



Rutland County Council

Catmose Oakham Rutland LE15 6HP.

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Minutes of the **TWO HUNDRED AND TWENTY SIXTH MEETING** of the **COUNCIL**
held via Zoom on Monday, 8th March, 2021 at 7.00 pm

PRESENT:

Mr. P Ainsley	Mr. E Baines (Chairman)
Mr. N Begy	Mr. D Blanksby
Mr. K Bool	Mr. A Brown
Mr. G Brown	Ms. J Burrows
Mr. R Coleman	Mr. W Cross
Mr. J Dale	Mrs. J Fox
Mrs. S Harvey	Mr. O Hemsley (Leader)
Mr. A Lowe	Mr. M Oxley
Mrs. K Payne	Mrs. R Powell
Mr. I Razzell	Mrs. L Stephenson
Miss. G Waller	Mr. A Walters
Mrs. S Webb	Mr. D Wilby

OFFICERS PRESENT:

Mr. M Andrews	Interim Chief Executive
Mr. P Horsfield	Monitoring Officer
Mrs. E Powley	Governance Manager
Ms. E Dearsley	Governance Officer

1 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Miss M Jones, Ms. A MacCartney and Mr. N Woodley.

2 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman confirmed that his engagements had been circulated in advance of the meeting.

Councillor Baines welcomed everyone to the meeting on International Woman's Day and proposed that he, on behalf of the Council, send the Queen thanks for all her work and best wishes to the Duke of Edinburgh for a speedy recovery.

RESOLVED:

To mark International Woman's Day, Councillor Baines, as Chairman of Rutland County Council, would send the Queen the Council's thanks for her service and hard work. Best wishes would also be sent to the Duke of Edinburgh for a speedy recovery.

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

Councillor Stephenson updated attendees on the Members Climate Action Group. Meetings were being held regularly and a programme of work had been identified including Phase 1, the setting up a network of community driven action groups and phase 2 which would be the refreshing and reviewing of the Climate Action Strategy to help move the Council towards being carbon zero. A 'Climate Conversation' would be held on the 12th May 2021.

Councillor Walters briefed attendees on the production of a health plan for Rutland. He has met with Parish Councils to discuss their concerns and ideas for health provision in Rutland. Members were requested to encourage their Parish Councils to invite Councillor Walters to attend a meeting.

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In relation to Item 10, Councillor Harvey, Councillor Stephenson, Councillor Hemsley and Councillor Razzell advised that their children attended Catmose College.

5 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Chairman proposed, and Councillors Fox and Hemsley seconded that the minutes of the two hundred and twenty fifth meeting of the Rutland County Council meeting held on the 11th January 2021, and the budget Council meeting held on the 22nd February 2021, be confirmed.

RESOLVED

The minutes of the Council meeting held on the 11th January 2021 and the budget Council meeting held on the 22nd February 2021, were confirmed as a true record.

6 PETITIONS, DEPUTATIONS AND QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

None had been received.

7 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

None had been received.

8 REFERRAL OF COMMITTEE DECISIONS TO THE COUNCIL

There were no referrals of committee decisions to Council.

9 CALL-IN OF DECISIONS FROM CABINET MEETINGS DURING THE PERIOD FROM 11TH JANUARY 2021 - 8TH MARCH 2021

There was no call-in of decisions.

10 REPORT FROM THE CABINET

Councillor Wilby, as Portfolio Holder for Education and Children's Services, thanked all the school staff, including support staff, for their hard work during the pandemic to keep pace with the government guidance, and their efforts to look after the county's children. He also thanked staff at Rutland County Council for a cohesive and supportive team effort throughout the pandemic.

Councillor Wilby presented a report to Council regarding the Schools' Capital Programme Project. The Cabinet report of 16th February 2021 (report number 35/2021) and associated papers were attached to the agenda papers.

During the discussion, the following points were noted:

- All the three secondary schools in Rutland were all excellent schools.
- Uppingham College was happy with its current size
- Casterton College would benefit from a major injection of capital. However, 70% of its pupils lived outside Rutland.
- Lincolnshire County Council would be investing in their secondary school located in Stamford.
- Cabinet had recommended that Catmose Campus be expanded.
- Changes included removing the Brightways service from the building so allowing the service to expand and adding an extension to the school so increasing the capacity of the school to an eight-form entry starting September 2022.
- £5.5 million pounds allocated in total to the programme.
- A Schools' Capital Programme Board and a Catmose Campus Project Board have been created to oversee the project.
- Project Manager will be Mr. Robert Shore as he retires from RALSS in the summer of 2021.
- Councillor Wilby proposed the programme to Cabinet, Councillor Ainsley seconded.
- Councillor Waller thanked all the staff working in schools for the past year and for what future work might be required.
- Councillor Waller expressed concern about the project board process particularly the Catmose Campus Project Board. There was concern about the previous history of projects at Catmose going over budget and the fact that no Ward Councillor was a member of that project group. It was noted that the Catmose Campus Project Group was a project group established by the Catmose Trust and not by Rutland County Council, so no Ward Councillor was required to attend as per the project guidance. Councillor Wilby confirmed that he would be attending the Schools' Capital Programme Board run by the council and would ensure that Cabinet and Council were regularly updated.
- Councillor Webb expressed concern regarding parking as the project did not include any increase in parking facilities. Councillor Wilby confirmed that the parking system around Catmose should allow for sufficient parking.
- Councillor Cross stated that he felt the cost involved for such a modest extension was excessive. He stated that he was worried there was no set plan for future builds.

