

**COUNCIL  
 18 SEPTEMBER 2015**

**PRESENT: COUNCILLOR W S WEBB (CHAIRMAN)**

Councillors T M Trollope-Bellew (Vice-Chairman), B Adams, W J Aron, A M Austin, Mrs V C Ayling, J W Beaver, Mrs P A Bradwell, D Brailsford, C J T H Brewis, A Bridges, Mrs J Brockway, M Brookes, K J Clarke, C J Davie, R G Davies, P M Dilks, S R Dodds, G J Ellis, R G Fairman, I G Fleetwood, R L Foulkes, M J Hill OBE, J D Hough, D C Hoyes MBE, D M Hunter-Clarke, R J Hunter-Clarke, N I Jackson, A J Jesson, M S Jones, B W Keimach, Ms T Keywood-Wainwright, S F Kinch, R C Kirk, C E D Mair, C E H Marfleet, J R Marriott, R A H McAuley, D McNally, D C Morgan, N M Murray, Mrs A M Newton, P J O'Connor, Mrs M J Overton MBE, C Pain, S L W Palmer, R B Parker, N H Pepper, R J Phillips, Mrs H N J Powell, Miss E L Ransome, Miss F E E Ransome, Mrs S Ransome, Mrs S Rawlins, Mrs J M Renshaw, R A Renshaw, Mrs A E Reynolds, P A Robinson, Mrs L A Rollings, R A Shore, Mrs N J Smith, Mrs E J Sneath, C L Strange, Mrs C A Talbot, A H Turner MBE JP, S M Tweedale, M A Whittington, P Wood, Mrs S Woolley, L Wootten, R Wootten, C N Worth, Mrs S M Wray and B Young

**22 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors M G Allan, A G Hagues and C R Oxby.

**23 DECLARATIONS OF COUNCILLORS' INTERESTS**

There were no declarations of interests at this point in the meeting.

**24 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 15 MAY 2015**

**RESOLVED**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 15 May 2015 be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

**25 BY-ELECTION RESULT**

A report by the Chief Executive had been circulated.

Members noted the election of Mr Mark Whittington to the Grantham Barrowby division.

26 SUBMISSION OF PETITIONS(a) Petition in relation to the parking of motor vehicles on the grass verge alongside Furlong Road in Sutton on Sea, Lincolnshire

In accordance with the Council's Petition Scheme, Mr John Lemon spoke for not more than five minutes in explanation of the petition in relation to the parking of motor vehicles on the grass verge alongside Furlong Road in Sutton on Sea, Lincolnshire.

It was reported that the Chief Executive had determined that the petition be referred to the Executive Councillor for Highways, Transport and IT.

(b) Petition in relation to the parking of motor vehicles in Rectory Lane, Barrowby

In accordance with the Council's Petition Scheme, Councillor M A Whittington spoke for not more than five minutes on behalf of the residents of Barrowby in explanation of the petition in relation to the parking of motor vehicles in Rectory Lane, Barrowby.

It was reported that the Chief Executive had determined that the petition be referred to the Executive Councillor for Highways, Transport and IT.

27 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman welcomed councillors back following the summer recess.

The Chairman reported that civic engagements since the last Council meeting had been varied and gave him the opportunity to continue visiting places within Lincolnshire and some further afield.

The Chairman's Lady was thanked for supporting the Chairman on these engagements and also the Vice-Chairman and Lady, Councillor Martin Trollope-Bellew and District Councillor Rosemary Woolley, for providing representations at civic functions when the Chairman had been unable to attend.

It had been an honour to welcome Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal to the County in June when she officially opened the David P J Ross Magna Carta Vault which marked the completion of the Lincoln Castle Revealed project. In addition HRH attended a service in Lincoln Cathedral and visited Boston Stump.

The Chairman was also pleased to welcome a second Royal visitor to the County in July when HRH The Duke of Gloucester KG GCVO officially opened the new offices and plant at Woldgrain Storage in Hemswell before officially opening Lincolnshire's Great Exhibition at the Collection in Lincoln.

He was honoured to have attended the the presentation of Ushakov Medals by the Russian Defence and Naval Attaché to Lincolnshire Veteran who were awarded

these hours for their personal courage and bravery displayed during their service in the Arctic Convoys in WWII.

The Chairman was pleased to report that this year's Lincolnshire Show had been a huge success with the County Council stand winning the Constance Eastwood Challenge Cup for the Best Trade Stand (Non-Agricultural Category).

