

Minutes

Meeting name	Full Council
Date	Wednesday, 10 October 2018
Start time	6.30 pm
Venue	Parkside, Station Approach, Burton Street, Melton Mowbray LE13 1GH

Present:

Chair Councillor P. Chandler (Chair)

Councillors

T. Beaken	M. Blase
G. Botterill	R. de Burle
P. Cumbers	J. Douglas
P. Faulkner	A. Freer-Jones
M. Glancy	M. Graham
T. Greenow (Vice-Chair)	E. Holmes
J. Illingworth	J. Orson
A. Pearson	P. Posnett
B. Rhodes	M. Sheldon
J. Simpson	D. Wright
J. Wyatt	

Officers

Chief Executive
 Deputy Chief Executive
 Director for Corporate Services
 Director for Legal and Democratic Services
 Assistant Director for Strategic Planning and Regulatory Services
 Democracy & Involvement Officer
 Director for Growth and Regeneration
 Local Plans Manager

The Reverend D Mary Barr offered prayers.

Minute No.	Minute
CO26	<p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Baguley, Bains, Higgins, Hurrell, Hutchison, and Lumley.</p>
CO27	<p>MINUTES</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on 18 July 2018 were confirmed and authorised to be signed by the Chair.</p>
CO28	<p>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</p> <p>Councillors Pearson, Posnett MBE, Rhodes and Orson declared personal interests in any matters relating to the Leicestershire County Council due to their roles as County Councillors.</p> <p>Councillor Graham MBE declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in minute CO39 by virtue of being a trustee on the John Sedley Educational Trust which owned land in the Borough and indicated he would leave the meeting before this item was discussed.</p> <p>Councillor Orson declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in minute CO39 arising from his ownership of land within the Borough and indicated he would leave the meeting before this item was discussed.</p> <p>Councillor Holmes declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in minute CO39 arising from her ownership of land within the Borough and indicated she would leave the meeting before this item was discussed.</p>
CO29	<p>MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS</p> <p>The Mayor</p> <p>(a) began her announcements by referring to the plans already in place to commemorate the centenary of the end of the First World War. The Remembrance Day parade and service would be held in the morning on Sunday 11 November at St Mary's Parish Church followed by the laying of wreaths at the War Memorial. In the early evening, after a choral performance in the church, a short service of commemoration would take place in the Play Close during which the names of more than 200 of the fallen would be read out. This would be followed by the lighting of a beacon at 7pm. At 7.05pm the bells of St Mary's church will mark the conclusion of the day's events by "Ringing our for Peace" as church bells did across the land at the end of the Great War. The Mayor urged all Members, especially the town ward Members, to support these events. She acknowledged that the rural ward Members may be attending commemorative services in the villages during the day, but expressed the desire that as many Members as possible attended the evening event to show respect for those who gave their lives, often in appalling circumstances;</p>

(b) highlighted a number of engagements at which she had represented the Borough since the last Council meeting in July which included:

- The RAVC Centenary parade and reception on 26 July had drawn good crowds in support. The Council received very positive feedback on the day's events both verbally and in writing from the Commanding Officer;
- The official opening of the Bottesford Football Club's new clubhouse and facilities which had also been attended by Sir Alan Duncan MP and Councillor Rhodes. The Mayor stated she could not praise this project enough and recalled a site meeting she had attended with Mr Worley 7 years ago to look at the bare field site which was the location for the project. Despite some problems and setbacks, the village now had 14 football pitches and club house facilities. The Mayor praised the efforts of enthusiastic parents and local residents led by two local businessmen, Daniel Gribby and Nick Dobney, whose tenacity had secured funding from the Football Foundation to see this project reach fruition;
- Melton in Bloom's Schools competition presentation. This was a new initiative led by Melton in Bloom with support from Brooksby Agricultural College whereby local schools had grown plants in wheelbarrows. There were various age groups in the competition which the schools had embraced enthusiastically and competition had been more than a little keen. After sharing details of the winning schools, the Mayor expressed how delighted she was to see how much the children had got out of seeing their plants grow from seed. Next year's competition would feature growing vegetables and seeds had already been donated by the B&Q store;
- Macmillan Cancer 'World's Biggest Coffee Morning' event at St Francis Catholic Primary School. The Mayor advised the Council that at this event she had been greeted and looked after by children who were truly a credit not only to the school but to their parents;

