

COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the County Council held on Thursday, 15 November 2018 at 10.00 am at Council Chamber, County Offices, Kendal

PRESENT:

Councillor Mrs EA Mallinson (Chairman)

Mr J Airey	Mr D English	Mrs M Rae
Mr T Allison	Mrs S Evans	Mrs S Sanderson
Mr MS Barbour	Mr LN Fisher	Mr B Shirley
Mr AL Barry	Mr D Gawne	Mr DE Southward
Mr J Bell	Mr W Graham	Mrs V Tarbitt
Mrs PA Bell	Mrs BC Gray	Mr P Thornton
Mr B Berry	Mr KR Hamilton	Mrs C Tibble
Mr RW Betton	Mrs RC Hanson	Mr CP Turner
Mr J Bland	Mr M Hawkins	Mr T Wentworth Waites
Mrs C Bowditch (Vice-Chair)	Mr K Hitchen	Mrs H Wall
Mr A Bowness	Mr JS Holliday	Mr R Watson
Mr M Brereton	Mr N Hughes	Mr WJ Wearing
Mrs A Burns	Mr A Kennon	Mr C Weber
Mrs HF Carrick	Mr AWC Lamb	Mr D Whipp
Mr F Cassidy	Lord R Liddle	Mr CJ Whiteside
Mr W Clark	Mr J Lister	Mr S Wielkopolski
Mr SB Collins	Mr KA Little	Mrs EL Williamson
Mr A Connell	Mr T Lywood	Mrs J Willis
Mr GD Cook	Mr J Mallinson	Mr D Wilson
Mr N Cotton	Mr AJ Markley	Mr M Wilson
Mr P Dew	Ms C McCarron-Holmes	Mr AW Wonnacott
Ms C Driver	Mr W McEwan	Mr R Worthington
Ms D Earl	Mr A McGuckin	Mr SF Young
Mr GM Ellis	Mr FI Morgan	

There were 71 members present at the start of the meeting.

Apologies for absence were received from Mr RK Bingham, Miss HJ Fearon, Mr HGG Graham, Dr S Haraldsen, Mr C Hogg, Mr NH Marriner, Mr GRPM Roberts, Mr S Stoddart and Mr MH Worth.

35 ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

The Chairman welcomed Dr Karen Lockney to her first meeting of full Council.

36 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declaration of interest made on this occasion.

37 MINUTES

RESOLVED that, the minutes of the previous meeting held on Wednesday 5 September 2018 be agreed as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

38 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED that, the press and public be not excluded from the meeting during consideration of any items on the agenda today.

39 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr Paul Carr, Chairman of Fluoride Free Cumbria attended to make a statement about the fluoridation of water in West Cumbria. Cumbria County Council was responsible for the fluoridation of West Cumbria, and whilst Allerdale and Copeland Borough Councils had resolved to be against this potentially harmful, dangerous practice, Cumbria County Council had not. Mr Carr felt this was undemocratic and the process and system seemed to be failing here.

He asked members to note that only 10% of England was fluoridated, and Wales, Scotland and N. Ireland were not. 97% of Europe and most of the rest of the world had either never started or had banned the practice of adding fluoridation chemicals to the water supply.

Mr Carr had concerns about the number of chemicals being added to the water supply, not to make the water safe to drink, but to treat the tooth decay and disease of the whole population of West Cumbria "on mass "

The dose was uncontrolled as the amount in the water varied and everyone drinks different amounts of water daily. Fluoride accumulates in the body, and Mr Carr believed this to be unethical. He felt that only a doctor should prescribe medication based on individual needs.

He asked members to follow the example of the devolved Scottish and Welsh authorities to have oral health initiatives Childsmile and Designed to Smile. Oral health had never been better and in Scotland and Wales where children's oral health had experienced the most significant improvement since records began with levels of dental disease reducing across all social groups.

He reminded members of the Cabinet decision in 2016 to wait until CATFISH reports in 2020/1 before considering the position again but in the meantime the decay and disease continued.

