

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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