

**COUNTY COUNCIL
18 JUNE 2010**

PRESENT: COUNCILLOR P BEDFORD (CHAIRMAN)

Councillors E N Bauer, Mrs P Bosworth, Mrs P A Bradwell, D Brailsford, C J T H Brewis, M Brookes, E R Chapman, K J Clarke, Reverend S P Cliff, N D Cooper (Vice-Chairman), G K Dark, C J Davie, R G Davies, D R Dickinson, 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, M J Hill OBE, 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, J R Marriott, G A Marsh, Mrs P A Mathers, 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, 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, M Tinker, T M Trollope-Bellew, A H Turner MBE, C J Underwood-Frost, S F Williams, Mrs S Woolley, R Wootten, C N Worth and B Young.

Mr J A Hanna (Standards Added Member) was also in attendance.

Prayers were led by the Reverend Andrew Higginson.

24. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors W J Aron, P A Carpenter, S F Kinch, C E H Marfleet, K Milner, R B Parker, E J Poll, P S Przyszlak, P A Robinson, Mrs P F Watson, W S Webb and A P Williams.

25. DECLARATIONS OF COUNCILLORS' INTEREST

No declarations of interests were received.

26. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 21 MAY 2010

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting held on 21 May 2010 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

27. SUBMISSION OF PETITIONS

(i) Speeding at the junction of Sharp Walk and Meadow Lane – North Hykeham

In accordance with the Petitions Protocol Mr John Bishop spoke for not more than three minutes in explanation of the contents of the petition from the residents of North Hykeham concerning the excessive speed at the junction of Sharp Walk and Meadow Lane, North Hykeham and then presented the petition.

The Chairman reported that the Chief Executive had determined that the petition would be referred to the Executive Councillor for Highways and Transport.

(ii) Bonner House, Sleaford

In accordance with the Petitions Protocol Liz Peto spoke for not more than three minutes in explanation of the contents of the petition from the residents of Sleaford concerning the potential closure of Bonner House, Sleaford and then presented the petition.

The Chairman reported that the Chief Executive had determined that the petition would be referred to the Executive Councillor for Adult Social Care and Supporting People.

(iii) Care not Profit

In accordance with the Petitions Protocol Sue Young spoke for not more than three minutes in explanation of the contents of the petition entitled 'Care not Profit' and then presented the petition.

The Chairman reported that the Chief Executive had determined that the petition would be referred to the Executive Councillor for Adult Social Care and Supporting People.

28. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman thanked the Chairman's Officer, Mike Doyle and his team for their support. This was Mike's final Council meeting, following his decision to take early retirement at the end of July 2010. Mike joined the County Council in October 1972 as an Administrative Officer with Social Services in the Gainsborough area, having started his career with the National Coal Board in 1965 as a clerical officer at their North Lincolnshire Headquarters. He joined the Chief Executive's Department in June 1974 and was appointed Chairman's Officer in 1993. The Council wished Mike a long and happy retirement.

The Chairman also congratulated those Lincolnshire people who were honoured in this year's Queen's Birthday Honours List. Special mention was made of Robert Bell, the Lincolnshire Lord Lieutenants Officer, who had become a Member of the Royal Victorian Order.

29. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE LEADER AND MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE

A statement by the Leader was tabled at the meeting.

Councillor G A Marsh announced that he had pleasure to inform the Council that the Income Maximisation Project continued to provide an excellent service for the County. The number of clients advised over the whole year had reached a total of 2,159, with an annualised benefit income secured exceeding £3.4 million.

Councillor Mrs P A Bradwell announced that Ofsted's final report from the announced Inspection of Safeguarding and Looked after Children Services in May 2010, showed that Lincolnshire County Council and its partners delivered excellent services in Lincolnshire. Lincolnshire was the only county in the Country that had received 'outstanding' for its services for safeguarding. Councillor Mrs Bradwell thanked all of the officers involved in the Inspection.

Councillor Mrs S Woolley announced that following her statement at the last meeting of the County Council in relation to the 'Getting a Life' project aimed at children between 14-25 years old, she had pleasure to announce that one individual had gained employment through the project and that he had also been presented with the 'Learner of the Year Award'.

30. QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIRMAN, LEADER, EXECUTIVE COUNCILLORS, CHAIRMEN 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:

<u>Questions By</u>	<u>Answered By</u>	<u>Subject</u>
(A) R J Phillips	M J Hill OBE	Highways Maintenance – Grass/hedge cutting in parts of the County
(B) Mrs M J Overton	M J Hill OBE	Prioritisation of budget cuts within Lincolnshire
(C) N I Jackson	M J Hill OBE	Planning application – Lincoln School of Science and Technology – consultation with water drainage management companies
(D) M Smith	C N Worth	Possible closures of Museums within Lincolnshire
(E) J M Swanson	M J Hill OBE	Transport Infrastructure – rail links between Lincoln and London
(F) R Sellars	B G Singleton	Accuracy of publicity within Inside Lincolnshire
(G) R Wootten	C N Worth	Negotiations with South Kesteven District Council regarding the possible closure of Grantham Museum
(H) D R Dickinson	C L Strange	DEFRA consultation on the introduction of restrictions on land filling of certain wastes

