



Minutes of the Council meeting held at the Civic Centre, Poulton-le-Fylde on Thursday 22 January, 2015.

Councillors present:

The Mayor, Councillor Shewan
The Deputy Mayor, Councillor Rogers

Councillors Amos	Councillor R Gandhi	Councillor Ormrod
Councillor Anderson	Councillor Gibson	Councillor Pimbley
Councillor Balmain	Councillor Greenhough	Councillor Robinson
Councillor Bannister	Councillor Hargreaves	Councillor Smith
Councillor Beavers	Councillor Henderson	Councillor B Stephenson
Councillor Berry	Councillor Hewitt	Councillor E Stephenson
Councillor B Birch	Councillor Hodgkinson	Councillor Swift
Councillor C Birch	Councillor Jones	Councillor T Taylor
Councillor Bowen	Councillor Kay	Councillor V Taylor
Councillor Bridge	Councillor Lees	Councillor Treece-Birch
Councillor Catterall	Councillor Martin	Councillor Turner
Councillor Collinson	Councillor McCann	Councillor A Vincent
Councillor I Duffy	Councillor McKay	Councillor M Vincent
Councillor R Duffy	Councillor Moon	Councillor Walmsley
Councillor M Gandhi	Councillor Murphy	Councillor Williams
		Councillor Wilson

Apologies: Councillors E Anderton, M Anderton, Lady Atkins, Brooks, Lawrenson, MacNaughton and Newsham

Officers present:

Garry Payne (Chief Executive)
Philippa Davies (Corporate Director, Resources)
Michael Ryan (Corporate Director, People and Places)
Joanne Billington (Head of Governance)
Nikki Wilcock (Communications Manager)
Roy Saunders (Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager)
Carole Leary (Democratic Services Officer)

Also present: 7 members of the public and 1 representative of the press.

COU.61 Declarations of interest

Councillor Moon declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 25 (Notice of Motion: Fire Fighters Pensions) because he was a former employee of the Fire and Rescue service. He said that he was no longer employed as a fire fighter but he was in receipt of a pension from the Fire Service.

COU.62 Constitution Amendments

The Leader of the Council (Councillor Gibson) and the Chief Executive submitted a report on a proposed change to the Council Procedure Rules relating to the consideration of Executive reports, in Part 4 of the Constitution.

Councillor Gibson explained that the Standards Committee Terms of Reference no longer included responsibility for reviewing the constitution.

Councillor Martin said that she was saddened that there was no longer any independent members on Standards committee providing an impartial view.

RESOLVED that paragraph 11.3 of the Council Procedure Rules in Part 4 of the Constitution be amended to read as follows:

Any Non-Executive Member of Council may ask a question or make a comment to the Leader or the relevant Portfolio Holder on the contents of their report or on any issue which falls within their area of responsibility. A maximum of ten minutes will be allocated for questions or comments to and responses by each Member of the Executive (Cabinet). At the end of these proceedings a further ten minutes in total will be allowed for the Executive Members to ask a question or make a comment on their respective fellow Executive Members reports/areas of responsibility.

BUSINESS ADJOURNED FROM THE MEETING **HELD ON 27 NOVEMBER, 2014**

COU.63 Public Questions, Statements and Petitions (November 2014)

Questions from Jack Harrison (Fleetwood Town Councillor): Closure of Blackpool airport

1. *“Whilst I appreciate that our Two Tiers of local Authority can only deal with issues within our areas of responsibility, we are both aware the closure of Blackpool International Airport will affect the interests of our Residents and areas in terms of Holiday and other transport, Employment, and Commercial and other operations. Have Wyre Council voiced those concerns to Blackpool Airport Authority or Council; and do you share our concerns?”*

2. *“Would Wyre Council join Fleetwood Town Council in support and possible future talks in support of Airlines wishing to return or begin new operations at the Airport?”*

The Economy Portfolio Holder (Councillor Murphy) said that he shared some of the concerns voiced by Cllr Harrison and said that the Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive had expressed such concerns when the issue had been discussed by the Lancashire Economic Partnership. He said Wyre Council would be happy to work closely with Fleetwood Town Council to support any proposals from airlines wishing to return to Blackpool or new operators wishing to introduce flights from Blackpool.

