

COUNCIL
23 FEBRUARY 2024

PRESENT: COUNCILLOR R P H REID (CHAIRMAN)

Councillors E W Strenziel (Vice-Chairman), M G Allan, P Ashleigh-Morris, T R Ashton, A J Baxter, M D Boles, Mrs W Bowkett, Mrs P A Bradwell OBE, A W Briggs, Mrs J Brockway, M Brookes, S Bunney, R D Butroid, T A Carter, L A Cawrey, K J Clarke, M R Clarke, Mrs N F Clarke, R J Cleaver, K H Cooke, P E Coupland, A Dani, C J Davie, R G Davies, P M Dilks, T J G Dyer, I G Fleetwood, R A Gibson, W H Gray, M A Griggs, A G Hagues, A M Hall, M Hasan, M J Hill OBE, R J Kendrick, A M Key, J L King, K E Lee, C S Macey, C E H Marfleet, P M Martin, C Matthews, A P Maughan, D McNally, N M Murray, Mrs M J Overton MBE, N H Pepper, C L Perraton-Williams, Mrs S Rawlins, S P Roe, N Sear, P A Skinner, T J N Smith, E J Sneath, H Spratt, A N Stokes, J Tyrrell, Mrs C L E Vernon, M A Whittington, Mrs S Woolley, L Wootten and T V Young

94 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were recorded from Councillors Mrs A M Austin, I D Carrington, Mrs J E Killey, S R Parkin. G T Taylor and R A Wright.

95 DECLARATIONS OF COUNCILLORS' INTERESTS

None were declared.

96 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 1 DECEMBER 2023

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 1 December 2023 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

97 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman referred Members to the announcements circulated in the Order of Proceedings.

The Chairman had been delighted to join the Lord-Lieutenant and the Mayor of Lincoln for the official Coronation tree planting ceremony at The Lawn, a tree which has been gifted by His Majesty. The Chairman wished His Majesty well following his recent diagnosis.

With sadness, the Chairman reported the death of Councillor Robert Parker, who had represented the Lincoln West Electoral Division, later the Carholme Division, from his election to the council in 1989 until his recent resignation owing to ill health.

Councillor Parker served as Leader of the Council between 1993 and 1997 and as Leader of the Labour Group for many years prior and following this.

The Chairman also reported the death of Councillor Brian Knight, who was first elected to the Council in May 1997 and represented the Gainsborough Rural South electoral division, until May 2005.

Members observed a minute's silence and spoke to pay tribute to both gentlemen.

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

The Executive Councillor for Economic Development, Environment and Planning provided an update following significant rainfall associated with storms Babet and Henk and further rainfall events, there had been significant flooding issues around a wide area of Lincolnshire which had resulted in a strain on resources in an unprecedented amount of work. As the lead local flood authority for the County, Lincolnshire County Council had a duty to investigate flooding in certain circumstances, such as when there is flooding internally to a resident or business, when large sways of agricultural land are affected and flooding to carriageways.

Since October 2023 there had been 850 reports of internally flooded properties which would result in 230 separate S19 investigations. Once completed, the Council and its partners would identify which risk management authorities had a risk management responsibility in connection with each incident and whether they had already or intended to exercise that function in response. To assist, recommendations would be made for proportionate works to manage future flood risk to be delivered by individual risk management authorities or in partnership if considered appropriate.

The Executive Councillor Economic Development, Environment and Planning acknowledged the significant challenges posed to all those affected by flooding incidents and the need for security for those affected was emphasised. Additional monies had been allocated to support with ongoing investigations and the Executive and the Chairman of the Flood and Water Management Scrutiny Committee continued to support and thoroughly review matters of flood risk and response for the whole of Lincolnshire. Members were urged to raise concerns with the Chairman of the Flood and Water Management Scrutiny Committee.

10:17am – Councillor M A Griggs entered the meeting.

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

It was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED:

That Council Procedure Rule 10.2 be suspended for the duration of item 6 on the agenda.

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

	<u>Question by</u>	<u>Question to</u>	<u>Subject</u>
a)	Councillor P M Martin	Councillor M J Hill OBE	Deepings Leisure Centre
b)	Councillor C Matthews	Councillor C J Davie	Pylons – National Grid: Great Grid Update
c)	Councillor N M Murray	Councillor R G Davies	Highways issues in Carholme, Lincoln
d)	Councillor R J Cleaver	Councillor D McNally	Recycling measures in Stamford
e)	Councillor M R Clarke	Councillor R D Butroid	County Council Staff turnover
f)	Councillor N Sear	Councillor M J Hill OBE	Energy projects & infrastructure
g)	Councillor K E Lee	Councillor P A Bradwell OBE	Electric scooters
h)	Councillor M J Overton MBE	Councillor C J Davie	Internal Drainage Boards
i)	Councillor M D Boles	Councillor P A Bradwell OBE	Funding schemes ran by Gainsborough Adventure Playground Ltd
j)	Councillor A M Key	Councillor C J Davie	Flooding
k)	Councillor A P Maughan	Councillor M J Hill OBE	Safety Measures – a1 Lincolnshire
l)	Councillor K J Clarke	Councillor P A Bradwell OBE	School absence policies
m)	Councillor R A Gibson	Councillor C J Davie	National Grid proposals in South Holland
n)	Councillor I G Fleetwood	Councillor R G Davies	Flooding and road repairs
o)	Councillor P M Dilks	Councillor R G Davies	Speed limit policies (20mph)
p)	Councillor Mark Whittington	Councillor D McNally	Recycling measures in South Kesteven

10:52am – Councillor C E H Marfleet entered the meeting.

