

## WEST LINDSEY DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES of a Meeting of the Prosperous Communities Committee held in the Council Chamber at the Guildhall, Gainsborough on Tuesday 26 April 2016 at 6.30pm.

**Present:** Councillor Owen Bierley (Chairman) (In the Chair)  
Councillor Gillian Bardsley (Vice-Chairman)

Councillor Michael Devine  
Councillor Steve England  
Councillor Paul Howitt-Cowan  
Councillor Jessie Milne  
Councillor Giles McNeill  
Councillor Lesley Rollings  
Councillor Di Rodgers  
Councillor Trevor Young

**In Attendance :**

Mark Sturgess	Chief Operating Officer
Eve Fawcett-Moralee	Strategic Lead – Economic Development and Neighbourhoods
Joanna Walker	Team Manager, Projects and Growth
Oliver Fytche-Taylor	Team Manager, Spatial Planning and Strategic Growth
Karen Whitfield	Team Manager, Leisure and Cultural Services
Katie Coughlan	Governance and Civic Officer

**Also In Attendance:** 3 representatives from Magna Vitae

**Apologies:** Councillor Lewis Strange (Vice-Chairman)  
Councillor Adam Duguid  
Councillor Malcolm Parish (absent on a civic engagement)  
Councillor Sheila Bibb (visiting member)

**Membership:** Councillor Giles McNeill substituting for Councillor Lewis Strange

This being the last meeting of the Civic Year the Chairman welcomed all those present including visitors to the meeting.

#### **94 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There was no public participation

#### **95 MINUTES**

(a) Meeting of the Prosperous Communities Committee – 22 March 2016.

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Meeting of the Prosperous Communities Committee held on 22 March 2016 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

#### **96 MATTERS ARISING SCHEDULE SETTING OUT THE CURRENT POSITION OF PREVIOUSLY AGREED ACTIONS AS AT 18 APRIL 2016 (PRCC.51 15/16)**

Members gave consideration to the Matters Arising Schedule which set out the current position of all previously agreed actions as at 18 April 2016.

With regard to the green action entitled “rural transport working group”, whilst accepting the commentary detailed against the action, Members considered the situation was further deteriorating. Councillor Mrs Rodgers cited a number of recent examples where residents in the Toft Newton area had received a less than satisfactory service. The services offered continued to be reduced, bookings were being cancelled with very little notice and it was very difficult to make contact with the operators of these services.

Members suggested that working group members should start collecting evidence, issue logs from their local community and report these into the working group once established.

**RESOLVED** that progress on the Matters Arising Schedule, as set out in report PRCC.51 15/16 be received and noted.

#### **97 MEMBERS’ DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Trevor Young declared a personal interest in report PRCC. 55 15/16 (Gainsborough Town Centre Management and Markets) as the proprietor of 21 Silver Street, Gainsborough.

#### **98 MAGNA VITAE PRESENTATION REGARDING THEIR PROPOSALS FOR A WEST LINDSEY EVENT DURING 2016**

The Chairman welcomed representatives from Magna Vitae to the meeting and invited them to make their presentation to the Committee. In opening, the company's mission statement was shared with Members, this being, "to provide an extraordinary range of cultural, leisure and health related facilities and services that allow local people to lead a great life "together with the company's charitable objectives, these being: -

- To provide or assist in the provision of both indoor and outdoor facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disability, financial hardship or social circumstance or to the public at large with the object of improving their conditions of life; and/or
- To promote and maximise community participation in healthy, recreational activities.;
- To provide or assist in the provision of community facilities to be available to all sections of the community without distinction, including use for meetings, lectures and classes and/or other forms of recreation and leisure time occupation with the object of improving the conditions of life for all who use the facilities;
- To promote the education of the public through the provision of facilities for performing arts.

Magna Vitae shared with Members examples and pictures of previous events they had hosted demonstrating how they had secured community engagement, ensuring their events were dynamic and visual and community focused. Examples of both large and small scale events were provided and the wider benefits afforded by hosting such events was acknowledged.

In concluding the idea base for West Lindsey District Council was shared with the Committee, this being to host events in Market Rasen and Caistor over 1 and 2 October. The final details of the events and the programme were to be finalised, however, events would be designed to inspire, engage and excite audiences.

Debate ensued and a number of Members welcomed this exciting opportunity, receiving confirmation that the proposals were being met within budget.

Some Members were of the view that such events should have been launched in the District's principal settlement of Gainsborough and questioned who had made this decision. Information was sought and received on how the company intended to engage with the local community.

Officers advised that this work was being overseen by the Leisure and Cultural Working Group. October's events were a pilot and it was hoped that if successful further events could be commissioned.

Members welcomed the community engagement and links to healthy lifestyles and thanked Magna Vitae for their work to-date and the presentation.

