

CITY OF YORK COUNCIL

Resolutions and proceedings of the Meeting of the City of York Council held in The Guildhall, York on Thursday, 4th February, 2010, starting at 6.30 pm

Present: The Lord Mayor (Cllr John Galvin) in the Chair, and the following Councillors:

ACOMB WARD	BISHOPTHORPE WARD
Horton Simpson-Laing	Galvin
CLIFTON WARD	DERWENT WARD
Douglas King Scott	Brooks
DRINGHOUSES & WOODTHORPE WARD	FISHERGATE WARD
Holvey Reid Sunderland	D'Agorne Taylor
FULFORD WARD	GUILDHALL WARD
Aspden	Looker B Watson
HAXBY & WIGGINTON WARD	HESLINGTON WARD
Firth Hogg R Watson	
HEWORTH WARD	HEWORTH WITHOUT WARD
Boyce Funnell Potter	Ayre
HOLGATE WARD	HULL ROAD WARD
Alexander Bowgett Crisp	Cregan Pierce

HUNTINGTON & NEW EARSWICK
WARD

Hyman
Orrell
Runciman

MICKLEGATE WARD

Fraser
Gunnell
Merrett

OSBALDWICK WARD

Morley

RURAL WEST YORK WARD

Gillies
Healey
Hudson

SKELTON, RAWCLIFFE & CLIFTON
WITHOUT WARD

Moore
Watt
Waudby

STRENSALL WARD

Kirk

WESTFIELD WARD

Steve Galloway
Sue Galloway
Waller

WHELDRAKE WARD

Vassie

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Jamieson-Ball and Wiseman

70. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were invited to declare at this point in the meeting any personal or prejudicial interests they might have in the business on the agenda.

The following interests were declared:

- Cllr Fraser – a personal interest in staffing matters generally, as a member of the retired section of Unison and the retired section of the Acts Section of the TGWU section of Unite.
- Cllr Gunnell – a personal interest in the report of the Executive Member for Housing and Adult Social Services as the report refers to York Council for Voluntary Service (CVS) where she works.
- Cllr Scott – a personal interest in staffing matters generally as a solicitor specialising in employment law, as a member of the Acts Section of Unite and as his wife is an employee of the City of York Council.
- Cllr Simpson-Laing – a personal interest as a member of Unison, City Branch.
- Cllr Alexander – a personal interest in staffing matters generally as a member of the GMB.
- Cllr D'Agorne – a personal interest in Councillor Horton's Notice of Motion regarding the Beckfield Lane cycling scheme as the Council's Cycling Champion and a supporter of the York Cycle Campaign.
- Cllr Merrett – a personal interest in Councillor Horton's Notice of Motion regarding Beckfield Lane Cycling Scheme as a member of CTC (Cyclists' Touring Club), a member of the Cycling England Board and a supporter of York Cycle Campaign.

71. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Special and Ordinary meetings of Council held on 3 December 2009 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

72. CIVIC ANNOUNCEMENTS AND LORD MAYOR ELECT

The Lord Mayor announced the receipt of the following gifts, which were on view in the Council Chamber:

- 2 framed pictures of Munster received from the Oberburgermeister of Munster
- A cup received on 2 June 2009 from an official of the Thai Department of Land Transportation.

- “York Historian”, a set of books presented by the Yorkshire Architectural and York archaeological Society

He also announced the forthcoming visit of the German Ambassador which would be marked by a civic reception on 22 March 2010.

The Lord Mayor then invited Cllr Waller to nominate the Lord Mayor Elect for the Municipal Year 2010/11. Cllr Waller nominated, and Cllr Runciman seconded, Cllr Sue Galloway as the Lord Mayor Elect and this nomination was unanimously agreed. Cllr Galloway replied that she would be honoured to accept this office and nominated Cllr Richard Watson as Sheriff for the 2010/11 Municipal Year.¹

73. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Lord Mayor announced that there had been two registrations to speak at the meeting under the Council’s Public Participation Scheme.

Michael Hughes spoke in support of the petition to be presented by Cllr Simpson-Laing seeking the introduction of a 20mph zone in Sovereign Park. He stated that, in little over a month, the Residents Association had obtained signatures from residents of 223 out of 257 properties. He explained that vehicles often enter the estate at speeds over 30mph which combined with blind junctions put people at risk, especially where pedestrians including the young and elderly have to use the road where there are no pavements.

Dee Bush spoke in relation to the notice of motion submitted by Cllr Horton in respect of cycle improvements on Beckfield Lane. She voiced the opinion that the scheme was a waste of public money as it was not wanted nor needed. She raised concerns that an Equalities Impact Assessment had not been carried out and that a shared pavement would put elderly residents in danger. She advised that training was available to people to teach them how to cycle safely on the road therefore there was no need for shared pavement schemes.

Teresa Callan spoke in relation to the notice of motion submitted by Cllr Horton in respect of cycle improvements on Beckfield Lane. She stated that shared footpaths were problematic for most, but especially the elderly, very young and disabled and in particular the blind or partially sighted. She stressed that those with sight problems find it hard to navigate under normal circumstances and by allowing bicycles to use footpaths and the increased risks they pose, many people would find it too hard and frightening to go out and would stay at home leading to problems of isolation. She stated that these issues had been recognised in guidance which recommended that combined pedestrian/cycle schemes should only be used where there are serious road safety issues which she said was not the case on Beckfield Lane.

Peter Scott spoke on behalf of York Older People’s Assembly in relation to the notice of motion submitted by Cllr Horton in respect of cycle improvements on Beckfield Lane. He stated that Beckfield Lane was not wide enough to

accommodate all the paths needed and advised that cyclists should share the road with vehicles rather than the pavements with pedestrians. He explained that cyclists would find it difficult to anticipate pedestrian movements as pedestrians do not follow a direct course and may stop or change direction without warning. Furthermore elderly people may not hear cyclists approaching from behind. He asked the Council to abandon the scheme.

