

Public Document Pack
TRAFFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL

26 SEPTEMBER 2018

PRESENT

The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor Tom Ross), in the Chair.

R. Chilton (Deputy Mayor)	J. Dillon	A. New
D. Acton	A. Duffield	E. Patel
S. Adshead	Mrs. L. Evans	K. Procter
S.B. Anstee	N. Evans	B. Rigby
S.K. Anstee	M. Freeman	B. Sharp
Dr. K. Barclay	Mrs. D.L. Haddad	B. Shaw
J. Baugh	J. Harding	J. Slater
J. Bennett	J. Holden	E.W. Stennett
Miss L. Blackburn	D. Hopps	S. Taylor
R. Bowker	M. Hyman	S. Thomas
C. Boyes	C. Hynes	L. Walsh
Mrs. A. Bruer-Morris	D. Jarman	A. Western
J. Brophy	D. Jerrome	D. Western
B. Brotherton	P. Lally	M. Whetton
D. Bunting	J. Lamb	G. Whitham
D. Butt	J. Lloyd	A.M. Whyte
T. Carey	S. Longden	A.J. Williams
M. Cawdrey	E. Malik	J.A. Wright
G. Coggins	A. Mitchell	M. Young
J. Coupe	P. Myers	Mrs. P. Young

In attendance

Interim Chief Executive	Mr. J. Taylor
Corporate Director of Governance and Community Strategy	Ms. J. Le Fevre
Head of Governance	Mr. P. Forrester
Senior Democratic and Scrutiny Officer	Mr. I. Cockill

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors M. Cordingley and J.R. Reilly.

32. MINUTES

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 25 July 2018, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

33. ANNOUNCEMENTS

(a) Former Councillor Mrs. Marie Harney

With regret, the Mayor informed the Council that since the last meeting, former Councillor Mrs. Marie Harney, Mayor of Trafford in 2002/03, had sadly passed

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away and her funeral had been held on 24 August. The Council stood in silence as a mark of respect and in memory of a former colleague who represented the Bowdon Ward from 1989 to 2004.

(b) National Brass Band Finals

The Mayor took the opportunity to mention that both the Flixton and Sale Bands competed recently in the National brass band finals held in Cheltenham. The Council joined with the Mayor in congratulating the bands on their performances, for which the Borough could be proud.

34. QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

The Mayor reported that 5 questions had been received under Procedure Rule 10.2.

(a) Councillor Chilton asked the following question for which he had given notice:

“I was advised earlier this year that a Tree Preservation Order on Dainewell and Millennium Woods on the Sale/Carrington border had been approved and simply required legal work. It now transpires this was not the case and the woods haven’t even been surveyed by the Council. Would the Executive Member support local residents of St. Mary’s and Bucklow St. Martin’s Wards by ensuring that the Tree Preservation Order is progressed and approved as a matter of urgency?”

Councillor Wright, the Executive Member for Investment, Regeneration and Strategic Planning stated that he was entirely supportive of protecting the Borough’s trees where it was appropriate to do so. Tree Preservation Orders were made to protect specific trees, groups of trees or woodlands in the interests of ‘amenity’. The making of an Order prohibited the cutting down, topping, lopping, uprooting, wilful damage or wilful destruction of trees without the consent of the Local Planning Authority. Anyone who wished to carry out works to trees subject of a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) needed to make an application to the Council for consent for those works, which may then be granted or refused. The carrying out of unauthorised works to protected trees was a criminal offence.

The Executive member confirmed that an assessment of the trees in Dainewell Woods would be undertaken as a matter of priority, in accordance with government guidance, to determine whether they merited protection under a TPO which could only be made, following statutory consultation and the confirmation of the Order. The Planning Service prioritised the making of TPOs by assessing whether trees were under imminent threat, however, there was presently nothing to suggest that the trees at Dainewell Woods were under threat, such as a live planning application. Nevertheless, Councillor Wright indicated that the Planning Service would prioritise the request and undertake an assessment of the trees in October.

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Councillor Chilton was encouraged that the request would be prioritised and asked as a supplementary question, whether the Executive Member would personally support it. Councillor Wright preferred not to comment either way until the experts had made their assessment which would then enable an educated response to be made.

