

**COUNCIL**

**MEETING HELD AT THE TOWN HALL, BOOTLE  
ON THURSDAY 2ND SEPTEMBER, 2010**

PRESENT: The Mayor (Councillor M Fearn) (in the Chair)  
The Deputy Mayor (Councillor Cummins) (Vice Chair)

Councillors Barber, Blackburn, Booth, Brady, Brodie - Browne, Byrne, Byrom, Carr, K. Cluskey, L. Cluskey, Cuthbertson, Doran, Dorgan, P. Dowd, Dutton, Fairclough, Fenton, Friel, Gibson, Griffiths, Glover, Gustafson, Hands, Hardy, Hill, Hough, Howe, Hubbard, Ibbs, Kelly, Kerrigan, Larkin, Maher, Mahon, C Mainey, S Mainey, McGinnity, McGuire, Mclvor, Moncur, Papworth, Porter, Preece, Preston, B Rimmer, D Rimmer, Robertson, Shaw, Tattersall, Tonkiss, Tweed, Sir Ron Watson, Weavers and Webster

**26. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Bradshaw, Brennan, Dodd, Lord Fearn, Jones, Parry, Pearson, Sumner and Veidman.

**27. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The following declaration of interest was received:

Member	Minute	Reason	Action
Councillor Blackburn	33 - Capital Programme Review	Personal - He is a Member of the Lydiate Parish Council and Maghull Town Council which have applied for funding from the scheme referred to in Annex 3 of the report	Took part in the consideration of the item and voted thereon
Councillor Byrne	33 - Capital Programme Review	Personal - He is a Member of Maghull Town Council which has applied for funding from the scheme referred to in Annex 3 of the report	Took part in the consideration of the item and voted thereon

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Councillor Fenton	33 - Capital Programme Review	Personal - She is a Member of Lydiate Parish Council which has applied for funding from the scheme referred to in Annex 3 of the report	Took part in the consideration of the item and voted thereon
Councillor Hardy	33 - Capital Programme Review	Personal - Her Mother works at Aintree Davenhill Primary School which is referred to in Annex 6 of the report	Took part in the consideration of the item and voted thereon
Councillor Howe	33 - Capital Programme Review	Personal - He is a Member of the Maghull Town Council which have applied for funding from the scheme referred to in Annex 3 of the report	Took part in the consideration of the item and voted thereon
Councillor Hubbard	33 - Capital Programme Review	Personal - He is a Member of Maghull Town Council which has applied for funding from the scheme referred to in Annex 3 of the report	Took part in the consideration of the item and voted thereon
Councillor Maher	33 - Capital Programme Review	Personal - His wife works at Davenhill Primary School which is referred to in Annex 6 of the report	Took part in the consideration of the item and voted thereon
Councillor C. Mainey	33 - Capital Programme Review	Personal - He is a Member of Maghull Town Council which has applied for funding from the scheme referred to in Annex 3 of the report	Took part in the consideration of the item and voted thereon

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Councillor S. Mainey	33 - Capital Programme Review	Personal - She is a Member of Maghull Town Council which has applied for funding from the scheme referred to in Annex 3 of the report	Took part in the consideration of the item and voted thereon
Councillor Porter	33 - Capital Programme Review	Personal - She is the Chair of Governors of Merefield Special School - referred to in Annex 7 and 8 of the report and a Governor of Shoreside Primary School referred to in Annex 7 of the report	Took part in the consideration of the item and voted thereon
Councillor Preece	33 - Capital Programme Review	Personal - He is a Director of Southport Football Club which is referred to in Annex 28 of the report	Took part in the consideration of the item and voted thereon
Councillor D. Rimmer	33 - Capital Programme Review	Personal - He is a Vice President of Southport Football Club which is referred to in Annex 28 of the report	Took part in the consideration of the item and voted thereon
Councillor Robertson	33 - Capital Programme Review	He is a Member of Lydiate Parish Council and Maghull Town Council which have applied for funding from the scheme referred to in Annex 3 of the report	Took part in the consideration of the item and voted thereon

### **28. MINUTES**

#### RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 8 July 2010 be approved as a correct record.

**29. MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS**

Welcome to Head of Corporate Legal Services

The Mayor extended a warm welcome to Jill Coule, the Head of Corporate Legal Services who was attending her first Council Meeting.

Pafos Delegation Visit to Sefton

The Mayor reported that in mid July 2010, she had received a delegation of music students from Pafos in Bootle Town Hall at the start of their visit to Sefton and was able to give them a short tour of the Town Hall.

As part of the Mayoral Theme - "Music", the delegation performed together with children from Sefton Schools Music Service at the free public concert held in St. Faith's Church and Lydiate Primary School to full houses.

On the following day, the Pafos Delegation then played a free concert at the "Lord Street Celebrates Music" Festival in Southport.

