

MEETING:	Full Council
DATE:	Thursday 25 May 2023
TIME:	10.00 am
VENUE:	Council Chamber, Barnsley Town Hall

MINUTES

Present

The Mayor (Councillor Stowe)

Central Ward

- Councillors O'Donoghue

Cudworth Ward

- Councillors Cherryholme, Hayward and Houghton CBE

Darfield Ward

- Councillors Markham, Osborne and Smith

Darton East Ward

- Councillors Crisp, Denton and Hunt

Darton West Ward

- Councillors T. Cave and Howard

Dearne North Ward

- Councillors Bellamy, Cain and Morrell

Dearne South Ward

- Councillors Bowler, Coates and Moore

Dodworth Ward

- Councillors Fielding and C. Wray

Hoyland Milton Ward

- Councillors Franklin and Shepherd

Kingstone Ward

- Councillors Mitchell and P. Wright

Monk Bretton Ward

- Councillors Green, Richardson and Sheard

North East Ward

- Councillors Booker, Ennis OBE and Peace

Old Town Ward

- Councillors Lofts

Penistone East Ward

- Councillors Burnett

Penistone West Ward

- Councillors Kitching and Lowe-Flello

Rockingham Ward

- Councillors Sumner, White and A. Wray

Royston Ward

- Councillors Makinson, McCarthy and Webster

St. Helen's Ward

- Councillors Leech, Tattersall and N. Wright

Stairfoot Ward

- Councillors K. Dyson, Murray and Shirt

Wombwell Ward

- Councillors Eastwood, Frost and Higginbottom

Worsbrough Ward

- Councillors Bowser, Clarke and Lodge

28. Declarations of Interests

Councillor Osborne declared a non-pecuniary interest in any item on the agenda insofar as it related to Berneslai Homes and their position on the board.

Councillor Tattersall also declared a non-pecuniary interest in any item on the agenda insofar as it related to Berneslai Homes and their position on the board.

29. Minutes

The minutes of the meetings held on 23rd March and 30th March, 2023 were taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

30. Communications

International Safety Award at Merit standard from the British Safety Council and a Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) Award at Gold standard – Health and Safety Team

The Executive Director Growth and Sustainability announced that the Health and Safety team had been presented with two prestigious Health and Safety Awards; an International Safety Award at Merit standard from the British Safety Council and a Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) Award at Gold standard, both demonstrating the Council's commitment to health and safety excellence.

Members noted that the International Safety Awards recognised and celebrated organisations from around the world who had demonstrated their commitment to preventing workplace injuries and work-related ill health during the previous calendar year. It also reflected the Council's commitment to wellbeing and mental health at work, which was a top priority for the Council. This was the 20th successive time that the Council received such recognition and of all the winners, Barnsley Council was one of 296 to achieve a Merit Award, which was a huge achievement.

Members heard that the RoSPA Health and Safety Awards recognised organisations' commitment to continuous improvement in the prevention of accidents and ill health at work. This year marked the 22nd consecutive year that the Council had been awarded a Gold Award for health and safety performance during 2022.

The Executive Director Growth and Sustainability added that winning such prestigious awards demonstrated the hard work and dedication of the Health and Safety team, the fantastic work they do, and the efforts made across the Council and schools to implement good practices and keep health, safety and wellbeing a key priority

Congratulations were expressed to Simon Dobby, Dawn Faulkner, Emily Grayson, Louise Ingham, Rosalind McDonagh, Adam Thompson, Emily Turner, Jeremy Ward and Tracey Priestley.

Councillor Franklin, Higginbottom and the Mayor added their thanks for the work of the team for the work, which had been rightly recognised.

Elsecar Digital Reconstruction recognised at National Awards – Barnsley Museums Team

The Executive Director Growth and Sustainability announced that a stunning digital reconstruction of the historic village of Elsecar had been highly commended at the prestigious Museums + Heritage Awards in the category of 'Best Use of Digital'.

The awards celebrated the very best in the world of museums, galleries, and cultural and heritage visitor attractions both in the UK and overseas with those shortlisted coming from all over the globe.

The Awards, which were judged by an independent panel made up of the leading lights in the museum world, were open to all museums, galleries, archives, and cultural and heritage organisations, both digital and in-person.

The Awards provided a rare opportunity to recognise and celebrate the determined, confident, and creative work of this extraordinary sector and were the ultimate stamp of approval

Members noted that the Victorian past of Elsecar, the model industrial village at the heart of South Yorkshire, had been brought to life through the stunning digital reconstruction and animation which was available to view on You Tube.

