



Borough of Douglas

Town Hall,

Douglas,

12th October, 2022

At a MEETING of the COUNCIL of the BOROUGH OF DOUGLAS, duly convened and holden at 2.30 p.m. on WEDNESDAY, the 12th day of OCTOBER, 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 I.J.G. Clague, MBE

Mr A.J. Bentley

Mr S.R. Crellin

Mrs C.L. Wells

Mr F. Horning

Mr F. Schuengel

The Chief Executive, Director of Finance, Director of Environment and Regeneration and the Director of Housing and Property were in attendance.

Apologies for absence were submitted by Mr Councillor J.E. Skinner, Mr Councillor D.R. Watson and Mr Councillor P.J. Washington.

1. **Minutes – 10th August, 2022**

The minutes of the monthly Council meeting held on Wednesday, 10th August, 2022, were approved and signed.

2. **Standing Order 39 – Question – Mr Councillor J.E. Skinner**

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

Given the advances in current technology will the Executive Committee give consideration to amending the Constitution in order to permit remote attendance at Council and Committee Meetings for members who, with legitimate reason, cannot attend in person?

Reply by the Leader of the Council:

The Local Government Act 1985 has been amended by the Elections and Meetings (Local Authorities) Act 2021 to allow remote attendance by Members, if certain conditions are satisfied. In order to facilitate this, some changes to the Constitution and Standing Orders will be required; and a report will be taken to the Executive Committee accordingly.

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

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

What is the current Council Policy regarding response times to emails and correspondence received by officers?

Reply by the Leader of the Council:

The Council's current policy is for written and electronic correspondence received to be acknowledged in the same medium within three working days and to receive a response within fifteen working days, except where a longer period was required to provide the information, but in such case the respondent to be advised accordingly within the fifteen day period. This was approved by the Policy and Resources Committee at its meeting held on 25th March, 2011.

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

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

Does the Council have any toilets within Nobles Park that are accessible to those with disabilities by the use of a RADAR key?

Reply by the Chair of the Regeneration and Community Committee:

Yes, the Pavilion toilets.

5. **Standing Order 39 – Question – Mr Councillor J.E. Skinner**

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

5.1 *When was it agreed to create and commence work creating a "temporary" picnic area on the site of the children's playground on Loch Promenade and was this decision approved by the Committee?*

5.2 *Is the newly created "temporary" picnic area a replacement for the children's playground? If not, when is work on replacement play equipment likely to commence?*

Reply by the Leader of the Council:

5.1 *Executive Committee at its meeting on 26th May 2022, reported to Council and agreed unanimously at June's Council meeting.*

5.2 *The same report and minute explained that a new playground is planned for the 23/24 financial year and the removal of the old playground and replacement with a usable open space was a temporary measure until the new playground could be installed.*

6. **Standing Order 39 – Question – Mr Councillor J.E. Skinner**

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

What works have been carried out at Port Skillion beach in the name of the Council and at what cost?

Reply by the Chair of the Regeneration and Community Committee:

The Department of Infrastructure undertook repairs to the stairs leading to Port Skillion beach following Storm Barra. A decision was made under Standing Order 125, Urgent Business Procedure for repairs to Council owned structures on the beach to be repaired at the same time as this would be more cost effective than the Council contracting for these works individually. A concrete structure in a very poor condition was repaired to enable a platform for bathing, changing and installation of life saving equipment and signage.

The decision was reported to the Executive Committee in June 2022, and to full Council in July 2022. The minutes were approved unanimously.

7. Standing Order 39 – Question – Mr Councillor J.E. Skinner

Mr Councillor J.E. Skinner asked the Chair of the Environmental Services Committee:

On what date will the Garden Waste Collection (green bins) cease and what is the anticipated restart date in 2023?

Reply by the Chair of the Environmental Services Committee:

The garden waste collections will cease during the last week of October (the last collection day will be Friday 4th November, so week commencing 31st October) and will re-commence in the first week of February 2023 (first collection will be on Monday 30th January, so week commencing 30th January 2023).

