

WEST LINDSEY DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Council held in the Council Chamber - The Guildhall, Marshall's Yard, Gainsborough, DN21 2NA on 13 November 2017 at 7.00 pm.

Present: Councillor Mrs Angela Lawrence (Chairman)

Councillor Bruce Allison	Councillor Mrs Sheila Bibb
Councillor Owen Bierley	Councillor Matthew Boles
Councillor David Bond	Councillor Mrs Jackie Brockway
Councillor David Cotton	Councillor Christopher Darcel
Councillor Michael Devine	Councillor Ian Fleetwood
Councillor Paul Howitt-Cowan	Councillor Stuart Kinch
Councillor Hugo Marfleet	Councillor Mrs Jessie Milne
Councillor Giles McNeill	Councillor John McNeill
Councillor Richard Oaks	Councillor Roger Patterson
Councillor Mrs Judy Rainsforth	Councillor Mrs Diana Rodgers
Councillor Mrs Lesley Rollings	Councillor Reg Shore
Councillor Thomas Smith	Councillor Lewis Strange
Councillor Jeff Summers	Councillor Mrs Anne Welburn
Councillor Trevor Young	

In Attendance:

Mark Sturgess	Chief Operating Officer and Head of Paid Service
Alan Robinson	Monitoring Officer
Ian Knowles	Director of Resources and S151 Officer
Katie Coughlan	Senior Democratic & Civic Officer
Rachael Hughes	Developer Contributions Officer
James Welbourn	Democratic and Civic Officer

Also in Attendance:

Also Present: 6 members of the public

Apologies:

Councillor Gillian Bardsley
Councillor Steve England
Councillor Pat Mewis (Vice-Chairman)
Councillor Maureen Palmer
Councillor Malcolm Parish
Councillor Tom Regis
Councillor Angela White

44 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

(a) Minutes of Meeting held on 4 September 2017

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 4 September 2017 be confirmed and signed as a correct record, subject to it being noted that Councillor Bruce Allison had been in attendance and that this should therefore be reflected within the Minutes

45 MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Ian Fleetwood declared a non-pecuniary interest in relation to the Motion regarding EMAS as he had a close friend who was senior within the organisation.

46 MATTERS ARISING

The Monitoring Officer noted that all items due for completion were showing black, as having been completed.

The one remaining green item, was not yet due for completion and progress was being made with a number of parish council consultation events being held in November.

Reference the black action entitled, "motion re SWW referral to PC Cttee", in response to a Member's concern regarding the delay, Officers indicated it was intended this matter would be considered by the Prosperous Communities Committee at its meeting in December.

RESOLVED that the Matters Arising be noted.

47 ANNOUNCEMENTS

i) Chairman of the Council

The Chairman addressed Council advising it had been a very busy period. Over recent weeks she had had the pleasure of attending a number of Events and Civic Services, including her own for which she thanked those Councillors who had attended. Reference was also made to the following: -

- Attendance at the Scampton Airshow, which had proven to be a great success
- The Annual Remembrance Service at Hemswell Cliff, which was very well supported
- Lincolnshire County Council's Civic Service
- An opportunity to view the promotional film for the Wolds at the Kinema in the Woods in Woodhall Spa
- Gainsborough Town Council's Civic Service
- The Annual Aero Club Presentations at Hemswell
- The dedication of a cross to commemorate the Beechey Brothers, at Freisthorpe. These were eight brothers, five of whom had died in WW1, this had been particularly moving.
- The Annual Armistice Commemoration in Gainsborough Market Place, thanks were again offered to those Councillors who had supported the event.
- The Remembrance Service and Parade in Caistor. Organisations from Beavers and Brownies through to the Royal British Legion were present in force

It was also with sadness that the Chairman advised that she had represented the Authority at two funerals, those of former District Councillors Stuart Curtis and Roy Schofield.

ii) Leader of Council

The Leader addressed Council and advised that he too had had the pleasure of attending Scampton AirShow, an event which the Council had sponsored. He shared his personal view of how he felt the event had gone but indicated the sponsorship would now be reviewed in terms of benefits realised.

