Council

6.00 pm, 17 July 2019

Present at the meeting

Councillor S Dawber (Mayor)
Councillor M Aldred
Councillor K Anderson
Councillor D Anderton
Councillor P J Blay
Councillor R Brierley
Councillor J Brown
Councillor J Bullen
Councillor P A Collins
Councillor A F Collinson
Councillor R J Conway
Councillor P Cullen
Councillor K Cunliffe
Councillor G Davies
Councillor P Draper
Councillor J Ellis
Councillor S Evans
Councillor S Gambles
Councillor S Gerrard
Councillor S J Greensmith
Councillor J N Grundy
Councillor T W Halliwell
Councillor J Harding
Councillor S J Hellier
Councillor J Hodgkinson
Councillor P L Holland
Councillor K Houlton
Councillor S Jones
Councillor P Kelly
Councillor P T Kenny
Councillor Y Klieve
Councillor P A Maiden
Councillor J Marshall
Councillor G Merrett
Councillor C W Morgan
Councillor M Morgan
Councillor D T Molyneux
Councillor J Moodie
Councillor J O'Brien
Councillor D Parkinson
Councillor J Prescott
Councillor P Prescott
Councillor S Ramsdale
Councillor C Ready
Councillor N Rehman
Councillor C Rigby
Councillor E Rigby
Councillor C L Roberts
Councillor W Rotherham
Councillor J Sharratt
Councillor E Smethurst
Councillor M Smethurst
Councillor P R C Smith
Councillor C Sweeney
Councillor A Sykes
Councillor B J Taylor
Councillor A Thorpe
Councillor J Vickers
Councillor P Wakefield
Councillor F B Walker
Councillor J P Watson
Councillor M Whitham
Councillor R Whittingham
Councillor S Wilkinson
Councillor M W Winstanley

72 Apologies for absence::
Councillors Clarke, Clayton, Hilton, E Houlton, Hunt, Marsh, McLoughlin, Talbot and Wailles.

73 Minutes:
The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 22 May 2019 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

74 Announcements from the Mayor:

(a) Queen’s Birthday Honours 2019
There were no Queen’s Birthday Honours to report at this time.

(b) Queen’s Award for Voluntary Service - Organisations
The Mayor on behalf of the Council, congratulated Embrace on receiving the Queen’s Award for Voluntary Service - Organisations. The organisation has been active in the borough for 22 years.

(c) Queen’s Award for Enterprise 
The Mayor on behalf of the Council, also congratulated Bitrez from Standish and Foilco from Lowton on receiving the Queen’s Award for Enterprise. Both firms would receive their awards from the Lord Lieutenant in July 2019.

(d) Queen’s Award For Voluntary Service - Individuals 
The Mayor, on behalf of the Council, congratulated the following who had been awarded the Queen’s Award for Voluntary Service:

- Lynne Hamnett – Embrace Wigan and Leigh
- David Eckersley – Leigh Cricket, Tennis and Bowling Club
- Anne Woolley – Wigan Little Theatre
- Caroline Tomlinson – My Life legacy.

(e) Pearson National Teaching Award for Sharon Bruton 
The Mayor on behalf of the Council congratulated Sharon Bruton, Chief Executive of the Keys Federation Academy Trust on receiving the Pearson National Teaching Award for her work as a digital innovator:

Congratulations were afforded to all who had received these prestigious awards.

(f) Armed Forces Day - 29 June 2019 
The Mayor referred to the Armed Forces Day event held on 29 June 2019. This national even was designed to give support to our armed forces and this year’s event was held in Wigan Town Centre and was very well supported.

On behalf of the Council, the Mayor thanked everyone involved in making this event a success.

75 Update from Cabinet Portfolio Holders:
The Portfolio Holder for Children and Young People’s Services, Councillor Bullen, addressed the Council on the responsibilities of the Council as Corporate Parents and the Council’s responsibility in ensuring that those leaving care were supported in order to have the best chance to thrive independently as young adults and to achieve their dreams and aspirations.

She reported that the Council had 142 care leavers who were working to the Deal for Care Leavers. A report would be presented to the Integrated Commissioning Committee suggesting the possibility of providing free prescriptions up to the age of 25.

