

TRAFFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL

26 JULY 2017

PRESENT

The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor Jonathan Coupe), in the Chair.

T. Ross (Deputy Mayor)	M. Cordingley	Mrs. J. Reilly
D. Acton	M. Cornes	B. Rigby
S. Adshead	Mrs. P. Dixon	M. Sephton
S.B. Anstee	A. Duffield	B. Sharp
S.K. Anstee	Mrs. L. Evans	B. Shaw
Dr. K. Barclay	N. Evans	J. Smith
J. Baugh	T. Fishwick	E.W. Stennett
J. Bennett	P. Gratrix	S. Taylor
R. Bowker	Mrs. D.L. Haddad	L. Walsh
C. Boyes	J. Holden	Mrs. V. Ward
Mrs. A. Bruer-Morris	D. Hopps	A. Western
Mrs. J.E. Brophy	M. Hyman	M. Whetton
B. Brotherton	P. Lally	A.M. Whyte
D. Bunting	J. Lamb	A.P. Williams
D. Butt	J. Lloyd	J.A. Wright
K. Carter	A. Mitchell	M. Young
M. Cawdrey	P. Myers	
R. Chilton	D. O'Sullivan	

In attendance

Corporate Director Transformation and Resources	Ms. J. Hyde
Corporate Director Children, Families and Wellbeing	Ms. J. Colbert
Director of Legal and Democratic Services	Ms. J. Le Fevre
Chief Finance Officer	Ms. N. Bishop
Director of Growth and Regulatory Services	Mr. R. Roe
Public Relations Manager	Mrs. K. Dooley
Democratic and Scrutiny Officer	Mr. C. Gaffey
Senior Democratic and Scrutiny Officer	Mr. I. Cockill

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Miss L. Blackburn, M. Freeman, J. Harding, C. Hynes, D. Jarman, E. Malik, K. Procter, J.R. Reilly, D. Western and Mrs. P. Young.

18. MINUTES

That the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held on 24 May 2017, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

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19. ANNOUNCEMENTS

(a) London Terrorist Attacks and the Grenfell Tower Disaster

Since it was the first meeting of the Council since the terrible terrorist attacks in London and the Grenfell Tower Fire, which had occurred in June, the Mayor invited the Council to stand in silence to remember all the victims of these appalling tragedies.

(b) Her Majesty the Queen's Birthday Honours

The Mayor took the opportunity to recognise those citizens and persons connected with Trafford, who had recently been named in Her Majesty the Queen's Birthday Honours List, namely:

Mrs. J.L. Hartley of Bowdon, awarded Companion of the Order of the Bath for services to the development of Universal Credit;

Mr. R.J. Bailes of Old Trafford, awarded the British Empire Medal for services to Sport and the community in Old Trafford; and

Mr. Edward Davenport and Mrs. Jean Davenport, foster carers for Trafford, each awarded the citation of Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (MBE) for services to children and families.

On behalf of the Council, the Mayor conveyed congratulations for their achievements and deserved recognition.

(c) Councillor John Smith

The Mayor announced that Councillor John Smith had tendered his resignation, with effect from 28 July, and consequently it was his last meeting of the Council.

The Council joined with the Mayor in wishing Councillor Smith every happiness for the future and thanked him for his dedicated work, not only for the residents of Bucklow St. Martins, the ward he has served since 2007, but for the Borough of Trafford as a whole.

Councillor Smith returned thanks and offered his best wishes to Members as the Council looked to address the issues facing local authorities.

(d) Mrs. Kelly Dooley – Public Relations Manager

The Mayor indicated that, after 10 years with the Council, Mrs. Kelly Dooley, Public Relations Manager, was attending her last Council Meeting before leaving to take up a new job. Members of the Council conveyed their best wishes for her future.

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(e) Scrutiny Committee Update

Councillor M. Young, Chairman of Scrutiny reported that since the last report to Council, Members had attended a Scrutiny Workshop for the North West held in Preston in June. In addition, Trafford would be hosting the next Strategic Scrutiny Network meeting in November 2017. At the 5 July Committee meeting Members also received two important presentations on Crisis Management and Fire Safety in Trafford.

20. QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

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

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

“Please will the Executive Member responsible for Adult Social Care advise on what the average time taken for the provision and set up of care packages in the community for people in Partington (M31 postcode) is from the time any patient from a local hospital is deemed medically fit to be discharged from hospital but requires a care package at home?”