(c) thanked the Deputy Mayor for representing her at the Leicestershire, Northamptonshire & Rutland Army Cadet Force Annual Camp Visitors Day held in the Lake District, the Leicestershire & Rutland Heritage Awards, and the Leicester Branch RAFA Battle of Britain Service in Leicester;

(d) introduced the appointment of the new Mayor's Cadet, a role which had been introduced in 2016 by former Mayor, Councillor Wright. After outlining the purpose and function of the role she thanked the outgoing Mayor's Cadet, Joe Roper who had been unable to attend the evening's meeting as he was now at University. The Mayor then invited the Air Training Corps' nominated candidate, Cadet Sergeant Olivia Brown to come forward to be officially appointed as the 2018/19 Mayor's Cadet who would assist the Mayor at key functions such as the Remembrance Day parade during her term of office. Cadet Sergeant Brown was presented with a framed certificate to mark her appointment and would wear the specially commission brassard when supporting the Mayor.

At the conclusion of the Mayor's announcements, Councillor Holmes who had

	<p>accompanied the Mayor to many of the recent engagements, spoke on the success of the previous Sunday's Civic Service at Bottesford Parish Church. Many compliments had been received from the visiting civic dignitaries on how special and enjoyable the service had been and that it had provided a 'showcase' for the beautiful rural location of the north of the Borough. Councillor Holmes expressed disappointment that more Councillors had not attended.</p>
CO30	<p>LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS</p> <p>After congratulating the Mayor on the success of the Civic Service, the Leader presented his report to Council which contained updates on the following matters:</p> <p>(a) Melton Local Plan – since the last update, the Council had received notification that its Local Plan was sound and ready for formal adoption. This would be considered later in the agenda, presented by Councillor Sheldon. However the Leader wished to place on record his congratulations and thanks to all the Officers and Members involved in its development;</p> <p>(b) Melton distributor relief road – the planning application had now been submitted and there would be a number of exhibitions in the Council Offices over the next couple of weeks to show what it would look like;</p> <p>(c) Leicestershire Strategic Growth Plan – Melton has been recognised as a 'key centre for growth and regeneration' in the Plan and the developing Local Industrial Strategy identifies Melton as a place to support growth in advanced manufacturing thorough the development of a new Food Enterprise Centre. Recognition for Melton in these key strategic documents was crucial if the area was to attract more investment. The Council would be considering the Growth Plan for adoption at its scheduled meeting in December;</p> <p>(d) Town and Place Partnership – realising the Borough's potential and maximising its impact was a key focus of the developing Town and Place Partnership. Working alongside a number of key partners, including the Town Estate, Brooksby Melton College, PERA Business Park, and Melton BID, the Council had commissioned a place marketing specialist to undertake a wide ranging engagement exercise in order to build a shared story which would then drive the collective efforts to ensure all partners were focussing the work and resources on achieving the same ambitions. The first workshop was taking place that evening with the second one on 30 October from 8am to 9.30am in the Council Offices. All Members were encouraged to sign up and get involved;</p> <p>(e) Budget development – the Council's budget development work was now underway and would be discussed at the Members Away Day the following day. In line with its aspirations to become a more commercial council, a grant had been secured from the Local Government Association for support from a commercial expert who would be reviewing and assisting some of the Council's trading services to see how the return from them could be increased. The Council was also continuing to build a business case for establishing a development company and had also secured funding to support a feasibility study into development proposals</p>

