



MEETING OF THE
COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MELTON

PARKSIDE, STATION APPROACH, BURTON STREET, MELTON MOWBRAY

22 APRIL 2015

PRESENT

Councillor J. Wyatt (Mayor)
P. Baguley; G.E. Botterill, P.M. Chandler,
J.M. Douglas, A. Freer-Jones,
M. M. Gordon, M.C.R. Graham MBE, E. Holmes,
E. Hutchison, J. Illingworth, S. Lumley,
J. Moulding, J.T. Orson, P. Posnett,
J.B. Rhodes, M. Sheldon, J. Simpson,
M.N. Twitney, D.R. Wright

Chief Executive, Strategic Director (KA),
Head of Communications (Monitoring Officer),
Head of Central Services, Head of Regulatory Services,
Democracy & Involvement Officer

The Reverend Kevin Ashby offered prayers

CO90. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Barnes, Bush, Cumbers, de Burle, Horton, Manderson, and O'Callaghan.

The Mayor reported that Councillor O'Callaghan was taking part that evening at a hustings being recorded and broadcast by BBC Radio Leicester and had asked the Mayor to convey his best wishes to the Full Council at its last meeting of the term.

Councillor Posnett conveyed Councillor Lumley's apologies for late attendance.

CO91. MINUTES

Councillor Rhodes moved and Councillor Posnett seconded acceptance of the minutes of the last meeting.

Councillor Gordon referred to minute CO86 at the bottom of page 89 and asked that the following sentence be amended to read [amendments in italics]: "She mentioned that soil from other developments was now over six foot high on the site

and was clearly visible *over a six foot fence at the rear of Dovedale Close.*”

Councillor Twitney requested that the following [in bold type] be added:

(1) at CO85 on page 89 for clarification:

Councillor Twitney sought advice from the Deputy Monitoring Officer on whether he should declare an interest **in item 15 the Melton Local Plan Distribution Study.**

(2) at minute CO89 on page:

Councillor Twitney declared a personal and **non** pecuniary interest in the following item as he was a member of a **sports club** at the King Edward VII site.

Councillor Moulding pointed out that the letter A to denote ‘absence’ had erroneously been included against Councillor Hutchison’s name on the recorded vote for the Council Tax at minute CO84 as well as his recorded vote for the motion.

Subject to the above, the minutes of the meeting held on 25 February 2015 were confirmed as a correct record and authorised to be signed by the Mayor:

CO92. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Orson, Posnett, and Rhodes each declared a personal interest in any matters relating to the Leicestershire County Council due to their roles as County Councillors.

CO93. MAYOR’S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Before making the following Award of Merit presentations, the Mayor said it gave him great pleasure to reward those unsung heroes of the Borough at this special award ceremony this evening.

The Mayor's Award of Merit is given to those volunteers who have made outstanding contributions to their community; it acknowledges both adult and Young Citizens in the Borough of Melton who have given their time and energy in helping people throughout and beyond the Borough.

It had been a busy year as Mayor during which he and the Mayoress had met some remarkable individuals and organisations and he could not think of a better way of ending his Mayoral year than by rewarding these remarkable people who have all shown such selfless commitment to our Borough and the communities within it.

He personally commended every winner and hoped that by accepting one of these awards they were going some way to receiving the recognition they deserve.

The Mayor also thanked the nominators and seconder’s for recognising the outstanding contributions made by the Awardees within their own communities and walks of life.

Allison Green

Scout Leader in respect of:

- Runs both a Scout section and an Explorer section as well as contributing to the district as well
- Gives of her time to actively engage with and support young people with their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society
- Is actively involved in fund raising
- Supports young people in achieving new goals, taking part in adventurous activities, and helping them to achieve awards;
- Helps the development of teamwork through the Scout movement not only in Waltham but in Melton as a whole.

Dinah Rudman

Retired in respect of:

- Long standing pivotal member (Secretary) of the Melton Mowbray Civic Society and its associated groups such as the Heritage Group and Melton & Oakham Waterways Society
- Works tirelessly for the improvement of the environment and the celebration of the heritage of Melton Mowbray
- Has made a major contribution to encouraging high standards of architecture, environment, and planning in the Borough of Melton and the preservation, development and improvement of those features. This stimulates public interest and pride in the conservation and care of the beauty, history and character of the Borough
- Pursues these aims through various publications, other forms of publicity, and practical promotion of projects and schemes
- Actively involved in successful grant applications for environmental, historical, and aesthetic improvements to the town.