Mr Leigh Puddifoot was also in attendance to speak to members about fluoridation, and he asked the following question:-

'With regard to the Fluoridation of the drinking water supply for West Cumbria would members of the Council agree that the process breaches the ethic of informed consent of the individual as many people will not have been informed about the dangers associated with the consumption of Fluoride or either of its effects upon the body, nor will they have consented to its addition to the water supply, and many will not be aware that their water supply is dosed by the addition of highly toxic Hexafluorosilicic Acid together with its impurities?'

Ms D Earl responded to the participants as follows:-

"I would like thank Mr Carr and Mr Puddifoot for their participation today. I'd also like to take this opportunity to clarify for all members the current position with regard to water fluoridation in Cumbria. Parts of West Cumbria have had fluoride added to the water supply in order to help tackle poor dental health since the 1960s. Clearly since then many things that influenced dental health had changed, including much more widespread use of fluoride toothpaste but also much greater consumption of sugar. Because of this it was important to study whether fluoridation today was as effective in promoting dental health as it was thought to be in the 1960s. The Catfish study that Mr Carr referred to in his statement was a Cumbrian study that would help to answer this question. Cumbria also had a longstanding oral health education programme in place called Smile4Life.

In 2016, Cabinet decided to maintain the status quo with regard to fluoridation at least until this study reports in 2021 in order to ensure that any future recommendation on whether to continue with the scheme or request changes to it, was based on the best available evidence. This decision was taken on the basis of professional advice that the potential for fluoridation to cause harm to health had been very widely studied over the last 50 years, and that to date no reliable research had found evidence of harm beyond the increased chance of cosmetic changes to the teeth. This was something that was kept under close review by Public Health England.

In direct response to Mr Puddifoot's question, I cannot speak for Members of the Council as a whole – some may agree with him, others may not. The Cabinet position was based on considerations of safety and effectiveness, and that position remained that fluoridation was safe, and that the County Council should await the outcome of the Catfish study before taking a more considered view on effectiveness."

Ms Earl encouraged all members of the Council to undertake their own research on this subject.

Mr Carr then asked the Cabinet Member whether it was the Council's view that it was democratic and ethical to impose upon the public the fluoridation of water in Cumbria. The Cabinet Member **AGREED** to provide a written response to this question.

The Chairman then thanked Mr Carr and Mr Puddifoot for attending the meeting.

40 ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

The Chairman announced that details of the engagements undertaken by herself and the Vice Chair since the last meeting had been circulated to all members.

One minute's silence was held in the Council Chamber as a mark of respect for Mr Ian Stewart, Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance, who had passed away in October. The Chairman, and the Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group, followed by the leaders of the Labour and Conservative Groups expressed their condolences to Mr Stewart's family and spoke about his character, his contribution to the County Council, and his constituents and of their sadness at his death.

Following this one minute's silence was held as a mark of respect for Mr D Fairbairn, Local Member for Thursby, who also had passed away in October. The Chairman, and the Leader of the Conservative Group, followed by the leaders of the Labour Group and the Liberal Democrat Group expressed their condolences to Mr Fairbairn's family and spoke about his contribution to the County Council and the residents in his division and of their sadness at his death.

The Chairman then spoke about the truly magnificent range of events that had taken place right across the County this weekend to celebrate 100 years since the Great War finished. These events showed the tremendous support from the residents for Cumbria's Fallen - from community events, to the wreath laying ceremonies and to the many memorial events held. The events showed how proud the county was of these people and how proud everyone was to remember them.

The Chairman thanked everyone who took the time to support these events, especially the armed forces champions and of course the Lord Lieutenant, Claire Hensman.

She also wanted to pay particular mention to this year's County Memorial event which was attended by many people. It was held in Rickerby Park, Carlisle and was a very moving occasion with hymns, poems, prayers and music from the Border Concert Band as well as songs from the children of Stanwix School, Carlisle.

