

Rutland County Council

Catmose Oakham Rutland LE15 6HP.

Telephone 01572 722577 Email democraticservices@rutland.gov.uk

Minutes of the 250th **MEETING of the COUNCIL** held in the Council Chamber, Catmose, Oakham, Rutland, LE15 6HP on Monday, 10th July, 2023 at 7.00 pm

PRESENT:

Councillor A Brown (Chairman)	Councillor S Harvey (Vice-Chairman)
Councillor T Carr	Councillor P Browne
Councillor M Chatfield	Councillor G Clifton
Councillor D Ellison	Councillor M Farina
Councillor O Hemsley	Councillor A Johnson
Councillor S Lambert	Councillor A West
Councillor S McRobb	Councillor K Payne
Councillor R Payne	Councillor R Powell
Councillor R Ross	Councillor T Smith
Councillor L Stephenson	Councillor G Waller
Councillor D Wilby	Councillor C Wise
Councillor H Zollinger-Ball	

OFFICERS PRESENT:

Mark Andrews	Chief Executive
Kirsty Nutton	Strategic Director for Resources
Penny Sharp	Strategic Director for Places
Angela Wakefield	Strategic Director for Law and Governance
Tom Delaney	Democratic Services Manager

ABSENT:

Councillor N Begy	Councillor K Corby
Councillor H Edwards	Councillor K Heckels

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors N Begy, K Corby, H Edwards and K Heckels.

2 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman confirmed that since Annual Council he or the Vice-Chairman had attended the following engagements:

- Oakham School Speech Day
- Oakham Pride Event at Cutts Close, Oakham
- Armed Forces Flag Raising in grounds of Oakham Castle
- Visit of His Royal Highness The Duke of Gloucester in Ryhall
- HM Lord-Lieutenant's Church Service & Party in the Park

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

Councillor G Waller, Leader of the Council, addressed Council and confirmed that a written copy of details of her recent engagements as Leader would be appended to the minutes.

The Leader also provided details of two matters covered at the Local Government Association conference the previous week, these being the delays to the Levelling Up Bill and subsequent delay to the redrafting of the National Planning Policy Framework, which would have implications for the Council regarding the development of a Local Plan. Details were also outlined regarding the establishment of the new Office for Local Government (Oflog) and its intended work.

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

5 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meetings held on 27 March and 22 May 2023.

A motion to approve the minutes was moved by the Chairman and seconded, and it was confirmed a separate vote would be undertaken on each set of minutes.

With 10 votes in favour and 13 abstentions, a motion to approve the minutes of the March meeting was carried, and with 13 votes in favour a motion to approve the minutes of the May meeting was unanimously carried.

RESOLVED

- a) That the minutes of the meetings held on 27 March and 22 May 2023 be **APPROVED**.

6 PETITIONS, DEPUTATIONS AND QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

No petitions, deputations or questions had been received.

7 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

One question had been received from Councillor S Harvey addressed to Councillor D Ellison as Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board. Councillor Harvey asked her question as set out in the agenda supplement. A copy of Councillor Ellison's response is appended to the minutes.

In exercising her right to a supplementary question, Councillor Harvey asked if the relevant delivery plan will address the needs of residents receiving care from outside of Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland, and that the Health and Wellbeing Board would receive these matters with sufficient time to comment. In response, Councillor Ellison confirmed consideration and recognition would be given to these matters.

8 REFERRAL OF COMMITTEE DECISIONS TO THE COUNCIL

No referrals had been received.

9 CALL-IN OF DECISIONS FROM CABINET MEETINGS DURING THE PERIOD FROM 27 MARCH TO 10 JULY 2023 (INCLUSIVE)

No call-ins had been received.

10 REPORT FROM THE CABINET

The Chairman confirmed that although there was an exempt appendix to the report from Cabinet his view was that Council would be able to discuss the report in a public session as Cabinet had when it considered the matter, however it was confirmed that should any Member wish to discuss the exempt appendix then a motion to exclude the press and public should be moved and voted upon.