## **99 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Before proceeding to the formal items for consideration, the Chairman made a number of announcements as follows: -

- The final period progress and delivery reports had been removed from the agenda due to some of the required data not being available, these would now be submitted to the first meeting of the new civic year.
- With regard to selective licensing, the Committee had resolved at its previous meeting that: -

“it be approved that this designation be made from 18 April 2016 and for the selective licensing scheme to come into effect on 15 July 2016 and unless revoked beforehand, to remain in force for a period of 5 years”

On reflection, Officers had expressed concern that the legislation required there to be a three month period between designation and effectiveness. Whilst the dates referred to above did include the right number of weeks it may be argued that it did not allow for a clear 3 month period. Therefore, the Chief Operating Officer, in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee, had used the delegated authority granted to him by Committee at the same meeting to amend the effective date to 18 July 2016. Members were asked to note this amendment.

- Regrettably the Chairman of the Council was unwell again, the Chairman had received a suggestion that a card and well wishes be sent on behalf of the Committee. Agreement was sought and received that a card should be sent.

## **100 WLDC CONSULTATION RESPONSE AND SUPPORT FOR THE PROPOSED SUBMISSION DRAFT CENTRAL LINCOLNSHIRE LOCAL PLAN (PRCC.52 15/16)**

Consideration was given to a report which provided Members with an update on the final stage of the local plan consultation. The report further recommended that Members support the formal consultation response and endorse the proposed submission draft local plan.

In presenting the report, Officers outlined the background to the development of the Local Plan, the current position and the next steps in the statutory process.

Committee noted that the Production of the Proposed Submission Draft Central Lincolnshire Local Plan represented a significant achievement for the partner authorities; following the decision not to pursue the earlier Core Strategy. The new Local Plan had been produced both on time and within budget, far quicker than the national average for plan-making. The area covered by the plan was one of the largest covered by any plan nationally, and the growth targets that the plan sought to deliver were amongst the highest anywhere in the UK. It was important that all partners recognised the need to support this ambitious level of growth and provide full support for the Local Plan as it reached the final stage.

The Committee wholeheartedly welcomed the production of the Plan and were aware of its importance to the District in terms of growth.

Committee placed on record their thanks to the Team Manager and Central Lincolnshire Team for the work they had undertaken.

**RESOLVED** that:

- (a) the publication of the Proposed Submission Draft Central Lincolnshire Local Plan, be welcomed and it be recognised that it provides a framework for strong economic growth, in that it:
  - (i) Provides a statutory spatial planning framework for the regeneration, growth and development of Gainsborough in accordance with the corporate aspirations this Council has for the town.
  - (ii) It assists with the use of major infrastructure assets present in the District to further jobs growth and economic prosperity within the District
  - (iii) It enables the growth and development of our market towns
  - (iv) It gives (through the provision of a five year housing land supply) appropriate protection to those areas within the District where further housing growth would damage the identity of communities and put a further strain on existing infrastructure
  - (v) It gives support to communities who desire to see their areas grow by providing a framework within which Neighbourhood Plans can be prepared.
  - (vii) It enables some of the smallest settlements in the District to grow at a scale appropriate to their needs.
- (b) the Proposed Submission Draft Local Plan be endorsed and it be **RECOMMENDED** to Full Council that authority be delegated to the Chief Executive, in consultation with

both the Leader and the Chairman of Prosperous Communities Committee, to submit a formal representation to the Central Lincolnshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee and Local Plan team giving full WLDC support to the Proposed Submission Draft Local Plan (and therefore for the plan to proceed to Examination in Public and then adoption).

#### **101 WEST LINDSEY COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY (CIL) DRAFT CHARGING SCHEDULE (PRCC53 15/16)**

Following legal advice over the procedure and presentation of the Community Infrastructure Levy, consideration was given to a report which sought

- to confirm to the Committee the current programme in respect of progressing the adoption of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) by the Authority;
- to request confirmation that the Council would have made no comment on neighbouring district Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule CIL consultations;
- to confirm Member approval of the Draft Charging Schedule (DCS) for West Lindsey and consultation which is scheduled for May 2016 alongside the Central Lincolnshire Proposed Submission Local Plan; and
- to seek approval for West Lindsey to pursue a joint CIL/Local Plan examination in conjunction with City of Lincoln Council and North Kesteven District Council.

Debate ensued and in responding to Members' questions, Officers advised that the idea of the proposed £0 CIL charge for areas of the Gainsborough Housing Zone was to encourage viable developments within this area to support delivery, against the income foregone for large project investment. Furthermore, £1m had been allocated within the Capital Programme to provide infrastructure investment within the area, effectively offsetting this loss.

Officers confirmed that CIL could not be used for smaller site specific requirements for example cycle paths, however Section 106 agreements could still be used for such matters. This would not be affected by the £0 CIL charge zone.