- (b) Councillor Mrs. Brophy asked the following question for which she had given notice:

“Please would the Executive member explain what weed killers are used by Trafford Council and its contractors.

What plans does the Council have to protect the natural environment, biodiversity, the public and our Parks and Green Spaces?”

Councillor Adshead, the Executive Member for Environment, Air Quality and Climate Change advised that the Council and its contractors used a weed control product called Rosate 360 TF which was absorbed by the weed foliage and translocated to the growing points in the roots and to the underground rhizomes/stolons of perennial weeds. After application, glyphosate was strongly absorbed onto the soil particles and became practically immobilized within the soil. As a result, Rosate 360 TF had no further herbicidal activity and was subsequently broken down by microbial activity.

The Executive Member acknowledged that the use of glyphosate had become a subject of debate with scientific studies to both approve and disapprove its toxicity and whilst still licensed for use, some local authorities were taking steps to ban herbicides. With regard to future plans, the Council was in the process of evaluating its vegetation management programme, investigating the options available and comparing them to the current programme of weed control and considering other effective and sustainable solutions.

Councillor Mrs. Brophy asked as a supplementary question whether there were plans to investigate more biodiverse ways of tackling weeds in the Borough. Councillor Adshead assured Councillor Mrs. Brophy that the Council would continue to investigate all the available alternatives, acknowledging that certain previous methods had caused problems with some ‘Friends of Park’ planting schemes. The Executive member envisaged that more information would be provided at a future point as the options evolved.

- (c) Councillor Coggins asked the following question for which she had given notice:

“Given the very high percentage of on-street parking in Trafford, how is this council making it easier for residents and businesses to move to electric and low-emission vehicles?”

Councillor Adshead, the Executive Member for Environment, Air Quality and Climate Change reported that the Council was seeking to increase provision of On-street Electric Vehicle Chargepoints in Trafford via the Office for Low Emission

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Vehicles grant funding scheme to fund 75% of the implementation costs of Electric Vehicle (EV) Chargepoints.

Consideration was being given to a report which would enable an initial application to be made to the grant provider for the introduction of 6 chargepoints in the borough and, if successful, these would be programmed for implementation during the current financial year. Future requests would be collated and considered for a further bid the next financial year to further increase the number of EV chargepoints across the borough.

In addition, officers had recently started working with Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) on its EV project that had funding to provide an additional 48 rapid charging points across Greater Manchester in 2019. Sites were currently being considered in Trafford for further investigation with TfGM during the next few months.

As a supplementary question, Councillor Coggins asked what action the Council was taking to integrate the charging points with renewable energy. Councillor Adshead advised that he would consult with officers and obtain the information regards the options for renewable energy.

(d) Councillor Mrs. Young asked the following question for which she had given notice:

“Hale Village shopping has been badly affected by the lack of available parking. In the Unitary Development Plan the Council seeks to maintain local and neighbourhood shopping centres to ensure there are adequate facilities conveniently located to serve the day to day needs of the community. Will the Executive Member please confirm that car parking facilities in Hale District Centre will not be reduced?”

Councillor Adshead, the Executive Member for Environment, Air Quality and Climate Change acknowledged that there were many challenges to the borough's town and village centres, with changes in lifestyles and the rise in internet shopping, alongside wider economic changes all having an effect. Whilst the provision of parking was an element, he stated that it was not the only factor.

The Council operated 3 pay and display car parks in Hale Village, providing a total of 262 spaces which was more than either Sale Moor or Urmston. In addition, Hale also had free on street parking across the Village with up to 100 spaces of between 1 and 2 hours and a small free car park on Cecil Road with approximately 21 spaces.

Current usage surveys of car park use revealed that Cecil Road had a 75% occupancy level, Victoria Road 71% and Brown Street 44%. As Brown Street car park was underutilised, the Council was at present consulting on proposals for its regeneration to include affordable housing, whilst maintaining a car park with provision above current occupancy levels.