Report No. 84/2023 was received from Councillor C Wise, Portfolio Holder for Highways, Transport and the Environment. The report sought Council approval for a decision following the outcome of the recently undertaken tender process for Rutland's Grounds Maintenance Contract

A motion to approve the recommendations of Report No. 84/2023 was moved by Councillor C Wise and seconded. Upon being put to the vote, with 22 votes in favour and 1 abstention, the motion was carried.

RESOLVED

That Council:

- a) **APPROVED** the award of the Grounds Maintenance Contract.
- b) **AUTHORISED** the Strategic Director for Places, in consultation with the Cabinet Member with Portfolio for Highways, Transport and the Environment, to award the contract to the highest scoring bidder resulting from this procurement in line with the Award Criteria.

11 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL

Two reports had been received from the Constitution Commission.

A) OFFICER-MEMBER PROTOCOL

Councillor G Waller, Chair of the Constitution Commission, confirmed the Officer-Member Protocol had been deferred to a later meeting to allow further consideration to take place.

B) THE COUNCIL PRAYER

Report No. 86/2023 was received from Councillor G Waller, Chair of the Constitution Commission, the report sought approval for the adoption of a moment of reflection in place of the current Council Prayer.

A motion was moved by Councillor G Waller to approve the recommendations of Report No. 86/2023. This was seconded and upon being put to the vote, with 21 votes in favour, 1 against and 1 abstention, the motion was carried.

RESOLVED

That Council:

- a) **RESOLVED** that the Council Prayer be replaced at Council meetings with a moment of reflection as follows:

“Let us stand for a moment of quiet reflection or prayer as you wish.

As we are about to take Council together, on matters concerning this County, we should seek to faithfully discharge our duties of office, both in our debate and in our decisions, and promote the health, safety and wellbeing of those we serve.

Thank you, please be seated”

- b) **APPROVED** the inclusion of the exact wording of the moment of the reflection within the Council’s Constitution.

12 REPORTS FROM SCRUTINY

Report No. 80/2023 was received from Councillor R Ross, Chair of the Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Committee, the report presented the Committee’s Annual Report for the work undertaken at its meetings and by informal groups in the 2022-23 municipal year.

A motion to approve the recommendations of Report No. 80/2023 was moved by Councillor R Ross and seconded. Upon being put to the vote, with 23 votes in favour, the motion was unanimously carried.

RESOLVED

That Council:

- a) **NOTED** the Scrutiny Annual Report 2022-23 at Appendix A and **APPROVED** its publication.

13 JOINT ARRANGEMENTS AND EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS

Two reports had been received from Members, included in the agenda supplement:

- Councillor A Brown had provided a report regarding a meeting regarding the development of a Local Nature Recovery Strategy.
- Councillor S Harvey had provided a report regarding the Combined Fire Authority, and also confirmed she was seeking to arrange a visit to Oakham Fire Station open to all Members to learn about the work of the Fire and Rescue Service.

RESOLVED

- a) That the reports received from Members be **NOTED**.

14 NOTICES OF MOTION

No notices of motion had been received.

15 CORPORATE PROGRESS REPORT 2022-2023

Report No. 87/2023 was received from Councillor A Johnson, Portfolio Holder for Resources, the report provided Council Annual Progress Report (APR) for the period April 2022 to March 2023.

A motion to approve the recommendations of Report No. 87/2023 was moved by Councillor A Johnson and seconded. Upon being put to the vote, with 23 votes in favour, the motion was unanimously carried.

RESOLVED

That Council:

- a) **NOTED** the contents of the annual report and the performance of the Council over the last year.

16 ANY URGENT BUSINESS

There was no urgent business for consideration.

17 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

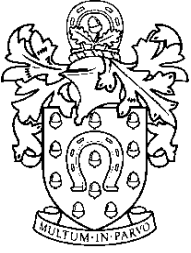
Monday, 4 September 2023.

---oOo---

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 7.59 pm.

---oOo---

This page is intentionally left blank



MEETING: COUNCIL

MEETING DATE: 10 JULY 2023

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

Leader's Statement to Council July 2023

Rural Services Network

Like other councillors from Rutland I attended the induction zoom meeting offered by the Rural Services Network. In addition, I also attended a zoom call with Michael Gove organised by Chris Loder MP with support from the Rural Services Network. The topic was the funding gap between urban and rural authorities and whilst the funding formula and cap on funding will not change before the General Election Government is looking for mechanisms to channel more funding to rural areas. I was able to ask Mr Gove to consider rural economies; specifically the low GDP in many rural areas linked, in part, by inadequate transport.

