

SOUTH LAKELAND DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings at a virtual meeting of the Council held on Tuesday, 30 June 2020, at 6.30 p.m.

Present

Councillors

Stephen Coleman (Chairman)
Pete McSweeney (Vice-Chairman)

Caroline Airey	Gill Gardner	Susanne Long
James Airey	Tom Harvey	Ian Mitchell
Giles Archibald	Eamonn Hennessy	Eric Morrell
Robin Ashcroft	Hazel Hodgson	Jon Owen
Rupert Audland	Chris Hogg	Suzie Pye
Pat Bell	Rachael Hogg	Doug Rathbone
Ben Berry	John Holmes	Brian Rendell
Roger Bingham	Kevin Holmes	Matt Severn
Jonathan Brook	Vicky Hughes	Peter Thornton
Helen Chaffey	Helen Irving	David Webster
Brian Cooper	Andrew Jarvis	Ian Wharton
Michael Cornah	Dyan Jones	Janet Willis
Tracy Coward	Dave Khan	Mark Wilson
Philip Dixon	Helen Ladhams	Shirley-Anne Wilson
Judy Filmore	Malcolm Lamb	
Alvin Finch	Kevin Lancaster	

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Anne Hall, Anne Hutton and Janette Jenkinson.

Officers

Inge Booth	Legal, Governance and Democracy Specialist
Lawrence Conway	Chief Executive
Linda Fisher	Legal, Governance and Democracy Lead Specialist (Monitoring Officer)
Hannah Girvan	Strategy Specialist (Sustainability)
Dan Hudson	Strategy Lead Specialist
Richard Machin	Communications Specialist
Simon McVey	Operational Lead Support Services
Simon Rowley	Director of Customer and Commercial Services
Helen Smith	Finance Lead Specialist (Section 151 Officer)
David Sykes	Director of Strategy, Innovation and Resources

C/1

CHAIRMAN'S INTRODUCTION

Following confirmation that the live stream of the meeting had commenced, the Chairman welcomed everyone to the first virtual meeting of South Lakeland District Council.

The Chairman referred to the new Government legislation allowing councils to conduct remote meetings and explained in detail to all taking part, and for the benefit of members of the public observing, the procedures for the meeting.

The Chairman further referred to the fact that the Council's Legal, Governance and Democracy Lead Specialist (Monitoring Officer) would be proposing to Council further amendments to its Virtual Meeting Procedures under Agenda Item No.2(i). These would relate to alternative ways in which to vote at virtual meetings and the implications of technology failures on Members' voting ability.

He then asked the Legal, Governance and Democracy Lead Specialist (Monitoring Officer) to carry out a roll call, during which all Members present indicated by which means they were taking part and confirmed that they were able to see (where practicable) and hear all Members participating in the meeting. The Chairman referred to officers present who would introduce themselves when asked to address the meeting.

C/2 MINUTES

RESOLVED – That the Chairman be authorised to sign, as a correct record, the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 25 February 2020.

C/3 EMERGENCY NON-EXECUTIVE DECISIONS

Note - Councillors Tom Harvey and John Holmes had raised with the Monitoring Officer prior to the meeting, for the purpose of transparency, the fact that they were involved in organisations that had applied for a discretionary grant. This item was, however, purely to receive emergency non-executive decisions which had already been made, so they were able remain in the meeting during the discussion and voting on the matter.

The Legal Governance and Democracy Lead Specialist (Monitoring Officer) referred to Agenda Item No.2(i) relating to an Emergency Non-Executive Decision (009) taken by the Chief Executive in relation to Remote Meetings Protocol, Procedure Rules, Public Participation and Privacy. She was suggesting the inclusion of additional wording to the Virtual Meeting Standing Orders to accommodate feedback from Members following a number of virtual meetings now having taken place. The first addition was to allow the vote to be taken, in addition to roll call, by the affirmation of the meeting if there was no dissent (by assent). The second was to address voting and interruption in technology, so that:-

- *in relation to Licensing, Planning or other quasi-judicial matters*, each Member must confirm that they have heard without interruption the entire proceedings and full discussion in relation to the item and asking members to state 'for', 'against', or 'abstain' to indicate their vote when their name is called; and
- *in relation to all other Council meetings*, Members are to confirm that they are sufficiently informed to properly cast their vote and asking members to state 'for', 'against', or 'abstain' to indicate their vote when their name is called.

Councillor Andrew Jarvis, Finance and Resources Portfolio Holder, moved that the Emergency Non-Executive Decisions be received, that any spending outside budgetary provision be noted and, in addition, that the changes raised by the Monitoring Officer in relation to Emergency Non-Executive Decision 009 outlined above be approved. He was seconded by Councillor Giles Archibald.

No Member having raised concern when asked by the Chairman, it was

RESOLVED – That

(1) the Emergency Non-Executive Decisions taken by the Chief Executive between 30 March and 29 May 2020 in accordance with Part 3 of the Council's Constitution 3.(B 1) (1.1) be received;

(2) any spending outside any budgetary provision be noted; and

(3) the changes raised above by the Legal, Governance and Democracy Lead Specialist (Monitoring Officer) be approved and the Constitution amended accordingly.

C/4 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No questions, representations, deputations or petitions had been received from members of the public in respect of this meeting. In response to a query, however, Members were informed that seven individuals were currently observing the live stream of the event.

C/5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were raised.

C/6 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 - EXCLUDED ITEMS

There were no excluded items on the Agenda.

C/7 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman drew attention to the list of official engagements undertaken by himself and the Vice-Chairman between 26 February and 20 June 2020. He further referred to the recent sad loss of Bharath Rajan, former District Councillor, Ulverston Town Councillor and Mayor of Ulverston and extended sympathy, on behalf of Members, to Bharath's family and friends.

C/8 LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councillor Giles Archibald, Leader and Promoting South Lakeland Portfolio Holder, first paid tribute to the dedication of officers following the onset of Covid-19 and for the amazing work carried out in many areas, including setting up and running virtual meetings, payment of grants, housing the homeless and continuation of refuse collection. He praised the collaborative work being carried out across all tiers of local government, paying particular tribute to Cumbria County Council and the leadership of Colin Cox, Director of Public Health for Cumbria, in addressing the crisis. Councillor Archibald asked for his thanks to be recorded and passed on following the meeting. In addition, he expressed thanks to Members for their work in local communities and for the cross-party collaboration throughout the emergency. Councillor Archibald expressed pride in all Members who were a credit to public service.

