

MEETING OF THE LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

WEDNESDAY, 27 JUNE 2018 AT 2.00 PM

ORDER PAPER

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1 – CHAIRMAN’S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman will make his announcements.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2 – MINUTES

MR O’SHEA will move and MR JENNINGS will second:-

“That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 15th May 2018, copies of which have been circulated to members, be taken as read, confirmed and signed.”

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3 – DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Chairman will invite members who wish to do so to make declarations of interest in respect of items on the agenda for this meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4

QUESTIONS ASKED UNDER STANDING ORDER 7(1) (2) &(5)

(A) Question by MR BOULTER

- “1. Can the Leader explain why the contract for grass cutting was taken from Blaby District Council when the work was satisfactory?
2. Why is the quality of cutting this year so poor?
3. What is the Leader going to do to rectify the situation?”

Reply by MR PAIN

- “1. The agreement for Blaby District Council to carry out the work expired on 28th February 2018. There was no requirement for the agreement to continue when the County Council can carry out the service, the County Council’s service having seen evidence of significant improvements in 2017.
2. Unfortunately, no mapping or route information was provided by Blaby District Council to the County Council and it was therefore necessary in advance of this year’s grass cutting season for the County Council to undertake digital mapping. I am afraid this absence of information has inevitably meant some grassed areas being excluded. It has also become apparent that Blaby District Council had been cutting grassed areas which are not part of the public highway and should not be being cut out of County Council funds. This is likely to have been a reason for some complaints.

3. Pending a proper digital database being created using knowledge accumulated this year, an instruction has been given to cut areas which are 'in dispute' for the remainder of the 2018 grass cutting season."

(B) Question by MR CHARLESWORTH

- "1. Is the County Council still paying any recycling credits to Districts?
2. If so, which Districts are still being paid and how much is paid and for how long will the payments continue to be made?
3. What advice did County Council take on its proposal to withdraw recycling credits and who from?
4. In the report on dry recycling credits that went to Cabinet on 16th September 2016, option 4 was approved. However, the Districts wanted option 2. This means that the Waste Disposal Authority (County Council) and the Waste Collection Authorities (District Councils) did not agree that payments should not be made. Will the County Council review that mistaken decision?"

Reply by MR PAIN

- "1. Yes.
2. The objection and direction notices that were issued following the Cabinet decision of 16th September 2016 came/will come into effect between 1st April and 1st October 2018 depending on the end dates of the districts existing recycling contracts. Recycling credits will continue to be paid until the effective date of the notices. At the current time the only district still receiving recycling credits is Melton Borough Council.

All districts will continue to receive recycling (or reuse) credits for materials that are not within the scope of the issued objection / direction notices or any local agreements.

The recycling credit rate is £56.14 per tonne in 2018/19.

3. The County Council took advice from the Director of Law and Governance, a leading counsel (Q.C.) and a waste management consultant.
4. No."

(C) Question by MR BILL

"In the recently published report on the A5 Strategy – "Supporting Growth and Movement in the Midlands 2018 – 2031", a report which will be generally supported by everyone, there is a reference towards the back of the report to the "Action Plan for Delivering Improvements along the A5 Corridor". On page 8 of this action plan there is a reference to a statement dealing with Nutts Lane, attributed to Leicestershire County Council, that there is "insufficient evidence to suggest that HGVs are using it as an alternative route to and from the A5.....".

As is this totally contrary to what is happening on the ground, as will be borne out by all the residents who have to live with these vehicles on a daily basis, can the evidence (I will be more than pleased to supply this evidence) that this road is indeed being used as a short cut to avoid congestion at the Dodwells Bridge Roundabout please be taken into account and this passage in the report revised?"

Reply by MR PAIN

"The report to which you refer was produced by Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council and was considered by their Council on 12th June 2018. It refers to a draft Action Plan (Appendix C of that report) that is still being considered by the A5 Partnership, along with the draft A5 Strategy. The quote to which you refer on page 8 is not attributed to Leicestershire County Council (it shows the 'delivery responsibility').

The report also noted in paragraph 3.13 that *'The A5 Strategy Action Plan is a rolling document that will be updated frequently during the life of the Strategy'*. The draft Action Plan is being updated by relevant parties of the A5 Partnership and your additional evidence would be welcomed to feed into this update. If appropriate the County Council will suggest updates to this action plan for areas where it is currently listed as having 'delivery' responsibility."

