

**MEETING OF MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL**

At the Meeting of Middlesbrough Council, lawfully convened, and held in the Town Hall, Middlesbrough on 7 September 2016.

**PRESENT:** Councillors Bloundele (Chair), The Mayor, D Budd, Biswas, Blyth, Cole, Dean, Dryden, Goodchild, Hellaoui, Higgins, Hubbard, Lawton, Lewis, Mawston, McCabe, McGee, McGloin, G Purvis, P Purvis, Rathmell, C Rooney, D Rooney, Rostron, Saunders, J Sharrocks, Taylor, Thompson, Uddin, J A Walker, N J Walker, Walters and Young

**OFFICERS:** M Allinson, J Bromiley, B Carr, L Henman, E Kunonga, J Lewis, S Lightwing, E McInnes, A Pain, T Parkinson, B Roberts, E Scollay and M Taylor

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** were submitted on behalf of Councillors Arundale, Brady, Branson, Brunton, Carr, Coupe, Cox, Davison, Harvey, C Hobson, J Hobson, Hussain, McIntyre and McTigue.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

There were no Declarations of Interest at this point in the meeting.

**1 MINUTES - COUNCIL - 13 JULY 2016**

The minutes of the meeting of Middlesbrough Council held on 13 July 2016 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

**2 ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS**

There were no Announcements/Communications for this meeting.

**3 DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH ANNUAL REPORT 2015/2016 – DEMENTIA FRIENDLY MIDDLESBROUGH**

The Director of Public Health presented his Annual Report 2015/2016 - Dementia Friendly Middlesbrough.

It was a statutory requirement for all Directors to produce a report that described the health and wellbeing of the local population. Three Annual Reports had been produced since public health transferred from the National Health Service to the Local Authority in 2013. The two previous reports had focussed on: strengthening the role of prevention and early intervention and improving health challenges across the town; and mental health and emotional wellbeing. Details of progress on previous recommendations were included in the latest report.

Dementia was a key priority for Middlesbrough and it had gained momentum recently with the town achieving dementia friendly status in 2016. It was important to celebrate the key milestones and highlight some of the key issues if Middlesbrough was going to become a truly dementia friendly town. Improvements had been made in provision but there was more to be done to improve the lives of those living with dementia and make it possible for them to live well with the condition. The population nationally was ageing and dementia would become more prevalent.

The report was also intended to be an awareness raising document and set out the scale of the problem locally, outlined the preventable causes of dementia, early diagnosis and effective management and support of the condition as well as what it meant to create dementia friendly environments and also how to support people with dementia with a dignified death. There were ten recommendations highlighting specific areas where changes could lead to improvements for those with dementia, their families and communities.

Dementia was a group of conditions and some elements were preventable. Anything that could be done to improve heart health was good for preventing vascular dementia. Early diagnosis and effective engagement in the early stages of dementia was critical especially in

terms of people making their own decisions about their care. Excellent services were available in Middlesbrough and it was vital to encourage communities to access them and tackle some of the myths about accessing memory clinics.

Members commented on the report and the Mayor thanked the Director of Public Health and his team for the impressive work carried out to date towards making Middlesbrough a dementia friendly town.

Moved, seconded and **ORDERED** as follows:

1. Council noted the Director of Public Health Annual Report 2015/2016 and approved the recommendations.

#### 4 **MAYOR'S STATEMENT AND REPORT**

The Mayor stated that he was delighted with a recent article in the Gazette newspaper under the banner of its 'Invest in Teesside' Campaign, regarding the possibility of new office development to the eastern end of Centre Square. Local Authorities were some of the biggest investors in Teesside and it was good to see that fact being recognised.

The Mayor commented that change was not always easy but it was vital for the Council, town and wider Tees Valley to keep improving and developing. Three recent successes that had initially met with some objections were Middlesbrough Sports Village, the new Registry Office and the Holiday Inn Express. Referring to the recent Heseltine Report on Teesside's economic future, the Mayor highlighted that there were many international and world class businesses in the area which were not always promoted widely enough. The Mayor added that the Tees Valley was not without its issues in terms of poverty and poor health but by change and investment those issues could be alleviated. The Mayor congratulated the Gazette on the 'Invest in Teesside' campaign.

The Mayor stated that a report on Brexit as well as an update on the Combined Authority and Devolution would be presented at the next Council meeting.

Given recent press coverage in relation to devolution in the north east, the Mayor was asked whether he felt it was still in the Tees Valley's interests to have a Regional Mayor. The Mayor replied that the Combined Authority had requested some assurances from the Government and provided those assurances were given, it was anticipated that the appointment of a Regional Mayor would go ahead.