COU.64 Executive Reports: November 2014

(a) Leader of the Council

The Leader of the Council (Councillor Gibson) submitted a report.

Councillor Gibson said, with reference to 5.1 of his report, that he was pleased that the Police and Crime Commissioner had now decided to abolish the posts of Deputy Commissioner and all Assistant Commissioners, but he was concerned that the proposed restructure had been reported in the press rather than to the Police and Crime Panel and, that an earlier Notice of Motion supported by the Conservatives could have avoided monies being wasted on the unnecessary posts.

Councillor Martin pointed out that the Peel Report had identified the Lancashire police force as one of the best in the country. Councillor B Stephenson congratulated the Police and Crime Commissioner on doing an excellent job despite savage government spending cuts.

Councillor Gibson said in response that the Police budget was currently £2.4 million underspent but, when he had suggested that the money be used to employ officers on the beat, it had been rejected by the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Councillor Gibson said, in response to questions and comments from Councillor Martin about possible bids for unitary status, that discussions were still taking place about a possible combined authority for Lancashire. Such proposals for combined authorities were largely concerned with promoting economic growth and transport infrastructure, but had not so far made a great deal of progress. He said that he hoped Lancashire County Council did not have aspirations for a unitary council for the whole of Lancashire. He said that Chorley District Council was still pursuing its proposal for unitary status.

Councillor Beavers referred to an article published in the Blackpool Gazette and the Fleetwood Weekly News about a legal opinion

obtained by Council officers and possible future legal action against Councillor Shewan which she said was disrespectful to the office of the Mayor. She said that comments attributed to Councillor Gibson in the articles were disgraceful. She asked how much it had cost to obtain the legal opinion and whether an investigation was being undertaken to find out who had supplied the information to the press. She also said that, in her view, what the Mayor had said about restricting questions and comments on the executive reports to non-executive councillors had been justified, given the change made to the Constitution earlier in the meeting.

Councillor Gibson said that it was unfortunate that Councillor Beavers had made these comments when a way forward on the consideration of executive reports had been reached. He said, however, that the legal opinion obtained had confirmed his view that the Mayor had acted incorrectly at the previous meeting when he had said that he would not allow Members to speak on a motion which the Chief Executive had advised was valid. He said that it was reasonable for the Council to obtain independent legal advice in those circumstances.

The Chief Executive stated, in response to further comments made by Councillor Beavers, that officers had obtained advice from a legal practice about the extent of the Mayor's powers when chairing a Council meeting. He said that a briefing paper had been provided which he would have read out at this Council meeting if required, but that had not been necessary following the Council's agreement earlier in the meeting to amend the Procedure Rules in Part 4 of the Constitution. That briefing would, therefore, have been in the public domain in those circumstances and he was prepared to make it available to Councillors, if requested. He said, however, that the formal advice obtained was subject to legal privilege and was therefore not publicly available. He confirmed that the information which had been published in the newspapers had not been released by a Council officer.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

(b) Resources Portfolio Holder

The Resources Portfolio Holder (Councillor A Vincent) submitted a report.

Councillor Treece-Birch expressed concern that Fleetwood Sea Cadets, who occupied a Council owned building, had not had a formal lease for 18 months. As a consequence, they were not able to apply for grants.

Councillor A Vincent said in response, that he had met with representatives of the Sea Cadets and with Councillor Rogers. Whilst

there were no plans to increase the rent charged to the group at the present time, they had not had a rent increase for sometime, pending the Sea Cadets finding opportunities to increase their income levels. The Council also had a duty to be fair to all of its leaseholders with other voluntary groups paying higher rates by comparison. He reiterated that no decision had yet been made on the future use of the building.

Councillor Treece-Birch asked for information about the firm of private solicitors recently employed by the Council to collect unpaid council tax. Councillor A Vincent confirmed that a highly regarded debt collection firm specialising in collecting payments in difficult cases had recently been appointed on a trial basis. Information on the effectiveness of their appointment would be assessed at the end of the trial period but essentially, if assets were held, then debtors would be pursued.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

(c) Street Scene Portfolio Holder

The Street Scene Portfolio Holder (Councillor V Taylor) submitted a report.

There were no questions or comments from Councillors.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

(d) Economy Portfolio Holder

The Economy Portfolio Holder (Councillor Murphy) submitted a report.

