



Rutland County Council

Catmose Oakham Rutland LE15 6HP.

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Minutes of the **TWO HUNDRED AND SEVENTY SIXTH MEETING of the COUNCIL** held in the Council Chamber, Catmose, Oakham, Rutland, LE15 6HP on Monday, 8th October, 2018 at 7.00 pm

PRESENT:

Mr I Arnold
Mr K Bool
Mr O Bird
Mr G Conde
Mr J Dale
Mrs J Fox
Mr J Lammie
Mr M Oxley
Miss G Waller
Mr D Wilby

Mr G Brown
Mr E Baines
Ms R Burkitt
Mr W Cross
Mr R Foster
Mr O Hemsley
Mr A Mann
Mrs L Stephenson
Mr A Walters

OFFICERS

PRESENT:

Mrs H Briggs
Mr Horsfield

Mr K Silcock

Chief Executive
Deputy Director for Resources –
Corporate Governance
(Monitoring Officer)
Governance Officer

ABSENT:

Mr R Alderman

Mr R Gale

314 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Mr Begy, Mr Callaghan, Mr Lowe, and Mr Parsons.

315 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman announced that the list of engagements had been circulated.

It was noted there would be a briefing for Members on St George's Barracks after the Council meeting.

The Council was due to host a Prospective Councillor Event on Saturday 10 November. The event would comprise of presentations from the Chief Executive and Elected Members, a question and answer session, followed by an opportunity for prospective members to meet members of the Strategic Management Team and senior managers to find more information about the work of the Council, Key Projects, and Strategic Direction.

The Council meeting was being recorded to give prospective councillors opportunity to view the process of a Full Council meeting.

316 ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE LEADER, MEMBERS OF THE CABINET OR THE HEAD OF PAID SERVICE

Mrs Stephenson announced that the Local Transport Plan and gone for consultation and asked that members pass on details to their Ward. The Local Transport Plan would cover up to 2036.

317 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

318 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the 275th meeting of the Rutland County Council District Council held on 10 September 2018 were confirmed by the council and signed by the Chairman.

319 PETITIONS, DEPUTATIONS AND QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

There were no petitions, deputations or questions from members of the public.

320 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

There were no questions from members of the council.

321 REFERRAL OF COMMITTEE DECISIONS TO THE COUNCIL

No committee decisions had been referred.

322 CALL-IN OF DECISIONS FROM CABINET MEETINGS DURING THE PERIOD FROM 10 SEPTEMBER 2018 TO 5 OCTOBER 2018 (INCLUSIVE)

No call-ins were received.

323 REPORT FROM THE CABINET

Report No. 181/2018 from the Cabinet was received, the purpose of which was to report to Council the Key Decisions made by Cabinet since the publication of the agenda for the previous ordinary meeting of the Council on 10 September 2018.

RESOLVED

Council **NOTED** the Key Decisions made since the publication of the agenda for the previous ordinary meeting of the Council on 10 September 2018, as detailed in Appendix A to report 181/2018.

324 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL

Report No. 186/2018 was received from the Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee.

The purpose of the report was to set out the work of the Committee in an annual report in line with best practice.

Miss Waller introduced the report as Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee and thanked members for their diligence at meetings which reassured that the Committee was doing as best a job as elected members could do. Credit was given to Mr Sav Della Rocca – Strategic Director for Resources, and his team.

Mr Lammie thanked Miss Waller for her work as Chair of the Committee.

RESOLVED

To **NOTE** the Annual Report of the Audit and Risk Committee.

325 REPORTS FROM SCRUTINY COMMISSION / SCRUTINY PANELS

There were no reports from Scrutiny Commission / Scrutiny Panels.

326 JOINT ARRANGEMENTS AND EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS

i. Miss Waller

1. East Midlands Councils

Miss Waller noted she had attended the Employer's Board, Brexit Summit, and Housing Conference, all of which were set up by East Midlands Councils. Notes for all meetings would be circulated to all members.

2. Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Joint Health Scrutiny Panel

Miss Waller attended the conclusion of the Panel on that was adjourned on 4 September 2018. Details of which had been circulated to members.

ii. Mr Conde – Centre for Public Scrutiny (CFPS) – Annual National Health Scrutiny

Mr Conde would filter information gained from the Scrutiny through Scrutiny commission to the relevant Scrutiny Panels on the hints that were picked up on the best practices from various authorities.

iii. Mr Oxley – Uppingham in Bloom

Uppingham in Bloom had won gold again in the East Midlands in Bloom competition and had also won a number of medals in categories at a community level. Thanks was given to Miranda Jones, the Chair of Uppingham in Bloom and all the team's hard work. Uppingham in Bloom had also entered into a national competition which would be judged next year.

Mr Conde noted that Oakham in Bloom had won silver in the same competition.

iv. Mr Baines – Rutland Water Partnership

There was a meeting on 5 October 2018. Issues raised by Ward Members were put to Anglian Water, who were happy to co-operate. Minutes from the meeting would be distributed to Members.

v. Mr Foster

1. Trustees of Carlton Hayes Charity

It was noted that the Out of Hours Club in Rutland were awarded a substantial grant from the Carlton Hayes Charity. The Out of Hours Club were a drop-in discussion group for those with mental stresses between the ages of 18 and early 30s. Mr Foster reminded Members that most grants go to Leicester and Leicestershire and should they know of any groups that may fulfil the criteria to talk to him.

2. Armed Forces Officer

The new Armed Forces Officer, Michelle Woolman-Lane had attended the Reserve Cadets Association, and had been working hard to get the best deal for those in services and ex-services in Rutland.

The Armed Forces Officer had been spending time with the Veterans Breakfast Club, and had also been providing support on a one-to-one basis.