He was also pleased to host the Annual Lincolnshire County Council Service of Dedication held in Lincoln Cathedral. The Service was followed by a reception in the Chapter House and Cloisters which the chairman and Lady thoroughly enjoyed as it gave them the opportunity to circulate amongst the invited guests. It had been an honour to have the Lincolnshire Youth Symphony Orchestra performing at the Service and it had been a day which would be remembered with pride.

The Chairman advised that the Environment Agency had a display in connection with proposals for the management of the Black Sluice Drain and Pumping Station in the Members' Foyer and invited members to visit the display and share their views on the proposals.

The Chairman also reported that Lincolnshire's Chief Fire Officer, Dave Ramscar, had announced that he would be retiring at the end of November. The Chairman and Councillors wished him all the best for a long and happy retirement.

The Chairman advised that a complete itinerary of civic engagements, since the last meeting of this Council, was available from the Civic Officer on request.

28     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.

Councillors were advised that an additional statement by Councillor P A Robinson had been circulated in relation to the refugee situation, which read as follows:

"Chairman, colleagues

I have been asked by Cllr Martin Hill to provide a statement on the Syrian refugee situation as it may affect Lincoln.

As the Chairman of the east midlands Councils Strategic Migration Board, I attended a meeting last Thursday at the Local Government Association with the Home Office to learn the Government's position on the Syrian situation as it seems likely to affect local authorities.

Cllr Marianne Overton was also present as Vice-Chairman of the LGA.

From a Lincolnshire standpoint the main points made were;

- The UK is prepared to provide refuge for Syrians who are currently in camps in the Middle East, where the UK is the major provider of support. UK did not anticipate large numbers of refugees arriving on our borders as is currently the case in Europe.
- As far as Lincolnshire is concerned, the Home Office representative said that our county could be expected to accept around 200 refugees. To be frank, I do not recall him giving a timescale for the arrival of these refugees – but I have since been told that that this may be over a period of 5 years.
- The funding of the 200 refugees would be met by central government for the first 12 months of each individual's arrival, thereafter, costs would have to be met by local authorities. Unaccompanied children would be maintained by local authorities until 18, and under questioning it emerged that this could cost up to £50k for each child.
- Finally, I believe that the situation remains fluid – but there is no doubt that Lincolnshire will have a part to play."

29 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) Mrs A M Newton	M S Jones	Serco
(b) R B Parker	R G Davies	Delivery of Serco contract
(c) R A McAuley	M J Hill OBE	Funding for refugees
(d) Mrs V C Ayling	M S Jones	Arrangements for refugees coming to Lincolnshire
(e) Mrs C A Talbot	C N Worth	Success of community hubs
(f) K J Clarke	C J Davie	Provision of affordable homes
(g) C Pain	P A Robinson	Potential need to accept more refugees
(h) Mrs M J Overton MBE	M J Hill OBE	Consultation on devolution
(i) R L Foulkes	R G Davies	Parking fines

(j) R Wootten	R G Davies	Extension of 30 minutes parking in Grantham
(k) J D Hough	M J Hill OBE	Awarding of Serco contract
(l) C E H Marfleet	R G Davies	Changes to rapid response policy for highway repairs
(m) P Wood	R G Davies	Recent flooding in Long Bennington
(n) S R Dodds	Mrs P A Bradwell	Secondary provision in Mablethorpe
(o) C L Strange	R G Davies	Dualling of A46
(p) R C Kirk	M J Hill OBE	Serco
(q) A M Austin	B Young	Greater police presence
(r) P M Dilks	P A Robinson	Market Deeping Library
(s) R J Phillips	P A Robinson	Barriers for unemployed people becoming retained Firefighters
(t) C E D Mair	Mrs P A Bradwell	Financial impact of living wage on LCC
(u) R Renshaw	Mrs S Woolley	Cycle Recycle project being introduced in other areas
(v) S L W Palmer	M J Hill OBE	Proportional party representation

30 REVIEW OF UNITARY POSSIBILITIES FOR LINCOLNSHIRE

A report by the Chief Executive had been circulated.

It was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED

1. That the Council note the potential from having unitary status.

2. That in view of central governments lack of appetite for driving the unitary option for two tier councils the Council would not pursue this option for the term of the current parliament.
3. That the Council supports a joint case being put to central government in support of the devolution of powers.

31 DEVOLUTION OF GOVERNMENT POWERS - EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

A report by the Chief executive had been circulated.

It was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED

That the Council endorse the expression of interest to Government in negotiating devolved powers from Central Government as indicated in the document "Greater Lincolnshire: A Place to Grow.....faster than anywhere" as appended to agenda item 10.0.

32 CONSTITUTION AMENDMENTS

A report by the Monitoring Officer had been circulated.