74. PETITIONS

Under Standing Order 7, petitions were presented by:

- (i) Cllr Simpson-Laing, on behalf of residents calling for the introduction of a 20 mph zone in Sovereign Park.¹
- (ii) Cllr Alexander, on behalf of residents supporting the 'Fair Fare' campaign.²
- (iii) Cllr Moore, on behalf of residents of Garburn Grove, calling for the implementation of restrictions to address the problem of the school run.³

RESOLVED:

That the above petitions be referred to the Executive of appropriate Committee¹⁻³

Action Required

1,2 and 3: Schedule reports on Forward Plan for Executive SS
or Executive Member Decision Session and keep relevant
Members updated on progress

75. REPORT OF EXECUTIVE LEADER AND EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATIONS

A written report was received from the Executive Leader, Cllr Andrew Waller, on the work of the Executive. In addition to the matters covered in the report, the Leader voiced his pleasure at the decision on the planning application for the Terry's site and expressed his thanks to Members of the Planning Committee, the Director of City Strategy the Assistant Director (Planning and Sustainable Development) and his team for all their hard work. He also expressed thanks to staff who had worked around the clock gritting during the winter weather and all those involved in the Council being awarded Green flag status for work with disabled children.

Opposition Group Leaders having responded to the Leader's report, Cllr Scott moved, and Cllr Simspon-Laing seconded, a motion to suspend Standing Orders to enable Cllr Merrett also to provide a response. On being put to the vote, the motion was declared LOST.

In reply to matters raised by the Opposition Group Leaders in their responses, the Leader advised that he would take on board comments made by Members with regard to keeping the new Headquarters development on budget and that he they had had a discussion on the Centre for Cities at the York Economic Partnership meeting. With regard to the Winter Maintenance Manual, he stated that revisions were being made based on information brought forward and advised Members to report any potholes by telephoning Environmental Services. In relation to points raised by Councillor D'Agorne regarding the review of Low Carbon Emission Residents' Parking schemes, he invited him to provide any information he had on the Edinburgh Scheme.

The Leader then sought leave of Council to alter the recommendation contained in Minute 146 of the Executive meeting held on 19 January 2010, to read as follows

"That Council approve the refreshed Local Area Agreement presented at Annex A to the report, for endorsement by Without Walls on 11 February 2010, prior to submission to central government, subject to the alteration of the local improvement target for 2010/11 currently shown against NI 116 for the proportion of children in poverty (page 43 of Council summons refers) from 7.6% to 8.1%."

Council having consented to the alteration, the Leader then moved, and Cllr Runciman seconded, the recommendation as altered.

On being put to the vote, the altered recommendation was declared CARRIED and it was

RESOLVED: That the recommendation, as amended above, of the Executive Meeting held on 19 January 2010, be approved.¹

Action Required

1. Make alteration to local improvement target for 2010/11 NB
for NI 116 for proportion of children in poverty, prior to
endorsement by the Without Walls Partnership and
submission to central government.

76. RECOMMENDATIONS OF AUDIT & GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

As Chair of the Audit & Governance Committee, Cllr Brian Watson moved, and Cllr Brooks seconded, the recommendations contained in Minute 54 of the meeting of that Committee held on 21 December 2009, relating to the review of the Audit & Governance Committee's Terms of Reference.

On being put to the vote, the recommendation was declared CARRIED and it was

RESOLVED: That the recommendation of the Audit & Governance Committee be approved and the amendments to the Audit and Governance Committee's Terms of Reference be agreed.¹

Action Required

1. Make arrangements to implement the revised Terms of Reference. FY

77. SCRUTINY - REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF THE SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

A written report was received from Cllr Paul Healey, the Chair of the Scrutiny Management Committee (SMC) on the work of the SMC since the last report to Council, on 3 December 2009.

Notice had been received of two questions to the Chair of SMC, submitted in accordance with Standing Orders. The questions were put and answered as follows:

(i) From Cllr Fraser

“Will the Chair of SMC look into the high handed and arrogant refusal of the Executive Member for Housing & Adult Social Services to attend the recent meeting of the Health Scrutiny Committee to account for his stewardship of the part of his portfolio relating to Adult Social Services, and specifically to assist in the consideration of his own Executive’s reference regarding the disturbing budget overspend in that department?”

The Chair of SMC replied “Yes”

(ii) From Cllr Fraser

“Will the Chair of SMC ensure that, in future, the Council’s Constitution and scrutiny procedure rules (specifically, Pt 4G para 2.1.1 (f) are fully complied with by all Members of the Council’s Executive?”

The Chair of SMC replied that before this meeting he had sent an e-mail to Members of the Executive and he hoped that that the relationship between Chair of SMC and the Executive could remain cordial for the benefit of scrutiny in the Council.

In response to a supplementary question from Cllr Fraser, the Chair of SMC advised that he had not been aware of a precedent set by the former Executive Member for Housing and Adult Social Services of non attendance at scrutiny meetings and that after the Heath Overview and Scrutiny meeting on 13th January 2010, the Head of Democratic Services had met with the Executive Member to conclude outstanding issues.

78. REPORT OF EXECUTIVE MEMBER

A written report was received from Cllr Jonathan Morley, the Executive Member for Housing & Adult Social Services.

Notice had been received of 10 questions on the report, submitted by Members in accordance with Standing Orders. The questions were put and answered as follows:

1. From Cllr Simpson-Laing:

“In relation to recent announcements by John Healey MP, Minister for Housing and Planning, will the Executive Member for HASS confirm that CYC sent representation to the ‘Housing Revenue Account’ consultation, and will he give support to the proposals, announced last week by the Minister, for more money to improve and maintain existing stock and for Councils to be able to keep all rents and receipts from capital sales?”

The Executive Member replied:

I can confirm that the Assistant Director made representations on behalf of CYC to the Housing Revenue Account consultation, the text of which can be found in the minutes to my executive member decision session on the 27th October 2009. As I moved the motion welcoming the LGA campaign on this issue, I certainly support the proposals for Councils to be able to keep all rents and receipts from capital sales. However, the devil will be in the detail of how much we may have to contribute to support other Council’s housing revenue deficit and until that is clear, I will keep my enthusiasm in check.

In response to a supplementary questions from Cllr Simpson-Laing regarding the reform and the need to identify what was required for York, the Executive Member agreed that, in terms of how to approach a new regime, it was important to have as much information as possible about how it would work and how it would affect the future.

(ii) From Cllr Simpson-Laing:

“Regarding the letting of Council houses and rents will the Executive Member for HASS express his views on leaked Conservative Party national policy to bring rent levels up to unaffordable local market prices and to end secure tenancies, instead to give just 2 months notice?”

The Executive Member replied:

The proposed policies have not been leaked to me and it would perhaps be unwise to comment on second-hand accounts of leaked information. I am sure there will be enough official Conservative Party national policy to criticize in due course.

A further supplementary question Cllr Simpson-Laing posed the question of whether the Executive Member, having read the article published in the Unison magazine, would write to the Conservative candidates for York Central and York Outer expressing concern at this proposed policy,

(iii) From Cllr Hyman

Can the Executive Member tell Council what the rate of increase has been in the number of elderly customers accessing care support from their home over the last few years?

