

## WEST LINDSEY DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Council held in the Council Chamber - The Guildhall on 4 November 2019 at 7.00 pm.

**Present:** Councillor Steve England (Chairman)  
Councillor Mrs Angela Lawrence (Vice-Chairman)

Councillor Owen Bierley	Councillor Matthew Boles
Councillor Mrs Jackie Brockway	Councillor Stephen Bunney
Councillor Liz Clews	Councillor David Cotton
Councillor Mrs Tracey Coulson	Councillor Christopher Darcel
Councillor Timothy Davies	Councillor Michael Devine
Councillor David Dobbie	Councillor Jane Ellis
Councillor Ian Fleetwood	Councillor Mrs Caralyne Grimble
Councillor Cherie Hill	Councillor Paul Howitt-Cowan
Councillor Mrs Cordelia McCartney	Councillor Giles McNeill
Councillor John McNeill	Councillor Mrs Jessie Milne
Councillor Keith Panter	Councillor Roger Patterson
Councillor Tom Regis	Councillor Mrs Diana Rodgers
Councillor Mrs Lesley Rollings	Councillor Jim Snee
Councillor Mrs Mandy Snee	Councillor Lewis Strange
Councillor Jeff Summers	Councillor Robert Waller
Councillor Mrs Anne Welburn	Councillor Mrs Angela White
Councillor Trevor Young	

**In Attendance:**

Ian Knowles	Executive Director of Resources, Head of Paid Service and S151 Officer
Eve Fawcett-Moralee	Executive Director of Economic and Commercial Growth
Alan Robinson	Monitoring Officer
Katie Coughlan	Senior Democratic & Civic Officer

**Also in Attendance:**

**Also Present:** 11 Members of the Public  
1 Member of the Press

**Apologies** Councillor Mrs Judy Rainsforth

### 33 CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed all Members, Officers, Members of the Public and Press present to the meeting.

Representatives from Glentworth Neighbourhood Planning Group, who would later in the

meeting present their successful Plan to Council, were also welcomed to meeting.

### **34 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

(a) Minutes of the Meeting of Full Council held on 1 July 2019

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting of Full Council held on 1 July 2019 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

### **35 MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Roger Patterson declared a personal interest in agenda item 9 (Members Code of Conduct – Investigation Report) as the report related to his behaviour.

### **36 MATTERS ARISING**

The Monitoring Officer presented the report and advised Members that all actions had been completed within their targets.

**RESOLVED** that the Matters Arising be duly noted.

### **37 ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **Chairman**

The Chairman addressed Council and brought Members' attention to the Community Award packs which had been distributed across the Chamber. The Chairman urged all Members to ensure that their respective town and parish councils, and any other community groups were aware of the awards.

The Chairman spoke of the marvellous people out in the community who gave up their time to make life better, whether it was by simply popping in for a chat with someone who would otherwise be lonely, or litter picking and the many other contributions these people made to improving the quality of life in their communities. The Community Awards was an opportunity to celebrate these people and the work they did and he urged all Members to submit nominations for any groups or individuals they personally knew and who they considered worthy.

Referring to recent engagements, the Chairman advised he had attended at numerous events since the last meeting, but highlighted the following to Council: -

Top of his list, his Civic Service, which had been a thoroughly enjoyable event. The Chairman expressed thanks on behalf of himself and his good lady to all those who had made it a memorable day for them, especially to the Officers who had worked tirelessly, and to the Civic Officer for her flawless organisation.

The Chairman would be holding his Annual Civic Carol Service at St Michael's Church in

Hackthorn at 6pm on 5<sup>th</sup> December, all Members were cordially invited.

The Chairman had had the great pleasure of opening the renovated ACIS property at Ingham. The work had been undertaken by apprentices and the Chairman commended the very high standard to which it had been completed, the pride in what they had achieved was obvious.

It had been an honour to attend the degree ceremony for students of Lincoln College at the Cathedral.

On a sad note, the Chairman had also attended the memorial service for John Stanley, a former Chairman of the Council, held here in the Parish Church in Gainsborough.

The opening of the Pilgrim 400 museum in Retford had been an interesting and informative afternoon, as had been attending at the Silver Jubilee Celebrations of the Gainsborough Heritage Centre. He urged anyone who had not visited the Centre to do so, describing it as absolutely superb.

Last but by no means least was the visit by some of the pupils of the Parish Church School, Gainsborough, who came to learn about local democracy and how the Council works. Everybody had thoroughly enjoyed the event and the Chairman had met quite a few potential future Councillors in the making, including one young man with an eye on the Leader's job!

## **Leader**

The Leader addressed Council and updated the Chamber in respect of the following matters: -

- Immediately following Full Council in July the Leader attended the Local Government Association Conference in Bournemouth with the Head of Paid Service, and Councillor Bob Waller (substituting for Councillor Owen Bierley). A positive conference with valuable meetings with colleagues from the county whilst building strategic relationships;
- The following week the Leader was in London for the Future Infrastructure Conference. This was organised by the Government, with one of the topics being how to bid for infrastructure, and how this infrastructure would be built. This was an interesting conference at a technical level possibly more suited to officers, but it was an informative day nonetheless;
- On 5 August the Leader spoke with the Prime Minister who was in Boston to announce funding for Boston's Pilgrim Hospital. The Prime Minister was pressed on fairer funding for the county, along with a number of other issues including the Business Rates Retention Review and getting a multi-year settlement for local government funding rather than a single year allocation;

