



Borough of Douglas

Town Hall,

Douglas,

11th November, 2015

At a MEETING of the COUNCIL of the BOROUGH OF DOUGLAS, duly convened and holden at 2.30 p.m. on WEDNESDAY, the 11th day of NOVEMBER, 2015, in the COUNCIL CHAMBER, within the TOWN HALL, at which Meeting the following Members were present, that is to say: -

The Mayor

COUNCILLOR MRS SARA DAWN ANDREA HACKMAN, JP

Councillor

Mrs C.A. Corlett

Mr S.R. Pitts

Mr D.J. Ashford

Mrs R. Chatel

Ms C.R. Turner

Mr D.W. Christian, MBE, JP

Mrs C.E. Malarkey

Mr C.L.H. Cain

Mr G.J. Faragher

Miss D.A.M. Pitts

Mr R.H. McNicholl

Mr J.E. Skinner

Mrs C.L. Wells

Ms K. Angela

Mr S.C. Cain, JP

Mrs E.C. Quirk

The Chief Executive and Town Clerk, the Borough Treasurer and the Assistant Borough Engineer were in attendance.

1. **Minutes – 14th October, 2015**

The minutes of the monthly Council meeting held on Wednesday, 14th October, 2015 were approved and signed.

2. **Minutes – 23rd October, 2015**

The minutes of the special private Council meeting held on Friday, 23rd October, 2015, were approved and signed.

3. **Standing Order 39 – Question Mr Councillor D.J. Ashford**

The following question addressed by Mr Councillor D.J. Ashford to the Chair of the Environmental Services Committee, and the Chair's reply, were noted on the minutes:-

Question:

In relation to the Douglas Head Road lighting scheme:

- a) To what extent did the committee or officers take into account and consider the history and aesthetics of the area prior to the scheme commencing, especially since such a scheme was first mooted at least five years ago;
- b) what was their conclusion due to such consideration and when was it considered by and approved by committee;
- c) if no such consideration took place why not; and
- d) has not a perfect opportunity to enhance further the historical aesthetics of the Douglas Head area and the chance to create a "one streetscape" and heritage approach, further enhancing one of the oldest existing areas of the Borough, been needlessly squandered?

Reply:

- a) The Committee did not consider installation of a heritage column and lantern design, as would have been the case if the location was a Conservation or Regeneration area;
- b) Due to Douglas Head Road not meeting the criteria for installation of a heritage column and lantern design, a standard design was developed;
- c) Douglas Head Road does not meet the criteria for consideration;
- d) It is always possible to install higher quality lighting columns and lanterns but at a considerable cost, which is why the Committee has its established criteria for identifying where heritage style equipment should be used and where standard equipment should be used. In this particular case, the lighting of the area will be improved and the former mix of different styles of columns and lanterns will be standardised.

Supplementary Question:

Will the Chairman ask the Committee to consider changing the lamp heads for something more in keeping with the area?

Reply:

The area is a mixture of commercial and Victorian houses, how can you pick one style out of that, I don't know. The Victorian style lantern costs £850 per lamp head, the current lantern cost is £350, so there is a huge difference there. They can use the same standard column, but it is the heads that are different. The heads that they chose are a circular glass lamp. One of their concerns is that light from the new lanterns would shine into their houses; well they won't because it is not a circular glass lamp that has gone up there. A circular glass lamp has more chance of light flooding back into their house. And the cost to upgrade them would be an extra £24,130.80 which I think is unacceptable. You could do another scheme for the cost of that and it is only a few people asking for it. The answer in short Madam Mayor is no.

4. **Standing Order 39 – Question Mr Councillor R.H. McNicholl**

The following question addressed by Mr Councillor R.H. McNicholl to the Leader of the Council, and the Leader's reply, were noted on the minutes:-

Question:

- a) How much has been expended on Continuing Professional Development in the last two years?
- b) How many members of staff benefited from this funding?
- c) How many members of staff is this compulsory for?

- d) Are off-Island courses, conferences, and exhibitions the only way the requirements of CPD can be met?
- e) What is the breakdown of costs, i.e. travel, accommodation and catering, including officers' time away from their desks?

Reply:

Continuing Professional Development (CPD) is essential for officers with certain professional bodies' qualifications, and if it not fulfilled, their qualifications – which the Council expects them to have – will lapse. It is generally undertaken within their normal activities or through training.