Councillor Stephen Anstee, the Executive Member for Adult Social Care advised that currently the Council does not routinely record waiting times by where people live, therefore, the information requested was not available. However, he explained that all local delays were recorded diligently in accordance with national guidance. The Council monitored daily capacity reports which identified hospital delays by placement and referrer, i.e. which hospital, or part of the health and social care system, i.e. Ascot House. Data from other reports summarised the home care position. The Executive Member stressed that the Council and its teams continued to work extremely hard to eliminate all delays across the Borough and certainly in Partington.

As a supplementary question, Councillor Wright enquired as to the efforts made by the Council to Government to ensure that residents in his ward were not left in hospital waiting for a social care package because of the postcode they lived in.

Councillor Stephen Anstee indicated that he would be happy to follow up on individual cases and was aware of the unique challenges in Partington because of the geographical isolation of the area. The Council was working to remedy this through the creation of a new system for care at home and a new career pathway for Trafford residents wanting to enter the social and health care profession, to be piloted in Partington. The model included salaried staff, providing an opportunity to develop skills in health care as part of a career progression programme. Different methods of recruitment were to be used in an attempt to attract those that may not have considered this type of work before. The design of this scheme would inform the wider Greater Manchester approach to commissioning support at home and was expected to improve the use of staff time by testing a locality based approach together with improving the recruitment and retention of staff and importantly providing a timely service to local residents with improved outcomes. With a go-

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live date of September 2017, the Executive Member was happy to provide more information to ward Councillors as the scheme progressed.

- (b) Councillor Andrew Western asked the following question for which he had given notice:

“Following a recent letter from Kate Green MP and myself regarding the proposals for Flixton's greenbelt set out in the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework, the Leader of the Council responded stating that "it is not possible to speculate, determine or advise on the status of the original proposed allocations ahead of the publication of the new draft of the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework." Elsewhere in that response, he states that he is "aware of the need to respond to the concerns of the local community". Given that the land in Flixton he has earmarked for the building of 750 homes is owned by the Council does he not agree that it is entirely possible to speculate on the future of this site because the best way to respond to the concerns of the local community would be to rule out selling this land to developers, effectively preventing build on the site now and in the future?”

In response, the Leader of the Council, Councillor Sean Anstee explained that the first round of consultation on the Spatial Framework produced in excess of 24,000 responses across Greater Manchester, including many from Trafford and Flixton in particular, and that it was right and appropriate that they were given the time to be considered, together with the suggestions for alternative sites. The Leader indicated that the reason it was not possible to speculate in advance was that he believed there was unanimous agreement across the Chamber and local authorities across Greater Manchester that production of a spatial framework was the right thing for Greater Manchester and should authorities start to talk about site allocations independently there would be no framework.

Putting a supplementary question, Councillor Andrew Western asked the Leader of the Council to confirm whether the Council owned the land in question and regardless of the outcome of the Spatial Framework, that he could refuse to sell it, if he so wished.

Councillor Sean Anstee thought it was appropriate to read the text of the response he had sent to Kate Green, MP and Councillor Andrew Western, to put into context the differing viewpoints. Expecting that there would be common agreement if Members were asked whether there was a housing crisis and were more homes and affordable housing needed, the Leader also suggested that there would be unanimous agreement if also asked if they wanted accessible green spaces and an environment that was clearly less polluted than it was today. Everyone would agree with those two relative positions but when considered together there would be conflict. Councillor Sean Anstee believed that Councillor Andrew Western was asking him to make a binary choice about in or out, yes or no, when the situation was more complex than that. He also believed there was a political approach to the question and stated that his administration had taken an approach with the spatial framework from day one to work with local communities and local Ward Members to find a solution to the complex issues the Council

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faced to house its future generations and to suggest otherwise through the question was a position he did not support.

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

“Please can the Executive Member for the Environment inform the Chamber what measures are being taken to hold Amey to account as it is patently obvious from the declining state of the environment in Trafford over the last two years that they are not fulfilling the terms of their contract.”

In the absence of the Executive Member for Highways, Parks and Environmental Services, the Deputy Executive Member Councillor Shaw accepted that there was room for improvement and with that in mind, the Council was working closely with senior management from Amey to improve the whole of the environment across the Borough. In recent months, Amey had brought in additional resources at a managerial level and for front line staff to support the One Trafford Partnership team. Additional resources from the Council were also being deployed to ensure that the Council could monitor and evaluate the impact of improvement actions. Councillor Shaw asked Members to bear in mind that it was a long-term relationship to deliver environment, highway and technical services. Governance arrangements were cross-party and the process for ensuring expected performance was established. Where further improvement work was required efforts were targeted, an example of which was Old Trafford supported by the Council’s Environmental Improvement Team. With all things said, the Deputy Executive Member pointed towards examples of good outcomes, including high recycling rates and 8 green flags across the Boroughs parks and green spaces. However, regards to contractual breaches, these were dealt with according to the mechanisms available within the contract.

