

Minutes

Rural Capital of Food

Meeting name	Full Council
Date	Wednesday, 25 April 2018
Start time	6.30 pm
Venue	Parkside, Station Approach, Burton Street, Melton Mowbray LE13 1GH

Present:

Chair Councillor T. Bains (Chair)

Councillors	P. Baguley	T. Beaken
	M. Blase	G. Botterill
	R. de Burle	P. Cumbers
	J. Douglas	P. Faulkner
	A. Freer-Jones	M. Glancy
	M. Graham	T. Greenow
	L. Higgins	E. Holmes
	E. Hutchison	J. Illingworth
	J. Orson	A. Pearson
	P. Posnett	B. Rhodes
	M. Sheldon	J. Simpson
	D. Wright	J. Wyatt

Officers Chief Executive
Deputy Chief Executive
Interim Director for Growth & Regeneration
Solicitor to the Council
Democracy & Involvement Officer

The Reverend Kevin Ashby offered prayers.

Minute No.	Minute
CO111	<p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Chandler, Hurrell, and Lumley. The Leader gave apologies for late attendance on behalf of Councillor Pearson.</p>
CO112	<p>MINUTES</p> <p>Subject to the following amendment, the minutes of the meeting held on 22 February 2018 were confirmed and authorised to be signed by the Mayor:</p> <p>Minute C104, para (b), page 7 to be amended to read:</p> <p>Councillor Higgins referred to the minutes of the Community & Social Affairs Committee held on 23 January 2018, minute number C50: Asset of Community Value (ACV) Review – The Red Lion Car Park, Stathern. Councillor Higgins addressed his question to the Chair of that committee, stating that there had been a number of complaints made over the way the Council had dealt with requests from qualifying groups to register an amenity as an Asset of Community Value. He asked what steps had been taken to improve this process.</p>
CO113	<p>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</p> <p>Councillors Posnett, Rhodes, and Orson declared personal interests in any matters relating to the Leicestershire County Council due to their roles as County Councillors.</p> <p>The Leader referred to Councillor Pearson who would be attending the meeting later and stated Councillor Pearson would also have a personal interest having regard to his membership of the County Council.</p>
CO114	<p>MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS</p> <p>The Mayor</p> <p>(a) reported he had attended 24 events since the last meeting of the Council highlighting in particular the Civic Service, the Parkside Commonwealth Day Flag raising event, Melton Scouting St George's Day service, and his visit to the Bottesford Youth Group;</p> <p>(b) referred to an invitation he had received from Dr Aman Puri, the Consul General of India to address a conference last August in Birmingham to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the Independence of India. The Mayor stated he was delighted and honoured to welcome Dr Puri to this meeting of the Council;</p> <p>(c) referred to information received from Councillor Wyatt at the 7 February Council meeting when Members had been told that the Borough's affiliate ship, HMS Quorn had been decommissioned in December of last year. The Civic Officer had</p>

followed this up as the Council had not been officially notified of this event and had discovered that the Mayor of Ipswich, the ship's other affiliate town, had been invited to and had attended a special decommissioning ceremony on 14 December. On behalf of the Council and the Borough, the Mayor had written to the Royal Navy to express frustration and disappointment that the Council had not received a similar invitation. A response had been received from the Royal Navy apologising sincerely for this administrative oversight and re-assuring the Mayor that the Royal Navy held all its affiliates in high regard and appreciated the support the Borough had given the Ship over the years. An invitation had been extended to the Mayor to visit the ship and have lunch in the wardroom of HMS Nelson in Portsmouth. The Mayor expressed his thanks to the Chief Executive and the Civic Officer for pursuing the matter on behalf of the Council;

(d) extended his congratulations to Councillor Greenow who had completed the Brighton Marathon in just under 5 hours;

(e) introduced the presentation of the Mayor's Awards for 2018 and welcomed the Awardees, their nominators, family and friends to the meeting.

The Mayor's Award of Merit was given to those volunteers who have made outstanding contributions to their community; acknowledging both adult and young Citizens who have given their time and energy in helping people and showing such selfless commitment to the Borough and the communities within it.

