

Minutes of the meeting of the Council held at
2.00 pm on Tuesday, 13th April, 2021 at
Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Stone Cross,
Rotary Way, Northallerton, DL6 2UU and
virtually via Teams

Present

Councillor M A Barningham (in the Chair)

Councillor	A Wake	Councillor	C A Les
	P Atkin		Mrs J W Mortimer
	P Bardon		J Noone
	G W Dadd		B Phillips
	C A Dickinson		G Ramsden
	D B Elders		M S Robson
	Mrs B S Fortune		Mrs I Sanderson
	B Griffiths		M G Taylor
	R W Hudson		P Thompson
	D Hugill		D Watkins
	K G Hardisty		S Watson
	R Kirk		D A Webster
	N A Knapton		P R Wilkinson

An apology for absence was received from Councillor A Robinson

C.20 HRH Duke of Edinburgh

The Council observed a minute's silence in memory of HRH The Duke of Edinburgh who passed away on Friday, 9 April 2021.

On behalf of Hambleton District Council we would to offer our condolences to the Queen on this sad occasion of the passing of Prince Philip. He has given the Country devoted service for 70 years and been a constant support to her majesty the Queen. He leaves a lasting legacy with the Duke of Edinburgh Awards scheme which many young people have benefitted from and his work on environmental issues with the World Wildlife Trust. Our thoughts are with the Queen and her family.

C.21 Minutes

The decision:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 23 February 2021 (C.13 - C.19), previously circulated, be signed as a correct record.

C.22 Verbal Statement of the Leader and Referrals from Cabinet

The Leader moved Cabinet minutes CA.29 to CA.31 and CA.33 to CA.35 and made a statement to the Council on the following matters:-

- The Leader expressed thanks to all those members of staff for their continued hard work and efforts in the continued provision of services during the Coronavirus pandemic, particularly regarding the administering of the significant number of business grants. The past year has been a challenging year but the authority was now looking to the future.
- With regard to the Treadmills development, it was envisaged that the tender for the Cinema would shortly be issued. Also, negotiations were underway on the Governor's building.

The Decision:

That the reports, resolutions and recommendations of the following meetings of the Cabinet be received, approved and adopted:-

Body	Date of Meeting	Minute Nos
Cabinet	9 March 2021 13 April 2021	CA.29 to CA.31 CA.33 to CA.35

C.23 Cabinet Portfolio Statements

- (a) Councillor P R Wilkinson, Portfolio Holder for Economic Development and Finance made a statement regarding Hambleton Tourism Forum; Pavement Licences; Town Investment Plans; North Yorkshire & East Riding Supply Chain project; Hambleton Business Conference and Business Grants. A number of questions were asked on the statement regarding Pavement Licences which were responded to at the meeting and where additional information was requested this would be provided after the meeting.
- (b) Councillor Mrs B S Fortune, Portfolio Holder for Leisure made a statement regarding the Leisure Centres reopening; Public Sector Decarbonisation Fund; Thirsk and Sowerby Leisure Centre Development; Take That Step – Adult Weight Management Scheme and Hambleton Heroes.
- (c) Councillor Mrs I Sanderson, Portfolio Holder for Governance made a statement regarding the Car Park Improvement Scheme; Covid Testing and Vaccinations; Customer Services; Legal Services; Northallerton High Street and Electoral Services.
- (d) Councillor D Webster, Portfolio Holder for Planning made a statement regarding the Local Plan; Ingleby Arncliffe Neighbourhood Plan and Development Management.

- (e) Councillor S Watson, Portfolio Holder for Environmental Health, Waste and Recycling made a statement regarding Waste and Street Scene; Environmental Health; Emergency Planning and the Climate Change Strategy. Members wished to thank the community litter picking groups for their continued efforts in litter picking across the District.
- (f) Councillor M G Taylor, Portfolio Holder for Transformation and Projects made a statement regarding key Council projects; Maple Park Crematorium Project; Vibrant Market Towns; the Treadmills redevelopment; Town Hall Square and Town Centre Improvements in Northallerton and the Capital Programme.

C.24 Local Government Reorganisation

All Wards

The Chief Executive submitted a report which asked the Council to consider the consultation launched by the Secretary of State on proposals for unitary local government in York and North Yorkshire and to decide on its response to that consultation.

In response to a request from North Yorkshire County Council, the Secretary of State had invited proposals for unitary local government for the York and North Yorkshire Area. The Secretary of State had received two proposals from Councils in North Yorkshire:

- North Yorkshire District Councils, apart from this Council, submitted a joint proposal for two unitary councils covering the whole of North Yorkshire and the whole of the City of York; one unitary in the east comprising the districts of Ryedale, Scarborough, Selby and the City of York unitary; and one in the west comprising the districts of Craven, Hambleton, Harrogate and Richmondshire.
- North Yorkshire County Council submitted a proposal for a single unitary council for the whole of the county of North Yorkshire with no changes to the existing City of York unitary.

This Council's resolved position was not to support the submission of the "Case for Change" document prepared on behalf of the District Councils and to make representations to the Secretary of State for retaining the status quo (Minute CA.5 refers). A copy of the Council's letter to the Secretary of State was attached at Annex A of the report. Notwithstanding that resolution, the Secretary of State had decided to consult on the two unitary proposals received and the Council was asked to determine whether to support one of the unitary options and, if so, which one, or whether to maintain its position on the status quo.

The decision:

That Council approves that:-

- (1) Hambleton District Council opposes the proposed move to a unitary local government structure and wishes the current two-tier structure to be retained. However, should the Secretary of State decide to change to a unitary structure, the Council wishes him to choose the option that would be in the best interests of the residents, jobs and businesses within the District; and
- (2) the Chief Executive be authorised, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to finalise and submit the Council's response to the Secretary of State's consultation including completion and submission of responses to the consultation questions.

In accordance with section 14.7 of the Council Procedure Rules, Councillor M S Robson requested a recorded vote. Members present were recorded voting as follows:-

For the Motion: P Atkin, P Bardon, M A Barningham, G W Dadd, C A Dickinson, D B Elders, Mrs B S Fortune, B Griffiths, K G Hardisty, R W Hudson, D Hugill, R Kirk, N A Knapton, C A Les, J Mortimer, J Noone, B Phillips, G Ramsden; M S Robson, Mrs I Sanderson, M Taylor, P R Thompson, A Wake, D Watkins, S Watson, D A Webster and P R Wilkinson (27)

The motion was declared carried.

C.25 **Urgent Decisions taken by Cabinet**

All Wards

The Chief Executive submitted a report which provided details on a urgent decision taken by Cabinet pursuant to Rule 16 of the Council's Access to Information Rules (as set out in Part 4 of the Council's Constitution).

The decision:

That the urgent decision taken by Cabinet at the meeting held on 9 March 2021 be noted.

The meeting closed at 3.10 pm

Chairman of the Council