

CITY COUNCIL

TUESDAY 10 JANUARY 2012 AT 6.45 PM

PRESENT: The Mayor (Councillor Earp), Councillors Allison, Atkinson, Bainbridge, Bell, Betton, Bloxham, Boaden, Bowditch, Mrs Bowman, Bowman (S), Mrs Bradley, Cape, Clarke (M), Collier, Craig, Ellis, Mrs Farmer, Ms Franklin, Mrs Geddes, Glover, Graham, Harid, Hendry, Layden, Lishman, Mrs Luckley, Mrs Mallinson, Mallinson (J), McDevitt, Mitchelson, Morton, Nedved, Mrs Parsons, Ms Patrick, Mrs Prest, Ms Quilter, Mrs Riddle, Mrs Robson, Mrs Rutherford, Scarborough, Mrs Southward, Stothard, Mrs Vasey, Mrs Warwick, Watson, Weber, Weedall, Whalen and Wilson

C.01/12 MINUTES SILENCE

It was with great sadness that The Mayor reported the sudden death on 19 November 2011 of Councillor Jim Tootle, and also the death on 7 December 2011 of Mrs Eileen Fell who was Mayoress of the City in 1982/83.

Members stood for two minutes silence as a mark of respect to the memory of Councillor Tootle and Mrs Fell.

Councillor Mrs Farmer paid tribute to Councillor Tootle who was a very popular and excellent Councillor who was never afraid to act in line with his own conscience. He would therefore be thoroughly missed by all.

Councillor Mitchelson also wished to pay tribute, commenting that Councillor Tootle was an honest, hardworking Member who championed residents' concerns in the Castle Ward. Councillor Mitchelson particularly admired the fact that Councillor Tootle had never let his illness affect his work and would be very sadly missed.

Councillor Hendry paid tribute to a good, decent, hard working, family man who had been dedicated to the people within his Ward. Councillor Tootle had, in particular, helped young people, his work in relation to the Education Maintenance Allowance being a specific example. Councillor Hendry added that, as a Scot, the best possible tribute was to declare Councillor Tootle a "decent man" who would be greatly missed.

Councillor Mrs Luckley said that, from a personal perspective, working with Jim in the Castle Ward had been both a pleasure and stimulus. He was a man of real honesty and sound principle whose first priority on the City and County Councils was to do his best for the people he served. Councillor Tootle had suffered illness throughout his time on the City Council

but had never allowed it to affect his work. His family would therefore retain the memory of a well respected man.

In conclusion, the Mayor said that Members' thoughts and prayers were with Councillor Tootle's family at this sad time.

C.02/12 APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was submitted on behalf of Councillor Mrs Clarke.

C.03/12 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the City Council held on 8 November 2011 were received and signed as a true record of the meeting.

C.04/12 PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED – That the Agenda be agreed as circulated.

C.05/12 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

By way of assistance, the Assistant Director (Governance) reiterated his previous advice on the need to declare a personal or prejudicial interest in connection with Member representation on Outside Bodies. If a Member had a personal interest by virtue of being appointed to an Outside Body by the Authority then it was only necessary to declare that interest if they spoke on the matter.

The undernoted Councillors declared a personal interest in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct in respect of item 18(ii) – Discretionary Rate Relief Policy. They indicated that their interest related to their appointment as representatives on the following Management Committees / Associations / Trusts:

Mrs Bradley – Currock Community Centre Management Committee
Mrs Geddes – Cumbria Law Centre Management Committee
Mallinson (J) – Longtown Community Centre Management Committee
Bell – Morton Community Centre Management Committee
Hendry – Yewdale Community Centre Management Committee

Councillor Mitchelson declared a personal interest in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct in respect of item 18(ii) – Discretionary Rate Relief Policy. Councillor Mitchelson stated that he was a member of a Club affected by discretionary rate relief.

Councillor Ms Patrick declared a personal interest in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct in respect of item 18(ii) – Discretionary Rate Relief. The interest related to the fact that Councillor Ms Patrick was an Independent Member on Greystone Community Association and she was employed by CASF (Cumbria Action for Social Support).