Officers further confirmed the CIL Regulation 123 list was aligned between all partners, ie all partners had the same priorities, these projects were not necessarily all allocated within West Lindsey, however priorities over time

would change and the list would be reviewed. This would be a function of the Central Lincolnshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee.

**RESOLVED** that:

- (a) the approach to CIL going forward be noted;
- (b) the West Lindsey Community Infrastructure Levy Draft Charging Schedule be approved for formal consultation with the supporting documents, the Draft Regulation 123 list, Draft Instalments Policy and Draft Paying CIL in the Form of Land Policy;
- (c) the Authority confirms it would not have commented on the North Kesteven and City of Lincoln Preliminary Draft Charging Schedules if they had been consulted by them in October / November 2015;
- (d) delegated authority be granted to the Chief Operating Officer, in consultation with the Chair of Prosperous Communities Committee, to make amendments to the Draft Charging Schedule and supporting documents should they be necessary;
- (e) the progression of an aligned CIL examination jointly with North Kesteven and the City of Lincoln Councils, subject to the approval of the Secretary of State, be approved.
- (f) the progression of an aligned CIL examination jointly with the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan, subject to the approval of the Secretary of State, be approved.

**102 WORK PLAN (PRCC.54 15/16)**

Members gave consideration to the Committee work plan.

**RESOLVED** that the Work Plan as set out in report PRCC.54 15/16 be received and noted.

**103 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

**RESOLVED** that under Section 100 (A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it

may involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

#### **104 GAINSBOROUGH TOWN CENTRE MANAGEMENT AND MARKETS**

Members gave consideration to report which outlined proposals for WLDC's involvement in the management of Gainsborough Town Centre including the street market.

In presenting the report, Officers outlined at length the background and history to the Town Centre Management and West Lindsey's previous involvement, together with details of all of the options which had been explored to-date, concluding with highlighting the preferred option to the Committee and the rationale for this.

It was noted that the report had previously been submitted to the Challenge and Improvement Committee and in light of the comments and concerns they had raised, the report had been revised in order to address these.

In opening the debate, Members supported the recommendation, however questions were still raised over the timeline for the project despite this having been revised. Members considered June a more acceptable conclusion date.

With regard to the Market Rules appended to the report, Members questioned whether these were rules and regulations and if so sought indication why they were not being monitored, managed and enforced, citing examples when this had not been the case. Members were clear that if a set of rules were agreed then they should be enforced.

In responding, Officers outlined the work which needed to be undertaken before a final decision could be reached, hence the timeline set, which accommodated the summer recess, also offering reassurance that there was no deliberate delay. Officers had become aware of late that the market had not been "policed" to the same level and as a result this function had been transferred to another service area.

Members requested that in the event of the required work being completed earlier than anticipated, a special meeting be arranged.

The Chairman of the Challenge and Improvement Committee addressed the meeting and advised that whilst he still held concerns, particularly regarding previous petitions issues having not been addressed nor the highways matters, he did offer confirmation that the main issues his Committee had raised had been addressed by this revised paper.

Further reassurance was offered in that updates would be submitted to each Committee Briefing meeting to ensure progress remained on track.



Referring again to the Trader Rules, confirmation was sought and received that the authority could dictate what traders sold. With this in mind, Members made reference to paragraph 3 i), which stated “a trader must not bring onto the Market or display for sale any of the following items, without the consent of the MO”. Members indicated that they wished to see no discretion offered in this area.

A number of the items included within the list detailed at 3 i) were also questioned. It was suggested that this area be further considered outside of the meeting.

Members were supportive of the wider regeneration projects planned and stressed that an holistic approach must be adopted.

On that basis it was : -

**RESOLVED** that:

- (a) Option 4.1 as outlined within report PRCC.55 15/16 be approved;
- (b) in the event of the required work being completed earlier than predicted, the proper office be requested to convene a special meeting of the Committee prior to September 2016;
- (c) the amended Market Rules as outlined in Appendix 1 of report PRCC.55 15/16 be approved subject to Section 3 (i) of the document being amended in line with Members comments expressed during the debate; and
- (d) Delegated authority be granted to the Chief Operating Officer, in consultation with the Chairman of Prosperous Communities Committee, to make such amendments referred to at (c ) above.

**105 CHAIRMAN’S CLOSING REMARKS**

This being the last meeting of the Civic year, the Chairman paid thanks to all Committee Members for their invaluable contribution; to his Lead Officer, Mr Mark Sturgess and Committee Clerk, Katie Coughlan for their support and guidance throughout the year; and to all Teams that contributed to the Committee’s work.

The Committee in turn paid tribute to the Chairman and thanked him for his apolitical and encompassing approach.

The meeting concluded at 8.04 pm.

Prosperous Communities Committee – 26 April 2016  
Subject to Call-in. Call-in will expire on Friday 20 May at 4.30 pm

Chairman