

HINCKLEY AND BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

10 SEPTEMBER 2019 AT 6.30 PM

PRESENT: MRS L HODGKINS - MAYOR
MR E HOLICK – DEPUTY MAYOR

Mrs CM Allen, Mr RG Allen, Mr DC Bill MBE, Mr CW Boothby,
Mr SL Bray, Mr MB Cartwright, Mr JMT Collett, Mrs MA Cook,
Mr DS Cope, Mrs MJ Crooks, Mr WJ Crooks, Mr REH Flemming,
Mr A Furlong, Mr SM Gibbens, Mrs DT Glenville, Mr C Ladkin,
Mr MR Lay, Mr KWP Lynch, Mr K Morrell, Mrs LJ Mullaney,
Mr MT Mullaney, Mr LJP O'Shea, Ms A Pendlebury, Mr RB Roberts,
Mrs H Smith, Mr BR Walker, Mr R Webber-Jones, Mr HG Williams and
Mr P Williams

Officers in attendance: Matthew Bowers, Malcolm Evans, Julie Kenny, Rebecca Owen,
Sharon Stacey and Ashley Wilson

135 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Findlay, Nichols and Sheppard-Bools. It was also noted that Councillor HG Williams would be arriving late.

136 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

It was moved by Councillor Bray, seconded by Councillor Cartwright and

RESOLVED – the minutes of the meeting held on 16 July be confirmed and signed by the Mayor.

137 ADDITIONAL URGENT BUSINESS BY REASON OF SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

It was noted that the Mayor had agreed to accept an urgent motion by virtue of the fact that the information had been released after the agenda had been issued and to enable representations to be made in a timely manner. The motion would be taken at the relevant point on the agenda.

138 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No interests were declared at this stage.

139 MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

The Mayor thanked members for their support with the visit of two young people from Grand Quevilly who were undertaking a photography project.

140 QUESTIONS

Question from Councillor Boothby to the Executive member for Finance:

“Referring to the recent press release regarding the proposed development of 150 homes on Station Road, Market Bosworth, can the member please confirm that this council will receive a significant receipt for the land required to access this site?

Further, would the Executive member agree with me that it is imperative to maximise the receipt from this council-owned asset to help fund beneficial future projects in Market Bosworth and across our borough?"

Response from Councillor Lynch:

"Thank you Cllr Boothby for your question. As you will know, the Council has been working with a number of partners to bring forward this site for a number of years, including when you were part of the previous administration. The delivery of the site is not simple and there are a number of interested parties. The Council proposed, and it has been agreed, that it will lead on commissioning a masterplan for the site with the other partners. That will seek to establish design principles based on the neighbourhood plan and an appropriate layout. That will help us to determine how much of the Council's land ownership may be required to enable the development to take place. The Council is working with a number of partners and the masterplanning process will require their engagement and the wider community including those that might be affected.

As you will know, the Council has to follow national legislation with regards to disposing of assets and we are required to ensure that we achieve the 'best consideration' for the disposal of land. The land that potentially may be required is not free from occupation and any valuation will take this into account. I understand that your previous administration was supportive of the principle of funding any necessary relocations from a receipt and to be flexible on value achieved in order to facilitate development.

Until the masterplan work and then formal valuations are undertaken it is unwise to speculate on any future receipt. The Council will then have to follow its procedures which are in place for the disposal of assets which are likely to require further member approval.

If a receipt is received there are also rules in place to how that receipt can be used, which will have to be followed. How any income received is spent will be determined at a later date through the appropriate processes."

141 LEADER OF THE COUNCIL'S POSITION STATEMENT

In his position statement, the Leader of the Council referred to:

- Recent events in the borough
- Hinckley town centre
- Town centre parking
- National Paw Print award
- Public space protection
- Rail freight depot
- A5 partnership
- Klondyke
- Isla Tansey
- Grand Quevilly
- Heritage open days
- Ada Lovelace
- Warwickshire draft rail strategy
- District Councils Network.

A member asked for more information on Brexit plans and it was agreed that a briefing note would be prepared for members.

In discussing heritage events and the Ada Lovelace exhibition, it was requested that more be done to recognise our heritage, particularly mathematicians including Roger Cotes from Burbage, William Whiston from Twycross and Thomas Simpson from Market Bosworth who were all critical to the science of mathematics. It was agreed that this would be passed onto the Executive member who was keen to increase heritage activity.

In discussing local events, a member referred to his recent visit to the Concordia Theatre to watch Journey's End by the NTP and wished to write to the group to congratulate them.

142 CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2020

The draft calendar of meetings for 2020 was presented to Council. It was moved by Councillor Bray, seconded by Councillor Crooks and

RESOLVED – the calendar of meetings for 2020 be approved.

143 APPOINTMENT TO CHARITABLE BODY: POORS PLATT CHARITY, BARWELL

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

RESOLVED – Mathew Hulbert be appointed to Poors Platt Charity, Barwell, for a term of four years with immediate effect.

144 MOTIONS RECEIVED IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 17

- (a) Motion received from Councillor R Allen, seconded by Councillor Roberts

It was noted that this motion had been withdrawn.

- (b) Motion proposed by Councillor Morrell and seconded by Councillor Ladkin

“This Council undertakes to maintain the level of community grant funding, in the form of the Developing Communities Fund (DCF) and Parish & Community Initiative Fund (PCIF) or their replacements, to at least the level incorporated into the MTFS for the 2018/19 financial year”.