The Chairman then informed Council that this year one of her chosen charities was the Royal British Legion. During lunchtime today raffle tickets would be available to purchase to support this charity. All monies raised would be distributed County wide to those who needed it and the local Stanwix Branch had kindly offered to be the vehicle for distributing all the money raised across the whole of Cumbria. The Chairman would be drawing out the winning raffle tickets at Christmas and there

were many fabulous prizes. All the money raised would be used to help support men and women who were in need.

The Chairman had attended the County Council's Children in Care Council Awards, and this ceremony would be detailed in the Corporate Parenting Report being discussed later in the meeting.

The County also celebrated a day of Cumbrian Pride in late September – celebrating diversity, recognition and acceptance and she was delighted to be invited to take part in the day and represent the County Council.

On the 23 January 2019 Cumbria would be welcoming Mr Arek Hersh MBE, a child survivor of the Holocaust, to County Offices, Kendal. Arek would be sharing his experience with staff and schools from around the county. His talks were very moving and the Chairman encouraged all members to attend.

The Chairman reminded members that at lunchtime today there was a Christmas Craft Fair in the foyer. She encouraged all members to visit the stalls and asked them to note that all of today's amazing gifts had been made by people who used the County Council's day care services.

Finally, the Chair informed Council that the Treasury Management training, which had been scheduled to take place on the rise of the meeting today, had been postponed due to the number of items for debate on the agenda today. It was hoped this would now take place on the rising of the County Council meeting in January 2019.

Lunch would be served at 12.30pm.

Leader's Announcements - the Leader made an announcement about the new appointment to Cabinet and the reassignment of portfolios. Mr P Thornton was now the Deputy Leader of the Council/Cabinet Member for Finance and Mrs PA Bell had taken over as the Cabinet Member for Health and Care Services.

The Chief Executive announced that today was the Chairman's birthday, and members gave her their best wishes.

41 MINUTES OF THE CABINET

The Leader presented the minutes of the Executive meetings held on 27 September 2018 and 18 October 2018.

Mr Airey asked the Leader to outline the steps being taken to ensure the whole of the county would benefit from the Borderlands Project.

The Leader responded by informing members that the Borderlands Project involved a number of local authorities working together to deliver positive change across the region to encourage growth, help existing businesses and to encourage new businesses to set up in the area. It was hoped the project would unlock the

potential for sustainable and inclusive growth, and although it was accepted that not everyone would see a project in their town, the proposed projects and programmes would benefit the whole area, including Cumbria. The proposed projects included:-

- Energy
- Digital Borderlands
- Transport Connectivity
- Rural productivity
- Business
- Destination Borderlands and
- Quality of Place

Members asked the Leader to ensure that the whole of the county benefitted from this project and not just those in the north of Cumbria.

Mr K Hitchen asked the Cabinet Member for Schools and Learning for more detail about the consultation about School Admission Arrangements and asked for confirmation that there was a specific question on catchment areas in this. The Cabinet Member for Schools and Learning **AGREED** to provide a written response.

Mr G Ellis asked the Cabinet Member for Customers, Transformation and Fire and Rescue to explain how this council ended up paying a substantial fee to a sub-contractor, with the threat of the council being locked out of its own data centre. He also asked for confirmation that measures would be put in place to prevent this happening again. The Cabinet Member **AGREED** to provide a written response.

Mr P Dew asked for assurance that integrated care in Cumbria would focus on the best possible care for patients. The Leader responded that he was aware of the real concerns from members of the public about the changes to health services locally. He also commented on the national Integrated Care Provider Project. The County Council had responded to the consultation and he reminded members the these proposals and the consultation were being led by NHS England, not the County Council.

42 SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT BOARD

A report was presented by the Chair of Scrutiny Management Board which updated members on the work of Scrutiny and issues and developments that had occurred since the last meeting of the County Council.

The Chair encouraged all members to attend the strategic planning session being held once the budget consultation was launched. The session would be open to all non-executive members and would be held on 3 December 2018.

