

**COUNCIL  
 11 DECEMBER 2020**

**PRESENT: COUNCILLOR M BROOKES (CHAIRMAN)**

Councillors T Bridges (Vice-Chairman), B Adams, W J Aron, T R Ashton, Mrs A M Austin, M D Boles, Mrs W Bowkett, Mrs P A Bradwell OBE, D Brailsford, C J T H Brewis, Mrs J Brockway, R D Butroid, L A Cawrey, K J Clarke, Ms K Cook, Mrs P Cooper, P E Coupland, G E Cullen, C J Davie, R G Davies, B M Dobson, M T Fido, I G Fleetwood, R L Foulkes, M A Griggs, R Grocock, A G Hagues, M J Hill OBE, R J Kendrick, P M Key, Mrs J E Killey, S R Kirk, Mrs C J Lawton, C S Macey, C E H Marfleet, C Matthews, A P Maughan, D McNally, Mrs A M Newton, Mrs M J Overton MBE, C R Oxby, R B Parker, S R Parkin, N H Pepper, Clio Perraton-Williams, E J Poll, Mrs S Rawlins, C E Reid, R P H Reid, R A Renshaw, S P Roe, P A Skinner, E J Sneath, H Spratt, A N Stokes, M J Storer, E W Strengiel, Mrs C A Talbot, Dr M E Thompson, R H Trollope-Bellew, A H Turner MBE JP, M A Whittington, Mrs S Woolley, L Wootten, R Wootten, C N Worth and B Young

Councillors: attended the meeting as observers

Officers in attendance:-

**36 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor A J Spencer.

**37 DECLARATIONS OF COUNCILLORS' INTERESTS**

Councillor K Cook declared an interest in agenda item 12 – Motions on Notice submitted in accordance with the Council's Constitution as she worked for LPFT. She advised that she would leave the meeting for consideration of this item.

Councillor P M Key declared, that in relation to agenda item 12 – Motions on Notice submitted in accordance with the Council's Constitution, it should be noted that he worked in local government.

**38 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 18 SEPTEMBER 2020**

**RESOLVED**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 18 September 2020 be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

39 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman stated that Christmas was a time for reflection, to look back on the year that had passed and to think about what was to come. Nobody could have predicted what 2020 had in store with the coronavirus pandemic and this year, more than ever, time would be taken to reflect and truly appreciate what we had.

He stated that we had seen the devastating loss of lives all around the world. We had also witnessed local communities giving their time and support to help others in need. The NHS staff, care workers and other key workers were continuing to work hard and tirelessly to keep everyone safe and well.

The Chairman continued to feel so proud of local government officers and members for their efforts in ensuring important council services were delivered to the usual high standard.

Hopefully there was now light at the end of the tunnel with the rolling out of a vaccine, but it was important that the guidelines continued to be followed and everyone adhered to the rules of hands, face and space.

The Chairman had been pleased to see Remembrance commemorations being observed, albeit in a very different way to normal proceedings. He had been honoured to lay a wreath on Remembrance Day at his local war memorial in Swineshead on behalf of Lincolnshire County Council.

The Chairman wished the members and their families a very merry Christmas and a happy and healthy new year.

40 STATEMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE LEADER AND MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE

Statements by Members of the Executive had been circulated with the agenda.

In addition to the statement previously circulated, the Executive Councillor for Commercial and Environmental Management reported that a permit system for the Household Waste Recycling Centre had been introduced to allow residents to book a timeslot for a van or trailer. This system would be in operation from 15 December 2020.