	<p>for Gretton Court. Later this month, the official opening of Beckmill Court would take place following the Council's £2.5M investment;</p> <p>(f) Service provision developments – this month two significant contracts for Melton had commenced; waste collection and housing repairs. The Council looked forward to the positive impact these contracts should have on both service quality and value for money. The new Neighbourhood Support Officers were now in place and had received positive feedback and coverage in the local press. A recruitment process was underway for the new Environment Officer who, once appointed, would further increase the Council's ability to tackle environmental issues including exploring the benefits of implementing Public Spaces Protection Orders where appropriate. This would create opportunities to identify local issues and establish appropriate sanctions to address them. The Leader added that the issue of nuisance from drones had been raised and this would certainly be something that would be considered as part of the review;</p> <p>(g) Unitary Council for Leicestershire – the County Council had now published its initial prospectus for a unitary council for Leicestershire. More details associated with this were awaited at the County Council's meeting on 16 October. This Council would then consider the best way for Melton Borough to respond and an extraordinary meeting of the Council had been arranged for 13 November. The timing of this meeting would be reviewed once further details on the County's proposals were received. The Leader went on to stress that throughout this process, the District Leaders had been working closely together and remained committed to exploring more fully how their collaboration could improve services and reduce costs for the benefit of residents;</p> <p>(h) Governance Development Review – the Council's own governance review work was continuing with work being done to explore alternative governance options. The Governance Development Group would be sharing its findings from their work at the Member Away Day the following day with a view to considering how to best move forward as a council.</p>
CO31	<p>PUBLIC QUESTION TIME</p> <p>There were no public questions submitted for this meeting.</p>
CO32	<p>PETITIONS</p> <p>There were no petitions to report.</p>
CO33	<p>Governance Committee : 24 July 2018 - Minute G89 - Contract Procedure Rules Review</p> <p>Councillor Cumbers presented the recommendation from the Governance Committee which sought approval to revise the Contract Procedure Rules in line with recommendations contained in a report prepared by the Head of Welland Procurement. Councillor Cumbers so moved the recommendation which was seconded by Councillor Simpson. Upon being put to the vote the motion was carried unanimously.</p>

	<p><u>RESOLVED:</u> To approve the revised Contract Procedure Rules for incorporation into the Council's Constitution.</p>
CO34	<p>People Committee : 12 September 2018 - Minute 12 - Corporate Review of Charges 2019/20</p> <p>In presenting the People Committee's recommendations, Councillor Pearson stressed the importance of the first recommendation in relation to residents' mental and physical well being; and the importance of the second recommendation in terms of how the Council reacted to and dealt with the issue of homelessness. Accordingly he so moved the two recommendations as set out in the order paper and this was seconded by Councillor de Burle. Upon being put to the vote, the motion was carried unanimously.</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> that</p> <p>(1) the scheme of delegation be updated to provide delegated authority to the Deputy Chief Executive to determine charges for activities delivered under Sports Commissioning Plan;</p> <p>(2) the scheme of delegation be updated to provide delegated authority to the Deputy Chief Executive to determine charges for emergency accommodation in line with benefit subsidy rates.</p>
CO35	<p>Governance Committee: 18 September 2018: Minute number G101 Constitution Update 2018/19</p> <p>Councillor Cumbers moved the recommendation from the Governance Committee concerning an amendment to the Constitution in relation to the Members' Allowance Scheme as set out in the Order Paper. This was seconded by Councillor Simpson.</p> <p>A request for clarification on why this amendment was necessary was made by a Member to which Councillor Cumbers replied it had arisen as a result of a former Councillor who had been in receipt of benefits. The Director for Legal & Democratic Services gave clarification on the circumstances in which this amended provision would apply.</p> <p>Following some concern expressed regarding the size of the Council's Constitution following various updates, the Member was reminded that the document was available in electronic format. The Chief Executive advised that the Governance Development Group was looking into Constitutional reform and any streamlining and revision of this document was certainly on the Group's agenda. The Leader suggested that the issue be raised at the next Governance Development Group Committee meeting.</p> <p>A vote was taken on the motion and subsequently carried unanimously.</p>