The Executive Member replied:

The number of customers over 65 who have accessed care support in the last four years are as follows:-

2007-08 - 4733

2008-09 – 5150

2009-10 - estimated 5277

The evidence presented to the health Scrutiny Committee showed the projection of the number of home-care packages, based on an independent study, that was likely to be required by 2010 set alongside the actual number of packages in place. This showed that the increase was happening broadly in line with the forecast although at a higher rate with a 25% increase in community care packages and a 22% increase in care home placements over the past 2 years.

In response to a supplementary question from Cllr Hyman on how much expenditure had risen over the same period, the Executive Member informed him that in 2007-08 expenditure was £27,609m and 2008-09 it was 30,763m and expenditure now stands at over £3m more than 4 years ago.

(iv) From Cllr Sue Galloway

Can the Executive Member give Council an update on the progress with the replacements for the Discus bungalows?

The Executive Member replied

The discus bungalows project is well underway, with the first set of existing residents due to move over the next couple of weeks.

Progress of the project is as follows:

St Ann's

Phase One - 12no. Replacement Affordable Housing bungalows

The 12 replacement affordable housing bungalows have now been completed. Practical Completion has been reached and the land transferred from CYC to Tee's Valley housing, who in turn have transferred the land to YHA.

The first 6 residents received their keys and signed their new tenancies on Wednesday 3rd February 2010 and are due to move on the 8th/9th February 2010. The remaining 6 existing tenants are due to receive their keys and sign their tenancies on the 10th February 2010, and are due to move into their properties on the 15th/16th February 2010.

Phase Two - The Extra Care Facility

The Extra Care facility to house 41 two bed apartments, and associated facilities is, at present, on site. The outer shell of the

building is almost complete, with the roof structure currently being put in place. This building is due for completion in December 2010.

With the completion of the Extra care works on the St Ann's site will be complete.

Richmond/Faber Street

Phase Three - 15no. Replacement Affordable Housing bungalows

The first 15 replacement bungalows are currently on site, and due to be completed in March 2010, followed the land transfer it is anticipated that the residents will move to the new properties in April, after the Easter break.

Phase Five - 9no. Affordable Housing bungalows (4no. to be replacement dwellings) & 23 new homes

The remaining 4 replacement affordable dwellings on this site will be undertaken in phase five, and are due for completion early 2011. Along side the construction of these replacement dwelling, will be the construction of five additional affordable bungalows, and 23 mixed tenure new homes.

Phase seven on the Richmond/Faber Street site is due for completion in winter 2011. With the completion of this phase will be the close of all building work on this site.

Regent Street

Phase Four - 9no. Replacement Affordable Housing bungalows

Works on Regent Street are due to start in March 2010. Five of the existing households are to be temporarily moved into alternative properties on site. These properties will have become available due to the moving of the St Ann's residents from these properties on Regent Street into their new homes on St Ann's.

This will allow the contractor to start demolition works, followed by the construction of the new bungalows. This phase is currently due for completion winter 2010.

Phase six - 15no. Affordable housing bungalows (9no. to be replacement dwellings)

Phase six on Regent Street is due for commencement late 2010, and for completion in Autumn 2011. With the completion of this phase, all the existing residents will have been re-homed in new dwellings on the three sites.

Further works on the Regent Street site will follow with the implementation of phase eight, which is currently due to be completed late 2012. With the completion of this phase comes the conclusion of the Discus project.

In response to a supplementary question from Cllr Sue Galloway, regarding conducting a satisfaction survey, the Executive Member advised her that residents had been involved in all stages and this would be undertaken as a matter of course.

In response to a supplementary question from Cllr Potter on what was being done about the delay to Discus bungalows in Faber Street/Richmond Street due to not being able to get electricity connected and why a light on Richmond Street had not been fixed, the Executive Member agreed to provide a written response to these queries.

The time limit for questions on the Executive Member's written report having expired, Members agreed to accept written answers to the remaining questions submitted, as set out below:-

5. From Cllr Simpson-Laing:

"With regard to the temporary reduction of newly completed affordable housing will the Executive Member for HASS look into new ways of bringing forward affordable accommodation in the City?"

Reply

The council is constantly looking to identify new ways of bringing forward affordable accommodation in the city, for example,

- *we are working with existing developers to identify opportunities to deliver additional affordable housing over and above that delivered through Section 106 agreements with support from the Homes & Communities Agency(HCA);*
- *The Discus Bungalow development is one example of where we have worked with all partners, including the HCA to ensure that the development didn't stall in the economic downturn, this resulted in the private sale units, 96 in total, being converted to Intermediate Market Rent and Discount for Sale properties;*
- *We are working with our RSL partners to develop innovative solution to bring forward new affordable housing schemes, in particular rent to mortgage;*
- *As part of the Golden Triangle Partnership we are looking at options, working with a RSL to purchase and repair properties and bring them back into use as affordable homes, we are also looking at opportunities for a second downsizing scheme in the city.*
- *We are also looking at opportunities for making best use of the existing housing stock in the city, with funding from the Golden Triangle Partnership we are looking at opportunities for loft conversions to create additional bedrooms (obviously this is subject to building regs etc).*

We are also working with York Hospital to assess the potential to bring back into use, on a temporary 3 - 5 year basis the unoccupied family accommodation.

6. From Cllr Simpson-Laing:
“With regard to the new Mental Health Modernisation Partnership Board will the Executive Member for HASS inform me, in relation to my requests to him in my letter of the 29th July 2009, if the Council has signed up to the Mind Campaign 'Time for Change' and whether he has personally considered the setting up of a 'Men's Mental Health Strategy' as an aid to help tackle rising male suicides?”

Reply

You addressed the same letter to myself and Rachel Johns and you received a reply on the 10th September 2009 from Rachel Johns on behalf of us both, in view of the overlap in partnership and service provision. The Director of HASS had taken both issues you raised to a meeting of the previous Mental Health Partnership Board and the letter addressed the latter issue in the following terms:-

The Mental Health Strategy for the area aims to address potential inequalities in experience and outcome including the impact of gender, so it was not felt that a separate Men's Mental Health Strategy would be an advantage. There is a strong understanding of local needs through the partnership arrangements within the city and the view was that highlighting men's mental health needs in a separate strategy would not be in line with this understanding.

I believe the main emphasis of the campaign was to run projects under its banner and the letter to you explained that the Joint Mental Health and Social Care Services had indeed supported the campaign in this way.