(D) Question by MR BILL

"At the Scrutiny Commission meeting on 6th June, there was a report entitled Leicestershire Towns which advised on County Council activity supporting the development and economic prosperity of Leicestershire Towns. In the reference to Hinckley there is an assertion that "Traffic conditions have improved following implementation of zones 1 – 3". Whilst conditions might have improved for walkers and cyclists, traffic conditions as a whole across Hinckley and Burbage grow worse by the day. Can I please ask to see the evidence on which this assumption is based as it is contrary to everything we are witnessing here in the town?"

Reply by MR PAIN

"In paragraph 46 of the report, it states that "Traffic conditions have improved following implementation of zones 1 – 3". £5.96m of improvements for pedestrian and cyclists, along with improvements to parking have led to increased numbers of pedestrians and cyclists using roads in Hinckley.

The trend for all market towns has been an increase in congestion, primarily in peak periods. However, the study of congestion in Hinckley between 2016 and 2017 using the latest available Department for Transport data indicates that traffic speeds have increased on a number of the roads where improvements were made as part of zones 1-3. For example, on Coventry Road and Rugby Road where improvements were made to off road infrastructure for walking and cycling, average traffic speeds have increased.

Roads identified in zone 4 show no improvement and support the case for the Council to continue to look to secure funding for the measure set out in the £15.89m

package of measures in zone 4. The Council has already secured £5.73m of funding towards these measures, which, if the remaining funding can be secured, will be implemented by 2019/2020.”

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 5 – TO RECEIVE POSITION STATEMENTS
FROM MEMBERS OF THE CABINET**

(Note: Standing Order 8 provides as follows:-

- (a) A position statement may give rise to an informal discussion by the Council.
- (b) At the conclusion of the discussion a formal motion may be moved to the effect that a particular issue relevant to the statement be referred to the Cabinet, the Commission, a Board or a Committee for consideration. This shall be moved and seconded formally and put without discussion. No other motion or amendment may be moved.
- (c) The discussion of any position statement shall not exceed 20 minutes but the Chairman may permit an extension to this period.)

LEADER

- (i) The Leader will make his statement.
- (ii) An informal discussion may then take place.

LEAD MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT

- (i) The Lead Member will make his statement.
- (ii) An informal discussion may then take place.

**TO CONSIDER REPORTS OF THE
CABINET, SCRUTINY COMMISSION, SCRUTINY COMMITTEES,
AND OTHER BODIES**

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 6
REPORT OF THE SCRUTINY COMMISSION**

(Pages 23 to 46)

Principal Speakers:-
Leader of the Opposition (Mr S J Galton)
Leader of the Council (Mr N Rushton)

(A) Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2017/18

MR GALTON will move and MRS PAGE will second:

“That the information contained in the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2017/18, attached as Appendix 1 to this report, on its activities, be noted.”

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7
REPORT OF THE CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE
(Pages 47 – 50)

Principal Speakers:-
Chairman (Mr N J Rushton)
Liberal Democrat Spokesman (Mr S J Galton)
Labour Spokesperson (Dr T Eynon)

(A) County Council Meeting in March – Revision to the Constitution

MR RUSHTON will move and MR SHEPHERD will second:

“Motion 1

- (a) That the recommendation of the Constitution Committee to dispense with the meeting of the County Council in March and to allow ordinary business to be transacted at the February meeting of the Council be approved;

Motion 2 - Procedural Motion in accordance with Standing Order 37

- (b) That the changes to Standing Order 1 (The Meeting Procedure Rules), to give effect to the recommendation of the Constitution Committee, be approved.”

(NOTE Standing Order 37 requires that this procedural motion, having been moved and seconded, stands adjourned until the next ordinary meeting of the Council.)

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COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 27TH JUNE 2018**POSITION STATEMENT FROM THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL****Leicestershire China Strategy to boost trade**

On the 11th June I hosted an event to celebrate the 30th anniversary of our twinning relationship with one of the largest and fastest growing provinces in China, Sichuan. This is, I understand, the longest twinning relationship with a Chinese province in the UK and I had the pleasure of welcoming Director General Huang and senior representatives from the People's Government of Sichuan Province, along with Minister Counsellor Jin from the Economic and Commercial Counsellor's Office of the Chinese Embassy.