- There was a meeting with partners, along with Members of West Lindsey District Council (WLDC) and the Heritage Lottery Fund about the Gainsborough Heritage Townscape Scheme on 12 August. This scheme was successful, and £1.9 million of funding had been awarded for heritage improvements to the town centre in Gainsborough. Thanks went to lead Officers and partners involved in this scheme who made this possible;
- On 2 September there was an exit interview ahead of Mr Mark Sturgess' departure as Executive Director of Operations; gratitude was given to Mr Sturgess for his service to the District;
- On 10-13 September the Leader attended the National Council of Association for Public Service Excellence (APSE) in Newcastle where the research budget for APSE was discussed, along with allocating a substantial amount of this budget to solutions for climate change from a local authority perspective. Also discussed was the ambition to be carbon neutral and how this can be made a reality. The Leader led a seminar and discussion on the commercial property portfolio that WLDC had invested in to-date;
- On 17 September the Leader attended the Local Partnership's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary with Lord Gary Porter of Spalding, to discuss the Local Partnership leading on the work for the Growth Deal for the Chief Executives' and Leaders' meeting at the Greater Lincolnshire level;
- The memorial service of former WLDC Councillor John Stanley was held on 19 September and the Leader attended along with the Chairman and other Councillors. It was well attended; this was followed by the Pilgrim Roots event in Bassetlaw;
- At the Civic Service for the Chairman held on Sunday 22 September the Leader performed a reading;
- The Central Lincolnshire Local Plan meeting was held in Sleaford on 23 September. Substantive discussions took place regarding the ongoing review into the Local Plan between the 4 partners;
- The Leader attended training events at the Local Government Association Leadership Academy both at the end of September and also in October in Warwick. Hopefully there would be opportunities for other Members of the Council to attend similar training in the months and years ahead;
- The Leaders' and Chief Executives' meeting on 4 October was attended by the Leader along with the Executive Director of Resources and the Executive Director for Economic and Commercial Growth. Success was gained with regard to the content of the Local Industrial Strategy, in particular the addition of notable place names within West Lindsey to give readers more of an indication of where the strategy was targeted;

- The Growth Deal progressed with the agreement of re-establishing the shared committee that existing previously; this was due to convene around the same time as the next Leaders' and Chief Executives' meeting;
- The Leader also attended a meeting with ACIS;
- The MIPIM UK Conference Team Lincolnshire dinner in London was an opportunity to meet and thank colleagues and local partners from around the county. Thanks were also given to Sir Edward Leigh MP who hosted the table. The following Thursday saw the Green Finance Conference headed by the UK Government's Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, which was attended due to a place granted through APSE. This was interesting as it explored how the financial wealth of local government could be utilised to lever in greener outcomes and improve the environment;
- The Leader attended a meeting with the Riverside Indoor Bowls Club on 24 October which was positive; thanks were extended to Grant White, West Lindsey District Council's Enterprising Communities Manager who would be spearheading partnership working on a potential £750,000 multi-purpose facility at Roses' Sports Ground;
- The Leader was a guest of the Deputy Lord Lieutenant John Burke at the ABF Soldiers' Charity Concert at Lincoln Cathedral;
- Friday 1 November saw the Leader attend the opening of the new Superdrug store in Marshall's Yard, Gainsborough, before moving on to the site of the new Crematorium on the outskirts of Gainsborough. This was followed by the first Group Leader's meeting;
- The conclusion of the Housing Infrastructure agreement with Homes England had happened. WLDC were receiving a £2.1 million recycled grant delivering 796 dwellings in Gainsborough. The infrastructure work was due to take place in early 2020 to unlock the Southern Urban Extension;
- Finally, the submission of the access bid had been entered for £2.5 million to develop social enterprises and find funding solutions to deliver the objectives for the vulnerable communities agenda in Gainsborough.

## **Head of Service**

The Head of Paid Service addressed Council on behalf of the Management Team during which the following points were made: -

- **The Alchemy Event**

The Alchemy Event had been held in July and had gone really well, resulting in a number of ideas being generated. These ideas had been used within the Access bid submission that had been submitted last week. Officers were also working on some of the ideas to bring them through committees over the coming months. The Head of Paid Service took the opportunity to express his thanks to the team for what had been a well-run event.

- **The LGA Peer Review**

Planning for the LGA Peer Review was now at an advance stage and the Management Team were expecting to have the Peers confirmed in due course. An update would be included in the Member Newsletter at the end of November.

- **The Financial Statements**

The Financial Statements had now been Audited and no issues had been raised. This provided the Authority with a clean audit report and a positive value for money assessment.

- **General Election**

Nominations would open 11<sup>th</sup> November and close on 14<sup>th</sup> November at 4pm. The Authority would then be in Purdah from 5pm on the 14<sup>th</sup> November.

Information would be circulated to Members about the Purdah period and what could and could not happen during this time by the end of the week.

- **Local Government Settlement**

As a result of the General Election being called, the Head of Paid Service wished to highlight to Members that the Local Government Settlement that had been expected in early December was now likely to be delayed and this could have an impact on the Authority's budget timetable.

- **Cinema Project**

The Planning application for the cinema had been validated today and would now go into process.

- **Pocket Parks**

All Members had been emailed with details of the Pocket Parks Fund. The deadline for bids was the 31<sup>st</sup> December and Members were therefore urged to make Management Team aware of any groups of which they knew of who were looking to submit a bid

## **38 ADOPTION OF GLENTWORTH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

Members were asked to give consideration to a report to fully 'make' (adopt) the Glentworth Neighbourhood Plan (NP) following a successful referendum.

Councillor Paul Howitt Cowan, as Local Ward Member, introduced the report. He expressed thanks, to the Group for their hard work, and to the Officers for the support they had offered.

As Glentworth's Ward Councillor and having been involved with the NP he knew personally the enormous amount of time and effort the Parish Council and its residents had put into producing this plan. They had held numerous consultation events, undertook character appraisals and identified housing sites.

He personally congratulated them on producing a Plan they could be proud of and which in his opinion was a Plan which proposed a series of policies and sought to bring forward positive and sustainable development in the plan area.

He considered the key success of the Plan was its very sharp focus on a set of bespoke policies and in combination, they sought to promote sensitive new development that fully respected the character and appearance of the village.

The Plan had been underpinned by community support and engagement and the community had been engaged in its preparation in a proportionate way.

Representatives from Glentworth Neighbourhood Planning Group were in attendance and prior to Members debating the matter the Chairman invited them to make a short address to Council and present their successful Neighbourhood Plan.

Mr John Latham, addressed the meeting and made the following short address: -

"Thank you for inviting us here tonight to present our Plan tonight. Preparing the NP has been a challenging but ultimately worthwhile exercise for the village.

Our driver for undertaking this was, as you might expect, concerns about how planning decisions that affect the village would be made in the future and how we could influence these

The Plan itself is the tangible outcome, but the process has helped bring residents and neighbours together to talk about their aspirations for Glentworth and what they value. Our consultation events included newsletters, village meetings and a walkabout that engaged a wide range of residents, young and old - this has also given impetus to other village initiatives for example the redesign of the play park.