Councillor Taylor asked as a supplementary question when residents could expect a reversal in the downward trend and if there was no improvement, when would the contract with Amey be terminated?

The Deputy Executive Member for Highways, Parks and Environmental Services was not in a position to answer the second part of that question but did indicate that there were improvements and with additional resources it could take time to bear fruition, however, the Council were monitoring things very closely.

- (d) Councillor Baugh asked the following question for which she had given notice:

“The, parents, children, past governors and teachers at Bollin Primary School have been subjected to an extremely stressful and disruptive year. Can the Council please explain why it has repeatedly refused to commission an independent investigation into the appointment of the previous Headteacher at the Bollin Primary School and the subsequent events that led from her appointment in September 2016 to the disastrous Ofsted Report in March that placed the school into Special Measures?”

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This Council has a duty of care under the Council's governance arrangements to uphold the highest possible standards with particular reference to transparency, reporting and auditing to deliver effective accountability, without an independent investigation, Council is not fulfilling its obligations."

Councillor Whetton, Executive Member for Children and Families started by saying that no one was happy to see a school in troubled circumstances and that he did commiserate with pupils, parents and teachers on their adverse circumstances. Councillor Whetton was aware that much work had been undertaken to get the school back to where it should be and that an investigation had been undertaken by a distinguished retired police officer. Members were also aware that Ofsted had reported on the school's performance and the improvements required. In terms of commissioning an independent investigation into the appointment of the previous Headteacher and the subsequent events, he was not convinced of its necessity. Furthermore, he was not content that it was correct to assume that the starting point for any sequence of events was precisely where it was being placed by the question. The Executive Member was unsure why there was a feeling that there had been a lack of investigation given the history and felt certain that an appropriate level of examination had been undertaken and it was time to look to the future and focus all efforts for the benefit of the pupils.

The Executive Member believed that the interim executive body of the school was managing and conducting its business very effectively. There were resources in place to support the Ofsted Improvement Plan in line with the timescales so the work of making progress for the school was well underway and that for him was the priority. As Councillors and school governors, Members were well aware that the lines of responsibility for running schools lay primarily with the governing body. The governing body set the aims and objectives for the school, the policies and targets for achieving these and monitored and evaluated the progress being made towards the aims and objectives. Councillor Whetton considered it vital for schools to review their performance between Ofsted inspections. The Council's role was not to be running a school but it could and should get involved in helping a school that finds itself in trouble. There were examples of Trafford schools being successfully assisted and he believed that a rapid turn-around was being achieved at Bollin Primary School under the leadership of the team in place, with the assistance of the Council.

Councillor Whetton did not accept that the Council was failing in its duty of care, especially given the rapid and effective way the Council got involved when things started to go wrong, nor did he feel there was an absence of transparency, audit or accountability. He was happy to meet with Councillor Baugh to discuss in more detail but it would not include instigating any further retrospection.

Councillor Baugh asked as a supplementary question why the Council's own framework for monitoring, challenge, support and intervention in schools, published in September 2016 and presented to governors the last term, was not followed and suggested that if it had been, it would have prevented the events that eventually took place and that the Council should listen to the concerns of parents and the Bollin community as a whole, since only through an independent

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investigation could lessons be learnt to ensure that a similar situation did not happen again in any other Trafford school.

Councillor Whetton agreed to look into the matter and offered to discuss the issue further with Councillor Baugh. He was unsure as to whether the escalating circumstances that occurred at the school could necessarily have been prevented, however, since everyone involved were receiving mixed messages, the Executive Member was happy for a meeting to include some of the parents and past governors of the school.

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

“What is Trafford Council doing to improve grounds maintenance service across the borough, especially for our parks and greens spaces in terms of treatment of weeds, cutting hedges, cutting grassed areas including grass verges.”

