

Minutes

Meeting name	Meeting of the Council
Date	Wednesday, 27 February 2019
Start time	6.30 pm
Venue	Parkside, Station Approach, Burton Street, Melton Mowbray LE13 1GH

Present:

Chair Councillor P. Chandler (Chair)

Councillors

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

Officers

- Chief Executive
- Deputy Chief Executive
- Director for Legal and Democratic Services
- Director for Corporate Services
- Director for Growth and Regeneration
- Democracy & Involvement Officer

The Reverend Kevin Ashby offered prayers.

Minute No.	Minute
CO75	<p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Glancy, Greenow, Hurrell, Lumley, Pearson, Posnett MBE and Sheldon.</p>
CO76	<p>MINUTES</p> <p>Acceptance of the minutes as a true record was proposed by the Leader and seconded by the Deputy Leader. Following a vote the minutes of the meeting held on 13 February 2019 were confirmed and authorised to be signed by the Mayor.</p>
CO77	<p>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</p> <p>Councillors Orson and Rhodes each declared a personal interest in any matter relating to the Leicestershire County Council due to their roles as County Councillors.</p> <p>Councillor Orson declared a further personal interest in Minute CO85, Council Tax 2019/20 specifically in relation to the meeting of the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Police & Crime Panel meeting on 1 February 2019 at which is was agreed to support the PCC's proposal to set the Police precept. Councillor Orson's interest arose by virtue of chairing this meeting.</p>
CO78	<p>MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS</p> <p>The Mayor</p> <p>(a) reported that since the last meeting she had attended the annual Melton Lions Seniors' Concert at Melton Theatre. She commended the work put into the event by the Melton Lions which provided great entertainment for the Borough's senior residents;</p> <p>(b) reported that her Charity Quiz on 22 February raised £540 for her chosen charities. She expressed her thanks to Mr Richard Angrave who had organised the event and acted as Quiz Master;</p> <p>(c) reminded Members that nominations for her Mayor's Awards could still be made before the closing date of 18 March;</p> <p>(d) advised that responses for the Civic Dinner on 8 March had now closed, with 103 guests attending.</p>
CO79	<p>LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS</p> <p>The Leader stated that he no further update since his report made to the 13 February 2019 meeting.</p>
CO80	<p>PUBLIC QUESTION TIME</p> <p>There were no public questions submitted for this meeting.</p>

CO81	<p>PETITIONS</p> <p>There were no petitions submitted to report.</p>
CO82	<p>RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES <u>Corporate Committee: 30 January 2019 – Minute 37: Corporate Enforcement Policy</u></p> <p>The Leader introduced and moved the recommendation as contained in the Order Paper to approve and adopt the Corporate Enforcement Policy. In support of the motion, he advised that the Council had made an investment in taking action against inappropriate behaviour whether through environment enforcement, tenancy management, or priority neighbours. The policy has been supported by the new Legal Team and provided the framework for the Council to take appropriate action.</p> <p>In seconding the motion, the Deputy Leader welcomed the adoption of this policy which he said would help the Council address issues which were often the subject of concerns raised by residents on social media and in communications sent to ward members.</p> <p>The motion was put to the vote and carried unanimously.</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> To approve and adopt the Corporate Enforcement Policy.</p>
CO83	<p>QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS</p> <p>There were no questions from members received.</p>
CO84	<p>MOTIONS ON NOTICE</p> <p>There were no motions received.</p>
CO85	<p>COUNCIL TAX 2019/20</p> <p>The Leader presented the report prepared by the Director for Corporate Services, as circulated with the agenda, concerning the calculation and setting of the Council Tax for 2019/20, as required under the Local Government Finance Act 1992.</p> <p>In proposing the recommendation set out in the Order Paper, the Leader</p> <p>(a) drew members’ attention to para 3.3 of the report concerning the Council’s own council tax requirements, which for a Band D property, equated to an increase of 11p per week in order to meet the budget requirement of £3,783,232;</p> <p>(b) highlighted the average increase of 3.65% for a Band D property for the Parish Council precepts. He expressed surprise that the figure was relatively small since the Council made the decision in 2017/18 that Parish Councils would be required to meet the cost of their by elections. This decision had not been well received by a number of parish councils. He also pointed out that Bottesford Parish Council had reduced its precept;</p>

(c) referred to the other major precepting authorities whose figures represented an average increase for the whole area of 4.7%.

The Deputy Leader seconded the motion and referred to his own parish council of Twyford and Thorpe whose precept had increased by 6.6%. This was in the main required for the conversion to energy saving street lights. The parish council was working in partnership with the County Council on this project. He also spoke on the continuing value for money offered by the Council in terms of the services it offered to its residents.

A member drew attention to an error in the paper on page 31 para 5.3 which stated the Leicestershire County Council increase included a figure of 3% social care levy. The correct figure for the levy was 1%. Another member commented on the small increase in the parish councils' levy and presumed this was indicative of the fact that they were carrying forward a healthy reserve. The Mayor commented on the adverse reaction she had experienced in her ward in relation to the increased Police precept. Views had been expressed to her that there was no visible police presence in that part of the Borough. The Leader responded to the Mayor's point by explaining that in setting the precept the Leicestershire Police had followed Government guidance. He assured members that a lot of police work was going on in the Borough tackling on line crime for example; the policing was there but was not always visible.

In accordance with Procedure Rule 15.5(b), a recorded vote was then taken:

Councillor	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Baguley	√			
Bains	√			
Beaken	√			
Botterill	√			
Chandler	√			
Cumbers	√			
De Burle	√			
Douglas	√			
Faulkner	√			
Freer-Jones	√			
Glancy				√
Graham	√			
Greenow				√
Higgins	√			
Holmes	√			

Hurrell				√
Hutchison	√			
Illingworth	√			
Lumley				√
Orson	√			
Pearson				√
Posnett				√
Rhodes	√			
Sheldon				√
Simpson	√			
Wright	√			
Wyatt	√			
Totals	20	0	0	7

The motion was carried unanimously.

RESOLVED: To note the calculations and set the Council Tax for the year 2019/20 made in accordance with the regulations set out in the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

CO86

SUPPLEMENTARY ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE MAYOR

Before formally closing the meeting, the Mayor

- (a) made a presentation of flowers to Mrs Shuttlewood, Democracy & Involvement Officer, as she would shortly be leaving the Council as a consequence of changes to the civic arrangements in 2019/20. The Mayor thanked Mrs Shuttlewood for her support and guidance to date during the current term of office; and
- (b) referred to the fund raising aspect of the Civic Dinner during which Councillor Holmes explained to members that guests would be invited to pay £10 for an envelope which would contain a mystery prize – either a prize donated by a local business or a lottery scratch card.

The meeting closed at: 6.54 pm

Mayor