The Mayor congratulated every winner and hoped that by accepting one of these awards they were going some way to receiving the recognition they deserved. He also hoped that through the publicity given to these Awards it would inspire others to volunteer their help for others. The nominators were also thanked for recognising the outstanding contributions made by the Awardees within their own communities and walks of life.

Awards of Merit:

Melton Community First Responders

Medical Emergency Volunteers

- Unpaid volunteers respond to medical emergencies on behalf of East Midlands Ambulance Service providing help and reassurance to the patient, their family and friends;
- Attends thousands of incidents in a year, providing a very valuable and appreciated service to the community;
- Between a group of 11 responders in the Melton area, they have contributed over 17,000 hours of unpaid service in the previous year.

Christine Radford

Chair, Melton Mowbray Parkinson's Support Group

- Organiser of the local support group for those suffering with Parkinson's disease and their carers
- Arranges the monthly meetings, guest speakers and outings for group members and their carers;
- Provides unstinting support and goes out of her way to reassure members
- The group meetings are a source of advice where members can gain knowledge and benefit from companionship
- Is an inspiration to others as she also suffers from Parkinson's
- Organises fund raising activities which go towards supporting the Group and research into the disease.

David Brown

Chair of Melton & District Indoor Bowls Club

- During 30 years of voluntary service, he has ran various committees, and overseen hundreds of local people joining the club to enjoy the sport and visit the facilities he has helped to create;
- The membership of the Club is currently 670 and the facilities have provided people with an opportunity to participate in the sport, enjoy the benefits of socialising and making friends;
- Has made a significant contribution to the community and raised the profile of the Melton through its association with the facilities.

Melton Borough Award

Graham Swann

Chair of Frisby, Hoby and Rotherby Cricket Club

- Manages the Club, volunteering 40 hours a week to manage and promote community participation in the sport locally, along with the maintenance around the cricket ground;
- Has been involved with the Club for 38 years and has ensured that the Club's facilities are also used for various community activities. His dedication and commitment has significantly contributed to the Club being very much part of the regular social scene in the villages which has grown the community spirit, bringing people together;
- Has created an infrastructure to enable participation of 50 young people each year in the sport, along with 40 adults, creating a legacy that has enabled them to keep fit both physically and mentally;
- Over the years has raised £200,000 to keep the cricket club and facilities running;
- Has used the club and its facilities to welcome new people into the villages and encourage young people to take up the sport.

[As Mr Swann was unable to attend the Presentation evening, his award was

accepted on his behalf by Councillor Hutchison.]

Young Citizen Awards

David Burrows

Venue Volunteer & Coach to Under 12's Rugby Team

- Volunteers every Thursday at Venue at Melton Learning Hub with the younger age group with whom he has a great rapport and as a result of which he has been asked to be a peer mentor for other students;
- Assists the coaches on the Under 12's rugby team at Melton Mowbray Rugby Football Club which involves an hour training session on Thursday as well as every Sunday during the season for training or matches;
- Is about to undertake a course to become a referee for the team
- Is a committed young person with excellent communications skills and sets an example by being hard working, reliable, motivated, kind and caring. Other young people relate to him as his style of coaching is patient, encouraging and fun.

Libby Duncan

Sport coaching volunteer

- Provides sports coaching, some paid but majority unpaid, to children from the ages of 3 years upwards to teenagers as well as those with special needs;
- Is committed to encouraging as many children as possible whatever their age or ability to be involved with sport, especially girls through the #thisgirlcan campaign;
- Is motivated by a desire to give back to her sport (tennis) what she herself has got out of it;
- Her achievements include: planning and delivered lessons in tennis for her PE teacher; undertaken work experience at the National Tennis Centre in Roehampton, London which included working with the National Deaf team, volunteering for the National School Sports Finals at Loughborough University assisting the Wheelchair Tennis team both at this event and the Wheelchair Tennis Masters finals, trains at Grantham tennis club where she is part of junior and adult mixed teams and has coached a master class alongside Boris Becker and Andrew Castle;
- Sets an example to other young people with her positive attitude and her ability to communicate with all ages.