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Councillor Mrs. Young asked as a supplementary question for an explanation as to why the Brown Street proposal would now significantly reduce the number of car parking spaces when the invitation to tender specified that the number of spaces should be retained. Councillor Adshead reiterated that the car park was underused and that the proposal would provide for parking in excess of current usage. The Executive Member, however, did not wish to pre-empt the consultation, which was currently ongoing and recognised that the proposals could change as a result of the outcome.

- (e) Councillor Jerrome asked the following question for which he had given notice:

“This Council’s Tree Replacement Policy could see the felling of 350 healthy, mature trees across Trafford costing potentially over half-a-million pounds. Will this administration continue to support this scheme and is the consultation process rigorous enough?”

Councillor Adshead, the Executive Member for Environment, Air Quality and Climate Change clarified that approximately 60 mature trees had been identified for potential removal in the current financial year and not the 350 stated in the question. The Executive Member advised that consultation included all properties on a road highlighted for a tree removal scheme, neighbouring properties that had trees adjacent/to their rear and Ward Councillors. The Consultation process took approximately 4 weeks to complete with residents provided with a detailed explanation of the work planned, feedback form and a stamped addressed envelope. Schemes would only proceed if the majority of residents supported the Council’s proposals. Councillor Adshead explained that the consultation process had been in place for approximately 10 years and had been well supported by residents with a high feedback return over that period.

Councillor Adshead also added that on becoming Executive Member he had asked for a full review of the Council’s tree policy and in particular, advocated the planting of replacement trees, as close as was practically possible to those that had been removed.

As a supplementary question, Councillor Jerrome asked, why it was that many healthy trees in their prime, often half way through their life cycle were being targeted. In response, Councillor Adshead stated that on the whole, trees were removed if they were dead, dying or dangerous with the exception being specialist tree programmes that the Council had to undertake. It was also acknowledged that mistakes may have been made many years ago with unsuitable species planted in the wrong location resulting in problems as the trees developed. As the Executive Member had mentioned, the Council would be looking at the issue further with a review of the tree policy and envisaged better management through special tree programmes.

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35. TRANSPORT FOR GREATER MANCHESTER (TFGM) GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS

The Corporate Director of Governance and Community Strategy submitted a report advising the Council of revised governance arrangements for the TfGM Committee and seeking agreement of the new Operating Agreement. The Council was also requested to confirm its representation on the Committee.

RESOLVED –

- (1) That the Council agrees to the size of TfGM Committee as 23 members.
- (2) That Councillor Adshead be appointed to the TfGM Committee and that the Council nominates Councillor Hopps to be appointed by Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) to ensure political balance.
- (3) That the Council notes that the remaining 2 appointments are 1 member appointed by GMCA and 1 member appointed by the Mayor.
- (4) That the Council agrees to amend the Operating Agreement to reflect these changes.
- (5) That the Council notes that the Terms of Reference will be reviewed to ensure that they reflect the Mayor's current transport powers with a further review in 2019/20 to reflect proposed powers.

36. RECRUITMENT OF HEAD OF PAID SERVICE / CHIEF EXECUTIVE

The Corporate Director of People submitted a report setting out the proposed organisational arrangements to secure the appointment of a single Head of Paid Service / Chief Executive.

RESOLVED: That the Council:

- (1) Notes that at its meeting on 10 September 2018, Employment Committee agreed the recruitment process and supported the recommendations outlined in the report now submitted.
- (2) Notes the arrangement whereby the Chief Executive was also appointed to act as the Accountable Officer (AO) for Trafford NHS Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) is to be discontinued.
- (3) Notes that it is proposed to recruit to the role of Head of Paid Service and that, following approval by the CCG's Remuneration Committee and Governing Body that the two roles of AO and Head of Paid Service should be de-coupled, the CCG will recruit to the role of AO.
- (4) Agrees that the post of Chief Executive / Head of Paid Service be recruited to at a salary maximum of £165,000.

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- (5) Agrees that the approval of all details of the recruitment and selection process, as required by Part 4 of the Council's Constitution, be delegated to an Appointments Committee.
- (6) Notes that the Appointments Committee will undertake the recruitment and make a recommendation of the selected candidate to Council, in accordance with the requirements of Part 4 of the Council's Constitution.
- (7) Notes that the position will be advertised externally within the appropriate media and also notes the overall timescales for the process proposed in Appendix 1 of the report.
- (8) Agrees the engagement of a specialist recruitment agency to support the candidate search, candidate management and longlisting process.