The Leader also advised he had undertaken two days training regarding the Local Government Pension Scheme and the pooling of funds across 12 counties/districts in a bid to create efficiencies and access new investment markets.

The Leader had also attended the Remembrance Service at Hemswell making reference to the act of children laying a single flower. He had been proud to be part of the community and this had been a touching and heart-warming experience.

The Leader had also participated in the re-signing of the Armed Forces Covenant by invitation of RAF College Cranwell. The Lincolnshire Armed Forces Covenant was a voluntary statement of mutual support between local civilian communities and local armed forces communities. The Leader outlined the contents of the Covenant and its intentions. During his discussion with Officers at RAF Cranwell the Leader advised he had learnt of plans in the future to bring more facilities to the site at Cranwell.

The Leader made reference to his attendance at the Chairman's Civic Service which he considered had been very successful.

He had also attended the launch of a Joint Venture Company in Bassetlaw, aimed at building council housing on council and privately owned land.

The Leader had also attended a meeting of the Lincolnshire Leaders at which the CNN Member and 4 MP's had been present in order to progress the fairer funding process.

Finally the Leader had attended a meeting with the three Principals of Lincoln University to better understand its future direction and how the Council may assist in it achieving its ambitions. Opportunities were also explored regarding how the University may be able to assist in providing students of Gainsborough with an improved educational experience. Constructive meetings had also been held with Lincoln College in relation to offering opportunities in construction and engineering at the Gainsborough College.

iii) Head of Paid Service

The Head of Paid Service addressed Council advising that things had moved at a pace since the last meeting. At Council's last meeting he had announced the new Team Manager structure, this had been circulated to all Members including contact details.

New enforcement team structure had been agreed and recruitment was underway.

As referenced by the Leader earlier, the Council had been working with two education providers over the period, the Gainsborough College and Lincoln University particularly in respect of employability exploring opportunities as to how the organisations could work together to ensure young people were better “work ready”.

Work had commenced on the building of the new hotel. Whilst less visible, work had also commenced on refurbishing the shops on Market Street and North Street.

Exciting discussions had taken place with Network Rail regarding re-establishing a five day service between Gainsborough Central and Sheffield. Negotiations were ongoing.

The Council’s vision for a Food Enterprise Zone and moved forward as a technical solution for power supply to the site had been realised. Consultation on the crematorium project had finished and a full planning application had been submitted.

Finally, thanks were expressed to the Director of Resources, as a result of ongoing negotiations the Authority was now back in the full BDUK roll out programme.

Note: Councillor David Cotton declared a non-pecuniary interest in respect of the reference to the crematorium, which if built, would be sited within one of his ecclesiastical parishes.

48 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions from members of the public.

49 QUESTIONS PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO. 9

Councillor Giles McNeill submitted the following question to the meeting:

The Department for Transport is looking at implementing changes to the Section 19 & 22 permit legislation. If realised this would dramatically affect the operation of community transport providers, such as Lincoln Area Dial-A-Ride, a group I represent the Council on as an outside body.

The proposed changes, if realised, will likely mean that Lincoln Area Dial-A-Ride, and groups like it, may not be able to continue to operate under the current permits and be forced to become licensed as either Private Hire or Passenger Carrying Vehicles.

The difficulty with this change is that Private Hire Vehicles are limited to carrying 8 passengers and therefore the current Lincoln Area Dial-A-Ride fleet would require modification to conform and for groups currently in excess of 8 passengers would now need more than one vehicle. The second difficulty is that with Passenger Carrying Vehicles all drivers would need the corresponding licence, which would not be viable for a service reliant on volunteers.

Will you undertake to consider this matter and use your good office to ensure that an important community service like Lincoln Area Dial-A-Ride is not disadvantaged and forced to cease operations because of these proposed changes in legislation?

Note: Councillor Owen Bierley declared a non-pecuniary interest as the Councils representative on the merged Age UK Lindsey and Age UK North Lincolnshire, as they owned mini-buses and therefore would be affected by any changes.

