

**COUNCIL  
 14 DECEMBER 2018**

**PRESENT: COUNCILLOR C R OXBY (CHAIRMAN)**

Councillors T Bridges (Vice-Chairman), B Adams, W J Aron, T R Ashton, Mrs A M Austin, M D Boles, Mrs P A Bradwell OBE, D Brailsford, C J T H Brewis, Mrs J Brockway, M Brookes, R D Butroid, L A Cawrey, K J Clarke, Mrs K Cook, Mrs P Cooper, P E Coupland, C J Davie, R G Davies, B M Dobson, M T Fido, I G Fleetwood, R L Foulkes, M A Griggs, R Grocock, A G Hagues, M J Hill OBE, R J Kendrick, P M Key, Mrs J E Killey, S R Kirk, C S Macey, C E H Marfleet, A P Maughan, D McNally, Mrs A M Newton, Mrs M J Overton MBE, R B Parker, S R Parkin, N H Pepper, Clio Perraton-Williams, E J Poll, Mrs S Rawlins, C E Reid, R P H Reid, R A Renshaw, S P Roe, P A Skinner, Mrs E J Sneath, A N Stokes, M J Storer, C L Strange, E W Strengiel, Mrs C A Talbot, Dr M E Thompson, R H Trollope-Bellew, M A Whittington, Mrs S Woolley, L Wootten, R Wootten, C N Worth and B Young.

32 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs W Bowkett, G E Cullen, C Matthews, Mrs C J Lawton, A J Spencer, H Spratt and A H Turner MBE JP.

33 DECLARATIONS OF COUNCILLORS' INTERESTS

Councillor Mrs K Cook requested that it be noted that in relation to agenda item 5, her company had been a long time supplier of Mid-UK which was mentioned in the report.

Councillor C E Reid also requested that in relation to agenda item 7, it be noted that his partner had acted as election agent for Miss Sayer in 2017.

34 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON  
 14 SEPTEMBER 2018

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting held on 14 September 2018 be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

35 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman reported that since the last meeting of the County Council he had continued to carry out his civic engagements with pride, representing the Council by visiting places and meeting people and organisations from all around the County.

The Chairman thanked his wife Diane, for supporting him on these engagements and also the Vice-Chairman and Lady, Councillor Tony Bridges and Trina Wright for representing them at civic functions when they had been unable to attend.

He reported that it had been an honour to be involved in the Armistice 100 commemorations on Remembrance Day including a poignant service held in Lincoln Cathedral which was well supported and attended by hundreds of people.

The Chairman and Lady were delighted to welcome two members of the Royal family to Lincolnshire, the first being HRH The Earl of Wessex when he visited the International Bomber Command Centre in Lincoln. This was followed earlier in the week by HRH The Princess Royal when she officially opened Market Rasen Railway Restoration project and the Linkage Education Centre at Boultham Park, Lincoln.

On a sadder note, the Chairman reported the death of former County Councillor Peter Robinson. Peter had represented the Market and West Deeping Electoral Division from 1997 to May 2017. During that time he served on the Executive, where his portfolio included the areas of Community Safety, Local Strategic Partnerships, Diversity and Social Cohesion. He was also Deputy Leader from 2005 until 2012. The Chamber observed a minute's silence and members paid tribute to former County Councillor Robinson.

The Chairman informed members that a complete itinerary of civic engagements since the last meeting of the Council were available from the Civic Officer on request.

### 36 STATEMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE LEADER AND MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE

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

In addition to the statements already circulated, Councillor C N Worth, Executive Councillor for Culture and Emergency Services, reported that he had hoped to give a report on the first inspection by HM Constabulary and Fire and Rescue, however, the Home Office had decided to delay publication of this report for another week.

Members were advised that this report would now be published on Thursday, 20 December 2018, and a summary of that report would be circulated to all members.

The Executive Councillor reported that he and senior officers from the Fire Service would regularly visit fire stations around the county, and would welcome any other councillors who wished to attend. Members were encouraged to visit their local fire stations to strengthen the link between the fire station and the community.