Stan Mercer

The Mayor reported with great sadness on the death of Mr. Stan Mercer, the Mayoral Attendant on 24 August 2010, one day after celebrating his 68th birthday and following a brave fight against his illness.

The Mayor indicated that the funeral would take place on Friday, 3 September, at 10.45 a.m. in St. Luke's Church, 71 Liverpool Road, Great Crosby.

Sharon and the family had requested family flowers only. However, donations may be made to 'St. Joseph's Hospice (Jospice)' and can be given in at the church on the day of the funeral or be directed to R.S. Capes Funeral Directors or Civic and Mayoral Services.

PUBLIC SESSION

**30. MATTERS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC**

The Mayor reported that members of the public had not submitted any petitions or questions.

COUNCIL BUSINESS SESSION

**31. QUESTIONS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL**

The Council considered a written question from Councillor Shaw to the Cabinet Member - Health and Social Care relating to Southport Market Redevelopment Scheme together with a written response to the question.

### **32. PRIORITISATION AND STRATEGIC BUDGET REVIEW**

Further to Minute No. 96 of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 2 September 2010, the Council considered the report of the Chief Executive which provided an update on the development of a prioritisation and budget review process related to the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan and the 2011/12 budget.

The report indicated that as part of the process, six strategic/organisation design project work streams had been identified to close the overall savings gap required by the Council which would have a senior management lead officer and be overseen by an Elected Member Group comprising of a Lead Cabinet Member, a second Cabinet Member (or nominee) and a Scrutiny Chair/Labour spokesperson to ensure all party representation.

The report also set out a number of savings options for progression following an initial review of the outstanding Strategic Budget Review Options and other potential savings.

This is a Key Decision and was included in the Council's Forward Plan of Key Decisions.

It was moved by Councillor Robertson, seconded by Councillor Brodie-Browne and

RESOLVED:

That approval be given to the progression of the savings options identified in paragraph 8 of the report to achieve full year budget savings of £2.4m in 2011/12.

### **33. CAPITAL PROGRAMME REVIEW**

Further to Minute No. 97 of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 2 September 2010, the Council considered the report of the Strategic Director - Communities which provided further details of uncommitted capital schemes which do not have ring-fenced grant monies. A copy of the Cabinet resolution on this issue was circulated prior to the commencement of the meeting.

It was moved by Councillor Robertson, seconded by Councillor Brodie-Browne and

RESOLVED: That approval be given to the following action been taken on the uncommitted capital schemes:

<u>Scheme Name</u>	<u>Action</u>
1. Primary Capital Strategy External Consultancy	Release uncommitted resources

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| 2. Framework Contracting – External Consulting     | Release uncommitted resources   |
| 3. Fair Play Playbuilder Programme                 | Deferred pending clarification from the Department for Education  |
| 4. Extended Schools                                | Approved for completion   |
| 5. CS IT (Single Child Record)                     | Approved for completion and a report providing further details of the Scheme be submitted to the Cabinet Member - Children's Services             |
| 6. Children's Services Modernisation Schemes       | Approved for completion   |
| 7. Schools Access Initiative Schemes               | Approved for completion   |
| 8. New Pupil Places Schemes                        | Approved for completion   |
| 9. DDA - Disabled Adaptations to Council premises  | Reduce budget provision to £30k for emergency use and the remaining uncommitted resources be released   |
| 10. Corporate Services Health and Safety Programme | Approved for completion   |
| 11. Energy Efficiency Measures                     | Approved for completion   |
| 12. Legal Department ICT Programme                 | Release uncommitted resources and Officers be requested to look at viable alternative options   |
| 13. IT Equipment Server Replacement                | Deferred pending the details of the Government Connect requirements   |
| 14. E Govt Geographical Info Service               | Release uncommitted resources   |
| 15. IT Members ICT and Mobile Technology           | Deferred pending the views of the Members ICT Steering Group on the specification for the equipment and the appropriate budgetary amount required |

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16. Pathfinder Fund Programme	Approval to the expenditure of £10k for the completion of the project at Lifeboat Road, Formby and the remaining uncommitted resources be released
17. Public Conveniences	Release uncommitted resources
18. Gypsy and Traveller Site	Release uncommitted resources
19. Waste Infrastructure Grant	Approved for completion
20. Health and Social Care IT Strategy	Deferred pending further report. No contractual commitment to be entered into
21. Mental Health SCE (C) 2008/2011	Release uncommitted resources
22. Social Care SCE (C) (2008/2011)	Release uncommitted resources
23. Adult Social Care IT Infrastructure 2008/2011	Deferred pending further report. No contractual commitment to be entered into
24. Capital Investment for Transformation on Adult Social Care	Deferred pending further report. No contractual commitment to be entered into
25. Derby Park Refurbishment	Deferred to ascertain if alternative external funding can be provided
26. Repairs to Park Lodges	Reduce provision to £18k for decent homes provision and a further report be submitted on other aspects of the scheme
27. Hesketh Park Office/Visitor Centre	Deferred
28. Southport Sports Park Contribution	Deferred pending the outcome of the funding bids to the Football Foundation and KGV College
29. Botanic Gardens Museum roof/lift	Reduce budget provision to £25k for mothballing works to the building. Release remaining uncommitted resources
30. Kings Gardens, Southport	Approved for completion

