

**ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
COUNTY COUNCIL
21 MAY 2010**

PRESENT: COUNCILLOR E R CHAPMAN (CHAIRMAN)

Councillors W J Aron, E N Bauer, P Bedford, Mrs P Bosworth, Mrs P A Bradwell, D Brailsford, C J T H Brewis, M Brookes, P A Carpenter, K J Clarke, Reverend S P Cliff, N D Cooper, 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, B W Keimach, S F Kinch, 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, R B Parker, 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, J M Swanson, Mrs C A Talbot, M Tinker, T M Trollope-Bellew, A H Turner MBE, C J Underwood-Frost, W S Webb, A P Williams, S F Williams, Mrs S Woolley, R Wootten, C N Worth and B Young.

Also present were Mr R A Daff, Mr J A Hanna and Group Captain P J Rodgers MBE, Independent Members of the Standards Committee.

Prayers were led by the Reverend Christine Pennock.

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL

On the nomination of Councillor M J Hill OBE, seconded by Councillor P A Robinson, and there being no other nominations, it was

RESOLVED

That Councillor P Bedford be elected Chairman of the County Council for the year 2010/11.

Councillor Bedford signed the declaration of acceptance of office, was invested with the Chain of Office by the immediate past Chairman, took the Chair and thanked the Council for electing him.

COUNCILLOR P BEDFORD IN THE CHAIR

2. CHAIRMAN'S LADY

Mrs Z Bedford was invested with the Chairman's Lady's Chain of Office.

3. IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIRMAN

The Chairman presented a past Chairman's Badge to Councillor E R Chapman.

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4. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL

On the nomination of Councillor P Bedford, seconded by Councillor C J Davie, and there being no other nominations, it was

RESOLVED

That Councillor N D Cooper be elected Vice-Chairman of the County Council for the year 2010/11.

5. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs J Johnson, C R Oxby, R J Palmer, E W Strengiel and Mrs P F Watson.

6. DECLARATIONS OF COUNCILLORS' INTERESTS

Councillor Mrs C A Talbot declared a personal interest in agenda items 18 and 19 as she was the Chairman of the Lincoln Committee of the Lincoln Cathedral Preservation Council.

7. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 12 FEBRUARY 2010

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting held on 12 February 2010 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

8. CHAIRMAN TO SIGNIFY THE APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN'S CHAPLAIN

The Chairman informed the Council that the Reverend Andrew Higginson (Parish of Butterwick with Benington, Freiston and Leverton) had kindly agreed to accept his invitation to be his Chaplain. The Reverend Andrew Higginson addressed the Council.

9. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman presented the People's Choice Award for 2010 to Hannah Gray, Connexions Intensive Support Advisor. The award was organised by the County Council and the recipient of this award was voted for by the people of Lincolnshire.

The Chairman reported the deaths of former Councillors Clive Finch and Alan Day DFC and former Director of Education Mr Fred Rickard.

- i) Former Councillor Clive Finch represented the Louth North Electoral Division from May 1997 until June 2001.

- ii) Former Councillor Alan Day DFC represented the Boston Rural Division for a four-year term from May 1981 and was re-elected to the County Council in 2001 and served until June 2009.
- iii) Mr Fred Rickard was a former Director of Education for Lincolnshire County Council before retiring in March 1985, after many years of dedicated service.

Members stood in silence in memory of former Councillors Finch and Day DFC and former Director of Education Mr Rickard and then paid tribute to their memory.

10. NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION OF LEADER OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL

The Chairman reminded the Council that Councillor M J Hill OBE had been elected Leader of the County Council until the day of the next post-election annual meeting or such earlier date, in accordance with Article 5.03 of the Constitution.

The Leader addressed the Council and circulated a copy of his Annual Statement.

11. THE LEADER TO REPORT ON EXECUTIVE PORTFOLIOS, APPOINTMENTS TO THE EXECUTIVE AND APPOINTMENTS OF EXECUTIVE SUPPORT COUNCILLORS

In accordance with Article 5.02 of the Council's Constitution the Leader notified the Council of the appointments to the Executive and indicated that for the purposes of Part 3 (Responsibilities for functions) the responsibilities of each Executive Councillor. The Leader also notified the Council of the Executive Support Councillors he had appointed in accordance with Article 5.07, as set out in Appendix A attached.

