

## **BOLSOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Minutes of a meeting of the Bolsover District Council held in the Council Chamber, The Arc, Clowne, on Wednesday 13 September 2017 at 1000 hours.

### **PRESENT:-**

Councillor T Munro..... Chair  
Councillor R Turner..... Vice Chair

### **Members:-**

Councillors T Alexander, A Anderson, J E Bennett, R J Bowler, P M Bowmer, G Buxton, T J Connerton, C P Cooper, P A Cooper, M G Crane, M Dixey, M Dooley, S W Fritchley, A Joesbury, C Moesby, T Munro, B R Murray-Carr, S Peake, K Reid, J Ritchie, J E Smith, P Smith, A M Syrett, K.F. Walker, B Watson, D Watson and J Wilson.

### **Officers:-**

D Swaine (Chief Executive Officer), L Hickin (Strategic Director), S Sternberg (Assistant Director of Governance, Solicitor to the Council & Monitoring Officer), D Clarke (Assistant Director – Finance, Revenues and Benefits), D Cairns (Governance Manager - Acting) and Pam Brown (Chief Executive's and Partnership Team Manager)

### **0221. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors P Barnes, T Cannon, J A Clifton, H J Gilmour, R A Heffer, D McGregor, S J Statter, and E Stevenson.

### **0222. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no interests declared at this meeting.

### **0223. QUESTIONS BY THE PUBLIC**

Mr Gary Smith had submitted a question however he did not attend the meeting. In accordance with the Council's procedure rules, his question was not dealt with.

Ms Kate Heasman asked a question of Councillor Ann Syrett, Leader and Portfolio Holder for Strategic Planning and Regeneration:

*I am aware from BDC's Response to the HS2 Route Refinement Consultation, that the Council has shown concern on the impact the spur line will have on the villages of Newton and Old Blackwell and as an alternative to the spur line, the Council asked HS2 to consider using the Erewash Line/Midland Mainline from Toton to serve Sheffield and believed this alternative would be cost effective and lessen the impact. This was also included in the response from DCC.*

*Have BDC commissioned or how would you consider commissioning a mitigation report showing the cost savings and reduction in impact by using the Erewash Line/Midland Mainline?*

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*By having such a report this would still provide a link to Chesterfield and Sheffield, capacity would be the same as the proposed spur line and Derbyshire would benefit by having this section of the Midland Mainline electrified. Such a report could be a joint venture with DCC.*

Councillor A Syrett undertook to supply a written response to the question.

Mr Graeme Heasman asked a question of Councillor Ann Syrett, Leader and Portfolio Holder for Strategic Planning and Regeneration:

*How have the consequences of the decision to cut a separate new high speed train rail route through the parish of Blackwell been examined by Bolsover District Council in recent months?*

Councillor A Syrett undertook to supply a written response to the question.

Ms Dorothy Mellors asked a question of Councillor Ann Syrett, Leader and Portfolio Holder for Strategic Planning and Regeneration:

*It appears that the decision has now been made by HS2 to accept the spur route to Sheffield. This is a massive blow for our parish of Blackwell with two new High speed train lines going through the parish. This is going to cause major disruption not only on most of the roads through the parish but to services such as water and sewerage, gas, electricity and media cabling which will have to be re-routed. What steps do the Council have planned to minimise and mitigate the effects of this proposed "double HS2 route" through the parish of Blackwell and do the Council propose a site visit so that they are aware of all the difficulties we are going to be facing?*

Councillor A Syrett undertook to supply a written response to the question.

Mr Tony Mellors asked a question of Councillor Brian Murray-Carr, Portfolio Holder for Community Safety & Street Services:

*Have BDC undertaken or do you plan to undertake a study of the route through Blackwell Parish, in order to assess the method of tunnelling you will press HS2 to adopt at the points where the route crosses roads, and impacts upon homes?*

Councillor A Syrett, addressing all of the questions, advised that the Council recognised the seriousness of the issue for the Council, the District and particularly the individuals directly affected by the HS2 proposals. The Council would provide a detailed written response to the questioners and would also pass the questions and concerns on the HS2. While Bolsover District Council had no power over the HS2 proposals or the route, the Council would provide what support it could to those affected, as much as possible.