Leigh Pick

Fundraising volunteer (unpaid) in respect of:

- Carries out many fundraising activities for various organisations which often involves putting herself through some strenuous physical activities
- Always looking to help others within the community by giving of her time selflessly outside her paid employment as a customer services advisor with Melton Borough Council
- Currently fundraising for the Three Peaks Challenge
- Her commitment to helping people less fortunate in spite of her own sight impairment.

Jim Pryce

Retired in respect of

- Greatly contributing and tirelessly looking after, maintaining and managing essential renovations of the Asfordby Parish Hall and many other projects throughout the Parish which have boosted community spirit
- Giving of his time selflessly to anyone less fortunate than himself
- Being the driving force and involving the local schools in organising a large

Christmas tree in the village centre which brought the community together in happiness

- Contributing to the well being of the community as a parish councillor

The Mayor made the presentation of the Melton Borough Award to:

Jill Palmer

Volunteer organiser in respect of:

- Planning and arranging the Band Concerts during the summer months in the New Park section of the Play Close
- Giving of her time freely to undertake all the work involved in booking the bands, preparing the programme and arranging printing and distribution for all the concerts
- Personally attending the Band Concert every Sunday afternoon throughout the summer (16 to 18 concerts during that period) to oversee arrangements, including making any arrangements necessary to relocate to St Mary's church in inclement weather
- Being a major contributor to these events which have become a traditional event in the Melton Mowbray calendar attracting 100 to 150 people each time from Leicestershire and Nottinghamshire

The Mayor made the following Young Citizen Award to:

Sarah Lovegrove in respect of:

Fundraising

- Actively involved in raising money for charity each year, which usually amounts to several thousand pounds. This year the Club has chosen to support the Matt Hampson Foundation
- Working hard to revitalise Melton Young Farmers' Club back into a really good club

On behalf of Mrs Eileen Hyslop, the Mayor presented the Robert Hyslop Citizen of the Year Award to Allison Green.

The Mayor presented the Derek Sanders Cup for the Outstanding Young Citizen to Sarah Lovegrove. Sarah was also given an individual trophy to keep as a memento of the occasion.

[Councillor Lumley entered the meeting during the Awards presentations.]

The Mayor then reported on Mayoral activities since the last meeting:

(1) The period since the last meeting at the end of February had been a busy one during which he and the Mayoress had attended a number of particularly memorable events. The Civic Dinner at Scaford Hall was a very successful occasion and he was grateful to the Melton Mowbray Choral Society who rounded off the evening with a wonderful performance enjoyed by all.

(2) On 12 March, he hosted an informal visit to Parkside by the current Lieutenant Commander of HMS Quorn, Captain Stuart Yates, and two of his officers as part of their affiliate visits whilst the ship was in dock before its Spring deployment. The ship would be returning to UK shores to undergo maintenance works during the summer and Lt Commander Yates had promised to find a mutually convenient date during that time when Members could go down to Portsmouth to visit. It was still intended that the Right of Passage Parade would take place in the autumn. As soon as a date had been agreed, Members would be notified.

(3) He and the Mayoress had attended several Civic Dinner events hosted by Leicestershire Civic Heads and those of neighbouring authorities, including South Kesteven District Council. It was with great sadness that he learnt of the sudden death of the Chairman of SKDC, Councillor Reg Howard, last week due following a car accident on his way home after a meeting at the Council. The Mayor paid tribute to Councillor Howard and said he was a very memorable individual who during his local government service had been Mayor of Market Deeping 13 times.

(4) He and the Mayoress were privileged to attend a unique event - the Service of Reinterment for King Richard III at Leicester Cathedral on the 26th March which was broadcast live by Channel 4.

(5) As the Mayor is the Returning Officer for the Parliamentary Election, he had received the Writ at these offices on Tuesday 31 March before going to officially open the new Premier Inn on Norman Way.

