

MEETING:	Full Council
DATE:	Thursday 2 February 2023
TIME:	10.00 am
VENUE:	Council Chamber, Barnsley Town Hall

MINUTES

Present

	The Mayor (Councillor Tattersall)
Central Ward	- Councillors M. Dyson and Moyes
Cudworth Ward	- Councillors Hayward and Houghton CBE
Darfield Ward	- Councillors Markham, Osborne and Smith
Darton East Ward	- Councillors Crisp, Denton and Hunt
Darton West Ward	- Councillors A. Cave, T. Cave and Howard
Dearne North Ward	- Councillors Bellamy and Cain
Dearne South Ward	- Councillors Bowler, Coates and Danforth
Dodworth Ward	- Councillors P. Fielding, W. Fielding and Wray
Hoyland Milton Ward	- Councillors Franklin, Shepherd and Stowe
Kingstone Ward	- Councillors Mitchell and Williams
Monk Bretton Ward	- Councillors Green and Richardson
North East Ward	- Councillors Cherryholme, Ennis OBE and Peace
Old Town Ward	- No Councillors were present
Penistone East Ward	- Councillors Barnard, Hand-Davis and Wilson
Penistone West Ward	- Councillors Kitching and Lowe-Flello
Rockingham Ward	- Councillors Lamb and Sumner
Royston Ward	- Councillors Makinson, McCarthy and Webster
St. Helen's Ward	- Councillors Leech and Platts
Stairfoot Ward	- Councillors K. Dyson, Gillis and Shirt
Wombwell Ward	- Councillors Eastwood, Frost and Higginbottom
Worsbrough Ward	- Councillors Bowser, Clarke and Lodge

133. Appreciation - Shokat Lal

The Mayor, on behalf of the Council, offered thanks to Shokat Lal, Executive Director of Core Services, who was leaving the Council to take up the role of Chief Executive of Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council.

Congratulations were offered, and appreciation for the hard work and dedication given to Barnsley over the past three years.

A number of other Councillors gave praise for the work of Shokat whilst in Barnsley and congratulated him on his appointment.

134. Declarations of Interests

Councillor Osborne and Tattersall (The Mayor) both declared non-pecuniary interests in any item on the agenda insofar as it related to their positions on Berneslai Homes Board.

135. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 24 November 2022 were taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

136. Communications

- (a) Barnsley Council's Arts and Events Team - Best Council Events Team at the National Outdoor Events Association awards

The Chief Executive announced that Barnsley Council's Arts and Events Team had been recognised as the Best Council Events Team at the National Outdoor Events Association awards.

This followed a fantastic year of free events for all the family in Barnsley, which had brought in over 4.5 million people into Barnsley town centre from May-November 2022.

People enjoyed incredible events such as the Flavours Food Festival, Twisted Festival of Natural Art, Big Weekend, Bright Nights and many more fun, entertaining, cultural events. Thanks were given to Matt Mitchell, Mark Swanwick, Josh Rae, Matthew McGlone and the rest of the Culture and Visitor Economy team who help to make all Council events a success.

Councillor Frost, Cabinet Spokesperson for Regeneration and Culture, added his congratulations, noting that the award was well deserved for the Council's hard working, innovative events team, which helped to draw people from all over the region.

Councillor Sir Stephen Houghton CBE, Council Leader, added that a hugely important part of the success of the Glass Works were the events that took place. These created interest in the town and led to increased footfall. The award was a remarkable achievements and thanks were again provided to all involved.

- (b) Barnsley Libraries funding offered through the National Portfolio Organisation scheme

The Chief Executive made all Members in chamber aware of Barnsley's offer of funding from Arts Council England through the National Portfolio Organisation scheme.

She said that the investment supported the importance of culture, particularly in tough economic times, when arts, museums and libraries offered comfort, distraction and everyday wonders to communities. Investing in creative talent and organisations would drive growth in world-leading creative industries.

It recognised the excellent work of all organisations in developing high-quality and accessible cultural programmes.

Barnsley Libraries had been awarded £587,000 to support community engagement programmes. For the first time, they were joined by organisations Gary Clarke Company and Lung Productions as funding recipients.

There were also existing NPOs who had kept and, in some instances, increased their funding. The Council's own NPO organisation Barnsley Museums had been awarded almost £1.5 million over the next three years to continue our outstanding work supporting residents, sharing collections, and showcasing the fascinating history of Barnsley's past.