76 Constitutional Issues:

(a) Change to Political Balance
The Council was advised that the political balance of the Council had changed since the Annual General Meeting, due to the Makerfield Independent Group increasing by one Member. This has had little effect on the Committee Places and as such, it was intended that the Committee places would remain the same.

The Group Leader for the Makerfield Independent Group confirmed that he was happy with his current Committee place allocation.

Resolved: The Council notes the change to the political balance of the Council.

(b) Review of Council Meetings
The Council was advised of the suggested revisions to future Council meetings to accommodate the following:-

- to move the current November meeting to 4 December 2019 and cancel the January 2020 meeting; and.
- remove the January meeting from the municipal calendar for future years.

The changes had been discussed at the Councillor Services Group on 13 June (minute 36 refers) and Cabinet on 4 July 2019 (minute 9 refers), were the changes had been supported.

Resolved: The Council approves the following:-

1. to move the current November meeting to 4 December 2019 and cancel the January 2020 meeting; and
2. to remove the January meeting from the municipal calendar for future years.

(c) Monitoring of Urgent Items and Exemptions from Call-in
The Council considered a report of the Assistant Director, Legal, Brendan Whitworth, on the monitoring of urgent items and items exempt from Call In since July 2018. The report advised of the Key Decisions and Public Excluded Decisions that were taken as urgent items under Rule 16 of the Access to Information Procedure rules and also of any decisions that had been exempt from Call In due to the urgency of the implementation of the matter in accordance with rule 16(i) of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules.

Resolved: The Council notes the decisions.

(d) Appointment of Statutory and Non-Statutory Co-opted Members to the Council's Committees
The Council considered a report of the Assistant Director, Legal, which requested the Council’s approval to appoint statutory and non-statutory Co-opted Members to the relevant committees for the municipal year 2019/20.

Resolved: The Council approves the nominations as follows:

Nominations for Statutory Co-opted Members:-

Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee - Statutory Co-opted Member nominations
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector / Organisation</th>
<th>Nomination</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parent Governor Representative – Secondary Sector</td>
<td>Tracy Lamb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parent Governor Representative – Primary Sector</td>
<td>Steven Bell</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Nominations for Non-Statutory Co-opted Members:-

**Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee - Non-Statutory Co-opted Member nominations**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organisation</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wigan School Governors Forum</td>
<td>Tom Frost</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wigan Youth Cabinet</td>
<td>William Powell / David Higginbottom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Embrace - Wigan and Leigh</td>
<td>Lynne Hamnett</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Health and Social Care Scrutiny Committee - Non-Statutory Co-opted Member nominations**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organisation</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Healthwatch Wigan and Leigh</td>
<td>Stef Duerden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Embrace - Wigan and Leigh</td>
<td>Lynne Hamnett</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Audit, Governance and Standards Committee - Non-Statutory Co-opted Member nominations**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector / Organisation</th>
<th>Nomination</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Co-opted for Standards business</td>
<td>Parish Councillor Michael Grimes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(e) **Local Authority Governors**

The Council considered a report of the Director for Children and Families, James Winterbottom, which gave details of schools within the Borough where appointments of local authority representative Governors were required.

Resolved: The Council:-

(1) agrees the nominations for the appointment and re appointment of persons as Local Authority Governors as follows:-
requests the Director for Children and Families to advise the Local Authority representative governors of their terms of office as set out in the report.

(Councillor Gambles declared a personal and non prejudicial interest in this item because she is a School Governor at Golborne Community Primary School.)

(Councillor Klieve declared a personal and non prejudicial interest in this item because she is a School Governor at Golborne Community Primary School.)

(f) **Review of AGMA Constitution**
The Council considered a report of the Assistant Director – Legal, which requested the Council’s approval to the amendments to the AGMA Constitution following a review by the GMCA Monitoring Officer.

Resolved: The Council:-

(a) notes that the AGMA Executive Board and GMCA have agreed the amendments to the AGMA Constitution;
(b) agrees to the revised AGMA Constitution; and
(c) appoints the GMCA Substitute Member as the Substitute Member for the AGMA Executive Board, that being Councillor Cunliffe.