Councillor Archibald also took the opportunity to inform Members that Councillor Eric Morrell had stepped down from his role as Cabinet Member and Customer and Commercial Services and People Portfolio Holder and that Councillor Philip Dixon had taken on the role. Councillor Archibald thanked Councillor Morrell for his great service and achievements during his time as Portfolio Holder - he would be missed on Cabinet.

C/9 REVENUE AND CAPITAL OUTTURN 2019/20

The Finance and Resources Portfolio Holder, Councillor Andrew Jarvis, presented the Revenue and Capital Outturn 2019/20 report which set out in detail the Council's financial performance for 2019/20 and the impact on reserves. The report had been considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 22 June 2020. Cabinet at its meeting on 24 June 2020 had recommended that Council approve the contributions to and from reserves detailed in Appendix 1a to the report.

In presenting the report, Councillor Jarvis raised the fact that this was an unparalleled time for local government funding. Not only was there the uncertainty over the structure of future funding, but also the ongoing challenge of the Covid-19 pandemic. He pointed out that the Finance Team had been fully stretched throughout this period, particularly with their work on large amounts of Government grants being paid through the Council, as well as ensuring control of the Council's finances more generally at this time. He took the opportunity to thank the Finance Lead Specialist, the Finance Specialist and all in the Team for their work which was a reflection of the professionalism and dedication of the team.

Councillor Jarvis turned first to the Revenue Budget which highlighted that, after taking the carry-forwards into consideration, the Council had an over-spend of £89,000. He pointed out, however, without Covid, the Council would have balanced the budget for the year.

Councillor Jarvis next addressed capital expenditure, which showed a significant re-profiling. Of the revised Capital Budget of £7.2m, £4.1m had been spent in the year. The majority of this under-spend related to schemes where the Council was working with other parties or was reliant on other parties. The impact of this re-profiling would be presented in July 2020 as part of the preparation of the Medium Term Financial Plan, which would also include the impact of slippages due to Covid-19 and the related reprioritisation of schemes.

Councillor Jarvis drew attention to Appendix 1a to the report which showed the detailed movement on reserves and the comparison with the budget. Overall, this showed a little over £2.1m being added to reserves and nearly £3m of reserves being utilised, most significantly for funding the Customer Connect project, prior-year carry-forwards and Locally Important Projects expenditure. The Council continued to be in a strong position with its reserves as of the end of the year. The detailed position by reserve, together with the outlook for reserves, would be presented in the updated Medium Term Financial Plan.

Councillor Jarvis, in closing, alluded to the more serious issue of the finances in 2020/21 and beyond which he would turn to in July.

Councillor Jarvis having moved the recommendations contained within the report was seconded by Councillor Matt Severn.

The Chairman read out the proposal and asked the meeting if the motion was agreed. There being no dissent, it was

RESOLVED – That the following be approved:-

- (1) the contributions to and from reserves detailed in Appendix 1a to the report; and
- (2) the working budgets for 2020/21 set out in Appendix 1d to the report.

C/10**2019/20 ANNUAL TREASURY MANAGEMENT REPORT**

The Treasury Management Annual Report 2019/20 was presented by Councillor Andrew Jarvis, the Finance and Resources Portfolio Holder. The report reviewed the treasury activities and the actual prudential and treasury indicators for the 2019/20 financial year, meeting the requirement of the Local Government Act 2003, the CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management and the CIPFA Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities.

The level of external debt had remained at £12.8m, below the Capital Financing Requirement of £18.5m. This showed that the Council had not funded revenue activity through borrowing, a key prudential indicator. This had been a prudent strategy which was constantly under review so as to avoid incurring higher borrowing costs in the future when the Council might not be able to avoid new borrowing. Interest Receipts from the Council's Investments had brought in £61,000 more income than budgeted for, as the Council benefited from fluctuations in market rates as a result of changing market expectations on the next move by the Monetary Policy Committee regarding the Bank of England base rate and a stepped maturity profile for deposits. Interest payable on borrowing had been in line with budget as no new borrowing had been expected or taken in 2019/20 as a result of using internal cash balances to fund capital rather than borrowing. Looking forward, the COVID-19 outbreak had introduced a large amount of uncertainty into the market. Officers would keep this under constant review with support from the Council's external treasury advisors, Link Asset Services. The current strategy of using internal cash balances to fund prudential borrowing continued to minimise the interest rate gap (where loans cost more than investments earn) and to help reduce counterparty risk.

The report had been considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 22 June 2020. Cabinet, at its meeting on 24 June 2020, had recommended that Council approve the 2019/20 Treasury Management Annual Report.

Councillor Jarvis thanked officers for their work in this area, pointing out that their careful management of the Council's borrowing and cash balances was critical to minimise the risk that it faced, while achieving the best possible returns to support the broader work of the Council.

Councillor Jarvis having moved the recommendations contained within the report was seconded by Councillor Doug Rathbone.

Councillor Mark Wilson raised a question which he had submitted to Councillor Jarvis prior to the meeting:-

"With reference to paragraph 3.7, The Future, will the Portfolio Holder and the Authority develop in the next financial year ways in which residents can benefit from using our "under borrowing" capacity? Organise ways that we can access funds to help develop schemes that meet their and SLDC plans, as outlined in the Carbon Reduction Plan. In short, borrow more and become a broker in helping residents to borrow and invest in green infrastructure for their houses, solar panels, better insulation, power generation and flood prevention measures."

Councillor Jarvis responded, emphasising that being underborrowed did not mean that there was a pot of money available. He pointed out, however, that due to the heavy programme of capital works, borrowing was likely to increase. In addition, he stressed the need for prudence in light of the current crisis. He further drew attention to the ongoing review in relation to Public Works Loans Board margins which could result in constraints on the Council's ability to borrow. Councillor Jarvis informed Members that the Council was prepared to borrow subject to low rates in order to invest in the community and areas such as housing and green issues and that he would be happy to explore these options with Cabinet. Councillor Mark Wilson felt heartened by the response which, he believed, suggested that the Council would look at aspects of sustainable housing. He acknowledged the financial predicament but reiterated the fact that the Council could provide assistance to residents in this regard. Councillor Jarvis responded, hoping that the predicament did not turn into a financial catastrophe and that the Council would, indeed, be in a position to invest for the good of its communities and residents.