Other successful organisations included The Civic Barnsley and The Invisible Flock Company.

Brass Band England and The Culture, Health and Wellbeing Alliance, both based in Barnsley, were also awarded money by Arts Council.

The combined total funding into the borough from the scheme was almost £2.3 million each year. Members noted that a formal acceptance of the funding was due to be discussed at cabinet on the 8 February, and congratulations were given to all the organisations involved.

Councillor Makinson, Cabinet Spokesperson for Public Health and Communities, added her congratulations to Barnsley Museums for their award of finance and to Barnsley Libraries for being awarded NPO status. Thanks were provided to all staff involved.

Councillor Frost, Cabinet Spokesperson for Regeneration and Culture said it was a great day for culture in Barnsley, with the impact of the investment being felt across the borough and beyond. Jon Finch and Lynne Dunning from the Cultural team were thanked.

Councillor Lamb, Deputy Leader, mentioned that the award of funding represented the value for money, and impact the Arts Council would see from investing in the borough.

137. Safer Barnsley Partnership Plan (Cab.30.11.2022/7)

Moved by Councillor Makinson – Seconded by Councillor Cain; and

RESOLVED:- that the Safer Barnsley Partnership Plan be adopted.

138. Library Strategy 2022 - 2025 (Cab.14.12.2022/6)

Moved by Councillor Makinson – Seconded by Councillor Cain; and

RESOLVED:- That the Library Strategy 2022-2025 be adopted.

139. Health and Wellbeing Board: Updated Terms of Reference (Cab.11.1.2023/6)

Moved by Councillor Makinson – Seconded by Councillor Platts; and

RESOLVED:- That the Health and Wellbeing Board Terms of Reference be approved.

140. Appointment to Committees and Outside Bodies

Moved by Councillor Howard – Seconded by Councillor Cherryholme; and

RESOLVED:- that the following changes to the representation on Committees and Outside bodies be approved;

Council Committees

Cabinet

To note the following appointments:-

Cabinet Spokesperson for Core Services – Councillor Franklin

Cabinet Support Member for Core Services – Councillor Bowser

Appeals, Awards and Standards

Remove – Councillor Barnard and Franklin

Appoint – Councillor White and 1x Labour Vacancy

Planning Regulatory Board

Remove – Councillor White

Appoint – Councillor Wilson

General Licensing Regulatory Board

Remove – Councillor Franklin

Appoint – 1x Labour Vacancy

Outside Bodies

SY Leaders' Meeting

Appoint Councillor Franklin (Substitute Member)

YPO Management Committee

Appoint Councillor Franklin

YPO Procurement Holdings Ltd
Appoint Councillor Franklin

YPO Audit and Governance Sub Committee
Appoint Councillor Franklin

141. Local Government Act 1972: Section 85: Absence from Meetings of the Authority; Councillor Risebury

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

RESOLVED that in accordance with Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972 the absence from meetings of the Authority on behalf of Councillor Risebury be approved on the grounds of ill health pending the receipt of medical certification that she is fit to resume her duties.

142. General Licensing Regulatory Board - 21 December 2022

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 21 December 2022 be received.

143. General Licensing Regulatory Board Panel - 10 January 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 Panel held on 10 January 2023 be received.

144. Statutory Licensing Regulatory Board - 21 December 2022

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 21 December 2022 be received.

145. 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.

146. Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Healthy Barnsley Workstream) - 29 November 2022

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 29 November 2022 be received.

147. Overview and Scrutiny Committee - 10 January 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 Safeguarding Scrutiny Committee held on 10 January 2023 be received.

148. Central Area Council - 9 November 2022

Moved by Councillor Williams - Seconded by Councillor Bowser; and

RESOLVED that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the Central Area Council held on 9 November 2022 be received.

149. North Area Council - 14 November 2022

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 14 November 2022 be received.

150. North East Area Council - 24 November 2022

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 24 November 2022 be received.

151. Dearne Area Council - 5 December 2022

Moved by Councillor Coates - Seconded by Councillor Cain; and

RESOLVED that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the Dearne Area Council held on 5 December 2022 be received.

152. Penistone Area Council - 1 December 2022

Moved by Councillor Barnard - Seconded by Councillor Wilson; and

RESOLVED that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the Penistone Area Council held on 1 December 2022 be received.