The Leader of the, Councillor Jeff Summers, responded:-

The Department for Transport are proposing changes to Section 19 and 22 permit legislation which may considerably affect community transport providers across the country.

The changes would mean that the permits could not be used by transport providers that make anything other than a token payment for their transport services. As a result many transport operators will need to license their vehicles as private hire vehicles or passenger carrying vehicles.

Private hire vehicles are limited to carrying 8 passengers so would not be appropriate for minibuses. Licensing vehicles as PCV vehicles would require all drivers (including volunteer drivers) to have a PCV license which may not be viable for operators with large numbers of volunteer drivers.

We continue to work closely with Lincoln Area Dial-a-Ride and transport colleagues from Lincolnshire County Council to monitor the proposed changes and provide support where appropriate.

This is a very serious issue for an area of sparsity and I therefore propose we contact Councillor Martin Tet of the LGA to garner his support for a review of the proposals.”

Councillor McNeill welcomed the Leader’s response and clarified there would be a raft of community transport schemes across the District, not just Dial-a-ride, affected by these proposed changes, referencing potential in Market Rasen and other communities, it was on that basis it was hoped the suggested approach would be made in the widest sense for all affected community transport schemes.

Several other Members shared with Council local schemes, they knew of, which would be affected and the considerable impact this would have on communities across the District. Some feared this would decimate Community Transport provision, the requirement would simply be too much for the sector to accommodate. It was important the Government heard this message.

It was also suggested therefore that the Leader be requested to write to the Minister concerned setting out the Council’s concerns and the potential impact on rural communities. Together with approaches to relevant MPs

In responding, the Leader indicated he was happy to make representations as considered appropriate including those suggested.

50 MOTIONS PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO. 10

Councillor Matthew Boles had submitted the following motion:-

“Chairman

Many areas of our district including the highly populated centres of Market Rasen and Gainsborough are becoming increasingly marginalised amid money saving practices of the police, the NHS and the ambulance services, in favour of the city centre of Lincoln.

I hope that this Council shares my deep concerns that the latest episode in this catalogue of neglect comes with the news that only one ambulance unit will be stationed in Gainsborough and most of the time will not even be there but could be anywhere in the East Midlands, potentially many miles away from life threatening situations.

Given that we are already half an hour from the nearest trauma unit even when the emergency services get on the scene - then it could be anything to an hour or more before an emergency is treated with the same quality of care that you would expect to receive anywhere else in this United Kingdom.

Why should our residents be at serious risk of losing their lives when in other places risk is minimised.

I call on this Council to support my motion condemning East Midlands Ambulance Service management for taking a step too far in withdrawing local ambulances to the Lincoln station and thus compromising public safety in West Lindsey. I ask that all Councillors sign a document condemning this decision and ask the ambulance service for its immediate reconsideration.

I know that Members from all parties are equally worried and therefore will be prepared to stand up and be counted by supporting my motion at this critical time.

I so move.

Cllr Matthew Boles
Gainsborough

The Leader responded to the Motion as follows: -

“Thank you for bringing this concerning matter to our attention. The challenge of rural disparity and accessibility of health services in this area has, for some time, been of concern and consideration for this Council and a keen focus of the Health Commission.

It is important that we explore the evidence and information available about the proposals being considered by EMAS, and that we understand the specific considerations made about this area and the local impact.

Enquiries made with EMAS have shown that staff consultation is currently underway in respect of the proposed changes.

We have contacted EMAS with specific questions:

- What is the reasoning behind the proposals to withdraw one of the two ambulances from Gainsborough?
- What geographical area do they currently cover?
- Will the coverage be affected by the new arrangements?
- Has the rural nature of West Lindsey been adequately considered when this decision was taken?
- Who was consulted about it?
- How is it envisaged that the new arrangement is going to improve things for our residents?
- Are there any alternatives?

A Gainsborough specific response has not been provided by EMAS at this stage. I agree that the East Midlands Ambulance Service should be asked to provide this further information and also evidence of the relevant equality impact assessments and safety assessments that informed the decision.