37 QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIRMAN, THE LEADER, EXECUTIVE COUNCILLORS, CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES AND SUB-COMMITTEES

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

<u>Question by</u>	<u>Answered by</u>	<u>Subject</u>
a) L Wootten	R G Davies	Boxing day hunt – Grantham
b) S R Parkin	M J Hill OBE	Change to pension age for women
c) B Adams	C J Davie	Partnership between LCC and Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust
d) Mrs M J Overton MBE	R G Davies	Road safety outside schools
e) Mrs J E Killey	Mrs P A Bradwell OBE	Integrated Lifestyle Strategy
f) Mrs K Cook	R G Davies	HGV restrictions in towns and villages
g) C J T H Brewis	C J Davie	Empty shops on the high street
h) R L Foulkes	M J Hill OBE	Inclusion of green technologies in schools
i) K J Clarke	R G Davies	Response times for highways queries
j) Mrs A M Newton	R G Davies	Additional funding received for road maintenance
k) Mrs S Rawlins	C J Davie	Agriculture Bill
l) R A Renshaw	Mrs P A Bradwell OBE	Points system for grammar schools
m) Mrs A M Austin	R G Davies	Use of unsuitable roads by HGV's
n) N H Pepper	Mrs P A Bradwell OBE	Falls response service

**4  
COUNCIL  
14 DECEMBER 2018**

- |                   |              |  |
|-------------------|--------------|--|
| o) Mrs C A Talbot | M J Hill OBE | Budget announcement  |
| p) R B Parker     | M J Hill OBE | Interim arrangements<br>for the role of Chief<br>Executive |
| q) P M Key        | R G Davies   | Highways budget<br>underspend                              |

**38     APPOINTMENT OF PARENT GOVERNOR REPRESENTATIVE**

A report by the Monitoring Officer had been circulated.

It was moved, seconded and

**RESOLVED**

That the election of Miss Alexandra Eloise Inkley Sayer as Parent Governor Representative on the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee and the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board be noted.

**39     JOINT MUNICIPAL WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY**

A report by the County Commissioner for Economy and Place had been circulated.

It was moved, seconded and unanimously

**RESOLVED**

That the County Council formally adopt the proposed Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (JMWMS), as set out in Appendix A to the report, to take effect at such time as all the Waste Collection Authorities in Lincolnshire had adopted the document in the same form.

**40     INTERIM ARRANGEMENTS RELATING TO THE ROLE OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND HEAD OF PAID SERVICE**

A report by the Chief Legal Officer and Monitoring Officer had been circulated.

It was moved, seconded and

**RESOLVED**

That the Council, with immediate effect:-

1. Designate the Executive Director of Children's Services as the Council's Head of Paid Service;

2. Appoint Debbie Barnes OBE, the Executive Director of Children's Services as the Returning Officer for County Council Elections; and
3. Approves the amendments to the Constitution attached at Appendix A to the report.

41 MOTIONS ON NOTICE SUBMITTED IN LINE WITH THE COUNCIL'S CONSTITUTION

As an amendment to the motion had been received, it was proposed, seconded and agreed that the Council Procedure Rules be temporarily suspended to allow for one debate to take place.

Motion by Councillor R B Parker

It was moved and seconded that:

We note that many council budgets up and down the country are now at Breaking Point. 'Austerity' has caused damage to communities up and down the UK including here in Lincolnshire, with obvious negative effects on key public services that should protect and enhance the lives of a whole range of local people. In short, council services or support to local organisations which were a part of life have been abandoned or reduced and communities have suffered.

*According to figures produced by our own County Treasurer's Department, in 2011/12 Lincolnshire County Council received £211m in government support through the revenue support grant.*

*Each subsequent year the level of grant received has fallen and in the current year, 2018/19, we received £34m.*

*During this eight-year period the County Council has lost a cumulative total of £962m compared to what we would have received if the 2011/12 revenue support grant levels had been maintained and inflated each year.*

*The Government have, however, given the Council some additional funding for Better Care Fund, New Homes Bonus, Rural Services Delivery Grant and Council Tax Freeze grant, this additional support totals £217m over the same period of time. Therefore the Council has in effect lost £745m that could have been spent on services or reduced the increase in council tax. **This is an average reduction of £93m per year.***

*Not only have we had this reduction in government funding we have also had to fund a number of unavoidable cost pressures, therefore, the Council has had to implement a number of strategies to bridge the gap. Council tax has been increased since 2015/16, savings/reductions have been made to budgets totalling £311m over the eight years and we have had to use our reserves, £117m, where these weren't enough.*

That is what Austerity has meant to Lincolnshire people and no services have been left untouched whether Adults, Children, Highways, Heritage or Fire Services.

