



Rutland County Council

Catmose Oakham Rutland LE15 6HP.

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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.

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The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 7.59 pm.

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