

Agenda Item 4

MEETING OF LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

17 FEBRUARY 2023

ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

MEETING GUIDANCE

The proceedings will be live streamed and recorded.

Please note there is no fire drill or fire alarm test planned, 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.

Members should be mindful that the new high-performing loop system is sensitive to any type of noise in the Chamber. Ambient sound from the Chamber immediately prior to meetings, and during open session may be picked up by the loop, and therefore Councillors should conduct private conversations outside of the Chamber. The loop will be muted at the close of the meeting.

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

Requests to speak will be monitored 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 button on your microphone unit to make it live. Please speak directly into the microphone and press the button again to switch it off once you have finished speaking.

Prayers will be led by Reverend Sudharshan Sarvananthan in the Council Chamber at 9.50 a.m., prior to the start of formal proceedings at 10.00 a.m.

The agenda previously circulated and published will be followed

Councillor A M Austin in the Chair

ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS – 17 FEBRUARY 2023

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.

Councillors are also reminded that if they are a homeowner or tenant in the area of the council their beneficial interest in the land is not a disclosable pecuniary interest in the matter of setting the council tax or precept since decisions on the council tax or precept do not materially affect their interest in the land.

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 9 DECEMBER 2022

The Chairman to state:-

That the minutes of the meeting of the County Council held on 9 December 2022 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

4. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman to state:

Since the last meeting of the Council, I have continued to represent the County Council and carry out civic engagements.

I was delighted to welcome students from the University of Lincoln for the Model United Nations Debate as part of their International Relations Programme which was held here in the Council Chamber earlier this year. This annual event is an important part of their studies and demonstrates the collaboration and long running successful partnership between the University and the County Council.

On 31st January we held a service to mark the 70th Anniversary of the East Coast Floods of 1953, which seriously affected our coastal communities and sadly, as we know, claimed the lives of 43 people. I can personally remember that day as a young girl living in Kirton and it was heart-warming to attend the service at Ingoldmells and afterwards speak to guests and hear their stories about how their families were affected.

We look forward to His Majesty King Charles III's Coronation on 6th May 2023. The Coronation will see people across the UK and the Commonwealth come together to celebrate this momentous occasion.

Nationally the programme will include the procession and service at Westminster Abbey on 6th May, the 'Coronation Big Lunch' across the country on 7th May and 'The Big Help Out' community activity on the bank holiday, Monday, 8th May.

I know you will all be involved in events at the heart of your local communities over that weekend and we will be throwing open the doors of Lincoln Castle so residents can watch the Coronation on a large screen on the Saturday and bring their own picnics to join us for the Coronation Big Lunch on the Sunday.

Watch out on social media and in the local press for the details of our plans for what is bound to be a weekend to remember.

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

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

The Chairman to move:

That insofar as it prevents the asking of questions at the annual budget meeting Council Procedure Rule 10.2 be suspended for the duration of Item 5 on the Agenda.

Councillor R P H Reid to second

Vote on the Temporary Suspension of Procedure Rules

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 button on their microphone to make it live and press it again once they have finished speaking.

6. COUNCIL BUDGET 2023/24

A report by the Executive Director - Resources has been circulated, together with a separate document entitled 'Council Budget 2023/24'.

Amendments have been submitted by the Independent Group and Labour Group.

The Chairman of the Council proposes to deal with this item in the following way:

Temporary Suspension of Council Procedure Rules

The Chairman to move:

That there be one debate on the Executive's budget proposals and the Independent Group and Labour Group amendments and therefore that Council Procedure Rules 13.4 (Content and length of speeches), 13.6 (b), 13.6 (c), 13.6 (d), 13.6 (e) (Amendments to motions) and 13.10 (b) (Motions which may be moved during debate) be temporarily suspended for the duration of the debate and

- (1) Councillor M J Hill OBE Leader of the Council in introducing and moving the budget and in responding to issues raised during the debate be allowed to speak without limit of time (at A and H in this Order of Proceedings)**
- (2) That the proposers of the amendments listed in this order of proceedings be allowed to speak without limit of time (at C and E on the Order of Proceedings)**
- (3) That Councillors seconding the motions, each be allowed to speak for 6 minutes (at B, D and F on the Order of Proceedings or at G on the Order of Proceedings if they reserve their speech until later in the debate)**
- (4) That other speakers each be allowed to speak for 3 minutes (at G on the Order of Proceedings)**
- (5) That no further amendments be moved.**

Councillor R P H Reid to second

Vote on the Temporary Suspension of Council Procedure Rules

The Chairman will state:

I wish to remind members about the Rules of Debate as set out in rules 13.5 and 13.9 of the Council Procedure Rules which have not been suspended. These are set out in paragraphs (i) and (ii) below:

Except as set out in rules 13.5 and 13.9 below, councillors are only allowed to speak once during the debate. Therefore, the motion and any amendment(s) will proceed as one debate.

Therefore, the debate will take the form as set out in paragraphs (A) to (I) on pages 5 to 7 of the Order of Proceedings.

(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 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.

