

# Agenda Item 4

## MEETING OF LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

17 SEPTEMBER 2021

### ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

#### MEETING GUIDANCE

Today's proceedings will be live streamed and recorded.

#### Health and Safety

***Anyone planning to attend the meeting is strongly encouraged to undertake a lateral flow test prior to setting off. Anyone testing positive or experiencing any symptoms of Covid-19 is requested to not attend the meeting.***

*Please note: there is no fire drill or fire alarm test planned for today, in the event of the fire alarm sounding, please leave by the nearest fire exit and make your way to the car park at the front of County Offices.*

#### Requesting to speak

*If a member would like to speak, they should raise their hand so it can be clearly seen.*

*Requests to speak will be monitored and collated by Democratic Services, and managed by the Chairman, with the assistance of the Chief Executive.*

*When the Chairman invites you to speak, you should press the large button on your microphone unit to make it live. Please press the large button again to switch it off once you have finished speaking.*

Prayers will be led by Councillor A Key in the Council Chamber at 10.20am prior to the start of formal proceedings at 10.30am

Members are requested to take their seats by 10.25am

The agenda previously circulated and published will be followed

Councillor M Brookes in the Chair

## ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS – 17 SEPTEMBER 2021

### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

List of apologies to be read by Chief Executive Debbie Barnes.

### 2. DECLARATIONS OF COUNCILLORS' INTERESTS

Councillors to indicate if they have any interests they wish to declare.

Note:-

Councillors are reminded that there is no need to declare an interest if it has already been recorded on the register of disclosable pecuniary interests (DPIs) or notified to the Monitoring Officer in accordance with the Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012. Where councillors do declare an interest they must state what the interest is. Councillors must not speak or vote on the item.

Should you have any queries about declarations please seek advice from officers in advance of the meeting.

### 3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL HELD ON 21 MAY 2021

The Chairman to state:-

**That the minutes of the meeting of the County Council held on 21 May 2021 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.**

### 4. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

I'm delighted to be chairing a Full Council meeting in the Council Chamber - the first time since the initial lockdown. It is good to see you all in these surroundings face-to-face again, albeit still taking care to do all we can to prevent the further spread of Covid.

As we fast approach Autumn we continue to adapt to new ways of working. I would like to take this opportunity to thank officers for their efforts to ensure important council services continue to be delivered to the high standard Lincolnshire residents have come to expect.

As restrictions are carefully being lifted, I am looking forward to being able to continue in my role as Chairman and meet the people of Lincolnshire. I am particularly looking forward to being part of Lincolnshire Day on 1<sup>st</sup> October, when, for the first time, we will join with our colleagues from North and North East Lincolnshire to celebrate our continued commitment to working together for the benefit of all our residents.

On a sadder note, I have to report the death of two former County Councillors:

Reg Shore who represented the former Skellingthorpe and Hykeham South electoral division from May 2009 until his retirement in May 2017. Between May 2013 and May 2017 he was Executive Councillor for Waste and Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group on the Council.

And Mike Exton who represented the former Deeping St James electoral division from June 2009 until his retirement in May 2013.

(An opportunity will be given for tributes to be paid to the former County Councillors)

A complete itinerary of civic engagements, since the last meeting of this Council, are available from the Civic Officer on request.

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

**Statements by the Members of the Executive are detailed as report reference 5.0 in the agenda previously circulated.**

6. QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIRMAN, THE LEADER, EXECUTIVE COUNCILLORS AND CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEES AND SUB-COMMITTEES

**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.**

**When invited to ask their question, councillors should press the large button on their microphone to make it live and press it again once they have finished speaking.**

7. REVIEW OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE 2020/21

A report by the Executive Director - Resources has been circulated.

Councillor M J Hill OBE to move:

**The County Council is recommended to:**

1. **Note the carry forwards set out in paragraph 1.16 to 1.18 of the report, which are made in line with Financial Regulations.**
2. **Approve the use of underspend in excess of 1% referred to in paragraph 1.20 to 1.24 as follows:**
  - a) **The transfer to reserves for "non-business as usual" activity described in paragraph 1.20.**

- b) The creation of and transfer of £0.300m to a new earmarked reserve for Council Elections described in paragraph 1.21 and approval for underspends on election budgets to be transferred automatically to the said reserve in future years.
  - c) The transfer of £2.200m to the Financial Volatility earmarked reserve as described in paragraph 1.223.
  - d) The creation of and transfer of £2.304m to a new Coronavirus Recovery Reserve described in paragraph 1.24.
3. Note the transfers to and from reserves carried out in 2020/21 and note the position of Earmarked Reserves as at 31 March 2021 as shown in Table F of this report.
  4. Note the position of the General Reserves as set out in paragraph 1.28 and Table G.
  5. Note the financial performance in 2020/21 as set out in Table H
  6. Approve the transfer of the remaining £1.8m in the Support to Business Reserve to the Financial Volatility Reserve as described in paragraph 1.25.

Councillor M A Whittington to second.

Amendment by the Labour Group:

Councillor R B Parker to move:

Delete 'The transfer of £2.200m to the Financial Volatility earmarked reserve as described in paragraph 1.23' and replace with

Insert 'The Transfer of £2.2million to Children's Services to address unmet need in the current financial year for additional education provision for Children in Care, and to increase early intervention service for emotional wellbeing and mental health.

Councillor K Lee to second.

8. AMENDMENTS TO THE COUNCIL'S CONSTITUTION

A report by the Monitoring Officer has been circulated.

