park, with high standards of sustainability taking into account the climate change agenda. He was pleased that it would bring 500 direct jobs into the city centre and also generate secondary jobs.

Resolved –

- (1) That the procurement procedure undertaken be acknowledged and the appointment of Muse Developments Ltd., be confirmed as its preferred developer in accordance with the outcome of said procedure.**
- (2) That the financial commitment up to the maximum funding commitment sum as referred to in Not For Publication Appendix 2 Section 4.2 to Document AC be entered into the Council's budget programme to cover the cost of delivering the OCP scheme.**
- (3) That in the event that the maximum provision funding is approved by Council the Strategic Director of Place, in collaboration with the Strategic Director Corporate Resources complete a Development Agreement with Muse Development Ltd., as the Council's Development Partner to deliver the One City Park Scheme.**

ACTION: Strategic Director Place

Overview & Scrutiny Committee: Regeneration and Environment

59. CONSIDERATION OF A PETITION IN RELATION TO THE PEDESTRIANISATION OF MARKET STREET, BRADFORD

A petition containing 1070 signatures was received by Full Council on 16 July 2019 and referred to Executive for consideration. This petition requested that the Council consider the possibility of pedestrianisation of Market Street in Bradford city centre for the benefit of businesses and people visiting Bradford City Centre.

The Strategic Director of Place submitted a report (**Document "AD"**) that

updated Executive on how the proposal to pedestrianise Market Street had been incorporated into the West Yorkshire Combined Authority's Transforming Cities Fund bid in November 2019 and the outcomes of initial stakeholder engagement relating to this proposal.

The Regeneration, Planning and Transport Portfolio Holder saw the proposal as an exciting opportunity that would improve links to other parts of the city centre. He stressed that it was important to maintain quality bus access and noted that modelling had identified that improved bus times could be delivered and that access to bus services could be maintained.

Resolved –

That the lead petitioner be advised that the pedestrianisation scheme for Market Street forms part of the Active & Sustainable Travel proposal for Transforming Cities Funding bid. If this bid is successful in securing funding the Council will be developing proposals for Market Street throughout 2020.

ACTION: Strategic Director Place
Overview & Scrutiny Committee: Regeneration and Environment

NOTE: having declared an interest in the following item (Housing Strategy for Bradford District) Councillor Hinchcliffe left the meeting during consideration and voting on the item.

Councillor I Khan in the Chair

60. 'A PLACE TO CALL HOME, A PLACE TO THRIVE, HOUSING STRATEGY FOR BRADFORD DISTRICT, 2020-2030'

The report of the Strategic Director, Place (**Document "AE"**) presented the revised housing strategy, 'A Place to Call Home, A Place to Thrive, Housing Strategy for Bradford District, 2020-2030'. The strategy set out the vision, priorities, challenges and approach for meeting the housing needs of the residents of the district. The strategy was a high-level strategic document for the Council and its partners to follow when developing and delivering housing policies, plans, and delivery programmes.

The Strategic Director stressed that the housing strategy was partner led, that considerable consultation had taken place and that it was built on a robust evidence base. The Strategy recognised the challenges that Bradford faced such as the high proportion of heritage stock. Qualitative and quantitative evidence had been used to produce the Strategy.

The Education, Employment and Skills Portfolio holder welcomed the report.

A member who attended the meeting was pleased to note that our approach to delivery included an intention to continue to work with government to resettle refugees. He noted that there were 4,000 empty houses in the district however the Strategic Director pointed out that closing the gap between the number of long

term empty homes in the district and the West Yorkshire Average was a key target in the Strategy. It was also noted that the Empty Homes Action Plan had successfully received 3 awards in the last two years.

The Regeneration, Planning and Transport portfolio holder thanked officer and partners and members on the Regeneration and Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee for their valued contribution. He acknowledged the need for more quality homes in the right places and improved housing stock.

Resolved –

- (1) That the housing strategy, “A Place to Call Home, A Place To Thrive, Housing Strategy for the District, 2020-2030’ be endorsed and recommended to full Council for approval.**
- (2) That the support provided by partners in developing the strategy, be noted and the significant contribution that will be provided by housing and other partners in implementing the strategy be acknowledged.**
- (3) That the importance of a strong and effective Housing Partnership which will play a vital role in monitoring, reviewing and reporting on measures contained within the strategy be noted.**
- (4) That the Strategic Director of Place, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder, is delegated authority to undertake monitoring and implementation of this strategy.**

ACTION: Strategic Director Place

Overview & Scrutiny Committee: Regeneration and Environment

61. BRADFORD HOMELESSNESS AND ROUGH SLEEPING STRATEGY 2020 - 2025

The report of the Strategic Director Place (**Document “AF”**) outlined the development of a refreshed Homelessness and Rough Sleeping strategy for the district. The strategy set out the vision, themes and priority actions identified for tackling homelessness and rough sleeping over the next five years. The strategy had been drafted as a high-level framework to guide and influence the policies and delivery programmes of partners and stakeholders.

The Strategic Director welcomed the input from the Regeneration & Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Health and Wellbeing Board and noted the desire for all services to work collaboratively. It was noted that a wide range of organisations had been involved in producing the strategy that had a strategic emphasis on partnership working and an ambition of striving to end homelessness and rough sleeping.

The Regeneration, Planning and Transport portfolio holder noted that every year

since 2010 there had been more approaches to the Council from people who were either homeless or threatened with homelessness. He added that this was a national scandal, the Council was doing what it could to address this and that encouraging results had been achieved through the Council funded pilot project.

Resolved -

- (1) That the Bradford Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2020-2025 be endorsed.**
- (2) That the support provided by partners in developing the strategy be noted, and the significant contribution that will be provided by housing, homelessness and other partners in implementing this strategy be acknowledged.**
- (3) That Strategic Director Place, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder, is delegated authority to undertake monitoring and implementation of this strategy.**

ACTION: Strategic Director Place
Overview & Scrutiny Committee: Regeneration and Environment

Councillor Hinchcliffe in the Chair

62. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

Resolved –

That the public be excluded from the meeting during the discussion of the Not for Publication Document “AG” on the grounds that it is likely, in view of the nature of the proceedings, that if they were present, exempt information within paragraph 3 (financial or business affairs) and 5 (legal privilege) of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) would be disclosed and it is considered that, in all the circumstances, the public interest in allowing the public to remain is outweighed by the public interest in excluding public access to the relevant part of the proceedings for the following reasons:

It is in the public interest in maintaining these exemptions because it is in the overriding interest of proper administration that Members are made fully aware of the financial and legal implications of any decision.

63. YPO - STRATEGIC ACQUISITION

Members were asked to consider the confidential report of the Strategic Director Corporate Services (**Not for Publication Document “AG”**).

Resolved –

That the recommendations contained in Not for Publication Document “AG” be approved.

ACTION: Strategic Director Corporate Services
Overview & Scrutiny Committee: Corporate

Chair

Note: These minutes are subject to approval as a correct record at the next meeting of the Executive

THESE MINUTES HAVE BEEN PRODUCED, WHEREVER POSSIBLE, ON RECYCLED PAPER