(A) Councillor M J Hill OBE, Leader of the Council, to introduce the report and move:-

That the Council:

1. has due regard to the responses to the consultation and engagement on the Council's budget proposals as contained in the appended Budget Book (**Appendix D** - Budget Engagement and Consultation Feedback);
2. has due regard to the Section 151 Officer's Statement on the Robustness of the Budget and the Adequacy of Reserves as set out in the appended Budget Book (**Section 10** - Section 151 Officer's Statement on the Robustness of the Budget and Adequacy of Reserves);
3. has due regard to the Impact Analysis relating to increasing the Council Tax by 4.99% in 2023/24 set out in the appended 'Budget Book' (**Appendix C** – Equality Impact Analysis relating to increasing the Council Tax by 4.99% in 2023/24);

4. approves:
 - 4.1 the service revenue budgets for 2023/24 contained in the appended Budget Book, (**Table 2** - Net Service Revenue Budget 2023/24);
 - 4.2 the capital programme and its funding contained in the appended Budget Book (**Section 7** - Capital Programme) and (**Appendix O** - Capital Investment Programme);
 - 4.3 the County Council element of the council tax for a Band D property at £1,503.63 for 2023/24 contained in the appended Budget Book (**Appendix B** - County Precept 2023/24);as together being the Council's Budget.

4a approves the transfer of the balances from the Business Rates Volatility, Support to Businesses and Youth Offending Reserves, totalling £8.657m, to the Development Fund.

5. approves the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy contained in the appended Budget Book (**Appendix E** – The Medium Term Financial Strategy);
6. approves the Council's Capital Strategy 2023/24 contained in the appended Budget Book (**Appendix N** – Capital Strategy 2023/24);
7. approves the prudential targets for capital finance and notes the prudential indicators contained in the appended Budget Book (**Appendix M** - Prudential Indicators);
- 8 approves that the minimum revenue provision (MRP) be based on the asset life method, charged on an annuity basis for major infrastructure projects and in equal instalments for all other assets, over the estimated life of the assets acquired through borrowing as set out in the appended Budget Book (**Section 9** - Minimum Revenue Provision).

(B) Motion to be seconded by Councillor M A Whittington

(C) Amendment to be moved by Councillor P M Dilks on behalf of the Independent Group

Amend paragraph 4a of the motion above to read:

Approves the provision of £1m of the balances from the Business Rates Volatility, Support to Businesses and Youth Offending Reserves, totalling £8.657m, as a one-off grant to Lincolnshire Police for the purpose of retaining more PCSO posts and the transfer of the remaining balance, to the Development Fund.

(D) To be seconded by Councillor

(E) Amendment to be moved by the Labour Group

Amend paragraph 4a of the motion to read:

Approves the provision of £0.450m of the balances from the Business rates Volatility, Support to Business and Youth Offending Reserves, totalling £8.657m, as a one-off grant to Citizens Advice Lincolnshire to provide support for call demand and the transfer of the remaining balance to the Development Fund.

(F) To be seconded by Councillor

Debate to take place

(G) Other Councillors

(H) Response by the Leader of the Council

(I) in accordance with the Local Authority (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014 the recorded votes to be taken in the following order:

- (i) Labour Group Amendment
- (ii) Independent Group Amendment
- (iii) Conservative Group Motion (Original or amended)

7. PAY POLICY STATEMENT 2023/24

A report by the Deputy Chief Executive and Executive Director – Resources has been circulated.

Councillor M J Hill OBE to move:

That Council approves the Pay Policy Statement 2023/24 attached as Appendix A to the report as recommended by the Pay Policy Sub-Committee.

Councillor P M Dilks to second.

8. BORDER TO COAST GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS

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

Councillor M A Whittington to move:

That the Council:

- 1. Approves the amended version of the Inter Authority Agreement between the County Council and local authority members of Border to Coast Pensions Partnership Limited, as attached at Appendix A to the report.**
- 2. Approves the amended version of the Shareholder Agreement between the County Council and Border to Coast Pensions Partnership Limited as attached at Appendix B to the report; and**
- 3. Delegates to the Pensions Committee authority to approve on behalf of the County Council future amendments to the Border to Coast Pensions Partnership Limited governance documentation; and**
- 4. Authorises the Assistant Director – Finance to exercise the Council’s rights as a shareholder in Border to Coast Pensions Partnership Limited on behalf of the Council as the administering authority of the Lincolnshire Local Government Pension Fund in addition to or in the absence of the Executive Director – Resources.**

Councillor E W Strenziel to second.

9. AUDIT COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2022

A report by the Chairman of the Audit Committee has been circulated.

Councillor Mrs S Rawlins to move:

That the Council receives the Audit Committee Annual Report 2022.

Councillor M Allan to second.

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

Councillor P M Dilks to move:

Lincolnshire County Council has long recognised the vital role Police Community Support Officers provide in combatting crime and anti-social behaviour as well as increasing police visibility and public reassurance.

With that in mind, we share the extreme concerns raised earlier this month by Lincolnshire Police and Crime Panel, and the public, at proposals to cut the number of Police Community Support Officers serving the county by almost half from 91 to 50.

Furthermore, we recognise that:

- Official data continues to show Lincolnshire has the lowest resource funding per head of population of any police force area in the Country.
- Despite ongoing and wide ranging year-after-year acknowledgement that the national police funding formula remains unfit for purpose, change has yet to be delivered.

We therefore move that this Council:

- 1) Calls on the Police and Crime Commissioner to work with the Chief Constable so that all possible options to avoid these cuts are fully considered to ensure community confidence in policing across Lincolnshire is not seriously damaged.**
- 2) Supports calls by the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chief Constable for a fairer police funding formula to be introduced by the Government without delay and for interim additional funding to be provided to those police forces which are seriously disadvantaged by the current system.**

Councillor R B Parker 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 13.5 (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 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 speaker's 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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