The following Councillors declared a personal and prejudicial interest in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct in respect of item 18(ii) – Discretionary Rate Relief Policy for the reasons stated:

Mrs Southward – employed at Morton Community Centre
Mrs Warwick – her employer received discretionary rate relief

Councillor Hendry declared a personal interest in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct in relation to any reference to Riverside, Carlisle or to the Tullie House Museum and Art Gallery Trust Board. He was a City Council representative on both organisations.

Councillor Cape declared a personal interest in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct in relation to items 18(ii) and 22 – Discretionary Rate Relief Policy. The interest related to his membership of a Speaking Club mentioned.

Councillor Layden declared a personal interest in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct in relation to any reference to Riverside, Carlisle. He served on the Riverside Board.

C.06/12 ANNOUNCEMENTS

(a) The Mayor

The Mayor announced that a small number of tickets were still available for the Burns Night on 27 January 2012 and Members were invited to contact Councillor Mrs Riddle as soon as possible should they wish to attend. A Race Night would also take place on 3 February 2012 at Morton Community Centre.

Councillor Layden provided details of the Race Night in aid of The Mayor's Charity which, historically, had proved to be very popular.

(b) The Leader of the Council

The Leader reported that the Executive would on 16 January 2012 give consideration to an urgent item of business concerning Cumbria County Council's proposed changes to the Household Waste Recycling Centres in order to comply with the response deadline.

(c) Members of the Executive

There were no announcements from Members of the Executive.

(d) Town Clerk and Chief Executive

There were no announcements from the Town Clerk and Chief Executive.

C.07/12 QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Pursuant to Procedure Rule 10.1, the Town Clerk and Chief Executive reported that no questions had been submitted on notice by members of the public.

C.08/12 PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS

Pursuant to Procedure Rule 10.11 the Town Clerk and Chief Executive reported that no petitions or deputations had been submitted by members of the public.

C.09/12 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Pursuant to Procedure Rule 11.2, the Town Clerk and Chief Executive reported that no questions had been submitted on notice by Members of the Council.

C.10/12 EXECUTIVE

Councillor Mitchelson moved and Councillor Mallinson (J) seconded the Minutes of the meetings of the Executive held on 31 October, 22 November and 12 December 2011.

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the meetings of the Executive held on 31 October, 22 November and 12 December 2011 be received and adopted.

C.11/12 PORTFOLIO HOLDER REPORTS

Copies of reports from the following Portfolio Holders had been circulated prior to the meeting:

Leader's Portfolio
Governance and Resources
Community Engagement
Economic Development
Environment and Housing
Performance and Development

In moving his report, Councillor Mitchelson drew attention to the rather disappointing responses received from the BBC / BBC Trust in relation to the Council's Motion concerning BBC Radio Cumbria. He wished to encourage anyone so minded to raise their objections with the BBC Trust.

Councillor Mitchelson further clarified that the Tea Dance would take place on 8 June 2012 in the Sands Centre; and an International Market would take place from 5 – 9 April 2012.

Councillor Glover reported that Mrs Carol Donnelly (guided tour operator) had been awarded an MBE in the New Years Honours List for services to the Tourist Industry in Carlisle and the Borders. He asked whether the Leader would join with him in congratulating and sending good wishes to Mrs Donnelly who was a former Officer of this Council.

Councillor Mrs Luckley also paid tribute to the tireless work undertaken by Mrs Donnelly during her time as Tourism Officer and in subsequent years. She was delighted that Mrs Donnelly's work had been recognised.

Councillor Mitchelson replied that of course the Council's congratulations should be conveyed to Mrs Donnelly for her excellent work in showcasing Carlisle.

Councillor Ms Patrick made reference to the Asset Review Disposal Programme noting that, to date, the disposal of seven assets had been completed realising £945,000. She asked whether that constituted a net sum for the City Council or, alternatively, whether legal and other fees remained to be deducted.