7. From Cllr Orrell
Can the Executive Member describe the benefits of the YorHome service to the Council and Landlords and how it has fared since its launch?

Reply

The scheme went live last week in December and so far the service has housed 4 families and 3 single people, with another three houses being viewed next week and the tenancies will start soon after. By the end of the summer it is expected that 40 properties will be on the books.

The benefit to the tenant is that they are able to access private rented where they couldn't before, this is for a variety of reasons:

- the tenant has the whole process explained to them fully (rights and responsibilities etc)*
- they still get to outline the type of property and areas that they prefer and don't have to take a property if they don't want to*
- they have a full affordability interview first with a housing options advisor who explains what benefits they should be entitled to*

- *assistance with all form filling*
- *assistance with the sign up and explanation of procedure*
- *arrangements for utility companies to contact the new tenant*
- *arrangement for the rent to be broken down into the same payment timescales as their benefit and clearly outline any extra payments (top ups) that they need to make*
- *regular meetings with them once in the property to ensure everything is running smoothly and trouble shooting*

The benefit for the landlords: YorHome

- *discusses fully the services offered and explain that they are still in control of who they take as tenants should they wish to be (some landlords just give me a key and don't want to be that involved)*
- *provides visits at the property to take down details in order to 'match' tenants*
- *at such visits the expected rent are discussed - this is based on a number of things such as the Local Housing Allowance rate, the availability of tenants who fit the criteria and the timescale*
- *can arrange everything from providing all the agreements- all tenancies are Assured Shorthold 6 month tenancies with an option to extend should both parties be happy*
- *YorHome and the Housing Options team arrange for the first months rent to be paid the day of the move, we also arrange for a bond guarantee through the Citizens Advice Bureau*
- *can also access the Empty Homes Grant on behalf of landlords who have properties that are in need of work to enable them to meet the Decent Homes Standards*
- *arranges ongoing maintenance with a local, reputable maintenance company- we don't charge for this -just facilitate any work*
- *costs a fraction of the high street agencies as we charge 8%(+vat) of the monthly rent but all the services above are included for free.*

Should a landlord wish to manage the property themselves, we do all the above except the maintenance, rent collections and inspections free of charge

The benefit to the council is that families that may otherwise have been put into bed and breakfast accommodation are being housed realistically into long term homes, the waiting list for social housing will be reduced and ultimately the perceptions of taking benefit receiving families into the private sector will change.

YorHome can do some 'myth busting' by carefully managing the tenancies that landlords wont have to think that these tenants will leave the property in disrepair and owing money.

8. From Cllr Sunderland

Can the Executive Member give an update on Dormary Court?

Reply

Dormary Court was a residential care facility run by Joseph Rowntree Foundation for people with a learning disability. As part of a 3-4 year joint project with City of York Council and Joseph Rowntree Foundation, Dormary Court was closed in late Autumn 2009. The people who lived there have moved onto a variety of more personalised support services and accommodations, and many have become secure tenants with greater levels of disposable incomes than they had as residential care customers.

I attended a conference at which John Kennedy from Joseph Rowntree Foundation spoke of the transformation in quality of life of former residents, 17 of whom are now living in their homes. This was very much confirmed by a customer satisfaction survey undertaken following the customers' moves.

Dormary Court was part of Phase 1 of the joint project. Phase 2 is considering the accommodation needs of people on the current Alder House residential site and will then look at the Charles Court residential site. The project is expected to be ongoing through 2010/11.

9. From Cllr Alexander:

"Can the Executive Member for HASS inform me how many residents of Council properties have come forward from across the City with regard to 'downsizing' their homes?"

Reply

Over the last 12 months, approximately 60 households have been rehoused who were under occupying their previous home.

10 From Cllr Funnell:

"Noting the improvements in the inspection by the Care Quality Commission, can the Executive Member for HASS explain to Council whether the allocation of 'customers' to outside providers and agencies, is based on the providers' skill set ability?"

Reply

In terms of home care we have 3 main providers who are all Good or Excellent and receive cases primarily on a geographical basis. For other registered care (residential and nursing) we do work closely with CQC and the Independent Care Group on promoting and monitoring improvement in private homes and ensuring that customers when exercising choice are aware of the standards of care. We do not "allocate" customers into care. Of 46 registered homes in York none

are rated Poor and 10 are rated Adequate – the rest being good or Excellent.

79. ACTIVITIES OF OUTSIDE BODIES

Minutes of the following meetings of outside bodies had been made available for Members to view on the Council's website:

- Quality Bus Partnership – meeting on 10 December 2009
- Safer York Partnership – meeting on 9 December 2009
- Without Walls Partnership – meeting on 9 December 2009

No questions had been submitted to representatives on the above bodies.

80. APPOINTMENTS AND CHANGES TO MEMBERSHIP

RESOLVED: That the appointments to and changes to membership of Committees, Outside Bodies and Working Groups set out on the list circulated with the agenda papers be approved.

Action Required

1. Update Committee Management System to reflect changes to membership of committees, working groups and outside bodies FY

81. NOTICES OF MOTION

(i) Personal Care Home Bill

It was moved by Cllr Morley and seconded by Cllr Sue Galloway that:

“Council supports the principle of helping more people with care needs to stay in their own homes and the measures in the Personal Care at Home Bill to achieve that aim.

However, Council is concerned that local authorities will be asked to fund a substantial part of the new entitlements included in the bill from their own resources, assuming additional savings, and that the proposed Government funding is inadequate, even if its estimates of the cost of the entitlements are correct.

Council also shares the LGA's concern that the Government has underestimated the number of people likely to be covered by the provisions of the bill and calls on the Government to commit to fully funding any shortfall in budgets that results should these estimates prove to be incorrect.

Council therefore instructs the Director of Housing and Adult Social Services to respond to the consultation on the proposals, setting out

the Council's concerns about the impact the additional cost will have on social care budgets."

On being put to the vote, the motion was declared CARRIED and it was

RESOLVED: That the above notice of motion be approved.

(ii) Lifetime Homes Standard

It was moved by Cllr Simpson-Laing and seconded by Cllr Funnell that:

"Council calls upon the Chief Executive to instruct Officers to draw up a 'Lifetime Homes Supplementary Planning Document' to ensure all York's future homes are built to the Lifetime Homes Standards from 2011 and that this document is completed by May 2010."

