

Local Government Act 1972

Borough of North Tyneside

17 July 2013

At the Extraordinary meeting of the Council of the Borough of North Tyneside duly convened and held on Wednesday 17 July 2013 at 6.00 pm in The Chamber at Quadrant at which a quorum of Members were present, that is to say: -

Present

Councillor Janet Hunter (In the Chair)
N Redfearn (Elected Mayor)

Councillor J Allan	Councillor N J Huscroft
Councillor A Arkle	Councillor C Johnson
Councillor A Austin	Councillor F Lott
Councillor K Barrie	Councillor W Lott
Councillor G Bell	Councillor G Madden
Councillor B Burdis	Councillor M L Madden
Councillor W Caithness	Councillor D McGarr
Councillor A Cowie	Councillor A McMullen
Councillor S Cox	Councillor L Miller
Councillor E N Darke	Councillor Mrs S E Mortimer
Councillor L Darke	Councillor T Mulvenna
Councillor C Davis	Councillor A Normand
Councillor S Day	Councillor D Ord
Councillor C A Gambling	Councillor J O'Shea
Councillor R Glindon	Councillor C B Pickard
Councillor S Graham	Councillor J Pickard
Councillor I Grayson	Councillor M G Rankin
Councillor M A Green	Councillor D Sarin
Councillor J L L Harrison	Councillor J Stirling
Councillor S Hill	Councillor A Waggott-Fairley
Councillor E F J Hodson	Councillor J I Walker
Councillor John Hunter	Councillor Mrs J A Wallace

C35/07/13 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors P Brooks, K Conroy, D Corkey, M Finlay, M Huscroft, M J Huscroft, D Lilly, P Mason, Mrs P McIntyre, J McLaughlin, J Munby, P Oliver, K Osborne, L Spillard and G Westwater.

C36/07/13 Chair's Remarks

The Chair made the following remarks:

The Chair welcomed Councillor Wendy Lott following her election to the Council at the By-Election held in Riverside Ward on 4 July 2013.

Members of the public were welcome to observe the meeting as observers rather than participants, and they were not entitled to speak.

She advised Members of the Council that if any questions were asked that may require information of a confidential nature to be provided, they would be taken later in the meeting, and the appropriate Exclusion Resolution may need to be passed.

At the conclusion of the Council business there would be a short interval to re-set the room layout to accommodate an extraordinary meeting of the Cabinet to consider the Council's views expressed at tonight's meeting.

C37/07/13 Declarations of Interest

The following declarations of interest were made:

Item 3 – Kings Priory Academy Proposals

Councillor John Hunter – non-registerable personal interest – grandchild attends Priory Primary School, Tynemouth.

The Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Learning responded to queries raised at the meeting about whether he should declare an interest in this matter due to his association with the NUT by stating that he was an Executive Member of the NUT; he was not employed by the NUT and this did not impact upon his role in decision making on this matter. He also referred to some misinformation set out in The Spectator magazine referring to his role within the NUT.

C38/07/13 Kings Priory Academy Proposal

[N.B. Councillor John Hunter withdrew from the meeting for the duration of the discussion and voting on this item.]

The Council received a report which provided an update upon the Kings Priory Academy proposals to enable Members to express their views upon the decision of the Secretary of State for Education to approve those proposals.

The decision of the Secretary of State had been notified to the Authority during evening of 5 July 2013. Due to the time sensitive nature of the issues and to avoid any unnecessary delays, an extraordinary meeting of Council was necessary to provide an opportunity for the Cabinet to consult with all Members prior to determining the Authority's next steps.

The report outlined a chronology of the events leading up to the Secretary of State's decision. It included information regarding an assessment of the impact of entering into the arrangements upon maintained schools and academies in the area; correspondence between the Authority and the Woodard Trust, the Governing Body of Priory Primary School and the Department for Education; and the decision making process of Priory Primary School Governing Body.

The report also set out grounds to take steps to secure that the Secretary of State reconsidered the decision to enter into the funding agreement to create the Kings Priory Academy.

At this point, the Chair announced that due to the late receipt of the papers, the meeting was adjourned for 15 minutes in order to give Members of the Council further time to read the papers.

It was moved by Councillor I Grayson and seconded by Councillor G Bell that:

"Council agrees to:

support Cabinet in taking all appropriate steps to secure that the Department for Education reconsiders the decision to enter into the funding agreement to create the Kings Priory Academy to ensure that errors are rectified and the impact upon other schools is properly considered."

An amendment was moved by Councillor J Allan and seconded by Councillor M Green to add the following words at the beginning of the Motion:

'Cabinet is asked to note that Council is opposed to the Kings Priory Academy proposals because of the impact on education across the whole of the Borough'.

The amendment, on being put to the meeting, was approved by 37 votes to 7 votes.

Two Members present requested a recorded vote on the motion, as amended, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 13 (5).

The motion, as amended, to read as follows:

'Cabinet is asked to note that Council is opposed to the Kings Priory Academy proposals because of the impact on education across the whole of the Borough. Council agrees to support Cabinet in taking all appropriate steps to secure that the Department for Education reconsiders the decision to enter into the funding agreement to create the Kings Priory Academy to ensure that errors are rectified and the impact upon other schools is properly considered.'

Votes for the Motion, as amended

N Redfearn, Elected Mayor and Councillors J M Allan, A Arkle, G Bell, B Burdis, W Caithness, A Cowie, S L Cox, E N Darke, L Darke, C Davis, S Day, C A Gambling, R Glindon, S Graham, I Grayson, M A Green, J L L Harrison, Janet Hunter, N J Huscroft, C Johnson, F Lott, W Lott, G Madden, M L Madden, D McGarr, A McMullen, T Mulvenna, A Normand, D Ord, J O'Shea, C B Pickard, J Pickard, M Rankin, , J J Stirling, A Waggott-Fairley and J I Walker.

Votes against the Motion, as amended

Councillors A Austin, K Barrie, E Hodson, L Miller, Mrs S Mortimer, D Sarin and Mrs J A Wallace.

[N.B. Councillor S Hill was not present at the time the vote was taken].

The motion, as amended, on being put to the meeting, was approved by 37 votes to 7 votes.

C39/07/13 Common Seal

Resolved that the Common Seal be affixed to all deeds and documents required for carrying into effect the various decisions of the Council made since its last meeting.