Councils across the country now face a further funding gap of £7.8 billion by 2025 just to keep services 'standing still' and meeting additional demand. In particular, adult social care as a result of an ageing population and growing demand faces a gap of £3.5 billion. Lord Gary Porter, the Conservative Chair of the Local Government Association, has said "Councils can no longer be expected to run our vital local services on a shoestring'

Given that reality, we challenge the comments of the Chief Secretary to the Treasury Liz Truss for stating on BBC Newsnight on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2018 that the government is "not making cuts to local authorities", when all independent assessments of government spending show that this is false; and we also challenge the claims of the Prime Minister Theresa May that "austerity is over" despite her government planning a further £1.3bn of cuts to council budgets over the next year

We call on the Prime Minister and Chancellor to truly end austerity in local government by:

- Reversing next years planned £1.3bn cut to council budgets;
- Immediately investing nationally £2bn in children's services and £2bn in adult social care to stop these vital emergency services from collapsing;
- Pledging to use the Spending Review to restore council funding to 2010 levels over the next four years

We therefore move that:

This Council asks the Leader of the Council to write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Prime Minister, and the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government setting out the funding pressures faced by our local council, and calling on the Government to truly end austerity in local government.

An amendment was proposed and seconded as follows:

We note that many council budgets up and down the country are now at Breaking Point. 'Austerity' has caused damage to communities up and down the UK including here in Lincolnshire, with obvious negative effects on key public services that should protect and enhance the lives of a whole range of local people. In short, council services or support to local organisations which were a part of life have been abandoned or reduced and communities have suffered.

*According to figures produced by our own County Treasurer's Department, in 2011/12 Lincolnshire County Council received £211m in government support through the revenue support grant.*

*Each subsequent year the level of grant received has fallen and in the current year, 2018/19, we received £34m.*

*During this eight-year period the County Council has lost a cumulative total of £962m compared to what we would have received if the 2011/12 revenue support grant levels had been maintained and inflated each year.*

*The Government have, however, given the Council some additional funding for Better Care Fund, New Homes Bonus, Rural Services Delivery Grant and Council Tax Freeze grant, this additional support totals £217m over the same period of time. Therefore the Council has in effect lost £745m that could have been spent on services or reduced the increase in council tax. **This is an average reduction of £93m per year.***

*Not only have we had this reduction in government funding we have also had to fund a number of unavoidable cost pressures, therefore, the Council has had to implement a number of strategies to bridge the gap. Council tax has been increased since 2015/16, savings/reductions have been made to budgets totalling £311m over the eight years and we have had to use our reserves, £117m, where these weren't enough.*

That is what Austerity has mean to Lincolnshire people and no services have been left untouched whether Adults, Children, Highways, Heritage or Fire Services.

Councils across the country now face a further funding gap of £7.8 billion by 2025 just to keep services 'standing still' and meeting additional demand. In particular, adult social care as a result of an ageing population and growing demand faces a gap of £3.5 billion. Lord Gary Porter, the Conservative Chair of the Local Government Association, has said "Councils can no longer be expected to run our vital local services on a shoestring'

Given that reality, we challenge the comments of the Chief Secretary to the Treasury Liz Truss for stating on BBC Newsnight on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2018 that the government is "not making cuts to local authorities", when all independent assessments of government spending show that this is false;

However we note additional one-off spending in previous years.

We therefore move that:

This Council asks the Leader of the Council to write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Prime Minister, and the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government setting out the funding pressures faced by our local council, and calling on the Government to address the situation through the Fairer Funding, Adult Social Care and Local Government funding reviews next year.

Upon being put to the vote, the amendment was carried.

The amendment became the substantive motion, and upon being put to the vote was agreed unanimously.

**8**

**COUNCIL**

**14 DECEMBER 2018**

RESOLVED

That this Council asks the Leader of the Council to write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Prime Minister, and the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government setting out the funding pressures faced by our local council, and calling on the Government to address the situation through the Fairer Funding, Adult Social Care and Local Government funding reviews next year.

The meeting closed at 1.15 pm.