

Agenda Item 10

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council of the City of Sheffield held on Wednesday 3 February 2021, at 2.00 pm, as a remote meeting in accordance with the provisions of The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020, pursuant to notice duly given and Summonses duly served.

PRESENT

THE LORD MAYOR (Councillor Tony Downing)
THE DEPUTY LORD MAYOR (Councillor Gail Smith)

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| 1 <i>Beauchief & Greenhill Ward</i>
Simon Clement-Jones
Bob Pullin
Richard Shaw | 10 <i>East Ecclesfield Ward</i>
Andy Bainbridge
Vic Bowden
Moya O'Rourke | 19 <i>Nether Edge & Sharrow Ward</i>
Peter Garbutt
Jim Steinke
Alison Teal |
| 2 <i>Beighton Ward</i>
Bob McCann
Chris Rosling-Josephs
Sophie Wilson | 11 <i>Ecclesall Ward</i>
Roger Davison
Barbara Masters
Shaffaq Mohammed | 20 <i>Park & Arbourthorne</i>
Julie Dore
Ben Miskell
Jack Scott |
| 3 <i>Birley Ward</i>
Denise Fox
Bryan Lodge
Karen McGowan | 12 <i>Firth Park Ward</i>
Abdul Khayum
Alan Law
Abtisam Mohamed | 21 <i>Richmond Ward</i>
Mike Drabble
Dianne Hurst |
| 4 <i>Broomhill & Sharrow Vale Ward</i>
Angela Argenzio | 13 <i>Fulwood Ward</i>
Sue Alston
Andrew Sangar
Cliff Woodcraft | 22 <i>Shiregreen & Brightside Ward</i>
Dawn Dale
Peter Price
Garry Weatherall |
| 5 <i>Burngreave Ward</i>
Jackie Drayton
Talib Hussain
Mark Jones | 14 <i>Gleadless Valley Ward</i>
Lewis Dagnall
Cate McDonald
Paul Turpin | 23 <i>Southey Ward</i>
Mike Chaplin
Tony Damms
Jayne Dunn |
| 6 <i>City Ward</i>
Douglas Johnson
Martin Phipps | 15 <i>Graves Park Ward</i>
Ian Auckland
Sue Auckland
Steve Ayris | 24 <i>Stannington Ward</i>
David Baker
Penny Baker
Vickie Priestley |
| 7 <i>Crookes & Crosspool Ward</i>
Tim Huggan
Mohammed Mahroof
Anne Murphy | 16 <i>Hillsborough Ward</i>
Bob Johnson
George Lindars-Hammond
Josie Paszek | 25 <i>Stocksbridge & Upper Don Ward</i>
Jack Clarkson
Julie Grocutt
Francyne Johnson |
| 8 <i>Darnall Ward</i>
Mazher Iqbal
Mary Lea
Zahira Naz | 17 <i>Manor Castle Ward</i>
Terry Fox
Sioned-Mair Richards | 26 <i>Walkley Ward</i>
Ben Curran
Neale Gibson |
| 9 <i>Dore & Totley Ward</i>
Joe Otten
Colin Ross
Martin Smith | 18 <i>Mosborough Ward</i>
Tony Downing
Kevin Oxley
Gail Smith | 27 <i>West Ecclesfield Ward</i>
Alan Hooper
Adam Hurst
Mike Levery |
| | | 28 <i>Woodhouse Ward</i>
Mick Rooney
Jackie Satur
Paul Wood |

1. MINUTE SILENCE - DEATHS OF FORMER COUNCILLOR ANDY HINMAN AND CAPTAIN SIR THOMAS MOORE

1.1 The Lord Mayor (Councillor Tony Downing) reported with sadness, the death, on 27th January 2021, of former Councillor Andy Hinman, who had served on the Council from 1995 to 1999.

1.2 The Lord Mayor also referred to the recent death of Captain Sir Thomas Moore and made the following statement -

“Captain Sir Tom Moore was a beacon of hope who lifted the nation when we needed it most and inspired people all over the world. His achievements are a reminder to us all of the power in working together to reach a common goal. The Town Hall flag is flying at half-mast today in tribute to Captain Sir Tom as we commemorate his extraordinary life. I’d like to invite you all to share in remembering Captain Sir Tom today. Our thoughts and best wishes go out to his family and friends at this sad time.”

1.3 Members of the Council observed a minute’s silence in memory of Captain Sir Tom Moore and former Councillor Andy Hinman, and time was allocated at the end of the meeting for Members to pay tribute to their former colleague.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2.1 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ruth Mersereau and Kaltum Rivers.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

3.1 There were no declarations of interest made by Members of the Council.

4. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

4.1 The Lord Mayor (Councillor Tony Downing) reported that two petitions and 38 questions from fifteen members of the public had been received prior to the published deadline for submission of petitions and questions for this meeting. He stated that ensuring that elected representatives are answerable to members of the public is a key part of the full Council meetings and that, in his time as Lord Mayor, he had always sought to hear as many questions from members of the public as the meeting’s format allowed. He added, however, that this meeting was scheduled for three and a half hours, with many other items on the agenda, including updates on the Covid Pandemic and the city’s response to this, and setting the rents for council housing for 2021/22. The Lord Mayor stated that, given the logistics of hosting a virtual meeting and the number and length of some of the questions received, he did not want to see public questions only asked on a ‘first come, first served basis’ and so he had

decided that Council officers shall read each public question on behalf of the questioner, as this will offer a more streamlined process and ensure time for all questions to be asked and, crucially, more time for proper answers to be provided.

4.2 Petitions

4.2.1 Petition Concerning Support for Vulnerable People Over Winter

The Council received an electronic petition containing 587 signatures calling on the Council to urgently support vulnerable people over the next two months, and to lobby the Government to ensure no one is left in the cold this winter.

Representations on behalf of the petitioners were made by Rob Reiss and he asked that the winter fuel support provided to the elderly be extended to all vulnerable people in Sheffield living in fuel poverty. He asked that Members also lobby the Government to change this at a national level. He mentioned the crisis grant available and asked how many people in the city were aware of this. He also mentioned that the Council's website suggested this scheme was only available to those with pay-as-you-go fuel meters and asked if this could be extended to other heating types.