37. MOTION SUBMITTED BY THE LABOUR GROUP - WOMEN AGAINST STATE PENSION INEQUALITY CAMPAIGN

(Note: Councillor Mrs. Western, the Mover of the Motion, declared a personal interest in the matter since she was directly affected by the pension changes and remained in the meeting.

Councillor A. Western also declared a personal interest as a result of his mother's interest.)

It was moved and seconded that:

“Council calls upon the Government to reconsider transitional arrangements for women born on or after 6 April 1951, so that women do not live in hardship due to pension changes they were not told about until it was too late to make alternative arrangements.

The Council calls upon the Government to make fair transitional state pension arrangements for all women born on or after 6 April 1951, who have unfairly borne the burden of the increase to the State Pension Age with lack of appropriate notification. Hundreds of thousands of women had significant pension changes imposed on them by the Pensions Acts of 1995 and 2011 with little/no/personal notification of the changes. Some women had only two years notice of a six-year increase to their state pension age.

Many women born in the 1950's are living in hardship. Retirement plans have been shattered with devastating consequences. Many of these women are already out of the labour market, caring for elderly relatives, providing childcare for grandchildren, or suffer discrimination in the workplace so struggle to find employment. Women born in this decade are suffering financially. These women have worked hard, raised families and paid their tax and national insurance with the expectation that they would be financially secure when reaching 60. It is not the pension age itself that is in dispute - it is widely accepted that women and men should retire at the same time. The issue is that the rise in the women's state pension age has been too rapid

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and has happened without sufficient notice being given to the women affected, leaving women with no time to make alternative arrangements.”

Following a debate on the matter, the Motion was put to the vote and declared carried.

RESOLVED: That Council calls upon the Government to reconsider transitional arrangements for women born on or after 6 April 1951, so that women do not live in hardship due to pension changes they were not told about until it was too late to make alternative arrangements.

The Council calls upon the Government to make fair transitional state pension arrangements for all women born on or after 6 April 1951, who have unfairly borne the burden of the increase to the State Pension Age with lack of appropriate notification. Hundreds of thousands of women had significant pension changes imposed on them by the Pensions Acts of 1995 and 2011 with little/no/personal notification of the changes. Some women had only two years notice of a six-year increase to their state pension age.

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38. MOTION SUBMITTED BY THE LABOUR GROUP - GOVERNMENT CUTS TO POLICE BUDGETS

(Note: Councillor Freeman declared a personal interest in the matter being in receipt of an occupational pension from Greater Manchester Police and remained in the meeting.

Councillor Lally also declared a personal interest in the matter as his sister-in-law was a serving Greater Manchester Police Officer and remained in the meeting.)

It was moved and seconded that:

“This Council:

- notes the increasing pressures facing Greater Manchester Police (GMP).
- supports the warnings of a multitude of agencies, that nationally police forces are reaching a breaking point as a result of the wide ranging cuts initiated by the Conservative Government. This has left forces across the

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country and here in Trafford depleted to critical levels. This is against a background of a continued rise in reported crime across the city region. Recent statistics show a 27 per cent increase in total recorded crime in Greater Manchester, with a rise across the majority of crime types, including sexual offences and robbery.

- welcomes the announcement by GM Deputy Mayor with responsibility for Police, Bev Hughes for 100 additional officers; but recognises that this will not fill the gap that has been created following eight years of real term cuts imposed on Greater Manchester Police.
- believes that the Government should rethink their strategy for policing and adopt Labour's 2017 manifesto commitment, pledging to put 10,000 additional police on to the streets of England and Wales.
- welcomes GMP's commitment to neighbourhood policing, with its key emphasis on tackling crime and antisocial behaviour, as well as a focus on problem solving and crime prevention through enhancing local intelligence gathering. It is noted that police officers work collaboratively with partner agencies in Greater Manchester and particularly in Trafford to provide a bespoke service that best meets the needs of each community, with an increased focus on utilising early partnership based intervention. This progressive approach is however being severely hampered by the Government cuts to the police service which weakens community cohesion and puts the safety of our residents at increasing risk.