In response to each of the individual points raised:

- a) No separate record is kept of the cost of CPD to the Council. As stated above, Officers normally fulfil the requirements within their role. Any cost is contained within the normal budgets. As CPD is a by-product of normal activities, there is no need for separate records of costs to be kept;
- b) There is no benefit from CPD funding as there is no specific funding for it. Any expenditure on CPD comes from the normal staffing budgets. Development and training are standard requirements and although some can be classed as CPD, particularly where officers do have a professional qualification, they are available to all staff;
- c) CPD is essential for any officer with a professional qualification, but even where officers do not have such a qualification, ongoing development is essential. It can therefore be said to be a requirement for all officers;
- d) Off-Island courses, conferences and exhibitions are certainly not the only way CPD requirements can be met. What counts as CPD can vary between professional bodies. Training courses organised on behalf of the Council, officers' participation in local professional groups, taking part in online conferencing, and so on, all contribute. However, if an officer is sent off-Island to a conference, exhibition, or similar in the course of their work, that can also count but is never the driver for the attendance;
- e) No separate record is kept of the cost of officers' attendance off-Island for CPD purposes because that attendance is principally for another purpose and any CPD benefit is secondary.

Supplementary Question:

Will anyone lose a professional qualification by non-attendance at an exhibition or seminar affecting their CPD?

Reply:

The answer is clearly no, but if enough CPD is not achieved during the course of the year, the answer is yes. I support officers attending seminars and exhibitions and it is probably more beneficial officers attending than elected Members.

5. Executive Committee – 30th October, 2015 - Clause B14

Motion moved by Mr Councillor D.W. Christian, seconded by Mr Councillor D.J. Ashford, "That the minutes of proceedings of the Executive Committee, as contained in Clause B14 of report of meeting held Friday, 30th October, 2015, be received, approved and adopted by the Council."

Question put on Motion; a vote was taken electronically, and the Motion was carried unanimously.

Under the provisions of the Local Government Act 1985, Mr Councillor S.R. Pitts declared an interest in the item and retired whilst it was considered.

6. Attendance

Councillor Ms C.R. Turner left the meeting at 3.15pm during consideration of the following item.

7. Executive Committee – 30th October, 2015 – Clauses A1 – A13 inclusive and Clause A1 of the private special joint meeting of the Executive Committee and Environmental Services Committee on Friday, 23rd October, 2015

Motion moved by Mr Councillor D.W. Christian, seconded by Mr Councillor D.J. Ashford, "That the minutes of proceedings of the Executive Committee, as contained in Clauses A1 to A13 inclusive of report of meeting held Friday, 30th October, 2015, be received by the Council."

Amendment moved by Mr Councillor S.R. Pitts, seconded by Mr Councillor D.J. Ashford, "That Clause A1 of private report of a special joint meeting of the Executive Committee and Environmental Services

Committee held on Friday 23rd October, 2015 be moved from the private to the public Council agenda and considered as part of the Motion.

Question put on Amendment; a vote was taken electronically, and the Amendment was carried unanimously.

Question put on amended Motion; a vote was taken electronically, and the amended Motion was carried unanimously.

8. Pensions Committee – 28th October, 2015

Motion moved by Mr Councillor D.J. Ashford, seconded by Councillor Ms K. Angela, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Pensions Committee, as contained in report of meeting held Wednesday, 28th October, 2015, be received by the Council.”

Question put on Motion; a vote was taken electronically, and the Motion was carried unanimously.

Under the provisions of the Local Government Act 1985, Councillor Mrs R. Chatel declared an interest in the item and retired whilst it was considered.

9. Housing Committee – 21st October, 2015 – Clause C10

Motion moved by Mr Councillor D.J. Ashford, seconded by Councillor Mrs C.E. Malarkey, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Housing Committee, as contained in Clause C10 of report of meeting held Wednesday, 21st October, 2015, be received, approved and adopted by the Council.”

Question put on Motion; a vote was taken electronically, and the Motion was carried unanimously.

10. Housing Committee – 21st October, 2015 – Clauses A1 to A9 inclusive

Motion moved by Mr Councillor D.J. Ashford, seconded by Councillor Mrs C.E. Malarkey, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Housing Committee, as contained in Clauses A1 to A9 inclusive of report of meeting held Wednesday, 21st October, 2015, be received by the Council.”

Question put on Motion; a vote was taken electronically, and there voted **For** the Motion: Councillor Mrs C.A. Corlett, Mr Councillor D.J. Ashford, Councillor Mrs R. Chatel, Mr Councillor D.W. Christian, Councillor Mrs C.E. Malarkey, Mr Councillor C.L.H. Cain, Mr Councillor G.J. Faragher, Councillor Miss D.A.M. Pitts, Councillor Mrs C.L. Wells, Mr Councillor J.E. Skinner, Councillor Ms K. Angela, Mr Councillor S.C. Cain, Councillor Mrs E.C. Quirk, the Mayor – **14**

Against: Mr Councillor S.R. Pitts, Mr Councillor R.H. McNicholl – **2**

Motion carried.

11. Attendance

Mr Councillor D.W. Christian and Councillor Mrs C.E. Malarkey left the meeting at 4.35pm and returned at 4.38pm.

12. Regeneration and Community Committee – 20th October, 2015 – Clause C11

Motion moved by Mr Councillor J.E. Skinner, seconded by Mr Councillor G.J. Faragher, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Regeneration and Community Committee, as contained in Clause C11 of report of meeting held Tuesday, 20th October, 2015, be received, approved and adopted by the Council.”