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

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

Councillor G A Marsh announced, in addition to his statement, that he had pleasure to announce that Susan Spencer, a Trainer from Adult Social Care, had won the national award for Homecare Trainer, awarded by the Great British Care Awards.

13. QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIRMAN, THE LEADER, EXECUTIVE COUNCILLORS AND CHAIRMEN OF ANY COMMITTEE OR SUB-COMMITTEE

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) J M Swanson	Executive Councillor for Economic Development	The availability of Broadband across the County

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(B) R A Shore	Executive Councillor for Highways and Transport	The reduction in the bus service within the Skellingthorpe area
(C) R B Parker	Leader of the Council	The Government's commitment to abolish Standards Board regime - as detailed in the document entitled 'The Coalition: Our Programme for Government'
(D) M Smith	Executive Councillor for Children's Services including Post-16 Education	The opening of the Skegness Academy – would current arrangements for Sports shared Partnership with East Lindsey District Council continue without interruption
(E) Major R Newell	Executive Councillor for Highways and Transport	The Council's current position re the expenditure of the allocated £2.7m to address the County's roads following winter damage
(F) K Milner	Executive Councillor for Economic Development	Funding for Church Farm Museum, Skegness
(G) J R Marriott	Leader of the Council	Local Authority funding - Localism for Lincolnshire
(H) J D Hough	Executive Councillor for Children's Services including Post-16 Education	Building Schools for the Future – would the new Government honour the investment for Lincolnshire schools
(I) M W Gilbert	Executive Councillor for Children's Services including Post-16 Education	Taking forward the funding proposals for the Building Schools for the Future proposals
(J) Mrs M J Overton	Executive Councillor for Children's Services including Post-16 Education	Lincolnshire County Council's efficiency savings – supporting the County's small schools
(K) N I Jackson	Executive Councillor for Highways and Transport	Lincoln East-West Link - infrastructure
(L) C J Davie	Executive Councillor for Economic Development	Renewable energy proposals on the east coast

(M) K J Clarke	Executive Councillor for Children's Services including Post-16 Education	Asbestos in schools within Lincolnshire
(O) P A Skinner	Executive Councillor for Highways and Transport	Lincolnshire Highways Alliance - progress
(P) C E H Marfleet	Executive Councillor for Corporate Development	New ways of working and the Sleaford Development – specific timelines
(Q) C J Underwood-Frost	Leader of the Council	Talks with Lincolnshire MPs re the Council's whole budget situation

14. COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

(a) COMMITTEE STRUCTURE, POLITICAL BALANCE ON COMMITTEES AND SUB-COMMITTEES AND ALLOCATION OF PLACES

A report by the Chief Executive had been circulated.

It was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED

- (1) That the allocation of seats on Committees, Sub-Committees and other bodies between political groups, as set out at Appendix B attached, be approved.
- (2) That the making of appointments to Committees, Sub-Committees and those other bodies be carried out by the Chief Executive, in accordance with the wishes of the Group Leaders, Deputy Group Leaders and Group Whips, pursuant to his delegated powers.

(b) APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMEN AND VICE-CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEES AND SUB-COMMITTEES (EXCEPT STANDARDS AND HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEES)

A report by the Chief Executive had been circulated.

It was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED

That the appointment of Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Committees and Sub-Committees, as set out at Appendix C attached, be approved.

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15. CALENDAR OF NEW MEETING DATES 2010/2011

A report by the Chief Executive had been circulated.

It was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED

That the calendar of meeting dates for 2010/2011 be approved, subject to the entry relating to the Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire on 15 June 2011 being deleted.

16. LINCOLNSHIRE STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE) MEMBERSHIP

A report by the Chief Executive had been circulated.

It was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED

That Mr Andrew Hornsby be appointed to serve on Lincolnshire SACRE under Group A of its membership, representing the Methodist Church.

17. APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES

A report by the Chief Executive had been circulated.

It was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED

That the appointment of members to outside bodies, as set out at Appendix D attached, be approved subject to Councillor Mrs S Rawlins being replaced by Councillor H R Johnson on the Joint Lincolnshire Scrutiny Committee.

18. STANDARDS COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

A report by the Assistant Chief Executive had been circulated. Appended to the report was the Standards Committee Annual Report. Group Captain P J Rodgers MBE addressed the Council.

It was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED

That the Annual Report from the Standards Committee be noted.

19. REVIEW OF THE LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES SCHEME

A report by the Chief Executive had been circulated.

It was moved and seconded:

- (1) That the Council expresses its gratitude to the Independent Remuneration Panel for this thorough and detailed review of the Members' Allowances Scheme;
- (2) That the Council agrees to abolish its 10,000 miles threshold and the subsequent drop in mileage allowances payable under the current scheme;
- (3) That the Council accepts the report and rates of remuneration recommended by the Independent Remuneration Panel;
- (4) That, due to the current economic climate, the Council agrees not to implement the increases suggested by the Independent Remuneration Panel at the current time (with the exception of Panel recommendation 8 in the report);
- (5) That the necessary amendments be made to the Council's Constitution.

An amendment was moved and seconded as follows:

After (5) insert: -

- (6) That an all party group be set up, to consider ways of implementing the increases recommended by the Independent Remuneration Panel at some future date and to report back to Council.

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

RESOLVED

- (1) That it be noted that the Council expresses its gratitude to the Independent Remuneration Panel for the thorough and detailed review of the Members' Allowances Scheme;
- (2) That the abolition to its 10,000 miles threshold and the subsequent drop in mileage allowances payable under the current scheme be agreed;
- (3) That the report and rates of remuneration recommended by the Independent Remuneration Panel be accepted;
- (4) That, due to the current economic climate, the suggested increases made by the Independent Remuneration Panel are not implemented at the current time (with the exception of Panel recommendation 8 in the report);

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(5) That the Council's Constitution be amended accordingly.

20. A NEW CULTURAL STRATEGY FOR LINCOLNSHIRE SUPPORTED BY
NEW STRATEGIES FOR SPORTS AND ARTS

A report by the Director of Customer Strategies had been circulated.

It was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED

That the three strategies appended to the report "Promote, Provide, Participate! Lincolnshire Cultural Strategy 2010-2015", "Lincolnshire Loving Sport, Living Life – a Strategy to 2012 and Beyond" and "This is Art" be adopted.

21. COUNCIL BUSINESS PLAN 2010-2013

A report by the Assistant Chief Executive had been circulated.

It was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED

That the Draft Council Business Plan 2010-2013 be approved.

22. MINUTES OF COMMITTEES

RESOLVED

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

(1) Pensions	8 February 2010 9 April 2010 15 April 2010
(2) Planning and Regulation	15 February 2010 12 April 2010
(3) Audit	22 March 2010 26 April 2010
(4) Standards	19 April 2010

23. MOTIONS FOR DEBATE

Motion by Councillor Mrs M J Overton

It was moved and seconded that

“Members who attended the ‘Citizen of the Year’ awards a week ago could not fail to have been impressed by the selfless and welcomed efforts for their communities, which were shown by all of the winners. The Young Persons’ winner appeared from his citation to be running many activities in his community at the tender age of sixteen.

Bearing in mind the increasingly straitened and difficult times which may be ahead, and considering the cuts which now appeared inevitable in many of the services which the people of Lincolnshire had come to enjoy, will the Executive adopt a programme to encourage young people, especially in the 16-19 year old group to volunteer for roles within their communities?

Would they further consider that such activities be encouraged by the award of the certificate from Lincolnshire County Council detailing their work, which could assist them in securing employment either in the immediate future or when the economic circumstances began to improve?

Would the Executive engage with the schools, academies and colleges to proactively encourage such an initiative which might serve to make all our communities more self resilient, as they may very well have to become in the near future?”

RESOLVED

That the above motion be approved.

The meeting closed at 1.15 p.m.