77 **Policy Framework or Budget Framework items:**

(a) **Provisional Outturn 18/19**
The Council considered a report of the Director of Resources and Contracts, (Deputy Chief Executive), Paul McKevitt which provided a summary of the outturn position for the 2018/19 financial year. The report had been considered by Cabinet at its meeting to be held on 4 July 2019 (minute 7 refers).

Resolved: The Council adopts the updated Capital Programme.

(Councillor Winstanley declared a personal and non prejudicial interest in this item because he is the Vice-Chairman of Governors at Orrell Holgate Academy and a Trustee and Greengate Multi Academy Trust.)

(b) **Treasury Management Annual Review 2018/19**
The Council considered a report of the Director of Resources and Contracts (Deputy Chief Executive), which provided details of the Treasury Management activity for the
Council for the 2018/19 financial year. The report had been considered by the Audit, Governance and Standards Committee at its meeting to be held on 20 June 2019.

Councillor Brierley asked for the costings for the Standards Hearing Case number CL77.83, which had taken place the previous day and the Leader suggested that this information be sent to all Members of the Council.

Resolved: The Council:-

(1) notes the outturn position for 2018/19 and the comparison against the prudential indicators approved by Council in March 2018;
(2) agrees that the information relating to Standards Hearing Case number CL77.83 be sent to all Members of the Council; and
(3) places on record its appreciation to all the staff who have been involved with the financial management of the Council.

(c) The Kings Fund - a citizen-led approach to health and care
This item was deferred until the Council meeting on the 11 September 2019.

78 Questions and Comments on the Deliberations of Cabinet and Committees (under rule 8(1)(a)(b)):
Councillor Winstanley made the following comment:-

I would like to make a comment on the recent decision by the Local Authority to cancel the building works to increase the size of Orrell Holgate School.

Councillor Winstanley expressed his disappointment at the decision to cease the building works, but he was appreciative of the offer to meet with the Director of Children and Families the following week to discuss the options.

The Portfolio Holder for Children and Families, Councillor Bullen, acknowledged the frustrations and the lateness of the decision that had been taken. She explained that when making a decision to invest basic need money into a school, the Council must demonstrate that there was going to be a long term need for places. The Portfolio Holder outlined the projected numbers which illustrated that there was no need for a half form entry addition to the school at this moment in time.

(Councillor Winstanley declared a personal and non prejudicial interest in this item because he is the Vice-Chairman of Governors at Orrell Holgate Academy and a Trustee and Greengate Multi Academy Trust.)

79 Notices of Motion:
The Chief Executive and the Assistant Director – Legal, submitted a joint report on the competence and lawfulness of the motions which had been received.

(1) Councillor Halliwell moved the following motion, which was seconded by Councillor Walker. This motion was deferred from the Council meeting on 17 April 2019:-

The Council has directly provided in excess of 400 affordable homes for rent, since 2010, and we welcome a further 136 currently in a programme scheduled for the next two years. (31 Words)
This Council is asked to make a further commitment to explore further funding opportunities, as they present themselves, to provide more social housing in the future.

On the motion being put to the vote, the Mayor declared it carried.

(2) Councillor Molyneux moved the following motion, which was seconded by Councillor Cunliffe.

This Council requests that the Mayor writes on behalf of the people of this Borough to the Governor General of the BBC and the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture Media and Sport asking them to rescind their decision to abolish free Television Licenses for the over 75’s.

Councillor Molyneux submitted an alteration to his motion in accordance with rule of procedure 11.10 Alteration and Withdrawal of Motion, which was seconded by Councillor Cunliffe, which read as follows:-

This Council requests that the Chief Executive writes on behalf of the people of this Borough to the Director General of the BBC asking him to rescind the decision to abolish free TV Licenses for the over 75’s and to the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport asking for government intervention and support to ensure that free TV Licenses can continue for the over 75s.