What emerged from this were the policies and priorities in the Plan

- Design and character of development
- Views
- Local Green spaces
- Green infrastructure
- Community facilities
- Broadband connection

These policies have been created in the context of the 'built' village, and although it applies to the Parish as a whole we will be looking to the Central

Lincolnshire Local Plan (CLLP) to shape development across the whole Parish. Given the low allocation of growth and extant planning consents we decided against an allocations policy. We have committed to a review of the Plan, taking into account what might change with the CLLP.

Thanks must go to my colleagues (and partners) in the working party - preparing this plan depended on the enthusiastic participation of volunteers, working together through the 3 years it's taken us to get to this point. We are also grateful for the support of the Parish Council, including Paul; the team at Community Links especially Janet Clarke; Locality for the financial support that enabled our consultations; the Planning Officers at WLDC Nev, Dan and Luke; and Open Plan who we engaged to guide us through the regulations, especially Simone and James.

Most especially we would want to thank the residents of Glentworth for their enthusiastic and positive engagement and participation throughout what has been a long but ultimately worthwhile process - their support was demonstrated by the strength of the Yes vote, with over 98% support in the referendum."

Mr Latham and Mrs Annibal then formally presented the Plan to the Chairman.

Members across the floor congratulated the Group on their remarkable achievement.

Following a round of applause, it was moved, seconded and duly

**RESOLVED** that the Glentworth Neighbourhood Plan be adopted and made.

### **39 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

The Monitoring Officer confirmed to the meeting that no questions had been received from members of the public.

### **40 QUESTIONS PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO. 9**

Councillor Lewis Strange, Ward Member for the Kelsey Wold Ward, submitted the following question to the meeting: -

**1) *Question to Chairman of Council, from Councillor Lewis Strange, Ward Member for the Kelsey Wold Ward.***

"I am asking you to place before the relevant committee for discussion as to whether at a plans and regulation committee (Planning Committee), it is a step too far in directing non Planning Committee Members who have supported or objected to an application to leave the room.

I can assure you those from North Kelsey, who were present on the evening, were amazed when that happened to me.



Chairman during the 18 years, I have served the Kelsey Wold Ward, this has not been deemed necessary, and it now must raise questions as to why it is thought to be necessary now. I am not alone in asking who was responsible for this political incorrectness.

I for one have every confidence in the Chairman to keep order, as he does at the County Council where this heavy-handed ruling does not take place.

Thank you.”

The Chairman of the Governance and Audit Committee, Councillor John McNeill, responded as follows: -

“Thank you for your question Councillor Strange.

You may recall that this Council decided to change the procedure at Annual Council earlier this year. The new procedure extended to all Members the existing practice of Planning Committee Members leaving the room after speaking about an application in their ward, which has been the case for planning members for a number of years.

The Monitoring Officer’s report advised that, and I quote;

“it is important that the public perception of influence is safeguarded against regardless of whether the speaker is a Planning Committee Member (acting in ward councillor duty) or a general Member of WLDC, particularly when that Councillor is a senior Member of the Council. This amendment is a response to complaints which have been received.”

Two complaints were received in 2018/19 regarding concerns about the potential undue influence of members remaining in the room while a decision was made. Understandably, to combat the unequal treatment of those who are members of the committee and those who are not, it was decided to make the process uniform for all members.

I am sorry for the amazement of those from North Kelsey when you were asked to leave the room, but I suspect that this could have been lessened by better communication of committee procedure; something that we are actively working on.

There will be an opportunity for all Members to provide feedback on how the Constitution, including the rules around how committee meetings operate, early in the New Year as the Governance and Audit Committee will be considering the Annual Constitution Review at our meeting on 14th April 2020, ahead of Annual Council. I would therefore encourage all Members to fully engage with this process, especially where there are any areas of concern or frustration, whether regarding this particular issue or any other.

Councillor Strange, please accept my assurance that I will work with the Monitoring Officer to ensure that this matter and the range of possible alternatives to safeguard the planning process from undue influence are considered during the forthcoming review.”

Having heard the response, the questioner re-iterated his position but thanked the Governance and Audit Committee Chairman for his offer to further review this practice.

#### **41 MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT - INVESTIGATION REPORT**

Council gave consideration to a report which presented the findings of an investigation into an alleged breach of the Members' Code of Conduct by Councillor Roger Patterson, Ward Member for Scampton.

The Monitoring Officer presented the report and outlined the process undertaken and the findings which had been reached.

Council were asked to support the recommendations contained within the Investigating Officer's Report regarding the sanctions to be applied.

Councillor Patterson addressed Council and indicated that before Members debated the matter he wished to apologise for behaviour, moreover he wanted to apologise because he wanted to as opposed to being directed to do so.

Councillor Patterson made the following address to Council by way of formal public apology:

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"Chairman, before you open up the debate, obviously in the report, the public will be aware that one of the sanctions is I have to make a public apology. However, I don't want to be making a public apology because I have been told to make a public apology; I would have made this apology at the last Council, had it had sat before the report had actually come out, and people might be aware that I have actually publicly apologised, what I am about to say, various times in the media.

As people will be aware, a couple of months ago I made some stupid comments on social media that caused great offence and embarrassment. I'm a believer in holding your hands up when you are wrong and to take any punishment that comes your way; and because of that, I cannot justify what I said, and I am not even going to try to justify it. All I can say is I didn't incite any violence against anyone, or call for anything of the sort. However, I can see that some people may have thought I did. I used stupid words designed to annoy and hit back at people whose comments I found offensive myself that were off the cuff. In doing so, I offended other people and caused great embarrassment to the Council, the Conservative Group, the Conservative Party, Officers and staff of this Council and members of the public.

I wish to make this apology unreservedly and sincerely because I want to make the apology and not because I have been told to make the apology, and I am deeply sorry for any offence and embarrassment I caused anybody for my stupid actions."

Debate ensued and in response to a question, the Leader of the Council clarified that the proposed removal, of Councillor Patterson, from the Standards Committee was a decision

taken by the Independent Person and the Monitoring Officer. This was a recommendation he supported but was not a “sanction” being imposed by the Group.

Councillor Patterson’s apology was accepted by Members, with Members acknowledging, that under the current regime, Councillor Patterson had received the toughest penalties imposable.