Transport for the East Midlands (TfEM): Board Meeting

Transport for the East Midlands has been established by East Midlands Councils to provide collective leadership on strategic transport issues for the East Midlands. It liaises with Midlands Connect <https://www.midlandsconnect.uk/> the Department of Transport and the National Infrastructure Commission <https://nic.org.uk/> Compared with other regions the East Midlands has been badly invested in with regards to transport infrastructure; hence the need for this body.

The main points discussed this time were the plans for the further electrification of rail in the region, local developments such as a possible passenger rail link between Melton and Nottingham and some research undertaken by TfEM on attitudes to the A1. The most important is that in the section which runs through Rutland people avoid using it because of repeated delays and this, in turn, puts more pressure on local roads leading to local delays and increased repair costs; a point I made!

East Midlands Council's Executive Board

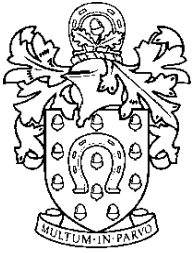
The Board were told a little more about Oflog (Office for Local Government) whose purpose is to benchmark and drive performance improvement. It is badged as a data gathering organisation and initially will focus on adult social care, adult skills, waste management and reserves. Other areas will follow. It is not clear how this body will interface with CQC, OFSTED or the LGA's Sector-led improvement programme. It is not even clear whether Oflog will be gathering existing data or putting a new burden on local authorities to generate data.

There was considerable discussion over the Government's programme for Asylum Seeker and Refugee resettlement. The Government is wanting to cease the use of hotels which means other options are being considered, for example RAF Scampton which we have all heard about and in addition the Government is putting out feelers for new detention centres.

Moving significant numbers of asylum seekers and refugees to an area has a significant impact on the local authority and our partners for social services support, education and health in particular though the Government is not planning these developments with the local authorities. In addition, though, as asylum seekers await decisions on whether they can remain some young adults claim to be minors in order to avoid being deported and whilst there are ways of assessing ages these are costly and time consuming and are being managed locally rather than within a national programme. Another impact for local authorities is that for the large centres such as RAF Scampton, the Government will be buying up the nation's supply of modular buildings to house the refugees so if local authorities need them, for example as temporary classrooms or surgery provision (as we have at Empingham Medical Practice), they will struggle to find a supplier, especially at a price we can afford.

We discussed the work of the Employers' Board and were all encouraged to read <https://www.emcouncils.gov.uk/News/njc-guidance-on-remote-and-hybrid-working> Hybrid working has many advantages for both employers and employees but also has disadvantages and so needs to be well managed. We also had our attention drawn to EMC's Councillor Development programme <https://www.local.gov.uk/our-support/councillor-and-officer-development/councillor-development/councillor-development-1> which includes a number of e-learning modules which many prefer.

Gale Waller
July 2023



MEETING: COUNCIL

MEETING DATE: 10 JULY 2023

ITEM: 7 - QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

No.	Questioner	Addressed to:	Question
1	Councillor S Harvey	Councillor D Ellison, Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board	<p>Can the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board please update Council on how the integrated Care Board's 5 year forward plan delivers on the ambitions described in the Rutland Joint Health And Wellbeing Strategy, including our local targets, approaches and priorities. Could she also update Council as to the process being followed to ensure Rutland's view is shared formally with the ICB.</p> <hr/> <p>Response</p> <p>Thank you, Councillor Harvey, for providing this opportunity to share with council members and the general public the background to the LLR ICB 5-year plan and to summarise the steps undertaken to ensure that our Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy and Action areas are being addressed.</p> <p>Reflecting upon the question to Council, I consulted with officers and carefully re-read the official NHS Health and Care Bill and subsequent Guidance on developing the joint forward plan (5YJFP) and would like to start by sharing the key points.</p> <p>Firstly, there is clear guidance from The Health and Care Bill which states that "Integrated Care Boards (ICBs) are NHS bodies. Representatives from Local authorities are included as members of its Board to strengthen collaborative working. It goes on to explain that "ICBs and integrated care partnerships (ICPs) will also strengthen partnerships between the NHS and local authorities, and with local partners, including groups representing the public and patient perspective, the voluntary sector, and wider public service provision. It is expected these bodies will support a change of culture towards greater collaboration and joint working".</p> <p>The Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Integrated Care Board Joint future 5-year plan was produced by the local Integrated Care Board according to NHS guidelines, which state that the ICB is encouraged to use the JFP to develop a shared delivery plan for the integrated care strategy and the joint local health and well-being strategy developed by local authorities, and this may be</p>

