

LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

18 JUNE 2010

ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

The agenda in the Green Book will be followed

Prayers will be led by the Reverend Andrew Higginson

Councillor P Bedford in the Chair

AGENDA

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

List of apologies to be read by the Chief Executive.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF COUNCILLORS' INTERESTS**

Councillors to announce any interests.

(NB Councillors are reminded that there is no need to declare an interest unless he/she is being asked to take a decision on any matter in which he/she has an interest)

3. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL HELD ON 21 MAY 2010**

The Chairman to state: -

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

4. **SUBMISSION OF PETITIONS**

The Chairman to state:

The Council has received three petitions and, in accordance with the Petitions Protocol, I shall ask the petitioners to present their petitions in the following order:-

(1) John Bishop, to speak for not more than three minutes to explain the contents of his petition “regarding the excessive speed at the junction of Sharp Walk and Meadow Lane, North Hykeham”.

(John Bishop to speak and then present his petition to the Chairman)

The Chairman to state:

The Chief Executive has determined that the petition “regarding the excessive speed at the junction of Sharp Walk and Meadow Lane, North Hykeham” will be referred to the Executive Councillor for Highways and Transport.

The Chairman to state:

(2) Liz Peto to speak for not more than three minutes to explain the contents of her petition “to keep Bonner House open”.

(Liz Peto to speak and then present her petition to the Chairman)

The Chairman to state:

The Chief Executive has determined that the petition “to keep Bonner House open” will be referred to the Executive Councillor for Adult Social Care and Supporting People.

The Chairman to state:

(3) Sue Young to speak for not more than three minutes to explain the contents of her petition “Care not Profit”.

(Sue Young to speak and then present her petition to the Chairman)

The Chairman to state:

The Chief Executive has determined that the petition “Care not Profit” will be referred to the Executive Councillor for Adult Social Care and Supporting People.

5. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The first few weeks of my term of office as Chairman of the County Council have been varied and interesting and given Zita and me the opportunity to meet a variety of people from various parts of the County.

I would like to take this opportunity to formally express my appreciation to my wife Zita for continuing to accompany me on my civic engagements and also my Vice-Chairman, Councillor Neil Cooper, and his wife Pauline for deputising for me at civic functions when regrettably I have been unable to attend due to prior engagements; and to Councillor Eddie Strengiel, for representing the County Council at the recent No 50 and No 61 Squadron Memorial Service at Birchwood, Lincoln.

I would also like to thank Chairman's Officer Mike Doyle and his team for their support. Today is Mike's final Council meeting, following his decision to take early retirement at the end of July. 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. I am sure you will join me in wishing Mike a long and happy retirement. The formal recognition of Mike's 38-years dedicated service to Local Government will no doubt take place in due course.

Congratulations go to those Lincolnshire people who were honoured in this year's Queen's Birthday Honours List. I would like to make special mention of Mr Robert Bell, the Lincolnshire Lord Lieutenant's Officer, who has become a Member of the Royal Victorian Order.

Since the last County Council meeting I have attended various civic events which have proved interesting and informative. In particular I was honoured and pleased to receive HRH the Duke of Gloucester into the County when he recently visited premises in Grantham, Waddington, Gainsborough and Sturton by Stow.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind members that next week the 126th Lincolnshire Show will be held at the Lincolnshire Showground, Grange de Lings on 23 and 24 June. It is hoped that all of you will be able to attend what I am sure will be a most enjoyable two-day event. Also the Lincolnshire County Council Service of Dedication will be held in Lincoln Cathedral, followed by a civic reception in the Castle grounds on Sunday 11 July 2010. Again I hope that you are able to attend.

A copy of my complete itinerary of Civic Engagements since the last meeting of this Council, together with details of training events attended by Members, are listed and available for inspection in the Members' Foyer.

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE LEADER AND MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE

A report by the Leader (ref: 6.0) has been circulated separately to the agenda.

The Chairman to state:-

The Leader and members of the Executive are requested to make any announcements.

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

The Chairman to state:

I am anxious to allow a good spread of questions across the Chamber within the time allocated. I intend to allow 45 minutes for questions. I am expecting Councillors to be disciplined because of the time available.