Councillor Murphy said that he would provide a written response to Councillor Treece-Birch on the progress of proposals for a skate park at Fleetwood as part of the Coastal Communities Fund project. He also said that he would ensure that Fleetwood Town Council were kept informed of progress.

Councillor Murphy said in response to a question from Councillor Smith that work on the water park element of the Coastal Communities Fund project would commence in 2 weeks.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

(e) Neighbourhood Services Portfolio Holder

The Neighbourhood Services Portfolio Holder (Councillor Berry) submitted a report.

Councillor Treece-Birch welcomed the improvements to be

undertaken to the groynes between Cleveleys and Fleetwood but said that work was required because of neglect over many years, rather than because of recent storm damage, as started in paragraph 5.1 of the report. Councillor Berry said that the opportunity had been taken to carry out the works to repair damage exacerbated by the storms using funding from the Environment Agency.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

(f) Leisure and Culture Portfolio Holder

The Leisure and Culture Portfolio Holder (Councillor Bowen) submitted a report and indicated that leaflets concerning the hospitality training as part of the Coastal Communities Fund bid were available for circulation.

Councillor Bowen said in response to a question from Councillor Turner, that she would also bear in mind the possibility of approaching Morrisons and Booths, in addition to the supermarkets mentioned in paragraph 2.1 of her report, about promoting the Volunteer Wyre activities.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

(g) Comments or questions from Cabinet Members

There were no questions or comments from Cabinet members on their colleagues' executive reports.

COU.65 Licensing Committee: Period Report

The Chairman of the Licensing Committee (Councillor Bridge) submitted a report on issues dealt with by the Licensing Team and the Licensing Committee during the period from September 2013 to October 2014.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

COU.66 Calendar of Meetings 2015/2016

The Leader of the Council (Councillor Gibson) and the Corporate Director of Resources submitted a report on a proposed programme of meetings for 2015/16.

Councillor Gibson said when introducing the report that there would not be a meeting of the Conservative Group on the 19 May 2015 as indicated in Appendix 1 because all the pre-council business of the Group would be dealt with at the Group's Annual Meeting to be held on 11 May 2015.

RESOLVED that the calendar of meetings for 2015/16 attached as Appendix 1 to the report be approved, subject to the deletion of the

Conservative Group meeting listed for 19 May 2015.

COU.67 Shaping Your Neighbourhood: Cleveleys Performance Report

The Neighbourhood Lead Member for Cleveleys (Councillor Kay) and the Corporate Director of Resources submitted a report showing progress on the community projects in Cleveleys funded through the Shaping Your Neighbourhood initiative.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

COU.68 Shaping Your Neighbourhood: Fleetwood Performance Report

The Neighbourhood Lead Member for Fleetwood (Councillor Treece-Birch) and the Corporate Director of Resources submitted a report on the progress of community projects in Fleetwood funded through the Shaping Your Neighbourhood initiative.

Councillor Treece-Birch said that the Shaping Your Neighbourhood initiative had provided a great opportunity for Councillors to find out about community projects taking place within their area. He said that, although the Willow Garden project had narrowly missed winning a competition televised by BBC North West, the project had been a runner up in the competition and had, as a result, been awarded funding of £50,000, which he said was great news.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

COU.69 Shaping Your Neighbourhood: Poulton Performance Report

The Neighbourhood Lead Member for Poulton (Councillor McKay) and the Corporate Director of Resources submitted a report on the progress of community projects in Poulton funded through the Shaping Your Neighbourhood initiative.

Councillor McKay said that she was pleased to report that work on the project to refurbish the playground at Farnham Way had now started.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

COU.70 Shaping Your Neighbourhood: Rural East Performance Report

The Neighbourhood Lead Member for Rural East (Councillor Lady Atkins) and the Corporate Director of Resources submitted a report on progress on the community projects in the Rural East area funded through The Shaping Your Neighbourhood initiative.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

COU.71 Shaping Your Neighbourhood: Rural West Performance Report

The Neighbourhood Lead Member for Rural West (Councillor Robinson) and the Corporate Director of Resources submitted a report on progress on the community projects in the Rural West area funded through the Shaping Your Neighbourhood initiative.