Councillor Lynch, seconded by Councillor Cartwright proposed an amendment, appropriate notice of which had been given:

“This administration is fully committed to retaining grants which are accessible to all communities in the borough.

We are also committed to ending the inflation-busting council tax increases that we have seen imposed during the past four years.

Therefore, in accordance with council procedure rule 19.6, Council amends the motion to refer consideration of future grant funding to be looked at by Executive and Scrutiny during the normal budget setting process.”

In moving the amendment, Councillor Lynch assured members of his support for the Parish & Community Initiative Fund and for the VCS grants.

Councillor HG Williams entered the meeting at 7.05pm.

The mover and seconder of the original motion were not happy to accept the amendment and it was therefore put to the vote and CARRIED.

The motion, as amended, was subsequently put to the vote and CARRIED. It was therefore

RESOLVED – Consideration of future grant funding be considered by the Executive and Overview & Scrutiny as part of the normal budget setting process.

- (c) Motion proposed by Councillor MT Mullaney and seconded by Councillor Cope

“Council deplores the fact that since 2015 Leicestershire police has suffered 6.1% of cutbacks by this Conservative government.

Many residents in the borough, particularly in the rural areas are concerned about rising levels of theft and other crimes and the lack of police available to deal with it.

Hard pressed residents had to pay a large increase in council tax for the police this year to make up for reduction in government support.

Council calls upon government to properly fund our local police force.”

Councillor HG Williams proposed an amendment that the year “2015” be amended to “2009”. In the absence of a seconder before the close of debate, the motion was not pursued.

Councillor Cartwright and at least four further members stood to request voting on the motion be recorded. The vote was recorded as follows:

Councillors CM Allen, RG Allen, Bill, Boothby, Bray, Cartwright, Collett, Cook, Cope, MJ Crooks, WJ Crooks, Flemming, Furlong, Gibbens, Glenville, Hodgkins, Hollick, Ladkin, Lay, Lynch, Morrell, LJ Mullaney, MT Mullaney, O’Shea, Pendlebury, Roberts, Smith, Walker, Webber-Jones, HG Williams and P Williams voted FOR the motion (31).

There were no votes against the motion.

The motion was therefore declared CARRIED and it was

RESOLVED – Council calls upon Government to properly fund our police force.

- (d) Emergency motion proposed by Councillor Bill and seconded by Councillor Pendlebury

The Mayor had agreed to accept an emergency motion due to the information having been released after the issuing of the agenda and to enable representations to be made in a timely manner.

“This council expresses concerns that the X-ray facility has ceased at Hinckley Hospital, without new alternative facilities being available. This means local people having to travel some considerable distance without adequate public transport to access this vital facility.

We call on the Secretary of State to ensure that this facility is returned to the town as soon as possible.

Furthermore, we urge that the long-awaited improvements repeatedly promised for our local NHS facilities are finally delivered after years of empty promises”.

RESOLVED – the Secretary of State be called upon to ensure

- (i) that this facility is returned to the town as soon as possible;
- (ii) the long-awaited improvements repeatedly promised for our local NHS facilities are delivered.

145 MATTERS FROM WHICH THE PUBLIC MAY BE EXCLUDED

On the motion of Councillor Bray seconded by Councillor Cartwright, it was

RESOLVED – in accordance with section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the disclosure of exempt information as defined in those paragraphs of Part I of Schedule 12A of that Act listed on the individual reports.

146 DISPOSAL OF FLAT 39 BROOKSIDE, BURBAGE

Members received a report which sought approval for the disposal of flat 39, Brookside, Burbage.

In relation to all of the disposal reports on the agenda, a member expressed concern that only one valuation was sought. The Executive member agreed to review this.

It was moved by Councillor Lynch, seconded by Councillor Glenville and

RESOLVED – the disposal be approved.

147 DISPOSAL OF LAND ADJACENT TO 48 MILL LANE, NEWBOLD VERDON

It was noted that this report had been withdrawn from the agenda for consultation with ward councillors.

148 LEASEHOLD DISPOSAL OF PLOT 27 HARROWBROOK INDUSTRIAL ESTATE

Approval was sought for the leasehold disposal of plot 27 Harrowbrook Industrial Estate. It was moved by Councillor Lynch, seconded by Councillor Glenville and

RESOLVED –

- (i) The leasehold disposal on a long term lease of 125 years be approved;
- (ii) The Commercial Estates Surveyor be granted delegated powers to negotiate the disposal of the plots to the best advantage of the Council.

149 LEASEHOLD DISPOSAL OF PLOTS 2, 2A, 3 AND 4 SKETCHLEY MEADOWS INDUSTRIAL ESTATE

Consideration was given to a report which sought approval for the leasehold disposal of plots 2, 2a, 3 & 4 Sketchley Meadows Industrial Estate. It was moved by Councillor Lynch, seconded by Councillor Glenville and

RESOLVED –

- (i) the leasehold disposal on a long term lease of 125 years be approved;
- (ii) the Commercial Estates Surveyor be granted delegated powers to negotiate the disposal of the plots to the best advantage of the Council.

(The Meeting closed at 8.20 pm)

MAYOR