In summary, without a clear response or evidence base on the questions above, I support the development of a response to EMAS setting out this Council's concerns about changes to ambulance provision in this area and request for assurance that patient safety and experience will not be adversely affected by the proposed changes.

I propose that the Council's Health Commission submits this formal response to EMAS on behalf of the Council which should provide us with a clear understanding of their written strategy and a full opportunity to respond professionally"

The Opposition sought the Chairman's permission for the matter to be debated fully as it was considered all Members would have a view on the matter as it raised issues of risk for our communities. He went on to express concern at the approach adopted by EMAS, this was not a matter for public consultation, but a staff consultation. Staff were been asked whether they thought ambulances should be removed from West Lindsey before the local authority and therefore he was of the view that the Council needed to express their views on this matter during the meeting. The nature of the Leader's amendment was of concern to the Opposition as they considered the Council needed to make a strong robust response as a matter of urgency to the position, as they were of the view that EMAS were a good way on to making a decision. With respect to the Health Commission it was anticipated a response would not be hastily received and therefore the urgency of the matter would be lost. It was important this matter was not dismissed.

The Deputy Leader of the Council responded and whilst not in disagreement with the statement made by the Opposition, he outlined his reasons as to why he felt it important for the Council and EMAS to work together constructively to resolve any concerns rather than create an adverse reaction. He considered given the sparsity of the District, the Council had a proven track record of delivery schemes to supplement the statutory services, offering examples. The Health Commission was starting to make a real impact. The general sentiment of Councillor Boles motion was supported, with the ambulance service being an East Midlands wide service, it was likely ambulances would be located in more highly populated areas and therefore it was important service provision and access to services was safeguarded for rural communities. However the Deputy Leader was supportive of the

Leaders approach and understanding of the rationale, indicating the Authority was not at a point of condemning the organisation, which would only create an adverse reaction and not be conducive to open dialogue. He was of the view that it was important to be fully aware of the facts and use the influence of the Council and its Health Commission to work together to resolve the concerns expressed. He therefore moved the Leader's amendment.

The Leader responded to the comments expressed by the Opposition and refuted claims that he wished to dismiss this matter, concurring that it was vital to the whole District and of concern. He re-iterated that he had already contacted EMAS with a number of specific questions, referenced earlier, which he considered the Authority required answers to in order to understand the proposals and once this information had been provided the Council could respond. All wanted to ensure the District had the appropriate level of cover.

Debate ensued with Members offering a number of differing views as to how best this matter should be addressed and their reasons for this. Many spoke in support of the approach put forward by Councillor Boles, as they considered:-

- that a quick response was required,
- this was a front line service which the District should fight for as a risk to life was posed
- it was important to represent the communities rather than be concerned with the reasons for the proposals
- this was a cut too far, with ambulances already having already been reduced in recent years
- diplomatic approaches had not worked historically with the town losing it's A and E service in the 1990s
- the Council needed to be proactive not reactive
- EMAS needed to be held to account and at the very least should be requested to attend a Full Council Meeting.
- There was strong public feeling with an on-line petition having received over 2000 signatures in just a few weeks
- Previous inspections had confirmed EMAS to be a failing service

Whilst having empathy and concern at the situation which appeared to be arising, others spoke in support of the Leader's suggested approach, as they considered: -

- it was important to explore and exhaust all diplomatic avenues
- it was important to make an informed decision, based on evidence
- it would not be positive to marginalise EMAS
- the council had a good relationship with EMAS at a scrutiny level and as such the Council's representative on the Lincolnshire Health Scrutiny committee had already raised this matter with them, with EMAS due to attend in December.
- The Health Commission had been communicating with EMAS all week and did not want to put this continued dialogue at risk
- Condemning in a public arena was considered an act of blame and would create a negative reaction.
- Use of the FOI Mechanism may be of assistance.
- Partnership working would deliver the best conclusion

There was however much support for the suggestion that EMAS should be requested to address Councillors regarding this, as a matter of urgency and before Christmas

Clarification was sought from a Member as to whether Council had the power to mandate individuals to undertake an action as suggested in Councillor Bole's motion as he considered this not to be the case. The Monitoring Officer confirmed this and was of the view the motion asked Members to consider signing but could not compel them to do so. Alternatively the Council could authorise the Chairman for example to respond on behalf of the Authority should it be the majority wish.