31. Southport Tourist Information Centre Relocation	Approved for completion
32. Leeds Liverpool Canal	Release uncommitted resources
33. Southport Commerce Park 3rd Phase Development	Deferred pending the outcome of external funding bids
34. Home Improvement Grants 2010/11 Approvals	Approved for completion
35. Landlord Accreditation/HMO's	Approved for completion
36. Housing Act Works in Default	Approved for completion
37. Older Person's Housing Strategy - extra care provision	Deferred pending further details of a scheme and the funding proposals
38. Contribution to HMRI	Approved for completion
39. Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation	Deferred pending further details of Government funding proposals
40. Safer Stronger Communities Fund	Approved for completion
41. Thornton Switch Island Link Road	Approved for completion
42. Local Safety Schemes	Approved for completion
43. Cycling Programme	Approved for completion
44. Carriageway Maintenance	Approved for completion
45. Ledson's Canal Bridge	Approved for completion
46. Millers Bridge	Approved for completion

#### **34. PROPER OFFICER AND MONITORING OFFICER FUNCTIONS**

Further to Minute No. 98 of the Cabinet Meeting held on 2 September 2010, the Council considered the report of the Chief Executive on the proposed appointment of officers to undertake the Monitoring Officer role and the registration of Births, Marriages and Deaths.

It was moved by Councillor Robertson, seconded by Councillor Brodie-Browne and



RESOLVED: That:

- (1) the Assistant Director (Strategic Development and Management), Leisure Services be appointed as the Proper Officer for the registration of Births, Marriages and Deaths under the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972 and Registration Services Act 1953 and the Regulations made thereunder; and
- (2) the Acting Head of Corporate Legal Services be appointed as the Monitoring Officer pursuant to Section 5 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 with effect from 3 September 2010 until such time as the Head of Corporate Legal Services returns to work following a period of maternity leave.

### **35. MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES**

Further to Minute No. 99 of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 2 September 2010, the Cabinet considered the joint report of the Director of Corporate Services and Assistant Chief Executive on the email consultation which had been held with Members of the Independent Remuneration Panel on the recommendations made by the Leaders of the three Political Groups on proposed reductions to the Scheme of Members' Allowances.

It was moved by Councillor Robertson, seconded by Councillor Brodie-Browne and

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the views of the Independent Remuneration Panel on the proposals be noted;
- (2) the following recommendations made by the Cabinet on 5 August 2010 be approved for implementation with effect from 2 September 2010:
  - the current rate of Basic Allowance to remain unchanged for 2010/11
  - the weightings for the Special Responsibility Allowances to remain unchanged for 2010/11
  - the payment of the daily Special Responsibility Allowances to be ceased
  - the rates of all Special Responsibility Allowances (including the Mayoral allowances) be reduced by 5%; and
- (3) approval be given to the continuation of any increases for 2011/12 being linked to any National Joint Council (NJC) for Local Government employees pay awards.

**36. MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES 2010/11**

Councillor Ibbs proposed the following changes:

Planning Committee

- Councillor Jones to replace Councillor Glover as a Member of the Committee and Councillor Mclvor to be the Substitute Member for Councillor Jones on the Committee
- Councillor Griffiths to replace Councillor Glover as the Spokesperson on the Committee
- Councillor Pearson to replace Councillor Dutton as the Substitute Member for Councillor Griffiths on the Committee
- Councillor Ibbs to replace Councillor Cuthbertson as a Member of the Committee and Councillor Doran to be the Substitute Member for Councillor Ibbs on the Committee
- Councillor Dutton to replace Councillor Ibbs as the Substitute Member for Councillor Dorgan on the Committee

Cabinet Member - Leisure and Tourism

- Councillor Glover to replace Councillor Griffiths as the Conservative Spokesperson and Councillor Pearson to be the Substitute Spokesperson

RESOLVED:

That the proposed changes stated above be approved.

**37. NOTICE OF MOTION BY COUNCILLOR WEBSTER**

It was moved by Councillor Webster, seconded by Councillor McGuire and

RESOLVED:

That this Council calls upon the Government to recognise that Sefton Council has a significantly higher proportion of older people within its population compared to the national average. With this in mind, the Council requests the Chancellor of the Exchequer to increase the Council's Central Government Grant to allow the Council to meet the needs of this ever increasing section of the community and to ensure that all Senior Citizens in Sefton are able to enjoy a reasonable quality of life. The Grant should more accurately and adequately reflect the additional cost incurred in caring for such a large elderly population.

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(This was a Cross Party Motion supported by the Members of the Dementia Working Group, comprising of Councillors McGuire, Pearson and Webster).