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(I) J D Hough	Mrs P A Bradwell	Abolition of ContactPoint
(J) C J Davie	Mrs C A Talbot	Dental Services within Skegness
(K) Major R T Newell	Mrs P A Bradwell	Schools within Boston – services provided to children where English was not their first language
(L) J R Marriott	M J Hill OBE	Lincolnshire Highways Alliance – Postponement of road works due to safe disposal of materials and the length of time taken on the improvements to Tritton Road
(M) D Brailsford	C N Worth	Future of Stamford Museum
(N) K J Clarke	G A Marsh	The future of the eight County Council Care homes ran by the order of St John's Trust
(O) R G Davies	M J Hill OBE	Strategic Road Networking – the effect on Lincolnshire tourism

31. DRAFT STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2009-2010

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

It was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED

- (1) That the proposed carry forwards of over and under spendings and transfers to reserves summarised in Table A of the report, be agreed;
- (2) That the Prudential Indicators for 2009-10 be noted;
- (3) That the draft Statement of Accounts for 2009-10, including the Annual Governance Statement, be approved.

32. APPOINTMENT OF AN INDEPENDENT MEMBER TO THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

A report by the Assistant Chief Executive had been circulated.

It was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED

That the appointment of Mr Stephen John Williams as an Independent Member of the Standards Committee until May 2013, be approved.

33. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT 2009-2010

A report by the Assistant Chief Executive had been circulated.

It was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED

That the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report for 2009-2010 be received.

34. PETITIONS SCHEME

A report by the Chief Executive had been circulated.

It was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED

- (1) That 3,500 signatures be required in order for a petition to be debated at Council and 1,750 signatures be required for a senior officer to attend and give evidence at a meeting of the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee;
- (2) That the draft Petitions Scheme attached as Appendix A to the report, be approved;
- (3) That the following amendment to the Council's Constitution be approved: -

"Members of the Public have the right to petition the Council. The Petitions Scheme at Part 5 of this Constitution shall apply to petitions presented to the Council."
- (4) That a review be undertaken in 12 months time to consider the impact of these new responsibilities and consider whether a review of the threshold levels was required.

35. DUTY TO APPOINT A STATUTORY SCRUTINY OFFICER

A report by the Assistant Chief Executive had been circulated.

It was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED

That the Head of Democracy and Communications be appointed as the Council's Statutory Scrutiny Officer.

36. MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL'S COMMITTEES

RESOLVED

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

(1) Planning and Regulation 10 May 2010

37. MOTIONS FOR DEBATE

(i) Motion by Councillor J R Marriott

It was moved and seconded that

"Like all local authorities, Lincolnshire County Council is faced with some difficult decisions regarding its expenditure over the next few years. It will be necessary to identify priorities and it is encouraging that it appears that the Coalition government will allow local choice to take place.

In 20 years' time 20% of Lincolnshire's population will be over the age of 65 compared with an East Midlands average of around 16%. We therefore feel that it is vital that services to this sector should not only be protected but actually enhanced.

With this in mind, it is essential that any monies accruing from the sale of any potential capital assets within Adult Social Care (such as the possible disposal of Respite Care Homes) should be earmarked exclusively to be spent on improving and enhancing the excellent service we already provide in collaboration with the private sector and not be allowed simply to disappear from the Adult Social Care budget by being diverted into other projects".

An amendment was moved and seconded as follows:

That 'earmarked exclusively' be deleted and replaced with 'regarded as a funding opportunity'.

The mover and seconder of the motion accepted the amendment.

RESOLVED that

Like all local authorities, Lincolnshire County Council is faced with some difficult decisions regarding its expenditure over the next few years. It will be necessary to identify priorities and it is encouraging that it appears that the Coalition government will allow local choice to take place.

In 20 years' time 20% of Lincolnshire's population will be over the age of 65 compared with an East Midlands average of around 16%. We therefore feel that it is vital that services to this sector should not only be protected but actually enhanced.

With this in mind, it is essential that any monies accruing from the sale of any potential capital assets within Adult Social Care (such as the possible disposal of

Respite Care Homes) should be regarded as a funding opportunity to be spent on improving and enhancing the excellent service we already provide in collaboration with the private sector and not be allowed simply to disappear from the Adult Social Care budget by being diverted into other projects.

(ii) Motion by Councillor N I Jackson

It was moved and seconded that

“This Council recognises that the vast majority of schools play an important part in their communities, not just in the education they provide but by providing a resource for their local community in terms of sporting facilities, meeting places and much more.

With the growing number of Academies in Lincolnshire it is important that this community aspect of schools should not be lost.

This Council therefore resolves that discussions should be held with existing Academies to ensure that their facilities are open to the whole community. Further, in negotiations when setting up new Academies it should be agreed that their facilities should be open to the whole of the local community not just their own pupils”.

RESOLVED

That the above motion be approved.

(iii) Motion by Councillor Mrs M J Overton

It was moved and seconded that

“We propose this Council sets a policy to increase the proportion of money spent on front line services by reducing the amount of money spent on back office functions, including the reduction of management and consultants employed as additional advisors.

This Council also proposes to steadily increase the proportion of public money spent within Lincolnshire, by seeking opportunities and strengthening the local market where possible”.

The above motion, upon being put to the vote, was lost.

The meeting closed at 1.00 p.m.