He asked members to note that in relation to the Scrutiny Self-Assessment the deadline had been extended to the middle of January.

RESOLVED that, the report be received and noted.

43 TREASURY MANAGEMENT HALF YEAR STRATEGY REVIEW 2018/19

Members considered a report from the Leader of the Council, presented by the Deputy Leader which detailed treasury management activities during the first half of the 2018/19 financial year.

Treasury Management was concerned with the Council's approach to the management of investments, which included short term investments during the year and longer term borrowing to help fund the capital programme.

This report noted that all treasury management activities undertaken in the first half of the year had complied with the annual strategy that was agreed by Council in February 2018.

The Deputy Leader then took members through the report, and upon conclusion moved the recommendations. This was seconded by Mr Young.

RESOLVED that, Council

- (1) note that following a half yearly review, no amendments are required to the Treasury Management Strategy Statement and the Annual Investment Strategy;
- (2) note that following a half yearly review, Prudential Indicators and Treasury Management Indicators have been fully complied with and that no amendments are required to these indicators;
- (3) note the Treasury Management function is forecasting a £2.0m underspend for 2018/19, due to the Council's tactical strategy to utilise internal reserves whilst available, albeit that this will be kept under review given various uncertainties, including interest rate movements and cash flow requirements.

44 CONSTITUTION REVIEW GROUP - UPDATE OF THE CONSTITUTION

Members considered a report from the Chair of the Constitution Review Group which recommended the Council to adopt changes to the Constitution, to maintain it as an up to date, living document. The changes were:-

- new Terms of Reference for Local Committees (Part 2D)
- new Terms of Reference for the Health and Wellbeing Board (Part 2F),
- a new Scheme of Delegation to Officers (Part 3A) and
- a new Whistleblowing Policy (Part 6E).

The Constitution Review Group met on the 30 October to consider reports recommending updates to four Parts of the Constitution.

Local Committees (Part 2D)

Over the summer and early autumn of 2017 work was undertaken by the Leader and Chief Executive, with members and Local Committee Chairs, to explore how collectively the Council could achieve greater local focus and democratic accountability through Local Committees. This included a refreshed approach to area planning that would shape services more effectively and create efficiencies and benefits for local residents.

As part of the review process, the current Terms of Reference of Local Committees (Part 2D) were reviewed to ensure they remained relevant to the current and future activity of Local Committees. The Constitution Review Group would keep the new Terms of Reference (if adopted) under review with a further report to the Group in approximately twelve months time.

RESOLVED that,

- (1) Members approve the following documents as updates to Parts of the Constitution, replacing current Parts:

Appendix 1 – Terms of Reference of Local Committees (Part 2D)

Appendix 2 - Terms of Reference of the Health and Wellbeing Board (Part 2F)

Appendix 3 – Scheme of Delegation to Officers (Part 3A)

Appendix 4 – Whistleblowing Policy (Part 6E)

- (2) Members note the officer designations set out in Appendix 5, which are consequential to the reshaping of the Extended Leadership Team and authorise the Monitoring Officer to update the Constitution where necessary to reflect these designations.

45 LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION

A report was considered from the Leader of the Council which provided information on the local and national context in relation to local government reorganisation. It also provided, in Appendix 1, a summary of the work on the status quo and options considered by Cumbria Leadership Board over the last 6 months.

At its next meeting Cabinet was due to consider a proposal to approach the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government to seek the Government's views on the potential for local government reorganisation in Cumbria, and to propose working with them to develop proposals for consideration. The information in this report was intended to inform Members' debate on this issue. Members' views and comments would inform Cabinet's considerations in December.

Following the enactment of the Local Government Act 1972, a two-tier structure of county and district councils was established throughout England. From 1986

onwards, a number of reorganisations had removed this two-tier structure and replaced it with unitary authorities in large parts of the country.