	<p><u>RESOLVED:</u> That the following amended wording be approved and incorporated into the Council's Constitution:</p> <p><u>Part 6 – Member Allowances Scheme</u></p> <p>1.2 Should a Member not claim the basic allowance, Council related expenses, in addition to those that can be claimed elsewhere, be claimable up to maximum of the basic allowance.</p>
CO36	<p>QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS</p> <p>No questions from Members had been received.</p>
CO37	<p>MOTIONS ON NOTICE</p> <p>No motions were received in accordance with Procedure Rule 11.1.</p>
CO38	<p>ANNUAL MEETING APPOINTMENT - UPDATE</p> <p>The Leader presented the report of the Director for Legal & Democratic Services which asked the Council to consider the recommendation from the Governance Committee to remove the annual appointment of a Chair to the Appeals Committee and the associated implications for the Member Allowances Scheme. The Leader explained that it had been 10 years since the Appeals Committee last sat and the Member appointed as Chair had received a yearly special responsibility allowance. It was therefore recommended that a Chair for the Appeals Committee be appointed on an ad hoc basis as and when the Committee was required to meet. It was noted that the current Chair of the Appeals Committee had been consulted as had the Chair of the Welland Independent Remuneration Panel. The Leader so moved the recommendations as set out in the Order Paper.</p> <p>The motion was seconded by Councillor Glancy. As the Member standing down as Chair of the Appeals Committee, Councillor Graham stated he was also the Chair of the Melton Community Safety Partnership. This was a very time consuming role which did not receive any remittance from this Council. Councillor Graham asked the Leader when a Chair was appointed on an ad hoc basis, who would determine what payment that position attracted. The Leader replied that the matter would be referred to the Regulatory Forum to be considered at their next meeting.</p> <p>The motion was put to the vote and subsequently carried unanimously.</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> that</p> <p>(1) the annual appointment of a Chair to the Appeals Committee be removed with immediate effect and that this appointment be made on an ad hoc basis as and when a meeting is required;</p> <p>(2) the Special Responsibility Allowance allocated to the Chair of the Appeals Committee be deleted from the Member Allowances Scheme with immediate effect</p>

	<p>and the scheme be updated accordingly.</p> <p>[Councillors Graham, Holmes, and Orson here left the meeting.]</p>
CO39	<p>MELTON LOCAL PLAN - ADOPTION</p> <p>Members had before them a detailed report prepared by the Assistant Director of Strategic Planning & Regulatory Services which set out the key conclusions reached and the Main Modifications in the Melton Local Plan Examination Inspector's Report, and outlined how the latter differed from the Plan that Council submitted for Examination. It also recommended to Council that the Inspector's recommended Main Modifications be agreed and that the Local Plan be adopted. The report outlined the associated documents that needed to be agreed alongside adoption of the Local Plan, the implications for decision making arising from the Local Plan adoption and the outstanding processes that needed to be completed for adoption.</p> <p>Councillor Sheldon presented the report acknowledging the earlier remarks of the Mayor that this had been a very long process and the report before Members was a very welcome one. Councillor Sheldon paid tribute to the Assistant Director of Strategic Planning & Regulatory Services who was the only original officer from the start of the Plan process and commended the tireless work of the Assistant Director and his team over the years, as well as all the time and effort of the Members who had been involved and contributed. He accepted that the Plan would not find universal agreement but it had been passed by the Inspector as being fit for purpose. It represented a plan for growth on which the future of the Borough could be built; the Planning Committee now finally had a document to support its decision making. Councillor Sheldon accordingly moved the recommendations contained in the Order Paper.</p> <p>The motion was seconded by Councillor Illingworth and in doing so urged all Members to support it, irrespective of whether the document in its entirety rested comfortably with them or their residents. The Plan represented the mandate to shape the Borough and he stressed how significant the approval of the Plan by the Inspector was; to put this into context only a mere 22 modifications had been recommended by the Inspector whereas some authorities had had several hundred modifications imposed on their Plans. Councillor Illingworth urged Members not to underestimate how big an endorsement this was of the Local Plan by the Inspector. For example, in terms of housing allocations sites, only one site had been added and one removed. Looking back at all the sites and the early contention, this demonstrated that Neighbourhood Plans and our Local Plan were almost entirely without exception in accord.</p> <p>Councillor Illingworth wished to place on record his acknowledgement of the massive effort put in by everyone involved in the process over a number of years; he wished to recognise the wisdom, the knowledge, and the leadership of the Local Plan Working Group, chaired initially by Councillor Wright and then latterly by Councillor Mrs Chandler.</p>