The Council referred the petition to Councillor Paul Wood (Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Community Safety). Councillor Wood responded and said he had considered how to better publicise the crisis fund across the city. He said the Council had distributed £331,000 over the last 13 weeks, to 576 residents, through the Local Assistance Scheme. He said the Council website provided detailed information on how to apply. Councillor Wood said that in addition to this there was a hardship fund through the Housing Revenue Account, which recently had a further £500,000 added to it. Additionally, the Government have provided a further £750,000 to add to the Local Assistance Scheme.

Councillor Wood suggested that Mr Reiss direct any vulnerable people to the Council's website or telephone number. He added that he would work with officers regarding better publicising the support which was available to people.

4.2.2 Petition Concerning an Ecological or Biodiversity Emergency

The Council received two electronic petitions containing 750 and 391 signatures, respectively, requesting the Council to declare a biodiversity/ecological emergency.

Representations on behalf of the petitioners were made by Anna Parkin, who asked if Sheffield City Council would declare an ecological or biodiversity emergency today - alongside the climate emergency.

The Council referred the petition to Councillor Mark Jones (Cabinet Member for Environment, Streetscene and Climate Change). Councillor Jones responded that councillors recognised the challenges to our environment and wildlife. He

said that the Council recognised the global, national and regional loss of biodiversity. Councillor Jones said that COVID 19 had not paused the climate emergency, but it might offer a chance to restart the conversation.

He made reference to the call for a green economic recovery to protect jobs, our communities and the planet. Councillor Jones said that councillors recognised the importance of this issue and said that the Urban Nature Project was one effort to protect native plants and animals in Sheffield. He said that the Council was looking to imbed Biodiversity Net Gain in district level licensing within the planning systems. He added that there were also natural recovery networks in place and that the Council was seeking to protect Sheffield's green belt. Significant bids were being made to Government to create greater nature-based solutions. Councillor Jones said that there was also the issue of invasive species, which needed to be addressed.

Councillor Jones said that he believed that declaring an ecological emergency would not help in getting Sheffield where it needs to be. He said an ecological emergency needed a full and collaborative approach and should not be put forward by the Council alone. Councillor Jones said that he was committed to moving this agenda forward and would share his work on these issues with Anna Parkin ahead of a meeting with her and others to discuss a draft ecological response for Sheffield.

4.3 Public Questions

4.3.1 The Lord Mayor (Councillor Tony Downing) referred to his earlier statement that in order to include the many questions submitted by members of the public, and to allow full answers to these questions alongside the other agenda items, the Director of Legal and Governance (Gillian Duckworth) would read the questions submitted by the public, to which responses would be given by the appropriate Cabinet Members.

4.3.2 Public Question Concerning Communication to those with a Learning Disability or Disability in Sheffield

Adam Butcher asked how the Council can make sure that people with a learning disability or disability can understand what is going on within Sheffield.

Councillor Jackie Drayton (Cabinet Member for Children and Families) thanked Mr Butcher for his questions and for all his work on ensuring that the voice and views of people with disabilities are heard, she then went on to outline some of the work that the Council was doing to address the issues he raised. She added that the Council also worked with Partners in Health, the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise Sector, including the Burton Street Foundation, Speak Up and Disability Sheffield to create and distribute easy read publications on all sorts of issues including Covid-19 for people with disabilities. She acknowledged that more could always be done to improve services and ensure publications were timely and easy to understand. Councillor Drayton said she would provide a fuller written response to Mr Butcher, and, once again thanked him for taking the time to attend the Council

and raise these important issues.

4.3.3 Public Questions Concerning Gritting Bins and the Clearing of Key Commuting Routes for Bicycles and Pedestrians

Declan Walsh asked the following two questions:

Can you please tell me how the provision of gritting bins has changed since the Streets Ahead programme was instituted? i.e. how many bins were provided when they were distributed in-house versus by Amey.

Further to this, can you tell me the details of whether there is a programme to clear key commuting routes for bicycles and pedestrians during snow and icy conditions?

Councillor Mark Jones (Cabinet Member for Environment, Streetscene and Climate Change) responded to question one, stating the number of grit bins had increased by 10% over the last 8 years.

Councillor Jones responded to question two and said he would provide a written answer and that cycle routes were kept as clear as possible as a priority. He said that the use of salt on cycle paths near to waterways might not always be appropriate.

4.3.4 Public Questions Concerning Sheffield's Libraries

Matthew Smith asked the following three questions:

How do book loan issues for December 2020 compare with December 2019 for the Council run libraries?

Sheffield's two Carnegie libraries at Tinsley and Walkley were funded according to the "Carnegie Funding Formula" which required public support rather than making endowments because, as Andrew Carnegie wrote: "an endowed institution is liable to become the prey of a clique. ". What steps has the cabinet member for libraries taken to ensure the volunteer groups currently running the Associate libraries in Walkley and Tinsley maintain the same standards of neutrality as intended by Andrew Carnegie?

Could the Cabinet Member for libraries endeavour to hold a public open Question and Answer session via Zoom alongside the Head of Libraries at some point this year.

Councillor Mary Lea (Cabinet Member for Culture, Parks and Leisure) said that around 20% of the usual loans were made last year. These were via the order and collect system. Councillor Lea stated that when Sheffield was no longer subject to Coronavirus related restrictions, she hoped the libraries and book loaning would be running normally again.

In answer to question two, Councillor Lea said that the associate libraries had leases which tie them to the standards of the Council and that the Council continued to have good relationships with these libraries. She said she had no evidence that the libraries were not running an inclusive service. She said this applied to Walkley, as an associate library. The Carnegie building had not been used as a library since 1985, and the associate library there was run by Tinsley forum's one-stop-shop, having recently been renovated. Councillor Lea said that she hoped that once the restrictions were lifted, this will be up and running.

Councillor Lea responded to question three, stating there were no plans for a public meeting currently, but this would remain under review.

4.3.5 Public Question Concerning City Council Repairs

Ann Whitaker asked why does it take the City Council Repairs Department several days to repair a boiler, when it should be done within 24 hours and then leave the resident with only one available electric socket in the whole house for 3 weeks, the burst boiler having flooded the electrics. Then take almost 3 months to relocate a socket that was unsafe to use as it was situated under the boiler. She said this had happened recently to an elderly lady living in the High Green area, who had serious health issues, making her life even more difficult.

Further, Ann Whitaker asked what assurances the City Council could give to residents, that it is taking action to ensure that this doesn't happen in the future.

