



**Guildhall Gainsborough  
Lincolnshire DN21 2NA  
Tel: 01427 676676 Fax: 01427 675170**

**This meeting will be webcast live and published on the Council's website**

**AGENDA**

Prayers will be conducted prior to the start of the meeting.  
Members are welcome to attend.

**Notice** is hereby given that a meeting of the Council will be held in the Council Chamber - The Guildhall, on **Monday, 3rd March, 2025 at 7.00 pm**, and your attendance at such meeting is hereby requested to transact the following business.

**To: Members of West Lindsey District Council**

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

To confirm and sign as a correct record the Minutes of the Meeting of Full Council held on 27 January 2025.

**(TO FOLLOW)**

3. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members may make any declarations of interest at this point and may also make them at any point during the meeting.

4. MATTERS ARISING

Setting out the current position of previously agreed actions as at 21 February 2025.

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5. ANNOUNCEMENTS
  - i) Chairman of Council
  - ii) Leader of the Council
  - iii) Head of Paid Service

**(VERBAL REPORT)**

6. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME  
Questions, if received, under this Scheme will be published by way of supplement following closure of the deadline.

**(TO FOLLOW)**

7. QUESTIONS PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO. 9  
Questions, if received, under this Scheme will be published by way of supplement following closure of the deadline.

**(TO FOLLOW)**

8. MOTIONS PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO. 10

**Motion 1 - Back West Lindsey – Stop a Mega-Council**

“This Council Notes:

1. The Government’s English Devolution announcement in December 2024, which included reference to supporting local government reorganisation.
2. The proposals being considered by some counties to merge existing district councils into large, county-wide unitary authorities, as seen recently in North Yorkshire.
3. The significant concerns of residents, businesses and the third sector across Lincolnshire regarding the negative impact a mega-council would have on local democracy, accountability, and the effective delivery of public services.
4. The financial situation of mega-councils created in recent years such as Somerset and North Northamptonshire have not improved post-unitarisation. The financial crisis in local government has not been solved by unitarisation.

This Council Believes:

1. Decisions affecting West Lindsey should be taken in West Lindsey.

Agendas, Reports and Minutes will be provided upon request in the following formats:

Large Clear Print: Braille: Audio: Native Language

2. In its 50 year's of existence West Lindsey has been a successful council responding to the needs of its community. This level of localised action would be lost in mega-council, one county unitary.
3. Whilst the current two-tier system presents some challenges, the solution does not lie in the creation of vast and remote mega-councils that would diminish local voices and accountability.
4. If unitarisation is to be implemented in Lincolnshire, it should be based on smaller, more localised areas that are aligned with existing communities and their identities, rather than a single, county-wide mega-council.
5. That any restructuring of local government in Lincolnshire must be driven by the genuine needs and preferences of local communities, and should not be a top-down imposition that disregards local concerns.

This Council Resolves:

1. To reject the creation of a large, county-wide mega-council for Lincolnshire.
2. To call upon the Leader of the Council to write to all Council Leaders in Greater Lincolnshire and the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government to inform them of West Lindsey's wish to remain West Lindsey, and request that they abandon any plans for a county-wide mega-council.
3. We instruct officers to ensure that the continuing identity of West Lindsey District as a major contributor to Central Lincolnshire is at the forefront of any thinking and planning that they undertake from now on

I so move  
Councillor Matthew Boles”

## 9. REPORTS FOR DETERMINATION

- a. Medium Term Financial Plan 2025/26 to 2029/30 The Budget 2025/26  
Capital Programme 2025/26 to 2029/30  
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- b. Recommendation from The Governance and Audit Committee - Constitution Review - Outcome of the Legal Health Check of the Constitution and Arising Recommendations  
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- c. Combined Authority (Mayoral Elections) - Appointment of Local Returning Officer

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10. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

To resolve 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 involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

11. EXEMPT REPORT(S)

- a. Medium Term Financial Plan 2025/26 to 2029/30 The Budget 2025/26  
Capital Programme 2025/26 to 2029/30 - Exempt Appendix

Appendix 3 Continued – Exempt Fees and Charges relating to Building Control.

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Ian Knowles  
Head of Paid Service  
The Guildhall  
Gainsborough

Friday, 21 February 2025