There were currently 124 single-tier local authorities in England (unitary authorities, metropolitan boroughs/districts, and London Boroughs) plus 27 county councils and 201 district councils. Sixty-five percent of the population of the UK lived in single-tier council areas including all of London, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, all major metropolitan areas, and a number of shire county areas.

In 2008/09, a round of reorganisation included the creation of county unitary authorities in Northumberland, Durham, Cornwall, Wiltshire and Shropshire. Cheshire and Bedfordshire were also reorganised with the creation of 2 unitary authorities within each county.

Following the formation of the coalition Government in 2010, the then Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government signalled a reluctance to consider further reorganisation. This position shifted in 2016. Since then a number of reorganisation proposals had been submitted and were being progressed.

The views and comments expressed were broadly supportive of change and highlighted a number of issues for Cabinet Members' consideration. The opportunity to debate this proposal prior to consideration by Cabinet was welcomed, and the work carried out to date with partners through the Cumbria Leadership Board was recognised.

Members expressed views that the current local government structure in Cumbria was inefficient and complex, and required change. The fragmentation of services across the existing tiers of local government was highlighted as unhelpful. Members stressed the importance of simplifying the system for residents and customers.

Members felt there was a need for reorganisation to increase efficiency and reduce costs, to release savings to enable investment in services to support communities, particularly the most vulnerable people, and to deliver improvements in the county's infrastructure was emphasised by members.

The benefits of reorganisation in providing a united voice for Cumbria in engagement with the government and potential investors in the county, and the links between identity and local government, were raised.

The importance of any future proposals focusing on democracy, services and the community as well as the future financial sustainability of local government in the county was given emphasis by members.

Issues in relation to relationships between existing tiers of local government were also highlighted. These included the significance of existing three-tier working and the potential for further devolution of functions and services to local areas and town and parish councils, the role County and District Councils currently play in respect of accountability to residents, (e.g. do they provide checks and balances for each other), and relationships with the National Park Authorities.

Members also focused on some of the challenges that a reorganisation process could bring. These focused on the resources and capacity (including Officer and Member time) that would be needed to explore options, and to develop and deliver any subsequent proposals, and the challenges of achieving (and demonstrating achievement of) planned or forecasted savings.

The future role of elected members was discussed, with a focus on the support members would need to respond to the wider remit of any unitary authority and the additional service areas that members would be responsible for than under the current County and District system.

Council members recognised that the proposal to approach the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government did not reference any specific unitary models, and that significant engagement and communication would need to be carried out in advance of any future decisions on proposals.

Mr J Mallinson asked that his disagreement with the proposal to be formally noted.

RESOLVED that,

- (1) Members note this report;
- (2) Cabinet Members were asked, following consideration of the information in this paper and set out in Appendix 1, to agree to submit to Government an expression of interest in exploring options for local government reorganisation to a unitary model in Cumbria.

The meeting broke for lunch at 12.30 and reconvened at 13.15.

46 QUESTIONS

Mr CJ Whiteside asked the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport about the consultation which had been launched on the proposed Whitehaven Relief Road and how members could feed into the council's response, both about the proposal itself and how it fitted into the wider context of the need to support other key points like Duddon Bridge. He also asked to be assured that the council's response would be positive, constructive and above all, supportive.

The Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport said that this scheme was part of the strategic road network managed by Highways England, and the County Council was only a statutory consultee for projects such as this one. He confirmed that Cumbria County Council would respond positively to the consultation and he would be happy to receive comments directly from members about this.

Mr M Barbour then asked the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport a question about the recent announcement by Toshiba on their decision to withdraw from the Moorside Project, and the effect this may have on the cancellation of the Whitehaven Relief Road. He asked the Cabinet Member whether he was aware that a statement had been made to the effect that the proposed Whitehaven Relief Road was not dependent on the Moorside Project.

The Cabinet Member responded to say that although he hoped the Whitehaven Relief Road was not dependent on the Moorside Project, he was aware that the County Council had already been asked for additional information from Government about proposed projects where the development of Moorside had been predicated, and this included the Whitehaven Relief Road.