Members took the opportunity to express their concern at the revised Standards regime, since the introduction of the Localism Act in 2011, its lack of sanctions as a result and therefore its lack of ability to “act as a deterrent”. Senior Leaders and Officers were urged to lobby Government regarding the need for change.

Several Members concurred and the Leader of the Council undertook to raise the matter where opportune.

**RESOLVED** that: the content of the investigation be noted and the recommendations made within the Investigating Officer’s report, regarding the sanctions to be applied, namely: -

- That Councillor Patterson issues a formal public apology. This should take the form of a statement at the next meeting of Full Council that Councillor Patterson attends
- That Councillor Patterson undertakes Social Media Training within four months of the issue of the decision
- That Councillor Patterson stands down as a member of WLDC’s Standards Sub-Committee for the remainder of his current term of office
- That the sanctions imposed are made publically available on the Council’s website for a period of three months from the date of the issue of the decision

be supported.

## **42 MOTIONS PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO. 10**

Councillor Giles McNeill submitted the following Motion: -

“Chairman

The Council notes that West Lindsey District Council does not currently have a formalised policy related to Parental Leave for elected Members. At present there is no legal right to Parental Leave for those elected to public office.

It is proposed that this Council should adopt a Parental Leave Policy for Elected Members.

This Council resolves to refer this matter to the Governance and Audit Committee and requests that consideration is given to the establishment of a working group to consider the establishment of a Parental Leave Policy for Elected Members and where necessary to convene an Independent Remuneration Panel to consider

proposals which relate to Member allowances.

I so move  
Cllr Giles McNeill”

Under Procedure Rule 10.4, it was suggested the matter be referred without debate

The motion was seconded and a Member indicated he would like to comment before referral. It was questioned why such a provision was required when the constitution and law already allowed for periods of leave, if required.

In response the Chairman of the Governance Audit Committee advised that he was more than happy to look at any new proposals.

Having being moved and seconded it was **RESOLVED** that: -

the matter be referred to the Governance and Audit Committee for consideration.

Councillors Giles McNeill and Trevor Young submitted the following motion

“Chairman

Council notes:

- that the impacts of climate change are a cause of serious environmental issues both locally and around the world
- that the [‘Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C’](#), published by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change in October 2018
  - (a) describes the enormous harm that a 2°C average rise in global temperatures is likely to cause compared with a 1.5°C rise, and
  - (b) Confirms that limiting Global Warming to 1.5°C may still be possible with ambitious action from national and sub-national authorities, civil society and the private sector
- that policies to reduce environmental damage caused by human activity can also have associated health, wellbeing and economic benefits

Council resolves to:

- Make the Council’s activities net-zero carbon by 2050, in line with the UK Government’s target
- to ask the Prosperous Communities Committee to Develop a new strategy on sustainability, climate change, and the environment for the Council, with an initial outline being presented to the next Annual Council, looking toward achieving the above target.

Such a strategy will also consider:

- o Achieving 100% clean energy across the Council’s full range of functions by 2040;
- o How to ensure that all strategic decisions, budgets and approaches to planning decisions are in line with a shift to zero carbon by 2050, working to ensure that

- o the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan review embraces this approach;
- o How to support and work with all other relevant agencies towards making the entire area zero carbon within the same timescale;
- o Suggestions for budget actions and a measured baseline;
- o How the Prosperous Communities Committee can consider the impact of climate change and the environment when reviewing Council policies and strategies;
- o Any available research (that is expected to be forthcoming) from APSE relevant to this work
- o Report on the level of investment in the fossil fuel industry that our pensions plan has.
- o Ensure that all reports in preparation for the 2021/22 budget cycle and investment strategy will take into account the actions the council will take to address this agenda;
- o Call on the UK Government to provide the powers, resources and help with funding to make this possible, and ask local MPs to do likewise

We so move

**Cllr. Giles McNeill** | Leader of the Council  
**Cllr Trevor Young** | Leader of the Opposition”

Councillor Rollings seconded the motion and spoke in support of its principles. However she urged that any Strategy developed should not simply sit on a shelf, nor should it contain vague aspirations. She urged that a working Group be established to spearhead the work and get some early decisions made. She considered the Council needed to start tackling some of the harder aspects of climate change, focussing on homes, the planning system and future development to ensure they were sustainable. She urged all Members to engage and consider ways in which they could contribute to improving the crisis situation. Working closely residents was also considered important.

Several Members spoke in support of the motion, the need to start making changes and the desire of residents to engage. Simple changes could result in great impact for example reducing waste, particularly food waste. It was acknowledged changing our fundamentals and thoughts would make the difference.

Some suggested there needed to be a national policy regarding tree planting. Innovative design and technology needed to be applied to house building. The use of solar tiles for example, an additional investment of about £3,000 per house, however the impact district wide, nationally even, would be immense. It would assist in reducing fuel poverty. The need to invest in public transport to enable greener lifestyles was also essential, people were often left with little choice, particularly in rural communities. The Council had an enabling role.

The Executive Director of Economic and Commercial Growth addressed Council and outlined some of the Council's work to-date and actions already implemented to deliver carbon emission reduction

## **Waste**

As members of the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership (LWP) West Lindsey Officers had helped develop Lincolnshire's Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (JMWMS) which was adopted by all Lincolnshire Districts and LCC earlier this year.

Protecting the environment was at the heart of the LWP's vision: To seek the best environmental option to provide innovative, customer friendly waste management solutions that give value for money to Lincolnshire.

All 10 objectives were aimed at helping the LWP to protect the environment, for example:

- To explore new opportunities of promoting waste minimisation and of using all waste as a resource in accordance with the waste hierarchy.
- To contribute to the UK recycling targets of 50% by 2020 and 55% by 2025.
- To find the most appropriate ways to measure our environmental performance, and set appropriate targets.
- To seek to reduce our carbon footprint.

Things that were specific to West Lindsey included:

- Plans would shortly be submitted for a new depot which should reduce our carbon footprint by improving round efficiencies and decreasing mileage.
- Two energy inefficient depots would be replaced with one more efficient building;
- All lorries were now Euro 6 emission standard (the highest available) with collection round reviews and driver behaviour training designed to reduce fuel usage and emissions
- Recycling Communications were delivered to all households, and talks delivered to community groups / schools etc to encourage behaviour change.