Councillor Robinson reported that the picnic benches at Hambleton had now been installed.

Councillor Turner offered thanks on behalf of the RSPCA to Councillors Robinson and Taylor for the community garden at its Longview site in Stalmine.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

COU.72 Shaping Your Neighbourhood: Thornton Performance Report

The Neighbourhood Lead Member for Thornton (Councillor Jones) and the Corporate Director of Resources submitted a report on progress on the community projects in Thornton funded through the Shaping Your Neighbourhood initiative.

Councillor Jones said that the proposed sign at Kenyon Gardens referred to in the report had now been installed.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

COU.73 Notices of Motion

The following notices of motion had been submitted to the November meeting of Council under procedure rule 15 but, because that meeting had been adjourned, had not been considered.

1. The behaviour of the Labour Group

Proposed by Cllr Gibson, seconded by Cllr Henderson and supported by Councillors Bridge, Murphy, V Taylor, Jones, M Gandhi, R Gandhi, Kay, Ormrod, Greenhough, M Vincent, McCann, McKay, Balmain, B Birch, Kay and Wilson.

“That this Council views with dismay the behaviour of the Labour Group.

At the last Full Council the Labour Group put forward a Notice of Motion calling for the single persons’ council tax discount to be abolished and also tried to blame the wording of the Notice of Motion on the Chief Executive.

This Council reiterates its support for the single persons’ council tax discount and condemns Labour’s cowardly attacks on Officers.

This Council believes that our residents and our Officers deserve better and calls on the Labour Group to stop their political posturing and work with the Conservative Group to improve services for Wyre residents.”

2. Compliance with the Council’s Constitution

Proposed by Cllr A. Vincent, seconded by Cllr Hodgkinson and supported by Cllrs Gibson, Bridge, Henderson, Murphy, V Taylor, Ormrod, Greenhough, Balmain, Wilson, M Gandhi, R Gandhi, McCann, Jones, McKay, M Vincent, and Kay.

“That this Council requires all Members, including the Mayor, to abide by the Council approved Constitution including Part 4 paragraph 11.3 which states that ANY Member of the Council may ask a question or make a comment to the Leader or the relevant Portfolio Holder on the contents of their report or on any issue which falls within their area of responsibility.”

Councillor Gibson proposed, in accordance with paragraph 17.8 of the Council Procedure Rules, that the first Notice of Motion be withdrawn. That proposal was seconded by Councillor Henderson.

Councillor A Vincent proposed that the second Notice of Motion also be withdrawn. Councillor Hodgkinson seconded that proposal.

RESOLVED that the Council’s consent be given to the withdrawal of the two Notices of Motion and that they not be debated.

New Business

COU.74 Announcement

The Mayor (Councillor Shewan) thanked Councillor Lees for organising the “Children of the Fylde Sing” concert, which had been held at Thornton Little Theatre on Friday 16 January in aid of the Mayoral Charity. He said that over £1,000 had been raised and thanked everybody who had attended.

The Mayor reminded members that the Mayor’s Charity Ball would be held on Friday 27 March 2015. He said that tickets for the event and for the raffle to take place on that night were now available.

The Mayor presented to Councillor Hewitt a Level II award in Understanding Health Improvement, following her completion of a Health Advocacy course run by the Royal Society for Public Health. He congratulated her on her achievement.

The Resources Portfolio Holder (Councillor A Vincent) announced that Wyre had been named as Technology Innovator of the Year at the KANA Awards

2014, for work done on the development of the Council's website. He presented the award to the Mayor.

The Neighbourhood Services Portfolio Holder (Councillor Berry) announced that a framed certificate had been received declaring the Council to be a "Friend of the Rotary Club of Fleetwood". He said that the certificate alluded to the Council's general involvement with community initiatives in Fleetwood, but referred specifically to the help given to the community bonfire in November. He presented the certificate of the Mayor.

The Street Scene Portfolio Holder (Councillor V Taylor) announced that Wyre had received a Champions League Standards of Excellence Award at the Loo of The Year Award in December. The Council and Danfo had also received a Premier League Local Authority Award. She presented two framed certificates to the Mayor.

The Street Scene Portfolio Holder also announced that Wyre had been a finalist in the Best Performer in Refuse Collection category of the APSE best and most improved performance awards 2014. She presented the certificate to the Mayor.