Leah Wainman

Youth Leader for Asfordby Hill Community Group Youth Club

- Has been a member of the Youth Club since its opening 4 and a half years

- ago and recently became a youth leader for the early session;
- Helps and interacts with the 6-11 year old children and has organised an “Asfordby Hill’s Got Talent” show involving the children;
- Organises indoor and outdoor activities, including ‘get to know you’ games and arts activities which help the children socialise, settle in and make friends
- Spends her own time organising and resourcing activity ideas for the children whilst at the youth club;
- Sets an example to others by her hard work and commitment to helping others.

Ellie Hull

Student at Birch Wood Special School

- Has represented Great Britain by competing in the Special Olympics in horse riding;
- Is an inspiration to others with special needs and is a role model to her peers;

Melton Vale Interact Group

Student Volunteers, Melton Vale Post 16 Centre

- Have organised and run fund raising events for a Leicestershire & Rutland based charity, Hope Cancer which has also raised awareness of the charity’s work;
- Volunteered their time to benefit a worthwhile local cause
- Involved the Centre’s 400 students and staff to support their fund raising.

The ‘Robert Hyslop Citizen of the Year Award’

to the most outstanding of the Award of Merit nominations

Presented by the Mayor on behalf of Mrs Eileen Hyslop to the Melton Community First Responders

The Derek Sanders Cup presented by the Mayor to the outstanding Young Citizen nomination - David Burrows

Mayor’s Special Award:

1279 Squadron (Melton Mowbray) Air Training Corps

Awarded in recognition of:

- the distinguished service the 1279 Squadron has given to the community since it was officially formed in 1941
- the benefits it brings to the young people of Melton Mowbray and

surrounding area by offering the full Cadet experience so they can build upon their confidence, skills, and achievements to equip them in later life

- the support it has given to the Mayor of the Borough of Melton through the Mayor's Cadet

CO115

LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Members received the report of the Leader in which he gave updates on the following matters:

(a) Early Help Review: The Council had recently submitted its response to the County Council's Early Help Review consultation. Members and Officers who had contributed to the formulation of the response were thanked. The response set out a bold offer to the County Council which would not only see them achieve their required saving in Melton but also secured the future of a more effective partnership working and created the potential for closer integration of services. The consultation had now concluded and it was hoped that a positive response from the county would be forthcoming;

(b) Changes to bus services in Melton: Disappointing news had been reported last week on proposed reductions to bus services in Melton. Centrebus intended to withdraw some of the number 14 and 15 services as well as the withdrawal of services between Melton and Corby. The Leader stated he was aware of the initial local concern being expressed, particularly by some of the more elderly users of the service. The County Council was already looking at this matter in some detail and this Council would offer its support in working to mitigate any negative impacts. The Leader said he would be writing to the Managing Director of Centrebus to express the Council's concern;

(c) Rail connectivity to Nottingham: The Council had submitted its business case to the LLEP for match funding to support a feasibility study into the viability of improving rail connectivity to Nottingham. The current service was an impediment to growth and the Council wanted to see infrastructure and services improve rather than be reduced. The outcome of the bid would be known in June and any funding would be used to establish whether there was a genuine economic argument for future investment in this area;

(d) Local Plan: Another positive step had been taken towards securing a Local Plan for Melton. The Council had recently been notified of the Inspector's package of modifications she believed necessary to make the Plan sound. Whilst this had been a hotly debated issue, the Council was pleased that the modifications were relatively few in number and did little to alter the core aspects of the Plan. The proposed changes would be consulted upon from early May and the Inspector would then consider any further representations before making her final determination;

(e) **Prioritisation and Governance Review:** The Leader referred to the considerable amount of work done over recent weeks to review the future direction of the Council and to improve, streamline and clarify the way in which it made decisions. As well as holding a corporate visioning and prioritisation exercise, a Governance Development Group had been convened to reflect on the recommendations from the recent LGA Governance Review. The Development Group was now making a number of recommendations which were due to be considered by the ad hoc Governance Committee on 30 April before being formally proposed at an Extraordinary Meeting of the Council on 8 May. The outputs from the prioritisation exercise would also be tabled at that meeting in the form of a new Corporate Delivery Plan which would set out the key projects the Council would focus on over the coming year. The Leader stressed this was an important time for the Council as it looked to modernise and improve what it did and how it did it.