Council therefore calls upon the Leader of the Council to write to the Home Secretary condemning the scale of government cuts to the police since 2010 and calling for a properly funded police force."

It was moved and seconded as an amendment that:

"This Council:

- notes the increasing pressures facing Greater Manchester Police and that policing is the responsibility of the Mayor of Greater Manchester;
- notes the concern of these increased pressures faced by Greater Manchester Police, and the steps taken by to assist including the ability to levy a higher precept and ongoing funding from Government;
- notes that Trafford remains the safest place to live in Greater Manchester and places on record our appreciation for the work of Greater Manchester Police and community safety teams;
- welcomes the announcement of 100 additional police officers; and calls on the Chief Constable to ensure Trafford receives it's fair allocation of additional resources; and
- welcomes GMP's commitment to neighbourhood policing, with its key emphasis on tackling crime and antisocial behaviour, as well as a focus on problem solving and crime prevention through enhancing local intelligence gathering. It is noted police officers work collaboratively with partner agencies in Greater Manchester, and particularly in Trafford to provide a bespoke service that best meets the needs of each community, with an increased focus on utilising early partnership based intervention.

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Therefore, Council calls upon the Leader of the Council to write to the Home Secretary to request that Greater Manchester Police remains sufficiently funded in future to meet its challenges and write to the Mayor of Greater Manchester demand new resources that have been disproportionately removed from Trafford are re-allocated.”

Following a debate on the matter, the amendment was put to the vote and declared lost. A further speech in respect of the substantive Motion was made before it was put to the vote and declared carried.

RESOLVED: That this Council:

- notes the increasing pressures facing Greater Manchester Police (GMP).
- supports the warnings of a multitude of agencies, that nationally police forces are reaching a breaking point as a result of the wide ranging cuts initiated by the Conservative Government. This has left forces across the country and here in Trafford depleted to critical levels. This is against a background of a continued rise in reported crime across the city region. Recent statistics show a 27 per cent increase in total recorded crime in Greater Manchester, with a rise across the majority of crime types, including sexual offences and robbery.
- welcomes the announcement by GM Deputy Mayor with responsibility for Police, Bev Hughes for 100 additional officers; but recognises that this will not fill the gap that has been created following eight years of real term cuts imposed on Greater Manchester Police.
- believes that the Government should rethink their strategy for policing and adopt Labour’s 2017 manifesto commitment, pledging to put 10,000 additional police on to the streets of England and Wales.
- welcomes GMP’s commitment to neighbourhood policing, with its key emphasis on tackling crime and antisocial behaviour, as well as a focus on problem solving and crime prevention through enhancing local intelligence gathering. It is noted that police officers work collaboratively with partner agencies in Greater Manchester and particularly in Trafford to provide a bespoke service that best meets the needs of each community, with an increased focus on utilising early partnership based intervention. This progressive approach is however being severely hampered by the Government cuts to the police service which weakens community cohesion and puts the safety of our residents at increasing risk.

Council therefore calls upon the Leader of the Council to write to the Home Secretary condemning the scale of government cuts to the police since 2010 and calling for a properly funded police force.

39. MOTION SUBMITTED BY THE LABOUR GROUP - EDUCATION RESULTS

It was moved and seconded that:

“This year, yet again, an excellent set of results from Trafford pupils in the face of a toughening and changing examination landscape and will see

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Trafford amongst the very highest performing authorities and its pupils amongst the highest achievers in the country.

This Council puts on record our congratulations to all our children and young people who have achieved so highly in the key stage 2 attainment outcomes and also the GCSE results and A level results all of which were way above the national average.

It is important that we recognise also the dedication and commitment of our Local Education Authority staff, head teachers and teaching staff plus support given by parents, guardians and school governors and our early years staff as education starts before birth.

However we must never be complacent and this Council believes that a local authority be judged not only on its academic but also on the achievements of its most vulnerable children, and the education outcomes of our special needs children.

We are determined that all our children across the borough will receive the very best education and opportunities in life.”