### **Procurement**

Procurement embraces throughout its procurement processes the themes contained within the Social Value Act 2012, where applicable. Amongst its many themes is protecting and improving our environment, a key outcome of this theme is that 'climate impacts' are reduced.

A suppliers approach to local supply chains, transportation, use of energy, use of and commitment to renewable energy sources were all factors taken account of during evaluation.

Procurement Lincolnshire had appointed a Social Value Champion and he is in the process of drawing up guidance for all Officers, which will include various topics including climate change impact, for use by the districts in the New Year.

### **Key targets from the Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Report (2018/2019).**

A new Carbon Measurement Plan 2016 to 2021 was approved in July 2016 by Prosperous Communities Committee and Corporate Policy and Resources Committee: the plan includes a new 5 year target to reduce our CO2 emissions by a further 17% so the total planned reduction will be 35% from our baseline year of 2008/9.

This year, the Council's CO2 emissions decreased by 126.41t to 1,346.59t. This represents good progress towards WLDC achieving its target emissions level of 1,323t of CO2 by

2021. There is a remainder of 23.59t to reach the targeted goal.

Whilst it was fully recognised that austerity and budget cuts have hindered the ability of local authorities to act on Climate Change interventions, there was still a lot they could reasonably do or contribute to within their particular constraints.

Strategically, the Council was currently working with the GLLEP and other participating authorities in developing a Local Industrial Strategy that will aim to address issues affecting low productivity and socio-economic inequalities whilst setting clear defined priorities on how local geographical areas (and their communities) can exploit their strengths and opportunities in order to realise their potential.

This was being achieved by using a Place based approach informed by robust economic evidence and analysis from each Greater Lincolnshire's economic area which takes into account their spatial and geographical characteristics, economic profile, performance and demographics.

The Climate change agenda, alongside the impact of the Fourth Industrial Revolution, globalisation and demographic changes, were very much embedded in the way the LIS was intending to future proof our economy and improve the living standards of the GL communities.

The Council was a key partner and collaborated already in number of initiatives with other stakeholders and Local Authorities in driving forward the green agenda. It has been involved in contributing towards the production of a Utilities Studies led by LCC which looked at barriers for future housing and employment growth in relation to utilities and infrastructure provision.

As a member of the Rural Services Network the Council was fully engaged in any debates and aspects of rurality and sustainability. In addition to the above, the Growth Team was also exploring the opportunity to develop a more localised Rural Pathfinder Project with associated Strategy and Toolkit that would help assess current economic, societal and environmental challenges/barriers on mobility in rural places and provide technical and non-technical options that would make those places more resilient.

The Council's Economic Growth Strategy Review would involve increased adaptability of the Strategy to the environmental challenges and climate change pressures with a vision "to put development of a low carbon economy at the heart of the council's local economic plan.

The Local Plan review was being used as an opportunity to balance growth targets with the climate change agenda.

There was a Green Infrastructure Programme being developed in Gainsborough, linked to social inclusion and lifestyles.

Further debate ensued with more Members speaking in support of the motion and the need

for change. Any Strategy developed needed to be encompassing yet focussed. Some Members across the Chamber also spoke of the need to focus on things and aspects the Council could change.

Some spoke of the need to be mindful as to not jump to solutions, quoting examples of misdirection. Electric cars - all the rage now but nickel-hydrate batteries used in the build were created in a number of heavy polluting processes like nickel mining, not to mention the human cost. The battery construction process, the shipping all over the world, adding additional pollutants.

Wind Power, the country was already facing blackouts because wind power was unreliable so what would happen when there was a long-term outage? Whilst no-one wanted to return to the dark ages and give up modern amenities some Councillors urged the Council to focus on aspects that would really make a difference in the world and for our residents and avoid the more hysterical aspects of climate change.

Tackling waste was critical whether it food waste, energy waste, clothing waste, over-use of technology, tv, smartphones, ipads, all of which were contributing to an unhealthy lifestyle and a poorer society.

Some considered combating waste was a more efficient way of real engagement for our residents. It would mean people could make a real difference to the here and now and at the same time improve their fitness and health as well as keeping money in their pockets.

Ensuring that the residents of West Lindsey were more circumspect in their dealings with material goods, turning down the heating a notch, eating fresh food, steering clear of clothing fashions, walking or cycling to school or work where possible - these were all things which would not only help the environment but also household costs.

Members commented on the work the Council had already undertaken, including being one of the first authorities in Lincolnshire to go paperless, removing printing and posting.

All were supportive of creating a working group and concurred that the Council had a moral responsibility to develop deliverable and achievable targets. The need to lobby was paramount and it was considered the nudging effect was the most effective. Environmentally friendly products needed to be more competitively priced.

In responding to comments, the Leader of the Council endeavoured to lobby at every opportunity, and considered this a key role. Whilst 2050 was not overly pleasing to some activists setting achievable, realistic dates and continuous momentum in the right direction was important.

Following much debate it was **RESOLVED** that the motion as submitted be accepted.

Councillor Jeff Summers submitted the following motion: -

“Chairman.



We all understand how important it is to make the right decision in our council and especially in the planning system. When judging whether an application can be approved or not we have a duty to appreciate we are dealing with people's lives and livelihoods. Encouraging prospective applicants to apply for a permission in pre-app consultation, only to have the application to be immediately knocked back / refused. Refusing to allow requests from councillors to have an application appear before a committee when there is a genuine case of misinterpretation of the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan / an inability to appreciate how the plan was written in such a way to allow flexibility in interpretation to encourage debate in the process. Taking into consideration elements of Harm versus Benefits. A proven need versus the environment, infrastructure and the community.

The plan begins by stating, Quote:

In West Lindsey the council has a captive audience, in other words if someone wants to build they can only acquire permission from West Lindsey! If we were a company in the private sector then that company would have been bankrupt long ago due to applicants going elsewhere for this service.

This all beggars belief for recently I have spoken to three local MP's and councillors from neighbouring authorities who all think our system is archaic and grossly unfair to our electorate / applicants by freezing out the obligations of the planning committee and applying a system which is far from fair or transparent.

If applicants received appropriate refusal notices and an opportunity to converse with an officer the applicant would hopefully have a better understanding of why their application was refused and go away a little less aggrieved.

Residents and developers continue to lose confidence in our system.

