

Council Forum

29th April 2010

AGENDA

PART 1: ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION IN PUBLIC

1 Chief Executive to read the notice convening the meeting

2 Prayers by the Mayor's Chaplain

3 Apologies for Absence

4 Minutes

To receive and confirm the minutes of the Council Forum held on 28th January 2010 (Attached pages 1 – 8) and the meeting of Finance Council held on 1st March 2010 (Attached Pages 9 - 16)

5 Declarations of Interest

A form is attached (Attached page 17)

6 Mayoral Communications

7 Council Forum

To consider questions from members of the public received under Procedure Rule 10

8 To consider motions submitted under Procedure Rule 12

The following Notices of Motion have been submitted:

Annual Council

Council dates are set at the beginning of the year and Councillors arrange family commitment around the schedule that has been agreed. For democracy to be effective it is important that Councillors are able to attend full Council meetings.

It appears that due to an administration error this Council has decided to change that date. This error has not only disrupted the Council meeting, but also Civic Sunday.

Mistakes happen, but it is important that when mistakes do happen that there is some honesty and real effort is made to resolve any issues.

We propose that the Council AGM be held on the 13th May as agreed in last years schedule.

Moved by Councillor Kate Hollern

Seconded by Councillor Jim Smith

Pennine Reach

This Council supports and recognises the need to encourage the use of, and to invest in, Public Transport to ensure it can become a viable alternative to car travel.

This Council, however, believes that the current draft proposals of the Pennine Reach bid while outlining some laudable principles and proposals fails to demonstrate some key fundamental principles.

The current bid fails to demonstrate that it represents good value for money.

The proposals fail to recognise their impact on the wider local neighbourhoods and the lives of local residents.

The proposals fail to evidence how they will address the fundamental requirements of a fully integrated public transport network.

The bid fails to give a profile for a transport system that will provide for needs of future decades.

The bid fails to evidence, after implementation of the proposed draft scheme, how and if any increase in public transport travel will ensue.

Recommendations:-

We recommend that this Council in order to address these fundamental issues sets up an all party working group. The group should include local residents, businesses, public transport users and bus operators.

This group will work alongside our neighbouring authorities and relevant government departments not only to improve the development of this scheme but to incorporate a properly developed local transport scheme.

A properly developed local transport scheme would provide the basis for an affordable, good quality and relevant public transport scheme that would address the fundamental needs and aspirations of local people.

Moved by Councillor Andy Kay

Seconded by Councillor David Hollings

Neighbourhood Boards

- 1. The development of the 5 Neighbourhood Boards has not led to an increase in engagement with the communities in those areas.*
- 2. Removing officer support and reductions in funding for other community groups in order to support the Neighbourhood Boards has led to a reduction in local community activity.*
- 3. The geographical areas covered by each Neighbourhood Board are much too large with very limited involvement of residents from the different communities within the wider area.*
- 4. The lack of clarity over the selection of local residents to serve on the Neighbourhood Boards has lessened their legitimacy and integrity.*
- 5. Using Neighbourhood Boards as the main focus for community consultation is not the best way to engage in a meaningful way with local residents or communities.*

This Council resolves to:

- 1. Disband the 5 Neighbourhood Boards as soon as possible and replace them with 22 Community Committee's based on existing ward boundaries.*
- 2. Provide these Community Committee's with financial support and encouragement and support from Council officers based in the neighbourhood areas.*
- 3. Establish these Community Committees from existing Community Associations, residents groups or establish them from scratch if no suitable body already exists.*
- 4. Establish procedures for membership to include elected local Councillors and individual residents.*
- 5. Set up an all party group to resolve all other issues to include a properly formulated constitution along with the roles, powers and responsibilities for these committees, these all then being subject to consultation.*

Moved by Councillor Dave Harling

Seconded by Councillor Maureen Bateson

9 Policy and Review Committee

A report of the Chair and Vice Chair of the Policy and Review Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Attached Pages 18 -19)

10 Reports of Executive Members with Portfolios

- 10.1 Leader (Cream pages 20 -22)
- 10.2 Leisure and Culture (Grey pages 23– 25)

- 10.3 Housing (Blue pages 26 - 27)
- 10.4 Neighbourhoods and Customer Services (Yellow pages 28 – 29)
- 10.5 Adult Social Care (Salmon pages 30 - 34)
- 10.6 Children's Services (Orange pages 35 - 38)
- 10.7 Resources (Green pages 39 - 40)
- 10.8 Regeneration and Environment (Gold pages 41 - 43)
- 10.9 Corporate Projects (Lilac Pages 44 - 45)

11 Standards Committee

Report of the Chair of the Standards Committee (Attached pages 46 - 47)

12 The Mayoralty 2010/11

Report of the Leader (Attached Page 48)

13 To consider any questions received from Members under Procedure Rule 11

14 To receive any questions submitted regarding the functions of the Police Authority

Any questions will be answered by Councillor M Doherty as this Council's representative on the Police Authority.

PART 2: ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION IN PRIVATE

There are no items to be considered under Part 2

**Graham Burgess
Chief Executive**

21st April 2010