The model's incredible detail and historical accuracy had inspired people through its innovative technology and the engineering excellence of a bygone age. The project built on a substantial amount of research in recent years as part of the Elsecar Heritage Action Zone, a highly successful three-year partnership between Historic England and Barnsley Museums.

The creation of this stunning reconstruction and associated interpretation was spearheaded by Barnsley Museum's project manager Dr John Tanner with support from museum service colleagues; Dr Tegwen Roberts, Devinia Skirrow, Lyndon Firth de Laci, Gemma Clarke and Annabel Foster as well as the Council's Senior Conservation Officer Tony Wiles - all in partnership with colleagues at Historic England, local volunteer historians and digital creator Martin Moss of Dextra Visual.

A number of the team were in attendance and, on behalf of the Council, congratulations were provided to them and their colleagues on the recognition provided at these prestigious awards.

Councillor Shepherd added his congratulations to the team, and Councillor Frost also thanks the team, volunteers and fundraisers for making the project a reality. Councillor Tattersall added that, as Mayor, she had led a delegation from Schwabisch Gmund to Elsecar Heritage Centre, who were amazed at the video, and also gave her thanks to all those involved. The Mayor then passed on his thanks to the team.

31. Transfer of the Role of Proper Officer and Proper Officer's Representative in Registration Service

Moved by Councillor Franklin – Seconded by Councillor Bowser; and

RESOLVED that Council approves the transfer of Proper Officer and Proper Officer's Representative from the Service Director of Customer, Information and Digital Services to the Service Director of Law and Governance and also transfer associated

responsibilities from the Head of Service (Design and Compliance) to the Elections Manager with immediate effect.

32. Appointment to Regulatory Boards, Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Outside Bodies

Moved by Councillor Howard – Seconded by Councillor Cherryholme; and

RESOLVED that the following changes to representation on the Outside Bodies detailed be approved:-

Barnsley Premier Leisure

Councillor Kevin Osborne

LGA General Assembly

Councillor Kitching

Virtual School Governors

Councillors Kitching and Newing and 1 x Labour Vacancy

33. Planning Regulatory Board - 18 April 2023

Moved by Councillor Richardson - Seconded by Councillor Shepherd; and

RESOLVED that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the Planning Regulatory Board held on 18 April 2023 be received.

34. Audit and Governance Committee - 15 March 2023

Moved by Councillor Lofts - Seconded by Councillor Richardson; and

RESOLVED that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the Audit and Governance Committee held on 15 March 2023 be received.

35. General Licensing Regulatory Board - 19 April 2023

Moved by Councillor Green – Seconded by Councillor Clarke; and

RESOLVED that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the General Licensing Regulatory Board meeting held on the 19 April 2023 be received.

36. General Licensing Panel - Various

Moved by Councillor Green– Seconded by Councillor Clarke; and

RESOLVED that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the various General Licensing Panels be received.

37. Statutory Licensing Regulatory Board - 19 April 2023

Moved by Councillor Green – Seconded by Councillor Clarke; and

RESOLVED that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the Statutory Licensing Regulatory Board held on 19 April 2023 be received.

38. Statutory Licensing Board Sub-Committee - Various

Moved by Councillor Green – Seconded by Councillor Clarke; and

RESOLVED that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the various Statutory Licensing Regulatory Board Sub-Committee meetings be received.

39. Appeals, Awards and Standards - Various

Moved by Councillor Shepherd – Seconded by Councillor Bowler; and

RESOLVED that the details of the various Appeals, Awards and Standards Regulatory Board Panels held in the last cycle of meetings together with their decisions be received.

40. Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Healthy Barnsley Workstream) - 21 March 2023

Moved by Councillor Ennis –OBE Seconded by Councillor Clarke; and

RESOLVED that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Healthy Barnsley Workstream) held on 21 March 2023 be received.

41. Central Area Council - 22 March 2023

Moved by Councillor Dyson – Seconded by Councillor Bowser; and

RESOLVED that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the Central Area Council meeting held on the 22 March 2023 be received.

42. North Area Council - 13 March 2023

Moved by Councillor Leech – Seconded by Councillor T Cave; and

RESOLVED that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the North Area Council held on 13 March 2023 be received.

43. North East Area Council - 23 March 2023

Moved by Councillor Hayward – Seconded by Councillor McCarthy; and

RESOLVED that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the North East Area Council held on 23 March 2023 be received.

44. Penistone Area Council - 6 April 2023

Moved by Councillor Kitching – Seconded by Councillor Lowe-Flello; and

RESOLVED that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the Penistone Area Council held on 6 April 2023 be received.

45. South Area Council - 14 April 2023

Moved by Councillor Markham - Seconded by Councillor Shepherd; and

RESOLVED that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the South Area Council held on 14 April 2023 be received.