Councillor Jarvis responded to a further query regarding the possibility for community lending and the ability for town and parish councils to borrow. Although unsure of the rules of borrowing for town and parish councils, he felt that there could be the potential for collaborative work. In response to a comment regarding Public Works Loans Board margins, Councillor Jarvis understood the desire to distinguish between borrowing to invest in local communities and borrowing to purchase commercial property, and agreed that communities and residents should not be penalised by higher rates. Councillor Rathbone referred to the Overview and Scrutiny's discussion and support for the report. He pointed out that the report demonstrated prudence and manoeuvrability for the future.

The Chairman read out the proposal and asked the meeting if the motion was agreed. There being no dissent, it was

RESOLVED – That the 2019/20 Treasury Management Annual Report be approved.

C/11

LANCASTER AND SOUTH CUMBRIA JOINT COMMITTEE

The Leader and Promoting South Lakeland Portfolio Holder, Councillor Giles Archibald, presented the report which referred to the fact that, in 2017, Barrow Borough Council, Lancaster City Council and South Lakeland District Council had approved a joint statement of intent to work collaboratively to drive forward agreed approaches to economic development across the Lancaster and South Cumbria Economic Region. This statement had been rooted in the findings of 2016 economic study work which had confirmed the region as a functioning economic area with a combined Gross Value Added comparable to other major North West economic centres. Strengths had been identified in the sectors of marine engineering, energy generation, nuclear skills, advanced manufacturing and higher education. The conclusion had been that development opportunities could be better identified and realised working strategically across administrative boundaries.

In June 2019, the three authorities had produced and launched a prospectus 'Driving Growth Together' at an event at Lancaster University, attended by a wide range of businesses, agencies, authorities and media from across the region. The prospectus and approach to collaborative working had been well received. The authorities had subsequently produced an outline proposal for a growth deal, and had presented it to the Minister for the Northern Powerhouse ahead of the Convention of the North, held in September 2019. This collaborative approach had successfully raised the profile of the region amongst the Northern Powerhouse, Ministers and local MPs and had outlined potential investments in infrastructure, the business environment and place.

Work was currently taking place to refine and focus proposals for a growth deal type programme to attract significant public investment to transformational growth projects and importantly drive Covid-19 resilience to the region's economy. This required a strong case, backed by demonstrable collaborative action, supported by visible commitment and accountability. As such, it was considered beneficial to establish a formal arrangement between the three councils to drive this, reinforcing the sense of developing a functional economic area. The proposal was to establish the Lancaster and South Cumbria Economic Prosperity Board. This would be established as a Joint Committee, using powers under the Local Government Acts 1972 and 2000 and under the Local Authorities (Arrangement for the Discharge of Functions) (England) Regulations 2012. The proposed Joint Committee's Procedure Rules were presented in Appendix 1 to the report. The Joint Committee's remit would be to provide political and democratic accountability. Membership would comprise two members from each constituent authority. The Joint Committee would be able to co-opt members or non-authority members up to a maximum of three. If a member was co-opted, this would need to be a Cabinet member under the 2012 Regulations. Each of the constituent authorities would rotate the hosting of the joint committee. Initially, Lancaster City Council would host the Joint Committee. Meetings would be no less than quarterly in frequency. The Joint Committee would not hold funds or monies on behalf of the constituent authorities.

The approach utilised existing powers available to the constituent authorities and was considered to be an optimal means of achieving greater focus and political and democratic accountability to the joint endeavours of the councils to promote development and strengthened resilience of the region's economy, social and environmental wellbeing.

It was proposed that the Terms of Reference would be reviewed at the first meeting of the Joint Committee with any changes brought back to a future meeting.

Cabinet had given consideration to the report at its meeting on 24 June 2020 and had agreed to the establishment of a Joint Committee, in line with the report. Members were now being requested to approve the necessary amendments to the Council's Constitution.

Councillor Archibald having moved the recommendations contained within the report was seconded by Councillor Robin Ashcroft, Economy, Culture and Leisure Portfolio Holder.

Members expressed strong support for the Joint Committee which, in response to a query, Councillor Archibald explained would be made of the Leaders of each of the three authorities and a portfolio holder from each, South Lakeland's being Councillor Ashcroft. There was also the potential for co-option of additional Members. Councillor Ashcroft pointed out that this was a functioning economic area and that this was a significant step forward leading to the potential for inward investment.

Note – It was raised at this point that Councillor Tom Harvey was currently disconnected from the meeting. Councillor Ben Berry confirmed, however, that Councillor Harvey had indicated support for the item and that he would be content for the vote to proceed in his absence.

The Chairman read out the proposal and asked the meeting if the motion was agreed. There being no dissent, it was

RESOLVED – That Council the Council's Monitoring Officer be authorised to make all necessary constitutional amendments to the Council's Constitution and to update the Council's Scheme of Delegation in Part 3 of the Constitution.

C/12

CARBON REDUCTION TARGET AND GREEN TEAM UPDATE

Councillor Dyan Jones, Climate Emergency and Localism Portfolio Holder, together with the Strategy Specialist (Sustainability) introduced the report and displayed a presentation on the screen highlighting that climate change was an existential threat to our way of life. Action was needed to tackle climate change at international, national and local level to help to reduce the negative impacts of climate change on our communities and communities around the world.

The Council had declared a Climate Emergency in February 2019 and had adopted a Climate Change Policy which committed the Council to play its part in meeting emissions targets set internationally and through UK Carbon budgets. Adoption of the carbon reduction targets recommended in this report would ensure that South Lakeland would make its contribution to addressing the International Panel on Climate Change (2018) recommendations to limit global warming to 1.5°C. In showing a lead on this important issue, the Council hoped to influence other local authorities, Government and other stakeholders to play their part.

The proposal was to adopt carbon reduction targets for South Lakeland District Council as an organisation and to support a Cumbria-wide target which had been recommended by an expert report as necessary to meet international targets, as follows:-

- to commit the Council as an organisation to be seeking to achieve net carbon neutrality by 2030; and
- to support a Cumbria wide target of Carbon Neutrality by 2037 and to take the necessary steps within its powers and resources to achieve this.

The Covid-19 emergency had provided experience of working across sectors, across organisations and across boundaries to address a serious, complex threat to our lives and our local economy. The opportunity existed to capture that learning and to apply it to the greater but longer term threat of climate change.