Councillor R B Parker to move:

**That the Council:**

1. Approves the amendments to the Council's Constitution set out in Appendix A of the report **with the addition of the following paragraph at the end of section 3.05(ii):**  
**"If the Leaders of the Groups coming together to form the Opposition do not nominate a Leader of the Opposition, full Council shall determine which of the said Group Leaders will be the Leader of the Opposition";**

2. **Recognises the Labour Group and the Independent Group as the Opposition in accordance with Article 3.05 of the Constitution as amended in Appendix A of the report;**
3. **Notes the nomination of Cllr Robert Parker as Leader of the Opposition for the period between 17 September 2021 and the next Annual Meeting of the Council.**

Councillor P M Dilks to second.

9. MEMBERSHIP OF THE LINCOLNSHIRE STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)

A report by the Executive Director responsible for Democratic Services has been circulated.

Councillor P M Dilks to move:

**That Council approves the appointment of Councillor Ashley Baxter to the Lincolnshire Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education.**

Councillor R Cleaver to second.

10. APPOINTMENTS TO THE LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL

A report by the Executive Director responsible for Democratic Services has been circulated.

Councillor M J Hill OBE to move

**That the Council appoints Heather Lee and Aileen Lucas to the Lincolnshire County Council Independent Remuneration Panel with immediate effect and appoints Tony Lawlor to the Panel with effect from 1 January 2022.**

Councillor Mrs A M Newton to second

11. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT 2020 – 21

A report by the Statutory Scrutiny Officer has been circulated.

Councillor R B Parker to move

**To approve the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report for 2020-21**

Councillor R Wootten to second

12. MOTIONS ON NOTICE SUBMITTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COUNCIL'S CONSTITUTION.

Motion by Councillor R B Parker

This council notes that

- The 'uplift' to Universal Credit of £20 a week (£86.67 a month) is scheduled to end on 6 October 2021.
- The latest figures show that 5.9 million people in the United Kingdom receive Universal Credit, up from 3 million before the Covid pandemic.
- Nationally, the withdrawal of the 'uplift' will affect six in every ten single parent families and that 40% of people who depend on Universal Credit are in work.
- Here in Lincolnshire, there were 33,414 Universal Credit claimants in February 2020 (before the Covid outbreak) but by July 2021 there were 65,081 claimants; an increase of 95%.

**I therefore move that:**

**This council calls on the Leader of the Council to write to the Prime Minister urging that the £20 a week Universal Credit uplift be maintained in the short term and until such time as the number of people eligible for the benefit is substantially reduced.**

Councillor K Lee to second.

Motion by Councillor R Cleaver

For many of our urban and village residents road safety and speeding through villages is the biggest concern. Seventy per cent of people think that 20 mph is plenty for residential areas. This is already in place in many areas up and down the country. 21m already live in a 20mph limit, but not in Lincolnshire. We recognise enforcement is not currently possible, but it does make the message clear to all and is seen by many residents as an important part in the armoury towards better road safety in built-up areas.

I therefore move that:

**This Council calls on the Leader of Council to write to the Government calling for the power to make mandatory enforceable 20mph speed limits in residential or congested areas where they are needed.**

**This Council agrees to assess and appropriately support communities who want to design and put in place a twenty's plenty campaign and adjust the Council's Speed Policy accordingly.**

Councillor Mrs M J Overton MBE to second

AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING

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

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

## FOR THE INFORMATION OF COUNCILLORS

### COUNCIL MEETINGS – RULES OF DEBATE

(i) Rule 13.4 Content and Length of Speeches

Speeches must be directed to the question under discussion or to a personal explanation, point of order or information. A councillor proposing a motion, including the movement of an amendment, or a Chairman or Executive Councillor responding shall not speak for more than 6 minutes and no other speech shall exceed 3 minutes except with the consent of the meeting.

(ii) 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.

(iii) 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 debate on the amendments, but may otherwise not speak on it; and
- c) The mover of the amendment has no right of reply to the debate on his or her amendment.

### COUNCIL MEETINGS – INTERVENTION IN DEBATE

1. (a) Points of Order are just that. They must relate to the Council Procedure Rules or conduct of the meeting and generally will be drawing attention to a perceived breach, e.g.
  - (i) absence of a quorum;
  - (ii) order of speeches;
  - (iii) irrelevance;
  - (iv) time limit for speech exceeded;
  - (v) misconduct;
  - (vi) motion not seconded.
- (b) Examples of common intervention which are **NOT** points of order:-
  - (i) Points of information or Personal Explanation (as to which see below);
  - (ii) Disagreement with a speaker;

- (iii) Further thoughts or clarification of a previous speech prompted by the speaker (unless amounting to a Personal Explanation);
  - (iv) Correction of a speakers opinion (rather than fact, which is a Point of Information);
  - (v) An attempt to "reply" to another Member's speech or a point made in it;
2. (a) Point of Information – when a Member is speaking and is obviously proceeding on the basis of information which is wrong or of which the member is ignorant, another member may properly seek to intervene to provide the correct or missing information, thereby saving the Council from being misled and saving its time.
- (b) ASKING FOR information is **NOT** a Point of Information; a member who has spoken may be able to request a colleague who has not yet spoken to ask;
3. (a) A Personal Explanation is a proper intervention only when an earlier speech by the Member is being misquoted or misrepresented;
- (b) It must not be used as a spurious pretext for reiteration of the Member's earlier speech or as a second speech.

4. Practice

Members making one of the Points must specify which one is being used. The Member speaking should give way. The Point should be made briefly. The Chairman will then rule on it promptly, firmly and finally. There will be no debate nor will the ruling of the Chairman be open to discussion.

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