46. Cabinet - 22 March 2023

Moved by Councillor Sir Steve Houghton CBE – Seconded by Councillor Makinson; and

RESOLVED that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the Cabinet meeting held on the 22 March 2023 be received.

47. Cabinet - 5 April 2023

Moved by Councillor Sir Steve Houghton CBE – Seconded by Councillor Makinson; and

RESOLVED that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the Cabinet meeting held on the 5 April 2023 be received.

48. Cabinet - 19 April 2023

Moved by Councillor Sir Steve Houghton CBE – Seconded by Councillor Makinson; and

RESOLVED that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the Cabinet meeting held on the 19 April 2023 be received.

49. Questions relating to Joint Authority, Police and Crime Panel and Combined Authority Business

The Executive Director Growth and Sustainability reported that he had received no questions from Elected Members in accordance with Standing Order No. 12.

50. South Yorkshire Pensions Authority (Draft) - 16 March 2023

RESOLVED that the minutes be noted.

51. South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority (Draft) - 3 April 2023

RESOLVED that the minutes be noted.

52. Police and Crime Panel (Draft) - 24 April 2023

RESOLVED that the minutes be noted.

53. Questions by Elected Members

The Executive Director Growth and Sustainability reported that he had received a number of questions from Elected Members in accordance with Standing Order No. 11.

Councillor McCarthy

Having worked hard with the residents, Safer Neighbourhood Team, Police, Schools and colleagues over a number of years it's been very good news to finally hear that Vicarage Lane is to benefit from "The School Safety" programme.

It's now identified as a site to make changes to and benefit from funding available in the School Safety budget.

For years we've been trying to resolve the parking issues on Vicarage Lane, and the traffic team, after listening to these concerns have come up with a set of proposals to help alleviate the issues. They are currently looking at the restrictions they can use to enable proactive enforcement, which will be put in place once the consultation with residents and the legal process is complete.

When do we expect the consultation and legal process to be complete?

Councillor Higginbottom, Cabinet Spokesperson Environment and Highways, responded by saying that it was expected that the consultation and legal process would be finalised by the end of September 2023.

The Traffic Team were designing proposals to address the parking issues on Vicarage Lane, taking into account the concerns expressed by the community.

Members were made aware that the process will have two stages of consultation.

Stage 1 will be a consultation with key stakeholders, including Ward members, emergency services, and other relevant parties. The Traffic Team will then amend the proposals based on this feedback. Stage 1 will take around four weeks.

Stage 2 is a formal public consultation. The proposals will be presented to the public for their input and comments. Stage 2 will take around three weeks.

If any objections are received, an objection report will be prepared and presented to Cabinet for their decision. Timescales for this process are subject to the Cabinet program, and it may take up to eight weeks for a final decision.

Once the Cabinet approves the proposed changes, the necessary legal procedures will be followed. The order will be sealed by the legal department, and a works order will be issued to the commercial entity responsible for implementing the approved measures. Thanks were provided to Councillor McCarthy and their ward colleagues for the ongoing work and engagement to bringing the scheme to fruition which would make a difference to residents in the area.

He added that the School Safety Initiative finance, which had been identified by the Council to address emerging needs identified by Members, had been successful in all parts of the borough. Primary Schools had benefitted from the introduction of

safety schemes, and this was testament to the ongoing commitment to improve road safety on behalf of residents.

Councillor McCarthy declined to ask a supplementary question.

Councillor Smith

Council will be aware that for many years I have raised the important issue of flood risk in Low Valley and the Darfield Ward on numerous occasions, in a number of meetings and forums. Not only does flooding have a devastating impact upon the residents and businesses that are directly affected, but it also prevents those who use our roads network and public transport from doing so.

Could the Cabinet Spokesperson please advise on the schemes that have been completed and those that are planned, with expected dates and an explanation of how they will minimise flood risk?

Councillor Higginbottom, Cabinet Spokesperson Environment and Highways, responded by providing an update on the progress of the Low Valley Flood Alleviation Schemes, specifically regarding the modelling of Bullying Dike and its culverted assets.

WSP Ltd were appointed to start the modelling process for Bullying Dike, and the following developments were reported:

In December 2022, a CCTV survey was conducted on two private culverts and the existing highway culvert in Station Road. The survey showed that the culverts were in good working order and no faults were found on the Yorkshire Water systems in Station Road.

A topographical survey of the watercourse was completed on 5 May 2023. The survey looked at the existing watercourse profile and produced 35 cross-sections to be considered. These cross-sections would offer a clear understanding of the current watercourse capacity and also identify any necessary improvements. The survey also encompassed The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds site, giving a comprehensive assessment of the area. Members heard that the results of the survey were expected to be with officers by Mid-June and would be communicated to Members.