#### 5 **DEPUTY MAYOR AND EXECUTIVE MEMBER REPORTS**

The Chair invited Members to raise items for general discussion arising from the Information Booklet of Executive Member reports, previously circulated, which detailed activities carried out within the respective Executive Member portfolios (Section 1), Executive decisions taken (Section 2), or to be taken where known, prior to and following the meeting (Sections 3 and 4).

Members commented and posed questions in relation to the following matters and Executive Members responded where appropriate.

##### (a) Planning and Development

A Member commented on two recent major applications for development namely the Health and Wellbeing Hub and the Snow Centre. Reference was also made to the recent opening of 'Dovecot', a new bar and eatery on Linthorpe Road. The Member congratulated the Executive Member on the continued regeneration of the town.

The Deputy Mayor and Executive Member for Regeneration thanked the Member for his comments and stated that investors were gaining confidence in the town. The Deputy Mayor also commented on the recent successful regeneration of Bedford and Baker Streets due to the Council's initiative and investment.

(b) Blue Plaques

It was highlighted that a series of blue plaques had been installed across the town to mark important locations in Middlesbrough's history. A Member asked for further information with regard to the App which was being set up as part of the same project.

The Executive Member for Culture, Leisure and Sport explained that the App was an exciting development and was linked to the town's heritage trail to give it an interactive element. The trail extended from the Dorman Museum to the Transporter Bridge and people would be able to scan plaques on significant buildings or statues to obtain further information about them.

(c) Museums

Referring to the review of Cultural Services and Museums, a Member asked whether any outside body or agency had been engaged to assess the options and if so, what was the name of the Company and how much funding had been allocated to pay for this service? The Member also asked for details of the remit and whether the closure of the Captain Cook Birthplace Museum was one of the options?

The Executive Member for Culture, Leisure and Sport agreed to provide a detailed written answer to the Member in response to all the questions raised. An Outside Body called FEI had been engaged in late 2014, prior to the Executive Member being elected, at a cost of approximately £30K and the remit for the review covered the whole of cultural services and not solely museums. It had been suggested by FEI that consideration might be given to the creation of a single museum and the Executive Member would include further details in his written response.

(d) Museums

A Member referred to Stan Hollis, Tom Dresser and James Smith, all of whom had been awarded the Victoria Cross for their bravery. The family of Tom Dresser were currently fund raising with the aim of erecting a memorial statute in Middlesbrough. The Member asked whether Council could make a donation to the fund raising campaign?

The Executive Member for Culture, Leisure and Sport stated that he had not been aware of the campaign but would be happy to meet with the family and the Councillor to discuss ways in which the Council might be able to assist.

(e) Middlesbrough Theatre and MIMA

A Member stated that she was pleased to see a significant increase in the number of performances presented and attended during the first quarter of 2016/2017. The Member also stated that it was good to see the range of activities on offer at MIMA.

The Executive Member for Culture, Leisure and Sport agreed that Middlesbrough Theatre was an excellent venue and had an exciting programme of events. The Discover Middlesbrough event was going from strength to strength and a new event 'Night Fall' would see Centre Square illuminated at night. Tours of the Town Hall and the Empire building had sold out. There was a varied programme in place which was fantastic for the town.

(f) Junior Park Run

Middlesbrough's first Junior Park Run had taken place at Hemlington Lake in August and had been a huge success. The event was run entirely by volunteers and was free to enter. The Member commented that it was encouraging to see so many young people taking part and it was an excellent example of community working.

The Executive Member for Culture, Leisure and Sport paid tribute to the volunteers and Ward Councillors for organising this event. The Executive Member commented that it was something he would like to see spread across the town and he hoped to use the Tees 10K

event to promote such events further.

(g) Fairtrade

A Member commented on Middlesbrough's renewed status as a Fairtrade Town which would run until 2018. 125 countries and 1.65 million farmers across the world were involved in this international campaign.

The Executive Member for Adult Health and Social Care agreed that she was very proud of the way Middlesbrough had embraced Fairtrade and more and more organisations were becoming involved, including the local MP's office recently. The Executive Member added that the Town Meal would be taking place in Centre Square on Saturday 10 September 2016 and welcomed all to attend.

(h) GCSE Results

A Member noted that some Middlesbrough schools had attained their best ever GCSE results with significant improvements in those attaining 5 A\*-C grades. However, Middlesbrough schools overall were still achieving below the national average for GCSEs. The Member stated that it was encouraging to see improvements and thanked everyone involved for their hard work.

(i) CCTV

A Member referred to the problem of people cycling in pedestrianised areas of the town and asked whether there had been any successful prosecutions for this crime?