Sir John Peace, Chair of the Midlands Engine joined me in hosting the celebration along with our Chairman, Mr O'Shea, the City Mayor, Loughborough University Vice Chancellor (Professor Bob Allison), Pro Vice Chancellors from both Leicester and De Montfort Universities and the Vice Chair of the LLEP. The celebration was attended by over 100 delegates including senior representatives from local authorities, universities and the business community. Along with celebrating the past relationship and considering future collaborative opportunities, we were privileged to witness performances of traditional Chinese folk songs and Sichuan Opera face changing performances.

At the event we also launched our Leicestershire-China Strategy which aims to capitalise on the growing number of opportunities for developing greater trade and investment, whilst building on our already strong regional links. The strategy, developed in partnership through the Leicestershire China Forum, will help bolster educational and sporting links, build on tourism opportunities and open the door for more companies in Leicester and Leicestershire to do business with China. We are already seeing positive outcomes from this visit including discussions between East Midlands Airport and Sichuan on future cargo opportunities. I am very positive about the benefits to Leicestershire from this relationship, especially as we strive to develop greater international links to strengthen our position beyond this country leaving the EU. Director General Huang very kindly invited me to visit Sichuan in 2019 and I will work closely with local businesses and partners, and Sir John Peace, to consider how we can bring tangible benefits to the Leicestershire economy by making such a visit.

Strategic Growth Plan

I continue to be impressed by the work of the Member's Advisory Group (MAG) which is overseeing the preparation of the Strategic Growth Plan (SGP) for Leicester and Leicestershire. By looking as far ahead as 2050, and by commissioning high quality evidence to underpin its proposals, the MAG has been able to develop a visionary yet credible plan for future growth in the city and county. It is important to remember that the scale of growth being proposed in the Plan is growth national

Government will require us to accommodate. It's not about whether; it's about how. I am therefore pleased to see that the proposals in the SGP protect our towns and villages by concentrating future housing and employment in strategic locations associated with new infrastructure such as the A46 Expressway. I am also aware that these plans are impressing key decision-makers in Government and agencies like Homes England, the Midlands Engine and Midlands Connect. This will, I believe, stand us in good stead in securing the funding we need to deliver infrastructure essential for our existing and potential new communities, and to drive forward the growth of the local economy for the benefit of local businesses and residents. Given the SGP is consistent with Government policy, will support economic and housing growth in a sustainable way, will help us secure critical funding, and protects our town and villages from substantial future development pressure I urge the county's MPs to do all they can to support the Plan.

Trading Standards - Scams Intervention Team

Over the last financial year our Trading Standards Scams Intervention Team, collaborating with colleagues in Adults and Communities, provided continued support to over 200 victims of postal, telephone and doorstep scams. These successful interventions prevented the victims incurring further losses. Officers estimated the collective loss to be over £500,000.

In one recent example officers identified an 87 year old Leicestershire resident living alone, who had for some time been bombarded with junk mail. The outcome was a spare bedroom full of unopened packages containing limited edition products and clothing. The victim had made these purchases because, for her, it was a connection to the outside world, an opportunity to chat to the delivery drivers. Unfortunately it absorbed £35,000 of her life savings and sadly now has insufficient means to contribute towards her care.

June is Scams Awareness Month and as part of this campaign the County Council will become a 'Friends against Scams Organisation'. Staff and members will be encouraged to undertake a short online training session aimed at raising awareness around scams: awareness which I hope will then be imparted to others on a professional and personal level. Sadly it is often the case that family members are completely unaware that a relative has become a victim. Alongside the launch I have agreed to act as an Ambassador for the Friends against Scams initiative and I hope all members will support this initiative.

I am also pleased to report that given the success of the Scam Intervention Team the Adults and Communities Service has agreed to provide funding to Trading Standards in 2018/19 to enable this initiative to continue.

Health Scrutiny

Members will be aware of the spending pressures on the NHS and the need for our local NHS bodies to find efficiency savings within their budget.

It was therefore disappointing to read that the two Clinical Commissioning Groups in the County who between them have to find about £40million of savings in this financial year do not yet have firm plans to find these savings. All this came to light as a result of some robust scrutiny by the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee and I wholly concur with their view that this state of affairs is unacceptable and that there is an urgent need for clarity about the impact on patients of these savings.