8. Standing Order 39 – Question – Mr Councillor J.E. Skinner

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

When will the CCTV cameras in the vicinity of the Jubilee Kiosk (removed as part of the Promenade Regeneration Scheme) which may have been helpful in the identification of those responsible for the damage to the Jubilee Kiosk toilets, be reinstated?

Reply by the Leader of the Council:

The Promenade CCTV Scheme to replace the CCTV cameras and associated network (removed as part of the Promenade Regeneration Scheme) is hoped to be completed by mid-2023. This is subject to successfully securing funding.

Works have been completed below ground to facilitate future installations. New equipment, network infrastructure, columns and cameras are required.

9. Standing Order 39 – Question – Mr Councillor S.R. Pitts

Mr Councillor S.R. Pitts asked the Chair of the Environmental Services Committee:

9.1 *How many requests have been received for garden waste bins?*

9.2 *How many have been delivered as of 6th October 2022*

9.3 *How many requests have been received for extra house hold bins?*

9.4 *How many assessments have been completed on the house hold bins?*

9.5 *When will all bins be delivered by?*

9.6 *When will all assessments be completed?*

9.7 *How many employees are involved in delivering garden waste bins?*

9.8 *How many employees are involved in carrying out the assessments?*

Reply by the Chair of the Environmental Services Committee:

9.1 *3,144 requests have been received.*

9.2 *As at 6th October; 2,510 green bins have been delivered. Between 60 - 120 bins are delivered daily including weekends. All garden bins ordered up to 6th October will be delivered by the end of week commencing 10th October, 2022. Note: orders continue to come in for garden bins.*

9.3 *52.*

9.4 *24 with 6 follow-ups.*

9.5 *Extra or larger bins are delivered within two weeks of the assessment.*

9.6 *All current assessments are due to be completed by 21st October 2022.*

9.7 *This varies on a day to day basis and is based on demand and resource availability. Usually one person but occasionally two using two vehicles and usually two vehicles during weekends.*

9.8 *Two technical officers.*

Supplementary Question:

Is the Chair 100% happy with the roll-out of the garden waste bins and the fortnightly collection service to date?

Reply by the Chair of the Environmental Services Committee:

This service change has affected nearly 12,000 households in Douglas. We have internally prepared for more than a year for this. The communication campaign started with the rates newsletter in March and April and we have had media coverage across all platforms. I think that our Waste Services Team and its support deserve really high praise for how they have handled this, which is very eventful period and overall I think it is a very successful service change. Given the size of the service change there were always some teething problems to be expected.

10. Executive Committee – 29th September, 2022 – Clauses A1 to A14

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 A14 inclusive of report of meeting held on Thursday, 29th September, 2022, be received by the Council.”

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

11. Executive Committee – 29th September, 2022 – Clause C15

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 C15 of report of meeting held on Thursday, 29th September, 2022, be received, approved and adopted by the Council.”

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

12. Housing and Property Committee – 21st September, 2022 – Clauses A1 to A8

Motion moved by Mr Councillor S.R. Crellin, seconded by Mr Councillor F. Schuengel, “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, 21st September, 2022, be received by the Council.”

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

13. Housing and Property Committee – 21st September, 2022 – Clause C9

Motion moved by Mr Councillor S.R. Crellin, seconded by Mr Councillor F. Schuengel, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Housing and Property Committee, as contained in Clause C9 of report of meeting held on Wednesday, 21st September, 2022, be received, approved and adopted by the Council.”

Question put on Motion, a vote was taken electronically, and there voted **For** the Motion, Councillors: Miss N.A. Byron, Mr I.J.G. Clague, Mr A.J. Bentley, Mr S.R. Crellin, Mrs C.L. Wells, Mr F. Horning, Mr F. Schuengel, the Mayor – **8**

Against – Mr Councillor S.R. Pitts – **1**

Motion carried.

14. Housing and Property Committee – 21st September, 2022 – Clause C10

Motion moved by Mr Councillor S.R. Crellin, seconded by Mr Councillor F. Schuengel, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Housing and Property Committee, as contained in Clause C10 of report of meeting held on Wednesday, 21st September, 2022, be received, approved and adopted by the Council.”