Cllr S F Galloway then moved, and Cllr Reid seconded, an amendment to the above motion as follows:

- Delete *'calls upon the Chief Executive to instruct Officers to draw up'* and insert *'requests the Director of City Strategy to ensure that consideration is given, as part of the LDF build process, to the advantages and any disadvantages of drawing up'*.
- Delete *'from 2011 and that this document is completed by May 2010'.*

On being put to the vote, the amendment was declared carried.

The motion, as amended, now read as follows:

"Council 'requests the Director of City Strategy to ensure that consideration is given, as part of the LDF build process, to the advantages and any disadvantages of drawing up a 'Lifetime Homes Supplementary Planning Document to ensure all York's future homes are built to the Lifetime Homes Standards."

The amended motion was then put to the vote and declared CARRIED, and it was

RESOLVED: That the above notice of motion, as amended, be approved.

(iii) Road Safety measures

A notice of motion had been submitted by Cllr D'Agorne in the following terms:

"This Council notes:

1. The clear evidence that slower speeds on our roads save lives: government figures indicate 20% of pedestrians hit at 30mph die, while for those hit at 20mph mortality is cut to 3%. A London Assembly report showed a 42% reduction in accident rates in 20mph zones within the capital.
2. The successful introduction of a 20mph limit on all residential streets in the City of Portsmouth, (a Liberal Democrat-controlled authority), with initial results indicating a 13% cut in accidents and a 15% cut in casualties.
3. The proposed new guidance from the Department for Transport (16/12/09), which encourages highway authorities to adopt a 20mph limit for streets which are primarily residential in nature and for town and city streets where pedestrian and cyclist movements are high.

This Council therefore requests the Executive to:

- a) Ensure that the 'total 20' approach adopted in Portsmouth forms a key part of the consultation on the third Local Transport Plan for the City of York
- b) Extend the 'made you look' public road safety education programme to include greater emphasis on casualty reduction benefits of lower speeds in built up and rural areas.
- c) Report back to full council within 6 months, outlining implementation plans for this programme in the light of public consultation on LTP3."

Cllr D'Agorne now sought leave to alter the above motion by deleting the word "*proposed*" in point 3 above in order that the motion read as follows:

"This Council notes:

1. The clear evidence that slower speeds on our roads save lives: government figures indicate 20% of pedestrians hit at 30mph die, while for those hit at 20mph mortality is cut to 3%. A London Assembly report showed a 42% reduction in accident rates in 20mph zones within the capital.
2. The successful introduction of a 20mph limit on all residential streets in the City of Portsmouth, (a Liberal Democrat-controlled authority), with initial results indicating a 13% cut in accidents and a 15% cut in casualties.
3. The new guidance from the Department for Transport (16/12/09), which encourages highway authorities to adopt a 20mph limit for streets which are primarily residential in nature and for town and city streets where pedestrian and cyclist movements are high.

This Council therefore requests the Executive to:

- a. Ensure that the 'total 20' approach adopted in Portsmouth forms a key part of the consultation on the third Local Transport Plan for the City of York
- b. Extend the 'made you look' public road safety education programme to include greater emphasis on casualty reduction benefits of lower speeds in built up and rural areas.
- c. Report back to full council within 6 months, outlining implementation plans for this programme in the light of public consultation on LTP3."

Council having agreed to that alteration, Cllr D'Agorne moved, and Cllr Taylor seconded, the motion as altered.

Cllr Potter then moved, and Cllr Horton seconded, an amendment to the altered motion as follows:

Under the paragraph commencing 'This Council therefore requests.....' replace existing bullet point c) with

'c) Commence a new initiative to paint a blue heart on the road at accident hotspots and where people have died to remind drivers of the potentially fatal consequences of high speeds and dangerous driving'

and make existing bullet point c) into bullet point d)

On being put to the vote, the amendment was declared LOST

Cllr S F Galloway moved and Cllr Reid seconded an amendment to the altered motion as follows:

"In the first paragraph, delete all from 'government' in point 1 to 'high' in point 3.

In the second paragraph:

- delete 'forms a key' in point a) and insert 'is one of the options considered as'
- delete the existing point c) and insert 'c) ensure that speed limits across the City are reviewed and optimised with the aim of minimising the number of accidents'."

The motion, as amended, now read as follows:

"This Council notes the clear evidence that slower speeds on our roads save lives.

This Council therefore requests the Executive to:

- a) *Ensure that the 'total 20' approach adopted in Portsmouth is one of the options considered as part of the consultation on the third Local Transport Plan for the City of York.*
- b) *Extend the 'made you look' public road safety education programme to include greater emphasis on casualty reduction benefits of lower speeds in built up and rural areas.*

- c) *Ensure that speed limits across the City are reviewed and optimised with the aim of minimising the number of accidents.”]*

The motion, as amended, was then put to the vote and declared CARRIED, and it was

RESOLVED: That the above notice of motion, as amended, be approved.

(iv) Beckfield Lane cycle scheme

It was moved by Cllr Horton and seconded by Cllr Potter that:

“This City of York Council, given the anticipated expenditure of £285k of Government - funded monies for alleged cycle improvements to the south end of Beckfield Lane, is appalled that the Executive Member for City Strategy appears to be intent on progressing this joint-user footpath scheme in spite of the overwhelming opposition of local residents, the Blind and Partially Sighted Society and the outright objections of York Cycle Campaign.

Council, therefore, calls on the Executive Member for City Strategy to give serious consideration to abandoning the scheme forthwith rather than using further valuable resources to develop this scheme, and to agree to concentrate efforts on much more advantageous cycling safety schemes in the City.”

On being put to the vote, the motion was declared CARRIED and it was

RESOLVED: That the above notice of motion be approved.

At this point in the meeting, the guillotine fell and the following motion and amendment were deemed to have been moved and seconded and were voted upon without debate.

(v) Pension Credit

Motion submitted by Cllr Kirk:

”Council notes that:

- Cold Weather Payments of £25 per week are paid to people on low incomes who receive a qualifying benefit, such as Pension Credit.
- The form to apply for Pension Credit is 18 pages long. The advisory notes on how to fill it in are 19 pages long.
- Last year 1.7million pensioners missed out on an average of over £1700 each of pension credit
- The Government has saved £17.5billion in 11 years that has not gone to struggling pensioners in pension credit payments.

Council is concerned that the complexity of the system to claim Pension Credit has put so many people off claiming the credit and that

consequently they also do not receive the additional cold weather payments.

Council therefore instructs the Chief Executive to write to the Secretary of State expressing Council's wish to see the system for claiming pension credit simplified."

The Lord Mayor had ruled out of order an amendment to the above motion submitted by Cllr Healey, on the grounds that it was not relevant to the original motion.