In response, Councillor Mallinson (J) undertook to provide a written response.

Councillor Mrs Rutherford added that the Asset Review Disposal Programme had previously been raised in Overview and Scrutiny. She questioned what the money realised from the disposal of assets would be used for; the criteria involved; how monies would be invested; and the manner by which the remainder of the Council would be involved in decision making.

Councillor Mallinson replied that a policy was in place and certain potential purchases had been identified, details of which were commercially sensitive. It would, however, be possible to arrange a private briefing for Members.

In moving her report, Councillor Mrs Geddes provided an update on the Tennis Airdome. She also drew attention to the 4th edition of "Abstract" (the magazine for young people) and the future development work underway with the Youth Council which involved recruitment of a young Mayor to represent the youth of Carlisle. She wished to praise those involved.

Councillor Ms Patrick was delighted to note that the Customer Contact Centre was now working with the DWP on a national initiative called "Tell Us Once" and wished to congratulate the staff involved.

Councillor Mrs Geddes thanked Councillor Ms Patrick and undertook to pass those congratulations on.

In moving her report, Councillor Mrs Bowman made reference to the hugely successful range of events that took place in the run up to Christmas, and expressed the hope that people would continue to support local retailers.

Councillor Mrs Bowman added her congratulations to Mrs Donnelly on the award of an MBE, which award had taken place subsequent to preparation of her Portfolio Holder report.

On the issue of the City Centre Business Improvement District, Councillor Mrs Bowman emphasised the need to ensure that the proposal was correct prior to moving to a ballot of City Centre businesses. She also quoted from an article which appeared in the News and Star on 5 January 2012 which stated "The 2009 Business Rate Supplements Act gives first-tier local authorities – in Cumbria that is the County Council – powers to levy up to 2p in the pound on top of the uniform business rate, currently 43.3p in the pound. The money raised must be spent on economic development....."

Councillor Mrs Bowman emphasised that the correct figures to which the City Council was working were as detailed in the relevant Statutory Instrument. In conclusion, she outlined the current position with regard to the bid.

Councillor Mrs Robson indicated that she had read the Portas Review (an Independent Review into the future of our High Streets) and noted that Carlisle carried out many of the recommendations contained therein. She suggested that Ms Portas be invited to see how things were done in Carlisle.

In response, Councillor Mrs Bowman said that she would be happy to send any interested Member the link to the Portas Review.

Councillor Weber noted that the Council had served notice on the owners of the Central Plaza to ensure that essential repairs were undertaken. He asked who the owners were and sought an assurance that the Council would be reimbursed for the costs involved. He further questioned the possibility of a legal challenge in that regard.

Councillor Mrs Bowman replied that work was ongoing and the cost would be determined in due course. She undertook to provide details of the owners.

Councillor Whalen requested further information on the City Centre Business Improvement District since he wished to lend his full support.

In response, Councillor Mrs Bowman said that she would be happy to provide further details.

Councillor Bowditch referred to the Welfare Advice Service and asked whether the total benefit gains had increased or decreased from the previous six months. Regardless, it was important that the Council did its utmost to ensure that the service operated at 100% capacity and to that end it would be prudent to undertake a full analysis.

Councillor Bloxham was confident that the Welfare Advice Service did an extremely good job, but undertook to provide a written response to Councillor Bowditch.

Councillor Collier expressed thanks on behalf of himself and Parish Councillors for work undertaken by staff on fly tipping removal.

In response, Councillor Bloxham said that both he and the Assistant Director (Local Environment) would convey those sentiments to the members of staff involved.

Councillor Harid noted that work was due to take place over the coming weeks and months on the installation of super fast broadband. He asked whether that would be installed in the Currock and Upperby areas.

Councillor Bloxham undertook to provide a written response on the matter.

In moving his report Councillor Ellis reported that he had, as promised at the last meeting (Minute C.149/11 (a) refers), investigated the issue of "Tullie Cards". He then outlined the background to the imposition of charges for the cards.