Mr Chairman

I propose the planning system / decision making process adopted by West Lindsey receives some scrutiny by members of the council to look for ways of making our handling of applications more acceptable to the district's residents and bring back their findings with recommendations to this chamber.

Can I also request a vote is taken tonight to gauge the level of support for my motion as I do not want to waste councils time if my motion has no support?

I so move.

Cllr. J J. Summers"

Several Members spoke to the Motion advising that a great deal of work on this matter had already been undertaken. The former Chairman of the Governance and Audit Committee had commissioned an in-depth audit into the service and any potential problems had been teased out and significant changes made. Some Members therefore considered that this matter had already been scrutinised in depth.

The Vice-Chairman of Planning spoke, advising there would always be “winners and losers” in such a process. Having reviewed the stats, in light of confidence in system concerns, he advised the following: -

- \* Latest customer satisfaction surveys recorded a score of 72.34 satisfaction with over 53% awarding the service 5 stars.
- \* 84 compliments had been received to date, planning and development being the most complimented service for the first period and only second to customer service overall.
- \* Only 10 complaints had been received since April, only one of which had been partially upheld.

Therefore he considered the confidence comment, unfounded and unfair.

Chairman of the Planning Committee also spoke and expressed concern at some of the statements made in the motion, quoting further statistics to demonstrate that West Lindsey was well above the average, in respect of how the Government measured the quality of decision making.

Concern was also expressed regarding the implication that Officers did not engage with the public. He considered if this truly was the case, lots of appeals would go against the Authority and costs awarded. The Council currently had an excellent record in this respect.

Reference to the role and availability of the duty planner was also raised, there would always be occasions when applications were knocked back as they simply did not fit policy. Since April the Authority had refused only 1 application that had followed pre-application advice, the advice being that the application would likely be un-supported.

The Chairman of the Governance and Audit Committee indicated he would be happy to scrutinise the process, whether this be through some work on the internal audit plan or other means, if the Council were supportive of the motion.

Others commented that the planning service was run within a national legislation framework, therefore West Lindsey was implementing the same service under the same law as other local authorities across England. Local policies were readily and easily available. The introduction of a new senior Officer was welcome.

Other Councillors indicated that they had had similar experiences and welcomed the motion speaking in support of it. Some Councillors felt it was difficult to get matters considered by Committee and referring to planning policies seemed excessive, particularly if you were not a planning professional. It was believed that other authorities did not make this a requirement of their elected Members and committee referrals were much easier particularly where there was large amount of public concern.

Having been moved and seconded, on being put to the vote it was **RESOLVED** that the motion be accepted.

#### **43 RESULTS OF THE TORKSEY WARD BY-ELECTION AND VOTE OF THANKS TO RETIRING MEMBER**

Members gave consideration to a report which set out the results of the recent District Council By-Election for the Torksey Ward held on 24 October 2019.

Members welcomed and congratulated newly elected Councillor, Councillor Jane Ellis.

The Chairman of Council proposed a vote of thanks to retiring member, Councillor Stuart Kinch for his services to the Council.

**RESOLVED** that the results of the District Council By-Elections for the Torksey Ward held on 24 October 2019 be noted.

#### **44 REVIEW OF ALLOCATION OF SEATS**

The Chairman presented the report which set out details of the political groups on the Council, the number of Members to be appointed to serve on each Committee and the allocation of seats on each of the Committees based on political groupings.

**RESOLVED** that:

- (a) the details of political groups, as set out in Appendix A of the report, be noted;
- (b) the number of Members to be appointed to serve on each committee and sub-committee be noted; and
- (c) the allocation to different political groups of seats on committees/sub-committees, as set out in Appendix B of the report be noted.

#### **45 APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES**

The Chairman of the Council presented the report which set out the wishes expressed by the political groups in respect of the appointment of Members to serve on each of the Council's formal Committees for the remainder of 2019/20 Civic Year.

Requests had been received that the Overview and Scrutiny be not politically balanced.

Members were asked to suspend the rules relating to proportionality in respect of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and appoint the members named in the report to the respective Committees.

However on being put to the vote, a vote against suspending the political balance of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee was recorded.

The Monitoring Officer sought an adjournment in order to discuss with the Group Leaders the impact of the vote. The remainder of the report and proceeding report had been

prepared on the basis that balance would be suspended. Regulations stated all Members must be in agreement to suspend political balance, with this not being the case the membership numbers and names detailed in the report would need to be reviewed.

The meeting adjourned at 9.05 pm for 10 minutes.

The meeting re-convened at 9.15pm.

The Member who had voted against the proposals advised the meeting that he had been unclear of the implications of his vote and wished to withdraw it. With all parties in agreement that this was the best way forward, the vote was dismissed and it was **RESOLVED** that: -

- (a) the rules relating to proportionality be suspended in relation to the Overview and Scrutiny; and
- (b) in accordance with the provisions of section 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and the wishes expressed by political groups, the following members be appointed to serve on the Council's committees for the remainder of 2019/20 civic year as follows:

**Chief Officer Employment Committee (13 Members)**

Councillor Owen Bierley  
Councillor Jackie Brockway  
Councillor Stephen Bunney  
Councillor Mick Devine  
Councillor Cherie Hill  
Councillor Angela Lawrence  
Councillor Giles McNeill  
Councillor John McNeill  
Councillor Diana Rodgers  
Councillor Lesley Rollings  
Councillor Anne Welburn  
Councillor Angela White  
Councillor Trevor Young

**Corporate Policy and Resources Committee (13 Members)**

Councillor Owen Bierley  
Councillor Matthew Boles  
Councillor Stephen Bunney  
Councillor David Cotton  
Councillor Mick Devine  
Councillor Ian Fleetwood  
Councillor Paul Howitt-Cowan  
Councillor Giles McNeill  
Councillor John McNeill  
Councillor Mandy Snee

Councillor Robert Waller  
Councillor Anne Welburn  
Councillor Trevor Young

**Governance and Audit Committee (7 Members)**

Councillor Jackie Brockway  
Councillor Tracey Coulson  
Councillor David Dobbie  
Councillor Chris Darcel  
Councillor Caralyne Grimble  
Councillor John McNeill  
Councillor Angela White