(6) April sees the town hosting two important sporting events. As Mayor he was invited to open the National Indoor Bowling Championships on Good Friday where he managed to hit the jack with his first ever bowl which prompted a round of applause. This coming Sunday would see the race finish of the Rutland – Melton International CiCLE Classic in the town centre where he had been asked to present the race prizes.

(7) Today he had been taking part as one of the judges at the British Pie Awards held in St. Mary's church which had been an interesting experience.

(8) Finally, he expressed his thanks to Councillor Douglas for representing the Mayor at two recent events, the ABF Soldiers' Curry Lunch hosted by Lady Gretton and the Leicester Children's Holiday Centre Fundraising Dinner.

It was noted that apologies for absence had been given by both the Young Mayor and the Deputy Young Mayor due to their exam commitments.

CO94. LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

(1) The Leader, Councillor Rhodes, began his report by referring to this the last meeting of the Council before the elections on 7 May and stated that next time the Council met it would be a new Council with new and re-elected Members. He mentioned the three Members who were standing down, Councillors Barnes, Horton, and O'Callaghan and paid tribute to their individual contributions:

(a) Councillor Mark Barnes had been a Member for 16 years and was Mayor in 2003/04. Originally he had stood as an independent but later had joined the Conservative Group as many Councillors had eventually done. He had served on a number of committees and was chairman of Planning, then called Development, and more recently as chairman of the Licensing Committee;

(b) Councillor Horton had served for the last 4 years as a Labour Councillor for the Egerton Ward. She had been a staunch supporter of her ward's interest and always challenging in the contributions she made to the debates;

(c) Councillor Matthew O'Callaghan was first elected 20 years ago and had a break of service when the political tide turned against him for 4 years. He had frequently been Leader of the Labour Group and was briefly Leader of the Council, his name being listed on the Council's Honours Board. Matthew had never been a Councillor you could ignore. Often his contributions had been uncomfortable for Conservative Councillors, but they could never be dismissed without a response. The subsequent debates had sometimes been heated, but after the meeting we had always been able to pick up the pieces and resume normal discourse. He was currently engaged on a frolic in Loughborough which many of us think will come to little, but the Leader recognised that others, including Matthew himself, may not take that view. Whatever the outcome, the Leader was sure he would find some way of engaging in public affairs in the future.

Councillor Moulding wished to also place on record his thanks to Councillor O'Callaghan for his long standing commitment to this Council; he had been a staunch ambassador both for the people of Melton and the Labour party. He had seen the Labour party in Melton through many highs and lows from his time as Leader of the Council to more recently and the very sad and untimely passing of Trevor Moncrieff who remained very much missed among us all. Councillor O'Callaghan's advocacy for the people of Melton and its produce has known no bounds and part of his lasting legacy in Melton will be its recognition as the rural capital of food. Councillor Moulding wished Matthew well for his current campaign and looked forward to seeing him elected as Labour's Member of Parliament for Loughborough.

Councillor Gordon also thanked Councillor O'Callaghan and the Melton Labour party from whom she had learnt a lot when she had originally been elected as a Labour Councillor from 1999 to 2003 and 2011 to present date even though now she was a Single Independent Councillor since the month before being Mayor. She attributed where she was now in her political career to what she had learnt from them.

Councillor Holmes also added her thanks to the three Councillors who were not standing again. She had encouraged Councillor Barnes to stand in the first place and he had been an excellent Councillor and she was sorry that he was not standing again for reasons that made it difficult for him to do so. Councillor Barnes had held a number of positions during his time on the Council all of which he had performed very well as had Councillor O'Callaghan.

Councillor O'Callaghan had only been Leader of the Council for two years but he had made a significant difference; although she had not shared his politics Councillor O'Callaghan had done a very good job for the Council and for Melton as well and so credit where credit was due. Although Councillor Holmes had not known Councillor Horton very well, she knew when she was passionate about something she did her best; ill health and prevented Councillor Horton from being the Councillor she probably would have liked to have been.