Councillor Nedved said that he had been very fortunate to attend the 5th annual Celebration of Learning event on 15 December 2011 and extended his congratulations to all those who received awards on that evening.

Members questioned individual Portfolio Holders on details of their reports.

RESOLVED – (1) That the reports of the Portfolio Holders be received.

(2) That the Leader convey the Council's congratulations and best wishes to Mrs Carol Donnelly on her award under the New Years Honours List.

(3) That the Governance and Resources Portfolio Holder provide a written response to Councillor Ms Patrick with regard to her question on the Asset Review Disposal Programme.

(4) That the Economic Development Portfolio Holder respond to Councillor Weber's questions concerning the Central Plaza; and provide further information on the City Centre Business Improvement District to Councillor Whalen.

(5) That the Environment and Housing Portfolio Holder provide a written response to the questions raised by Councillor Bowditch regarding the Welfare Advice Service; and Councillor Harid on Super Fast Broadband.

C.12/12 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MINUTES AND CHAIRMEN'S REPORTS

(a) Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Councillor Mrs Luckley moved and Councillor Glover seconded that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel held on 24 November 2011 be received and adopted.

Councillor Mrs Luckley also presented her Chairman's Report.

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel held on 24 November 2011 together with the Chairman's Report be received and adopted.

(b) Resources Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Councillor Layden moved and Councillor Allison seconded that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Resources Overview and Scrutiny Panel held on 6 December 2011 be received and adopted.

Councillor Layden also presented his Chairman's Report.

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Resources Overview and Scrutiny Panel held on 6 December 2011 together with the Chairman's Report be received and adopted.

(c) Environment and Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Councillor Mrs Rutherford moved and Councillor Craig seconded that the Minutes of the Meetings of the Environment and Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel held on 20 October and 1 December 2011 be received and adopted.

Councillor Mrs Rutherford also presented her Chairman's Report.

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the meetings of the Environment and Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel held on 20 October and 1 December 2011 together with the Chairman's Report be received and adopted.

C.13/12 REGULATORY PANEL

Councillor Morton moved and Councillor Mrs Parsons seconded the receipt and adoption of the Minutes of the Meeting of the Regulatory Panel held on 23 November 2011.

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Regulatory Panel held on 23 November 2011 be received and adopted.

C.14/12 DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE

Councillor Mrs Parsons moved and Councillor Scarborough seconded the receipt and adoption of the Minutes of the Meetings of the Development Control Committee held on 9 and 11 November 2011.

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the Meetings of the Development Control Committee held on 9 and 11 November 2011 be received and adopted.

C.15/12 AUDIT COMMITTEE

Councillor Mrs Mallinson moved and Councillor Lishman seconded the receipt and adoption of the Minutes of the Meeting of the Audit Committee held on 31 October 2011.

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Audit Committee held on 31 October 2011 be received and adopted.

C.16/12 EMPLOYMENT PANEL

Councillor Mallinson (J) moved and Councillor Glover seconded the receipt and adoption of the Minutes of the Meetings of the Employment Panel held on 28 October and 4 November 2011.

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the Meetings of the Employment Panel held on 28 October and 4 November 2011 be received and adopted.

C.17/12 APPEALS PANEL

Councillor Weedall moved and Councillor Graham seconded the receipt and adoption of the Minutes of Appeals Panel No. 3 held on 13 October 2011.

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the Meeting of Appeals Panels No. 3 held on 13 October 2011 be received and adopted.

C.18/12 NOTICE OF MOTION

(1) Affordable Housing

Pursuant to Procedure Rule 12, the Town Clerk and Chief Executive reported the receipt of the following Motion submitted on notice by Councillor Hendry:

“This Council expresses its great concern at the dramatic drop in new start ups for affordable homes. From 13,626 in the same period in 2010, to only 424 in that period for 2011. A fall of 97%. It therefore calls on the Coalition Government to provide the necessary resources to improve this situation. This will have the double advantage of providing desperately needed new homes and sustainable local economies.”