Councillor Shaw, Deputy Executive Member for Highways, Parks and Environmental Services, reported that the One Trafford Partnership recognised that it had been a challenging year following a significant number of service changes at the start of the season and that further improvements were required to deliver the quality of service expected of the Council. Work to change the culture throughout the Partnership was well underway with the development and implementation of the supervisor quality site inspection schedule to ensure that supervisors were out on the ground monitoring and assessing the teams. Workshops had been used to examine the current barriers to delivering good service. Work was also ongoing to improve how the Partnership manages the plant and equipment supplier, since it was key to have access to the correct equipment as and when it was needed.

In terms of weed control, Councillor Shaw advised that the Partnership employed two contractors and 14 of the 21 wards had now been completed. Daily updates highlighted any areas that needed mechanical removal which in turn were followed up with inspections. The Partnership acknowledged that grass verges had been a problem and additional resources had been made available to assist in maintaining grass verges across the borough. It was also recognised that further improvements were needed in some parks and the Partnership was working hard to overcome those challenges. However, the Deputy Executive Member indicated that it was worth noting that the Partnership had increased its green flag quota to 8 parks with Lostock Park gaining such status for the first time that year. Additionally, much good work had been done in support of Altrincham, Stretford and Partington in Bloom. Finally, Councillor Shaw reported that following the end of the bird nesting season, hedge cutting had commenced the first week in July.

Asking a supplementary question Councillor Mrs. Brophy, sought more information on work to tackle grass verges and hedges and Councillor Shaw indicated that he was more than happy to meet to through the specifics in detail.

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21. MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES

Further to the change to the Membership of Committees notified on the Council Summons, the Mayor advised the Council of the outside body nominations notified to the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) on 25 July 2017, in respect of its 3 new Scrutiny Committees.

RESOLVED: That the Council notes the following appointments, as agreed by the Chief Executive under delegated authority:

- (a) Councillor Carter replaced Councillor Baugh as a substitute Member of Planning and Development Management Committee, with effect from 10 July 2017;
- (b) Corporate Issues and Reform GMCA Scrutiny Committee – Councillor Nathan Evans as 1st preference and Councillor Wright;
- (c) Economy, Business Growth and Skills GMCA Scrutiny Committee – Councillor Holden as 1st preference and Councillor Brotherton; and
- (d) Housing, Planning and Environment GMCA Scrutiny Committee – Councillor Chilton as 1st preference and Councillor Sharp.

22. CAPITAL INVESTMENT FUND

The Council considered a joint report of the Executive Member for Investment, Executive Member for Corporate Resources and Chief Finance Officer, together with a confidential appendices report which had been recommended from the Executive Meeting held on 24 July 2017. The Council was recommended to increase the Capital Investment Fund, established to support the acquisition of investment assets, in line with a proposed Investment Strategy, detailed in the appendices report. The Part B Appendices report set out the financial details of the proposed Capital Investment Fund and presented an executive summary of the Property Investment Strategy.

The Council proceeded to determine the matter without the need to exclude the press and public.

RESOLVED - That the Council:

- (1) Approves and adopts the Summary Investment Strategy, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the Part B Appendices report.
- (2) Approves the increase to the Capital Investment Programme in 2017/18 as detailed in Appendix 2 to the Part B Appendices report.
- (3) Approves the governance structure and reporting and monitoring arrangements proposed for an Investment Management Board (IMB) as detailed in Paragraphs 15 of the Capital Investment Fund report.

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- (4) Approves the setting up of an Investment Management Company to manage investments where appropriate and delegates authority to the Director of Legal and Democratic Services, in consultation with the Chief Executive and the Executive Member for Investment, to take all necessary steps to establish a company with the powers to invest and manage investments in line with the Summary Investment Strategy.
- (5) Delegates decision making in accordance with the provisions of the Summary Investment Strategy to the IMB.
- (6) Approves the amendment to the Minimum Reserve Provision policy, as outlined in Paragraph 19 of the Capital Investment Fund report.
- (7) Approves the changes to the Prudential Borrowing indicators, as set out in Appendix 2 to the Part B Appendices report.
- (8) Approves the changes to the Treasury Management investment counterparty limits, as detailed in Appendix 3 to the Part B Appendices report.

**23. ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT TO COUNCIL
2016/17**

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Accounts and Audit Committee for 2016/17 submitted a report summarising the work undertaken by the Committee during the year and its impact. The report also provided assurance to the Council on the fulfilment of the Committee's responsibilities.

In providing a summary of the report, the 2016/17 Committee Vice-Chairman also recognised the work of officers and the external auditor throughout the year.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

24. ANNUAL SCRUTINY REPORT 2016/17

The Chairmen of Scrutiny Committee and Health Scrutiny Committee submitted a report presenting the Annual Scrutiny Report to Council which detailed the previous year's work and the work programmes of each Committee for the year ahead.