It was moved and seconded as an amendment that a final paragraph be added as follows:

“This Council recognises the important role our education system in Trafford, consisting of selection, grammar and high schools working excellently alongside each other, with our primary schools contributing too and sees this as the differentiating factor in achieving educational success. Therefore, the Council places on record its support for the continuation of this system in the borough.”

(Note: Prior to the debate on this item, the time being 8.40 p.m., the Mayor indicated that, for the remainder of the meeting, all speeches would now be limited to a maximum of one minute per speaker.)

Following a debate on the matter, the amendment was put to the vote and declared lost. The substantive Motion was then put to the vote which was carried unanimously.

RESOLVED: That this year, yet again, an excellent set of results from Trafford pupils in the face of a toughening and changing examination landscape and will see Trafford amongst the very highest performing authorities and its pupils amongst the highest achievers in the country.

This Council puts on record our congratulations to all our children and young people who have achieved so highly in the key stage 2 attainment outcomes and also the GCSE results and A level results all of which were way above the national average.

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It is important that we recognise also the dedication and commitment of our Local Education Authority staff, head teachers and teaching staff plus support given by parents, guardians and school governors and our early years staff as education starts before birth.

However we must never be complacent and this Council believes that a local authority be judged not only on its academic but also on the achievements of its most vulnerable children, and the education outcomes of our special needs children.

We are determined that all our children across the borough will receive the very best education and opportunities in life.

40. MOTION SUBMITTED BY THE GREEN PARTY GROUP WITH THE SUPPORT OF A LIBERAL DEMOCRAT MEMBER - PASSIVHAUS STANDARDS

It was moved and seconded that:

“This Council notes:

- The government cancelling the introduction of Zero Carbon Home Standards in 2016;
- The negative impact this will have on householders at risk of fuel poverty in new housing;
- The missed opportunity to reduce carbon emissions in new developments;
- The loss of income to the local economy as a result of these lower energy efficiency standards, as householders’ income is spent paying energy bills rather than in local shops and on local services.

This Council believes:

- That under the principle of ‘localism’ councils can determine their own standards on land that they own if those standards comply with UK Building Regulations;
- That the internationally recognised ‘Passivhaus Standard’ offers an alternative to the UK’s diminished energy efficiency ambitions for new-build housing;
- That the Passivhaus standard complies with UK Building Regulations and can deliver heating bills of less than £100/year for the average three bedroom terrace.

This Council agrees to specify Passivhaus Standards on all buildings on Council-owned land or as a condition of sale on any council land within 3 years.

Timescale:

- To produce exemplar projects in the first year and produce a feasibility study with the Passivhaus Trust;
- In the 2nd year move to a 20% commitment to provide Passivhaus developments;

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- Move to 100% commitment to Passivhaus Standards on all council land and a condition of land sold-on.”

Following a debate on the matter, the Motion was put to the vote and declared lost.

41. JOINT MOTION SUBMITTED BY THE LIBERAL DEMOCRAT GROUP AND GREEN PARTY GROUP - CAMPAIGN FOR A PEOPLE'S VOTE

It was moved and seconded that:

“Council notes that two years have passed since the European Union (EU) Referendum and little concrete progress has been made in negotiating the terms of the United Kingdom’s withdrawal from the EU.

Trafford Council:

- a) recognises the significant support it has received through EU funding over many years;
- b) recognises nearly six in every ten Trafford residents (58%) voted to remain in the EU;
- c) notes the stark warnings from companies such as Airbus, Vauxhall Motors, Jaguar Land Rover and BMW about the impact of Brexit on British manufacturing;
- d) recognises the mounting popular concern at the prospect of leaving the EU with either a bad deal or no deal at all;
- e) notes the reports from 1st August highlighting the serious concerns local authorities have over delivery of public services post-Brexit including potential civil unrest;
- f) notes the participation of over 100,000 people in the march for a People’s Vote in London on 23 June;
- g) understands that the EU Withdrawal Bill threatens the rights of citizens as well as environmental protections;
- h) shares the anxiety of EU citizens living in the Trafford who feel unwelcome in the place they have made home, and uncertain about their future.

Many councils have adopted a motion supporting the calls for a People’s Vote on the final Brexit Deal.