153. South Area Council - 16 December 2022

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 16 December 2022 be received.

154. Cabinet - 16 November 2022

Moved by Councillor Sir Stephen Houghton CBE - Seconded by Councillor Lamb;
and

RESOLVED that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of Cabinet held on 16 November 2022 be received.

155. Cabinet - 30 November 2022

Moved by Councillor Sir Stephen Houghton CBE - Seconded by Councillor Lamb;
and

RESOLVED that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of Cabinet held on 30 November 2022 be received.

156. Cabinet - 14 December 2022

Moved by Councillor Sir Stephen Houghton CBE - Seconded by Councillor Lamb;
and

RESOLVED that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of Cabinet held on 14 December 2022 be received.

157. Cabinet - 11 January 2023

Moved by Councillor Sir Stephen Houghton CBE - Seconded by Councillor Lamb;
and

RESOLVED that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of Cabinet held on 11 January 2023 be received.

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

The Chief Executive reported that she had received no questions from Elected Members in accordance with Standing Order No. 12.

159. South Yorkshire Pensions Authority - 8 September 2022

RESOLVED that the minutes be noted.

160. South Yorkshire Pensions Authority (Draft) - 5 December 2022

RESOLVED that the minutes be noted.

161. South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority Board - 14 November 2022

RESOLVED that the minutes be noted.

162. South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority - 21 November 2022

RESOLVED that the minutes be noted.

163. Police and Crime Panel (Draft) - 5 December 2022

RESOLVED that the minutes be noted.

164. Questions by Elected Members

The Chief Executive reported that she had received the following questions from Elected Members in accordance with Standing Order No. 11.

a) Councillor Wilson

Following the government's recent announcement on house building targets. What will the impact be on the Council's area and local plans?

Councillor Frost, Cabinet Spokesperson for Regeneration and Culture, replied by stating that the announcement did not appear to change anything compared with the existing situation.

The reports merely related to the content of the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill and until it became an Act of Parliament, it had no bearing on how things work. Even if it was enacted, it is likely that secondary legislation would be needed to set out how things will work in practice.

By way of supplementary question, Councillor Wilson asked how many properties were unoccupied in the borough attracting the council tax surcharge.

Councillor Frost, Cabinet Spokesperson for Regeneration and Culture, responded by saying that the information was not readily available but would be provided following the meeting.

b) Councillor P Fielding

As the number of looked after children in Barnsley continues to increase above the national average, all Councillors, as corporate parents, will wish to know about the placements of these children.

Can the Cabinet Member please say approximately how many looked after children are currently accommodated in each type of placement setting, and what the typical cost per child is to the Council for a place in each setting including;

- *Residential homes*
- *Foster Care*
- *Out of district accommodation*
- *Temporary B&B/hotel accommodation and other unregulated or unregistered settings*

Councillor Cave, Cabinet Spokesperson for Children's Services made Members aware that Looked After Children numbers were increasing in line with the national trend. However, Barnsley remained around the national average with 70 children per 10,000 and was not, an outlier.

Almost half of the children and young people were in Barnsley Council foster care, which was a strong position, but there were increasing numbers of children and

young people going into private placements, including independent foster agencies and residential provision. This was placing pressure on the placements budget.

The Council was developing a local sufficiency strategy that would focus on increasing local placements for children and young people.

Alongside this, investments were being made in more creative edge-of-care solutions to ensure that only those children and young people that needed to come into care did so.

The current position was as follows:

There were 149 in foster care with 128 of those in the borough, with 1 out of the borough, at an average cost of £415 per week. With reference to those in independent foster care, there was a total of 74, of which 32 were in the borough with 42 out of the borough, at an average cost of £892 per week. There were 24 in supported or semi-supported living, of which 6 were inside the borough and 18 out of the borough, at an average cost of £1,029 per week. 29 were in residential care, of which 7 were in the borough and 22 out of the borough, at a cost of £5,796 on average per week.

With regards to those in temporary B&B/hotel accommodation and other unregulated or unregistered settings, there were currently none in that position.

Councillor P Fielding asked a supplementary question whether all vulnerable children in Barnsley were identified as looked after children, given that Barnsley was in line with the national average which obviously included more prosperous authorities. Given we had lower numbers of looked after children than our statistical neighbours, did this indicate that Barnsley had children who had not been identified but should be looked after?