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100 COUNCIL BUDGET 2024/25

Councillor S P Roe left the meeting for the duration of this item in relation to a previously declared pecuniary interest.

A report by the Deputy Chief Executive & Executive Director – Resources had been circulated together with a separate document entitled Council Budget 2024/25.

It was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED:

- (1) That there be one debate on the Executive's budget proposals and the amendment by the Shadow Executive 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
- (2) That 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
- (3) That the proposer of the amendment be allowed to speak without limit of time
- (4) That Councillors seconding the motions each be allowed to speak for six minutes.
- (5) That other speakers each be allowed to speak for 3 minutes
- (6) That no further amendments be moved.

The Conservative Group motion was moved and seconded as follows:

That the Council:

1. has due regard to the responses to the engagement and consultation feedback on the Council's budget proposals as contained in the 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 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 2024/25 set out in the appended 'Budget Book' (Appendix C – Equality Impact Analysis relating to the council tax proposal in 2024/25);
4. approves:
 - 4.1 the service revenue budgets for 2024/25 contained in the Budget Book, (Table 2 - Net Service Revenue Budget 2024/25), as amended by recommendation 5 below;
 - 4.2 the capital programme and its funding contained in the 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 £1,578.69 for 2024/25 contained in the Budget Book (Appendix B - County Precept 2024/25);

as together being the Council's Budget.
5. agrees that the following spending priorities be funded via the additional general fund capacity of £7.793m created by the final settlement:

Additional Investment	£	Recurring
Flooding and Drainage Measures		
Highways Drainage & Jetting	1,800,000	Recurring
Flooding Team	215,000	Recurring
Flooding Design Work	878,000	
Highways Maintenance		
Highways at 23/24 levels	2,500,000	
Public Protection		
Anti Social Behaviour Measures	1,000,000	
Fire & Rescue Flood Response		
Additional PPE, pump and vehicle for flood response	400,000	
Environmental		
Green Masterplan Delivery, tourism, public rights of way	1,000,000	
TOTAL (2024/25)	7,793,000	
TOTAL (RECURRING)	2,015,000	

6. approves the Council's Financial Strategy contained in the Budget Book (**Appendix E – The Financial Strategy**);

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7. approves the Council's Capital Strategy contained in the Budget Book (**Appendix N – Capital Strategy 2024/25**);
8. approves the prudential targets for capital finance and notes the prudential indicators contained in the Budget Book (**Appendix M - Prudential Indicators**);
9. 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**).

An amendment by the Shadow Executive was moved and seconded as follows:

That the Council:

1. has due regard to the responses to the engagement and consultation feedback on the Council's budget proposals as contained in the 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 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 2024/25 set out in the appended 'Budget Book' (Appendix C – Equality Impact Analysis relating to the council tax proposal in 2024/25);
4. approves:
 - 4.1 the service revenue budgets for 2024/25 contained in the Budget Book, (Table 2 - Net Service Revenue Budget 2024/25), as amended by recommendation 5 below;
 - 4.2 the capital programme and its funding contained in the 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 £1,578.69 for 2024/25 contained in the Budget Book (Appendix B - County Precept 2024/25);
 as together being the Council's Budget.
5. agrees that the following spending priorities be funded via the additional general fund capacity of £7.793m created by the final settlement:

Additional Investment	£	Recurring
Flooding and Drainage Measures		

Highways Drainage & Jetting	1,800,000	Recurring
Flooding Team	215,000	Recurring
Flooding Design Work	<u>555,000</u>	
Highways Maintenance		
	<u>1,000,000</u>	
Public Protection		
Anti Social Behaviour Measures	1,000,000	
Fire & Rescue Flood Response		
F&R additional PPE, pump and vehicle for flood response	400,000	
Environmental		
Green Masterplan Delivery, tourism, public rights of way	1,000,000	
		-
		-
		-
- <u>Citizens Advice Funding</u>	<u>50,000</u>	-
- <u>Library Funding</u>	<u>50,000</u>	-
- <u>Holiday Activity Fund</u>	<u>156,000</u>	-
- <u>SEND Support Workers</u>	<u>1,000,000</u>	-
- <u>SEND Workforce Development Programme</u>	<u>350,000</u>	-
- <u>Early Years Sector Support</u>	<u>217,000</u>	-
		Recurring
TOTAL (2024/25)	7,793,000	
TOTAL (RECURRING)	<u>2,232,000</u>	

6. approves the Council's Financial Strategy contained in the Budget Book (**Appendix E – The Financial Strategy**);
7. approves the Council's Capital Strategy contained in the Budget Book (**Appendix N – Capital Strategy 2024/25**);
8. approves the prudential targets for capital finance and notes the prudential indicators contained in the Budget Book (**Appendix M - Prudential Indicators**);
9. 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

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through borrowing as set out in the appended Budget Book (**Section 9** - Minimum Revenue Provision).