Councillor Paul Wood (Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Community Safety) responded that an investigation had been carried out into the particular case to which the question referred and that showed that the electrics were on and working and there was photographic evidence of this. Councillor Wood said that he had instructed an Area Housing Officer to visit the resident concerned in relation to this particular case.

4.3.6 Public Questions Concerning Housing Repairs

Jim Coleman asked: can the Cabinet Member clarify what the waiting times are for the Council housing repairs service please?

Councillor Paul Wood (Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Community Safety) said that he believed that there was some incorrect information being shared about this issue currently. He said that an emergency repair should be carried out within 4 hours, an urgent repair should be carried out within 24 hours and the other two repair categories had not yet been reactivated by the Council through the Coronavirus response group.

Councillor Wood said that in December 2020, there were 68 emergency calls and 4,476 urgent calls. Of those emergency calls, 61 were responded to in less than 3 hours, 7 were awaiting parts and took a further 12 hours. Councillor Wood said that of the urgent calls 3,461 were completed within 24 hours. Of the remaining, some took up to 3 days to be completed due to the ordering of

parts, sometimes over a weekend. He stated that if heating was needed by people waiting for repairs, it was provided.

4.3.7 Public Question Concerning Rental Contracts

Connor Shreeves asked the following 5 questions:

1. Why are you allowed to break your contracts with the tenant but as soon as the tenant break the contract with you there will be out on their ear?
2. As a landlord you have to organise the inspection like you have done but why have you not looked at other alterations to the property such as looking for leaking internal pipes, broken or faulty heating systems and cracked walls or rotten window frames?
3. Am I going to get a rent reduction as compensation for the 9 months last year you left me with rotten and mouldy walls from January to September 2020 and from December 2020 until you fix the problem again?
4. Are you going to replace the damaged plaster board, skirting boards, replace mouldy carpets and give me a redecorating grant to decorate the affected areas?
5. You as a landlord have to ensure that the house/ flat a tenant lives in is “fit to live in” so why are you letting tenants live in an unfit house if the mould is seriously effecting your health as it as mine as I’ve told you on multiple occasions. Please explain to me in detail why you are still allowing this to happen?

Councillor Paul Wood (Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Community Safety) responded and requested that he be provided with the details of the case(s) referred to in the questions so that he could respond to Connor Shreeves in writing.

4.3.8 Public Questions Concerning Recycling, Air Quality, an Apology and the LGO Rustlings Road Report

Russell Johnson asked the following 4 questions:

1. Recycling
In 2018-19, (latest available figures) Sheffield was ranked 300 out of 345 Local Authorities for overall recycling performance. Why?
2. Air Quality
Is the Council aware that there is widespread abuse of clean air legislation by burning unauthorised materials and/or by using non approved stoves or fireplaces. Discussions on social media reveal the impression that SCC does not engage in effective action in accordance with its responsibilities, and that this was the case before the Covid crisis. Why?

3. Apology?

I urge the Leader, on behalf of the whole Ruling Group, to issue a sincere apology for the harm caused to Sheffield's people and their assets by the Council's behaviours during the tree felling debacle. To help Members appreciate the importance and value of moving towards atonement, I offer a short quotation from Nick Hayes' *Trespass*: *'An apology is an acknowledgment of responsibility, the moment an addict first looks in the mirror and sees himself. It is the first step to recovery. It is a spell that, once uttered, changes the story, resets the balance. It can level the fences, turning division into unity'*. A proper apology, followed by a shared collaborative process to uncover the truths beneath this most unfortunate chapter in the history of Sheffield local Governance, would be cathartic and restorative. (The proposed Archive could be helpful in this). Apologising will help to cleanse the toxic reputation of Labour in my city for the Party's natural supporters. I am one of those people.

4. SCC's response to the LGO Rustlings Road Report

Will the Council be making their response to the Ombudsman public? If yes, when? If no, why not?

Councillor Mark Jones (Cabinet Member for Environment, Streetscene and Climate Change) responded to question one. He said that the figures for Sheffield's recycling could and must be better, and that this was his intention. He said that household waste was decreasing, although COVID had impacted this, and that the Council would do more to ensure there were improvements on recycling.

In response to question two, Councillor Jones said that there might be an element of misunderstanding in terms of what goes on social media. He said that investigations were carried out when there are suggestions of problems in clean air sites. Councillor Jones said it was possible that people using burners are not complying with the use of those devices. Councillor Jones said that if Mr Johnson wanted to provide details of places he felt should be investigated, then he would ask officers to do this.

Councillor Bob Johnson (The Leader of the Council) responded to question three. He said that a full and frank apology had already been given.

In response to question four, Councillor Johnson stated the Ombudsman report was considered by Council's Cabinet at its meeting on the 21st October 2020 and a report and minutes confirming the Council's response were available on the website.

4.3.9 Public Question Concerning Rother Valley Car Park

Ann Woolhouse submitted the following question: 'I go to Rother Valley on a fairly regular basis; when I do I park in the car park at the back entrance. The car park is quite small and in a poor state of repair, which was one of the reasons people park their cars on the road and roundabout, The other was that

despite the poor condition it was often full. She asked what the Council intend to do about this? For clarification, this is the car park by the roundabout opposite Meadow Gate Avenue and is in the Sheffield area.

Councillor Mary Lea (Cabinet Member for Culture, Parks and Leisure) said that the Council acknowledged there were some issues at Rother Valley car park and that parking encroached on the local area. Councillor Lea stated that Councillor Julie Grocutt (the Cabinet Member for Transport and Development) would be looking at this issue and possible solutions. Councillor Lea said that the Council wanted to encourage people to use green spaces, but it understood the difficulties that people can experience in relation to parking.

4.3.10 Public Questions Concerning Foundation Living Wage

Nigel Slack asked the following questions:

1. With the Government having given very clear indications that, despite pre-Brexit promises, they intend a bonfire of workers rights and protections, will this Council confirm that a commitment to paying the Foundation Living Wage will continue to be Council policy for their own employees?
2. Will Council also confirm that the same Foundation Living Wage will be expected of all contractors of Sheffield City Council and how they intend to enforce that within their 'Ethical Procurement Policy'?

Councillor Terry Fox (Cabinet Member for Finance, Resources and Governance and Deputy Leader) responded that in respect of both questions, the answer was 'yes' and announcements in that regard would be made in the next few months.