Councillor T Cave responded that this information was not currently available, but a written response would be provided.

c) Councillor Lodge

Despite numerous interventions, residents in Berneslai Homes managed Independent Living Schemes in the Worsborough Ward have been plagued by faults and failures with their heating systems, with the most recent issue being, accounts wiped of credit. At what point will there be a final resolution to this matter and should residents receive suitable compensation?

Councillor Frost, Cabinet Spokesperson for Regeneration and Culture, replied that there had been a number of issues throughout December with the district heating plant at two schemes in the Worsborough Ward. The schemes at Elm Court and Maltas Court had been experiencing heating outages intermittently throughout the period, affecting the homes connected to the system.

It had been agreed that while the issues with the heating plant were being resolved, the tenants would not be charged for their heating. Both systems were now working, and tenants' heating charges had restarted.

He added that the district heating plant had been replaced at Elm Court, and the district heating plant at Maltas Court was due to be replaced in the summer of 2023.

Switch 2, the Council's heat metering and billing provider, had confirmed that as of 25th January 2023, all credit balances at the time of pausing the charges had now been added back onto people's payment meters.

Councillor Lodge asked a supplementary question: whether the faults and failures could have been fixed sooner in a more timely process for the residents of Maltas and Elm Court.

Councillor Frost responded by saying they were fixed to the best of the Council's ability, as quickly as possible. Letters were sent to residents with updates on the situation, and temporary electrical heaters were also supplied during the period. Repairs were completed as quick as possible, and hopefully the situation had been rectified.

d) Councillor Denton

As part of its' Small Grants Programme, the government has announced that, from March 28th 2023 money will be made available to fund innovative local road safety projects, subject to successful application.

Is the Council intending to take advantage of this and what direction would the Cabinet Member give to other elected members wishing to put forward initiatives for their wards?

Councillor Higginbottom, Cabinet Spokesperson for Highways and Transportation, responded saying that the next round of the Small Grants Programme opened for application on 28 March 2023 and closed on May 4 2023.

The Council would assess the eligibility criteria and determine if any of the Council's existing or future road safety intervention schemes met the necessary grant criteria and would take these forward as part of business as usual.

If members had any suggested initiatives, it was recommended that they should get in touch with the Highways Service in the first instance.

By way of supplementary question Councillor Denton asked whether once the route forward had been identified, guidelines would be issued to Councillors to work with communities and groups to engage council resources, and whether council resources would be available to collaborate on putting together bids. A suggestion was made that learning from the process undertaken with regards to Levelling Up Bids, and what contributed to making a successful bid, be used as part of this process.

Councillor Higginbottom, Cabinet Spokesperson for Environment and Transportation, responded by saying that when the eligibility guidelines were published these would be available for all Members to review and consult. He reiterated that any schemes Members had in mind should be brought to the attention of The Highways Service.

e) Councillor P Fielding

Since the adoption of the Council's Advertising and Sponsorship Policy in 2019 how many potential advertisers or sponsors have been turned down because of the restricted criteria? Please break the numbers down by each of the restricted criteria.

Councillor Franklin, Cabinet Spokesperson for Core Services responded by stating that, since the policy was approved at Full Council in September 2019, there had been two recorded instances where potential advertisers or sponsors had not been able to proceed under the criteria of "affects public support for a political party, a person identified with such a party, or a point of view or question of political controversy."

There had been no other instances where the Council needed to apply the restricted criteria.

The policy was rebranded in 2022 with B2030 branding, with links to the new Council Plan and the High Fat, Salt and Sugar Policy guidance, though the criteria remained the same.

Councillor P Fielding in asking a supplementary question, noted that policy did restrict the advertising of high fat, salt and sugar foods and also applied to the sponsoring of hanging baskets for example. He posed the question that, if Nandos or a unit in Market Kitchen selling deserts, or a market stall selling sweets, would be allowed to sponsor a hanging basket?

Councillor Franklin, Cabinet Spokesperson for Core Services, responded by stating that Elected Members could not sponsor hanging baskets and wherever there was a potential issue regarding food outlets sponsoring them, this would not be allowed to go ahead. If there were instances where this had happened, these would be addressed.

165. Questions received from members of the public

The Council received five 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