Report Reference: - 3.0

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COUNTY COUNCIL 17 SEPTEMBER 2010

PRESENT: COUNCILOR P BEDFORD (CHAIRMAN)

Councillors W J Aron, E N Bauer, Mrs P Bosworth, Mrs P A Bradwell, D Brailsford, C J T H Brewis, M Brookes, P A Carpenter, E R Chapman, K J Clarke, Reverend S P Cliff, N D Cooper (Vice-Chairman), G K Dark, C J Davie, M Exton, Mrs C M H Farquharson, C Farrar, I G Fleetwood, M W Gilbert, G M Gooding, Mrs B Harvey OBE, J R Hicks, R Hills, J D Hough, D C Hoyes, R L Hubbard, N I Jackson, Miss A M Jenkyns, H R Johnson, Mrs J Johnson, B W Keimach, C E H Marfleet, J R Marriott, G A Marsh, Mrs P A Mathers, K Milner, Major R Newell, P J O'Connor, Mrs M J Overton, C R Oxby, R J Palmer, R J Phillips, E J Poll, P S Przyszlak, Mrs A Puttick, Mrs S Rawlins, P A Robinson, R Sellars, R A Shore, B G Singleton, R B Singleton-McGuire, P A Skinner, K J Smith, M Smith, C L Strange, A N Stokes, E W Strengiel, J M Swanson, Mrs C A Talbot, T M Trollope-Bellew, A H Turner MBE, C J Underwood-Frost, Mrs P F Watson, W S Webb, A P Williams, S F Williams, Mrs S Woolley, R Wootten, C N Worth and B Young.

Mr J A Hanna and Mr J Krawiec (Standards Added Members) were also in attendance.

Prayers were led by the Reverend Andrew Higginson.

38. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors D R Dickinson, M J Hill OBE, S F Kinch, P J O'Connor, R B Parker, and M Tinker.

39. DECLARATIONS OF COUNCILLORS' INTERESTS

Councillor P Bedford declared a personal interest in agenda item 12(2) as one of the County Council representatives on the Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership. (Minute 49 (ii) refers).

Councillor J D Hough declared a personal interest in agenda item 12(1) as his partner is a Non-Executive Director of the Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Trust and that he also was a member (Minute 49(i) refers).

Councillor Jackson declared a personal interest in agenda item 12(1) as a Director of a charitable body in the voluntary sector (Minute 49(i) refers).

Councillor R L Hubbard declared a personal interest in agenda item 12(2) as one of the County Council representatives on the Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership. (Minute 49(ii) refers).

Councillor G K Dark declared a personal interest in agenda item 12(2) as one of the County Council representatives on the Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership. (Minute 49(ii) refers).

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Councillor Mrs M J Overton declared a personal interest in agenda item 12(1) as she is a Non-Executive Director for NHS Lincolnshire Trust and a Trustee with Relate Lincolnshire (Minute 49(i) refers).

Councillor C R Oxby declared a personal interest in agenda item 10 as one of North Kesteven's representatives on the Witham First Internal Drainage Board (Minute 47 refers).

40. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL HELD ON 18 JUNE 2010

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting held on 18 June 2010 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

41. SUBMISSION OF PETITIONS

In accordance with the Petitions Scheme Mr John Smith spoke for not more that three minutes in explanation of the contents of the petition from the residents of Stamford relating to the closure of the Stamford Museum and then presented the petition.

The Chairman reported that the Chief Executive had determined that the petition "Save Stamford Museum" would be referred to the Executive Councillor for Economic Development.

42. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman thanked his wife Zita for supporting him on his civic engagements and also Councillor Neil and Mrs Pauline Cooper, Vice-Chairman and Lady, for stepping in at civic functions when, due to other commitments; we had been unable to attend.

Councillors were also reminded that the IT workshop scheduled for following Monday here at County Offices would be starting at 1.00pm, half an hour earlier than previously advertised. Following on from the IT Workshop would be a briefing on the Energy from Waste Facility and Transfer Station from Richard Belfield, Assistant Director of Development (Environment, Planning and Transport).

43. <u>ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE LEADER AND MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE</u>

The Chairman reported that the statements/announcements were as detailed at report reference 6.0 of the Green Book.

44. QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIRMAN, THE LEADER, EXECUTIVE COUNCILLORS AND CHAIRMAN OF ANY COMMITTEE OR SUB-COMMITTEE AND THE NOMINEE OF THE POLICE AUTHORITY

Questions pursuant to Council Procedure Rule 10.3 were asked and answered as follows:-

Question By	Answered By	Subject
(A) D Brailsford	E J Poll	Stamford Museum – the position relating to the museum's collection
(B) Mrs M J Overton	B G Singleton	Congratulations to Boston Borough Council, now one of the most improved Council's
(C) N I Jackson	W S Webb	Designated cycle routes across the city of Lincoln
(D) C E H Marfleet	Mrs S Woolley	Update relating to the Excellent Ageing Lincolnshire Programme
(E) P A Skinner	C L Strange	The future of waste collection across the County in view of government announcements
(F) C J T H Brewis	C L Strange	Cross border agreement with regard to waste collection
(G) K J Clarke	W S Webb	Railway Crossing – Lincoln
(H) K J Smith	B G Singleton	Procurement – Lincolnshire firms
(I) R Wootten	W S Webb	Success of the Inter Connect town bus service – Grantham
(J) J D Hough	Mrs P A Bradwell	Grade A* A level results – lower than the national average
(K) M Smith	G A Marsh	Update relating to the "Getting Alive Scheme"
(L) T M Trollope- Bellew	B Young	Success of the traffic system through Stamford for the duration of the Burghley Horse Trials
(M) Major R Newell	W S Webb	Distributor road in Boston being taken forward into the next Local Transport Plan
(N) R J Palmer	G A Marsh	Update in relation to Smart Care Clinics

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(O) B W Keimach C L Strange District council involvement in the Energy from Waste Facility

45. PROPOSED BUDGET CHANGES 2010/11

A report by the Executive Director (Resources and Community Safety) had been circulated.