Finally, the Mayor announced that the Mayor elect for 2015/16, subject to his re-election in May, was Councillor Tom Balmain. Councillor Balmain said that he was tremendously honoured to receive this accolade and that he looked forward to undertaking the role with gusto and enthusiasm. He said that his Deputy Mayor, subject to his re-election in May would be Councillor Ron Greenhough. Councillor Greenhough thanked Councillor Balmain for nominating him as his deputy. He said he had every confidence that Councillor Balmain would be an excellent Mayor and said that he would take every opportunity to support him in that role and to promote Wyre Council.

COU.75 Confirmation of Minutes

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 27 November 2014 be confirmed as a correct record.

COU.76 Presentation

None.

COU.77 Public Questions, Statements and Petitions

1. Question from Jack Harrison (Fleetwood Town Councillor):

"In the light of the hopeful news about Blackpool International Airport will Wyre Council support Fleetwood Town Council in marketing all of the returned or the new flights concerned?"

The Economy Portfolio Holder (Councillor Murphy) said that Wyre Council would be happy to promote the use of the airport on its website if it opened again for commercial use.

Councillor Harrison said that he understood from his discussions with the Managing Director of the airline, that there was a realistic possibility of the airport opening again for some commercial flights in the near future.

2. A further question from Jack Harrison (Fleetwood Town Councillor)

“Do the Council think that the public in Fleetwood and Wyre are getting value for money from their local authorities; as town councillors often discuss or are asked about it?”

The Resources Portfolio Holder (Councillor A Vincent) said that residents of Wyre were getting value for money from Wyre Council. He referred to significant financial investments made by Wyre Council in a long list of projects. He said, however, that regrettably, in his view, Lancashire County Council did not give value for money to the residents of Wyre, as indicated by information recently gathered by Chorley Council, in support of its bid for unitary status which showed that Wyre was being “short changed” to the tune of £3.2 million pounds per annum.

The Mayor rejected a supplementary question from Councillor Harrison relating to the walk-out by the Conservative Group at the previous Council meeting, because it did not meet the requirements of paragraph 9.4 of the Council’s Procedure Rules.

3. Question from Rob Fail

“With regard to the Car Park located on Jubilee Gardens, Cleveleys, please can you confirm during the Full Council Meeting and also record in the minutes answers to the following:-

- (i) Originally Predicted, and Actual, monetary cost of building the Car Park?*
- (ii) Originally Predicted, and Actual, revenue from the opening date to the current date (or near as)?*
- (iii) Originally Predicted, and Currently Predicted, payback periods?*
- (iv) On how many occasions has the "multi purpose" area been used for non parking purposes since it opened?”*

As Mr Fail was not present, the Neighbourhood Services Portfolio Holder (Councillor Berry) undertook to send a written response to Mr Fail and to include a response in the minutes of the meeting, as follows:-

“Car park usage figures from 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2014 are set out in the document attached to these minutes. The Car Parking team have asked me to point out that the machines were out of operation due to severe weather/flood damage between December 2013 and January 2014 and that the figures only reflect tickets sold. The car park can also be used by residents using their parking permits, but this will not be recorded by the pay and display machines.”

In response to your other questions:

A report submitted to the Cabinet on 5 May 2012 indicated that the final cost of the works was £402,645 – an increase from the figure originally budgeted of £350,963.

I am unable to provide income from the date of opening (as the car park machine was relocated from another site) but income for the 2013/14 and 2014/15 financial years is:

2013/14: £5,182.75

2014/15 to date (i.e. to 16.01.15): £6,504.45

This is inclusive of VAT at 20%. The Budget task group agreed the expenditure based on 89 spaces earning the same as North Promenade car park i.e. £432 per space and an 80% occupancy rate - approximate income of £30,000.

The original pay-back period presented to Budget Task Group was 10.8 years.

The revised pay-back period assuming income of £7,800 ($6504/10 \times 12$) less VAT at 20% = £6,500 and expenditure of £402,645 (adjusted for the £26,000 as in the original calculation) is 58 years.

The multi-use area has been used on two occasions for the Cleveleys Car Show and by the Lancashire Community Group.”

COU.78 Questions on Notice from Councillors

None.