Councillor Winstanley had moved the following amendment, which was seconded by Councillor Grundy:-

This Council requests the Chief Executive writes on behalf of the people of this Borough to the Director General of the BBC asking him to rescind the decision to abolish free TV Licenses for the over 75’s and send a copy to the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport.

The Leader asked Councillor Winstanley would he prepared to accept the altered motion. Councillor Winstanley agreed and withdrew the amendment.

A vote was taken on the altered motion, which was carried and the altered motion became the substantive motion.

On the substantive motion being put to the vote, the Mayor declared it carried and it was:

Resolved: This Council requests that the Chief Executive writes on behalf of the people of this Borough to the Director General of the BBC asking him to rescind the decision to abolish free TV Licenses for the over 75’s and to the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, asking for government intervention and support to ensure that free TV Licenses can continue for the over 75s.

(Councillor Mrs E Smethurst declared a personal and non prejudicial interest in this item because her husband is in receipt of a free TV licence.)

(3) Councillor Rehman moved the following motion, which was seconded by Councillor Smith:-
The Council urges the chief executive to write to the government supporting the SIGOMA campaign for urban authorities, who’ve been disproportionately disadvantaged since 2010 and are now concerned for an inadequate local government settlement and new funding formula that fails to recognise the factors that increase the demand for services.

On the motion being put to the vote, the Mayor declared it carried.

(4) Councillor Watson moved the following motion, which was seconded by Councillor Gerrard:-

I ask that the Council help tackle ASB throughout the whole Borough by reinforcing its zero-tolerance approach in our communities by working closely with external organisations and housing providers through adhering to its own policies and legislation regarding ASB in order to provide the best service available to our residents.

The Portfolio Holder for Police, Crime and Civil Contingencies, Councillor Anderson thanked Councillor Watson for the motion and suggested that it be referred to Cabinet for full consideration under Rule of Procedure 9.8. This was to allow Cabinet to consider the proposed motion and to make a recommendation to the next Council meeting.

(5) Councillor Sweeney moved the following motion, which was seconded by Councillor Marshall:-

The impact of climate change is already causing serious damage around the world and all governments (national, regional and local) have a duty to act. Strong policies to cut emissions have associated health, wellbeing and economic benefits. This council therefore declares a ‘Climate Emergency’ and commits to taking urgent action: -

This Council will:

Work with our GM neighbours and other key stakeholders to make the Council’s activities net-zero carbon by 2038 or sooner, and to support other relevant agencies to help make the entire GM region zero carbon within the same timescale;
Improve our air quality, meeting World Health Organisation guidelines on air quality by 2030 and supporting the UK Government in meeting and maintaining all threshold for key air pollutants at the earliest date.

Promote our move to a circular economy, recycling 65% of our municipal waste by 2035 and reducing the amount of waste we produce.
Continue to protect, maintain and enhance our natural environment for all our benefit, taking steps to implement and achieve environmental net gain.
Continue to prepare for the full impacts of climate change by adapting to the future changes from any increase in climate shocks and stresses.
Request that the Council and partners take steps to proactively include young people in the process, ensuring that they have a voice in shaping the future;

Request the Executive Portfolio holder with responsibility for Environment to establish an Environment Partnership working group involving Councillors,
Council Officers, residents, young citizens, GM colleagues, climate experts and businesses. Over the following 12 months, the Group will consider strategies and actions being developed by the Council and other partner organisations and develop a strategy in line with a target of net zero emissions by 2038 or sooner. It will also recommend ways to maximise local benefits of these actions in other sectors such as employment, health, transport and the economy.

Consider other actions that could be implemented, including (but not restricted to): renewable energy solutions, providing electric vehicle infrastructure and encouraging alternatives to private car use, increasing the efficiency of buildings, in particular to address fuel poverty; proactively using local planning powers to accelerate the delivery of net carbon new developments and communities, coordinating a series of information and training events to raise awareness and share good practice.

We will also call on Central Government to provide the powers, resources and help with funding to make this possible, and ask our local MPs to do likewise;

Notes the actions already taken by this Council to reduce our carbon emissions and tackle climate change.

On the motion being put to the vote, the Mayor declared it carried.

Mayor

The meeting concluded at 8.41 pm