Again there was support expressed for EMAS to attend and address Councillors. Councillor Boles who had brought this matter to the Council's attention indicated that he would be happy to support a motion to also undertake this action but felt it important the Council fought for what its residents wanted, Councillor Shore was happy to support this amendment.

It was noted that only one amendment could be considered at any one time as per the rules of debate and further amendments would need to be considered once the first amendment had been dealt with.

The Leader's amendment having being proposed and seconded was then put to the vote and **CARRIED**

Following procedural clarification, a further amendment was then proposed namely that EMAS and the relevant CCG be invited to address Councillors regarding the concerns expressed, having being seconded and put to the vote this was **CARRIED ALSO**.

On that basis it was **RESOLVED** that: -

- (a) a response to EMAS be developed setting out this Council's concerns about changes to ambulance provision in the area and requesting assurance that patient safety and experience will not be adversely affected by the proposed changes.
- (b) The Council's Health Commission be requested to submit this formal response to EMAS on behalf of the Council.
- (c) EMAS and the relevant CCG be invited to address Councillors as matter of urgency and ideally before Christmas regarding their proposals and the concerns expressed.

Councillor Giles McNeill had submitted the following motion:-

"Chairman

Council notes that:

- In October 2015 a Peer review was undertaken of the Planning service with the aim of identifying long running issues and a means to address them.
- A follow-up review was undertaken after six months and that good progress was indicated, nevertheless there were areas to address and actions to be implemented

- In the previous civic year the Governance and Audit Committee formally requested that an audit be undertaken, however this was delayed pending the appointment of a permanent manager for the department, nevertheless in January 2017 the Committee resolved that the audit be undertaken
- That at the meeting of the Governance and Audit Committee on Tuesday, 7th November the internal audit report regarding of Development Management was considered

Council resolves to:

- Welcome the outcomes of the internal audit of Development Management. Particularly the positive 'substantial' assurances given to the Planning Service (Development Control) and the Monitoring of Section 106 Agreements
- Accept the outcome of the internal audit of Development Management. Noting the 'limited' assurance given to Planning Enforcement and to commit to supporting the actions identified in the report particularly with continued additional resources.

I so move
Cllr. Giles McNeill

Councillor Ian Fleetwood, as Chairman of Planning Committee responded as follows: -

"Cllr McNeill, I would like to second your motion and I would like to thank you and your Governance and Audit Committee for ensuring that the scope and coverage of this audit was robust. In addition I am grateful to you for bringing these positive and reassuring findings to full council.

The Development Management function is vital to the success of West Lindsey. As always our internal auditors have been thorough and professional in their work. We have to recognise that there is room for improvement and we need to accept and implement all of the recommendations."

Having being moved and seconded, with no debate on being put to the vote the Motion was declared **CARRIED**.

51 MODERN.GOV - DEMONSTRATION AND PRESENTATION

The Chairman advised that a new Committee Management System was to be shortly launched and this changed the way in which Elected members received their agendas and reports. James Welbourn, Democratic and Civic Officer, was in attendance to give Members a short presentation.

During the presentation, Members received information on the tasks which could be undertaken using the new system, noting all of the other Local Authorities across Lincolnshire used the software.

Members were advised of the three main ways by which they would be able to access their papers going forward, dependent on the device they used, and of the alert notification they would receive when papers became available.

It was noted that All Chair's Briefings' agendas would also be provided through Modern.gov as well, located in the 'West Lindsey Private' publisher on the app, or through the Extranet;

Once the system was fully rolled out to all Members, paper copies would generally no longer be available, except to members of the public. A paper agenda would be provided for Chairs of Committees should they want one.

