

WEST LINDSEY DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Council held in the Council Chamber at the Guildhall, Gainsborough, on Monday 28 April 2014, at 7pm.

Present: Councillor Irmgard Parrott (In the Chair)
Councillor Malcolm Parish (Vice-Chairman)

Councillor Gillian Bardsley	Councillor Burt Keimach
Councillor Owen Bierley	Councillor Stuart Kinch
Councillor Mark Binns	Councillor Angela Lawrence
Councillor Nigel Bowler	Councillor Giles McNeill
Councillor Ken Bridger	Councillor Jessie Milne
Councillor Jackie Brockway	Councillor Judy Rainsforth
Councillor Alan Caine	Councillor Sue Rawlins
Councillor David Cotton	Councillor Di Rodgers
Councillor Stuart Curtis	Councillor Reg Shore
Councillor Chris Darcel	Councillor Lewis Strange
Councillor David Dobbie	Councillor Jeff Summers
Councillor Ian Fleetwood	Councillor Geoff Wiseman
Councillor Paul Howitt-Cowan	Councillor Trevor Young

Apologies: Councillor Chris Day
Councillor Richard Doran
Councillor Malcolm Leaning
Councillor Roger Patterson
Councillor Tom Regis
Councillor Lesley Rollings
Councillor Mick Tinker
Councillor Anne Welburn

In Attendance:
Manjeet Gill Chief Executive
Mark Sturgess Chief Operating Officer
John Rice Interim Commercial Director
Russell Stone Chief Finance Officer
Alan Robinson Head of Central Services and Monitoring Officer
Dinah Lilley Governance and Civic Officer

Also Present: 5 members of the public

101 PRAYERS

The meeting commenced with prayers by Councillor David Cotton.

The Chairman informed all present that this was the last occasion that Councillor Cotton would lead prayers prior to his ordination on 29 June. Congratulations were given.

102 COUNCIL MINUTES 3 MARCH 2014 (Paper A)

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of Council held on 3 March 2014 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

103 MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

104 MATTERS ARISING (Paper B)

There were no outstanding matters arising. Councillor Cotton questioned the status of the Councillors' Memorial board proposed in his motion on 27 January. The Head of Central Services informed the meeting that the board had been approved by the Policy and Resources Committee at its last meeting.

105 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman of the Council

The Council Chairman noted that she had had the pleasure of attending a variety of events, one of which was the unusual occasion of a ground breaking ceremony for a nursing home at Burton Waters, at which she had been issued with wellies, hard hat and a high visibility vest to wear, and given a spade to use.

The Chairman thanked all those who attended the 40 year anniversary celebration of West Lindsey District Council, but was disappointed to note that she was the only representative at the St George's day commemoration.

Leader of the Council

The Council Leader updated the Councillors on the current status of the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan. The Statement of Community Involvement was to be published on the website and an invitation issued for a drop-in launch at the Lincoln Hotel on 5 June. The next meeting of the Joint Planning Unit would take place on 12 May for review of the Core Strategy evidence. The Plan was proposed to cover the period up to 2036.

Head of Paid Service

The Chief Executive informed Members of progress with the Corporate Priorities. The e-accessibility project was beginning to go live, and momentum was building with the Community Assets Fund.

MOD sites such as Brookenby and Scampton were highlighted, and the antiques centre at Hemswell was cited as one of the largest international antiques businesses.

106 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions from the public.

107 QUESTIONS PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 9

With the report from the Inspector regarding the closure of Hawthorn Road now imminent, can the Chief Executive please assure members two things,

1)_that West Lindsey District Council will support the two councils of Cherry Willingham and Reepham in their campaign for a full bridge over the new Bypass.

2) and that as the closure of Hawthorn Road was not discussed by the West Lindsey Planning Committee a year ago last March, the reason will be properly investigated and the necessary action taken.

Over 3,500 residents signed a petition against the road closure in February. The closure has been in the County Council domain for well over two years, but of which the residents and parish councils in Cherry Willingham, Reepham, Fiskerton and Short Ferry were neither consulted or aware and feel badly let down by the local government process.

Thank you,

Cllr Christopher Darcel

Response by the Chief Operating Officer

“I would like to thank Councillor Darcel for his question.

By way background it is important to bear in mind the role of the various councils in promoting, determining and commenting on this application. The Lincoln Eastern Bypass (LEB) is being promoted and developed by the County Council as the local highway authority. In this role it is their responsibility to ensure that adequate consultation and engagement is carried out with communities. This applies in its role as the developer and in its role as the local planning authority for the road.