Councillor B Murray-Carr echoed the remarks of Councillor A Syrett and also undertook to supply a written response to the final question which was addressed to him.

Under the Council's procedure rules, each questioner was permitted to ask one supplementary question arising from the original question or reply. Mr Mellors chose to exercise this right and his question was as follows:-

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*Was the Council aware that at a recent HS2 event at South Normanton more home owners on Alfreton Road were encouraged to apply for blight to widen the area surrounding the proposed HS2 rail line and make it easier for construction?*

Councillor A Syrett thanked Mr Mellors for bringing this to the Council's attention and would include this information in future dialogue between the Council and HS2.

### **0224. REPORTS ON SPECIAL URGENCY DECISIONS**

There were no special urgency decisions submitted at this meeting.

### **0225. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

Moved by Councillor R Turner and seconded by Councillor J Ritchie.

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting of Council held on 19 July 2017 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

(Governance Manager - Acting)

### **0226. MINUTE BOOKS**

Moved by Councillor R Turner and seconded by Councillor J Ritchie.

**RESOLVED** that the minutes as printed in the Minute Books dated 19 July 2017 be noted.

(Governance Manager - Acting)

### **0227. RECOMMENDED ITEMS**

There were no recommended items submitted to this meeting.

### **0228. BUILDING RESILIENCE PROGRAMME – DEPARTMENT FOR COMMUNITIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT'S CONTROLLING MIGRATION FUNDING**

Council received a presentation from the Chief Executive's and Partnership Manager which outlined the Building Resilience Programme, set up with funding from the Department for Communities and Local Government's Controlling Migration Funding.

The presentation covered the background to the programme and the funding bid, the aims and ambitions of the programme, the change hoped to be achieved and the projects and partners involved in the delivery process, across seven operational strands.

The Chief Executive's and Partnership Manager advised Members that the Building Resilience Programme was a two year programme to address pressures arising from migration and to promote integration, involving multi-agency work and multiple complementary projects.

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Having received the presentation, Members asked questions and discussed issues raised by the presentation

The Chief Executive advised Members that the Building Resilience Programme did not sit in isolation and wider work was being undertaken regarding town centre master plans, One Public Estate bids and regeneration frameworks.

Members praised the success of the Partnership Team in achieving the level of funding awarded and for putting the project together, as well as recognising the importance of collaboration with public sector and other partners.

Councillor A Syrett thanked the Partnership Team for their work on the project on behalf of the Council and also recognised the work of the Council's partners who were not present to be thanked.

Moved by Councillor T Munro and seconded by Councillor R Turner.

**RESOLVED** that the presentation be noted.

(Chief Executive's and Partnership Manager)

### **0229. APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT PERSON**

Council considered a report of the Monitoring Officer which recommended the appointment of an Independent Person for a term of four years.

The Council was required to have at least one Independent Person, however the Council had previously decided that it was preferable to have two Independent Persons.

The Standards Committee had approved the recruitment process at its meeting on 3 October 2016 and the role was subsequently advertised. The Chief Executive and the Deputy Monitoring Officer carried out interviews with the shortlisted candidates in August 2017 and recommended Mr Ian Kirk for the appointment.

Moved by Councillor A M Syrett and seconded by Councillor M Dooley.

**RESOLVED** that the Council appoints Mr Ian Kirk as an Independent Person to the Standards Committee for a four year term.

(Monitoring Officer)

### **0230. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman advised Members that his Civic Service would be taking place on 15 October 2017 and Members would have already received invitations.

The Chairman also advised Members that a reception would take place shortly after the meeting with a presentation to recognise the service of the former Chairman, Councillor Ken Walker.

The meeting concluded at 1100 hours.