The Chairman of Scrutiny Committee thanked the Chairman of Health Scrutiny Committee and the respective Vice-Chairmen for leading on the work as well as all Members, Co-opted Members and officers for their contributions and expertise.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

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25. YEAR END CORPORATE REPORT ON HEALTH AND SAFETY - 1 APRIL 2016 TO 31 MARCH 2017

The Executive Member for Corporate Resources submitted a report providing information on council wide health and safety performance and trends in workplace accidents. The report also provided a summary of other key developments in health and safety for the period 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

26. MOTION SUBMITTED BY THE LABOUR GROUP - GEORGE H CARNALL LEISURE CENTRE

(Note: Councillor Lamb declared a personal interest in this item, being a member of the Trafford Leisure Trust Company Board and remained in the meeting during consideration of the matter.)

It was moved and seconded that:

“This Council notes the strength of feeling of many residents in the M41 area regarding the proposed closure of George H Carnall Leisure Centre in Davyhulme.

Council recognises that:

- Leisure centres are a vital tool in improving the health and wellbeing of residents
- George Carnall is a valued community facility in the Davyhulme area
- This Centre provides a wide range of services many of which are not routinely available at other leisure centres in Trafford
- Urmston Leisure Centre has limited physical scope for expansion on a compact and already well-used site
- Consultation to date has been extremely poor with many residents complaining of a lack of information and open dialogue with Trafford Leisure CIC

Council therefore makes clear its opposition to the proposed closure of George H Carnall Leisure Centre and undertakes to revisit this proposal with Trafford Leisure CIC, with a view to keeping the facility open.”

It was moved and seconded as an amendment that:

“This Council notes the strength of feeling of many residents in the M41 area regarding the proposed closure of George H Carnall Leisure Centre in Davyhulme.

Council recognises that:

- Leisure centres are a vital, but not the only, tool in improving the health and wellbeing of residents;

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- George H Carnall is a valued community facility in the Davyhulme area;
- This centre provides a wide range of activities, some of which are not presently available at other leisure centres in Trafford, but that needs to be considered in the context of the future sustainability of accessible, modern facilities for residents of Davyhulme, Urmston and Flixton;
- Urmston Leisure Centre, although located on a compact site, has been identified for and is able to accommodate expansion. This is why Trafford Leisure have proposed a significant investment at Urmston with many of the activities at George H Carnall being relocated there or to other local premises. The Urmston site also has wet side facilities which are important to the future sustainability of the centre, however;
- Users have complained about a lack of information and open dialogue with Trafford Leisure about the closure and agree that this aspect should be re-visited.

Council therefore acknowledges the concerns expressed by users of George H Carnall and undertakes to continue the discussion with a view to ensuring a solution is brought forward that provides all residents of Davyhulme, Flixton and Urmston with accessible, modern and fit for purpose local leisure provision.”

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

It was moved and seconded as a second amendment that:

“This Council notes the strength of feeling of many residents in the M41 area regarding the proposed closure of George H Carnall Leisure Centre in Davyhulme.

Council recognises that:

- Leisure centres are a vital, but not the only, tool in improving the health and wellbeing of residents;
- George H Carnall is a valued community facility in the Davyhulme area;
- This centre provides a wide range of activities, some of which are not presently available at other leisure centres in Trafford, but that needs to be considered in the context of the future sustainability of accessible, modern facilities for residents of Davyhulme, Urmston and Flixton;
- Urmston Leisure Centre, although located on a compact site, has been identified for and is able to accommodate expansion. This is why Trafford Leisure have proposed a significant investment at Urmston with many of the activities at George H Carnall being relocated there or to other local premises. The Urmston site also has wet side facilities which are important to the future sustainability of the centre, however;
- Users have complained about a lack of information and open dialogue with Trafford Leisure about the closure and agree that this aspect should be re-visited.

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Council therefore acknowledges the concerns expressed by users of George H Carnall and undertakes to continue the discussion with a view to ensuring a solution is brought forward that provides all residents of Davyhulme, Flixton and Urmston with accessible, modern and fit for purpose local leisure provision; and

That many of these modern facilities should be provided at George H Carnall Leisure Centre where there is room for the extra modernised facilities.”

(Note: During the debate on the second amendment, the time being 8.45 p.m., the Mayor indicated that the length of speeches would be restricted to 1 minute per speaker.)