4.3.11 Public Questions Concerning Sheffield Legal Services (SLS)

Justin Buxton submitted the follow questions:

1. Is SLS a commercial venture / enterprise?
2. What is the legal status of SLS as an entity?
3. What is the financial relationship between Sheffield City Council and SLS?
4. Who paid for setup costs and pays day-to-day costs incurred by SLS? What is the figure to date?
5. What happens to any profit made by SLS?
6. Who is responsible for any liability incurred by SLS (including being sued or similar)?
7. Was a business plan submitted to and approved by elected members? If so is this available for public scrutiny?

Councillor Terry Fox (Cabinet Member for Finance, Resources and Governance and Deputy Leader) responded to these questions. He said that information concerning Sheffield Legal Services was available on the Council website. Councillor Fox stated that Sheffield Legal Services was not a separate legal entity.

4.3.12 Public Questions Concerning Repairs and Maintenance

John Hawkins submitted the following questions:

1. I would like to ask is can repairs and maintenance deal directly with tenants reporting repairs instead of waiting times in excess of 40 minutes with the call centre after initial contact and afterwards tenants are left in a loop.
2. Why are vacants left for months empty i.e. loss of revenue. One on Lowedges had been empty two and a half years and this is not an isolated occasion.
3. Why are board-ups left for months? Local housing officials' failure to monitor or address tenants, knock on effect stops repairs and maintenance completing repairs leading to estates looking deprived.

Councillor Paul Wood (Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Community Safety) responded to question one. He said that there were some improvements that could be made and he stated that a new IT system was being introduced to allow tenants direct access to the Repairs Centre. He said that this system should be available around April/May this year.

In response to question two, Councillor Wood said that the average time a property is left vacant is under 50 days. He said that there might be extenuating circumstances with some properties, and in those cases, they may be vacant for longer.

On question three, Councillor Wood said that at the start of the lockdown in March 2020, only minimal and essential work was allowed and that this resulted in windows being left boarded up and created a backlog. He said this was now being addressed.

4.3.13 Public Questions Concerning Free School Meals, the Speed Limit in Westfield and the Crossing on Station Road

Kurtis Crossland submitted the following questions:

1. Will the Council commit to supporting children with free school meals for the entire pandemic?
2. Has Westfield moved up the list for a 20mph zone or does it remain "not a priority"?

3. Has the study taken place for the crossing on Station Road and can you give an approximate date for construction yet?

Councillor Jackie Drayton (Cabinet Member for Children and Families) asked Councillor Abtisam Mohamed to respond to question one, as the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills. Councillor Drayton wanted to thank Mr Crossland for bringing this question to the Council and for keeping this issue on the agenda.

Councillor Abtisam Mohamed (Cabinet Member for Education and Skills) said that the Council had received money from the government for the Winter Grants Scheme and the Council had used this money to cover free school meals over Christmas and during the February half-term holiday for over 30,000 families. She said that from Easter the government was extending the Holiday Activities Fund which was piloted over the summer. Sheffield had been allocated up to £2.6 million to cover summer 2021.

Councillor Julie Grocutt responded to question two and said that delivering 20 mph speed limits across all residential areas in Sheffield was a priority. Councillor Grocutt said that the roll out of this scheme was a significant undertaking, and that in order to deliver this in a managed and affordable way the Council had identified priority areas in the city so that this can be delivered in phases. The primary source of funding for delivering 20mph limits and all of the local transport improvements across the city each year is from the £2.4 million annual allocation from the South Yorkshire Local Transport Integrated Grant. This fund covered a large number of requests to local transport improvements; therefore, the Council had to prioritise how this funding is spent. Councillor Grocutt said that the Council was looking for alternative additional funding to make these local road safety improvements and including the acceleration of the 20mph zone programme. She said that the Westfield area was ranked 11th on the list of priorities for the 20mph schemes and is likely to be progressed.

Councillor Grocutt responded to question three and gave an update on the crossing on Station Road. She said that the feasibility of improved pedestrian crossing on Station Road had been undertaken and following discussions with the team that had developed the proposals, arrangements for a local consultation would be confirmed shortly. She said once the findings of the consultation are known, the construction period for this crossing will be confirmed. Councillor Grocutt thanked Councillor Tony Downing for his work on promoting road safety and for his work on this proposal.

4.3.14 Public Question on the Climate Crisis

Lindy Stone asked the following question: 'In February 2019 Sheffield City Council recognised the urgency of the climate crisis and declared a Climate Emergency. Since this time they have been working on developing a clear data base and are now developing an action plan. In the intervening period, it has become even clearer that alongside the drive to meet a net zero target, it is essential that it is recognised there is an ecological crisis. Biodiversity is in

serious decline globally, nationally and locally as the State of Nature report demonstrated. The ecological crisis is both part of and feeds into climate crisis and for the health of the planet is equally dangerous. To name it is to note it. Specific plans do not need to be adopted and developed first. A Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill is making its way through Parliament with extensive support. The Wildlife Trusts across the UK are calling on the government and councils to declare ecological emergencies and several councils have recognised this and done so - including Doncaster MBC. Will Sheffield do the same?'

Councillor Mark Jones (Cabinet Member for Environment, Streetscene and Climate Change) responded and said that he had sent on a draft on his response to the ecological issues the city faces to Lindy Stone. He referred to the answer given to the petition submitted earlier at this meeting on this subject and said he looked forward to working with Lindy Stone on these issues in the future.

4.3.15 Public Questions on the Council and the Public and Repairs

Sophie Thornton submitted the following questions:

1. What steps is the Leader taking to ensure this Council treats members of the public and campaigners with respect?
2. Can I have an update to the number of completed boarded up window repairs in Lowedges, Jordanthorpe and Batemoor since I last asked.

The Leader of the Council (Councillor Bob Johnson), responded to question one. He said everyone should be treated with respect and if anybody had any concerns they should report these to the Council's Monitoring Officer. He said there is an independent procedure for this, through the Audit and Standards Committee and it will be followed.

Councillor Paul Wood (Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Community Safety) responded to question two and said the Council had completed 18 of the boarded-up properties in the S8 postcode from the 1st November to the beginning of January.

5. MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

5.1 Urgent Business

The Lord Mayor (Cllr Tony Downing) reported that he had received a request from Councillor Douglas Johnson for permission to ask a question relating to urgent business, under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 16.6(ii). The question related to recent events in Myanmar and in Russia. The Lord Mayor stated that he would not grant permission for the question to be asked, for the reason that the question did not relate to urgent business that needed to be responded to at this meeting, but instead advised Councillor Johnson that he

may wish to seek a written response from the Leader of the Council, or alternatively, he may wish to consider submitting a notice of motion on the matter when this process resumes at the Council meetings.

5.2 Written Questions

A schedule of questions to Cabinet Members, submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 16, and which contained written answers, was circulated. Supplementary questions, under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 16.4, were asked and were answered by the appropriate Cabinet Members until the expiry of the time limit for Members' Questions (in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 16.7).

5.3 South Yorkshire Joint Authorities

Questions relating to the discharge of the functions of the South Yorkshire Joint Authorities for Fire and Rescue and Pensions (under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 16.6i), were not able to be asked before the expiry of the time limit for Members' Questions.

6. HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT BUSINESS PLAN AND BUDGET 2021/22

6.1 It was moved by Councillor Paul Wood, and seconded by Councillor Garry Weatherall, that the following recommendations made by the Cabinet at its meeting held on 20th January 2021 in relation to the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Business Plan and Budget 2021/22, be approved:-

“RESOLVED: That Cabinet recommends to the meeting of the City Council on 3rd February 2021 that:-

- (a) the HRA Business Plan report for 2021/22, as set out in the appendix to the report, is approved;
- (b) the HRA Revenue Budget 2021/22, as set out in the appendix to the report, is approved;
- (c) rents for council dwellings are increased by 1.5% from April 2021 in line with the Regulator of Social Housing's Rent Standard;
- (d) rents for temporary accommodation remain unchanged for 2021/22;
- (e) garage rents for garage plots and garage sites are increased by 1.5% from April 2021;
- (f) the community heating standing charge is increased by £0.60 per week from April 2021, and the unit kWh price remains unchanged for 2021/22;
- (g) the sheltered housing service charge remains unchanged for 2021/22;

- (h) the burglar alarm charge remains unchanged for 2021/22; and
- (i) the furnished accommodation charge remains unchanged for 2021/22.”

6.2 Whereupon, it was moved by Councillor Andrew Sangar, seconded by Councillor Mike Levery, as an amendment, that the recommendations made by the Cabinet at its meeting held on 20th January, 2021, concerning the Housing Revenue Account Business Plan and HRA Budget 2021/22, be approved with the addition of new paragraphs (j) and (k) as follows:-

- (j) welcomes that Sheffield has set an ambition to become a zero carbon city by 2030, and at the February 2020 full council meeting the Council accepted an amendment by the main opposition group to bring a report to Cabinet within six months setting out a programme outlining how all of the housing stock covered by the HRA will have had sufficient investment in both energy efficiency schemes and new heating systems to contribute to meet the city’s zero carbon target within the next ten years and, as this report has yet to go to Cabinet, requests that such a report should go to Cabinet in the next three months; and
- (k) notes the concerns of many council tenants with the backlog in council housing repairs over the past year, and requests that for all council tenants there is a single point of contact for all tenant issues, including repairs and maintenance, and that the Repairs and Maintenance Service aims for a one visit solution for all repair calls with, if required, a timely follow-up visit to fully complete the work.

6.3 It was then moved by Councillor Peter Garbutt, seconded by Councillor Paul Turpin, as an amendment, that the recommendations made by the Cabinet at its meeting held on 20th January, 2021, concerning the Housing Revenue Account Business Plan and HRA Budget 2021/22, be approved with the addition of new paragraphs (j) to (m) as follows:-

- (j) is pleased to note the HRA Business Plan finally recognises the impact that housing can have in addressing the climate change emergency and that the Council will, this year, set a priority to develop plans to address climate change and contribute to achieving zero carbon emissions by 2030;
- (k) believes that effective mechanisms to measure and record the impact on the climate crisis are essential;
- (l) therefore requests officers to bring forward reports on:-
 - (i) how to measure (A) space heating demand in addition to Energy Performance Certificates and (B) carbon embodied in buildings;
 - (ii) options for the use of geothermal, ground- or air-source heat pumps and solar panels, to replace boiler houses; and

- (iii) maximising the scope for boosting biodiversity on housing land;
and
 - (m) believes that housing improvements are important but that the present backlog of housing repairs must be addressed, including those non-urgent repairs where there is a contractual duty.
- 6.4 After contributions from four other Members, and following a right of reply from Councillor Paul Wood, the amendment moved by Councillor Andrew Sangar was put to the vote and was negatived.
- 6.4.1 The votes on the amendment were ordered to be recorded and were as follows:-
- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| For the amendment
(32) | - | The Deputy Lord Mayor (Councillor Gail Smith) and Councillors Simon Clement-Jones, Bob Pullin, Richard Shaw, Bob McCann, Angela Argenzio, Douglas Johnson, Martin Phipps, Tim Huggan, Mohammed Mahroof, Joe Otten, Colin Ross, Martin Smith, Vic Bowden, Roger Davison, Barbara Masters, Shaffaq Mohammed, Sue Alston, Andrew Sangar, Cliff Woodcraft, Paul Turpin, Ian Auckland, Sue Auckland, Steve Ayriss, Kevin Oxley, Peter Garbutt, Alison Teal, David Baker, Penny Baker, Vickie Priestley, Alan Hooper and Mike Levery. |
| Against the
amendment (46) | - | The Lord Mayor (Councillor Tony Downing) and Councillors Chris Rosling-Josephs, Sophie Wilson, Denise Fox, Bryan Lodge, Karen McGowan, Jackie Drayton, Talib Hussain, Mark Jones, Anne Murphy, Mazher Iqbal, Mary Lea, Zahira Naz, Andy Bainbridge, Moya O'Rourke, Abdul Khayum, Alan Law, Abtisam Mohamed, Lewis Dagnall, Cate McDonald, Bob Johnson, George Lindars-Hammond, Josie Paszek, Terry Fox, Sioned-Mair Richards, Jim Steinke, Julie Dore, Ben Miskell, Jack Scott, Mike Drabble, Dianne Hurst, Dawn Dale, Peter Price, Garry Weatherall, Mike Chaplin, Tony Damms, Jayne Dunn, Jack Clarkson, Julie Grocutt, Francyne Johnson, Ben Curran, Neale Gibson, Adam Hurst, Mick Rooney, Jackie Satur and Paul Wood. |
| Abstained from
voting on the
amendment (0) | - | Nil |
- 6.5 The amendment moved by Councillor Peter Garbutt was then put to the vote and was carried.