Council was further being asked to note the progress on the Climate Change Action Plan and the approval of the establishment of a Climate Change Community Fund. The proposal in this regard was that the Council would provide a community grant of an initial £20,000. The funding had to be spent to benefit the local community on addressing the climate emergency. The fund would support up to 50% of costs (up to a maximum of £5000) for voluntary and community groups who wished to deliver community based carbon reduction projects. The full funding criteria were attached at Appendix 2 to the report, with the application form at Appendix 3. The fund would be funded from existing climate change resources. In being asked to note progress, attention was drawn to the revised copy of Appendix 1 to the report, the Climate Change Action Plan, which had been updated following comments raised during consideration of the document by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 22 June 2020 and by Cabinet on 24 June 2020.

In closing, the Climate Emergency and Localism Portfolio Holder thanked the Strategy Specialist (Sustainability) and officers for their work.

Councillor Jones having moved the recommendations contained within the report was seconded by Councillor Vicky Hughes.

A lengthy discussion ensued during which Members expressed strong support for the proposals and commended Councillor Jones and officers for having produced this important document. Comments included the urgent need to address climate change and biodiversity loss and for the Council to seize the opportunity for positive leadership; the potential for hydro power making use of becks and streams within the area; promotion of active travel; and for the Council to consider the carbon generated by officers travelling to work and need to look towards sustainable business and a locally based workforce. The Health, Wellbeing and Financial Resilience Portfolio Holder highlighted the importance of the link to the Cumbria Public Health Strategy. Also raised was the hope that the green agenda would spark economic recovery within the area; green recovery was what people were shouting for.

Concern was raised with regard to strong warnings and predictions which, it was felt, could lead to scepticism, as well as causing great distress to young people and it was suggested that regard was paid to the importance of framing words carefully. Also of concern was the money which was being spent on citizens' juries which, it was felt, could be better spent on appropriate solutions.

Councillor David Webster at this point posed a written question which he had submitted under Cabinet Question Time:-

"I have been informed that the Council is due to purchase new vehicles, light goods, vans and car derived vans. Can you tell me how many of these are to be EVs either full electric or plug in hybrids. I keep being told that the landscape of our district is not suitable for large EVs i.e. refuse but the manufacturers are really pushing their light goods/car ranges of EVs. We as a Council have brought forward our promise to reduce our carbon footprint and due to the rural character of our district this would be an appropriate way to show the residents that we are beginning to achieve this?"

The Director of Customer and Commercial Services explained that the Council was mindful in terms of its Vehicle and Plant Programme and the replacement of vehicles. All vehicle specifications included an option for the supply of alternative fuel vehicles and bidders were encouraged to tender on this basis. A number of small and medium size vehicles had already been trialled, however, so far, a vehicle had not been found which fully met the Council's needs and there remained the issue regarding the distances covered within South Lakeland. He referred, however, to technical advances that were being made and new vehicles being developed with alternative fuels.

Councillor Webster added, as a supplementary point, the need for the Council to start purchasing and using electric vehicles immediately and not to wait for technical advances. He suggested that the light goods vehicles and cars currently used by Council staff should be looked at.

Councillor Jones stressed the need to have regard to how the Council Tax payer's money was spent and pointed out that there were a lot of factors to take into consideration. She believed that the Council needed to wait for a couple of years to ensure that the technology had advanced sufficiently to warrant purchase. Councillor Andrew Jarvis, Finance and Resources Portfolio Holder reiterated the fact that specifications included the potential for alternative fuels and social values. He also re-

emphasised the need for vehicles that worked for the Council and met the needs of the service area they were to be used in. Councillor Giles Archibald, Leader and Promoting South Lakeland Portfolio Holder, felt that Councillor Webster had raised an important point and suggested that Members be provided with a written response on the Schedule for Procurement of Vehicles.

Councillor Ben Berry referred to paragraph 3.10(2) of the report regarding investigating switching the Council's electricity tariff to a green tariff from April 2021. He enquired whether consideration would be given only to biomass or if nuclear power, which was zero carbon in production, may also be contemplated. Councillor Jones undertook to provide a written response.

During discussion, Councillor Jones was pleased to raise the fact that the second reading on the Local Electricity Bill was due to take place on 20 July 2020. The Bill aimed to enable electricity generators to become local electricity suppliers. She stressed the need to empower local community groups to sell locally-generated electricity.

Councillor Hughes, having seconded the proposal, felt that this was an excellent document which had been well received by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

The Chairman read out the proposal and asked the meeting if the motion was agreed. There being no dissent, it was

RESOLVED – That

(1) the South Lakeland District Council Climate Change Policy be updated to commit the Council as an organisation to be seeking to achieve net carbon neutrality by 2030; and

(2) the South Lakeland District Council Climate Change Policy be updated to support a Cumbria-wide target of carbon neutrality by 2037 and the necessary steps within its powers and resources be taken to achieve this;

(3) the progress on the updated Climate Change Action Plan, revised and circulated prior to the meeting and published alongside the Agenda papers, be noted; and

(4) the establishment of the Climate Change Community Fund set out in Paragraph 3.10 of the report be approved.

C/13

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

The meeting was adjourned for a health break at 8.30 p.m. and reconvened at 8.40 p.m., when the Legal, Governance and Democracy Lead Specialist (Monitoring Officer) carried out a roll call, during which the same Members who had originally joined the meeting confirmed that they were present.

C/14**AMENDMENTS TO THE SCHEME OF DELEGATION RELATING TO PROCUREMENT MATTERS AND APPLICATIONS FOR GRANT FUNDING**

Councillor Philip Dixon, Customer and Commercial Services and People Portfolio Holder, introduced the report, which explained that the Council had a Procurement Schedule and Capital Programme which was presented and agreed by Cabinet and approved by Council at regular intervals.

Since April 2016, the Council's Constitution had permitted officers to conduct and conclude the contracting process without further approval, providing it was in line with the Procurement Schedule. The report sought to clarify processes and the thresholds and required actions relating to contract awards above the Key Decision threshold. Where a procurement process was over budget, then approval would still be required in accordance with the Financial Procedure Rules. Where an officer sought approval for a waiver or exemption under the Contract Procedure Rules, this was also included in the Procurement Schedule.

In addition, the Council could apply for grant funding from time to time, and clarification of the process to be followed and the authorisation process for such matters was required.

