

HINCKLEY AND BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

5 NOVEMBER 2019 AT 6.30 PM

PRESENT: MRS L HODGKINS - 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, Mrs MJ Crooks, Mr WJ Crooks, Mr DJ Findlay, 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 K Nichols, 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: Bill Cullen, Julie Kenny, Sally O'Hanlon, Rebecca Owen, Caroline Roffey, Madeline Shellard and Sharon Stacey

204 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Cope, Hollick and Sheppard-Bools.

205 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

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

RESOLVED – the minutes of the meeting held on 10 September be confirmed and signed by the Mayor.

206 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No interests were declared.

207 MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

The Mayor spoke about recent events she had attended, the forthcoming Remembrance Parade and her civic carol service at Hope Community Church.

208 PETITIONS

Councillor M Mullaney presented a petition with 2,300 signatures calling to restore x-ray services in Hinckley.

209 LEADER OF THE COUNCIL'S POSITION STATEMENT

In his statement, the Leader referred to electric car charging points, Proms in the Park, climate change and the local authority lottery. It was suggested that a briefing note on progress in relation to the local authority lottery be produced. The Leader outlined concerns over the county council's unitary proposals, referring to a survey of local residents wishing to see services retained locally and a recent letter signed by all MPs in Leicestershire expressing their strong opposition to the proposals. He called on the Leader of the county council to stop any further work and waste of resources.

The Leader also informed members of the government's request for authorities to adopt the following non legally binding working definition of antisemitism from the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance and stated he would respond to MHCLG to confirm and asked that it be circulated to HBBC staff:

“Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred towards Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed towards Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, towards Jewish community institutions and religious facilities.”

210 MINUTES OF THE SCRUTINY COMMISSION

The chairman of the Scrutiny Commission presented the minutes of the last meeting for information.

211 OFF STREET PARKING PLACES ORDER - VARIATION OF CHARGING TIMES AND HOUSING LAND

Members received a report which sought to vary the off-street parking places order to provide 133 free spaces prior to 8.30am to support residents where there is limited on-street parking and 264 free parking spaces after 3pm to support Hinckley town centre and also to control parking on designated HBBC housing land.

The continuing installation of cashless machines was highlighted and it was noted that the majority had been installed already and there were 13 more being installed over the following weeks, leaving only three to install.

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

RESOLVED –

- (i) The proposed variation to the Off Street Parking Places Order to change the charging times on the following four pay and display car parks be approved:
 - a. Trinity East car park
 - b. Castle car park (former Co-op site)
 - c. Lower Bond Street car park
 - d. Thorneycroft road car park
- (ii) The proposed variation to the Off Street Parking Places (Hinckley & Bosworth) Order 2014 to incorporate the following housing land be approved:
 - a. Westfield Court residents' car park, Westfield Road, Hinckley, LE10 0QR
 - b. Castle Court residents' car park, Brookside, Burbage, LE10 2TL
 - c. Royal Court, Station Road, Hinckley, LE10 1BH
- (iii) Authority be delegated to the Head of Street Scene Services and the Anti Social Behaviour and Tenancy Manager to publish a notice of proposals in relation to the Off Street Parking Places (Hinckley & Bosworth) Order 2014 as detailed in the report;

- (iv) Authority be delegated to the Head of Street Scene Services and the Anti Social Behaviour and Tenancy Manager to make the order and publish the notice of making, subject to there being no objections received within the relevant statutory period;
- (v) Where objections are received, a written report be produced by the Head of Street Scene Services and Anti Social Behaviour and Tenancy Manager detailing the objections and authority be delegated to the Director (Environment & Planning), the Director (Community Services) and the Executive members with responsibility for car parks and housing, in conjunction with the Legal Services Manager, to consider such objections and consider whether the variation to the order should be confirmed.

212 POLLING PLACE REVIEW

The 2019 Polling District and Polling Place review was presented to Council. Aside from the information contained within the report, it was noted that a small number of polling stations would be in different venues for the forthcoming general election due to availability at such a busy time of year. In response to a question, members were assured that no reduction in the number of polling stations was proposed and any changes in the review were to improve flexibility.

Officers were asked to look again at the use of Barlestone Community Hall as it was not easily accessible either from the car park due to deep gravel or the other entrance due to a steep incline. Concern was expressed about the distance to the George Ward Centre in Barwell from the some of the residents who would need to vote there. It was also requested that the gate from Mount Road to the leisure centre car park be opened on polling date to assist those having to arrive by car due to the distance of the polling station from many residents' homes.

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

RESOLVED – the Polling District and Polling Place review be approved.

213 COUNCIL TAX - LOCAL DISCOUNTS AND PREMIUMS

Consideration was given to a report which proposed changes to the council tax discounts and premiums. Members welcomed the report and gave examples of empty properties that presented issues in their wards. It was suggested that a briefing note be produced on measures to support bringing empty properties back into use. It was moved by Councillor Lynch, seconded by Councillor Bray and

RESOLVED –

- (i) The increased premium charge for long-term empty properties to 100% for 2020/21 be approved;
- (ii) The maximum charge allowed under legislation where possible up to 300% for properties empty more than ten years be approved;
- (iii) A briefing note be prepared on measures to bring empty properties back into use.

214 CORPORATE PLAN ANNUAL STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT

The outcomes of a recent exercise to identify key priorities for action within the Corporate Plan were reported to members. The importance of engaging with young people was emphasised and the reference to promoting sustainable economic development was acknowledged. It was moved by Councillor Bray, seconded by Councillor Bill and

RESOLVED – the Corporate Plan Annual Statement of Commitment be approved.

(The Meeting closed at 7.30 pm)

MAYOR