COU.79 Executive Reports: January 2015

(a) Leader of the Council

The Leader of the Council (Councillor Gibson) submitted a report.

Councillor Martin referred to paragraph 4.1 of his report, on the Fylde Coast Highways and Transport Masterplan and suggested

that, as a lack of infrastructure was a major hurdle to potential development in Wyre, all funding streams should be consolidated to provide effective and sustainable improvements, rather than the piece-meal approach currently being taken.

Councillor Gibson said that, whilst such an idealistic approach might be desirable, it was not achievable in practice. The Highways Agency had recently agreed to allocate funding for the improvement of parts of the A585 and work was currently taking place at a number of “pinch points”. He said that local residents should be grateful for this centrally provided funding because, when the Lancashire Economy Partnership had been drawing up a list of possible projects across Lancashire a proposal to replace the A585 had not obtained any support from Lancashire County Council. He said that funding of £53m for some improvements, whilst not perfect, was much better than having no funding at all for a larger project.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

(b) Resources Portfolio Holder

The Resources Portfolio Holder (Councillor A Vincent) submitted a report.

Councillor Treece-Birch expressed concern about the impact of the further 15.6% reduction in Government grant for 2015/16 referred to in paragraph 2.2. of the report.

Councillor Vincent said that he did not agree with the reasons for the financial crisis in the U.K. expressed by Councillor Treece-Birch.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

(c) Street Scene Portfolio Holder

The Street Scene Portfolio Holder (Councillor Taylor) submitted a report.

Councillor Taylor said in response to comments and questions from Councillor Turner, that the Council did not charge at the dog chipping events referred to in her report.

Councillor Taylor confirmed, in response to a question from Councillor Beavers, that a further free chipping event was to be held at West View Community Centre in Fleetwood between 10 am and 3 pm on Wednesday 11 February 2015.

Councillor Taylor said, in response to comments and questions from Councillor B Stephenson and E Stephenson, that incidents of dog

fouling should be reported to the Council's contact centre, with as much information as possible being provided so that officers could take appropriate action.

Councillor McCann commented that the briefing on Channel Shift arrangements immediately prior to the Council meeting had provided very useful information on how to report such incidents to the Council.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

(d) Economy Portfolio Holder

The Economy Portfolio Holder (Councillor Murphy) submitted a report.

Councillor Murphy said that he would include information on the Wyre Local Growth Plan in his next Executive report to the Council, but he referred to figures highlighting the success of Wyred Up events and reduction in the number of claimants for Job Seekers Allowance.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

(e) Neighbourhood Services Portfolio Holder

The Neighbourhood Service Portfolio Holder (Councillor Berry) submitted a report.

Councillor Martin referred to an article in the Blackpool Gazette on 17 January about the "obscene cost" of £190,000 for provision of a car park in Blackpool. She pointed out that the provision of a Wyre Council car park at Jubilee Gardens had cost £402,000. Estimated income of £30,000 per annum had been predicted, but the latest actual figure was approximately £5,000 and, although Members had been told that the car park would bring visitors and shoppers to Cleveleys, she had yet to see any evidence of shoppers using that car park. She suggested that the project was a colossal "white elephant" and that the experiment had failed.

Councillor Berry said that the provision of the car park had been supported by an Overview and Scrutiny Committee Budget Task Group four years ago, and that the area had previously been in a ruinous state forming an eyesore in close proximity to the newly refurbished promenade. The car park had been seen as a community asset and an improvement to the area as a whole. He pointed out, that the engineering team had found that the drainage system for the car park had helped to reduce flooding problems in Cleveleys. He said that if any decision was taken in the future to decommission the car park and to re-develop the site, appropriate

uses would have to be identified. He said that the car park would be retained until any better alternative could be provided.

Councillor Walmsley said that he had been at the Jubilee Gardens car park during the previous week and had spoken to a coach proprietor who was keen to use the car park. He said that this was a very positive move because the coach trade was very important to Cleveleys.

Councillor Berry said that he was pleased that such an initiative was being pursued and he also pointed out that residents with parking permits could use that car park.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

(f) Leisure and Cultural Portfolio Holder

The Leisure and Cultural Portfolio Holder (Councillor Bowen) submitted a report.

