

# **Borough of Douglas**

Town Hall,

Douglas,

8<sup>th</sup> June, 2022

At a MEETING of the COUNCIL of the BOROUGH OF DOUGLAS, duly convened and holden at 2.30 p.m. on WEDNESDAY, the 8<sup>th</sup> day of JUNE, 2022, in the COUNCIL CHAMBER, within the TOWN HALL, at which Meeting the following Members were present, that is to say: -

# The Mayor

# COUNCILLOR MS J. THOMMENY, JP

Councillors

Miss N.A. Byron Mr S.R. Pitts Mr A.J. Bentley Mr I.J.G. Clague, MBE Mr D.R. Watson Mr S.R. Crellin Mrs C.L. Wells Mr F. Schuengel Mr F. Horning Mr P.J. Washington

The Chief Executive, Director of Finance and Senior Engineering and Waste Services Manager were in attendance.

Apologies for absence were submitted by Mr Councillor Mr J.E. Skinner, the Director of Environment and Regeneration and the Director of Housing and Property.

# 1. Minutes – 11<sup>th</sup> May, 2022

The minutes of the monthly Council meeting held on Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> May, 2022, were approved and signed.

# 2. Standing Order 39 – Question – Mr Councillor A.J. Bentley

Mr Councillor A.J. Bentley asked the Chair of the Housing & Property Committee:

- 2.1 Who ensures the active fire safety measures within the building are installed in accordance with the relevant codes of practice?
- 2.2 Who ensures that the installation of passive fire protection is installed in accordance with the relevant codes of practice?
- 2.3 Does the Architect/Contract Administrator's Professional Indemnity Insurance cover any claim arising out of any Fire Safety Notification?

Reply by the Chair of the Housing and Property Committee:

- 2.1 The Design Team ensures all active fire safety measures under the building contract are installed in accordance with the relevant codes. The Client or provider will ensure that all hand held equipment is compliant. The Fire Service will visit the site on or near the completion date as this is a certified building. Post completion, ongoing maintenance, inspection and testing of the equipment will be required.
- 2.2 Passive fire protection is provided by the building contract. Post completion regular testing of fire alarms and detectors is required to comply.
- 2.3 The relevant members of the design team carry PI Insurance for all aspects of the scheme.

# 3. Standing Order 39 – Question – Mr Councillor J.E. Skinner

Mr Councillor J.E. Skinner asked the Chair of the Regeneration and Community Committee:

Further to a question submitted for answer at a meeting of the Council on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2022 and subsequent answer regarding damage to the walls of the sunken gardens following Storm Barra, what progress had been made with the insurance loss adjusters and when is it anticipated that repairs to the walls will commence and be completed?

Reply by the Chair of the Regeneration and Community Committee:

Council officers met with the loss adjuster on 27<sup>th</sup> April, when the loss adjuster's assessment was received. Since that date, the Council's insurance brokers have been in frequent dialogue with the Council's insurers to challenge the position. The insurance claim for the repairs to property damaged by Storm Barra is still being considered by the insurers, and it is understood that consideration has since been escalated to senior levels within the Company. The outcome of the deliberations is anticipated in the near future.

With regard to the repairs to the walls, attention is drawn to the minutes of the Executive Committee of 26<sup>th</sup> May, where at Clause A15 the garden walls are included in a number of items to be dealt with in relation to the Promenade. The rebuilding work to these walls is shortly to go out to tender and the timescale for completion is not yet known.

#### 4. Standing Order 39 – Question – Mr Councillor J.E. Skinner

Mr Councillor J.E. Skinner asked the Leader of the Council:

Will the Leader give consideration to moving the June meeting of Council in the future to ensure that it does not take place during TT Week?

# Reply by the Leader of the Council:

I appreciate that the holding of the Council meeting during T.T. Week involves some inconvenience, particularly to Members who may wish to marshal or otherwise be involved in the racing event, but also to others whose normal routines are disrupted by road closures and sometimes very heavy traffic.

However I cannot accept that the date of the June Council meeting should be moved. Firstly because I do not think the Council's Standing Orders should be adapted because of matters outside the Council's control, and secondly because to do so would disrupt the normal cycle of Council and Committee meetings, when in reality the clash occurs only three times in each seven years.

# 5. Executive Committee – 26<sup>th</sup> May, 2022 – Clauses A1 to A20

Motion moved by Councillor Mrs C.L. Wells, seconded by Mr Councillor I.J.G. Clague, "That the minutes of proceedings of the Executive Committee, as contained in Clauses A1 to A20 inclusive of report of meeting held on Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> May, 2022, be received, by the Council, subject to correction of a clerical

error in Clause A16, the vacancy in the Housing and Property Committee membership arose from the resignation of Mr Councillor Skinner, not the appointment of the Mayor."

Question put on Motion, a vote was taken electronically, and the Motion was carried unanimously.

# 6. Executive Committee – 26<sup>th</sup> May, 2022 – Clause C21

Motion moved by Councillor Mrs C.L. Wells, seconded by Mr Councillor I.J.G. Clague, "That the minutes of proceedings of the Executive Committee, as contained in Clause C21 of report of meeting held on Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> May, 2022, be received, approved, and adopted by the Council."

Question put on Motion, a vote was taken electronically, and the Motion was carried unanimously.

# 7. Executive Committee – 26<sup>th</sup> May, 2022 – Clause C22

Motion moved by Councillor Mrs C.L. Wells, seconded by Mr Councillor I.J.G. Clague, "That the minutes of proceedings of the Executive Committee, as contained in Clause C22 of report of meeting held on Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> May, 2022, be received, approved, and adopted by the Council."

Question put on Motion, a vote was taken electronically, and the Motion was carried unanimously.