It was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED

That the proposed budget changes as described in paragraphs 1.5 to 1.11 of the report be approved.

46. <u>APPOINTMENT TO LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S INDEPENDENT</u> REMUNERATION PANEL

A report by the Chief Executive had been circulated.

It was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED

That the appointment of Mr Colin Childs to the Independent Remuneration Panel, for a five year term of office, be approved.

47. <u>ESTABLISHMENT OF A FLOOD AND DRAINAGE MANAGEMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</u>

A report by the Assistant Chief Executive had been circulated.

It was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED

- 1. That the establishment of a Flood and Drainage Management Scrutiny Committee be approved.
- 2. That the Council agrees that the Environmental Scrutiny Committee undertake this role with the additional membership of one nominated non-executive Councillor from each of Lincolnshire's seven District Councils.
- 3. That the Council agrees to adopt a scheme under paragraph 12 -14 of Schedule 1 of the Local Government Act 2000 and that the Constitution be amended with the inclusion of Appendices A and B to the report.

48. MINUTES OF COMMITTEES

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the following Committees, having been printed, be received:

(i)	Planning and Regulation	7 June 2010 5 July 2010 26 July 2010
(ii)	Audit	14 June 2010 12 July 2010
(iii)	Pensions	15 July 2010
(iv)	Standards	19 July 2010

49. MOTIONS FOR DEBATE

(i) Motion by Councillor J D Hough

It was moved and seconded that

'This Council takes the view that that the coalition government's economic and fiscal strategy is deeply unfair, unnecessary at such a level at this time, unsafe for the national and local economy and for maintaining vital public services.

Reducing the deficit is important to our economic future as a country and a county but so too is protecting jobs, maintaining spending on important public services and fair taxation. These policies needed to be delivered over a markedly longer period than the government is currently planning.

The point also needs to be made that people are being told by the coalition government that it is possible to slash public spending, raise VAT and cut benefits, take billions out of the economy and billions more out of people's pockets, cut thousands of public sector jobs including well over a 1,000 in Lincolnshire, reduce spending on private and voluntary sector contracts, and none of this will have any impact on unemployment or growth.

What also needs saying is that it is most regrettable that the coalition government is using its crusade to cut the deficit to make a wider ideological argument that the postwar welfare settlement involving a significant role for the state is now redundant and must be scaled back, dismantled and, only where absolutely essential, replaced with private sector provision. Such an approach is based more on ideology than on necessity.

As one of the largest employers in the county Lincolnshire County Council makes a big contribution to the local economy. People in work (whether directly employed by Lincolnshire County Council or delivering services or contracts on our behalf), earn wages and pay taxes and national insurance contributions all of which contribute to the national and local economy. Major reductions in public spending will hit the Lincolnshire economy hard. We already face challenges of wage levels below the regional and national average and of 'low skills, low levels of business start-up and

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growing disparities in opportunity and prosperity'. All of the indications at present are that the likely spending cuts will hit the poorest people in society much harder than the richest.

For all of the above reasons it is proposed:

That this Council writes to the Chancellor of the Exchequer to put forward these arguments and to press the view that even at this late stage further consideration be given to reducing the deficit and the level of national debt over a longer period than is being currently proposed so as to protect vital public services and to encourage economic growth'.

An amendment was moved and seconded as follows:

'Whilst acknowledging the need to address the huge national deficit within a reasonable time scale, this Council urges the Government only to cut local government support at a rate which protects essential front line services in an essentially rural county such as Lincolnshire.'

Upon the amendment being put to the vote, it was lost.

Upon the original motion being to the vote, it was lost.

(ii) Motion by Councillor Mrs M J Overton

It was moved and seconded that

'All members will have noted with pleasure, as they travel the highways of Lincolnshire, how deaths on the roads have declined over recent years, from in excess of a hundred, actually 104 in 2003, to just 52 last year.

The decline has not been steady, but the general trend has been in the correct direction – downwards.

Accepting that savings will have to be made across the board, one of the major successes of Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership has been its concentration of efforts on reducing the appalling toll of young people being killed and seriously injured on our roads.

It has been variously estimated that each death on the roads of our county and country costs about £1million, when all resulting costs are taken into account.

The powerful initiative 'Too Fast, Too Soon', recently upgraded to include a first hand account of a young person, recently incarcerated and then released for serious road traffic offences, has been a positive influence in addressing young people's perceptions of the danger of excessive road speed.

We invite all members to join with us in considering the most effective methods of improving road safety in Lincolnshire to help ensure these are included in the forthcoming budgets.

This Council, notwithstanding the straitened times in which we will increasingly have to exist, agrees to stand firm with the Road Safety Partnership, and do all that is possible to protect the work which is done to reduce the toll of young peoples lives on our roads'.

RESOLVED

That the above motion be referred to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee.

The meeting closed at 12:45 p.m.