There were no comments or questions from councillors.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

Comments by Cabinet Members

Councillor Murphy said in response to comments which had been made earlier by Councillor Anderson on the report of another Portfolio Holder that he had been informed that there was a strong possibility that the ice rink in Cleveleys would be re-opening soon, although he could not yet confirm that to be the case.

Councillor Gibson made further comments about the welcome provision of funding for improvement to the A585 from central government, via the Highways Agency, in contrast to the Lancashire County Council dominated Lancashire Economic Partnership, which he said had chosen to ignore the A585.

Councillor Murphy said that the Shadow Chancellor had said that a new Labour government would build 2 million new houses, but had made no mention of how the required infrastructure would be provided. He also said that the Council's proposals for new housing provision in the emerging Local Plan could be completely undermined because Lancashire County Council had said that there was insufficient capacity on the A6 and the A585. He said that he had attended a meeting the previous day on the proposed Highways Master Plan, at which Lancashire County Council had made no mention of the "blue route" and only Wyre Council now supported its retention as a protected designated route. He also condemned the decision of Lancashire County Council's planning officers to recommend refusal of

the applications submitted by Quadrilla for fracking at two sites on the Fylde Coast.

Councillor A Vincent, in response to an earlier question put to Councillor Bowen by Councillor Martin, pointed out that the Labour group had supported arrangements for the Council to retain ownership of Marsh Mill and that it was inevitable that some maintenance costs would have to be incurred.

COU.80 Members Allowances Scheme

The Corporate Director of Resources submitted a report on a review of the Council's members allowances scheme undertaken by the Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP). The Leader of the Council (Councillor Gibson) thanked the members of the IRP for their wisdom and hard work. He proposed that the recommendations of the IRP be approved.

RESOLVED:-

1. That no change be made to the current level of the Basic Allowance of £4,059 for each Councillor for 2015/16.
2. That the Basic Allowance be increased by 1% from 11 May 2016 and a by a further 1% in 11 May 2017 (i.e. the anniversary of the appointment to office of Councillors, following the whole Council elections to be held on 7 May 2015).
3. That the Special Responsibility Allowance (SRA) paid to the Chairman of the Licensing Committee be reduced from a multiplier of 1.5 x Basic Allowance to 1 x Basic Allowance but, that it be reviewed again in 12 months.
4. That no changes be made to any other Special Responsibility Allowances but, that the SRA's paid to the Leader of the Council and the other members of the Cabinet be kept under review.
5. That the Scheme be amended to make it explicit that when mileage expenses were claimed from a Member's place of work, then the claim must not exceed the home to work mileage and, if the journey is shorter, then the lower value must be claimed.
6. That the provisions in the Scheme for claiming subsistence allowances be changed so that, where overnight accommodation was required, it would be booked by officers and would include breakfast and, that an evening meal allowance of up to £15 could also be claimed for overnight stays, subject to the provision of a valid receipt.
7. That no change be made to the current provision for carer's and dependants carers' allowances.

8. That the definition of 'approved duties' for which travel allowances could be claimed be amended to make it clear that allowances were not payable either for ward duties or for duties for which an allowance was already paid by another organisation.
9. That the definition of 'approved duties' also be clarified, to refer to meetings of bodies to which Councillors were appointed by the Council, or to which they were invited to attend to present a report.
10. That the decision made by the Council on 18 December 2003 not to proceed with a Local Government Pension Scheme for eligible councillors be reaffirmed, noting that with effect from 1 April 2014 this had been abolished for new councillors and would be terminated for exiting councillors from May 2015.
11. That an additional IT allowance of £180 per annum be paid monthly to each Councillor (along with the Basic Allowance, but not to be considered part of it for the calculation of the multipliers for Special Responsibility Allowances).
12. That, in future, all candidates would be informed that, if elected, they would need to be able to receive and respond to e-mails and to access the Council's intranet in order to effectively carry out their role as a Councillor and, that they would be expected to themselves obtain the necessary equipment, recognising that the Basic and IT allowances were intended to help them meet such costs.
13. That, from May 2015, broadband connection, laptop computers, printers, printer cartridges and paper, would no longer be supplied to Councillors, although transitional arrangements would be made if necessary, and smart devices would continue to be provided for Cabinet members and the Leader and Deputy Leader of the opposition.
14. That from May 2015, the Mayor's and Deputy Mayor's allowances be classified as a Special Responsibility Allowance to be paid monthly through the Council's payroll, with tax and national insurance being deducted at the appropriate rate.
15. That the proposed revisions to the Council's Members Allowances Scheme (incorporating all the recommendations listed above), set out as track-changes in Appendix 1, be approved, effective from 11 May 2015 (i.e. the date of appointment of Councillors, following the whole Council elections on 7 May 2015, for a four year term of office ending May 2019) apart from the payment of SRA's which, for 2015/16, would be calculated from 21 May 2015 (i.e. the date of the Council's Annual Meeting, at which appointments to the positions eligible for SRA's would be made).