Councillor Malise Graham MBE

The Leader stated that the evening was one of celebration and presentation as, on behalf of the Council, he wished to mark Councillor Graham's 30 years of service on the Borough Council. Councillor Graham had been elected to the Council in May 1987 for the Wymondham ward, taking over from Sir Lyonel Tollemache. He had served as Mayor of the Borough in 1993/94 when he had chosen Rainbows Children's Hospice for his Mayor's Appeal and set up the Friends of Rainbows for the Melton area which he still chaired and the group had raised thousands of pounds to help with the running of the Hospice.

Councillor Graham had gone on to serve as Leader of the Council in 1994/95, 1997/99, and 2001 to December 2011. He was awarded an MBE in the 2009 The Queens New Year's Honours for services to the Borough.

The Leader first presented Mrs Pam Graham with a basket of flowers to recognise the support she had given her husband over the years. Councillor Graham was then presented with a commemorative engraved decanter and other gifts which included a framed letter of congratulations from the PM Mrs Theresa May which Councillor Graham read out to the Council.

In responding, Councillor Graham said the presentation had taken him by surprise – indeed he had not been aware that Mrs Graham was attending – and it was completely unexpected. He thanked everyone for the gifts and referred to both the high points and low points over the last 30 years, none of which he would have missed. Councillor Graham gave a mention to former Councillor and Mayor, the late John Greenslade, saying what a support he had been to him when he first joined the Council.

The Mayor then echoed the comments made by the Leader and added his own personal thanks to Councillor Graham saying that he felt the same way about him that Councillor Graham felt about the late Councillor Greenslade, considering himself blessed to serve on the Council alongside Councillor Graham.

CO116	<p>PUBLIC QUESTION TIME There were no questions to be put.</p>
CO117	<p>PETITIONS There were no petitions to report</p>
CO118	<p>RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES: Governance Committee: 27 March 2018 - Annual Review of the Constitution 2017/18 <u>Governance Committee: 27 March 2018 – Minute G65: Constitution Update 2017/18</u></p> <p>Councillor Cumbers presented the recommendation of the Governance Committee concerning an update to the Constitution and so moved the recommendation regarding the revised Substitution Policy. Councillor Simpson seconded the motion and following a vote, the motion was carried unanimously.</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> that</p> <p>(1) Appendix A1 of the report (revised Substitute Policy) be approved, subject to the following amendment at clause 11 of the Policy:</p> <p>‘If sufficient notice has been given, a Member substituting on the Planning Committee will be expected to attend the Planning Site Visit and/or the Briefing. But the Substitute Member could still take part in the Planning Committee meeting, even if they had not attended the Planning Site Visit and/or the Briefing’; and</p> <p>(2) Appendix A2 of the report (Revised Code of Conduct for Members and officers dealing with Planning matters) be approved.</p>
CO119	<p>RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES: Policy, Finance & Administration Committee: 11 April 2018 - Adoption of a Commercial Strategy <u>Policy, Finance & Administration Committee: 11 April 2018 – Minute P71: Commercial Strategy</u></p> <p>Councillor Orson presented the recommendation from the Policy, Finance & Administration Committee concerning the formal adoption of the Council’s Commercial Strategy.</p> <p>Councillor Orson</p> <p>(a) advised that whilst the Council had managed its finances well, like all local authorities, it was under considerable pressure and therefore to remain viable needed to re-shape its approach to become more commercial. He stressed that this was not about being reckless, but about being more business-like and this may mean taking some calculated risks. The Council needed to recognise that borrowing to invest was going to be a fundamental component of any aspiration to either become more commercial or to positively intervene and regenerate our communities;</p>

(b) commented that local government had demonstrated over the last few years that it could make good commercial decisions and there were many opportunities to learn from others about what works and how additional income could be generated. The adoption of this strategy would create a framework within which officers could begin exploring new approaches more fully. It would create the potential to maximise the value from existing services as well as pursue new ventures which could help to meet both the Council's social and commercial aspirations. The development of a local authority housing company was one such venture which was under consideration. Further new ideas would be the subject of a detailed business case and brought before Members in due course;

(c) referred to other Councils who were also moving forward in this area, specifically the County Council who had recently bought commercial property in Nottingham and Rushcliffe Borough Council who had also acquired commercial property in Coalville.