Question put on Motion; a vote was taken electronically, and there voted **For** the Motion: Councillor Mrs C.A. Corlett, Mr Councillor D.J. Ashford, Councillor Mrs R. Chatel, Mr Councillor C.L.H. Cain, Mr Councillor G.J. Faragher, Councillor Miss D.A.M. Pitts, Mr Councillor R.H. McNicholl, Mr Councillor J.E. Skinner, Councillor Mrs C.L. Wells, Councillor Ms K. Angela, Mr Councillor S.C. Cain, Councillor Mrs E.C. Quirk, the Mayor – **13**

Against: – **0**

Two Members declined to vote, stating that they could not vote as they had not been in the Chamber when the Motion was debated.

Under the provisions of the Local Government Act 1985, Mr Councillor S.R. Pitts declared an interest in the item and retired whilst it was considered.

13. Regeneration and Community Committee – 20th October, 2015 – Clauses A1 to A10 inclusive

Motion moved by Mr Councillor J.E. Skinner, seconded by Mr Councillor G.J. Faragher, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Regeneration and Community Committee, as contained in Clauses A1 to A10 inclusive of report of meeting held Tuesday, 20th October, 2015, be received by the Council.”

Question put on Motion; a vote was taken electronically, and the Motion was carried unanimously.

14. Attendance

Mr Councillor G.J. Faragher left the meeting at 5.00pm.

15. Environmental Services Committee – Monday, 19th October, 2015

Motion moved by Mr Councillor R.H. McNicholl, seconded by Councillor Mrs C.A. Corlett, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Environmental Services Committee, as contained in report of meeting held Monday, 19th October, 2015, be received by the Council.”

Question put on Motion; a vote was taken electronically, and there voted **For** the Motion: Mr Councillor S.R. Pitts, Councillor Mrs C.A. Corlett, Mr Councillor C.L.H. Cain, Councillor Miss D.A.M. Pitts, Mr Councillor R.H. McNicholl, Mr Councillor J.E. Skinner, Councillor Mrs C.L. Wells – **7**

Against: Mr Councillor D.J. Ashford, Councillor Mrs R. Chatel, Mr Councillor D.W. Christian, Councillor Mrs C.E. Malarkey, Councillor Ms K. Angela, Mr Councillor S.C. Cain, Councillor Mrs E.C. Quirk, the Mayor – **8**

Motion failed.

16. Adjournment and Resumption

The meeting adjourned at 5.47pm and resumed at 6.04pm with the following Members present: Councillor Mrs C.A. Corlett, Mr Councillor S.R. Pitts, Mr Councillor D.J. Ashford, Councillor Mrs R. Chatel, Mr Councillor D.W. Christian, Councillor Mrs C.E. Malarkey, Mr Councillor C.L.H. Cain, Councillor Miss D.A.M. Pitts, Mr Councillor R.H. McNicholl, Mr Councillor J.E. Skinner, Councillor Mrs C.L. Wells, Councillor Ms K. Angela, Mr Councillor S.C. Cain, Councillor Mrs E.C. Quirk, the Mayor.

The Chief Executive and Town Clerk, the Borough Treasurer, and the Assistant Borough Engineer remained in attendance.

IN PRIVATE

17. Executive Committee – 30th October, 2015

Motion moved by Mr Councillor D.W. Christian, seconded by Mr Councillor D.J. Ashford, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Executive Committee, as contained private report of meeting held Friday, 30th October, 2015, be received by the Council.”

Question put on Motion; a vote was taken electronically, and the Motion was carried unanimously.

18. Housing Committee – 21st October 2015, 2015

Motion moved by Mr Councillor D.J. Ashford, seconded by Councillor Mrs C.E. Malarkey, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Housing Committee, as contained in private report of meeting held Wednesday, 21st October, 2015, be received by the Council.”

Question put on Motion; a vote was taken electronically, and the Motion was carried unanimously.

19. Regeneration and Community Committee – 20th October, 2015

Motion moved by Mr Councillor J.E. Skinner, seconded by Mr Councillor G.J. Faragher, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Regeneration and Community Committee, as contained in private report of meeting held Tuesday, 20th October, 2015, be received by the Council.”

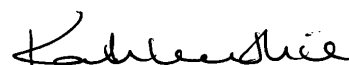
Question put on Motion; a vote was taken electronically, and the Motion was carried unanimously.

20. Environmental Services Committee – 19th October, 2015

Motion moved by Mr Councillor R.H. McNicholl, seconded by Councillor Mrs C.A. Corlett, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Environmental Services Committee, as contained in private report of meeting held Monday, 19th October, 2015, be received by the Council.”

Question put on Motion; a vote was taken electronically, and the Motion was carried unanimously.

The Council rose at 6.25pm.



Town Clerk & Chief Executive