

HINCKLEY AND BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL  
21 MARCH 2011 AT 6.30PM

PRESENT: MRS S FRANCKS - MAYOR  
MR R MAYNE - DEPUTY MAYOR

Mrs M Aldridge, Mr JG Bannister, Mr PR Batty, Mr PS Bessant, Mr DC Bill, Mr CW Boothby, Mr SL Bray, Mrs R Camamile; Mr MB Cartwright, Mr DS Cope, Mr WJ Crooks, Mr DM Gould, Mrs A Hall, Mr PAS Hall, Mr DW Inman, Mr CG Joyce, Mr C Ladkin, Mr MR Lay, Mr KWP Lynch, Ms WA Moore, Mr K Morrell, Mr K Nichols, Mrs J Richards, Mrs S Sprason, Mr BE Sutton, Mr R Ward, Ms BM Witherford and Mr DO Wright.

Officers in attendance: Mr SJ Atkinson, Mrs D Bonser, Mr B Cullen, Mr S Kohli, Mrs PI Pitt, Mrs J Puffett and Ms M Wykes.

531 PRAYER

The Reverend Andrew Murphy, offered prayer.

At this juncture the Mayor referred to the death recently of Mr Mike (Charles) Halliday MBE, a former member and Leader of this Authority. The Mayor then invited Mr Batty to read out a short tribute to Mr Halliday, following which tributes were also paid by Messrs Lay, Lynch and Ward.

532 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Mr JC Bown, Dr JR Moore, Mr LJP O'Shea and Dr AJ Smith.

533 PRESENTATION OF LONG SERVICE AWARD

The Mayor presented Mrs Aldridge with gardening vouchers to recognise formally her years' service to this Authority, following which Mr Ward, on behalf of the Conservative Group, also made a presentation to Mrs Aldridge. Tributes were then paid to Mrs Aldridge by Messrs Bill, Bray, Lay, Nichols and Ward.

534 MINUTES (C56)

It was moved by Mr Bray, seconded by Mr Bill and

RESOLVED – the minutes of the meeting held on 24 February 2011 be confirmed and signed by the Mayor.

535 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

No interests were declared at this stage.

536 MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

The Mayor referred to two forthcoming charity events, one at the George Ward Centre, Barwell on 31 March and a lunch at Barwell Bowls Club on 13 April. Tickets for both were available from the Mayor's Secretary.

The Mayor concluded by announcing that Mr Bannister had written a novel, copies of which were available on line or, signed, from Mr Bannister.

537 PETITIONS

Petitions were presented (all relating to proposals for the siting of telecommunications masts) as follows:-

- By Mr Bray and containing 152 signatures from residents in the Queens Park area
- By Mr Cope and signed by 390 people in the Stoke Road/Wykin Road area
- By Mr Mayne and containing 738 signatures from residents in the Rugby Road/Three Pots area of Burbage
- By Mr Bannister containing 264 signatures and on behalf of residents in the Barwell Lane area.

538 LEADER'S POSITION STATEMENT

In his final position statement before the May elections the Leader summarised the significant achievements of the Council over the last four years, namely the Greenfields project, the Atkins Building, the Bus Station site and the forthcoming Hinckley Hub.

The future would see the development of the MIRA site and more immediately the 'topping out' ceremony at the new college site on 28 March.

The Leader referred to the continued success of Hinckley market and also to ongoing partnership working with other authorities and agencies. Front line services were continuing to perform well with recycling levels reaching nearly 50%. Tribute was paid to the joint working of officers and Members to deliver the public's priorities, despite the financial constraints.

Pleasing to note was that the Westfields Centre had secured its own future, without any input from the Authority, whose short term support (at no cost to the Council) had not proved necessary.

In conclusion the Leader thanked the Mayor for the way in which she had presided at meetings, thanked those Members of the Council who would not be seeking re-election and, supported by all those present, paid tribute to the long and valued service of Mrs Pat Pitt, whose final Council meeting this was.

