

MEETING OF MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL

At the Meeting of Middlesbrough Council, lawfully convened, and held in the Town Hall, Middlesbrough on 26 July 2017.

PRESENT: Councillors S E Bloundele (Chair), R Brady (Vice Chair), R Arundale, S Biswas, J Blyth, D J Branson, J Brunton, Mr D Budd, M Carr, D P Coupe, D Davison, S Dean, E Dryden, J Goodchild, T Harvey, A Hellaoui, T Higgins, B A Hubbard, N Hussain, T Lawton, L Lewis, T Mawston, J McGee, L McGloin, J McTigue, G Purvis, P Purvis, J Rathmell, C M Rooney, D Rooney, J Rostron, M Saunders, M Storey, Z Uddin, J A Walker, N J Walker, M Walters, J Young and L Young

OFFICERS: J Bromiley, B Carr, S Dorchell, A Hoy, A Pain, T Parkinson, S Reynolds and B Roberts

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were submitted on behalf of Councillors Councillor C Hobson, Councillor J Hobson, Councillor D McCabe, Councillor F McIntyre, Councillor J Sharrocks, Councillor M Thompson.

DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None declared

17/15 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

The Chair stated that members had received two emails - one from the Northern Echo setting out representations with regard to whether the press and public should be excluded from the Extraordinary meeting; and one from the Monitoring Officer detailing external advice with regard to the implications of holding the meeting in public.

Members had also received emails from Councillor Hobson and the Monitoring Officer in relation to previous exclusions of the press and public at Council.

The Chair advised that the decision on whether the meeting was to be held in public was for members to take. Based on the information contained within the emails, members needed to decide whether the public interest in maintaining the exemption, outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information, and the rights of the individuals concerned.

The Chair stated that members needed to vote on whether to exclude the press and public.

A member called for a Recorded Vote to be held. The Chair announced that at least 12 councillors had to agree for a Recorded Vote to be held. A vote was taken with regard to whether a Recorded Vote should be held. The vote was lost: 26 members voted against a Recorded Vote being held and 9 voted for.

The Chair advised members that they should proceed to the vote on whether to exclude the press and public.

ORDERED that the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the whole of the business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 and that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

Councillor J Rathmell and Councillor J Young requested that it be recorded in the minutes that they had voted against the meeting being held in private.

17/16 CONSIDERATION OF THE REQUEST FOR EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

A debate was held in relation to the reserved judgement in relation to the recent employment tribunal; and officer and member roles in relation to that tribunal.

Councillor Rathmell outlined the reasons for the request for the Extraordinary Council meeting. Councillor Carr responded to the issues raised.

A member moved that the meeting proceed to the next business.

Moved, seconded and **ORDERED** that the meeting proceed to the next business.

As there was no urgent items, the Chair announced that the meeting was closed.