Following further speeches, the second amendment was put to the vote and in accordance with Procedure Rule 16.5 a recorded vote was called for. This resulted as follows:

Those in favour of the Motion: Councillors Acton, Adshead, Baugh, Bennett, Bowker, Brotherton, Carter, Cordingley, Duffield, Fishwick, Gratrix, Lloyd, O’Sullivan, Ross, Stennett, Taylor, Walsh, A. Western, Whyte and Wright.

Those against the Motion: Councillors S.A. Anstee, S.K. Anstee, Dr. Barclay, Boyes, Mrs. Bruer-Morris, Bunting, Butt, Cawdrey, Chilton, Cornes, Mrs. Dixon, Mrs. Evans, N. Evans, Mrs. Haddad, Holden, Hopps, Hyman, Lally, Lamb, Mitchell, Myers, Mrs. Reilly, Rigby, Sephton, Sharp, Shaw, Smith, Mrs. Ward, Whetton, Williams and M. Young.

With the result of the vote being 20 in favour and 31 against, with 0 abstentions, the second amendment was declared lost.

The substantive Motion was then put to the vote and declared carried.

RESOLVED: That this Council notes the strength of feeling of many residents in the M41 area regarding the proposed closure of George H Carnall Leisure Centre in Davyhulme.

Council recognises that:

- Leisure centres are a vital, but not the only, tool in improving the health and wellbeing of residents;
- George H Carnall is a valued community facility in the Davyhulme area;
- This centre provides a wide range of activities, some of which are not presently available at other leisure centres in Trafford, but that needs to be considered in the context of the future sustainability of accessible, modern facilities for residents of Davyhulme, Urmston and Flixton;
- Urmston Leisure Centre, although located on a compact site, has been identified for and is able to accommodate expansion. This is why Trafford Leisure have proposed a significant investment at Urmston with many of the activities at George H Carnall being relocated there or to other local

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premises. The Urmston site also has wet side facilities which are important to the future sustainability of the centre, however;

- Users have complained about a lack of information and open dialogue with Trafford Leisure about the closure and agree that this aspect should be re-visited.

Council therefore acknowledges the concerns expressed by users of George H Carnall and undertakes to continue the discussion with a view to ensuring a solution is brought forward that provides all residents of Davyhulme, Flixton and Urmston with accessible, modern and fit for purpose local leisure provision.

(Note: Prior to the debate on the next item of business, the time being 8.48 p.m., the Mayor indicated that for the remainder of the meeting the length of speeches would be restricted to 1 minute per speaker.)

27. MOTION SUBMITTED BY THE LABOUR GROUP - FIRE SAFETY (GRENFELL TOWER TRAGEDY)

It was moved and seconded that:

“The Council Notes:

- The terrible and avoidable loss of life in the Grenfell Tower Fire on 14 June 2017 – our thoughts are with the families and friends of those that died in the horrific fire. Our thoughts are also with the survivors who have been traumatised and left homeless as a result of this tragic event.
- We also note the understandable concerns about fire safety raised by residents in high rise tower blocks around the country. The Council believes that every resident, regardless of type of tenure, should, as a matter of right, feel safe and secure in their own home.

Council therefore calls on the Government:

- To abandon the “one in, two out” rule (introduced by the Coalition Government) for regulations.
- To set up a programme to have Sprinkler Systems fitted in all High Rise Flats in the Country (the case for sprinklers has been made; there haven’t been any fire deaths in buildings where sprinklers have been fitted).
- To ensure that in the future any cladding fitted to High Rise Flats should be of high quality Fire-Resistant Material approved by the Fire Service to a uniformed national standard.
- To ensure that the Fire Service should have overall responsibility for fire safety for High rise Flats, which includes the flats, corridors, public spaces, fire alarm, safety advice to tenants; and the Fire Service should provide Fire Safety Assurance for Residential High Rise Flats. All High Rise Blocks should be inspected by the Fire Service at least once every two years and inspected following a major refurbishment. (Fire Service are the experts, they are trusted and respected by the public and are public servants rather than private fire assessors who are out to make a profit).

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- That New High Rise Flats should be regulated to ensure they are built to include all of the above, and in addition they should be built with at least two Stairwells within the building.
- Should urgently review the fire regulation Orders and fully fund the Fire Service to re-enable planning and building control applications to be reviewed by the Fire Safety Service on a risk-assessed basis.
- Will need to recognise that extra Government financial resources will need to be made available to Fire and Rescue Services to enable them to provide for the necessary workload that this will entail.”