The motion was then put to the vote and declared CARRIED and it was

RESOLVED: That the above notice of motion be approved.

82. QUESTIONS TO THE EXECUTIVE LEADER AND EXECUTIVE MEMBERS RECEIVED UNDER STANDING ORDER 10(C)

Fifteen questions had been submitted to the Executive Leader and Executive Members under Standing Order 11.3(a). As the guillotine had now fallen, Members agreed to receive written responses to these questions. The questions and the written responses are set out belows:

- i) To the Executive Leader, from Cllr Alexander:
"Can the Leader of the Council please tell me what the monetary value is of the savings made subsequent to your meetings with the Council's Efficiency, Procurement and Risk Management Champion?"

Reply

The council has made significant saving in recent years. Significantly exceeding the Gershon Efficiency Targets as set by Central Government, and has embarked on the More for York Programme. I am grateful for the time that the Efficiency Procurement and Risk Management Champion has put into the role, and he has played his part in supporting the change agenda which has resulted in the significant efficiencies that the council has made.

- (ii) To the Executive Leader, from Cllr D'Agorne:
"What are the costs to CYC arising from the appointment of 6 'Renaissance team' staff (on costs, accommodation etc) and to whom are they accountable?"

Reply

The full costs of the posts – salary, National Insurance, and pension are being met by Yorkshire Forward who are also contributing to the recruitment and any training costs. As the host authority CYC is covering the accommodation - but this is from existing budgets and within 9 St Leonards Place.

The Head of Renaissance will report to Mike Slater AD Planning and Sustainable Development in City Strategy.

- (iii) To the Executive Leader, from Cllr Vassie:
“Does the Executive Leader agree that openness and transparency could be improved if the Council published details of all Freedom of Information requests and subsequent answers on its website? Would the Executive Leader agree to take a report to the Executive reviewing the costs and processes used in implementing the FOI Act locally together with options for improving the transparency and efficiency of the system?”

Reply

I agree that openness and transparency would be improved by the council publishing details of Freedom of Information requests and answers on the council website. I have asked officers to draw up a report to investigate how this can happen, and it is my hope that it will not only improve the operation of the Act but also save officer time in answering questions that have already been asked, and show to the public the nature of the questions that the council is answering on their behalf.

- (iv) To the Executive Leader, from Cllr Alexander:
“Will the Leader of the Council ensure that this council writes to all other authorities in the country and asks them to adopt measures to support the Press’s Lifesavers campaign?”

Reply

I am very supportive of the Press Lifesavers Scheme as it will help to encourage more people to sign up for organ donation which will greatly help those waiting in desperate need. It has been an essential prompt to many people, myself included, I must admit, to get around to signing up to the NHS organ donation website, and letting relatives know that is what I want.

I will do my part as council leader in York to write to other councils to raise the profile of this campaign, and the national need to increase awareness.

- (v) To the Executive Leader, from Cllr Merrett:
“Would the Council Leader explain why the requirement of the January 2008 Council decision that ‘*bi-monthly update reports - copied to all Council Members - be submitted via the Group Leader / Shadow Executive / Executive process detailing progress made on the delivery of the Action Plan for tackling climate change within the Council*’ has not been implemented, and will he now ensure the decision is belatedly implemented?”

Reply

The motion from January 2008 predates the appointment of the existing Sustainability Officer and the recently appointed Sustainability Projects Officer, unfortunately there was a period when there were no sustainability officers in posts and the new officers were not aware of

this motion. The Assistant Director, Planning and Sustainable Development, apologises for this oversight.

There have however been a number of reports since April 2008 (to the Executive, to the Without Walls Board and to the Environment Partnership Board)

- *22nd April 2008 - Executive - Carbon Management Programme - Strategy & Implementation Plan*
- *27th February 2009 - Environment Partnership Board - Climate Change Update Meeting*
- *3rd March 2009 - Executive - Carbon Management Programme Strategic Implementation Plan*
- *12th May 2009 - WoW Board - Climate Change Framework and Action Plan – Presentation*
- *8th September 2009 - Executive - Carbon and Energy Management Plan – Update*
- *9th September 2009 - Environment Partnership Board 16th February 2010 - 10:10 campaign and Sustainability Update*

** plus in 2008/09 - all LSP Partnership Boards received CC presentations*

- (vi) To the Executive Member for City Strategy, from Cllr D'Agorne:
“What actions (beyond the current 'Fulford Corridor' highway works) might be put in place to address poor air quality in Fulford as a result of the declaration of an Air Quality Management Area?”

Reply

Work on the Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) (i.e. what can be done to improve the situation) will commence once the Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) has been declared. As a precursor to the action planning process, the Environmental Protection Unit, which forms part of the Neighbourhoods Directorate, must carry out a source apportionment study for the area to gain a better understanding of sources of pollution in Fulford and the issues involved.

When this has been done it will be necessary to decide which source of pollution to target although it is possible that the current improvements to the Fulford corridor – which are aimed at encouraging the use of public transport and cycles – together with the changing emission profile of the vehicles in use in the City, will together result in a significant improvement in air quality

- (vii) To the Executive Member for City Strategy, from Cllr D'Agorne:
“What information will you be providing to Fulford Rd/ Main St residents explaining the benefits of declaring their area as an AQMA in order to help them respond to the recent questionnaire in the ward newsletter?”

Reply

I won't be providing any as this matter is currently the responsibility of the Executive Member for Neighbourhoods.

I understand though that representatives from the Environmental Protection Unit will be attending the Fishergate and Fulford/Heslington Ward committee meetings to talk to residents about the implications of an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) in Fulford. Declaring an AQMA places a legal duty on the Council to develop an Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP). Measures in the AQAP will aim to bring about air quality improvement by reducing levels of nitrogen dioxide to acceptable levels (i.e. within health based objective levels). The main benefit is thus a long-term health benefit, which will be stressed to residents at the ward committee meetings.

- (viii) To the Executive Member for City Strategy, from Cllr D'Agorne:
"What is the timetable for citywide consultation on the draft LTP3 and measures that will reduce air pollution to meet the air quality limits for the city centre AQMA?"

Reply

There will be three stages of public consultation for LTP3. The first has already been undertaken (in December) through Your City and a series of workshops. This stage consisted of gaining an understanding of the key challenges and influences that residents, businesses and partners considered should be taken into account in developing a strategy. The outcome of the consultation will be reported back through the Executive Member Decision Session in March 2010.

