



# BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

## BURNLEY TOWN HALL

DATE: 23/11/2016

### PRESENT

### MEMBERS

His Worshipful The Mayor Councillor Jeff Sumner in the Chair;

Councillors Baker, Birtwistle, Briggs, Bill Brindle, Margaret Brindle, Cant, Carmichael, Chaudhary, Cunningham, Ellis, Fleming, Foster, Frost, Graham, Greenwood, Harbour, Heginbotham, Hosker, Hussain, Ishtiaq, Johnstone, Lubna Khan, Wajid Khan, Malik, Martin, Monk, Mottershead, Newhouse, Pate, Payne, Porter, Raja, Reynolds, Royle, Tatchell, Townsend and White.

### OFFICERS

Pam Smith	-	Chief Executive
Lukman Patel	-	Head of Governance, Property, Law and Regulation
Alison McEwan	-	Democracy Officer
Imelda Grady	-	Democracy Officer
David Bristow	-	Mayor's Officer

### 31. Minutes

**RESOLVED** The Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 28<sup>th</sup> September 2016 were confirmed and signed by the Chair.

### 32. Mayor's Communications

The Mayor congratulated Councillors Ida Carmichael and Roger Frost on being recognised in the national Councillor Achievement Awards. Councillor Ida Carmichael was given an honourable mention in the category of District Councillor of the Year, and Councillor Roger Frost was shortlisted in the Lifetime Achievement category.

The Mayor further reported that the Council had been shortlisted in the Local Government Chronicle's Awards, in the 'Driving Growth' category for the work that had been done over many years under different administrations and thanked the members, officers and partners who had enabled this to happen.

### **33. Parliamentary Boundaries Proposals**

Consideration was given to the Council's response to the proposed changes to the parliamentary boundaries put forward by the Boundary Commission.

It was moved by Councillor Mark Townsend and seconded by Councillor John Harbour:-

"That the Chief Executive write to the Boundary Commission supporting the changes to the Burnley Parliamentary Boundary."

An amendment was further moved by Councillor Mark Townsend and seconded by Councillor John Harbour by adding

"and in doing so also make the following points;

The Council does not agree with the Government's arbitrary policy of slashing the number of MPs given the UK's rising population. The Council also believes the proposals are based on out of date electoral registration data, which does not take account of the impact of individual voter registration (which took hundreds of thousands off the register) or those that applied to vote during the recent referendum (which added 2 million). In addition, the Government has not proposed a reduction in the size of the executive. In making the executive branch bigger relative to the legislature, the proposals weaken Parliament's ability to scrutinise and hold ministers to account. Neither are there any plans to reduce the number of peers, which means the elected House of Commons will shrink while the unelected House of Lords remains bloated. Since the enactment of the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act in 2011, 144 new peerages have been created.

However, Burnley Council supports the principle of creating constituencies of roughly similar sized populations, and is strongly of the view that the 2016 proposals are a significant improvement on those put forward in 2012. Whilst it would have been clearly preferable to retain the current co-terminous boundary between the district council and the Parliamentary constituency, the 2016 proposals do at least keep the main towns of Burnley and Padiham largely intact"

### **34. Adjournment of Meeting**

The Mayor adjourned the meeting for a short time to allow Members the opportunity to consider the amendment.

### **35. The Meeting reconvened at 7.55 pm.**

On being put to the vote the original motion as amended was declared to be carried and it was RESOLVED ACCORDINGLY.

### **36. Constitutional Updates and Delegations**

Consideration was given to constitutional updates to Part 3 (Executive) of the constitution by the Leader relating to the Head of Regeneration and Planning Policy and the Chief Executive and to the Director of Resources; the exercise of delegations regarding the Director of Resources; and an update to Part 4.3 of the constitution which is the Budget and Policy Framework.

#### **RESOLVED**

- (1) That the following constitutional updates by the Leader relating to Part 3 (Executive Functions) Scheme of Delegation be noted:
  - (i) 18<sup>th</sup> October 2016 – Business Grant delegations of the Head of Regeneration and Planning Policy amended, with some also transferred to the Chief Executive, as set out in appendix 1 to the report;
  - (i) 1<sup>st</sup> November 2016 – Delegations in the absence of the Director of Resources, as set out in appendix 2 to the report.
- (2) That in the absence of the Director of Resources approval be given that approval be given that the Officers listed in the first column of the table in Paragraph 7 of the report shall have the authority to exercise such of the powers set out in the second column of the said table as are vested in the Director of Resources, save for any such powers as are contained in Part 3 (Executive Functions) of the Council's constitution.
- (3) That approval be given to an amendment to Part 4.3 of the constitution regarding Paragraph 5 (b) of the Budget and Policy Framework to update the virement level from £10k to £20k.