12:29 – Councillor Mrs M J Overton MBE left the meeting.

In accordance with the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014, a recorded vote was held for the amendment by the Shadow Executive and upon being put to the vote, the amendment was lost.

Details of the recorded vote taken:

Those voting for the Shadow Executive Amendment:

A J Baxter, K J Clarke, R Cleaver, P M Dilks, R A Gibson, M Hasan, K E Lee, N M Murray

Those voting **FOR – 8**

Those voting against the Shadow Executive Amendment:

M G Allan, P Ashleigh-Morris, T R Ashton, M D Boles, Mrs W Bowkett, Mrs P A Bradwell OBE, Mrs J Brockway, A W Briggs, M Brookes, S Bunney, R D Butroid, TA Carter, L A Cawrey, M Clarke, N F Clarke, K H Cooke, P E Coupland, A Dani, C J Davie, R G Davies, T J G Dyer, I G Fleetwood, W H Gray, M A Griggs, A G Hagues, A M Hall, M J Hill OBE, R J Kendrick, A M Key, J L King, C S Macey, C E H Marfleet, P M Martin, C Matthews, A P Maughan, D McNally, N H Pepper, C L Perraton-Williams, Mrs S Rawlins, R P H Reid, N Sear, P A Skinner, T J N Smith, E J Sneath, H Spratt, A N Stokes, E W Strengiel, J Tyrrell, Mrs C L E Vernon, M A Whittington, Mrs S Woolley, L Wootten, T V Young.

Those voting **Against – 53**

Those **Abstaining – 0**

In accordance with the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014, a recorded vote was held for the Conservative Group Motion. Upon being put to the vote, the motion was carried.

Those voting for the Conservative group Motion

Those voting **FOR –** M G Allan, P Ashleigh-Morris, T R Ashton, A J Baxter, M D Boles, Mrs W Bowkett, Mrs P A Bradwell OBE, Mrs J Brockway, A W Briggs, M Brookes, S Bunney, R D Butroid, T A Carter, L A Cawrey, K J Clarke, M Clarke, N F Clarke, R J Cleaver, K H Cooke, P E Coupland, A Dani, C J Davie, R G Davies, P M Dilks, T J G Dyer, I G Fleetwood, R A Gibson, W H Gray, M A Griggs, A G Hagues, A M Hall, M Hasan, M J Hill OBE, R J Kendrick, A M Key, J L King, K E Lee, C S Macey, C E H Marfleet, P M Martin, C Matthews, A P Maughan, D McNally, N M Murray, N H Pepper, C L Perraton-Williams, Mrs S Rawlins, R P H Reid, N Sear, P A

Skinner, T J N Smith, E J Sneath, H Spratt, A N Stokes, E W Strengiel, J Tyrrell, Mrs C L E Vernon, M A Whittington, Mrs S Woolley, L Wootten, T V Young.

Those voting **For - 61**

Those voting **Against – 0**

Those **Abstaining – 0**

RESOLVED:

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Flooding Team	215,000	Recurring
Flooding Design Work	878,000	

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Highways Maintenance		
Highways at 23/24 levels	2,500,000	
Public Protection		
Anti Social Behaviour Measures	1,000,000	
Fire & Rescue Flood Response		
Additional PPE, pump and vehicle for flood response	400,000	
Environmental		
Green Masterplan Delivery, tourism, public rights of way	1,000,000	
TOTAL (2024/25)	7,793,000	
TOTAL (RECURRING)	2,015,000	

6. approves the Council's Financial Strategy contained in the Budget Book (**Appendix E** – The Financial Strategy);
7. approves the Council's Capital Strategy contained in the Budget Book (**Appendix N** – Capital Strategy 2024/25);
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9. 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).

101 PAY POLICY STATEMENT 2024/25

A report by the Deputy Chief Executive & Executive Director – Resources had been circulated.

It was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED:

That the Pay Policy Statement 2024/25 attached at appendix A to the report and as recommended by the Pay Policy Sub-Committee be approved.

102 AUDIT COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2023

A report by the Deputy Chief Executive & Executive Director – Resources had been circulated.

It was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED:

That the Audit Committee Annual Report 2023 be received.

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

No motions on notice had been submitted.

The meeting closed at 1.02 pm