The proposed amendments, which would ensure transparency, were included within the report.

In presenting the report, Councillor Dixon thanked Councillor Eric Morrell, former Customer and Commercial Services and People Portfolio Holder, for his contribution to the report which had been produced during his time on Cabinet. He further thanked the Legal, Governance and Democracy Lead Specialist (Monitoring Officer) for her work on the report.

Councillor Dixon having moved the recommendations contained within the report was seconded by Councillor Morrell.

The Chairman read out the proposal and asked the meeting if the motion was agreed. There being no dissent, it was

RESOLVED – That

- (1) the proposed amendments to the Council's Constitution outlined in Table 1, paragraph 3.3 of the report, be approved; and
- (2) the Monitoring Officer be authorised to make the required amendments to the Council's Constitution and Scheme of Delegation, Part 3, Responsibility for Functions.

C/15**CONTINUATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF THE INDEPENDENT PERSON**

Councillor Philip Dixon, Customer and Commercial Services and People Portfolio Holder, presented the report, moving the recommendation contained therein.

Independent Persons fulfilled a statutory role in relation to Members' conduct issues. The Independent Person supported the Council's Monitoring Officer in processing complaints about Members of South Lakeland District Council and all the town and parish councils.

The Council had appointed Mr David Tweddle as Independent Person for a four year period with effect from 1 July 2012, the appointment having been extended for a further term of four years in July 2016. Mr Tweddle's present term of office was nearing expiry and, due to the Covid-19 situation, the Standards Committee had not met, which was why the matter was being reported directly to Council. In addition, there was presently some uncertainty regarding the future of the Standards Regime, and it was, therefore, considered preferable for the appointment to continue, Mr Tweddle having been trained and understanding the role, rather than trying to recruit and appoint a new person during this time. Mr Tweddle had indicated in principle that he would be happy to continue with the role should Members be minded to so approve.

Councillor Dixon referred to the Code of Conduct and to the high level of standards maintained by Members of South Lakeland District Council. He expressed gratitude for the work of the Standards Committee and for Mr Tweddle's service

Councillor Matt Severn, Chairman of the Standards Committee, commended Mr Tweddle's diligence, and seconded the proposal.

The Chairman read out the proposal and asked the meeting if the motion was agreed. There being no dissent, it was

RESOLVED – That the continuation of the appointment of Mr David Tweddle as Independent Person, with effect from 1 July 2020, for a period of four years, be confirmed.

C/16

LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CABINET QUESTION TIME, INCLUDING THE COMPOSITE REPORT OF THE CABINET (1 HOUR MAXIMUM)

Councillor Giles Archibald, Leader and Promoting South Lakeland Portfolio Holder, presented the Cabinet Members' Executive Reports.

In accordance with paragraphs 10.2 and 10.3 of the Council's Rules of Procedure, the following written questions had been submitted to the meeting:-

From Councillor Judy Filmore to Councillor Giles Archibald, Promoting South Lakeland Portfolio Holder - *"I very much welcome the report on carbon reduction throughout South Lakeland and the emphasis on the need to not do business as usual. My question is how will the proposed Kendal Relief Road lead to a carbon reduction?"*

Councillor Archibald responded by saying that, before a final decision was made on the proposed road, an environmental impact assessment would have to be undertaken. He pointed out that road building often came with an environmental price tag. Councillor Archibald pointed out, however, that this road had the potential to reduce pollution and relieve congestion in Kendal Town Centre which had several areas with high levels of air pollution. The proposal would reduce wear and tear on roads not originally built for heavy goods vehicles and would allow for smoother flow of traffic in town; several junctions were currently overburdened during the morning and afternoon peak. Councillor Archibald was unable to provide a scientific analysis, however, informed Members that some assessment would be carried out and that these matters would be weighed up in the balance when the decision came to be made.

Councillor Tom Harvey raised a Point of Order on the procedure around questions on the content of the Executive Reports and written questions in relation to Cabinet Question Time, as he understood that verbal questions on Executive Reports should be taken first. The Legal, Governance and Democracy Lead Specialist (Monitoring Officer), however, explained that the process being followed accorded with paragraph 10.3 of the Council's Rules of Procedure.

Councillor Eamonn Hennessy to Councillor Jonathan Brook, Housing and Innovation Portfolio Holder - *"With the ongoing COVID pandemic and the associated deteriorating economic conditions, I am concerned that with the imminent lifting of the moratorium on evictions, and the ending of the furlough period, that we will see a significant spike in homeless presentations across South Lakeland. What measures is the Council taking to ensure that any individuals and families made homeless in the coming months will receive the help they need and be housed in appropriate accommodation and that those already housed under the COVID provisions will not simply be returned to the streets when Government funding comes to an end?"*

Councillor Brook pointed out that the question raised was relevant not only for this Council, but for every housing authority across the Country. The scourge of homelessness was an issue that affected thousands of families nationally and, if it was not dealt with decisively now, it had the potential to spiral out of control with devastating effects that would be felt for years to come.

Councillor Brook detailed the local context. South Lakeland had seen an increase of around 40% in the numbers approaching the Council for advice. Not all these cases had progressed to full homelessness applications, however, as staff had been able to resolve some issues and so avoid people becoming homeless. This was the preferred approach. It was clearly easier to deal with the causes rather than the consequences and such an approach was key to reducing the impact of homelessness under any circumstances and the looming crisis described in Councillor Hennessy's question was no different.

The Council had 24 people accommodated due to the COVID pandemic who would normally not have a priority need under legislation. These people had been accommodated across a mix of tenure types and 11 of these people still required a move-on option. Overall, the Council was currently accommodating 33 households, including four families with children. The Council's staff had been working very closely with the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) to ensure that the response to homelessness within South Lakeland had been the best it could be.

Before the Government's COVID scheme had been launched, the Council had already taken steps to ensure that any individual with no accommodation, who wanted it, was housed. In order to ensure enough accommodation was available the Council had leased some properties from its registered provider partners, used spaces within its hostel, along with hotel and holiday lets. The team had worked very hard to bring new options in to use.

Furthermore, the Council had a new post funded through the Rough Sleeper Initiative, which provided assertive in reach and move on support. The Council had already spoken to MHCLG about the additional posts and resources it would need to ensure all individuals were able to access a safe and sustainable move on option.