6.6 The original Motion, as amended, was then put as a Substantive Motion in the following form and carried:-

RESOLVED: That:-

- (a) the HRA Business Plan report for 2021/22, as set out in the appendix to the report, is approved;
- (b) the HRA Revenue Budget 2021/22, as set out in the appendix to the report, is approved;
- (c) rents for council dwellings are increased by 1.5% from April 2021 in line with the Regulator of Social Housing's Rent Standard;
- (d) rents for temporary accommodation remain unchanged for 2021/22;
- (e) garage rents for garage plots and garage sites are increased by 1.5% from April 2021;
- (f) the community heating standing charge is increased by £0.60 per week from April 2021, and the unit kWh price remains unchanged for 2021/22;
- (g) the sheltered housing service charge remains unchanged for 2021/22;
- (h) the burglar alarm charge remains unchanged for 2021/22;
- (i) the furnished accommodation charge remains unchanged for 2021/22;
- (j) this Council is pleased to note the HRA Business Plan finally recognises the impact that housing can have in addressing the climate change emergency and that the Council will, this year, set a priority to develop plans to address climate change and contribute to achieving zero carbon emissions by 2030;
- (k) this Council believes that effective mechanisms to measure and record the impact on the climate crisis are essential;
- (l) this Council therefore requests officers to bring forward reports on:-
 - (i) how to measure (A) space heating demand in addition to Energy Performance Certificates and (B) carbon embodied in buildings;
 - (ii) options for the use of geothermal, ground- or air-source heat pumps and solar panels, to replace boiler houses; and
 - (iii) maximising the scope for boosting biodiversity on housing land; and
- (m) this Council believes that housing improvements are important but that the present backlog of housing repairs must be addressed, including

those non-urgent repairs where there is a contractual duty.

- 6.6.1 (NOTE: The Deputy Lord Mayor (Councillor Gail Smith) and Councillors Simon Clement-Jones, Bob Pullin, Richard Shaw, Bob McCann, Tim Huggan, Mohammed Mahroof, Joe Otten, Colin Ross, Martin Smith, Vic Bowden, Roger Davison, Barbara Masters, Shaffaq Mohammed, Sue Alston, Andrew Sangar, Cliff Woodcraft, Ian Auckland, Sue Auckland, Steve Ayriss, Kevin Oxley, David Baker, Penny Baker, Vickie Priestley, Alan Hooper and Mike Levery abstained from voting on the Substantive Motion, and asked for this to be recorded.)

7. CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) UPDATE

- 7.1 Greg Fell, the Director of Public Health, provided an update on the latest position in relation to the Coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic, including the latest epidemiology and key metrics. Mr Fell described the epidemiology and indicated that lateral flow testing was now being done in Sheffield although not in great volumes. He said there was a significant rise in cases between mid-December and the end of December 2020. Lockdown 3 started at New Year, and there was a decline from then on until mid-January where the rate of decline levelled. Mr Fell stated that the numbers were still going down; however, they are now going down quite slowly. He said that the biggest risk continued to be households mixing, but that this should decrease with the lockdown although some people are still going into work. Mr Fell said that all age cases were falling steadily, although this might fluctuate and the fall is happening quite slowly. He said that the over-60s cases were also falling. He stated that the measure of reproduction was just below 1, but warned that this could change quite quickly. 20% of hospital beds now had a patient with Covid-19 in them. He said that the cohort is younger than might be expected, with Intensive Care Unit patients including a large number of 45 to 65-year-old patients.
- 7.2 Mr Fell gave an update on the Kent variant, and stated that 70% of all cases in Sheffield were the new variant. He said that this strain had now taken over the original virus, and reinforced that it was more transmissible and possibly more lethal. He said there has been a small increase in case mortality rates. Mr Fell said that the control measures were exactly the same, and the key things were vigilance and lapses in adherence. Mr Fell said that there were two more variants of concern, the South African variant and the variant from Brazil. Both were real concerns, both in relation to effectiveness of the vaccine and the possibility of people being re-infected who already had antibodies to the initial virus.
- 7.3 Mr Fell spoke briefly about vaccinations and noted that inequality in coverage was not proving to be an issue currently, but it could be in future. He said that a lot was being done to improve access to the vaccine and to address people's concerns. Mr Fell stated that there are early signs that the vaccination process was working, and was beginning to reduce death and hospitalisation in the elderly. Mr Fell said that the effect of vaccination on transmission was not yet known. Mr Fell encouraged everyone to be very cautious, even when they had received the vaccine, and to adhere to public health and hygiene methods. Mr

Fell stated that it would be foolish to allow unmitigated spread in an unvaccinated population as the virus would still cause harm to younger people and unmitigated transmission and replication could lead to virus mutation. Mr Fell said the Council were pushing for full vaccination as soon as possible.

- 7.4 Mr Fell said he expected things to ease as we entered Spring. He said there will be seasonality in the virus, with people spending more time outside in Spring and this would have an impact. There was also some uncertainty about how the variants might progress. Mr Fell said he supposed the government might gently and slowly relax measures from mid to late Spring, in order to observe what happened as each of the individual measures was relaxed. He said that there remained some risk in the medium term, and that next winter will be problematic. However, getting to a very low level of the virus circulating was viable.
- 7.5 Mr Fell said that the criteria for review included when the R number was well below one, when the community transmission rate is similar to last summer and when there was a well vaccinated population. Mr Fell added that the basic strategy was unchanged.
- 7.6 Dr Zak McMurray (Medical Director at the Clinical Commissioning Group) spoke about the vaccination process in Sheffield. Dr McMurray said that the vaccination process was 'the light at the end of the tunnel', but there was still some way to go. He said that the vaccination process was led nationally and medical practices had to opt-in to an additional service to provide vaccinations. He said only one practice in Sheffield had chosen not to offer this service. He said that the supply of vaccines was the limiting factor. Around 90,000 people in Sheffield had been immunised so far. He said that all Sheffield residents in nursing homes had been offered a vaccination, and two thirds of the housebound population had been vaccinated, alongside the large majority of over 80-year-olds. Significant progress had also been made in vaccinating those over 75-yearsold and those over 70-years-old. Both the Pfizer and Astra Zeneca vaccines were being administered. T When the second doses were due, it would be necessary to administer the same volume of vaccines but with the second doses in addition and this was when the mass vaccination centres would come into use.
- 7.7 Dr Oliver Hart (Clinical Director for the local Primary Care Network) gave an overview of the differences between the two vaccine types. He said that the GP centres had engaged well with the voluntary sector and the local community. He said most of the Primary care Networks (PCNs) had delivered 500 vaccines per day, totalling 2500 vaccines per week for each PCN. He said that in most practices 80% to 90% of the vaccines offered had been taken up, with some 10% declining to have the vaccine, and the remaining 10% being uncertain. Dr Hart asked for the Council's help working with the community to assure people that the vaccines were safe.
- 7.8 The presentations were followed by an opportunity for Members of the Council to ask questions and a summary of the questions and responses was as follows:

A question was asked about the risk of health inequality and what was being done to ensure people could access the vaccine if they did not drive and did not want to take public transport during the pandemic. Dr Hart said that campaigning for a more consistent approach to the vaccine in terms availability was essential, as people needed notice of their vaccination in advance. He said that particularly with the Astra Zeneca vaccine, GPs were going to people's home to administer the vaccine, and that pop up vaccine centres were being used in communities where the take up for the vaccine is lower. He said that most people were attending their vaccination appointment.

Questions were asked in relation to the numbers of people from the BAME communities that had been vaccinated, compared to the wider community in Sheffield and concerning the effectiveness of the vaccination with the gap between the first and second vaccination doses being longer than suggested by medical experts.

Dr McMurray responded that there currently did not appear to be a significant difference between the vaccination take up in BAME communities and the wider community in Sheffield, apart from a small difference in the African Caribbean community. He added that it was important to keep engaging with Elders in religious groups, and that there was some national communications due to be released in that regard. He said that so far, this has not been a major issue, but it may be as the process moved further down the cohorts.

A number of scientists had looked at the evidence and said that the gap between vaccinations was reasonable and only a minor reduction in effectiveness with an increased gap between the two vaccination had been seen. Mr Fell added that the data relating to BAME communities was limited and based on an old Census, but he added that the uptake in BAME communities was better than expected. Elderly Asian groups and the Black African population was a key concern, and work was being done to reassure people and improve access to the vaccination for these groups.

In response to a question about prioritisation of the vaccine, Greg Fell responded and said there were some nuances and difficulties in deciding who was high priority and what 'front line work' meant. He said that there was a national policy of age based vaccination and that on the basis of occupation alone, front line NHS and social care workers should be vaccinated.

A question was asked as to how data about reinfection rates in the new variants was being recorded and how this information would be shared with the public. A further question was raised about the gap extension with the Pfizer vaccine, and in reference to research from the University of Cambridge which suggested only 50% in the over-80s achieved neutralisation after one dose.

Greg Fell responded and said that based on the current data reinfection rates were very low. Whilst he had not seen any evidence to date of reinfection with the Kent/B117 variant, he said the Chief Medical Officer was concerned about reinfection with the Manaus variant, and that full vaccination was essential to minimise the effect of this variant and any others. The first vaccine jab did not

lower the risk of getting the virus but lowered the risk of serious illness because of the virus. Mr Fell stated that information concerning reinfection rates was being collected, but this data had not been made available to him yet.

A question was asked concerning whether it was possible for front line workers, such as supermarket staff, to be tested daily to prevent the spread of the virus. Mr Fell said the evidence did not suggest that this lowered the rate of transmission significantly and it was logistically problematic to test large populations. There was a move toward home based lateral flow testing, although approval was required. He said that there were not at present, sufficient resources to test all 'key workers'.

In response to a question concerning preparations in Sheffield for the South African and Brazilian variants of the virus, Greg Fell responded and stated that if these variants were linked to recent travel, then the process was to test everyone close to the person infected. If the case was not linked to recent travel then door to door testing was necessary.

A question was asked about the uptake of the vaccination in BAME communities and reference made to a pop-up vaccination centre in a local mosque and as to whether there was a plan to do more of these in future. Dr Hart responded and said that the importance of good relationships with communities was recognised. Dr McMurray added that GP Practices also had knowledge of the local population and links to their communities. It was important to encourage people with doubts about the vaccine to have conversations about it with their GP.

Questions were asked how the vaccination process would be affected once the second doses of the vaccines began, and if major changes would be needed during this time. Dr Hart responded that whilst this was a concern alongside GP's day work, there was a capability to deliver many vaccines each week and he said he felt confident there would be the ability to manage the increase in volume, although this would depend on supply of the vaccine. Dr McMurray added that there was capacity to increase the number of vaccinations administered, with capacity currently running at approximately 20% and there was some flexibility around capacity and resources between the Primary Care Networks, Hospitals and Sheffield Arena.

Questions were asked relating to difficulty vaccinating care home staff; whether if somebody declined to have the vaccine, they were offered more information about how to come back should they change their minds; and whether it was possible to prioritise teachers for the vaccine, and if would that work as a process.

In response to question one Dr McMurray said there are some issues with uptake for vaccinations from care home staff, but there are fewer issues than expected. Greg Fell added that Dr McMurray and Dr Hart were doing what they can to increase uptake of the vaccine by care home staff. In response to question two, Dr McMurray said there was a process in place for providing information to a person initially declining to the vaccinated. In response to

question three, he said that the priority for vaccination was decided nationally, and there is very little flexibility to deviate from this.

Questions were asked about the R rate in Sheffield; what could be done to keep the R rate below 1; and about the level of confidence of keeping the R rate below 1.

Greg Fell responded and said the R rate is not measured at city level, but the rate for Yorkshire and the North East is between 0.8 and 1.1. He said if the R rate was below 1, the epidemic would shrink. Mr Fell said the restrictions were having a downward impact on the R rate, and that he would predict a tier system after the current lockdown had ended.

A question was asked as to whether there was any research which looked at whether people who have had the vaccine still carry and pass on the virus. Greg Fell responded and said that his opinion was that being vaccinated would decrease the chance of transmission of the virus; however, it could still be passed on people's hands. Mr Fell said he expected to have more information on this over the next few weeks.