A key point made by the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee was that savings should be targeted to back office staff and management costs. So it is disappointing to then find out that the CCGs have spurned the opportunity to merge their senior management structures. Personally I would urge them to have a full merger of the CCGs not just the senior management structure and make some real savings which could be reinvested in frontline services.

Loughborough University – Lawn Tennis Association National Academy

I am delighted to inform the Council that Loughborough University has finalised a deal with the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) to become one of two national academies. Loughborough will be by far the bigger.

This multi-million pound deal is the biggest ever single investment in sport at Loughborough and brings yet another National Governing Body onto the campus, joining the likes of British Athletics, British Swimming, British Triathlon and England Netball.

The national academy which is due to open in September 2019 will nurture 14-18 year olds (and sometimes younger). Players who demonstrate the greatest potential in the sport will be selected and supported with world-class coaching, science, medicine and welfare experts whilst also being provided with excellent mainstream education up to at least GCSE level.

N. J.Rushton

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COUNTY COUNCIL – 27 JUNE 2018
ADDENDUM TO THE LEADER’S POSITION STATEMENT

Influential Women in Government Technology

I am delighted to report that four of the council's female employees feature in a list of the most influential women in government technology.

The initiative, run by GovTech highlights women across the public sector who are leaders, trailblazers and transformers.

The long list features nominations for:

- Ann Carruthers, Director, Environment and Transport
- Cheryl Davenport, Director, Health and Care Integration
- Jayne Glasgow, Chief Digital and Information Officer
- Jo Morrison, Head of Communications and Digital

Voting is now open for the final list. You can vote for three women and I encourage all members to vote so that our council features in the top ten. Voting closes at 5pm on Friday 6 July.

Follow this link to vote now: <https://www.govtechleaders.com/Female-GovTech-Leaders-2018-who-gets-your-vote>

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COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 27TH JUNE 2018

POSITION STATEMENT FROM THE CABINET LEAD MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT

Highway Performance

The structural condition of Leicestershire's roads remains amongst the best in the Country. The latest Department for Transport (DfT) road condition statistics show that no authority in England had better road condition across all classifications (A, B, C and unclassified) in 2016/17. All authorities with better Non-Principal (B and C class) road condition have significantly shorter networks than us and only one authority with better Unclassified road condition has a longer network than Leicestershire. No county council had better road condition in any classification in 2016/17.

Recycling and Households Waste Sites (RHWS) Satisfaction Survey

I wanted to take this opportunity to advise members of the results of the customer satisfaction survey of our RHWS service. The survey was conducted in September 2017, following the commencement of direct management of the sites from the start of July and involved face-to-face surveys at each of the fourteen RHWS, with a total of 3,675 respondents.

The survey found that 98.9% were either "fairly" or "very" satisfied with the service received at the site overall. Site users were particularly complimentary of site cleanliness and the helpfulness of site staff.

These results are particularly positive in view of the fact that we have only recently taken the services in-house and are a strong endorsement of our performance across this service area.

Melton Mowbray Distributor Road

Members will be aware that the County Council has been successful in its application to the Department for Transport for £49.5m funding towards construction of the Melton Mowbray Distributor Road. The success of the bid is the culmination of a substantial amount of cross team and indeed departmental work to get the result against very tight deadlines. Delivered by the Asset and Major Programmes team working closely with Strategy and Policy, Highway and Structural Engineering and

Network Data and Intelligence teams, external consultants and Melton Borough Council this is a terrific example of partnership working. The next phase of the scheme will see the submission of a planning application later this year with construction beginning in 2020.

Awards

Finally, I am pleased to advise that Environment and Transport Department has received three prestigious awards in the last month.

1. Our work on the Lubbethorpe Strategic Employment Site infrastructure has been recognised and won top prize in the Team Work category from East Midlands Institute of Civil Engineers.
2. We have been **Commended** in the Chartered Institute of Highways and Transport and Tarmac Collaboration Award 2018. Our submission was for the Medium Schemes Framework 2 which is a framework operated by the Midlands Highway Alliance with a number of contractors which allows Leicestershire and the other MHA authorities to effectively procure and deliver medium sized highway projects.
3. Finally, one of our transport modelling staff, Sonny Tolofari, has been awarded the Life Time Achievement award by Transport Modelling World 2018, the industry leader. This is a major accolade for Sonny as well as a significant endorsement of Leicestershire's transport modelling capability.

B. Pain CC