**Licensing Committee (11 Members)**

Councillor David Cotton  
Councillor Tim Davies  
Councillor Caralyne Grimble  
Councillor Paul Howitt-Cowan  
Councillor Angela Lawrence  
Councillor Cordelia McCartney  
Councillor Jessie Milne  
Councillor Judy Rainsforth  
Councillor Jim Snee  
Councillor Jeff Summers  
Councillor Lewis Strange

**Regulatory Committee (11 Members)**

Councillor David Cotton  
Councillor Tim Davies  
Councillor Caralyne Grimble  
Councillor Paul Howitt-Cowan  
Councillor Angela Lawrence  
Councillor Cordelia McCartney  
Councillor Jessie Milne  
Councillor Judy Rainsforth  
Councillor Jim Snee  
Councillor Jeff Summers  
Councillor Lewis Strange

**Planning Committee (15 Members)**

Councillor Owen Bierley  
Councillor Matthew Boles

Councillor David Cotton  
Councillor Mick Devine  
Councillor Jane Ellis  
Councillor Ian Fleetwood  
Councillor Cherie Hill  
Councillor Paul Howitt-Cowan  
Councillor Cordelia McCartney  
Councillor Jessie Milne  
Councillor Keith Panter  
Councillor Roger Patterson  
Councillor Judy Rainsforth  
Councillor Robert Waller  
Councillor Angela White

**Prosperous Communities Committee (15 Members)**

Councillor Owen Bierley  
Councillor Stephen Bunney  
Councillor Tracey Coulson  
Councillor Chris Darcel  
Councillor Mick Devine  
Councillor Paul Howitt-Cowan  
Councillor John McNeill  
Councillor Jessie Milne  
Councillor Judy Rainsforth  
Councillor Tom Regis  
Councillor Jim Snee  
Councillor Mandy Snee  
Councillor Robert Waller  
Councillor Anne Welburn  
Councillor Trevor Young

**Overview and Scrutiny Committee (12 members)**

Councillor Liz Clewes  
Councillor David Dobbie  
Councillor Jane Ellis  
Councillor Caralyne Grimble  
Councillor Cherie Hill  
Councillor Angela Lawrence  
Councillor Keith Panter  
Councillor Roger Patterson  
Councillor Diana Rodgers  
Councillor Lesley Rollings  
Councillor Lewis Strange  
Councillor Angela White

#### 46 APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN AND VICE-CHAIRMEN

Members gave consideration to a report which sought to appoint Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen to the main Committees, as well as their normal commencement times, for the remainder of the Civic Year.

**RESOLVED** that the following persons be appointed to the following positions, and that the Committees met at the times stipulated below: -

Committee	Chairman	Vice-Chairman/men	Commencement Time
Chief Officer Employment Committee	Councillor Jackie Brockway	Councillor Giles McNeill	Meetings to be convened as required
Corporate Policy and Resources Committee	Councillor Giles McNeill	Councillor Anne Welburn	6.30 pm
Planning Committee	Councillor Ian Fleetwood	Councillor Robert Waller	6.30 pm
Governance and Audit Committee	Councillor John McNeill	Councillor Jackie Brockway	2.00 pm
Licensing Committee	Councillor Jessie Milne	Councillor Angela Lawrence	6.30 pm
Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Councillor Lesley Rollings	Councillor Angela White Councillor Diana Rodgers	6.30 pm
*Regulatory Committee	Councillor Jessie Milne	Councillor Angela Lawrence	6.30 pm
Prosperous Communities Committee	Councillor Owen Bierley	Councillor John McNeill Councillor Paul Howitt-Cowan	6.30 pm
Standards (Sub)	Councillor Anne	Councillor	Meetings to be

Committee	Welburn	David Cotton	convened as required
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#### **47 APPOINTMENT OF SUB-COMMITTEES, BOARDS AND OTHER BODIES (INCLUDING OUTSIDE BODIES)**

The Chairman of the Council presented the report which sought to appoint Members to serve on numerous Sub-Committees, Working Groups and Outside Bodies.

The report also sought approval to suspend the rules relating to proportionality for both the Standards Sub-Committee and the Appeals Board.

Opposition Members advised of an amendment they wished to make to the report. Liberal Democrat representation on the Transport Working Group was stated as Councillors Rollings and Bunney, when it should in fact be Councillors Bunney and Panter.

The amendment was duly seconded and on that basis it was

**RESOLVED** that: -

- (a) the Rules relating to proportionality be suspended for appointment to the Appeals Board;
- (b) the Rules relating to proportionality be suspended for appointment to the Standards Sub-Committee; and
- (c) the following appointments be confirmed: -

#### **Joint Staff Consultative Committee**

Councillor Jackie Brockway  
Councillor Jessie Milne  
Councillor David Cotton  
Councillor Matthew Boles  
Councillor Lewis Strange (Reserve)  
Councillor Owen Bierley (Reserve)  
Councillor David Dobbie (Reserve)  
Councillor Tim Davies (Reserve)

#### **Appeals Board**

Councillor Ian Fleetwood  
Councillor Jane Ellis  
Councillor Caralyne Grimble  
Councillor Angela White  
Councillor Stephen Bunney  
Councillor Diana Rodgers



**Standards Sub-Committee**

Councillor Anne Welburn  
Councillor Lewis Strange  
Councillor Tracey Coulson  
Councillor David Cotton  
Councillor Mandy Snee  
Councillor Diana Rodgers

**Lincolnshire Show Task and Finish Group**

Chairman of Council  
Councillor Giles McNeill  
Councillor Angela Lawrence  
Councillor Robert Waller  
Councillor Lesley Rollings  
Councillor Liz Clews  
Councillor Angela White

**Editorial Advisory Board**

Councillor Tracey Coulson  
Councillor David Dobbie  
Councillor Chris Darcel  
Councillor Mick Devine  
Councillor Diana Rodgers

**West Lindsey Community Awards Panel**

Chairman of Council  
Councillor Robert Waller  
Councillor David Cotton  
Councillor Judy Rainsforth  
Councillor Diana Rodgers

**Central Lincolnshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee.**

Councillor Giles McNeill  
Councillor Ian Fleetwood  
Councillor David Cotton  
Councillor Owen Bierley (Reserve)

**Leisure, Culture, Events & Tourism Group**

Councillor Owen Bierley  
Councillor Paul Howitt-Cowan  
Councillor Anne Welburn  
Councillor Stephen Bunney  
Councillor Lesley Rollings