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

Questions pursuant to Council Procedure Rule 10.3 were asked and answered as follows:

<u>Question by:</u>	<u>Question to:</u>	<u>Subject</u>
a) R J Kendrick	M J Hill OBE	Update on the Covid-19

		situation in Lincolnshire
b) R A Renshaw	M J Hill OBE	Enforcement of Covid-19 restrictions
c) K Cook	R G Davies	DfT announcement of second round of Active Travel Fund
d) M D Boles	Mrs S Woolley	Out-patient clinics at Gainsborough Hospital
e) E W Strengiel	C N Worth	Usher Gallery
f) K J Clarke	R G Davies	Traffic issues in the south of Lincoln
g) N H Pepper	C N Worth	Update on Chief Fire Officer post
h) G E Cullen	M J Hill OBE	Education and skills provision in Mablethorpe
i) A M Austin	C J Davie	Development of Boston as a freeport
j) Mrs M J Overton MBE	C J Davie	Sustainable developments
k) L A Cawrey	R G Davies	Proposed work for Hykeham Relief Road
l) Mrs J E Killey	M J Hill OBE	Management of the return of Lincoln University students
m) R D Butroid	C J Davie	Reinstatement of footbridge at Kettlethorpe
n) R B Parker	M J Hill OBE	Support for the hospitality sector
o) C Matthews	C J Davie	"Levelling up" agenda and potential benefits for the coast
p) Mrs S Rawlins	Mrs S Woolley	Upgrade to the parish councils' websites

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42 GREATER LINCOLNSHIRE JOINT STRATEGIC OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

It was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED

That the County Council supports the creation of a joint committee under section 102 (1(b)) of the Local Government Act 1972, to exercise the executive functions and responsibilities referred to in the report and operating as the Greater Lincolnshire Joint Strategic Oversight Committee.

43 MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES SCHEME 2021/22

(NOTE: Councillor B Adams and Councillor Mrs W Bowkett left the meeting at 12.16 pm and did not return)

It was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED

1. That the IRP recommendations be noted;
2. That the Scheme of Members' Allowances for 2021/22 be the same as the Scheme of Members' Allowances for 2020/21.

44 POLITICAL PROPORTIONALITY AND ALLOCATION OF SEATS TO COMMITTEES AND SUB-COMMITTEES

It was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED

1. That the Council note the change in membership of the political groups on the County Council and agreed the allocation of seats illustrated in the proportionality spread sheet attached as Appendix A to the report;
2. That the Council confirms the Independent Group as the Opposition Group on the Council.

45 AUDIT COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2020

It was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED

That the Audit Committee's Annual Report for 2020 be noted.

46     EXECUTIVE DECISION - RULE 17 (SPECIAL URGENCY)

It was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED

That the decision made under Rule 17 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules in the Council's Constitution by the Leader of the Council be noted.

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

(NOTE: Councillor K Cook left the meeting at this point, having previously declared an interest in this item, and did not return)

(1) Motion by Councillor R P Parker

The coronavirus crisis has brought home to all of us the exceptional commitment of Lincolnshire County Council staff and care workers who, alongside NHS workers and other public sector workers, have been on the front line in the battle against Covid-19 and can rightly be called the true heroes of this pandemic.

Despite such sterling work by public sector workers across the country, on 25 November the Chancellor of the Exchequer announced a pay freeze for 2021/22 for most public sector workers with the exception of NHS workers and those who earn below the median wage of £24,000 per annum. In local government this is expected to be put into effect by reducing council funding. This announcement comes just three years after the ending of a public sector freeze that had been in place since 2012. Indeed public sector pay is still lower in real terms than in 2010.

The announcement of a pay freeze for most Local Government staff could be seen to demonstrate just how little their hard work, loyalty and willingness to go the extra mile over the last eight months is valued by their employers. That said, it needs noting that the Council Leader and Chief Executive have regularly gone on record in praise of the extra efforts of our work force during the Covid-19 pandemic. But more could be done to support our staff by councillors pressing the case for a re-think by the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

I therefore move that:

This council calls on the Leader of the County Council to write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer arguing that a pay freeze for most public sector workers is not the right approach when staff are still working in a pandemic to deliver vital services to so many people, and calling on him to re-consider his decision to impose a pay freeze on most Public Sector workers.

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

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The meeting closed at 1.23 pm