Further details were provided regarding the App which was available for Windows devices and Ipads, and would be the main way Councillors would access their papers. The registration process was briefly summarised to Members together with information regarding the Apps functionality.

As this software would now provide a format by which exempt papers could be published Members were reminded by the Monitoring Officer of the requirements on Members regarding confidentiality and the need to treat the electronic documents, with the same regard as those previously issued on pink paper.

In conclusion Members were advised that to facilitate registration onto the new system a number of drop-in sessions had been arranged, details were provided. Furthermore, Councillors were invited to book an individual session with any of the Democratic Officers over the coming weeks in order to complete their registrations.

The first meeting to solely use Modern.gov for the issuing of papers would be Full Council in January 2018. Until then, Modern.gov alerts would go out alongside the usual email.

The Chairman thanked Mr Welbourn for his presentation. It was acknowledged that Members may have a number of questions specific to their own needs however it was suggested these would be best addressed through the individual sessions being offered or by contacting the Democratic Team direct.

A number of Members across the Chamber indicated that they had already registered to the system and had found it to be user friendly. MAC book users confirmed it was compatible with their devices and in response to a question it was confirmed that the App was available in an android version.

52 ADOPTION OF BRATTLEBY NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

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

Representatives from Brattleby Parish Council 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.

Chairman of Brattleby Parish Council, Mike Spencer described the process gone through in the preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan and thanked a number of people for their hard work and support in the production of the Plan, and all those residents who had contributed. There was concern expressed regarding confusion as to the status and weight applied to

Plans in their development stages, in relation to planning applications under consideration. Reference was made to a particular application within the parish however Members indicated the presentation of the Plan was not a forum in which to discuss issues pertaining to a specific planning application.

Parish Councillor Spencer then formally presented the Plan to the Chairman.

It was moved, seconded and duly

RESOLVED that the Brattleby Neighbourhood Plan be adopted and made.

53 RECOMMENDATION FROM PROSPEROUS COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE - ADOPTION OF THE CIL FOR WEST LINDSEY

Members were asked to give consideration to a report which recommended that the Authority adopt a Community Infrastructure Levy.

The report was presented by the Chairman of the Prosperous Communities Committee and in doing so she advised the adoption of the Community Infrastructure Levy was a joint project between West Lindsey, North Kesteven, City of Lincoln and Lincolnshire County Council and had been ongoing for a number of years.

The purpose of the Community Infrastructure Levy was to support the implementation of the new Local Plan through the provision of strategically important infrastructure such as the Lincoln Eastern By-pass and Secondary Education which promoted the proposed growth targets for the plan period.

This report had been subject to scrutiny at Challenge and Improvement Committee and subsequently considered at Prosperous Communities Committee, as a result, there had been no changes to the content or recommendations in the report.

It had been accepted that Community Infrastructure Levy was quite a technical area therefore, appended to the report was a Frequently Asked Questions Fact sheet which provided basic information on the operation of CIL.

Additionally a series of training sessions for Members and Parish Councils would be hosted in the Spring of 2018.

Councillor Cotton as a member of the Joint Strategic Planning Committee spoke in support of the report and outlined the significant amount of work that had been undertaken to reach this stage of the process.

Members as whole were supportive of the proposal however Councillor Darcel wish to place on record that he considered far too much money was being directed towards the Lincoln Eastern Bypass.