The Executive Member for Communities and Public Health stated that he did not know how many prosecutions had been made but agreed to provide this information to the Councillor. The Executive Member stated that whilst it was good to see more people taking up cycling, it needed to be done safely and responsibly. The Executive Member hoped that Street Wardens and PCSOs would challenge cyclists riding illegally. The Executive Member also agreed alert the Community Safety Teams to this issue.

(j) PREVENT Update

Referring to a recent protest by North East Infidels which took place in the Ayresome Ward, a Member wished to record thanks to the Police and Community Safety Team, whose combined efforts had ensured the event was monitored and there were no incidents on the day.

The Executive Member for Communities and Public Health agreed with the comments made and added that whilst people had the right to demonstrate and march, the Council would always ensure that public safety was at the forefront.

(k) Environment Services

Since the Executive Member for Environment was not present at the Council meeting, the Chair asked those Members who had submitted questions to forward them in writing for a response.

**6 REPORT OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD**

Council received and considered a report presented by the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Board outlining the work of the Board and Scrutiny Panels.

**7 URGENT ITEMS**

The Chair of the Licensing Committee informed Council that two typographical errors had been noted in the minutes of the meeting of Middlesbrough Council on 23 February 2011, namely the words 'Police' and 'Section 3'.

Council's approval was sought to amend the words 'Police' and 'Section 3' to 'Policing' and 'Schedule 3' respectively.

Moved, seconded and **ORDERED** as follows that the minutes of Middlesbrough Council held on 23 February 2011, were amended to read as follows:

**The Adoption of the Provisions of Section 27 of the Policing and Crime Act 2009, in relation to the Regulation of Sex Entertainment Venues**

The Director of Adult Social Care and Environment presented a report, the purpose of which was to request as follows:

(a) That the Council pass a resolution specifying that the amendments made by Section 27 to Schedule 3 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982, shall be applied to the Middlesbrough area on 1 May 2011, in relation to the regulation of sex entertainment venues.

(b) That the amendments to the functions under Schedule 3 of the Local Government Miscellaneous Provisions Act in relation to sex entertainment venues were delegated to Licensing Committee or Licensing Sub Committee.

The Executive Member for Community Protection addressed Council on this report and stated that it would give the Council more power and regulations when licensing these premises.

Moved, seconded and **ORDERED** that the resolution be passed, as detailed above, and that the business be delegated to Licensing Committee or Licensing Sub Committee.

**8 MEMBERS' QUESTION TIME**

Question from Councillor Rathmell to the Mayor:

'Will the Mayor give a categorical assurance and guarantee that the option of a possible closure of the Captain Cook Birthplace Museum will be excluded from any scrutiny or investigation by any, body or agency that may employed or set-up by MBC, and would the Mayor now, tonight guarantee the immunity of the Captain Cook Birthplace Museum from any proposals to close, reduce or modify in any way the museum or the facilities themselves as it is believed that this would be a contrary to the wishes of the residents of Middlesbrough and to do so would devalue the Stewarts Park/Captain Cook experience?'

The Mayor confirmed that no decision had been made to close the Captain Cook Birthplace Museum. As stated previously by the Executive Member for Culture, Leisure and Sport, the review of Cultural Services was continuing and the result would be known later this year. Museum staff had been kept informed and had been concerned by rumours and untruths in relation to the Museum's future. The Mayor added that £500,000 was currently being spent on improvements to the Museum.

**9 NOTICE OF URGENT MOTION**

There were no urgent motions.

**10 DESIGNATION OF DIRECTOR OF ADULT SOCIAL SERVICES**

The Monitoring Officer presented a report seeking Council's confirmation of the designation of the Assistant Director, Social Care, as Director of Adult Social Services in accordance with section 6 of the Local Authority Social Services Act 1970.

Moved, seconded and **ORDERED** as follows that:

1. Council confirmed the designation of the Assistant Director, Social Care, as Director of Adult Social Services.

11 **APPOINTMENTS TO COUNCIL COMMITTEES, JOINT COMMITTEES AND OUTSIDE BODIES 2016**

A report of the Monitoring Officer was presented regarding nominations for appointments, arising from current Committee vacancies.

Moved, seconded and **ORDERED** as follows:

1. That the following appointments were approved:

Schedule B Appointments

Corporate Health and Safety Committee - Councillor P Purvis

Schedule C Appointments

Community Safety and Leisure Scrutiny Panel - Councillors Branson and Davison

Overview and Scrutiny Board - Councillor Walters

Teesside Pension Fund and Investment Panel - Councillors Blyth and Walters