

BOLTON COUNCIL

Members of the Council are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Council to be held in the **Bolton Magistrates Court** (PLEASE NOTE THE VENUE) on Wednesday next, 13th April, 2016 at 7.00 p.m. when the following business is proposed to be transacted: -

1. Vote of Thanks to the Mayor and Mayoress

Motion to be moved by Councillor Mrs. Thomas

2. Minutes

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Council held on 24th February, 2016 (Section A).

3. Policy Framework

Motion in the name of Councillor Donaghy:-

That the Statement of Licensing Policy, as circulated, be approved.

4. Constitution

(a) Motion in the name of Councillor Morris –

That the quarterly report on Executive decisions made under the special urgency provisions be noted.

(b) Motion in the name of Councillor Morris –

That the Scheme of Delegation be amended to delegate power to the Director of Place to designate assets of community value in accordance with the Localism Act 2011.

5. Changes in Committee Membership and Appointments to Other Bodies

6. Questions under Standing Order No. 9(a)

7. Questions under Standing Order No. 9(c)

8. Committee Proceedings

To approve the proceedings of the following Committees:-

Planning Committee (See Section B)

Licensing and Environmental Regulations Committee (See Section C)

9. Scrutiny Committees

To receive and consider the proceedings of the undermentioned Scrutiny Committees:-

Corporate and External Issues Scrutiny Committee (See Section D)

Environmental Services Scrutiny Committee (See Section E)

Children's Services and Culture Scrutiny Committee (See Section F)

Health Overview and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee (See Section G) (submitted for information only with respect to Health Overview)

10. Items referred to Council from Scrutiny Committees

To consider any motions referred to Council by a Scrutiny Committee.

11. Area Forums

To receive and consider the proceedings of the under mentioned Area Forums:-

Astley Bridge Area Forum

Bradshaw Area Forum

Brightmet Area Forum

Bromley Cross Area Forum

Crompton Area Forum

Farnworth Area Forum

Great Lever Area Forum

Harper Green Area Forum

Heaton and Lostock Area Forum

Hulton Area Forum

Kearsley Area Forum

Little Lever and Darcy Lever Area Forum

Rumworth Area Forum

Smithills Area Forum

Tonge with the Haulgh Area Forum

Two Towns Area Forum

Westhoughton with Chew Moor Area Forum

12. Motions under Standing Order No.4

(a) Motion to be moved by Councillor Mrs. Thomas:-

This Council deplores the proposed action in enforcing all schools to become Academies and urge the Government to reconsider their policy. Most of the schools that will be forced to become

Academies are good or outstanding as Local Authority schools. This policy is an attack on Local Authorities, not about school improvement.

(b) Motion to be moved by Councillor Silvester:-

This Council is justifiably concerned that the Conservative Government is intending to legislate to remove planning powers from local authorities, in particular in relation to Fracking applications.

This Council believes that that all planning applications within this Borough should be determined by this Authority and most certainly those involving Fracking should be determined by locally elected representatives who are members of the Planning Committee. Further, Council believes that applications for Fracking wells should not be re-classified as 'nationally significant infrastructure' as is the intention of Government, which would then automatically exclude them from local authority planning scrutiny and determination.

This Council therefore condemns the Conservative Government and in particular Energy Secretary Amber Rudd, Local Government Secretary Greg Clark and Environment Secretary Liz Truss who have jointly proposed this change in a letter to the Chancellor of The Exchequer who had asked all three for a joint plan to develop the Shale Gas sector.

This Council therefore resolves to lodge its strongest objection with the Conservative Government by writing to all three Secretaries of State named above and to the Chancellor of the Exchequer George Osborne, stating that planning powers should remain with this Council in relation to any Fracking well applications within this

Borough and that they should be determined by locally elected representatives of this town instead of a Government appointed Inspector who would be mandated to undertake the Governments objectives of increasing Fracking to the 'full production stage'.

(c) Motion to be moved by Councillor J. Walsh:-

In view of the failure of so many of Labour's policies in Bolton in recent years there are serious doubts amongst the public that Labour councillors can deliver for Bolton the wide opportunities and full benefits afforded by the Conservative Government's devolved powers under the City Deal.

This Council believes that new political leadership and a fresh approach is needed.

(d) Motion to be moved by Councillor Kirk-Robinson:-

This Council recognises that a great deal of our local heritage is in the town's architecture. Local buildings that have become landmarks not only recognised but well loved by residents should be treated with the respect their status in our local history deserves.

It's often the case that when buildings are sold on, there is the threat that we could lose our heritage thanks to the short-term thinking of new owners; some of whom are keen to tear down existing structures in order to build ugly, modern monstrosities. This is absurd, and should not be accepted as simply the cost of encouraging development in the town.

In many cities and countries around the world, Façadism (the preservation of the original façades of buildings) has long been accepted practice. This leads to the maintenance of the beautiful aesthetics of towns and cities even while the buildings themselves grow and develop over time. It's a practice that works, and works well, to balance the needs of a growing community with the desire to hold on to the beauty of the past.

Our local history needs to be preserved, and the Council has the power to make this happen.

This Council agrees that the relevant Policy Development Group be asked to:

1. Produce a planning policy that preserve the façades of existing buildings deemed by the members of the Planning Committee to be of historic value to the town.
2. Produce a policy that will preserve the façades of all existing buildings within the town centre, in order to preserve the appearance of the town.
3. Produce a policy that recognises that where some existing buildings need to become high-rises, those buildings with preserved historical façades may be built up above the heights of the original buildings, providing the facade of the original building is preserved.

(e) Motion in the name of Councillor Hornby:-

The EU Referendum will be held shortly after the start of the next municipal year of this Council and gives an opportunity for the people of Bolton to have their say on the benefits of leaving the EU. We urge the people of Bolton to use this opportunity which will be their first chance since

voting on membership of the Common Market that people of this Borough along with the rest of the Country can vote to leave the EU.

(f) Motion in the name of Councillor Hornby:-

Due to repeated costs year on year to move travellers from multiple points across the Borough which is at great expense in manpower and legal fees to the Council and its partners such as the Police. Would the Council explore the possibility of adapting its current policies on illegal use of public land by travellers in order that this Council can in effect remove them more quickly from public land.

Could this Council also take a look at the methods used by Private Bailiffs within this Borough who seem to be able to remove travellers more quickly than the Council to see if this is a more effective way of removing travellers from our Borough.

Could this Council prepare a report to go back to an appropriate Scrutiny Committee in order that we can address this important matter which effects ever ward within Bolton.



MARGARET ASQUITH
Chief Executive
Town Hall, Bolton

6th April, 2016

The proceedings of the Cabinet and Executive Cabinet Member Portfolio meetings from 7th March, 2016 to 21st March, 2016 are included for information only in a separate volume, together with the minutes of the Audit Committee, Health and Wellbeing Board and the Constitutional Panel.

