

HINCKLEY AND BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

8th MARCH 2005 AT 6.30 P.M.

PRESENT: MR. B.H. EDWARDS - MAYOR
MR. J.C. BOWN - DEPUTY MAYOR

Mrs. M. Aldridge, Mr. M.O. Bevins, Mr. D.R. Bown, Mrs. R. Camamile, Mrs. C.M. Claridge, Mr. J.F. Collins, Mrs. M.A. Cook, Mr. D.S. Cope, Mrs. M.J. Crooks, Mr. W.J. Crooks, Mr. N.B.L. Davis, Mr. R.D. Ellis, Mrs. D. Finney, Mrs. S. Francks, Mr. R.J. Furniss, Mr. M.A. Hall, Mr. D.E. Hinton, Mr. K.A.J. Hunnybun, Mr. C.G. Joyce, Mr. M.R. Lay, Mr. K.W.P. Lynch, Ms. J.E. Price, Mrs. M.L. Sherwin, Mrs. E.A. Spencer, Mr. D.W. Thorpe, Mr. K. Vessey, Mr. R. Ward and Mrs. R.W. Wright.

Officers in attendance: Mr S. Atkinson, Mr. B. Cullen, Mr. G.B. Gethin, Mrs. B. Imison, Mr. S. Kohli, Mr. P. Reid, Mr. D. Tilley and Mr. R.M. Tobin.

Also present was Mr. R. Birch, independent member of the Standards Committee.

416 PRAYER

The Reverend A. Quigley offered prayer.

417 WELCOME

The Mayor welcomed to the meeting Mr. Atkinson, the new Chief Executive, and Mr. Birch

418 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Mr. D.C. Bill and Mr. J.E. Stanley.

419 MINUTES (C62)

On the motion of Mr. Lay, seconded by Mr. Ellis, it was

RESOLVED - the minutes of the meeting held on 1st February 2005 be confirmed and signed by the Mayor.

420 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No interests were declared at this stage.

421 QUESTIONS

The following questions and replies were received in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11.2.

(a) Question raised by Mr. Lay and addressed to Mr. Bevins

"Would the portfolio holder please set out a year by year breakdown of the annual percentage and actual cash increase in RSG support given to the Council annually since the financial year 1990/91?"

Reply given by Mr. Bevins

"The information that you have requested regarding a year by year breakdown of the annual percentage and cash increase in RSG support given to this Council since 1990/91 will take officers some time to collate because of the need to retrieve archived information. However, the information will be forwarded to you as soon as it has been put together."

Being unhappy with this response and having given ample notice, Mr. Lay asked why this information had not been provided. In response, Mr. Bevins stated that he had never received a copy of this question and it would take considerable time to retrieve the information much of which was kept on microfiche.

(b) Question raised by Mr. Crooks and addressed to Mr. Bevins

"Would you please advise me on the full cost to the Council to engage 'Atkins' to produce the Town Centre Master Plan."

Reply given by Mr. Bevins

"To date the cost of engaging Atkins on the Hinckley Town Centre Masterplan is £102,010, £50,000 of which was provided by grant assistance from Leicester Shires Economic Partnership."

Mr. Crooks then asked whether the Council foresaw any further expenditure to consultants on this issue, to which Mr. Bevins replied yes but this was budgeted for and he also pointed out that there was a further £15,000 received from industry.

(c) Question raised by Mrs. Francks and addressed to Mr. Bevins

"At a previous Full Council Mr. Bevins refused to answer a question about the Barwell Christmas Lights because he considered it was a statement, not a question.

As contributors to the Special Expenses Area will he now confirm to the residents of Barwell what has been budgeted to spend on Christmas lights and decorations, solely in Barwell, during this year's festive season?"

Reply given by Mr. Bevins

"The question raised by Mrs. Francks asks to confirm budgeted spend for this year's festive season, which I take to mean this current financial year. The budget for Barwell Christmas trees and lights for 2004/05 allows for £2,040.00."

