



Hinckley & Bosworth  
Borough Council

*A Borough to be proud of*

Date: 01 November 2016

To: All Members of Council

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(other recipients for information)

Dear Councillor,

Please see overleaf a Supplementary Agenda for the meeting of the **COUNCIL** on **TUESDAY, 1 NOVEMBER 2016** at **6.30 pm**.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Owen'.

Rebecca Owen  
Democratic Services Officer

**SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA**

8. **LEADER OF THE COUNCIL'S POSITION STATEMENT**

This administration is committed to being fair to all residents of our borough and recent actions should leave members in no doubt of our commitment to both our towns and rural areas. This position statement updates members on recent events which are good for all areas of the borough.

Since the last meeting of this Council, we have agreed and completed the purchase of the former Co-op site in Hinckley for £1.45m and the car park is now open for use. Officers are preparing options for the use of the building, including short term and long term possibilities, and we will bring a report to Council when their work is complete.

We have great ambitions for our markets in Hinckley and, after further discussions, we have created a new Market Promotions Group comprising market traders, BID and council officers. We believe this is the best way to bring forward further improvements to our market, without the need to seek input from external partners, and it will ensure the market remains at the centre of Hinckley's prosperity.

The launch of the Developing Communities Fund has been well received and we have already received expressions of interest from a number of parishes. We will review these applications after the closing date, with successful projects to be included in our capital programme for next year.

Our budget planning is underway and we have set out a timetable that will allow our budget to be produced and scrutinised before our budget meeting in February. As part of the budget process we will hold a cross party workshop in the next few weeks. There should not be many surprises in this process.

The issue of an order for the creation of the Combined Authority that we are progressing with Leicestershire County Council, other districts and the City Council has now been delayed by Government until the New Year. Whilst there is delegated authority for approval of the order, I do intend that Council should have the opportunity to discuss the final order as soon as possible. In the meantime, officers have also been working to agree the constitution of the Combined Authority and the Operating Agreement between the councils. These should be brought to Council in January as they are already at an advanced stage.

Finally, can I comment on two areas of significance – two of many which tend to go under the radar, but which are vital to our community well-being. For the fifth year running, the council's Dog Warden service has received a Gold Award from the RSPCA for its contribution to improved animal welfare and, since 2008, our carbon dioxide emissions have reduced by over 25% (against a target of 20%). Both of these are excellent achievements and we should thank all the staff involved in this success.

I apologise for my absence this evening, for reasons that I am sure members will understand.