The Council's ongoing modelling process incorporated various rainfall events, including 1 in 5, 1 in 30, 1 in 75, 1 in 100, and 1 in 100 plus 40% to account for ongoing climate change. These simulations helped the Council to develop effective flood alleviation strategies.

Members heard that The Environment Agency was set to start modelling of the River Dove. This will explore options for reducing flows in the River Dearne by diverting water offline and storing it upstream. This process was expected to span a minimum of 15 months, aligning with the Connected by Water strategy.

Councillor Higginbottom encouraged Members to stay updated on the progress of the Low Valley Flood Alleviation Schemes and related initiatives, by visiting the flooding pages on Barnsley Council's website, and thanks were given to Councillor Smith and

his Ward colleagues for their work in pursuing the issue in Low Valley which had persisted for a long time and caused difficulties for residents in that area.

Councillor Smith declined to ask a supplementary question.

Councillor Lofts

The works for the Dodworth Road Improvements also gave rise to the proposal to install a footbridge from Penny Pie Park over the railway line to Pogmoor. This will be beneficial to children going to and from school, will better link the communities of Dodworth & Pogmoor and make accessing sports facilities easier for all.

Could the Cabinet Spokesperson please offer an update on timescales for construction and completion?

Councillor Frost, Cabinet Spokesperson Regeneration and Culture, responded by stating that construction of the bridge began in November 2022 and the completion of this project complemented and enhanced the delivery of the A628 Dodworth Road and Broadway Junction Improvement scheme, which was vital to support the Council's future business and housing growth plans and improve access to the new town centre.

Councillor Frost stated that he was pleased to inform Members that the bridge was opened on Monday 22 May by the Mayor. Children from St Mary's Primary School and Horizon Community College attended the official opening alongside representatives from: the Council; CR Reynolds, the contractor for the project; Network Rail; and The South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority, who helped fund the scheme.

It was noted that this was the latest investment into supporting active travel by providing a safe route for people to either walk or cycle on. Adding to the new, improved park facilities which opened last year, Penny Pie Park was now an excellent outdoor space for people to enjoy. Thanks were provided to the residents in the area for their patience and understanding throughout the process. Thanks were provided to Councillor Lofts and his colleagues who were supportive of the bridge and the gyratory.

Councillor Lofts declined to ask a supplementary question

Councillor Shepherd

The Council's levelling up application for the Elsecar Heritage Centre would have given a welcome boost to our already impressive cultural offer, but more important would have been the skills and economic uplift arising from the scheme.

As we all know the bid was unsuccessful and this served to underline that the government's beauty contest approach to levelling up and securing capital investment to be woefully inadequate.

I will continue to push for this investment and would wish to ask the Cabinet Spokesperson if this is an ambition shared by him and what plans there are to secure such investment in Elsecar?

Councillor Frost, Cabinet Spokesperson Regeneration and Culture, replied by saying that Elsecar had gone from strength to strength as a visitor destination in recent years, with record visitor numbers, increasing number of businesses and jobs on site and a busy events programme showcasing hundreds of small businesses each year.

He added that the heritage of the village was now recognised to be of international importance too.

Members were made aware that important investment had been secured as part of the Cultural Development Fund to make key improvements to the core heritage centre site, which will benefit local communities, visitors and local businesses. Important funding had also been secured from The South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority to boost active travel around the site, and efforts would be made to engage with people on the detail of these proposals over the summer.

Councillor Frost added that ambitious proposals for the former Ironworks site in Elsecar were the focus of the bid to the Levelling Up Fund. A bid which was unfortunately unsuccessful.

The bid would have meant the establishment of a 21st century heritage railway at Elsecar with national tourism appeal, advanced engineering workshops creating new jobs at the technological forefront of our region's economy and a new outdoor event arena space set against the backdrop of the magnificent, restored blast wall of the Elsecar ironworks.

Members were made aware that more information about the Council's vision will be shared this summer, as local communities, visitors, and Elected Members are invited to come to Elsecar and help shape what Elsecar can become, and to help make it happen.

The Council was determined to make the vision a reality and this would take hard work and would need to attract major investment. Members noted that the Council would try to make that happen over coming years and had already begun to talk to government and key funders about the role they may take in realising this vision.

Councillor Shepherd declined to ask a supplementary question.

54. Questions received from Members of the Public

The Council received two questions from members of the public, together with responses provided by the relevant Cabinet Spokespersons.

RESOLVED that the questions and responses be noted.

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Chair