In accordance with procedure rule 12.1(d), the Chief Executive referred to her paper which had been sent to Members electronically before the meeting with hard copies being circulated at the meeting. The report (a) referred to the resignation of Councillor Slater, the vacancy occurring carrying forward to the Borough elections; and (b) set out the implications arising from Councillor Bush no longer being a member of the Labour Group and becoming a non-aligned Single Councillor together with the resulting change in political balance. Set out in tabular form were the new arrangements and the number of Councillors in each political group, the percentage representation required within the Council and the allocation of seats over the 6 committees required to be politically balanced.

Having regard to the report made by the Chief Executive, the Leader in accordance with Procedure Rule 12.(e) proposed the resultant changes to the political balance and number of seats allocated to each political group, and the political groups' allocation of Councillors to seats in accordance with this paper.

This was seconded by Councillor Posnett.

Councillor Moulding, as Leader of the Labour Group, indicated that he was satisfied with the allocations. Accordingly, a vote was taken and the motion carried.

RESOLVED:

- (1) **To approve the political balance percentages and number of seats allocated to each political group as set out below :-**

Group	No. of Councillors	Percentage		Allocation of Seats over 6 Committees
Conservative	20	71%	(71.43)	40.47 = 41
Labour	3	11%	(10.71)	6.27 = 6
Independent Group	3	11%	(10.71)	6.27 = 6
Single Councillor	1	3%	(3.57)	1.71 = 2
Single Councillor	1	3%	(3.57)	1.71 = 2
Totals	28	99%	99.99	57 seats

- (2) **To approve the political groups' allocation of Councillors to each Committee as set out below :-**

2014/15	APP	CSA	PLNG	GOV	PFA	REEA	TOTAL
Conservative	3 (3.55%)	7 (7.10%)	8 (7.81%)	7 (7.10%)	8 (7.10%)	8 (7.81%)	41
Labour	1 (0.55%)	1 (1.10%)	1 (1.21%)	1 (1.10%)	1 (1.10%)	1 (1.21%)	6
Independent	1 (0.55%)	1 (1.10%)	1 (1.21%)	1 (1.10%)	1 (1.10%)	1 (1.21%)	6
Single Cllr (MG)	0 (0.2%)	1 (0.4%)	0 (0.44%)	1 (0.4%)	0 (0.4%)	0 (0.44%)	2
Single Cllr (GB)	0 (0.2%)	0 (0.4%)	1 (0.44%)	0 (0.4%)	0 (0.4%)	1 (0.44%)	2
Totals	5	10	11	10	10	11	57

(3) To note that the above is in accordance with legislation and the current allocations and requires no further action at this stage.

CO95. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions received.

CO96. PETITIONS

There were no petitions received.

CO97. RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

(1) Governance Committee: 31 March 2015 – Minute G70: Constitution Update 2014/15

The following changes to the Constitution were agreed by the Governance Committee on 31 March 2015. Councillor Graham moved the recommendations en bloc and this was seconded by Councillor Orson. Accordingly, following a vote, it was

RESOLVED:

(a) Additions, shown in red, to the General Delegations in connection with Staffing Matters within Part 3 at page 5 of the Officer Delegations as detailed in paragraph 3.3 of the report.

(b) Changes to the ICT Protocol for Members set out with tracked changes in Appendix A;

(c) Changes to the Contract Procedure Rules as set out in paragraph 3.5 and the tracked changes in Appendix B;

(d) Adding the Corporate Governance : CIPFA/SOLACE Framework previously approved by the Policy, Finance and Administration Committee in January 2008 to the Council’s Constitution as set out at Appendix C;

- (e) Changes to the Officer Delegations relating to Planning Applications as set out with tracked changes at Appendix D;
- (f) Changes to the Members' Allowances Scheme to take account of the Parish Representatives allowance approved by Full Council on 25 February 2015 (Appendix E);
- (g) Changes to the Officer Delegations with regard to staffing matters to enable Management Team to make operational decisions without reference to the Chief Executive as set out with tracked changes in Appendix F;
- (h) Changes to the Financial Procedure Rules to enable Management Team to operate without reference to the Chief Executive as set out with tracked changes in Appendix G;
- (i) Changes to the Financial Procedure Rules to amend the limits to bring them into line with the current arrangements and to reflect the time value of money;
- (j) A new delegation to the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods relating to Car Parking Orders as follows :-

In consultation with the Head of Central Services authority to make new car parking orders or variations to existing car parking orders required as a result of changes to car parks approved by policy committees including undertaking the necessary public consultation and the consideration of objections received as a result. Objections considered as contentious by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods will be reported to the appropriate Committee for consideration. The delegation to include changes to the layout, change of use, tariff or acquisition or disposal of a car park.