16. That the revised Scheme be publicised, in accordance with the Regulations, as soon as practicable.
17. That the members of the Independent Remuneration Panel be thanked for their work.

COU.81 Polling District and Polling Places Review

The Leader of the Council (Councillor Gibson) and the Returning Officer (Garry Payne) submitted a report on proposals arising from a review of polling districts and polling places within the borough, in accordance with Electoral Commission guidance.

RESOLVED:-

1. That the proposals set out in Appendix A of the Returning Officer's report be approved.
2. That the Returning Officer be authorised to determine any unforeseen changes to polling places which became necessary for future elections.

COU.82 Councillor MacNaughton: change of political representation

The Chief Executive submitted a report on a change in the political composition of the Council.

RESOLVED:-

1. That Councillor MacNaughton's designation as a United Kingdom Independence Party representative be noted.
2. That no changes be made to the membership of committees.

COU.83 Lead Member Report: Young People

The Lead Member for Young People (Councillor Kay) submitted a report updating the Council on activities taking place for children and young people over the last year.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

COU.84 Notice of Motion

Councillor Martin proposed, Councillor Beavers seconded and Councillor Rogers and M Anderton supported, the following motion submitted under Procedure Rule 15:

"This Council supports our brave fire fighters and expresses deep regret at

the Government's decision to slash their pensions and consequently expect them to continue in active front line duty to aged 60.

We call therefore upon our local MP's to lobby government and ministers and seek to secure the reversal of these damaging and potentially tragic cuts."

Councillor A Vincent proposed and Councillor Moon seconded an amendment to delete the second part of the first sentence and the second part of the second sentence of the motion and to insert replacement words, so that the motion read as follows:-

"This Council supports our brave fire fighters and expresses deep regret at the failure of their union and the Government to reach an agreement in relation to their future pensions and retirement age and we call upon our local Members of Parliament to lobby Government and Ministers and the Fire Brigade Union, to continue talks to seek to secure an affordable agreement without further strikes being necessary"

The Chief Executive advised that the amendments complied with the requirements of Procedure Rule 17.6 (a).

Following a debate, it was **RESOLVED** unanimously that the Motion, as amended, be approved.

The meeting finished at 9.20 pm

arm/ex/cou/mi/220115



.Yearly individual Tariff Report

17:18 20/01/2015

Individual Tariffs On Each Car Park

Monthly - Total Tickets By Tariff
 MachineGroupName = Jubilee Gardens - TariffGroupName = All
 01/04/2013 08:00:00 - 31/03/2014 23:59:59

Tariff	Description	20130401	20130501	20130601	20130701	20130801	20130901	20131001	20131101	20131201	20140101	20140201	20140301	Total
60A	1.50 2 hours	22	99	102	349	211	69	57	14	2	0	55	45	1025
60B	2.40 over 2hrs - 4hrs	8	47	86	271	189	39	28	11	1	0	16	38	734
60C	3.00 over 4 hrs	4	35	43	191	173	17	18	8	0	0	6	12	507
60D	3.80 over 6 hrs	3	4	8	33	24	3	0	0	0	0	1	1	77
Total Tickets Sold		37	185	239	844	597	128	103	33	3	0	78	96	2343
% space usage*		1.2	5.9	7.8	26.7	18.9	4.2	3.3	1.1	0.1	0.0	2.7	3.0	

*Based on monthly figures

* Dec 13 - Jan 13 machines out of operation due to severe weather flood damage

* This car park allows Resident Parking Permits therefore figures only reflect tickets sold