(d) Question raised by Mrs. Francks and addressed to Mr. Furniss

"We currently have a number of housing developments taking place at this moment in Barwell. I am constantly receiving complaints from very concerned and angry residents who have witnessed the removal of protected hedgerows and damage to roadside verges at the Kirkby Road development, removal and damage of walls and in one case a building of local interest demolished which was situated on private land at the development on Shilton Road.

The developers did not have permission from residents to access their property or to demolish anything, but continued to do so even after being requested to stop. Despite requests made to this Council's Planning Department by both the residents concerned and myself, no action appears to have been taken. Am I correct?

Before further planning permission is given for more housing development in Barwell, does not this Council have a duty of care to protect its residents, why has it not used the relevant enforcement procedures to stop this from continuing to happen and when will steps be taken to put these matters right?"

Reply given by Mr. Furniss

"As part of the new residential development off Kirkby Road, Barwell, the hedgerow fronting the highway was to have been removed in accordance with the approved scheme in order to achieve adequate visibility splays and for the construction of a footpath, in the interests of highway safety. The approved landscaping scheme for the site includes a new hedgerow to be planted to the rear of the footpath and the visibility splays. Damage to roadside verges is a matter for the Divisional Highway Engineer at Leicestershire County Council.

In respect of trespass on land not owned by the developers, including demolition of structures, this is a civil matter between the parties concerned and residents experiencing these problems have been advised of this fact accordingly. The Local Planning Authority always attempts to mediate in these circumstances but is not in a position to prevent trespass on land. Enforcement powers relate to breaches of planning control only."

422 CALCULATION OF COUNCIL TAX FOR 2005/06 (C63)

Consideration was given to the proposed budget requirements and council tax for 2005/06 based on the borough-wide and special expense requirement together with the parish, county council and police authority precepts. On the motion of Mr. Bevins, seconded by Mrs. Claridge, it was

RESOLVED - in accordance with Sections 32 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (as amended) it is recommended that for 2005/06:

1. The Council's budget requirement, including Special Expenses and Parish Councils, be £10,011,792.
2. The contribution from Revenue Support Grant, Non Domestic Rates and Collection Fund surplus be £5,510,992.
3. The basic amount of Council Tax, being the tax relating to Borough wide services and an average of Special Expenses and Parish Council services for Band D, be £125.88.
4. The Council Tax for Borough wide services, excluding Special Expenses and Parish Council precepts, for Band D be £77.35.
5. The Council Tax for Borough wide services together with the relevant Special Expenses or Parish Council services for each area and valuation band be as follows:

