



**COUNTY COUNCIL  
14 SEPTEMBER 2012**

**PRESENT: COUNCILLOR R J PALMER (CHAIRMAN)**

Councillors W J Aron, E N Bauer, P Bedford, Mrs P Bosworth, Mrs P A Bradwell, D Brailsford, C J T H Brewis, Mrs J Brockway, E R Chapman, K J Clarke, N D Cooper, G K Dark, C J Davie, D R Dickinson, M Exton, Mrs C M H Farquharson (Vice-Chairman), C Farrar, I G Fleetwood, G M Gooding, A G Hagues, Mrs B Harvey OBE, J R Hicks, M J Hill OBE, J D Hough, D C Hoyes MBE, H R Johnson, Mrs J Johnson, 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 B Parker, R J Phillips, E J Poll, P S Przyszlak, A Puttick, R A Renshaw, P A Robinson, R A Shore, 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, Mrs P F Watson, W S Webb, A P Williams, S F Williams, Mrs S Woolley, R Wootten, C N Worth and B Young.

23. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors M Brookes, P A Carpenter, R G Davies, M W Gilbert, R L Hubbard, N I Jackson, Miss A M Jenkyns, B W Keimach, S F Kinch, Mrs S Rawlins and C J Underwood-Frost.

24. DECLARATIONS OF COUNCILLORS' INTERESTS

Councillor A P Williams requested it noting that, in respect of minute number 38(b) below, his wife currently worked for the authority.

25. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL HELD ON 18 MAY 2012

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the previous meeting of the County Council held on 18 May 2012 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

26. SUBMISSION OF A PETITION - LONG SUTTON LIBRARY

In accordance with the Council's Petitions Scheme, Mrs Sarah Gander spoke in explanation of the contents of a petition regarding Long Sutton Library 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 Economic Development.

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27. ELECTION OF A COUNTY COUNCILLOR FOR THE LINCOLN EAST ELECTORAL DIVISION

The Council received the return of the person elected on 2 August 2012 as the County Councillor for the Lincoln East Division. Councillor R A Renshaw had been duly elected.

28. ELECTION OF A COUNTY COUNCILLOR FOR THE NETTLEHAM AND SAXILBY ELECTORAL DIVISION

The Council received the return of the person elected on 6 September 2012 as the County Councillor for the Nettleham and Saxilby Division. Councillor Mrs J Brockway had been duly elected.

29. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman reflected on a summer of celebration following Her Majesty The Queen's Diamond Jubilee, the London 2012 Olympics and the 2012 Paralympic Games.

The Chairman reported that his civic engagements since the last Council meeting had been varied and gave him the opportunity to continue visiting places within Lincolnshire and some further afield. He thanked his wife for supporting him on these engagements and also Councillor Mrs C H M Farquharson (Vice-Chairman) for representing them at civic functions when, due to other commitments, they had been unable to attend.

Duties by the Chairman had included welcoming Her Majesty The Queen to Burghley House as part of the Diamond Jubilee celebrations, attending the 128<sup>th</sup> Lincolnshire Show which attracted many visitors to the county and supporting the Armed Forces Day. He was pleased to welcome HRH The Princess Royal to the county when she opened the St Botolph's Church Community and Visitors Centre in Boston and was also delighted to host the Annual Lincolnshire County Council Service of Dedication held at Lincoln Cathedral. The Service was followed by a reception in the grounds of Lincoln Castle, which the Chairman and his wife thoroughly enjoyed. They were also honoured to have both the Lincolnshire Youth Symphony Orchestra and Youth Symphonic Wind Band playing at the Service and Reception, both of whom gave exceptional performances. The Chairman stated that it was a day he and his wife would remember with pride.

The Chairman, on behalf of the Council, wished Graham Aisthorpe-Watts all the best with his new role as Team Leader of Democratic Services at South Cambridgeshire District Council. Mr Aisthorpe-Watts would be leaving the authority at the end of the month after nine years of service and the Chairman stated that his knowledge, professionalism and friendliness would be a large loss to the Council.

On a sadder note, the Chairman reported the death of former County Councillor Gordon Wilson BEM, who represented the Ingoldmells Rural Division on the County Council from May 1989 to May 1993 and from May 1997 until May 2005. He also reported the death of Councillor Ray Sellars who was elected to the Council in June 2001 and represented the Nettleham and Saxilby electoral division.

Councillors and officers were invited to stand in silent memory, following which Councillors were given an opportunity to pay tribute.

30. STATEMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE LEADER AND MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE

Statements by Members of the Executive had been circulated with the agenda for the meeting.

31. QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIRMAN, LEADER, EXECUTIVE COUNCILLORS, CHAIRMAN OF ANY COMMITTEE OR SUB-COMMITTEE AND THE NOMINEE OF THE POLICY 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 B Singleton-McGuire | E J Poll           | Proposal to encourage the new Secretary of State for the Environment to keep the Boston flood barrier as a top priority |
| (B) Mrs M J Overton       | G A Marsh          | The cost of assessments and reviews for receipt of Adult Social Care services                                           |
| (C) R B Parker            | W S Webb           | Proposal to introduce a Park and Ride in Lincoln                                                                        |
| (D) J R Marriott          | Mrs S Woolley      | The Members' Big Society Fund                                                                                           |
| (E) K J Clarke            | K J Smith          | Proposal to open the playing field of the former Usher School in Lincoln for community use                              |
| (F) C J T H Brewis        | W S Webb           | Static catering providers positioned at roadside laybys throughout Lincolnshire                                         |
| (G) E N Bauer             | K J Smith          | Paid facilities time for trade unions                                                                                   |
| (H) J D Hough             | G A Marsh          | Impact on people with learning difficulties/disabilities in Lincolnshire as a result of the Council's proposed review   |
| (I) C E H Marfleet        | W S Webb           | Speeding in Lincolnshire villages                                                                                       |
| (J) R A Shore             | M J Hill OBE       | Policy for handling confidential information                                                                            |