The second stage will take place in April and will use Your City and workshops to consult on a series of strategy options, which will include to varying degrees, measures to meet air quality and climate change targets. This consultation will remain relatively broad in order to gauge public preference regarding the extent to which we should seek to implement measures. To that effect it will set out the implications and benefits of the options in delivering a range of outcomes, including improvements in air quality.

The third stage will take place in the Autumn 2010 and will be on the draft LTP3 which will include the preferred option and a range of measures associated with it.

- (ix) To the Executive Member for Corporate Services, from Cllr Fraser:
"Can the Executive Member for Corporate Services provide details of the rollout of the planned new fibre-optic ICT infrastructure to all the Council's various buildings, including the priority for the various categories of buildings referred to in the email briefing to councillors sent out by the Head of IT last month?"

Reply

The new network will have five hub sites - Central Library, St Anthony's House, York High School, St Oswald's School and Rawcliffe Park & Ride and will form the core back bone of the network.

The work to link the Council's Offices/Schools/Libraries and other locations to this new network is being undertaken in a cluster/location based approach to maximise the co-ordination of the on-street resources and minimize any disruption to the residents.

The project is scheduled for completion by the end of September 2010 and the work to migrate off the existing network over to the new system will be undertaken following consultation/agreement with the Departments/Services to minimize the impacts/risks of providing Services to Council's Customer base.

- (x) To the Executive Member for Neighbourhood Services, from Cllr Firth:
"Can the Executive Member outline the Council's response to the severe weather situation over the Christmas period?"

Reply

I would like to put on record my thanks to all staff who worked so hard, many round the clock, to keep the City moving. Anyone out driving a gritter lorry at 8pm on Christmas Day or 5am on Boxing Day deserves our unreserved thanks.

Between 17 Dec 2009 and 10 Jan 2010; we experienced the worst winter conditions for around 25-30 years. During that period the temperatures, both day and night, rarely rose above freezing and dropped at times to -10 degrees C. In addition to this in excess of 35cm of snow fell on multiple occasions.

During that period:

- More than 10, 000 hours were worked with 50% of this on works outside the Winter Maintenance policy*
- 4200 tons of Rock Salt was used compared to an average winter use of around 2500-3000 tonnes.*
- 88 treatments of the priority network were completed compared to 20 gritting runs for the same period in 08/09. The 10 gritting routes have 2 teams of drivers who worked 12 hours on/12 hours off for 4 weeks.*
- The 233 Salt bins have been filled and refilled 4 times*
- Targeted treatments of schools, old peoples homes and post offices were undertaken outside the current requirements of the policy..*
- Car Parks were ploughed and gritted twice and a mechanical clearance of snow and ice was undertaken outside of policy.*
- Park and ride sites were gritted 3 times as requested by the P&R manager. This is not covered in policy.*
- Cycle Paths were gritted 3 times. These are not budgeted within the policy.*

- *We started with around 2,600 tonnes of rocksalt in the salt barn at the eco depot and another 1000 tonnes pre-ordered. This would be more than enough to cope with the requirements of an average winter and well above the Government recommendation of at least 6 days supply. In addition a further 3000 tonnes of rock salt has been ordered but as the Government has now taken control of the salt supplies we are still waiting for 2300 tonnes to be delivered.*

During the period more than 800 requests for service were received from members of the public, 86 of those from elected members. In the main these related to untreated footways, cycle ways, roads and the lack of accessible salt bins.

During the period:-

- *changes were made to improve access our of normal office hours,*
- *from 23rd Dec the CYC website was updated daily with gritting and weather updates and improvements made to the information available on gritting routes and salt bins.*
- *Update emails to members on a nearly daily basis.*
- *Staff and members undertook at least 25 media interviews including one from New Zealand.*

Staff are now busy filling the hundreds of potholes that have appeared and assessing all the implications that this period of severe weather has identified, both long and short term. This winter is far from over and we need to be ready for more snow.

(xi) To the Executive Member for Neighbourhood Services, from Cllr D'Agorne:

"Will she make available to members a full report of dates and times of gritting of cycle routes as well as roads and paths outside the 'priority network' and what work is planned to assess what can be learnt from accident records and injury claims arising from the recent icy weather?"

Reply

My previous answer outlines the magnificent work carried out by staff. Half of the 10,000 hours worked was off the priority network and this is recorded, in the first instance on an 18 page Excel spreadsheet.

Officers are reviewing all the information received from the emergency services, bus companies, members and members of the public along with the requests for gritting, snow clearance and extra salt bins as well as accident records to assess if any roads and footpaths need to be added to the winter maintenance regime on either a permanent basis or at times of particular bad weather.

(xii) To the Executive Member for Children & Young People's Services, from Cllr Waudby:

"Can the Executive Member tell Council how the Adoption Service performed in its recent Ofsted inspection?"

Reply

I am delighted to report to council that the result of the recent inspection of the Adoption Service here in the City of York was an overall quality rating of 'good'.

Within that judgement, the Inspectors found that there is good provision for protecting children, that our provision for helping children to enjoy and achieve is good, and that the provision we make for helping children to make a positive contribution is outstanding.

In the new Ofsted Inspection regime, gaining an outstanding judgement is very difficult to achieve and all the staff involved in the service deserve thanks and praise for the work that they do with this most vulnerable group. The Inspectors acknowledged that there is an experienced and committed team, working efficiently. It is good to know that all sections of the community are welcomed without prejudice and equality and diversity are promoted.

The Inspectors noted that the service is clearly focused on the needs of children and that work to help children understand their histories and life stories is of an unusually high standard.

It is good to know that children who need this service are being so well-served by our Adoption Team and I would like to congratulate them all.

- (xiii) To the Executive Member for Housing & Adult Social Services, from Cllr Fraser:

"Can the Executive Member for HASS tell us how he justifies his refusal to attend the recent meeting of the Health Scrutiny Committee to account for his stewardship of the part of his portfolio relating to Adult Social Services, and specifically to assist in the consideration of his own Executive's reference regarding the disturbing budget overspend in that department?"

Reply

"I attended the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committees on the 2nd December 2009 and gave a presentation to the Committee on progress on the issues of Safeguarding and Personalisation, important parts of my portfolio and essential elements of the improvement plan with which the Scrutiny Committee has been concerned. I was invited to the following meeting of the Committee on the 14th December and agreed to attend in order to hear any views of the Committee on the More4York agenda which was due to be considered by the Executive on the following day.

At that subsequent meeting, the committee

RESOLVED: *That the Executive Member/Leader be requested to provide details of the capital and revenue figures for Adult Social*

Services for the 2010/11 financial year to enable the Scrutiny Committee to discuss this matter at their meeting on 13 January 2010, in order to respond to the Executive's request.