In addition, the Council recognised that there were many other people who would be affected by the furlough scheme changing, possible redundancies and the restart of court action. Work had, therefore, been carried out with the Council's communication team to get the message out that there was help available, and that the earlier people contacted the service, the more the Council could do to help them. The same message was going out to partner agencies. A pre-eviction protocol with registered providers was also being re-introduced.

The case management system that the homelessness team used had been upgraded with additional system flags to identify cases with Section 21 evictions or other notices served before, during and after lockdown, so that these cases could be prioritised.

The Council had also spoken to the local courts and MHCLG about the impact of lifting the restrictions.

Councillor Brook highlighted that, as he had mentioned in councillor briefings, there was additional funding available to councils, and South Lakeland District Council would be part of a co-production process with the teams at MHCLG to ensure it was able to get the resources needed in South Lakeland to support those most vulnerable in its communities. The Council had applied for £126,512 additional funding for several posts to work with those who would be made homeless over the coming days. There was the potential to apply for more funding.

Councillor Hennessy's question touched on how the additional prevention work would be financed once the MHCLG monies had stopped. Councillor Brook explained that a critical issue here was the availability of accommodation across the area and that the Team was already looking at options, such as empty homes, unused buildings such as sheltered schemes and new leasing arrangements.

In addition to increasing the capacity of the Team and availability of properties, the Allocations Policy was being reviewed and would, hopefully, remove some of the barriers individuals were facing to access social housing, such as previous arrears or history, some of which may have been whilst they were unwell or in a different place in their life.

Councillor Brook summarised, saying that the Council was taking numerous steps to mitigate the problem described by Councillor Hennessy. It was hoped that these, together with additional funding from Government and increased joint working with other organisations, would help the Council to meet the challenges that would inevitably arise in the coming days. Councillor Brook undertook to endeavour to keep Councillor Hennessy and other Members updated on progress.

Councillor Hennessy posed a supplementary question, referring specifically to private tenants and to announcements by the Government in March supposedly ruling out eviction during the current crisis. He pointed out that these notice periods had, in fact, simply been extended by one month. These tenancies were due to come to an end shortly, with tenants facing an uncertain time and, potentially, homelessness. He drew attention to the fact that the Government had previously proposed legislation for no fault evictions in England and Wales, already in place in Scotland. He asked if Councillor Brook agreed with him that the local Member of Parliament should be lobbied with a view to this legislation being brought forward, as well as ban the use of Section 8 Notices as a reason for eviction, as soon as possible, in order to avoid a catastrophic level of homelessness in South Lakeland and nationwide.

Councillor Brook said that the Government had made some moves to stop evictions but that there was clearly scope for further action. The Council had been working closely with MHCLG and Dame Louise Casey's Rough Sleeper Task Force. On the basis of Councillor Hennessy's comments, Councillor Brook indicated that he would be happy to press the Government and the Local Member of Parliament for additional measures and to work with Councillor Hennessy and other Members moving forward.

Councillor Helen Ladhams to Councillor Andrew Jarvis, Finance and Resources Portfolio Holder - *"I understand the officers of SLDC have been dealing with many applications for grants during this unprecedented time, including the grant paid to Outside In the charity I am involved in. Please could you give us an idea of the volume of applications and how quickly they were paid out?"*

Councillor Jarvis responded, saying that the current pandemic had led to huge personal tragedy for many, not just in relation to health but also in terms of financial and economic challenges. Councillor Jarvis, whilst he personally felt uncomfortable with many aspects of the Government's response, welcomed the speed of provision of funding by the Government, to assist small businesses in particular for the leisure and hospitality industry, which was so important to this district.

The Council had originally received about £75m funding to help small businesses or, more accurately, organisations, as many charities were included. So far, 5,575 grant applications had been received, of which 5,553 had been processed. Of these, 590 had been declined as ineligible. Consequently, 4,943 grant payments had been approved, with £58.5m having been paid out to those small organisations. The average time from application to payment had been nine days. Councillor Jarvis applauded this remarkable achievement, taking the opportunity to congratulate officers for having built the system and having speedily and professionally processed the applications.

Councillor Jarvis drew attention to the fact that many charities had been able to benefit from the scheme. Many charities had been badly affected by the crisis, which had brought additional calls on their services. Many had had to cease fund raising and suspend membership. Councillor Jarvis was pleased that the Council's lobbying to Government on behalf of charities had been heard. Eligibility on the first scheme had been extended firstly to include charities receiving 100% rate relief and secondly to small charities included as a priority within the discretionary scheme.

Councillor Jarvis briefly mentioned the discretionary grant scheme which had been launched at the beginning of June, with an allocated budget of £3.7m. 572 applications had been received during the two week window for applications. The process had been more challenging than initially believed, given the guidance imposed by Government. Most of the applications had been processed, with about 500 applications having been assessed as valid. Officers had recommended that those businesses be split into three tiers based on the hardship demonstrated. On that basis, it was expected that grants would be proposed of probably £6,000, £8,000 and £10,000 and would be likely to start to be paid in the next week or so.

Councillor Jarvis again thanked staff for their work in bringing much needed funds into the community, local businesses and charities.

Councillor Ladhams expressed thanks on behalf of Outside In who had been pleased to receive a grant, also thanking officers for their swift action in helping so many people.

Councillor Doug Rathbone to Councillor Robin Ashcroft, Economy, Culture and Leisure Portfolio Holder - *“What co-operative approach is being taken by the Council to address the crisis in our tourism industry as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and how is tourism being supported?”*

Councillor Ashcroft first wished to highlight the significance to South Lakeland’s economy of the tourism and leisure industry which brought in, at the last count, £1.3b per year, and which was something that the area was dependent on.

He talked about the short term, referring to the delivery of grants talked about earlier in the meeting by Councillor Andrew Jarvis, Finance and Resources Portfolio Holder. Fortunately for South Lakeland, this had been specifically focussed on the hospitality and leisure industry. Furthermore, the Government now had a more flexible approach which allowed the Council to address some of the shortfalls resulting from the initial scheme. The Council had taken a very intelligent and targeted approach in this regard.

Councillor Ashcroft referred to the collaborative approach being taken by the Council, working closely with Cumbria Tourism and the Cumbria Local Enterprise Partnership which was leading on the plan for renewal.

Councillor Ashcroft referred to the new phase which was being entered, with the ease on restrictions. There was a need now to engender confidence within both the local and visitor population, with the relationship between the two being key. Attention was now being focussed on the high street, which was important both to locals and visitors.