			<p>through HWBs. Thereby reinforcing the separation of roles and responsibilities for the NHS and local authorities.</p> <p>Although the ICB and partner trusts have legal responsibility and accountability for developing and delivery there is an expectation of local authority health overview and scrutiny committee inputs. To this end the draft 5-year joint forward plan was shared with the HWB boards for all three authorities (LLR) and included consultation of whether it took proper account of the joint local health and wellbeing strategy. Following local consultation and feedback to LLRICB we received a detailed response to submissions from the Rutland Health and Social Care Policy Consortium and a swift amendment to the Rutland County Council comment to include provision and recognition of the armed forces covenant.</p> <p>We are truly fortunate to have a strong, positive relationship with LLRICB (thanks in part to my predecessor on the Rutland Health and well-being board, Cllr Harvey) to be included in consultation with the local ICB. However, health provision and improvements are only one part of the health and well-being strategy and therefore there is a much wider remit to be taken into consideration when planning a local strategy. As a council, our priority is to continue working in partnership to obtain the services our community needs.</p> <p>2. Communication and engagement for the community of Rutland:</p> <p>To date we have undertaken the following to ensure consultation with our key stakeholders as part of our Health & Wellbeing Communication and Engagement Plan for Rutland</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The initial draft LLR ICB 5YJFP was circulated to all members of the RCC Health and Well-being Board. The board membership includes representatives from RCC, Public Health, LLR ICB, Citizens Advice, Melton & Rutland Police, Local NHS Trusts, Healthwatch and the Armed Forces representative. • Feedback and comments were collated, approved by Kim Sorsky, Strategic Director for Adult Services and Health and myself and forwarded to LLR ICB.
--	--	--	--

- The updated draft 5YJFP was received, circulated and discussed at the health and well-being board and approved.
- NHS England have reviewed the draft and confirmed that it is a comprehensive plan.
- The final plan is due to be presented to the LLR ICB Board meeting on 13th July.

The plan will be reviewed and refreshed annually as to quote from the guidance once again “local systems are encouraged to develop a shared delivery plan for the Integrated Care Systems (ICS) developed by the Integrated Care Partnership and the joint local Health and wellbeing boards, [however] the NHS does recognise that 2022/23 is a transition year for Integrated Care Systems and that it will require time and extensive engagement to fully develop integrated care strategies. The annual refresh of JFPs allows plans to be iterated and provides the opportunity for further engagement and collaboration, as well as the opportunity to reflect the most appropriate delivery mechanisms and partners’ actions”.

Further action:

As Chair of the RCC Health & Well-being Board I have also met with a range of key individuals including the Chair and Chief Executive of LLR ICB. I had a really illuminating conversation, they confirmed that my role at their meetings was to contribute but that I have no voting rights which if you consider that we are discussing the NHS as a separate organisation makes sense. My role is to represent Rutland’s population, to build upon relationships and enhance collaboration with the ICB and subsequently the NHS. They also stated that their aim was to devolve local care and that the funding mechanism (where the funds follow the patient) allowed for referrals outside the LLR area and to develop alliances with other ICBs and providers. I have also met with representatives from the Rutland Health and Social Care Policy Consortium and Healthwatch.

My commitment is to continue to consult with key stakeholders and to ensure that the Rutland Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy is implemented through the Rutland Place based Plan 2022-2027 and, to continue to work closely with the ICB, building on the good working relationships to ensure alignment between our strategies.