539 SHARED S151 OFFICER AND DELEGATION OF INTERNAL AUDIT FROM OADBY AND WIGSTON BOROUGH COUNCIL (OWBC) C57)

In considering this proposal to share S151 services with OWBC and to accept the delegation of the internal audit function from OWBC, a query was raised as to the respective savings for this Authority and OWBC and the need to ensure that the S151 Officer received full service management support. The Chief Executive explained that the savings would be greater for the latter because it had engaged an interim Director of Finance and S151 Officer on a consultancy basis and that the senior management at this Council would give full support to Mr Kohli. These proposals had been agreed by OWBC on 24 February 2011.

On the motion of Mr Lynch, seconded by Mr Bray it was

RESOLVED –

- (i) the delegation of OWBC's internal audit function under section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972 be approved and accepted;
- (ii) once delegated to Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council Oadby and Wigston Borough Council's internal audit service be provided by RSM Tenon; and
- (iii) the shared service approach to the S151 officer role be supported.

540 LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK: HINCKLEY TOWN CENTRE AREA ACTION PLAN DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENT – ADOPTION (C58)

Council's agreement was sought to the above, as being an integral part of the Hinckley and Bosworth Local Development Framework. This final document incorporated the Planning Inspectorate's required changes.

In response to Members' concerns regarding transport requirements the Executive Member for Planning indicated that as part of consultation on the Local Transport Plan these had been notified to the County Council and that he would welcome discussion on the Area Action Plan at the next meeting of the Hinckley Highways Forum. Following a request from Mr Gould and with four additional Members calling for a recorded vote that vote was taken and recorded as follows:-

For the Recommendation

Mr Mayne, Mrs Aldridge, Mr Bannister, Mr Bessant, Mr Bill, Mr Boothby, Mr Bray, Mrs Camamile, Mr Cartwright, Mr Cope, Mr Crooks, Mr Gould, Mrs Hall, Mr Hall, Mr Inman, Mr Joyce, Mr Ladkin, Mr Lay, Mr Lynch, Ms Moore, Mr Morrell, Mr Nichols, Mrs Richards, Mrs Sprason, Mr Sutton, Mr Ward, Ms Witherford and Mr Wright (28 votes)

Against the Recommendation

None

Abstention

Mr Batty (1 vote)

Having thanked officers for their work on producing this document it was thereupon moved by Mr Bray, seconded by Mr Bill and

RESOLVED – agreement be given to the adoption of the Hinckley Town Centre Area Action Plan Development Plan Document.

541 MOTION IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 13 – MR CROOKS

“In view of the threat to the future of the pharmacies associated with the doctors’ surgeries at Barlestone, Newbold Verdon, Desford, Market Bosworth and Stoke Golding, this Council re-iterates its support for the continuation of the network of rural pharmacies and instructs the Chief Executive to ensure that the PCT is made fully aware of the strong feelings of the local community that this most essential of all public services should flourish and prosper.”

This motion was seconded by Mr Bill.

Circulated at the meeting was an amendment from Mr Morrell, seconded by Mr Ward, as follows

"That the Borough Council, having concerns about reductions in the availability of pharmacy and GP dispensing services to the Borough residents, notes that the Primary Care Trust is obliged to use national criteria in defining "rurality" in its current consultation about the future service provision, the outcomes may have a detrimental effect on many rural areas.

Therefore, the Borough Council:

1. requests along with other Leicestershire councils', a meeting with the PCT separate from the consultation engagement events, as part of an approach to Government to ensure that any unintended consequences of the exercise can be avoided; and
2. that any unintended consequences are avoided in the Borough we support our local Member of Parliament to raise our concerns with Ministers.”

Following a request from Mr Morrell that both of these Motions be withdrawn to afford the Group Leaders and the Chief Executive the opportunity to meet to discuss dispensing services within rural communities there was a brief adjournment at 7.40 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 7.46 p.m., at which time on the Motion of Mr. Bray, seconded by Mr Crooks it was

RESOLVED – unanimously – both the original and the amended Motions be withdrawn and a meeting be held between the three Group Leaders, Mr Crooks and the Chief Executive to agree the Council's stance on dispensing service provision locally.

(the meeting closed at 7.47pm).