Would Councillors wishing to ask questions please indicate by pressing their button to join the queue and may I remind Councillors that once you have joined the queue you do not need to press your button when I invite you to speak, or when you sit down.

8. DRAFT STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2009-2010

A report of the Executive Director (Resources and Community Safety) has been circulated. Part of Appendix B, marked 'to follow' on the agenda is attached to this Order of Proceedings.

In accordance with the fourth paragraph of page 5 of the report, please note the Audit Committee's comments below:

The Audit Committee was presented with the Statement of Accounts for 2009/10 and the meeting opened for scrutiny and comment on the Statements.

Discussion on the Statements included technical questions on the explanatory foreword, budget versus actual expenditure, financial instruments and the Council's policies on treasury management (including debt management and investment decisions), pension fund accounting and enhanced disclosure on officer remunerations.

The Audit Committee noted that the Council had a strong control environment which was demonstrated by the realistic and open assessment of its functions and activities.

The Audit Committee was happy with the scrutiny of the Statements and recommended that the County Council approve the Statement of Accounts for 2009/10 at its meeting on 18 June 2010 and that the Statements be signed by the Leader, Chief Executive and the Executive Director (Resources and Community Safety).

Councillor M J Hill OBE to move:

- 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.**

Councillor B G Singleton to second.

9. APPOINTMENT OF AN INDEPENDENT MEMBER TO THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

A report by the Assistant Chief Executive (ref: 9.0) has been circulated separately to the agenda.

Councillor B G Singleton to move:

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

Councillor Mrs M J Overton to second.

10. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT 2009-2010

A report by the Assistant Chief Executive has been circulated.

Councillor H R Johnson to move:

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

Councillor J R Marriott to second.

11. PETITIONS SCHEME

A report by the Chief Executive has been circulated.

Councillor M J Hill OBE to move:

1. That the Council agrees 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, subject to 1 above, the draft Petitions Scheme attached as Appendix A to the report, be approved.

3. That, subject to 1 and 2 above, the following amendments to the Council's Constitution be approved:-

(a) that the existing Petitions Protocol in Part 5, Section D6 of the Council's Constitution, be replaced in its entirety by the Petitions Scheme attached as Appendix A to this report; and

(b) paragraph 2.01(f) of Article 2 be deleted and replaced with the following wording:

"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 is required.

Councillor B G Singleton to second.

(Note: This is a change from the recommendations in the report)

12. DUTY TO APPOINT A STATUTORY SCRUTINY OFFICER

A report by the Assistant Chief Executive has been circulated.

Councillor H R Johnson to move:

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

Councillor J R Marriott to second.

(Note: This is a change from the recommendation in the report)

13. MINUTES OF COMMITTEES

(1) PLANNING AND REGULATION

Councillor I G Fleetwood to move:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Planning and Regulation Committee of 10 May 2010 be received.

No recommendations.

14. MOTIONS FOR DEBATE

The Chairman to state:

Members are reminded of the Rules of Debate. These are set out below:

(i) Rule 13.5 (When a Councillor may speak again)

A Councillor who has spoken on a motion may not speak again whilst it is the subject of debate, except:

- (a) In exercise of a right of reply;
- (b) on a point of order or information and
- (c) by way of personal explanation.

(ii) Rule 13.9 (Right of reply)

- (a) The mover of a motion has a right to reply at the end of the debate on the motion, immediately before it is put to the vote;
- (b) if an amendment is moved, the mover of the original motion has the right of reply at the close of the debate on the amendment, but may not otherwise speak on it; and
- (c) the mover of the amendment has no right of reply to the debate on his or her amendment.

(1) Motion by Councillor J R Marriott

Councillor J R Marriott to move:

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.

Councillor R Sellars to second.

(2) Motion by Councillor N I Jackson

Councillor N I Jackson to move:

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.

Councillor J D Hough to second.

(3) Motion by Councillor Mrs M J Overton

Councillor Mrs M J Overton to move:

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.

Councillor C J T H Brewis to second.

AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING

The Chairman to state:

Members are reminded to collect their post from their pigeon holes after the meeting.

(At the conclusion of the meeting will all Members please be upstanding in their places until the Chairman has left the Chamber).