

## Minutes of a meeting of the Regulatory and Appeals Committee held on Thursday, 25 April 2024 at 10.00 am in the Council Chamber - City Hall, Bradford

Commenced 10.00 am  
Concluded 10.45 am

### Present – Councillors

LABOUR	CONSERVATIVE	GREEN
Shafiq Alipoor Jamil Mullaney	Brown Pollard	Edwards

### Councillor Shafiq in the Chair

#### 49. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

In the interest of transparency Councillor Edwards declared that he was the owner of two dogs.

*To be actioned by: Interim Director Legal and Governance*

#### 50. MINUTES

Resolved –

That the minutes of the Trustees meeting held on 28 March 2024 be signed as a correct record.

#### 51. INSPECTION OF REPORTS AND BACKGROUND PAPERS

There were no appeals submitted to review decisions to restrict documents.

#### 52. MEMBERSHIP OF SUB-COMMITTEES

There were no changes proposed to Sub-Committee membership.

#### 53. DOG CONTROL PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER FOR THE BRADFORD DISTRICT

The Strategic Director Place submitted a report (**Document “L”**) which detailed a proposed extension and variation of the existing Dog Control Public Space Protection Order for the Bradford District under the powers arising from the Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014 (the Act).

The Environmental Services and Enforcement Manager stated that the proposed Order was an extension and variation of the previous order which would expire at the end of May 2024. Since the writing of the report, a few minor amendments had been to the Order in the light of legal advice, which were set out in Appendix F, as amended.

A public consultation exercise had been undertaken from the 25 February to the 10 March 2024 with interested parties, with the overwhelming majority in favour of extending the Order, the details of the consultation responses were set out in Appendix B to the report.

The options for Members to agree on were alluded to as well as the amendments, such as the need for a dog owner to have a suitable means to pick up after their dog, when asked by an authorised officer. In addition, the defined area of the Order was stipulated on the map as set out. The amendments however did not drastically change the Order as previously outlined.

During questions, a Member ascertained why there had been revisions made to the report since the publication of the agenda. In response it was stated that following further legal advice, a few amendments were suggested which tightened the Order and gave it more clarity and that it is legally enforceable, and for this reason under Standing Order 38.2 of the Council’s Constitution, the final report had not been made available 5 clear wording days in advance of the meeting.

A Member stated that he welcomed the Order and that it would deal with the many complaints received around dog fouling, however he ascertained the level of enforcement action undertaken. In response it was stated that 12 penalty notices had been issued in the last year and this was in relation to a specific engagement. The Member expressed his concerns around the level of enforcement activity and the role of wardens. In response it was stated that going forward several wardens would just be undertaking enforcement work across the piece, and that a rota would be developed accordingly.

In response to several questions around City Park, it was explained that City Park was previously covered by a separate Order, however this Order now brought all the different Orders under one umbrella and amalgamated within the new Order and that dogs were specifically excluded from City Park in order to preserve the quality of the water.

In response to a question around interactive water features and other definitions stipulated within the Order, it was stressed that appropriate signage was key, and that the public should be guided by the signage. In addition, if enforcement was undertaken to deal with an issue outside of working hours or on weekends, then that would be facilitated. It was also stressed that Council wardens would be “pragmatic” when enforcing the rules, particularly in relation to specific events that may be held in the district.

**Resolved –**

**That the existing order be extended for a further three years with the amendments as per the attached proposed order set out in Appendix F to Document “L”.**

***To be actioned by: Strategic Director Place***

Chair

**Note: These minutes are subject to approval as a correct record at the next meeting of the Regulatory and Appeals Committee.**

THIS AGENDA AND ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTS HAVE BEEN PRODUCED, WHEREVER POSSIBLE, ON RECYCLED PAPER