It was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED

That Council approve the amendments to the Council's Constitution as detailed at Appendix A to the report.

33 BOURNE TOWN HALL TRUST MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

A report by the County Property Officer had been circulated.

It was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED

That Council receive the report.

34 FINANCIAL UPDATE

A report by the Executive Director Finance and Public Protection had been circulated.

It was moved, and seconded

That the County Council:

1. Note the carry forwards set out in paragraph 1.2 and 1.3 of the report, which were made in line with the Council's Financial regulations, and approve the Adult Care underspend up to 1% which was not to be carried forward as part of the Adult Care budget but was added to the underspends above 1% for the purposes of recommendation 2 below.
2. Approve the proposed carry forwards of over and underspending in excess of 1% as set out in paragraph 1.4 of the report.
3. Note the transfers to and from reserves summarised in Table A of the report and the position of earmarked reserves as at 31 March 2015 summarised in Table B of the report.
4. Note the position in relation to general reserves set out in paragraph 1.8 and Table C of the report.
5. Note performance against the Prudential Indicators for 2014/15 as set out in paragraphs 1.9 and 1.10 and Table D of the report.

Notice of one amendment was received.

An amendment was moved and seconded by the Labour Group as follows:

#### Recommendation 3

After Table A of this report add 'as amended'

After Table B of this report add 'as amended'

#### Paragraph 1.4

Point 1 amend £12.415m to £10.415m

Create point 3 to read 'Create an earmarked reserve of £2m to meet in-year budget pressures in relation to social welfare needs'

Amend Table A to include under Other Earmarked Reserves - Social welfare needs - £2,000,000 and a reduction to the Financial Volatility Reserve - £9,372,195

Amend Table B to include under Earmarked Reserves - Social welfare needs - £2,000,000 and a reduction to the Financial Volatility reserve £29,632,000

And amend totals in each Table accordingly

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

A vote was then taken on the original motion, and upon being put to the vote it was

**RESOLVED**

1. That the carry forwards set out in paragraph 1.2 and 1.3 of the report, which were made in line with the Council's Financial regulations be noted and the Adult Care underspend up to 1% which was not to be carried forward as part of the Adult Care budget but was added to the underspends above 1% for the purposes of recommendation 2 below be approved.
2. That the proposed carry forwards of over and underspending in excess of 1% as set out in paragraph 1.4 of the report be approved.
3. That the transfers to and from reserves summarised in Table A of the report and the position of earmarked reserves as at 31 March 2015 summarised in Table B of the report be noted.
4. That the position in relation to general reserves set out in paragraph 1.8 and Table C of the report be noted.
5. That performance against the Prudential Indicators for 2014/15 as set out in paragraphs 1.9 and 1.10 and Table D of the report be noted.

NOTE: The Council adjourned for lunch at 12.50pm and re-commenced at 2.00pm.

#### **COUNCILLOR T M TROLLOPE-BELLEW IN THE CHAIR**

#### 35 MOTIONS ON NOTICE SUBMITTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COUNCIL'S CONSTITUTION

##### Motion by Councillor J D Hough

It was moved, and seconded that

"We, as people of Lincolnshire, cannot ignore the plight of refugees across Europe and the Middle East or leave the situation for others to deal with.

The generous offers of help from individuals, community organisations, churches and others in Lincolnshire show the strength of the desire in our communities to help provide accommodation, food and places of safety for refugees who have been displaced by war.

None of this ignores the fact that we still have our own challenges of homelessness, lack of affordable housing, poverty and many other issues here at home which we must continue to tackle.

However Lincolnshire with its population of 731,500 people has the capacity and strength to not only deal with its own problems but also to play its part in providing a safe haven for refugees in this emergency.

The County Council has a long experience of looking after unaccompanied children who are asylum seekers. Last week we had 60 such children and young people being looked after or otherwise supported by our Leaving Care Service.

We can build on this experience and, with the work done by the community, we are in a strong position to provide further help now that it is needed. While cost is an issue and clearly financial help will be needed, we cannot just sit and wait.

Help is needed now and the County Council must provide a welcome for refugees and leadership in coordinating such help across the county.

It is therefore proposed that:

The Council recommends that the executive on behalf of all councillors says publicly and to Government that we as a Council welcome refugees to Lincolnshire alongside the wider Lincolnshire community and will play our part in providing a safe haven for them."

Notice of two amendments to this motion had been received, and it was agreed that both amendments would be heard and then one debate would take place on the motion and both amendments before being put to the vote.

An amendment (i) by Councillor C E D Mair was moved and seconded as follows:

"We, as people of Lincolnshire, cannot ignore the plight of refugees across Europe and the Middle East or leave the situation for others to deal with.