Question put on Motion, a vote was taken electronically, and there voted **For** the Motion, Councillors: Miss N.A. Byron, Mr I.J.G. Clague, Mr A.J. Bentley, Mr S.R. Crellin, Mrs C.L. Wells, Mr F. Horning, Mr F. Schuengel, the Mayor – **8**

Against – Mr Councillor S.R. Pitts – **1**

Motion carried.

15. Pensions Committee – 14th September, 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 14th September, 2022, be received by the Council.”

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

16. Eastern District Civic Amenity Site Joint Committee – 20th September, 2022

Motion moved by Councillor Miss N.A. Byron, seconded by Mr Councillor F. Horning, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Eastern District Civic Amenity Site Joint Committee, as contained in report of meeting held on Tuesday 20th September, 2022, be received by the Council.”

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

17. Regeneration and Community Committee – 20th September, 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, 20th September, 2022, be received by the Council.”

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

18. Environmental Services Committee – 22nd September, 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 Thursday, 22nd September, 2022, be received by the Council.”

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

19. Adjournment and Resumption

The meeting adjourned at 3.35pm and resumed at 3.50pm with the same Members and officers present.

IN PRIVATE

20. Executive Committee – 29th September, 2022 – Clause A3

Motion moved by Councillor Mrs C.L. Wells, seconded by Mr Councillor F. Horning, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Executive Committee, as contained in Clause A3 of private report of meeting held on Thursday 29th September, 2022, be received by the Council.”

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

Under the provisions of the Local Government Act 1985 Mr Councillor I.J.G. Clague declared an interest in the item and retired whilst it was considered.

21. Executive Committee – 29th September, 2022 – Clauses A1, A2 and A4

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, A2 and A4 of private report of meeting held on Thursday 29th September, 2022, be received by the Council.”

Amendment moved by Mr Councillor I.J.G. Clague, seconded by Councillor Mrs C.L. Wells in relation to Clause A4.

Question put on amendment, a vote was taken electronically and there voted **For** the amendment, Councillors: Miss N.A. Byron, Mr I.J.G. Clague, Mr A.J. Bentley, Mr S.R. Crellin, Mrs C.L. Wells, Mr F. Horning, Mr F. Schuengel, the Mayor – **8**

Against – Mr Councillor S.R. Pitts – **1**

Motion carried.

Question put on original Motion, a vote was taken electronically, and there voted **For** the Motion, Councillors: Mr I.J.G. Clague, Mr A.J. Bentley, Mrs C.L. Wells, Mr F. Horning, Mr F. Schuengel, the Mayor – **6**

Against, Councillors: Miss N.A. Byron, Mr S.R. Pitts, Mr S.R. Crellin – **3**

Motion carried.

22. Regeneration and Community Committee – 20th September, 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 private report of meeting held on Tuesday, 20th September, 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 I.J.G. Clague, Mr A.J. Bentley, Mrs C.L. Wells, Mr F. Horning, Mr F. Schuengel, the Mayor – **8**

Against – Mr Councillor S.R. Crellin – **1**

Motion carried.

23. **Environmental Services Committee – 22nd September, 2022**

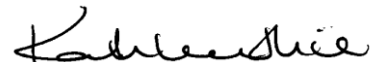
Motion moved by Mr Councillor F. Horning, seconded by Councillor Miss N.A. Byron, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Environmental Services Committee, as contained in private report of meeting held on Thursday, 22nd September, 2022, be received by the Council.”

Question put on Motion, a vote was taken electronically, and there voted **For** the Motion, Councillors: Mr A.J. Bentley, Mr F. Horning, Mr F. Schuengel – **3**

Against, Councillors: Miss N.A. Byron, Mr S.R. Pitts, Mr I.J.G. Clague, Mr S.R. Crellin, Mrs C.L. Wells, the Mayor – **6**

Motion fell.

The Council rose at 4.55pm.



Town Clerk & Chief Executive