Councillor Hendry moved, and Councillor Whalen seconded the motion.

Councillor Hendry then elaborated in some detail upon the reasons for submission of the motion, expressing the hope that the City Council would lend their support.

Councillor Bloxham considered the Motion to be misleading, commenting that it was unclear from the wording of the Motion whether the figures related to national, local or both, or if indeed they referred to affordable developments delivered via a Section 106 Agreement or just Registered Social Landlords.

He outlined details of the current figures, submitting that it was those local figures that should concern this Council.

Councillor Bloxham indicated that he could not ask Council to vote in favour of the Motion which did not represent local people. He therefore asked Councillors Hendry and Whalen to withdraw it pending the receipt of accurate local information.

Councillor Ellis also sought withdrawal of the Motion.

There then followed discussion with input from a number of Members.

In summing up Councillor Hendry stated that he would not withdraw the Motion.

Following voting the Motion of Councillor Hendry, as set out above, WAS CARRIED.

(2) Carlisle Bus Station

Pursuant to Procedure Rule 12, the Town Clerk and Chief Executive reported the receipt of the following Motion submitted on notice by Councillor Mrs Prest:

“This Council believes that the facilities at Carlisle Bus Station are not adequate for customers’ needs and requests Stagecoach to upgrade the bus station to provide basic provision of seating, toilets and shelter for passengers’ use.”

Councillor Mrs Prest moved her motion as outlined above.

Councillor Mrs Prest then accepted the following amendment submitted on notice by Councillor Glover:

“This Council further believes that whilst Stagecoach may not own the bus station, the company has a duty to provide good facilities for customers. We therefore urge the Council to meet with Stagecoach and the site owner as a matter of urgency to rectify this dire situation which local citizens have to suffer and which reflects badly on the City’s tourism ambitions.”

Following voting, it was:

RESOLVED – That the Motion of Councillor Mrs Prest as amended by Councillor Glover and set out below be AGREED:

“This Council believes that the facilities at Carlisle Bus Station are not adequate for customers’ needs and requests Stagecoach to upgrade the bus station to provide basic provision of seating, toilets and shelter for passengers’ use.

This Council further believes that whilst Stagecoach may not own the bus station, the company has a duty to provide good facilities for customers. We therefore urge the Council to meet with Stagecoach and the site owner as a matter of urgency to rectify this dire situation which local citizens have to suffer and which reflects badly on the City’s tourism ambitions.”

C.19/12 PROPOSALS FROM THE EXECUTIVE IN RELATION TO THE COUNCIL’S BUDGET AND POLICY FRAMEWORK

(i) EX.150/11 and EX.164/11 – Tullie House Business Plan and Lease Arrangements

Pursuant to Minute EX.150/11 and EX.164/11, consideration was given to recommendations from the Executive regarding the Tullie House Business Plan and Lease Arrangements. A copy of Report CD.01/12 and relevant Minute Extracts had been circulated.

Councillor Ellis moved and Councillor Mallinson (J) seconded the recommendations that the City Council:

1. Support the Tullie House Business Plan;
2. Approve the core funding for 2012/13 and the commitment to funding for 2013/14; and
3. Agree an extension of the Lease arrangements from 25 years to 30 years to May 2041.

RESOLVED – That the City Council:

1. Supported the Tullie House Business Plan;
2. Approved the core funding for 2012/13 and the commitment to funding for 2013/14; and
3. Agreed an extension of the Lease arrangements from 25 years to 30 years to May 2041.

(ii) EX.102/11, EX.128/11 and EX.152/11 - Discretionary Rate Relief Policy

Councillors Mrs Southward and Mrs Warwick, having declared a personal and prejudicial interest, retired from the meeting room during consideration of this item of business.

Councillors Bell, Mrs Geddes and Hendry, having declared a personal interest, remained within the meeting room and took part in discussions on this item.

Councillors Mrs Bradley, Cape, Mallinson (J), Mitchelson and Ms Patrick having declared a personal interest, made no comment on the matter.