The generous offers of help from individuals, community organisations, churches and others in Lincolnshire show the strength of the desire in our communities to help provide accommodation, food and places of safety for refugees who have been displaced by war.

None of this ignores the fact that we still have our own challenges of homelessness, lack of affordable housing, poverty and many other issues here at home which we must continue to tackle.

However Lincolnshire with its population of 731,500 people has the capacity and strength to not only deal with its own problems but also to place its part in providing a safe haven for refugees in this emergency.

The County Council has a long experience of looking after unaccompanied children who are asylum seekers. Last week we had 60 such children and young people being looked after or otherwise supported by our Leaving Care Service.

We can build on this experience and, with the work done by the community; we are in a strong position to provide further help now that it is needed. While cost is an issue and clearly financial help will be needed, we cannot just sit and wait.

**10**  
**COUNCIL**  
**18 SEPTEMBER 2015**

Help is needed now and the County Council must provide a welcome for refugees and leadership in co-ordinating such help across the county.

The speed of Lincolnshire County Council in showing leadership and preparedness to deal with any challenges thrown at us is to be commended.

Therefore we propose that this Council confirms its support for refugees through its already existing arrangement in Lincolnshire."

An amendment (ii) by Councillor M J Hill OBE was moved, and seconded as follows:

That the last paragraph of the motion is amended by replacing the existing text with the following:

"The council recommends that the executive notes the decision made by the government to accept 20,000 refugees from Syria into the UK, over a period of 5 years.

We as a council will work with our partners in Lincolnshire, East Midlands and government departments to play our part in this humanitarian mission, on the expectation that full funding will be forthcoming."

During debate, Councillor C E D Mair confirmed that UKIP would be withdrawing their amendment (i).

A vote was taken on the amendment (ii) and upon being put to the vote, was carried. This then became the substantive motion.

The motion, on being put to the vote was carried. Therefore, it was

**RESOLVED**

That the council recommend that the executive note the decision made by the government to accept 20,000 refugees from Syria into the UK, over a period of 5 years.

We as a council will work with our partners in Lincolnshire, East Midlands and government departments to play our part in this humanitarian mission, on the expectation that full funding will be forthcoming.

Motion by Councillor S R Dodds

It was moved and seconded that

"Children's Centres play a crucial role in child protection in Lincolnshire.

Over 95% of young children in the age range 0-5 are now registered at Children's Centres across the county. This is a remarkable achievement; in the early years of Sure Start centres locally it was a struggle to get over 50% of children registered.

The services offered at Children's Centres are wide ranging and provide support, education and encouragement for young children and their families. They enable early help and support to be provided for children at risk and vulnerable families. Positive links with other organisations, particularly the health service, have ensured a joined up approach to child development. In addition their work ensures all children start school with an equal chance of fulfilling their potential.

However continuing cuts in government support for local government may mean that their future is at risk.

It is proposed that:

this Council thanks all those involved in this work, the staff at Children's Centres, the health and social workers, the locality teams and everyone else involved for their dedication in ensuring every child gets an equal chance in their early years.

Furthermore, this Council believes in the importance of Children's Centres and the crucial work they do in both protecting children and enhancing their development and therefore recommends that the Executive continue to support, fund and maintain the Children's Centres across the county."

An amendment by Councillor Mrs P A Bradwell was moved and seconded as follows:

That the final paragraph of the motion be amended to replace the existing text, so that the whole of the motion reads as follows:

"This Council thanks all those involved in this work, the staff at the Children's Centres, the health and social workers, the locality teams and everyone else involved for their dedication in ensuring every child gets an equal chance in their early years.

Furthermore, this Council believes in the importance of Children's Centres and the crucial work they do in both protecting children and enhancing their development and recommends that the Executive will continue to work with all providers in a community to ensure that integrated services continue to be delivered so that early help and protection services are delivered within communities."

A vote was taken on the amendment, and upon being put to the vote was carried. This then became the substantive motion.

The motion, being put to the vote was carried, therefore it was

**RESOLVED**

That this Council thank all those involved in this work, the staff at the Children's Centres, the health and social workers, the locality teams and everyone else involved for their dedication in ensuring every child gets an equal chance in their early years.

**12**  
**COUNCIL**  
**18 SEPTEMBER 2015**

Furthermore, this Council believes in the importance of Children's Centres and the crucial work they do in both protecting children and enhancing their development and recommends that the Executive continue to work with all providers in a community to ensure that integrated services continue to be delivered so that early help and protection services are delivered within communities.

The meeting closed at 3.25 pm