- (k) The following Head of Central Services Delegation (item 64) is transferred to the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods :-

To make orders prohibiting the parking of heavy goods vehicles in front gardens

(2) Policy, Finance & Administration Committee: 27 January 2015 – Minute P52/14 : Recording of Council Meetings – Feedback on Trial

The following change to the Constitution was approved by the Policy, Finance & Administration Committee on 27 January 2015 and had been referred to Full Council for adoption. Councillor Rhodes so moved the recommendation which was seconded by Councillor Posnett. Following a vote, it was

RESOLVED: The Head of Communications be given delegated authority to update the Protocol for Audio Recordings of Meetings (Appendix A) and the Hints and Tips document in accordance with local arrangements and best practice as required and this be incorporated into the Constitution as guidance for Members.

(1) Policy, Finance & Administration Committee 15 April 2015: Revenue Budget Carry Forwards

Councillor Rhodes moved and Councillor Posnett seconded that the list of carry forwards in excess of £50,000 as recommended by the Policy, Finance & Administration Committee and tabled at this meeting be approved. After a vote, it was

RESOLVED: to approve the undermentioned Revenue Budget Carry Forwards:

Local Plans - £156,760
Revenue & Benefits. - £60,000
Cattle Market Redevelopment - £203,830

CO98. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS

(a) In accordance with Procedure Rule 10.1, the Chairmen of Committees were to respond to any questions upon items of reports of Committees when those items were received or were under consideration by the Council as follows :-

Governance Committee	11 February 2015
Planning Committee	19 February 2015
Licensing Committee	23 February 2015
Rural, Economic & Environmental Affairs Committee	4 March 2015
Planning Committee	12 March 2015
Community & Social Affairs Committee	18 March 2015
Governance Committee	31 March 2015
Planning Committee	2 April 2015
Policy, Finance & Administration Committee	15 April 2015

(b) In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 10.5(a), the following question was received from Councillor Alison Freer-Jones on 18 March 2015 and read out by the Mayor:

“At the beginning of this four year term of office for the new council, we were in a very positive financial position after a large capital receipt from the sale of some land. As a council we made the correct decision to settle debt, this was to allow a future of financial security. Can we have some clarity of how much of this has been spent, how much is ringfenced for future projects and how much are we taking forward into the next term of our new council.”

The Leader responded:

As the questioner recognises this Council had the benefit of a large capital receipt in 2011 from the sale of part of the site on Nottingham Road.

It has put the money to good use on a series of projects as follows:

Capital Receipts Summary		
	£'000	£'000
Opening Balance 1.4.11	-942	
Sale of Land to Sainsburys	-14,823	
Other capital receipts	-204	
Total available to spend		-15,969
Repayment of Debt and associated premiums and discounts		5,046
Expenditure Agreed or Spent		
Council Offices	763	
Phoenix House	22	
Car Parking	507	
Refurbishment of Premises	250	
Waterfield Leisure Centre	2,588	
IT	799	
Private housing	607	
Broadband	360	
Other	198	
Total Agreed or Spent		6,094
Balance Remaining		-4,829
Amounts Set Aside for Future Expenditure		
Cattle Market	2,070	
Leisure and sports Centre	1,550	
Foyer	400	
Skate Park	149	
Total Set Aside for Future Expenditure		4,169
Amount unallocated as at March 2015		-660

Councillor Freer-Jones thanked Councillor Rhodes for his comprehensive answer and confirmed she had no supplementary question to ask.