Moving beyond the medium term to the longer term but encompassing both, of importance was the relationship between the local and visitor population. What had been witnessed over the past three to four weeks had, Councillor Ashcroft suggested, been a major culture clash. Some of the indications were that 70% of the visitors to the Lake District during the first two weeks of easing had come to the area for the first time. He referred to the unpleasant behaviour and the need for education to address this. However, as well as challenges, this also brought opportunities within the tourism sector and a whole new market, the income from which would be welcome moving forward.

In the longer term, Councillor Ashcroft felt that key to the sustainability of the industry was something which had already been started by South Lakeland’s Member of Parliament, and that was to lobby Government regarding the vulnerable visitor economy. Councillor Ashcroft urged all Members to put across a unified case and to use their party connections to lobby Government to emphasise the importance of tapering the emergence from lockdown on the visitor economy to South Lakeland and more widely, particularly outside of London.

Councillor Matt Severn to Councillor Robin Ashcroft, Economy, Culture and Leisure Portfolio Holder - *“What plans does the Council have to assist in creating the economic recovery for South Cumbria after the COVID pandemic?”*

Councillor Ashcroft believed that this was the most significant economic crisis of any of our lifetimes and that we faced the potential not just for a recession but for a depression.

Regarding how the Council could assist the economic recovery, Councillor Ashcroft explained that a lot of work was being carried out. He also felt it important to make clear the fact that the problems faced going forward were not new ones; the crisis had simply accelerated systematic problems which already existed. There was now no choice but to address these problems.

Councillor Ashcroft referred to the major problems in town centres, the starkest being with the high streets 20% over capacity in terms of retail. There remained the same problems which existed three months ago. The district needed to bring in 10,000 young people of working age over next ten years. Councillor Ashcroft referred to Climate Change and Biodiversity loss which, he felt, represented both challenges and opportunities.

Councillor Ashcroft said that, as we moved into recovery, for economic development, the focus was now on the renewable phase, with the need to look beyond the immediate horizon, up to ten years ahead. Councillor Ashcroft informed Members that, to this end, the Council had formed an Economic Renewal Strategy Group focussed on seeking deliverable solutions to the challenges being presented by the current crisis. The Group had representation from across the business sector and geographical areas across the district. The Group was focussing on town centres as hubs for living, as a place, re-imagining the future and understanding businesses and residents.

The key points coming out of this were digital and the importance of start-up businesses, and working alongside partnerships with the High Street Task Force, Great Place Lakes and Dales, the Cultural Compact and the Lancaster and South Cumbria Economic Region.

Note – In accordance with the Council’s Constitution, Part 4, Rule 8 (Rules of Procedure), a motion to continue the meeting past 9.30 p.m., was moved by Councillor Jonathan Brook, seconded by Councillor Stephen Coleman and, following a vote by roll call, carried.

From Councillor Mark Wilson to Councillor Robin Ashcroft, Economy, Culture and Leisure Portfolio Holder - *“Please can you update us on progress on the Town Centre arrangements in Ulverston for Safety in relation to Safe distances and road changes?”*

Councillor Mark Wilson having added that a partial answer had already been received through the day, Councillor Ashcroft explained that an up to date version of the Action Plan had been released. However, Councillor Ashcroft took the opportunity to provide further details on the developing situation.

Councillor Ashcroft informed Members that there was an ongoing three phase, multi-agency approach, the Council working together with the Highways Agency and the Lake District National Park Authority. He pointed out that every town was different and that Ulverston had its own unique characteristics. Fundamental to the approach was evolution and the fact that it would take at least 12 months to address the situation. There was, however, the flexibility to evolve. For example, feedback from Penrith had been taken on board in addressing Ulverston. There had been interesting feedback across the board. It was all about change; people did not always like change, and this had resulted in some negative impact. The Locality Team had, however, indicated that people were, on the whole, feeling positive and appreciative of what the Council was trying to do.

Town centres formed the economic heart of the district and Councillor Ashcroft emphasised the need to build up the confidence of both shoppers and shop keepers. At the heart was the fact that not only livelihoods but lives were being dealt with. There was a focus on reminding people of the importance of social distancing. There was a limited amount that could be done by the Government, at either national, regional or district level, and residents had to be relied upon.

Tied in with social distancing was the increase in the footprint of each human being. This space had to be found from somewhere, and so measures had had to be brought in that would affect traffic and parking. Councillor Ashcroft, however, raised the fact that people entered shops on foot to spend money and the importance of ensuring that this could be done safely. Comments raised around cars being unwelcome needed putting into context and people being on foot enabled them to spend more money.

Councillor Ashcroft closed, stressing the fact that the Council took its responsibility to its citizens very seriously. In short, he said that it was about evolution and working with the district's communities.

The Chairman suggested that a written response might be sent to all Members by way of reminder.

From Councillor David Webster to Councillor Jonathan Brook, Housing and Innovation Portfolio Holder - *"I cannot believe that SLH are about to close their office in Ulverston. I know that when they moved out of the Coronation Hall into Ulverston Business Centre they found problems with people being able to access these premises, they have no disabled access, the office is on the first floor with only stair access and the main access door is electronically operated so if they are busy with something/someone else they cannot give access to the building. They claim that the closure is due to lack of use, but that lack of use may be due to the inappropriate premises that they are using. They have premises with unused office space that is easily accessible within Ulverston and that they could use for these days and I believe that we as a Council should press SLH to retain their presence in Ulverston. Not all people are computer savvy, or like speaking on the phone, they want a face to face contact so that they can best describe their problem."*

Councillor Brook responded, pointing out that Councillor Webster's question related to a matter under the control of South Lakes Housing. As such, Councillor Brook understood that Councillor Webster had received a direct response to his concerns from Alison Kinnon, Director of Services at South Lakes Housing. That response had outlined the reasons for the closure and that South Lakes Housing had discussed the closure with their Tenants' Committee, which had been supportive of the proposal, and with those Ulverston tenants who were signed up for digital engagement.

For those elderly or vulnerable customers who were unable to access services online, South Lakes Housing had committed to continue to provide both a telephone and personal visiting service, so that where customers prefer to meet with an SLH member of staff they will receive a visit at their home or utilise other community buildings and meeting room facilities such as the Croftlands Community Centre, or Coronation Hall etc.