Pursuant to Minute EX.102/11, EX.128/11 and EX.152/11, consideration was given to recommendations from the Executive regarding the Discretionary Rate Relief Policy. A copy of Report CD.04/12 and relevant Minute Extracts had been circulated.

Councillor Mrs Geddes moved and Councillor Mallinson (J) seconded the recommendation that the Council approve:

1. Amendment to the City Council's Discretionary Rate Relief Policy to provide 100% rate relief to small, local charities and not for profit making organisations as detailed in Option 1 of the report.
2. The Discretionary Rate Relief Policy Statement as shown at Appendix 1 of the report.

Councillor Hendry gave notice of the following amendment :

“That this Council recognises the remarkable and unique contribution that our Community Centres make to the well being of our local Carlisle communities, and which could not be replaced through alternative provision within the District. Therefore agrees that this policy be amended to ensure that all Community Centres, no matter their size or financial turnover, be given 100% Discretionary Rate Relief.”

Councillor Hendry moved his amendment which was seconded by Councillor Glover.

Following discussion, with input from a number of Members and voting thereon the amendment of Councillor Hendry was NOT AGREED.

Following further voting, it was:

RESOLVED – (1) That the amendment to the City Council's Discretionary Rate Relief Policy to provide 100% rate relief to small, local charities and not for profit making organisations as detailed in Option 1 of Report CD.04/12 be approved.

(2) That the Discretionary Rate Relief Policy Statement as shown at Appendix 1 of the report be approved.

Councillors Mrs Southward and Mrs Warwick returned to the meeting.

(iii) EX.158/11 – Dates and Times of Meetings for 2012/13

Pursuant to Minute EX.158/11, consideration was given to a recommendation from the Executive that the City Council approve the schedule of dates and times of meetings in the 2012/13 municipal year as set out in the calendar attached as an Appendix to Report GD.03/12, and note the dates and times of meetings of the Executive as chosen by the Leader. A copy of Report GD.03/12 and the Minute Extract had been circulated.

Councillor Mitchelson moved and Councillor Bloxham seconded the recommendations.

Councillor Glover made reference to difficulties experienced in the past due to clashes of meetings and asked that the Executive take steps to ensure that situation did not occur in future.

In response to a question from Councillor Bainbridge, Councillor Mitchelson explained the justification for holding a meeting of the City Council prior to the Elections in May each year. He further noted Councillor Glover's comments as detailed above.

RESOLVED – (1) That the schedule of dates and times of meetings in the 2012/13 municipal year, as set out in the calendar attached as an Appendix to Report GD.03/12, be approved.

(2) That the dates and times of meetings of the Executive as chosen by the Leader be noted.

(iv) EX.161/11 – Appointment of Honorary Recorder for the City of Carlisle

Pursuant to Minute EX.161/11, consideration was given to recommendations from the Executive regarding the appointment of an Honorary Recorder for the City of Carlisle. A copy of Report GD.01/12 and the Minute Extract had been circulated.

Councillor Mitchelson moved and Councillor Glover seconded the recommendations that:

(1) His Honour Judge Paul Batty QC be invited to be appointed as Honorary Recorder for the City of Carlisle during his tenure in the Office of Resident Judge for Carlisle.

(2) On the acceptance of the offer, a Special Meeting of the City Council be arranged on a suitable date for the appointment by the Council of the City of Carlisle of Judge Batty QC as Honorary Recorder.

Councillor Whalen expressed his personal views with regard to the Judiciary.

RESOLVED - (1) That His Honour Judge Paul Batty QC be invited to be appointed as Honorary Recorder for the City of Carlisle during his tenure in the Office of Resident Judge for Carlisle.

(2) On the acceptance of the offer, a Special Meeting of the City Council be arranged on a suitable date for the appointment by the Council of the City of Carlisle of Judge Batty QC as Honorary Recorder.

In light of the above decision, Councillor Mitchelson reported that a special meeting of the City Council would take place at 2.30 pm on Thursday 23 February 2012. Invitations for the event would be circulated within the next few days.