Councillor Tim Davies

**Community Grants Panel**

Councillor Owen Bierley  
Councillor John McNeill  
Councillor Anne Welburn  
Councillor Judy Rainsforth  
Councillor Liz Clews

**Funding Consultative Panel**

Councillor Owen Bierley  
Councillor Anne Welburn  
Councillor Liz Clews  
Councillor Mick Devine  
Councillor Tom Regis (Reserve)  
Councillor David Dobbie (Reserve)  
Councillor Diana Rodgers (Reserve)

**Crematorium Working Group**

Councillor Giles McNeill  
Councillor Mick Devine  
Councillor Judy Rainsforth  
Councillor Lewis Strange  
Councillor Paul Howitt-Cowan  
Councillor David Cotton  
Councillor Jessie Milne  
Councillor Tracey Coulson  
Councillor Liz Clews (reserve)

**Scampton Local Plan and Infrastructure Group**

Councillor Owen Bierley  
Councillor Roger Patterson  
Leader of the Council

**Community Rights Panel**

Councillor Anne Welburn  
Councillor Mandy Snee  
Councillor Tim Davies

**Transport Working Group**

Chairman of Prosperous Communities Committee  
Councillor Stephen Bunney  
Councillor Jessie Milne  
Councillor Robert Waller

Councillor John McNeill  
 Councillor Cherie Hill  
 Councillor Keith Panter

**Honours Panel should it be required**

- Chairman of the Council (replaced by a representative when a conflict of interest occurs) who will be the representative of their office and their **political party**
- A Member from each of the other political parties;
- An Independent Co-opted member of the Council (an existing member, chosen by the Monitoring Officer upon receipt of a nomination who has no conflict of interest)

**Outside Body Representatives**

<b>Name of body</b>	<b>Members</b>
Age UK Lindsey	Owen Bierley 2023
Ancholme Internal Drainage Board	Jeff Summers 2023
British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (renamed The Conservation Volunteers)	Tracey Coulson 2023  Jim Snee 2023
Central Lincs Joint Strategic Planning Committee	Giles McNeill 2023  Ian Fleetwood 2023  David Cotton 2023  Owen Bierley 2023 (Reserve)
District Councils' Network <b>LEADER</b>	Giles McNeill 2023  Owen Bierley (sub) 2023
District Health and Wellbeing Network	Owen Bierley 2023
East Midlands Council <b>LEADER &amp; DEPUTY LEADER</b>	Giles McNeill 2023  Owen Bierley (sub) 2023
Flood & Water Management Scrutiny Cttee	Ian Fleetwood 2023

	Robert Waller (sub) 2023
Gainsborough Adventure Playground Association	Matthew Boles 2023
Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire MEMBER OF SCRUTINY BUT NOT PROSPEROUS	Angela White 2023  Diana Rodgers 2023 (sub)
Healthwatch Provider Network Meeting (West Lincs) renamed YourVoice@HWL	Owen Bierley 2023  Lewis Strange 2023  Angela White 2023  Diana Rodgers 2023
Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire	Jackie Brockway 2023
Humberside International Airport Consultative Committee	Owen Bierley 2023
LGA General Assembly LEADER	Giles McNeill 2023
Lincoln Area Dial-a-Ride Management Committee	Caralyne Grimble 2023
Lincolnshire Branch of the Campaign for the Protection of Rural England	Owen Bierley 2023
Lincolnshire Forum for Agriculture and Horticulture	Lewis Strange 2023
Lincolnshire Police and Crime Panel	Anne Welburn 2023
Lincolnshire Sports Partnership	Lesley Rollings 2023
Lincolnshire Waste Partnership	Owen Bierley 2023
Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Management Project	Angela Lawrence 2023  Tom Regis 2023
Local Crime Prevention Panel	Judy Rainsforth 2023
PATROL (CPE)	Giles McNeill 2023  Owen Bierley (sub) 2023
Pensions Committee	Robert Waller 2023

Robin Hood Doncaster Sheffield Airport Consultative Committee	Jessie Milne 2023
Scunthorpe & Gainsborough Water Level Management Board	Lesley Rollings 2023  Liz Clews 2023
SPARSE (renamed Rural Services Network)	Owen Bierley 2023
Sure Start Gainsborough Partnership Board	Matthew Boles 2023
Trustees of Charles Cooper Trust	Judy Rainsforth (to 2023)  Mandy Snee (to 2023)
Trustees of Dixons Almshouses	Angela Lawrence (to 2023)
Upper Witham Internal Drainage Board	Steve England 2023
West Lincolnshire Community Safety Partnership Strategic Grp (renamed: Safer Lincolnshire Partnership – Overview & Scrutiny Board)	Angela White 2023
West Lindsey Churches Festival	Paul Howitt-Cowan 2023  Tim Davies 2023
West Lindsey Dementia Action Alliance	Jeff Summers 2023  Chris Darcel 2023
West Lindsey Citizens' Advice Bureau Executive Committee (renamed Citizens Advice Lindsey)	Angela White 2023
Witham Third Internal Drainage Board	Steve England 2023  Ian Fleetwood 2023  Caralyne Grimble 2023
Wolds Community Transport Association Limited	Lewis Strange 2023
<b>NEW OUTSIDE BODIES:</b>	
Housing, Health & Care Delivery Group <b>CHAIR OF PROSPEROUS</b>	Owen Bierley 2023
Wellbeing Lincs Reference Group <b>CHAIR OF PROSPEROUS</b>	Owen Bierley 2023

#### **48 REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING PLACES**

Members gave consideration to a report which advised of the outcome of the recent review of the polling districts and polling places.

In response to Members' questions Officers advised Boundary Reviews were undertaken by the Boundary Commission; who had confirmed they would not be reviewing the boundaries this year.

On notification of such a review, all Members would be advised.

**RESOLVED** that: -

- (a) the proposals for the polling districts, polling places and polling stations in the District, as set out in Appendix 1 of the report be approved; and
- (b) the Returning Officer be granted delegated authority for keeping polling districts and polling places under review and amending any such arrangements (following consultation with Local Ward Member(s) where there is an operational need, prior to the next compulsory District review.

The meeting concluded at 9.22 pm.

Chairman