

HINCKLEY AND BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

26 November 2024 AT 6.30 pm

PRESENT: CLLR REH FLEMMING – DEPUTY MAYOR IN THE CHAIR

Cllr CM Allen, Cllr RG Allen, Cllr SL Bray, Cllr MB Cartwright, Cllr MA Cook, Cllr DS Cope, Cllr C Gibbens, Cllr SM Gibbens, Cllr DT Glenville, Cllr CE Green, Cllr L Hodgkins, Cllr C Lambert, Cllr KWP Lynch, Cllr J Moore, Cllr LJ Mullaney, Cllr MT Mullaney, Cllr LJP O'Shea, Cllr M Simmons, Cllr H Smith, Cllr P Stead-Davis, Cllr MJ Surtees, Cllr BE Sutton, Cllr BR Walker and Cllr P Williams

Officers in attendance: Bill Cullen, Julie Kenny, Rebecca Owen and Caroline Roffey

273. Deputy Mayor in the chair

In the absence of the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor took the chair for the meeting.

274. Apologies

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Bools, Boothby, J Crooks, W Crooks, Harris, Hollick, Pendlebury, Webber-Jones and Weightman.

275. Minutes of the previous meeting

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

RESOLVED – the minutes of the meeting held on 1 October be confirmed as a correct record.

276. Declarations of interest

Councillors R Allen, Bray, M Mullaney and O'Shea declared an interest in the motion relating to family farms as members of Leicestershire County Council.

Councillor C Gibbens declared an interest in the aforementioned motion as she worked with DEFRA.

Councillor Sutton declared a registrable interest in the motion as a farmer.

277. Mayor's Communications

In his absence, the Mayor had submitted his communications in written form.

The Deputy Mayor presented a long service award to Kenny Knight who had been employed by the Council in Street Scene Services for almost 45 years.

The Deputy Mayor also mentioned the recent death of former councillors Bill Joy and Peter Wallace, and the son of former councillor Janice Richards. Members sent condolences to the families and held a minute's silence.

278. **Questions**

Question from Councillor R Allen:

"As I am sure the Leader is aware, 8 May 2025 is the 80th anniversary of Victory in Europe (VE) Day. Can he assure members that this authority will offer financial assistance and practical support to any of the borough's parishes and towns to assist them in ensuring this important anniversary is marked in a manner befitting its importance in our country's history please?"

Response from the Leader of Council:

"The Borough Council looks forward to celebrating this anniversary next year.

It is important to remember when considering any new funding requests that the Council has lost £10million in funding since 2016.

However, to act as a catalyst and to encourage borough-wide engagement in this poignant anniversary, there will be an opportunity to request a small amount of event-day funds via the Council, on a first-come-first-served basis.

The Council's events team will be providing support and guidance to those parishes and towns who ask.

I hope the County Council will also be supportive by waiving fees etc for any road closures that may be required and trust the Councillor Allen will pursue that with his colleagues".

279. **Leader of the Council's Position Statement**

In his position statement, the Leader referred to:

- Devolution
- National Insurance changes
- Success in tackling shop lifting in Hinckley town centre
- Remembrance Sunday
- The campaign to reduce litter on the A5
- Hollycroft Park having been voted in the top ten park's in the country
- National planning awards
- Business networking event
- Making a Difference awards
- Let's Get Moving awards
- Christmas events
- Free Christmas car parking.

280. Gambling Act 2005 - statement of principles

A report on the review of the statement of principles as required under the Gambling Act 2005 was presented to Council. Officers were thanked for their work. It was moved by Councillor Cartwright, seconded by Councillor Glenville and

RESOLVED – The statement of gambling principles be re-adopted.

281. Renewal of lease for rear of Castle Street car park, Hinckley

Consideration was given to the renewal of the lease for the rear of Castle Street car park, Hinckley. It was moved by Councillor Bray, seconded by Councillor Lynch and

RESOLVED -

- (i) The renewal of the lease be approved for five years from 1 May 2025;
- (ii) Authority be delegated to the Head of Street Scene Services and the Estates and Asset Manager to approve the terms on which the lease it to be agreed.

282. Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report

The overview & scrutiny annual report was presented to Council. The chair was thanked for his work leading the Scrutiny Commission. It was moved by Councillor Lambert, seconded by Councillor Surtees and

RESOLVED – the overview & scrutiny annual report be approved.

283. Recommendations of the Ethical Governance & Personnel Committee

Consideration was given to the recommendations of the Ethical Governance and Personnel Committee following a determination that Councillor Boothby had breached the Council's code of conduct.

Councillor R Allen, seconded by Councillor O'Shea, proposed an amendment that sanctions be suspended for 30 days to allow Councillor Boothby further opportunity to apologise. It was ruled that the amendment was not valid as it changed the sentiment of the motion and was therefore not an amendment, notwithstanding the fact that the Ethical Governance and Personnel Committee had considered all options and taken advice on their recommendations. It was further noted that Councillor Boothby had stated that he would not apologise.

In response to a member's question, it was explained that should Council wish to re-appoint Councillor Boothby to the Planning Committee, they could not do so within six months without following the procedures in the Council's constitution for rescinding decisions.

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

RESOLVED –

- (i) Councillor CW Boothby be removed from his position on Planning Committee for a period of twelve months;
- (ii) Councillor Boothby be censured.

Having declared an interest in the following item, Councillor Sutton left the meeting at this juncture.

284. Motions received in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 17

Councillor R Allen announced withdrawal of the motion on taxation in relation to family farms.

Councillor Sutton returned to the meeting.

285. Matters from which the public may be excluded

On the motion of Councillor Bray seconded by Councillor R Allen, 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 paragraphs 3 and 10 of Part I of Schedule 12A of that Act.

286. Council Depot update

Members were provided with an update on future depot accommodation. It was noted that additional accommodation was required to ensure space for food waste collections as required by the government. It was moved by Councillor Hodgkins, seconded by Councillor Bray and

RESOLVED –

- (i) A lease with a term of 20 years to provide depot accommodation for Street Scene Services and Housing Repairs be approved;
- (ii) Authority be delegated to the Director (Corporate and Street Scene Services) and the Executive member for Street Scene Services to conclude the lease;
- (iii) A budget of £54,100 for the part year costs in the current financial year be approved.

(The meeting closed at 7.18 pm)

MAYOR