This minute was subsequently confirmed as correct at a later meeting of the committee.

The relevant section of the Scrutiny Review Procedure rules - para 2.1.1 (f) - reads as follows.

[Any Scrutiny Committee can "require any Councillor (including members of the Executive) or officers to attend a meeting to explain about matters within their remit. It is the duty of those persons to attend if so required and they may be required to answer questions relating to:

- any particular decisions or series of decisions
- the extent to which the actions taken implement Council policy
- their performance

All attendees must be informed of why they have been asked to attend, the date and time of the meeting etc etc".

The rules do not require an Executive member to attend a scrutiny meeting to discuss an issue which has yet to be considered or to discuss information which may be in an unpublished officer report. The 10/11 budget figures were not available on 13th January 2010.

Therefore the Scrutiny Committee request was contrary to the Councils constitution.

The papers for the Housing and Adult Social Services budget EMDS were published on Monday 18th January (4 days after the scrutiny meeting). At that point they were in the public domain.

They could have been called in for either pre or post decision scrutiny. They were not.

In addition, any member of the Council could attend an EMDS session and make representations. I realise that there is considerable frustration amongst some councillors due to the abolition of the Executive Member and Advisory Panel Meetings which created a forum for cross party pre-decision scrutiny. However, it is to overcome the shortcomings of the current scrutiny system, that councillors and members of the public can come to the Executive Member Decision Sessions and make public representations

(xiv) To the Executive Member for Leisure, Culture & Heritage, from Cllr B Watson:

"Can the Executive Member for Leisure, Culture and Heritage define the remit of the Heritage Champion and outline his work to date?"

Reply

The remit of the Heritage champion is defined in the constitution Pt 3b paragraph 11. I have had frequent discussions with Cllr. Taylor in

regards Heritage issue in the city. It is both Cllr Taylor and my own position that while Heritage is contained with the portfolio of the Executive Member for Leisure Culture and Social Inclusion the importance of the issue cuts across most areas of the council and would involve specific conversation with all members of the Executive noticeably the Executive Member for City Strategy and the Executive Leader. Cllr Taylor also meets frequently with relevant officers in his role of champion. For more detail of the work of Heritage Champion Cllr Taylor has indicated he would be more than willing to brief members.

(xv) To the Executive Member for Leisure, Culture & Heritage, from Cllr Holvey:

"The recent Active People Study showed a 6% increase in adult participation in sport from 19% to 25%. Could the Executive Member update Council on the current situation regarding Adult participation?"

Reply

The results from Sport England's Active People 3 research have been released. Active People is a national survey carried out by MORI which measures adults (aged 16+) participation in Sport and activity leisure. This is a national telephone survey which samples 1000 people in each authority area. The results of this research are used as a national performance indicator NI8 to measure Local authority performance in encouraging participation in sport and active leisure. It is an indicator which is included as a priority for York in our Local Area Agreement. The city's participation target in the LAA is 1% increase per annum.

I continue to have deep concerns with how these statistics are drawn. They specifically exclude for example any residents who do not have a land line telephone. They also only include people who are deemed active based on strict Sport England criteria. As such anyone who runs 2 marathons a week or cycles 5 miles to work and back everyday would not be included as active under this survey. Sport England have accepted many of the flaws in this methodology and this is reflected in the high margin of error associated with these results.

Active people 1 released in December 2006 questioned 1000 people in York about their sports participation over the previous 4 weeks. This indicated that 24.9% of the adult population in York participated in sport and active leisure activities for the recommended 3 x 30 minutes per week.

In December 2008 the interim Active people 2 results were released using a smaller 500 people sample. Such a small sample size appeared to provide an anomalous result which while providing impetus to the work we are doing on participation rates did not in our opinion provide a true picture of York. As originally intended these figures should be taken in conjunction with Active People 3 to provide a true comparison.

The Active People 3 results, released in December 2009 again used a 500 people sample with the view that they are used in conjunction with the Active people 2 data to give a 1000 sample size and a figure which is comparable to the original Active People 1 baseline figure. York's Active People 3 results indicate that 25.4% of York adults participate in sport 3 times per week for 30 minutes or more. (+ 6%) However when taken cumulatively with the Active People 2 figure this shows that participation in 3x 30 minutes of sport per week is 22.9%. This is the figure that the city's participation will be measured on.

When taken in conjunction with Sport England's Margin of error this shows that there has been no statistically significant change from Active People 1 to Active People 2/3. When looked at in a national context York fares above average. Nearly all local authorities showed no significant change, reflective of the fact that changing people's lifestyles is a long term rather than short term goal. It is clear though that Active People 1 and 3 place York in the top quartile nationally and our combined figure for Active People 2 and 3 places us second quartile.

Within these statistics as well significant improvement has been made in specific areas. When the results for Active People 1 were released, the figures which were of greatest concern were the difference in participation rates between those in lower socio economic groups, those aged 55+, and those with a limiting disability against the average adult population in the city. In the last 2 years the council and its partners in Active York have aimed to narrow these gaps.. We are delighted that the combined Active People 2 and 3 data shows some promising results. The gap in participation between the average in York and those aged 55+ has been reduced by 2%, and between those in socio economic groups 5 and above by over 3%. The biggest change is in the percentage of people with a limiting disability participating in sport 3 times per week for 30 minutes or more. This appears to have increased from 7% in Active People 1 to 16.3% in Active People 2/3.

Additionally, the findings from the latest data supports the continued priority the city is placing on encouraging its residents to become generally more physically active, at least for 30 minutes a day. This focus includes the sorts of sports activities measured above, but also has a wider reach, promoting activities such as dance, walking and cycling, gardening and conservation, play, and all forms of daily movement and exercise. With this in mind, the just 30 "Good News" campaign launches this week, carrying 3 very positive messages to the residents of the city

- You only need 30 minutes of moderate exercise a day to boost your happiness and health. As long as its done in 10 minute bursts or more this exercise can be anything*

- Most people in York are close to hitting your target of 30 minutes a day so a little bit more, a bit more often shouldn't be too difficult*

•There are lots of easy ways you can reach your 30 minutes in York. Suggestions of things to try will be available on the website www.justafewminutesmore.com from 1st February and through monthly emails that you can sign up to and postcard offers which will be available in the coming months.

Councillor John Galvin
LORD MAYOR OF YORK

[The meeting started at 6.30 pm and concluded at 10.00 pm]