It was moved and seconded as an amendment that:

“The Council is deeply saddened by the terrible and avoidable loss of life in the Grenfell Tower Fire on 14 June 2017. Our thoughts are with the families and friends of those that died in the horrific fire. Our thoughts are also with the survivors who have been traumatised and left homeless as a result of this tragic event.

We also note the understandable concerns about fire safety raised by residents in high rise tower blocks around the country.

The Council believes that every resident, regardless of type of tenure, should, as a matter of right, feel safe and secure in their own home.

The Council is aware of the upcoming inquiry into the tragedy and resolves to implement, in full, the recommendations made.

Council therefore calls on the Government:

- To ensure that fire regulations are of the highest standard and take account of all the relevant evidence and best practice.
- To ensure local authorities and the Fire and Rescue services are given adequate financial resources following the outcome of the inquiry.”

Following a debate on the matter, the amendment was agreed by general consent and the substantive Motion was consequently declared carried.

RESOLVED: That the Council is deeply saddened by the terrible and avoidable loss of life in the Grenfell Tower Fire on 14 June 2017. Our thoughts are with the families and friends of those that died in the horrific fire. Our thoughts are also with the survivors who have been traumatised and left homeless as a result of this tragic event.

We also note the understandable concerns about fire safety raised by residents in high rise tower blocks around the country.

The Council believes that every resident, regardless of type of tenure, should, as a matter of right, feel safe and secure in their own home.

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The Council is aware of the upcoming inquiry into the tragedy and resolves to implement, in full, the recommendations made.

Council therefore calls on the Government:

- To ensure that fire regulations are of the highest standard and take account of all the relevant evidence and best practice.
- To ensure local authorities and the Fire and Rescue services are given adequate financial resources following the outcome of the inquiry.

28. MOTION SUBMITTED BY THE LABOUR GROUP - TRAFFORD PRIDE

It was moved and seconded that:

“This Council welcomes the introduction of a Trafford Pride event, held for the first time as part of the Altrincham Festival this year. The celebration provided a fantastic opportunity to show support and solidarity with Trafford’s LGBT community, and was well received by residents. Council places on record our thanks to the organisers of Trafford Pride and affirms our willingness to support this event so that it can grow and thrive in the future.”

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

RESOLVED: That this Council welcomes the introduction of a Trafford Pride event, held for the first time as part of the Altrincham Festival this year. The celebration provided a fantastic opportunity to show support and solidarity with Trafford’s LGBT community, and was well received by residents. Council places on record our thanks to the organisers of Trafford Pride and affirms our willingness to support this event so that it can grow and thrive in the future.

29. MOTION SUBMITTED BY THE CONSERVATIVE GROUP - SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESSES IN TRAFFORD

It was moved and seconded that:

“This Council notes that since its inception in 2013 a total of £274,000 has been awarded from the Town Centre Loan Scheme (TCLS) to Trafford businesses across the borough. The funding has helped to support 28 new businesses, create 118 local jobs and has seen a total of £1.18 million leveraged as a result of the scheme.

Following the success of the TCLS, in April 2017 Council notes that the Executive approved a new, revised Town Centre Business Growth Programme to further reduce vacancy rates and stimulate business growth and jobs including expanding the range of activities covered by loan finance to marketing for new and existing businesses and training to help companies upskill their workforce.

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The Council puts on record its support for these initiatives and commits to promoting them to the local business community.”

Without debate, the Motion was agreed by general consent.

RESOLVED: That this Council notes that since its inception in 2013 a total of £274,000 has been awarded from the Town Centre Loan Scheme (TCLS) to Trafford businesses across the borough. The funding has helped to support 28 new businesses, create 118 local jobs and has seen a total of £1.18 million leveraged as a result of the scheme.

Following the success of the TCLS, in April 2017 Council notes that the Executive approved a new, revised Town Centre Business Growth Programme to further reduce vacancy rates and stimulate business growth and jobs including expanding the range of activities covered by loan finance to marketing for new and existing businesses and training to help companies upskill their workforce.

The Council puts on record its support for these initiatives and commits to promoting them to the local business community.

30. MOTION SUBMITTED WITH CROSS-PARTY SUPPORT - STRETFORD MEADOWS

(Note: Councillor Cordingley declared a personal interest in this item, as an allotment holder in the area and remained in the meeting during consideration of the matter.)