- Councillor A Brown asked for further information regarding the £100,000 involved in the moving of Brightways. Councillor Wilby confirmed that Adult Social Services had changed and would continue to change significantly in the future. The move of Brightways from the Catmose Campus to the Oakham Enterprise Park would enable the service to expand and meet the changing demands of the service. Councillor Wilby stated that the Project Manager, Robert Shore, was keeping a detailed record of all costs and expenditure involved in the project.
- A recorded vote was held and the vote in favour was unanimous.

RESOLVED:

That Council:

1. Approves the initiation of the Schools' Capital Programme Project and the related documentation comprising Project Initiation Document (PID), Programme and Project Board Terms of Reference as attached at Appendices C, D and E of the report up to a maximum value of £5.5m
2. Notes the contents of the of the Risk & Issues Log and associated Programme Timetable as attached at Appendix B of the report
3. Notes the budget available to support the projects, paragraph 7.1 in the report
4. Authorises the Interim Director for Children's Services to commence the Schools' Capital Programme and associated structures to enable the local authority to meet its statutory obligation to provide sufficient secondary schools places within Rutland, subject to reporting to Cabinet on the costing prior to placement of the order to commence construction.
5. Delegates authority to the Interim Director for Children's Services and Portfolio Holder for Lifelong Learning, Early Years, SEND, Inclusion, Safeguarding Children & Young People to enter into the funding agreement.

11 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL

There were no reports from Committees of the Council to consider.

12 REPORTS FROM SCRUTINY COMMISSION / SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

There were no reports from the Scrutiny Commission or the Scrutiny Committees to consider.

13 JOINT ARRANGEMENTS AND EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS

Councillor Harvey informed attendees that she and Councillor Waller attended the Joint Health Overview Scrutiny Committee in Leicester on the 5th March. The main agenda item was the issue regarding the audit process. Councillors Harvey and Waller would finalise their notes and then distribute to the Council.

14 AMENDMENT TO THE VIRTUAL MEETING PROCEDURE RULES

Councillor Hemsley presented report number 41/2021 to Council regarding the amendment to the virtual meeting procedures.

During the discussion, the following points were noted:

- Councillor Waller stated that the Council's constitution, whereby a recorded vote could only be demanded if five Members made the request before a vote was taken under the proposition, would remain the same and would not be affected.
- The amendment would only relate to the virtual meeting procedure rules.
- Councillor Hemsley proposed that Council agree the amendment to the Procedure Rules for Virtual Meetings, and this was seconded by Councillor Waller.
- A vote was held and the vote in favour was unanimous.

RESOLVED

That Council:

1. Approved the amendment to the Procedure Rules for Virtual Meetings to remove the requirement for Recorded Votes.

15 CHANGES TO COMPOSITION OF CABINET AND COMMITTEES

Councillor Hemsley presented report number 40/2021 to Council regarding the changes to Cabinet and Committee Places.

During the discussion, the following points were noted:

- Changes were being requested following the resignation from Cabinet of the Deputy Leader of the Council, Councillor G Brown.
- Councillor Payne joined Cabinet as Portfolio Holder for Finance on the 24th February 2021.
- This move resulted in spare seats on the Growth Infrastructure and Resources Scrutiny Committee and the Audit and Risk Committee. Councillor Payne had also been Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee.
- It was stated that members of the Adults & Health Scrutiny Committee included a 'Cllr ross' and this needed to be corrected to read 'Cllr Cross'.
- Councillor Hemsley confirmed that Councillor Payne would remain on the Planning Committee until the 10th March 2021.
- Councillor Hemsley proposed that Councillor Cross join the Planning & Licensing Committee and that Councillor Powell became Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee. This was seconded by Councillor Webb.
- There were no other nominations for the Chair of the Audit & Risk Committee.
- A vote was held and the vote in favour was unanimous.

RESOLVED

That Council:

1. Note the changes to the Cabinet

2. Note the subsequent amendments to Committee Places
3. Appoint Councillor Powell to Chair the Audit and Risk Committee.

16 PAY POLICY STATEMENT

Councillor Hemsley presented report number 24/2021 to Council regarding the Council's pay policy for 2021-22.

During the discussion, the following points were noted:

- Council was required to review and publish its Pay Policy Statement on an annual basis.
- It had been discussed that the Council increased all pay points by 2.75% and, should the increase be agreed, backdate payments to April 2021.
- Mr. Horsfield reminded attendees that discussion and approval of the pay policy had been requested and not discussion regarding individual roles and positions.
- Councillor Hemsley proposed the updated pay policy statement. This was seconded by Councillor Waller.
- A vote was held and the vote in favour was unanimous.

RESOLVED

That Council:

1. Approve the updated Pay Policy for 2021-22
2. Note the latest update regarding the Local Government National Pay Award for 2021.

17 NOTICES OF MOTION

There were none.

18 ANY URGENT BUSINESS

The Chairman had not been notified of any urgent business.

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The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.53 pm.

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