**C.20/12 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PROCEDURE RULES CALL-IN
AND URGENCY**

Pursuant to Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rule 15(i), consideration was given to a report of the Assistant Director (Governance) (GD.02/12) on procedures in respect of occasions where decisions taken by the Executive are urgent.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

C.21/12 COMMUNICATIONS

There were no communications or items of business brought forward by the Mayor as a matter of urgency to be dealt with at the meeting.

C.22/12 PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED – That in accordance with Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the Public and Press were excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information, as defined in paragraph number (as indicated in brackets against each minute) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the 1972 Local Government Act.

C.23/12 TULLIE HOUSE BUSINESS PLAN AND LEASE ARRANGEMENTS

(Public and Press excluded by virtue of paragraphs 3 and 4)

Pursuant to Minute EX.162/11 and EX.167/11, consideration was given to recommendations from the Executive regarding the Tullie House Business Plan and Lease Arrangements. A copy of Report CD.02/12 and relevant Minute Extracts had been circulated.

Councillor Ellis moved and Councillor Mallinson (J) seconded the recommendation that the Tullie House Business Plan be approved.

RESOLVED – That the Tullie House Business Plan, as appended to Report CD.02/12, be approved.

C.24/12 DISCRETIONARY RATE RELIEF POLICY

(Public and Press excluded by virtue of paragraph 3)

Pursuant to Minute EX.139/11 and EX.163/11, consideration was given to private report CD.05/12 providing information about charities and not for profit organisations in receipt of National Non Domestic Rate Relief. The document modelled the options outlined in Report CD.04/12 considered earlier on the Agenda.

Councillor Mrs Geddes moved, Councillor Mallinson (J) seconded, and it was:

RESOLVED – That the content of Report CD.05/12 be received.

C.25/12 PROPOSED CHANGES TO SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM

(Public and Press excluded by virtue of paragraphs 1 and 3)

Pursuant to Minute EX.168/11, consideration was given to recommendations from the Executive regarding proposed changes to the City Council's Senior Management Team. A copy of Report CE.04/12 and relevant Minute Extracts had been circulated.

Councillor Mitchelson moved and Councillor Mallinson (J) seconded the recommendations that the Council approve:

- (a) The deletion of the vacant Strategic Director post from the Council's Officer establishment;
- (b) The remaining Strategic Director, Mr Darren Crossley, be designated as Deputy Chief Executive and the post re-titled accordingly;
- (c) The Assistant Director posts be re-titled "Director of" followed by the relevant title;
- (d) The Assistant Director (Governance) be delegated authority to make any consequential amendments to the Council's Constitution.

Councillor Glover noted that a number of Officers (including members of the Senior Management Team) were present at the meeting as observers. He sought legal advice on whether it was appropriate for them to remain during consideration of this item of business.

In response, the Assistant Director (Governance) advised that it was a matter for Members to decide.

Councillor Glover moved and Councillor McDevitt seconded that Officers (with the exception of the Town Clerk and Chief Executive and Assistant Director (Governance)), acting in his capacity as legal advisor, leave the meeting.

The Officers in question duly retired from the meeting room.

Councillor Glover then moved and Councillor Atkinson seconded an amendment that the recommendations be referred back to the Executive to enable further careful consideration to be given to the matter.

Following discussion and voting thereon, the motion of Councillor Glover that the matter be referred back was NOT AGREED.

Following further voting, it was:

RESOLVED – That the City Council approved:

- (a) The deletion of the vacant Strategic Director post from the Council's Officer establishment;
- (b) The remaining Strategic Director, Mr Darren Crossley, be designated as Deputy Chief Executive and the post re-titled accordingly;

- (c) The Assistant Director posts be re-titled "Director of" followed by the relevant title;
- (d) The Assistant Director (Governance) be delegated authority to make any consequential amendments to the Council's Constitution.

Councillor Mrs Southward left the meeting during consideration of the above item of business.

(The meeting ended at 9.25 pm)