

**MEETING OF THE LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**WEDNESDAY, 21 MARCH 2018 AT 2.00 PM**

**ORDER PAPER**

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 1 – CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman will make her announcements.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 2 – MINUTES (Pages 3 to 16)**

MRS RICHARDS will move and MR O'SHEA will second:

“That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 21 February 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 HUNT**

- “1. Could the Leader advise:-
  - a) Whether the conversion of Loughborough's pedestrianised shopping area into a Pedestrian and Cycle Zone is supported by a county wide policy, Manual for Streets or equivalent, and if so where can it be accessed?
  - b) Have Leicestershire Police been consulted and, if so, what view of the change has the Force reflected to the County Council?
  - c) Are Charnwood Borough Council partners or consultees in the project and what do we know about their view?
2. Is the Leader aware of the significant concern in the town concerning the conflict between cycles and pedestrians and does he consider this the best way to resolve this conflict?
3. Does the Leader consider that the County Council are sufficiently in touch with shoppers in Loughborough and understand their needs?”

**Reply by Mr Pain**

- “1. a) A pedestrian and cycle zone is an option available under the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2016, the legislation that regulates traffic restrictions across the country.
- b) Leicestershire Police have been consulted – no comment has been received. Prior to consultation the Police raised concerns over the existing ambiguities with the various orders currently in place with regard to cyclists through the pedestrian areas.
- c) Charnwood Borough Council is both. Borough Council officers have worked with the County Council over the past year to develop a single pedestrian and cycle zone. They approached the County Council in the first place wanting to resolve the ambiguities with the current orders and with a view to expanding the market place. Charnwood Borough Council is also a statutory consultee. At the time of the proposals going to consultation Borough Council officers were supportive. Once the consultation period began, Charnwood Borough Council objected to the proposals.

2.&3. To reiterate, this work was initially instigated by Charnwood Borough Council. It also provided the County Council with the opportunity to review and consolidate the existing confusing traffic regulation orders along with addressing concerns raised by the Police and a recommendation of the Loughborough Pedestrianisation Public Inquiry. After over a year’s worth of work with both Charnwood Borough Council and Loughborough BID a proposal was agreed by all parties and put out to consultation which closed on 14 March. Officers have now considered the responses to that consultation and in view of the U-turn by Charnwood Borough Council on this matter along with the comments raised, I have decided in consultation with the Leader that the County Council will no longer be pursuing any changes to the current situation in central Loughborough. I have now requested that the costs the County Council has incurred to date in pursuing this abortive initiative are discussed with Charnwood Borough Council with a view to seeking appropriate recompense.”

**(B) Question by MR HUNT**

“Could the Leader explain what he knows about discussions which may result in East Midlands Trains to the capital being slowed down to allow another train operator to speed up its own service for commuters?”

**Reply by Mr Pain**

“The County Council is aware of the publication of the new East Midlands Trains timetable that will come into effect in May 2018 and run until December 2018. This is part of a normal process of timetable review conducted by the train operator and the Department for Transport. It is important to note that the review process includes no element of consultation with service users or stakeholders.

These timetable reviews normally result in little or no change to train service operations to stations in Leicestershire (or elsewhere). In the case of this particular review, however, my understanding is that it has been affected by the Thameslink programme and track availability on the Midland Main Line south of Bedford. It appears that there was a choice to be made between Midland Main Line trains continuing to stop at Bedford Station, which would have had a potentially dramatic impact for services to Leicestershire stations through time penalties on services and potentially loss of some services, or to remove stops at Bedford, with a very much more limited impact for train services in Leicestershire.

I am pleased to note that the review has adopted the latter position, i.e. to remove Bedford stops. Whilst I understand that this will still result in some Midland Main Line trains to and from London being slower than the current timetable, some services will be quicker as a result of not stopping at Bedford and overall the impacts are broadly neutral. I understand too that there will be capacity improvements as a result of the new timetable, meaning that there should be more seats available for rail customers to and from Leicestershire.

Whilst I understand that those whose rail journeys may become slightly slower will feel frustrated, rest assured that officers will continue to engage with the current operator, East Midlands Trains, and through the refranchising process for Midland Main Line services, to lobby for improved rail service provision for Leicestershire residents.”

#### **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 CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES**

- (i) The Lead Member 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.

**LEAD MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND WELLBEING**

- (i) The Lead Member will make her 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 CABINET**

(Pages 17 to 18)

Principal Speakers:-  
Mover of motion (as appropriate)  
Leader of the Opposition (Mr S J Galton)

- (A) Acceptance of Delegation from Rutland County Council – Functions under the Care and Mental Health Acts

MR RUSHTON will move and MR BLUNT will second:

“That the County Council accepts the delegation of certain statutory functions under Part 1 of the Care Act 2014 and Section 13 of the Mental Health Act 1983 on the basis outlined in the report.”

**REPORT OF THE EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE**

(Pages 19 to 32)

Principal Speakers:-  
Mr J B Rhodes (Chairman)  
Ms L Broadley (Liberal Democrat Spokesman)  
Ms Betty Newton (Labour Spokesman)

- (A) Pay Policy Statement 2018/19

MR RHODES will move and MR SHEPHERD will second:

“That the County Council’s Pay Policy Statement 2018/19, as referred to in the report of the Employment Committee, be approved.”