As the motion was opened to debate, several Members gave their views on the Local Plan as now presented for adoption. Whilst certain aspects led to a more nuanced view of the Plan by some, it was generally agreed that it was a sound document which would allow the Council to encourage and manage development. A point was made that when the Plan was due to be revised, it may then see the inclusion of a new village. A Member expressed support for some of the modifications, although a boundary to the south had not been moved, the Inspector had put the background to the mitigation of the development at that location and this was welcomed. The Inspector had concentrated on the historic environment and sought to protect important views worthy of retention and enhancement as supported by Historic England. The specific policies which the Inspector had outlined in the Modifications were quite site specific and the hope was expressed that these would be adhered to as applications came forward.

As Chair of the Local Plan Working Group, Councillor Glancy then addressed the Council, during which she

- (a) welcomed the culmination of a long journey preparing the Plan for growth;
- (b) referred to her attendance at a number of the Examination sessions where she had listened to the various arguments for and against the Plan. On balance she was of the view that the Main Modifications recommended by the Inspector enhanced the Plan and did not affect the fundamental direction and spatial strategy of the Plan;
- (c) welcomed the reference to the high quality and sensitive design to mitigate the setting impact of the development on St Mary and St Lazarus Hospital Scheduled Monument plus contributions to the improvements in the public understanding of its value;
- (d) noted the Inspector's reluctance to specify a minimum buffer zone around the Melton Country Park stating that Policy SS5 recognised the importance of protecting the park. Through the master planning process and design codes, the Council could ensure developers complied to avoid any adverse impact on the County Park;
- (e) welcomed the Inspector's input into the site specific policies with regard to Housing Site Allocations where she considered them to be deficient, together with the Main Modifications recommended to more clearly define the Plan. The enhancements relating to the town centre were also welcomed;
- (f) concluded by thanking Councillor Mrs Chandler for chairing the Local Plan Working Group up until her election as Mayor, and also thanked the hard work of Officers and Members. However, she cautioned that the hard work would really start now to ensure that the Council could achieve its objectives. She urged all Members to support the formal adoption of the Plan.

Drawing the debate to a close, the Mayor emphatically endorsed all the commendations given to the Officers and Members, stating that it had truly been a team effort. The use of Reference Groups had been a key feature in getting to this point. The Mayor then called for a vote on the recommendations en bloc. Following a vote, the motion was carried unanimously.

RESOLVED: that

- (1) the steps and processes that have been undertaken since submission to prepare the Melton Local Plan for adoption, in accordance with all regulatory and other requirements be noted;
- (2) the Council welcomes and agrees the contents of the Local Plan Examination Inspector's Report (Appendix 1) and, specifically, agrees to accept all the recommended Main Modifications appended to the Inspector's Report (Appendix 1a);
- (3) the adoption version of the Melton Local Plan (including its appendices), as set out at Appendix 2 of the report be agreed;
- (4) the Melton Local Plan 2011-2036 be adopted as part of the development plan for the Borough;
- (5) a revised Policies Map (Appendix 3) that reflects the policies and proposals of the adopted Melton Local Plan 2011-2036 and recently made Neighbourhood Plans be adopted;
- (6) the Council's response to the representations made on the suggested Additional Modifications and Policies Map changes, as set out in Appendix 4a and 4b respectively be agreed ;
- (7) the Assistant Director for Strategic Planning and Regulatory Services be granted delegated authority to publish the adoption statement, the sustainability appraisal report and its accompanying SA Post Adoption statement and fulfil any other duties required under Regulation 26 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012;
- (8) the Assistant Director for Strategic Planning and Regulatory Services be granted delegated authority to correct any minor or typographical errors that are identified in the adoption version of the Melton Local Plan or its accompanying Policies Map, which do not significantly change the overall content or purpose of the documents, after this Council meeting.

The meeting closed at: 7.26 pm