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|                    |          |                                                                                                                                             |
|--------------------|----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| (K) M Smith        | E J Poll | Recent flooding of houses and businesses in specific areas of Lincolnshire and the role of the County Council as lead local flood authority |
| (L) C R Oxby       | W S Webb | Update on the Lincoln Eastern Relief Road proposal                                                                                          |
| (M) Major R Newell | W S Webb | New County Council responsibility for civil parking enforcement                                                                             |
| (N) R A Renshaw    | W S Webb | Adequacy of single carriageway for the Eastern Lincoln Relief Road                                                                          |
| (O) E W Strengiel  | W S Webb | Update on the Council's current grass-cutting programme                                                                                     |
| (P) H R Johnson    | W S Webb | Maintenance of cycleway and footpath near Spalding                                                                                          |

**32. COMMITTEE STRUCTURE, POLITICAL BALANCE ON COMMITTEES AND SUB-COMMITTEES AND ALLOCATION OF PLACES**

A report by the Executive Director Performance and Governance had been circulated.

It was moved, seconded and

**RESOLVED**

- (1) That the County Council approves the allocation of seats on committees, sub-committees and other bodies between political groups, as set out in Appendix A attached to these minutes.
- (2) That Councillor N D Cooper be appointed to the Highways, Transport and Technology Scrutiny Committee and be appointed as Chairman of that Committee.
- (3) That Councillor P Bedford be appointed as Vice-Chairman of the Planning and Regulation Committee.
- (4) That the making of other appointments to committees, sub-committees and those other bodies be carried out by the Chief Executive, in accordance with the wishes of Group Leaders, Deputy Group Leaders and Group Whips, pursuant to his delegated powers.

33. FUTURE FUNDING FOR FIRE AND RESCUE FLEET AND EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT PROGRAMME

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

It was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

34. FINANCIAL UPDATE

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

Comments from the Adults Scrutiny Committee in relation to the Adult Social Care budget, following its meeting on 3 September 2012, were set out in a briefing note circulated at the meeting.

It was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED

- (1) That the proposed carry forwards of over and underspendings set out in the relevant section of the report and the transfers to and from reserves summarised in Table A of the report be agreed.
- (2) That, further to (1) above, the write-off of the £1,255,834 overspend for the Adult Social Care budget (referred to in Table A of the report) be agreed, effectively writing-off the whole overspend for the Adult Social Care budget in 2011/2012, totalling £3,551,805 and that the transfer to the financial volatility reserve is correspondingly adjusted from £4,356,000 to £3,100,166.
- (3) That the Prudential Indicators for 2011/2012 be noted.
- (4) That the proposed in year budget change for 2012/2013 set out in the relevant section of the report be agreed.

35. ANNUAL REPORT 2011/2012

A report by the Executive Director Performance and Governance had been circulated.

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It was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED

That the Annual Report 2011/2012 be approved.

36. LINCOLNSHIRE STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - MEMBERSHIP

A report by the Executive Director Performance and Governance had been circulated.

It was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED

That the nominations of Mr Christopher Burke (Roman Catholic Church) and Mrs Jackie Sheldrake (Church of England) be approved to serve on the Lincolnshire Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education under Groups A and B, respectively, of its membership.

37. MINUTES OF COMMITTEES

RESOLVED

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

|     |                         |                                            |
|-----|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| (1) | Planning and Regulation | 8 May 2012<br>18 June 2012<br>16 July 2012 |
| (2) | Audit                   | 11 June 2012<br>9 July 2012                |
| (3) | Pensions                | 31 May 2012<br>12 July 2012                |

38. MOTIONS FOR DEBATE

(a) Motion by Councillor R B Parker

It was moved and seconded that

“This council accepts that it has a responsibility to encourage public involvement in its meetings.

Members of the public should therefore be given the opportunity to ask questions of the Leader of the Council, portfolio holders and committee chairmen at Full Council meetings in much the same way as happens at six out of the seven city, borough and district councils in Lincolnshire.

This council therefore agrees to introduce a public question time from the date of the next full council meeting and delegates to the Chief Executive, in consultation with group leaders, authority to approve a detailed scheme which shall on being approved form part of the Council's Constitution."

An amendment was moved and seconded that

"The current scheme of allowing public speaking at Planning and Regulation Committee be widened to allow public speaking on other traffic regulation items on the agenda."

Upon being put to the vote the amendment was lost.

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

(b) Motion by Councillor Mrs M J Overton

It was moved and seconded that

"This Council resolves that, bearing in mind the coalition pressure towards outsourcing and the problems encountered with large companies contracting to public service, major contracts will always be considered with the utmost caution and alongside in-house options, where robust analysis of the contract and specification has been taken, and followed by vigilant monitoring of performance, using appropriate expertise. Occasionally our excellent officers may need a private sector 'wolf' to help negotiate unfamiliar pitfalls.

Flexibility is important in times of economic uncertainty, but whether services are in-house, shared or outsourced, it costs money. That balance between flexibility and cost is critical for our future success."

Upon being put to the vote the motion was lost.

The meeting closed at 1.13 p.m.