#### 8. Executive Committee – 26<sup>th</sup> May, 2022 – Clause C23

Motion moved by Councillor Mrs C.L. Wells, seconded by Mr Councillor I.J.G. Clague, "That the minutes of proceedings of the Executive Committee, as contained in Clause C23 of report of meeting held on Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> May, 2022, be received, approved, and adopted by the Council."

Question put on Motion, a vote was taken electronically, and the Motion was carried unanimously.

# 9. Housing and Property Committee – 18<sup>th</sup> May, 2022 – Clauses A1 to A8

Motion moved by Mr Councillor D.R. Watson, seconded by Mr Councillor S.R. Crellin, "That the minutes of proceedings of the Housing and Property Committee, as contained in Clauses A1 to A8 inclusive of report of meeting held on Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> May, 2022, be received by the Council."

Question put on Motion, a vote was taken electronically, and the Motion was carried unanimously.

#### 10. Housing and Property Committee – 18<sup>th</sup> May, 2022 – Clause C9

Motion moved by Mr Councillor D.R. Watson, seconded by Mr Councillor S.R. Crellin, "That the minutes of proceedings of the Housing and Property Committee, as contained in Clause C9 of report of meeting held on Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> May, 2022, be received, approved and adopted by the Council."

Question put on Motion, a vote was taken electronically, and the Motion was carried unanimously.

#### 11. Pensions Committee – 25<sup>th</sup> May, 2022

Motion moved by Mr Councillor F. Horning, seconded by Mr Councillor I.J.G. Clague, "That the minutes of proceedings of the Pensions Committee, as contained in report of meeting held on Wednesday, 25<sup>th</sup> May, 2022, be received by the Council."

Question put on Motion, a vote was taken electronically, and there voted **For** the Motion, Councillors: Miss N.A. Byron, Mr S.R. Pitts, Mr A.J. Bentley, Mr I.J.G. Clague, Mr S.R. Crellin, Mrs C.L. Wells, Mr F. Scheungel, Mr F. Horning, Mr P.J. Washington, the Mayor -10

Against – Mr Councillor Mr D.R. Watson – 1

#### 12. Regeneration and Community Committee – 17<sup>th</sup> May, 2022

Motion moved by Mr Councillor A.J. Bentley, seconded by Councillor Miss N.A. Byron, "That the minutes of proceedings of the Regeneration and Community Committee, as contained in report of meeting held on Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> May, 2022, be received by the Council."

Question put on Motion, a vote was taken electronically, and the Motion was carried unanimously.

# 13. Environmental Services Committee – 16<sup>th</sup> May, 2022

Motion moved by Mr Councillor F. Horning, seconded by Councillor Miss N.A. Byron, "That the minutes of proceedings of the Environmental Services Committee, as contained in report of meeting held on Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> May, 2022, be received by the Council."

Question put on Motion, a vote was taken electronically, and there voted **For** the Motion, Councillors: Mr A.J. Bentley, Mr D.R. Watson, Mr S.R. Crellin, Mrs C.L. Wells, Mr F. Scheungel, Mr F. Horning, Mr P.J. Washington, the Mayor -8

Against – Councillors: Miss N.A. Byron, Mr S.R. Pitts, Mr I.J.G. Clague – 3

# 14. Standing Order 30 – Notice of Motion – Mr Councillor A.J. Bentley

Mr Councillor A.J. Bentley moved the following Motion, notice of which had been given:

"That with immediate effect, the Council adopt a policy whereby when any plaque is erected by the Council to mark a commemoration, installation or any other event, it contain the name of the current Mayor, but does not include the names of all Council Members."

Mr Councillor D.R. Watson seconded the Motion.

Under the provisions of Standing Order 30, the matter was referred to the Executive Committee for consideration and report to the Council by 12<sup>th</sup> October, 2022.

### 15. Adjournment and Resumption

The meeting adjourned at 4.05pm and resumed at 4.20pm with the same Members and officers present.

# IN PRIVATE

#### 16. Executive Committee – 26<sup>th</sup> May, 2022

Motion moved by Councillor Mrs C.L. Wells, seconded by Mr Councillor I.J.G. Clague, "That the minutes of proceedings of the Executive Committee, as contained in private report of meeting held on Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> May, 2022, be received by the Council."

Question put on Motion, a vote was taken electronically, and the Motion was carried unanimously.

# 17. Housing and Property Committee – 18<sup>th</sup> May, 2022 – Clause A1

Motion moved by Mr Councillor D.R. Watson, seconded by Mr Councillor S.R. Crellin, "That the minutes of proceedings of the Housing and Property Committee, as contained in Clause A1 of private report of meeting held on Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> May, 2022, be received by the Council, subject to a clerical error in Clause A1 resolution (ii) the word 'prior' was replaced with 'subject to'."

Question put on Motion, a vote was taken electronically, and the Motion was carried unanimously.

# 18. Housing and Property Committee – 18<sup>th</sup> May, 2022 – Clause C2

Motion moved by Mr Councillor D.R. Watson, seconded by Mr Councillor S.R. Crellin, "That the minutes of proceedings of the Housing and Property Committee, as contained in Clause C2 of private report of meeting held on Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> May, 2022, be received, approved and adopted by the Council."

Question put on Motion, a vote was taken electronically, and the Motion was carried unanimously.

# 19. **Pensions Committee – 25<sup>th</sup> May, 2022**

Motion moved by Mr Councillor F. Horning, seconded by Mr Councillor I.J.G. Clague, "That the minutes of proceedings of the Pensions Committee, as contained in private report of meeting held on Wednesday, 25<sup>th</sup> May, 2022, be received by the Council."

Question put on Motion, a vote was taken electronically, and the Motion was carried unanimously.

The Council rose at 4.35pm.

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Town Clerk & Chief Executive