Questions were asked about whether enough was being done to make it clear that vaccination does not necessarily make people immune to the virus and to passing it on; whether the variants were more concerning than suggested by the news reports; and whether the rules for lockdown were being enforced firmly enough, in particular in supermarkets.

Dr Hart responded and said that the messaging when giving the vaccine was very important and could be improved. Mr Fell said that there was concern about the variants and the possibility of them being resistant to the vaccines. He stated that global vaccination is important, adding: 'nobody is safe until we're all safe'.

In response to question three, Mr Fell said that the present lockdown was less strict than the lockdown in March 2020 and more activity had been allowed. He said there were places that were not following the rules and Environmental Health Officers carried out enforcement as and when needed. People could raise a concern about breaches of COVID-19 guidelines with the health protection service.

In response to a question about whether the UK would be taking vaccines from suppliers other than Astra Zeneca and Pfizer, Members were informed that different vaccines might be accepted. The infrastructure was in place, although specific training might be required for new vaccines. Examples of other vaccines were the Moderna vaccine and Sputnik vaccine.

A question was asked about people in the S6 postcode having been sent to the Arena for their vaccinations and as to whether alternative options were available to them. A further question was asked about the durability of the vaccinations, and as to whether top-up injections would be needed in the future. Dr McMurray responded that S6 was the area that didn't have a Practice sign up. He said that

by the end of the weekend, all those over 80-years-old will have been vaccinated. He added if somebody could not travel to the Arena then an alternative arrangement would be made.

Greg Fell said it was not yet known how durable the vaccination was. He said it might be the case that there needed to be a booster vaccine each year, similar to the administration of the flu jab.

The Council noted the information reported and thanked all of the presenters for attending the meeting and providing their updates and for answering Members' questions.

8. CHANGES TO THE CONSTITUTION - FINANCIAL PROCEDURE RULES

- 8.1 RESOLVED: On the Motion of Councillor Terry Fox, seconded by Councillor Bryan Lodge, that this Council (a) notes the minor/consequential changes to the Financial Procedure Rules (Financial Regulations) within Part 4 of the Constitution, made by the Director of Legal and Governance, in consultation with the Lord Mayor, under delegated authority, as outlined in the report of the Director of Legal and Governance now submitted, and its Appendix A and (b) approves the further changes to the Financial Procedure Rules, as set out in the report and its Appendices B and C.

9. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING

- 9.1 RESOLVED: On the motion of Councillor Jackie Drayton, seconded by Councillor Dianne Hurst, that the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 6th January 2021 be approved as a true and accurate record.

10. REPRESENTATION, DELEGATED AUTHORITY AND RELATED ISSUES

- 10.1 RESOLVED: On the motion of Councillor Dianne Hurst, seconded by Councillor Andy Bainbridge, that:-

- (a) approval be given to the following changes to the memberships of Committees, Boards, etc.:-

Overview & Scrutiny Management Committee - Councillor Jack Scott to fill a vacancy

Children, Young People and Family Support Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee - Councillor Jack Scott to fill a vacancy

Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny and - Councillors Lewis Dagnall, Chris Rosling-Josephs and Sophie Wilson to fill

Policy Development Committee	vacancies
Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee Substitute Members	- Councillors Ben Miskell and Moya O'Rourke to fill vacancies
Planning and Highways Committee	- Councillor Jim Steinke to fill a vacancy
Planning and Highways Committee Substitute Members	- Councillor Bryan Lodge to replace Councillor Jim Steinke
Licensing Committee	- Councillor Neale Gibson to replace Councillor Jim Steinke
Admissions Committee	- Councillor Sophie Wilson to fill a vacancy
Senior Officer Employment Committee	- Councillor Julie Grocutt to fill a vacancy
Appeals and Collective Disputes Committee	- Councillor Denise Fox to replace Councillor Anne Murphy and Councillor Karen McGowan to fill a vacancy
Local Area Partnership Lead Ward Member for Birley Ward	- Councillor Denise Fox to replace Councillor Karen McGowan
Corporate Parenting Board	- Councillor Jim Steinke to replace Councillor Sophie Wilson
Monitoring and Advisory Board (Adult Services)	- Councillor Jim Steinke to fill a vacancy
Place Portfolio Joint Consultative Committee	- Councillor Julie Grocutt to fill a vacancy

(b) representatives be appointed to serve on other bodies as follows:-

Sheffield City Region Combined Authority Executive Boards
(1 Member, plus 1 Reserve):-

Housing and Infrastructure Board	- Councillor Julie Grocutt to fill a vacancy as the SCC Member
Transport and the Environment Board	- Councillor Julie Grocutt to replace Councillor Bob Johnson as the SCC Member; and Councillor Bob Johnson to replace Councillor Abdul Khayum as the Reserve Member

- Sheffield City Region Combined Authority Scrutiny Committee - Councillor Bryan Lodge to fill a vacancy
- Sheffield City Region Combined Authority Audit & Standards Committee - Councillor Sioned-Mair Richards to replace Councillor Josie Paszek and Councillor Ben Curran to fill a vacancy
- Environment Agency – Yorkshire Regional Flood and Coastal Committee - Councillor Mark Jones to replace Councillor Neale Gibson
- Reserve and Cadet Forces Association – Yorkshire and Humber - Councillor Bob Johnson to replace Councillor Tony Damms
- Sheffield Lyceum Theatre Trust Ltd – Directors and Members - Councillor Ben Curran to fill a vacancy
- Sheffield Waterways Strategy Group - Councillor Mark Jones to replace Councillor Neale Gibson

- (c) it be noted that, with effect from 6th January 2021, the Leader of the Council (Councillor Bob Johnson) has appointed Councillor Julie Grocutt to serve on the Cabinet Highways Committee in place of himself, and that he will serve as a substitute member of that Committee; and
- (d) Mr. Mark Power be re-appointed to serve as a private sector representative on the Independent Remuneration Panel, for a further four-year term ending 6th February, 2025.

11. TRIBUTES TO FORMER COUNCILLOR ANDY HINMAN

- 11.1 The Lord Mayor (Councillor Tony Downing) provided an opportunity for Members of the Council to pay tribute to former Councillor Andy Hinman, who sadly had died on 27th January 2021.
- 11.2 Former Councillor Hinman had served as a Member of the Council from 1995 to 1999, representing the Nether Edge Ward.
- 11.3 Several Members of the Council spoke to pay tribute to him.