Mr AJ Markley asked the Cabinet Member – Highways and Transport when the traffic lights in Wetheral would be removed, as this was a constant source of irritation for the residents and users of this road. The Cabinet Member provided an update and informed members that the contract had now been let for this scheme, and work would commence shortly on this.

Mr AJ Markley then asked whether the money set aside for Storm Desmond could be used to repair roads along the coastal routes, as the state of disrepair in these roads had been exacerbated by storm conditions.

The Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport responded to say that the County Council and its partners were currently developing a Coastal Strategy. A number of events were taking place across the affected areas and he encouraged all members with an interest to attend.

Mr J Airey asked the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transportation a question about Gooseholme Bridge. The residents in this location were expecting a replacement bridge but a recent announcement had indicated this was not actually the case. He asked the Cabinet Member to explain this.

The Cabinet Member had met recently with South Lakeland Local Committee members, the Environment Agency and County Council staff to discuss this issue as there had been a funding shortfall for this scheme based on the request from the Environment Agency to raise the bridge to prevent any future flooding occurring in this location. He was pleased to report that funding had now been established for this and the scheme would be starting in the near future.

Mr A Lamb asked the Cabinet Member for Schools and Learning whether she wished to congratulate Lamplugh School for winning an award for being the best early years provider.

The Cabinet Member was delighted with this news and congratulated the school on its award. She was pleased the school had been recognised for their efforts.

Mr D Wilson asked the Cabinet Member Economic Development and Property to confirm that no Community Asset Transfer request had ever been received for Millom Swimming Pool.

The Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Property **AGREED** to provide a written response.

Mr P Dew asked a question about the Working Together Project, which now looked as if it would be limited in scope and he asked if Cabinet had any idea when the project was likely to be completed.

The Cabinet Member responded to say that the County Council, was working hard to get the project established, and the latest reiteration of the project was currently being considered by the Cumbria Association of Local Councils (CALC). He asked members to let him know if they were aware of any concerns with this.

Mr Dew then asked when the Winter Maintenance Review was likely to be completed.

The Cabinet Member – Highways and Transport explained the annual process for the agreement of the Winter Maintenance Review and asked members to contact him if they had any roads they wished to be included for consideration.

Mr M Brereton reminded council that the Windermere Ferry was now back in service, after 5 months out of action. He asked the Cabinet Member to commit to working with him to reconstitute the Windermere Ferry Group. The Cabinet Member was happy to confirm his commitment to this. He suggested it would be advantageous for the group to meet twice per year, once at the start of the season and once at the end.

Mr RC Hanson asked the Cabinet Member – Schools and Learning for her comments on the announcement from Government that from the 2019/20 academic year onwards, schools in England would be required to administer an online multiplication tables check (MTC) to year 4 pupils.

The Cabinet Member responded to say that she felt the initiative, the purpose of which was to determine whether pupils could recall their times tables fluently, was an example of a programme which had been introduced without proper consideration by the professionals. She was concerned about the effect of this on children who were not engaging with education.

Mr LN Fisher asked whether Cumbria County Council would be willing to offer free parking in Carlisle in all CCC car parks on the 4 Saturdays leading up to Christmas, and from 3pm on Thursdays for late night shopping.

Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport agreed to look at this suggestion, but felt it was likely the County Council would mirror the scheme adopted by Carlisle City Council.

Mr N Hughes asked the Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Property whether he agreed that, notwithstanding whether fruitful outcomes for the this county could be negotiated through the Borderlands partnership, the re-opening of the Carlisle-Galashiels border railway was an excellent suggestion and that, resources permitting, other former routes within the county may benefit from a similar approach, favouring both tourism and business.

The Cabinet Member replied to say that any additional key strategic projects would depend on the outcome of the Borderlands Project itself. The announcement on this was not expected from Government until January 2019.