The West Lindsey District Council on the other hand is a statutory consultee in the process in much the same way as a parish or town council.

There have been two consultations on the LEB: one in 2010 and one in 2013. The 2010 consultation was for a dual carriageway road and included a full access road bridge carrying Hawthorn Road over the proposed bypass. Due

conditions attached to the funding from the Department for Transport this scheme could not go ahead. Most of the public consultation on 2010 scheme was done in 2008 and was used to inform the revised 2013 consultation process.

In 2013 the County Council re-consulted on a single carriageway scheme. Both consultations concerned the whole route of the bypass from North Greetwell in West Lindsey to Bracebridge Heath in North Kesteven. The consultation involved a considerable number of documents which were distributed by email. The proposed change from a full access road bridge carrying Hawthorn Road over the bypass to a NMU was a small element in a this documentation. As the previous scheme had proposed a full access road bridge across the bypass for Hawthorn Road and the new proposal was principally about changing the road from a dual to a single carriageway road, there was no reason to believe that other aspects of the road had been changed. At the Planning Committee where the single carriageway bypass was considered members commented on the principle of the bypass and supported its construction. The Committee did not examine individual aspects of the route such as the change to the Hawthorn Road Bridge due to the volume of information supplied by the County Council and the rationale behind the re-consultation (that was a change from a dual carriageway road to a single carriageway road).

In terms of this Council supporting the two parish councils of Cherry Willingham and Reepham in their campaign for a full bridge over the new bypass I will ensure that the report from the Inspector is examined thoroughly to ensure that all the matters raised by the communities have been dealt with properly.

I will also ask officers to work with their colleagues at the County Council to see if there is a possibility of the proposed bridge being up graded to a full access road bridge at some stage in the future.”

Councillor Darcel responded that a bridge upgrade was wanted as soon as possible.

108 MOTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 10

From - Councillors Lewis Strange and Geoff Wiseman.

We ask that -- West Lindsey District Councillors support, the concept of finding ways of funding an extra visiting warden, and adding, to the two visiting wardens, now provided by ACIS for the seven sites across the district, where up to this April, ACIS have previously provided full time wardens.

This should provide, a far more reliable service, of care to our West Lindsey residents, who live in these communities, which we as a Council handed on responsibility to the ACIS organisation, some years ago.

We so move.

Response by the Leader of the Council.

“I would like to thank Councillors Strange and Wiseman for this motion. It is important that those people who are in this type of accommodation feel that there is adequate support when they need it. However we are still facing substantial pressures on our budget and will continue to do so for a number of years to come. Therefore I believe it is correct that before we commit ourselves to further on-going financial expenditure such as that requested in the Notice we ensure that this is the best way of providing for the needs of these people, that we can find a financial solution that is affordable and sustainable and that this should be one of the priorities the council should support.

I will therefore ask that this issue of additional warden support for the sheltered accommodation referred to in the motion is thoroughly investigated through a full report to the Prosperous Communities Committee and the Policy and Resources Committee with the result of those investigations being reported back to the Council.”

Councillor Wiseman added to the motion that only £25,000 was being requested and the two wardens to be provided by ACIS was not enough. Residents were owed a better service.

Some Councillors passed further comment on the proposals, and it was suggested that the Longhurst model be looked at as an alternative. The Chief Executive noted that it may be useful to look at the problem within the context of the Supporting People programme as any changes could have a wider impact on other vulnerable people.

RESOLVED that the options the council has around the changes to the provision of wardens at the ACIS sheltered housing sites (including how any proposals link to the supporting people programme) be considered by the Prosperous Communities Committee and the Policy and Resources Committee and the conclusions be reported back to Council.

109 NOTICE OF ELECTION RESULTS (PAPER C)

RESOLVED that the election results following the by elections in Scotter on 19 December 2013 and 27 February 2014 be noted.

110 REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING PLACES (PAPER D)

The Head of Central Services introduced the report, reminding Members that consultation had been undertaken with all relevant bodies and all had had the opportunity to have their views considered.

Members wished to record their thanks and appreciation to the Electoral Services team for their hard work.

RESOLVED that:

- a) the Polling Districts and Polling Places identified in Appendix 2 of the report be approved; and
- b) powers be delegated to the Returning Officer, following consultation with the Chairman and Leader of the Council, to approve changes to polling places occurring during an election period.

111 TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS PUBLISHED SINCE THE LAST COUNCIL MEETING ON 3 MARCH 2014.

RESOLVED that the minutes of Committee meetings published since the last Council meeting on 3 March 2014 be received.

The meeting concluded at 7.40 pm.

Chairman