Having being moved and seconded it was

RESOLVED that the **RECOMMENDATION** from the Prosperous Communities

Committee be accepted and that the: -

- (a) modifications set out in the West Lindsey Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Examination Report (Appendix A to the report) to the Draft Charging Schedule be approved and incorporated into the West Lindsey CIL Charging Schedule;
- (b) West Lindsey CIL Charging Schedule, (Appendix B to the report), which had been amended to reflect the Examiner's modifications, be adopted;
- (c) position statement provided by Lincolnshire County Council, as requested by the Prosperous Communities Committee, be accepted;
- (d) supporting policies Instalments and In-Kind and Regulation 123 List (Appendix C, D & E to the report), that were consulted upon alongside the Draft CIL Charging Schedule consultation, be approved;
- (e) CIL Charging Schedule be implemented on a date as soon as is practicable on or after 1 January 2018 and in alignment with the other Central Lincolnshire authorities;
- (f) The Chief Operating Officer be authorised to:
 - set the implementation date as per resolution 5 above
 - make minor changes to improve the presentation of the CIL Charging Schedule
 - improve the presentation, and where necessary, clarification of supporting policy documents; and
- (g) a maximum 5% administration charge be applied when CIL is adopted.

54 RECOMMENDATION FROM PROSPEROUS COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE - AMENDMENT TO CONSTITUTION - DELEGATIONS REGARDING NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING

Councillor Sheila Bibb, Chairman of the Prosperous Communities Committee, introduced the report and advised that at a meeting on 24 October 2017 her Committee had considered a report relating to Neighbourhood Plans: Priorities and Work Programme

One section of the report had detailed proposed amendments to the delegated powers of the Chief Operating Officer in relation to Neighbourhood Plans, in order to further streamline their journey through the Committee process, specifically to allow Neighbourhood Plans to proceed to Referendum without being considered by the Prosperous Communities Committee.

Constitutionally only Full Council could agree such amendments hence Prosperous Communities Committee had made a recommendation to Council, as set out in Section 1.4 (e)

The rationale for the change was detailed in Section 2 of the report.

Council was therefore requested to accept the recommendation from Prosperous Communities Committee and agree that the Constitution be amended in order to permit Neighbourhood Plans to proceed to referendum without the need for approval by Prosperous Communities Committee.

In concluding her presentation Councillor Mrs Bibb moved the paper.

The Chairman of the Governance and Audit Committee indicated he had been consulted on this proposed amendment and considered it a sensible and reasonable one.

Members were supportive of the proposal and it was duly seconded.

However Councillor Darcel expressed concern that the proposal would see a Councillor's power to air concerns eroded and for this reason indicated he would be voting against the proposal.

RESOLVED that the **RECOMMENDATION** from Prosperous Communities Committee be accepted and the Constitution be amended as follows, in order to permit Neighbourhood Plans to proceed to referendum without the need for approval by Prosperous Communities Committee :-

“Part IV Page 40/ 41- Chief Operating Officer – Delegated Powers

The following delegated power be included:-

To accept the Examiner's report and approve a neighbourhood plan may advance to Public Referendum following a successful independent examination in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 and the Neighbourhood Plan Regulations 2012”

Note: Councillor Darcel requested that his vote against the above decision be recorded.

55 AMENDMENT TO COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP AND REVISED APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

The Chairman introduced the report which set out a number of amendments to the membership of Committees and representation on outside bodies which had been requested through the Administration.

The report set out the reasoning for each amendment.

Members were asked to agree the changes, as detailed in the recommendation box of the reports and in concluding her presentation the Chairman moved the paper.

Having being seconded and put to the vote it was: -

RESOLVED that: -

- (a) in accordance with the provisions of section 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and the wishes expressed by political groups, the Members set out below be appointed to serve on the Council's Challenge and Improvement committee for the remainder of the 2017/18 civic year: -

Councillor Bruce Allison
Councillor David Bond
Councillor Paul Howitt-Cowan
Councillor Jessie Milne
Councillor Malcolm Parish
Councillor Roger Patterson
Councillor Di Rodgers
Councillor Lesley Rollings
Councillor Tom Smith
Councillor Lewis Strange
Councillor Anne Welburn
Councillor Angela White

- (b) Councillor Ian Fleetwood be appointed as the Council's representative on Central Lincolnshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee (having formerly been the reserve) and Councillor Owen Bierley be appointed as the reserve representative.
- (c) Councillor Angela White be appointed as the Council's representative on West Lincolnshire Domestic Abuse Service, in place of Councillor Pat Mewis.

The meeting concluded at 8.40 pm.

Chairman