47 MINUTES OF COMMITTEES

a Audit and Assurance Committee

The Chair of the Audit and Assurance Committee presented the minutes of the meeting held on 17 September 2018, and detailed one area of work to Council which related to Risk Management.

Risk Management was an integral part of the Council's corporate governance framework, and over the last few years a lot of effort had been focussed on developing a widespread understanding of risk throughout the organisation, on embedding risk management within the Council's core business processes, refining the assessment of risks and establishing meaningful targets.

The Risk Management function was now under the leadership of the Director of Finance who was providing a renewed emphasis and ownership for an integrated approach to Risk Management across the Council.

A new Performance and Risk Management Framework was agreed at Cabinet in June 2018 and a refreshed Corporate Risk Register for 2018/19 had been produced to reflect the new Council Plan Delivery Plan. There were now 12 corporate risks set out in the risk register of which 8 were high risks, and these were listed in the minutes.

The new template for the Risk Report clearly linked the risks to the Council Plan Delivery Plan and had simplified the description of the risks. The new template greatly improved the visibility of the controls and measures in place for the quarter being reported, the visibility of the controls and measures being developed and would indicate a direction of travel.

These initiatives, building on improvements made over the last few years, provided the Audit and Assurance Committee with more effective information on which to gain assurance that the Council's risk management processes were both robust and effective.

RESOLVED that, the minutes of the Audit and Assurance meeting held on 17 September be received and noted.

b Cumbria Pensions Committee

Mr SB Collins presented the minutes of the Cumbria Pensions Committee held on 11 September 2018.

He advised that the financial statements for the Pension Fund which were published in July as part of the Council's account had been supplemented by additional

narrative in the form of the Fund's Annual Report and Accounts. This had now been published on the Council's website.

He took members through the minutes and then moved that Council accepted these.

RESOLVED that, the minutes of the Cumbria Pensions Committee meeting held on 11 September 2018 be received and noted.

c Workington Harbour Board

The Cabinet Member for Highways and Transportation presented the minutes of Workington Harbour Board held on 24 October 2018.

One of the members asked the Cabinet Member whether the Board needed more information on the possible affect that Brexit may have on the Port. The Cabinet Member responded that he would keep a 'watching brief' on this.

RESOLVED that, the minutes of the Workington Harbour Board meeting held on 24 October 2018 be received and noted.

d Corporate Parenting Board

The Executive Director – People gave members a presentation on the recently held Children in Care Awards. The event was a great success and the Executive Director took members through the slides from the celebratory event. Planning had already started for the event in 2019 and he asked all members to contact him directly if they were aware of any suitable venues, especially in the south of the county.

The Cabinet Member for Children's Services then took members through a report from the Executive Director – People, which provided Council with an annual update on the work of the Corporate Parenting Board.

Over the past year there had been progress along a number of fronts, including:-

- Care leavers now benefited from Council Tax relief across the whole of Cumbria. This was a major step forward and required co-operation between all six District Councils.
- Cumbria Children's Services received a positive Ofsted report, and was rated Good for Leadership and Management and Adoption.
- Children looked after were continuing to do well educationally, and numbers progressing to university holds up well nationally compared to other authorities.

At the most recent meeting of the Corporate Parenting Board there was a presentation on the development of a Regional Adoption Agency. At the meeting the Board were informed that currently there were no members of the Council on the Adoption Panels that operated in the North and South of the county. The Board

recommended this be brought to the Council's attention and the Cabinet Members announced that two members had now come forward to join the panels:-

Dr K Lockney – North
Mr M Wilson – South

Members were delighted to note this.

RESOLVED that, the report be received and noted.

48 NOTICE OF MOTIONS

1. Anti-semitism

Mr CJ Whiteside moved the following motion as set out in the Council Agenda, with one amendment in the opening paragraph, to change the word 'Association' to 'Alliance working'. The motion was set out in the agenda: as follows:-

'Cumbria County Council resolves to follow the example of the UK Government, the Crown Prosecution Service, over 130 local authorities and over 30 other countries, by adopting in full, and without qualification or reservation, the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance working definition of antisemitism, as follows, including the eleven examples.