The Armed Forces Discount Scheme introduced by the Chief Executive was looking to be extended to veterans as well as those currently serving. This had encouraged more businesses to sign up.

3. World War 1 Centenary

The Lord Lieutenant would be leading the events for the centenary. Information would be available on the RCC website as well as the Lord Lieutenant and the WW1 event website.

vi. Mr Hemsley

1. East Midlands Councils – Executive Board Meeting

Discussions were had on the public investment in the East Midlands in relation as to what went into the West Midlands, and the fact that the East Midlands was not doing as well. Mr Hemsley would have a meeting with the Chief Executive of East Midlands Council regarding how to act as a driving force to get more of a joint direction and involve Rutland strongly in it.

Also discussed was the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP). Greater Cambridgeshire and Peterborough felt that Rutland did not fit in with their geography, Rutland had been removed from the partnership. Mr Hemsley confirmed that Rutland had been approached by various other partnerships. There was a good synergy with working with Lincolnshire LEP. Discussions had also been made with the Department for Business, Energy, and Industrial Strategy regarding the issue who were supportive of the exploration of moving to Lincolnshire LEP.

In response to a question from Mr Oxley, Mr Hemsley confirmed that all outstanding balances to pay to Greater Cambridgeshire and Peterborough had been dropped.

2. LGA Post-Brexit England Commission Roadshow

Mr Hemsley attended the workshop in Staffordshire with the Chief Executive on 4 October 2018. It was noted that whilst it was interesting to hear others speak regarding the issue, the Leader and Chief Executive did not come away with inspiration or the belief that the Council could rely on the British resilience to get

things sorted. Lots of businesses were already well on the way to sort out how delays could be managed and what needed to be done to protect their businesses. More information would need to be taken on Brexit to work towards a solution.

327 NOTICES OF MOTION

The Notice of Motion submitted by Mr M Oxley in accordance with Procedure Rule 34 was received.

Mr Oxley introduced the motion and moved the recommendation below. Mr Bool seconded the recommendation.

That Rutland County Council supports the motion that Councillor Oliver Bird be offered the vacant seat on the Oakham Town Task and Finish Group following the resignation of Mr Richard Clifton from Rutland County Council.

During debate points raised included:

- i. Mr Bird stated it was not his intention to de-rail the process and criticise the final report, which had been claimed by others. Mr Bird noted he had previously written praise in regards to the work that the Oakham Town Task and Finish Group had undertaken.
- ii. It was questioned whether the Council had the authority to change the membership. Mr Horsfield, Monitoring Officer, confirmed that as the Council was the parent body, it could make the decision if members saw fit.
- iii. Mrs Stephenson noted that with experience in task and finish groups since 2011, it was felt that coming into a task and finish group late into the process may not work despite potential valuable contributions Mr Bird may be able to bring to the group.
- iv. There was concern that the motion involved party politics which the task and finish group was setup to be politically neutral. Mr Oxley denied that was the case, it was simply to help another member of the Independent Group.
- v. A statement from Mr Callaghan, Chair of the Growth, Infrastructure and Resources Scrutiny Panel, was read by Mr Oxley which stated:

“There are number of compelling reasons why Councillor Bird should be on the task and finish group. Contrary to statements made, the process which is formulating the plans for Oakham Town Centre are far from over. In reality it falls in to two main parts: Gathering the evidence in which recommendations can be made, and then consulting, designing and implementing the desired plans. This is equally as important as the first part and requires experience and commitment, both of which are possessed and have been exhibited by Councillor Bird. There is one meeting left of the task and finish group, and at this meeting, one of the key tasks will be to agree, form and populate the groups that will carry the project through to its conclusion. Councillor Bird is ideal for this stage. There has been criticism that he has not been involved in the process, this is unfair and not quite true. He has kept himself updated throughout, reading all documentation emanating from the meetings. Councillor Bird was one of the founding members that initiated the cross party group that was the precursor to the group we see today. He was only not involved due to his conflict of interests and desire to allow Councillor Fox to be on it.”

RESOLVED

Council **AGREED** to support the motion that Councillor Bird be offered the vacant seat on the Oakham Town Task and Finish Group following the resignation of Mr Richard Clifton from Rutland County Council.

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In accordance with the provisions of Procedure Rule 11, paragraph 2 – Recording of Votes – Mr Conde requested that his abstention be recorded.

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328 PLANNING REFERRAL PROCESS

Report No. 189/2018 was received from the Strategic Director for Resources.

Mr Hemsley introduced the report and moved the recommendations in the report. Mr Oxley seconded the recommendations.

Mr Lammie had concern on the removal of the referral process for Committee or Sub-committee exercising a regulatory function as he felt it took out of the democratic avenue. Mr Lammie asked that each recommendation be taken separately.

The Chairman confirmed that each recommendation would be voted on separately.

RESOLVED

- i. To **APPROVE** the increase of number of members on the Planning and Licensing Committee to 12.
- ii. To **APPROVE** the amends to the Constitution to require that the quorum for the meeting be 50% of the membership.
- iii. To **APPROVE** the amends to the Constitution to remove the option to substitute Members should a member of the committee not be able to attend.
- iv. To **APPROVE** the appointment of membership in line with the overall balance of the Council treating any non-aligned members as a group for the purpose of the calculation.
- v. To **APPROVE** Procedure Rule 110 be amended to remove the referral process for Committee or Sub-committee exercising a regulatory function.

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In accordance with the provisions of Procedure Rule 11, paragraph 2 – Recording of Votes – Mr Lammie requested that his vote against resolution v) be recorded.

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- vi. To **AUTHORISE** the Monitoring Officer to incorporate the revisions and changes above into the Council's Constitution.

329 ANY URGENT BUSINESS

There was no other urgent business.

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The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.02 pm.

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