It was moved and seconded that:

“This Council is aware of proposals by a land owner to develop industrial units and warehousing on the area known as Stretford Meadows (the land that lies north of the M60 and south of Stretford and the B5213). In light of this proposal, Trafford Council reaffirms its commitment to Stretford Meadows as a green space which serves and is accessible to all of Trafford’s communities. The Council will continue to implement strategies to enhance this area, Stretford and the wider Mersey Valley.”

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

RESOLVED: That this Council is aware of proposals by a land owner to develop industrial units and warehousing on the area known as Stretford Meadows (the land that lies north of the M60 and south of Stretford and the B5213). In light of this proposal, Trafford Council reaffirms its commitment to Stretford Meadows as a green space which serves and is accessible to all of Trafford’s communities. The Council will continue to implement strategies to enhance this area, Stretford and the wider Mersey Valley.

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31. MOTION SUBMITTED BY THE LABOUR GROUP - REMEMBERING SREBRENICA

It was moved and seconded that:

“This Council:

- Notes that 2017 is the twenty-second anniversary of the Srebrenica genocide in Bosnia and Herzegovina, which saw over 8,000 Muslim men and boys killed by Serbian nationalist forces.
- Notes that in 2009 the European Parliament passed a resolution that 11 July should be recognised as the day of commemoration of the Srebrenica genocide all over the EU; and in 2015 urged the development of educational and cultural programmes that promote an understanding of the causes of such atrocities and raise awareness about the need to nurture peace and to promote human rights and interreligious tolerance.
- Applauds the work of those involved in the pursuit of justice for the victims and their surviving relatives, including the International Commission of Missing People (ICMP) and the Mothers of Srebrenica, whose courage and humility in the face of unthinkable horror is an inspiration to us all.
- Commends the work of the charity, Remembering Srebrenica, in raising awareness of this tragic and preventable genocide and working in communities across Britain to help them learn the lessons of Srebrenica.

The Council resolves to:

- Offer support to Remembering Srebrenica delegates from Trafford who visited Bosnia on the ‘Lessons from Srebrenica’ education programme and have been working tirelessly in the community to raise awareness of the genocide and learn the lessons of Srebrenica.
- Support Srebrenica memorial events in July each year throughout Trafford as part of the UK-wide Remembering Srebrenica Memorial Week.
- Support the work of Remembering Srebrenica in communities across Trafford to learn the lessons from Srebrenica to tackle hatred and intolerance to help build a better, safer and more cohesive society for everyone.”

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

RESOLVED –

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(1) That this Council:

- Notes that 2017 is the twenty-second anniversary of the Srebrenica genocide in Bosnia and Herzegovina, which saw over 8,000 Muslim men and boys killed by Serbian nationalist forces.
- Notes that in 2009 the European Parliament passed a resolution that 11 July should be recognised as the day of commemoration of the Srebrenica genocide all over the EU; and in 2015 urged the development of educational and cultural programmes that promote an understanding of the causes of such atrocities and raise awareness about the need to nurture peace and to promote human rights and interreligious tolerance.
- Applauds the work of those involved in the pursuit of justice for the victims and their surviving relatives, including the International Commission of Missing People (ICMP) and the Mothers of Srebrenica, whose courage and humility in the face of unthinkable horror is an inspiration to us all.
- Commends the work of the charity, Remembering Srebrenica, in raising awareness of this tragic and preventable genocide and working in communities across Britain to help them learn the lessons of Srebrenica.

The Council resolves to:

- Offer support to Remembering Srebrenica delegates from Trafford who visited Bosnia on the 'Lessons from Srebrenica' education programme and have been working tirelessly in the community to raise awareness of the genocide and learn the lessons of Srebrenica.
- Support Srebrenica memorial events in July each year throughout Trafford as part of the UK-wide Remembering Srebrenica Memorial Week.
- Support the work of Remembering Srebrenica in communities across Trafford to learn the lessons from Srebrenica to tackle hatred and intolerance to help build a better, safer and more cohesive society for everyone.

(2) That this Council writes to its counterparts in the Municipality of Srebrenica and conveys the unanimous support that this Motion has received from all Members of Trafford Council.

32. MOTION SUBMITTED BY THE CONSERVATIVE GROUP - UNITED UTILITIES AND DAVYHULME WASTEWATER TREATMENT WORKS

RESOLVED: That, the time being 9.17 p.m., consideration of this Motion be deferred to the next meeting of the Council.

The meeting commenced at 7.00 p.m. and finished at 9.17 p.m.