In commending the proposal to the Council, Councillor Orson moved the recommendation on the Order Paper and this was seconded by Councillor Higgins who spoke briefly on how this fitted with the Council's objectives.

Upon being put to the vote, the motion was carried unanimously.

RESOLVED: That the Commercial Strategy as set out in Appendix A of the report to the Policy, Finance & Administration Committee be adopted.

CO120 **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS**

(a) Members had before them the reports of Committees upon which the Chairs of those Committees could be asked to answer any questions when those items were being received or under consideration by the Council in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 10.1 of the Constitution :-

Melton Economic & Environmental Affairs Committee	13 February 2018
Planning Committee	20 February 2018
Recruitment Committee	21 February 2018
Recruitment Committee	7 March 2018
Melton Economic & Environmental Affairs Committee	7 March 2018
Ad Hoc Community & Social Affairs Committee	8 March 2018
Town Area Committee	12 March 2018
Planning Committee	15 March 2018
Community & Social Affairs Committee	20 March 2018

Recruitment Committee	22 March 2018
Recruitment Committee	27 March 2018
Governance Committee	27 March 2018
Planning Committee	5 April 2018
Policy, Finance & Administration Committee	11 April 2018

(b) Councillor Pearson apologised for his late attendance, explaining he had been at site visits for the final three bidders for the housing repairs contract;

(c) In accordance with Procedure Rule 10.5 (c), the following question from Councillor Blase was accepted as an urgent matter due to the closure of the service coming to light after despatch of the agenda:

In light of the recent announcement of the current bus company withdrawing operating services 14 and 15 in the town, what is MBC's plan to get the service reinstated/maintained, as this affects residents of all ages, of which this is their only means of transport into and out of town for work and leisure etc.? For the elderly it allows for them to get out of their homes and socialise with other people in the town.

The Leader responded stating that he shared Councillor Blase's concern about the impact on Melton. Anything which reduced connectivity for residents, particularly the more elderly or vulnerable members of the community was something the Council should question and work to minimise the impact. The Leader stated he would be writing to the Managing Director of Centrebus to express concern about the proposals and would be working with his County Council colleagues to see if there was a way to mitigate the impact of this proposal.

Contributions were also made by Councillors Pearson and Posnett: Councillor Pearson confirmed that consultations with Centrebus were taking place at County level and it was important that residents' concerns were represented and that they were kept informed. Councillor Posnett clarified that Centrebus had notified the Traffic Commissioner of its intention to stop the Monday to Friday service, except for the last bus of the day. The Saturday service would remain as this was subsidised. The County Council was considering what form of transport it could provide from 1 June onwards and assured the Chief Executive she would keep him up to date with developments.

[Councillor Pearson entered the meeting at 7.21pm during consideration of the

	above item.]
CO121	<p>MOTIONS ON NOTICE</p> <p>There were no Motions on Notice received in accordance with Procedure Rule 11.1</p> <p>[The Deputy Chief Executive had an officer interest in the following item and here left the meeting.]</p>
CO122	<p>APPOINTMENT OF MONITORING OFFICER</p> <p>Councillor Orson formally advised the Council about the appointment of the two new Directors to the Council's senior management structure. As the new Director for Legal and Democratic Services, Ms Wylie would take on the role of the Council's Monitoring Officer.</p> <p>In seconding the motion, Councillor Higgins thanked the members of the Recruitment Committee for their work. Upon being put to the vote, the motion was carried unanimously.</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> In accordance with Section 5 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, the new incoming Director for Legal and Democratic Services, Adele Wylie, commence as the Council's Monitoring Officer and replace the Deputy Chief Executive in this role with effect from 25 June 2018.</p>

The meeting closed at: 7.33 pm

Mayor