South Lakes Housing had also indicated their strong commitment to the communities of Ulverston and the significant investments they were currently and would be in the future committing to the town.

Councillor Brook explained that, had these assurances not been provided, he would have been very concerned and would have been taking up the pressing of South Lakes Housing indicated in Councillor Webster's question. In the circumstances, however, Councillor Brook took reassurance from South Lakes Housing's comments and noted that it was for South Lakes Housing to determine their customer strategy, with the input of South Lakeland District Council's nominated Members to their Board.

However, Councillor Brook suggested that if Councillor Webster wished to take matters further and directly with South Lakes Housing, he was able to do so. Also, if Councillor Webster had specific issues that he wanted to pursue with him as Housing and Innovation Portfolio Holder, Councillor Brook was open to hear further detail from him.

From Councillor Mark Wilson to Councillor Suzie Pye, Health, Wellbeing and Financial Resilience Portfolio Holder - *"Please can you outline the arrangements that the District have in mind to aiding the communities such as Ulverston East and Kendal East to prepare for and support residents who will need extra assistance through the Summer and into the future when the furlough period end ceases? Great hardship and increase in child poverty may hit hard very soon."*

Councillor Pye felt that Councillor Mark Wilson was right to highlight the hardship that many families might be experiencing as a result of the effect the pandemic was having on the local economy. Recently released labour market statistics indicated that, between February and May, unemployment in South Lakeland had risen by almost 300%, one of the biggest rises in the Country. In the Lake District, unemployment had seen a rise of 470%, reflecting how hard the hospitality and retail sectors had been hit. The numbers on furlough in South Lakes equated to 50% of those in employment, with the national average being 30%. Councillor Pye expressed concern about what the future held come October when the furlough scheme had been tapered off and when some employers might not be able to retain all of their staff. The number of Universal Credit claimants had increased by 160% or 3,200 people in South Lakeland over the same period.

Councillor Pye reported on what was being done in response. The Council was working very closely with partners on the South Lakeland Community Resilience Group to try and mitigate against a worst case scenario. There were regular meetings and close contact with agencies such as the Department of Work and Pensions, the Citizens' Advice Bureau, food banks, schools, third sector organisations and the local Integrated Care Communities.

The role of the group was to monitor trends, escalate issues, and respond where appropriate. One of the recent actions had been to create a sub group which was primarily concerned with feeding families over the six week summer break. The group was working closely with County colleagues to ensure that no child went hungry over the coming months, including making a directory available for families in need to access key information about what was available in their area.

Councillor Pye pointed out that one of the positives to come out of this pandemic had been the abundance of volunteer groups, community groups, church groups, and resident associations. Often, these groups had already responded in an organised and targeted way to the need they witnessed around them, so, often there was simply a need to offer support, guidance, funding, and to match the need with the provision.

One thing of concern was that often families in need felt unable to seek help because there was a stigma attached to, for example, using a food bank. It was very important for sensitivity whilst trying to get the message across that it was alright to ask for help. The Integrated Care Communities in the area had launched a hashtag OK to ask campaign to try and push this message and Councillor Pye asked Members to look out for this and promote the campaign whenever they could.

In addition, the District Council had also put in place over 30 period poverty boxes all over the district, so that girls and women did not have to go without the most basic of supplies when times were hard. The Citizens' Advice Bureau had moved to remote working, both online and via the telephone. The Council had provided funding towards a new webchat service, so the Bureau was now more accessible than ever. There was also the Council Tax Reduction Scheme, which continued to be the difference between a family managing, or not. Anyone who was worried about meeting their Council Tax payments was encouraged to get in touch with the Council to ask for help. An Emergency Covid response fund was being used to help fund projects which were being set up in response to the crisis. Also, the poverty alleviation fund could be used to fund local initiatives. The Department for Work and Pensions was working closely with the Cumbria Local Enterprise Partnership to create a new scheme called Job Fuse, which was concerned with getting people back into work. Inspira had a plethora of help available to get young people into work, such as CV workshops, interview techniques and retraining advice.

Councillor Pye, in closing, said there was a lot going on, however urged Members to continue to support their communities by communicating the help that was available and, most of all, to convey to families that it was alright to ask for help. More than ever now and no matter our job, our background, or age, we were all one or two steps away from financial hardship.

Councillor Mark Wilson thanked Councillor Pye felt that written details would encourage others and help pull people together in providing assistance.

The written questions been put and answered, the following verbal question was put.

Councillor Vicky Hughes referred to the Climate Emergency and Localism Portfolio Holder's Executive Report and the section titled "Green Agenda – Active Travel", highlighting the importance of sustainable travel and cycling. She asked if this Council aimed to look to work alongside Cumbria County Council and other organisations to introduce Santander style electric bikes.

Councillor Dyan Jones, Climate Emergency and Localism Portfolio Holder suggested that as the district returned to normality following the COVID crisis, this option should definitely be taken up with the Lake District National Park Authority who also had plans to do as much as they could.

Councillor Hughes took the opportunity to refer to the excellent collaborative work carried out between different authorities and organisations throughout the pandemic. She felt that this healthy relationship should continue moving forward.

C/17 MINUTES OF MEETINGS

No comments or questions had been received in respect of the minutes of committee meetings held between 13 January and 1 May 2020.

C/18 QUESTIONS TO CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OR CHAIRMAN OF ANY COMMITTEE OR SUB-COMMITTEE

No questions had been received under Rule 10.6 of the Council's Rules of Procedure.

C/19 URGENT DECISIONS

RESOLVED - That the details relating to urgent Executive Decisions taken since the last meeting of Council on 25 February 2020 (CEX/100, CEX/104(5) and CEX/117 (2019/2020)) be received, in accordance with paragraph 17.3 of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules.

C/20 EMERGENCY DELEGATED EXECUTIVE DECISIONS

Councillor Ian Wharton, a District Ward Member for Broughton and Coniston, provided a brief update with regard to Agenda Item No.18(f) and the Emergency Delegated Executive Decision 006 regarding entry of the Farmers Arms, Lowick, onto South Lakeland District Council's list of successful nominations as Assets of Community Value.

RESOLVED – That the Emergency Delegated Executive Decisions taken by the Chief Executive between 30 March and 6 May 2020, in accordance with the Leader's decision noted by Cabinet at CEX/104 (2019/20), be noted.

The meeting ended at 10.00 p.m.