

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL BUSINESS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 13 DECEMBER 2016

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL BUSINESS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY 13 DECEMBER 2016 AT 1400 HOURS, IN COMMITTEE ROOM 2, THE COUNCIL HOUSE, BIRMINGHAM

PRESENT:

Councillor John Clancy in the Chair;

Councillors Robert Alden, Gareth Moore, Mohammed Idrees, Ian Ward and Mike Ward.

NOTICE OF RECORDING

- 2557 The Chair advised the meeting to note that members of the press/public may record and take photographs except where there are confidential or exempt items.
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APOLOGIES

- 2558 An apology was received from Councillor Sharon Thompson.
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MINUTES

- 2559 The Minutes of the last meeting held on 22 November 2016 were confirmed and signed by the Chair.
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PAY AND GRADING FRAMEWORK FOR CHIEF OFFICERS

The following report of the Chief Executive was submitted:-

(See document No 1)

The Assistant Director Workforce Strategy made introductory comments relating to the report. Officers responded to questions from Councillor Robert Alden on how the savings were to be achieved. In response to a comment from Councillor Gareth Moore that the Equality Impact Assessment did not include all the characteristics of the new Equality Act, Officers advised that the collection of data was problematic to allow the provision of information. They accepted

the Councillors point that because information was not referenced in the report the impression given that it was not considered.

2560

RESOLVED:-

- (i) That the adoption of the Local Government Employers (LGE) job evaluation scheme as the mechanism for assessing the rank of JNC roles from 1 July 2017 be noted;
- (ii) that the adoption of a new four grade model for JNC officers as outlined in paragraph 3.5 of this report be agreed; and
- (iii) that the Chief Executive be delegated authority to implement the new pay and grading framework on 1 July 2017. Applying a process of voluntary offer and then consideration of dismissal and reengagement if necessary.

FUTURE COUNCIL WORKFORCE SAVINGS – JNC SAVING

The following report of the Chief Executive was submitted:-

(See document No 2)

The Assistant Director Workforce Strategy made introductory comments relating to the report and responded to Members' questions.

2561

RESOLVED:-

That authority be delegated to the Chief Executive to:

- (i) Secure the required saving of £361k through a review of the overall future JNC establishment requirement as informed by the 2017/18 budget setting process; and a rationalisation of the use of senior agency, interims and consultants.
- (ii) Commence implementation of the in year changes to freeze Performance Related Pay for JNC officers, for 3 years as outlined.

HONORARY FREEDOM OF THE CITY

The following report of the Acting City Solicitor was submitted:-

(See document No 3)

Members were supportive of the proposal and it was-

2562

RESOLVED:-

- (i) That the proposal to confer the Honorary Freedom of the City on the 21 Birmingham Pub Bombings victims be agreed; and
- (ii) that an extraordinary meeting of the City Council be held on Tuesday 10 January 2017 at 1355 hours for the purpose of considering the proposal to confer the Honorary Freedom of the City on the 21 Birmingham Pub Bombings victims.

DISPENSATION FOR NON-ATTENDANCE OF A COUNCILLOR AT COUNCIL MEETINGS

The following revised report of the Acting City Solicitor was submitted:-

(See document No 4)

The Acting City Solicitor made introductory comments relating to the revised report circulated around the table and indicated that paragraph 3.6 should now read

“The need for dispensation arises from 13th March 2017. For the avoidance of doubt, if Councillor Alden fails to attend any meeting of the Council after 14th March 2017, he would be disqualified as a Councillor under the statutory provision (Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972) unless the Council passes a dispensation resolution before that date.”

In response to questions from Councillor Robert Alden, the Acting City Solicitor clarified that in order to allow sufficient time for Committee to consider a dispensation a request should be made 3 months before the end of the six month period since last attendance.

2563

RESOLVED:-

That Council Business Management Committee:

- (i) Notes that Councillor John Alden has been unable to attend meetings since early October due to ill health and a period of hospitalisation;
- (ii) On behalf of the Council, this Committee wishes Councillor John Alden a speedy recovery;
- (iii) Approves the non-attendance of Councillor John Alden at Council meetings until 13 March 2017 pursuant to S85 Local Government Act 1972; and
- (iv) Approves the Chief Executive writing to Councillor Alden as soon as possible, confirming the approval of this Committee and to formally wish him a speedy recovery.

(Councillor Mike Ward wished to be recorded as having abstained from voting on parts (i), (iii) and (iv) of the above resolution. Councillor Robert Alden wished to be recorded as having abstained from voting on the above resolution due to the family connection.)

COUNCIL AGENDA FOR THE NEXT MEETING

The following draft Council agenda was submitted:-

(See document No 5)

The Committee was advised that the items 'Transport for West Midlands Strategic Transport Plan: Movement for Growth' and the Rough Sleepers Overview and Scrutiny report would now be submitted to the February meeting. Therefore the meeting of City Council on 10 January would conclude at 1915 hours.

During discussion it was agreed that item 9 'Response to Statutory Recommendation made by the Council's External Auditor' should be allocated 30 minutes.

The revised timings for reports were as follows

Appointment of External Auditors	15 minutes	1600-1615 hours
Response to Statutory Recommendation made by the Council's External Auditor	30 minutes	1615-1645 hours
Birmingham Development Plan	30 minutes	1715-1745 hours
Council Tax Support Review	15 minutes	1745-1800 hours
Motions for Debate	90 minutes	1800-1930 hours

2564 **RESOLVED:-**

That, subject to the above, the draft Council agenda be noted.

AUTHORITY TO CHAIR AND OFFICERS

2565 **RESOLVED:-**

That in an urgent situation between meetings the Chair, jointly with the relevant Chief Officer, has authority to act on behalf of the Committee.

The meeting ended at 1430 hours.

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CHAIR