| Valuation Band Area | A £ | B £ | C £ | D £ | E £ | F £ | G £ | H £ |
|------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Hinckley & Barwell | 86.65 | 101.08 | 115.53 | 129.97 | 158.85 | 187.73 | 216.61 | 259.93 |
| Bagworth | 98.99 | 115.47 | 131.98 | 148.47 | 181.46 | 214.45 | 247.45 | 296.93 |
| Barlestone | 93.09 | 108.59 | 124.11 | 139.62 | 170.64 | 201.66 | 232.70 | 279.23 |
| Burbage | 86.27 | 100.64 | 115.02 | 129.40 | 158.15 | 186.90 | 215.66 | 258.79 |
| Cadeby | 65.61 | 76.53 | 87.47 | 98.40 | 120.26 | 142.12 | 164.00 | 196.79 |
| Carlton | 75.72 | 88.33 | 100.95 | 113.57 | 138.80 | 164.04 | 189.28 | 227.13 |
| Desford | 74.76 | 87.21 | 99.67 | 112.13 | 137.04 | 161.96 | 186.88 | 224.25 |
| Earl Shilton | 78.53 | 91.60 | 104.70 | 117.78 | 143.95 | 170.12 | 196.30 | 235.55 |
| Groby | 95.29 | 111.16 | 127.05 | 142.93 | 174.69 | 206.45 | 238.21 | 285.85 |
| Higham on the Hill | 73.03 | 85.19 | 97.37 | 109.54 | 133.88 | 158.22 | 182.56 | 219.07 |
| Market Bosworth | 79.67 | 92.94 | 106.22 | 119.50 | 146.05 | 172.60 | 199.16 | 238.99 |
| Markfield | 80.01 | 93.34 | 106.68 | 120.01 | 146.67 | 173.34 | 200.01 | 240.01 |
| Nailstone | 73.10 | 85.27 | 97.46 | 109.64 | 134.00 | 158.36 | 182.73 | 219.27 |
| Newbold Verdon | 80.86 | 94.32 | 107.81 | 121.28 | 148.23 | 175.17 | 202.13 | 242.55 |
| Osbaston | 64.01 | 74.67 | 85.34 | 96.01 | 117.34 | 138.67 | 160.01 | 192.01 |
| Peckleton | 80.54 | 93.95 | 107.38 | 120.80 | 147.64 | 174.48 | 201.33 | 241.59 |
| Ratby | 83.25 | 97.11 | 110.99 | 124.86 | 152.60 | 180.34 | 208.10 | 249.71 |
| Shackerstone | 80.69 | 94.12 | 107.58 | 121.02 | 147.91 | 174.80 | 201.70 | 242.03 |
| Sheepy | 75.78 | 88.40 | 101.03 | 113.66 | 138.91 | 164.17 | 189.43 | 227.31 |
| Stanton under Bardon | 72.55 | 84.63 | 96.73 | 108.82 | 133.00 | 157.18 | 181.36 | 217.63 |
| Stoke Golding | 70.69 | 82.45 | 94.24 | 106.02 | 129.58 | 153.13 | 176.70 | 212.03 |
| Sutton Cheney | 68.09 | 79.43 | 90.78 | 102.13 | 124.82 | 147.51 | 170.21 | 204.25 |
| Twycross | 58.10 | 67.77 | 77.46 | 87.14 | 106.50 | 125.86 | 145.23 | 174.27 |
| Witherley | 63.16 | 73.67 | 84.21 | 94.73 | 115.78 | 136.82 | 157.88 | 189.45 |

1. The total Council Tax, including amounts for the County Council, Police Authority, and Fire Authority and for each area and valuation band be as follows:

| Valuation Band Area | A £ | B £ | C £ | D £ | E £ | F £ | G £ | H £ |
|------------------------|--------|--------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Hinckley & Barwell | 793.01 | 925.18 | 1,057.35 | 1,189.52 | 1,453.86 | 1,718.20 | 1,982.53 | 2,379.04 |
| Bagworth | 805.35 | 939.57 | 1,073.80 | 1,208.02 | 1,476.47 | 1,744.92 | 2,013.37 | 2,416.04 |
| Barlestone | 799.45 | 932.69 | 1,065.93 | 1,199.17 | 1,465.65 | 1,732.13 | 1,998.62 | 2,398.34 |
| Burbage | 792.63 | 924.74 | 1,056.84 | 1,188.95 | 1,453.16 | 1,717.37 | 1,981.58 | 2,377.90 |
| Cadeby | 771.97 | 900.63 | 1,029.29 | 1,157.95 | 1,415.27 | 1,672.59 | 1,929.92 | 2,315.90 |
| Carlton | 782.08 | 912.43 | 1,042.77 | 1,173.12 | 1,433.81 | 1,694.51 | 1,955.20 | 2,346.24 |
| Desford | 781.12 | 911.31 | 1,041.49 | 1,171.68 | 1,432.05 | 1,692.43 | 1,952.80 | 2,343.36 |
| Earl Shilton | 784.89 | 915.70 | 1,046.52 | 1,177.33 | 1,438.96 | 1,700.59 | 1,962.22 | 2,354.66 |
| Groby | 801.65 | 935.26 | 1,068.87 | 1,202.48 | 1,469.70 | 1,736.92 | 2,004.13 | 2,404.96 |
| Higham on the Hill | 779.39 | 909.29 | 1,039.19 | 1,169.09 | 1,428.89 | 1,688.69 | 1,948.48 | 2,338.18 |
| Market Bosworth | 786.03 | 917.04 | 1,048.04 | 1,179.05 | 1,441.06 | 1,703.07 | 1,965.08 | 2,358.10 |
| Markfield | 786.37 | 917.44 | 1,048.50 | 1,179.56 | 1,441.68 | 1,703.81 | 1,965.93 | 2,359.12 |
| Nailstone | 779.46 | 909.37 | 1,039.28 | 1,169.19 | 1,429.01 | 1,688.83 | 1,948.65 | 2,338.38 |
| Newbold Verdon | 787.22 | 918.42 | 1,049.63 | 1,180.83 | 1,443.24 | 1,705.64 | 1,968.05 | 2,361.66 |
| Osbaston | 770.37 | 898.77 | 1,027.16 | 1,155.56 | 1,412.35 | 1,669.14 | 1,925.93 | 2,311.12 |
| Peckleton | 786.90 | 918.05 | 1,049.20 | 1,180.35 | 1,442.65 | 1,704.95 | 1,967.25 | 2,360.70 |
| Ratby | 789.61 | 921.21 | 1,052.81 | 1,184.41 | 1,447.61 | 1,710.81 | 1,974.02 | 2,368.82 |
| Shackerstone | 787.05 | 918.22 | 1,049.40 | 1,180.57 | 1,442.92 | 1,705.27 | 1,967.62 | 2,361.14 |
| Sheepy | 782.14 | 912.50 | 1,042.85 | 1,173.21 | 1,433.92 | 1,694.64 | 1,955.35 | 2,346.42 |
| Stanton under Bardon | 778.91 | 908.73 | 1,038.55 | 1,168.37 | 1,428.01 | 1,687.65 | 1,947.28 | 2,336.74 |
| Stoke Golding | 777.05 | 906.55 | 1,036.06 | 1,165.57 | 1,424.59 | 1,683.60 | 1,942.62 | 2,331.14 |
| Sutton Cheney | 774.45 | 903.53 | 1,032.60 | 1,161.68 | 1,419.83 | 1,677.98 | 1,936.13 | 2,323.36 |
| Twycross | 764.46 | 891.87 | 1,019.28 | 1,146.69 | 1,401.51 | 1,656.33 | 1,911.15 | 2,293.38 |
| Witherley | 769.52 | 897.77 | 1,026.03 | 1,154.28 | 1,410.79 | 1,667.29 | 1,923.80 | 2,308.56 |

2. The calculation of the estimated surplus on the Collection Fund be delegated to the Head of Finance.

Further to minute No. 301, a number of proposed increases to the Leisure Centre charges were submitted from SLM for approval. On the motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Furniss, it was

RESOLVED - the price increases and changes to the pricing structure included in the report of the Leisure Services Manager be approved.

424 CHAIRMANSHIP OF STANDARDS COMMITTEE (C65)

Having regard to a recommendation of the Standards Committee, it was moved by Mrs. Claridge, seconded by Mr. Collins, and

RESOLVED - Article 9.02(d) of the Council's constitution be amended to allow for the appointment of a Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Standards Committee and that where the former is an elected Member of the Council the latter shall be an independent representative and that these arrangements alternate annually.

425 MOTION IN ACCORDANCE WITH PROCEDURE RULE NO.12

It was moved by Mr. Thorpe and seconded by Mrs. Claridge that Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council makes representation to the Government insisting that appropriate diagnosis and treatment is made available to the residents of Hinckley and Bosworth with regard to any suspected cases of Lyme Disease and that the letter to Government is copied to all Members. By way of amendment, it was moved by Mr. Lynch and seconded by Mr. D.R. Bown that the words "and Hinckley & Bosworth Primary Care Trust" be added after the word "Government" in both instances. Following debate and a vote, the motion as amended was declared CARRIED.

(The meeting closed at 7.50 p.m.)