(c) Councillor Gordon referred to the REEA Committee minutes from 4 March and minute number R.67: 'Urgent Business – Counsellors for Cattle Market Farmers' and stated that there had been a spate of suicides within the area some years ago and these were farmers suffering financial pressures. There had also been two recorded suicides of farmers in 2014 in Shropshire and Bridgnorth. Councillor Gordon asked that after the first sentence at the top of page 4 of the REEA Committee minutes the following be added: "plus volunteers to support farmers for as long as they need who can come to their home or businesses to help them. This was an extra service these charities provided."

The Chief Executive advised that the policy committee and regulatory committee minutes were not before the Council for approval but as a matter of report. The practice was for officers to take back any comments made at the Council meeting to the committee for consideration at the next formal meeting.

Councillor Orson indicated he accepted that advice and assured Councillor Gordon that her comments would not be forgotten.

(d) Councillor Gordon referred to the CSA Committee minutes from 18 March and minute number C.67: 'The Housing Asset Management Plan (HAMP) – New Build, Beckmill Court and Granby House Regeneration Update'. She asked that the following comments she had made in relation to Beckmill Court be included in the record: The paving stones they wish to use will eventually lift up if they are like the ones in Melton as they are not down long before they start to lift. Also the site of the playground will be very close to Norman Way and there was only a bush between

the area and the road. This would be dangerous for children playing there as they could get onto the road or be at risk from 'stranger danger' as people could get into the playground. The playground was next to the car park in the grounds and Councillor Gordon wanted to be absolutely certain that the children would not be allowed to get out and play around the cars. The Head of Communities & Neighbourhood had given assurances at the meeting that he would look into this but it was not recorded in the minutes.

Councillor Wright stated he had made a note of Councillor Gordon's comments and would refer these back to the next meeting of the committee.

CO99. MOTIONS ON NOTICE

There were no motions on notice received.

CO100. MELTON MOWBRAY TRANSPORT & NEW DEVELOPMENT POSITION STATEMENT

Members had before them a report prepared by the Head of Regulatory Services which sought approval of the Melton Mowbray Transport and New Development Position Statement (February 2015) which has been prepared by Melton Borough Council in partnership with Leicestershire County Council supported by Jacobs UK Ltd.

In commending the report to Members and the recommendation contained therein, Councillor Rhodes

(a) advised that the report before them was the second report in a series of three which had been commissioned by the Council and Leicestershire County Council into the Melton Mowbray traffic and transport issues. The information was required as part of the evidence needed to support the emerging Local Plan and to address the very real and evident congestion problems in the town. The Council had already adopted the first of these reports which now formed a reference document for the determination of planning applications in the town area;

(b) stated that this second report added to the evidence and pointed the way to a third report currently in preparation which would put forward proposals for solving the traffic congestion problems now and in the future;

(c) proposed the officer's recommendation that the information contained within the report was a material consideration in determining planning application for relevant development and was also approved as technical evidence to inform the Melton Local Plan;

(d) set out the two new areas of evidence in the report:

- The extent and implications of local traffic movements within the town both north to south and east to west;
- The effect of developments in north west Leicestershire including the proposed new freight terminal near Junction 24 on the M1;

(e) stated that taking each point in turn it was now clear that very extensive measures were required to resolve both the current and growing problem. Local traffic movements were restricted by the few links east to west especially in the north of the town. North south movements were restricted by the few routes across the river. The impact of external traffic, especially HGV's coming from the north west of Leicestershire cannot be coped with without a new road system to avoid external traffic having to go through the key junctions such as Wilton Road and the others along Norman Way;

(f) expressed the concern that there was a real danger of the town seizing up for long periods of the day;

(g) referred to the conclusion on page 10 of the report that significant investment would be required, which might exceed that which could be funded by potential developer contributions. This meant that external funding would be required;

(h) advised that at this time it was inappropriate to speculate on the details of the measures required and how they would be funded. That would come when the third report was received later this year. In the meantime, it was important to recognise the magnitude of the problem, which was now quantified, and to have the means to relate it to planning applications which were likely to have to be determined by the Council in the next few months.

Councillor Posnett seconded the motion. Following a vote, it was unanimously

RESOLVED: that the Council notes that the information contained in the report was a material consideration in determining planning applications for relevant development, and approves it as technical evidence to inform the Melton Local Plan.

The meeting, which commenced at 6.30 p.m., closed at 7.25 p.m.

Mayor