The People’s Vote campaign has worked hard to develop cross-party support at the highest level, with signatories including the following MPs:

- Justine Greening and Anna Soubry from the Conservatives
- Caroline Lucas from the Green Party
- Chuka Umunna, David Lammy, Stella Creasy and Ben Bradshaw from the Labour Party
- Plus Vince Cable and all Liberal Democrat MPs

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Many parts of Greater Manchester have already produced Brexit Impact studies, including:

- Oldham Council
- Manchester City Council
- The Local Enterprise Partnership Board of the Combined Authority

Accordingly, Trafford Council resolves to:

- 1) Conduct and publish without delay a Brexit Impact study for Trafford.
- 2) Support a People's Vote on the final Brexit deal with an option to remain in the EU.
- 3) Urge Trafford's MPs to join the campaign for a People's Vote in the interests of the residents and businesses in Trafford."

Following a debate on the matter, the Motion was put to the vote and declared carried.

RESOLVED: That Council notes that two years have passed since the European Union (EU) Referendum and little concrete progress has been made in negotiating the terms of the United Kingdom's withdrawal from the EU.

Trafford Council:

- a) recognises the significant support it has received through EU funding over many years;
- b) recognises nearly six in every ten Trafford residents (58%) voted to remain in the EU;
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42. MOTION SUBMITTED BY THE CONSERVATIVE GROUP - ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND

Without debate it was unanimously,

RESOLVED: That this Council notes with deep concern the recent announcement by the Royal Bank of Scotland (RBS) to close a further 54 branches across the country. The Council further notes that 3 of these closures are to be in Trafford - Partington, Altrincham and Urmston.

The Council believes that these proposed closures will massively inconvenience local residents and small businesses who continue to prefer to conduct their banking arrangements through a high street branch and rejects the increasing assumption that internet banking is the right choice for everyone. Experience shows that certain groups, including older people, will be especially inconvenienced by the proposed branch closures.

The Council condemns the proposal to close the RBS branch in Partington, which will mean the loss of the last remaining banking facility in this community, and also notes that NatWest branches in Stretford, Hale and Timperley have been closed in recent years.

The Council resolves to write to the Chief Executive of RBS to express its deep concern at these proposals and call for a pause to be placed on the proposals until such time that effective dialogue has been undertaken with the local authority on ensuring our communities continue to have access to the banking facilities that will help businesses and communities to thrive.

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**43. MOTION SUBMITTED BY THE CONSERVATIVE GROUP - BARTON
RENEWABLE ENERGY PLANT**

(Note: Councillor Dillon declared a personal interest in the matter being a Member of the Breathe Clean Air Group and remained in the meeting.)

It was moved and seconded that:

“This Council welcomes recent reports that the sustained campaign against the construction of the Barton Renewal Energy Plant appears to be drawing to a favourable outcome after Peel Energy indicated construction will not be forthcoming.

In particular, Council would like to pay tribute to campaigners in the Davyhulme, Urmston and Flixton communities, alongside the well organised Breathe Clean Air Group whose efforts have been nothing short of outstanding.

Council notes the decision of the previous administration, with cross party support, to commit significant sums of taxpayers’ money to fight this biomass plant which demonstrates the materially positive impact decisions in this town hall hold for our communities.

The Council commits to continue to pursue a cleaner, greener environment for all of its communities.”

Following speeches in support, the Motion was agreed with the unanimous consent of the Council.

RESOLVED: That this Council welcomes recent reports that the sustained campaign against the construction of the Barton Renewal Energy Plant appears to be drawing to a favourable outcome after Peel Energy indicated construction will not be forthcoming.

In particular, Council would like to pay tribute to campaigners in the Davyhulme, Urmston and Flixton communities, alongside the well organised Breathe Clean Air Group whose efforts have been nothing short of outstanding.

Council notes the decision of the previous administration, with cross party support, to commit significant sums of taxpayers’ money to fight this biomass plant which demonstrates the materially positive impact decisions in this town hall hold for our communities.

The Council commits to continue to pursue a cleaner, greener environment for all of its communities.

The meeting commenced at 7.00 p.m. and finished at 9.27 p.m.