"Anti-semitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities.

Contemporary examples of antisemitism in public life, the media, schools, the workplace, and in the religious sphere could, taking into account the overall context, include, but are not limited to:

- Calling for, aiding, or justifying the killing or harming of Jews in the name of a radical ideology or an extremist view of religion
- Making mendacious, dehumanising, demonising, or stereotypical allegations about Jews as such or the power of Jews as collective — such as, especially but not exclusively, the myth about a world Jewish conspiracy or of Jews controlling the media, economy, government or other societal institutions
- Accusing Jews as a people of being responsible for real or imagined wrongdoing committed by a single Jewish person or group, or even for acts committed by non-Jews
- Denying the fact, scope, mechanisms (e.g. gas chambers) or intentionality of the genocide of the Jewish people at the hands of National Socialist Germany and its supporters and accomplices during World War II (the Holocaust)
- Accusing the Jews as a people, or Israel as a state, of inventing or exaggerating the Holocaust

- Accusing Jewish citizens of being more loyal to Israel, or to the alleged priorities of Jews worldwide, than to the interests of their own nations
- Denying the Jewish people their right to self-determination, e.g., by claiming that the existence of a State of Israel is a racist endeavor
- Applying double standards by requiring of it a behaviour not expected or demanded of any other democratic nation
- Using the symbols and images associated with classic antisemitism (e.g., claims of Jews killing Jesus or blood libel) to characterise Israel or Israelis
- Drawing comparisons of contemporary Israeli policy to that of the Nazis
- Holding Jews collectively responsible for actions of the state of Israel'

The motion was moved by Mr CJ Whiteside and seconded by Mr S Wielkopolski.

Members supported this motion and commented that anti-semitism was not always obvious.

From the floor it was suggested that caviats be added to the motion to the effect that it was not anti-semitic to criticise the Government of Israel, without additional evidence to suggest anti-semitic intent, and it was not anti-semitic to hold the Israeli Government to the same standards as other liberal democracies, or to take a particular interest in the Israeli Government's policies or actions.

The mover of the motion did not disagree with any of these statements, but he did not feel there was a need to amend the wording of the motion specifically to detail this.

Following a debate it was **RESOLVED** that Cumbria County Council follows the example of the UK Government, the Crown Prosecution Service, over 130 local authorities and over 30 other countries adopting, in full and without qualification or reservation, the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance working definition of antisemitism, as specified above.

2. Moorside

The Chairman then notified members that she had agreed to an additional motion under para 12.2 of part 5A of the constitution. Ordinarily notices of motion must be submitted at least eight days before the date of the meeting. However, this motion related to an announcement made after that time had passed. The Chairman accepted that to delay this debate until the next council meeting could seriously prejudice the interests of the council and the people of Cumbria

Mr DE Southward then moved the emergency motion, as follows:-

'This Council views with concern the recent statement by Toshiba Corporation that their Board has resolved to withdraw from the nuclear power plant construction at Moorside in West Cumbria, and to take steps to wind up the development company NuGen.

Council considers that due to the level of commercial risk involved in projects of this nature, they are highly unlikely to proceed without Government support, whether that be by way of equity acquisition, underwriting potential losses or guaranteeing the strike price.

Council therefore calls on the Government to enter into urgent discussions with all interested parties and to take any necessary steps to ensure that the nuclear power plant construction project at Moorside goes ahead.'

The motion was moved by Mr DE Southward and seconded by Mr SF Young.

A number of members made statements about the motion and commented that there was a real need for an Energy Policy going forward. Following the debate it was **RESOLVED** by assent of the committee that Cumbria County Council calls on the Government to enter into urgent discussions with all interested parties and to take any necessary steps to ensure that the nuclear power plant construction project at Moorside goes ahead.

49 SPEECHES

There were no speeches made on this occasion.

The meeting ended at 3.40 pm