

COUNCIL - MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of Council held in the Council Chamber, The Arc, Clowne on Wednesday 8th November 2017 at 1000 hours.

PRESENT:-

Members:-

Councillor T. Munro in the Chair

Councillors T. Alexander, A. Anderson, P.M. Bowmer, D. Bullock, G. Buxton (until Minute No. 0373), J.A. Clifton, T.J. Connerton, C.P. Cooper, P.A. Cooper, M.G. Crane, M. Dixey, M.J. Dooley, S.W. Fritchley, H.J. Gilmour, R.A. Heffer, A. Joesbury, D. McGregor, C.R. Moesby (from Minute No. 0370), B.R. Murray-Carr, S. Peake, K. Reid, M.J. Ritchie, J.E. Smith, P. Smith, S.J. Statter (until Minute No. 0373), E. Stevenson, A.M. Syrett, R. Turner, K.F. Walker, B. Watson, D.S. Watson and J. Wilson.

Officers:-

D. Swaine (Chief Executive Officer), L. Hickin (Strategic Director), K. Hanson (Strategic Director), S. Sternberg (Assistant Director – Governance, Solicitor to the Council and Monitoring Officer), D. Clarke (Assistant Director – Finance and Revenues & Benefits), A. Westray-Chapman (Assistant Director – Economic Growth), G. Galloway (Assistant Director – Property and Estates) and A. Brownsword (Senior Governance Officer)

0361. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors P. Barnes, J.E. Bennett, R.J. Bowler and T. Cannon.

0362. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following declarations were received:

Agenda Item No.	Member	Interest Stated
8	M. Dixey S. Peake S. Statter K. Reid	Non Significant Non Statutory Due to current membership of Unison
12 (Recommendation 6.4)	A. Anderson S.W. Fritchley S. Peake B.R. Murray-Carr K.F. Walker J. Wilson	Significant Non Statutory Due to being elected Member Of Shirebrook Town Council

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0363. QUESTIONS BY THE PUBLIC

1. Question from 'Disability Campaigners' to Councillor Ann Syrett, Leader and Portfolio Holder for Strategic Planning and Regeneration

Cuts to benefits and services have disproportionately hit disabled people.

We are running a campaign titled 'Give it Back!' Stop people on benefits paying council tax.

Until April 2013, people on benefits did not have to pay council tax. Since then, the disabled and/or unemployed are required to pay a measure of council Tax, typically £10 - £15 per month, money that they can ill afford to pay. Councils had some discretion about charging people on benefits, but 276 out of 326 councils in England chose to apply the levy. This takes disabled people below the basic living assessment on which benefits are based.

Local councils levy and collect the council tax, but we are aware the County Council gets the lion's share.

We appreciate it is a big ask, but this levy is condemning disabled people to living below the basic living allowance and becoming more isolated, feeling persecuted, and having to cut down on food and heating, risking serious health problems.

Could we please have a statement of your support and how you would help disabled people by giving them their basic benefit entitlement back for them to at least have a chance to participate in the community and have access to basic needs. Please lobby your national parties to help change this unjust system.

Councillor A Syrett undertook to supply a written response to the question and welcomed the group to the meeting and commented that they had run a successful campaign for a worthy cause. The Government was cutting the amount of grants to run Councils. The Council would continue to support voluntary bodies where possible and would add its voice to the Disability Campaigners.

2. Question from Tony Mellors to Councillor Ann Syrett, Leader and Portfolio Holder for Strategic Planning and Regeneration

Earlier this year, Blackwell Parish Council, Bolsover District Council and Derbyshire County Council put forward to HS2 Ltd an option of a route from Toton to Sheffield during the consultation on the M18 route. This was a route suggested to replace of the Spur line which will have severe impacts upon Blackwell Parish, and Bolsover District. Can you tell me if the Council have examined the way in which that proposal was considered and subsequently rejected, and if so, the Council's conclusions concerning that process?

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Councillor A Syrett undertook to supply a written response to the question and noted that the group had run an efficient campaign to Westminster. The route of HS2 was causing pain and grief and Bolsover District was bearing the brunt. The Council had been firm at every meeting with HS2, but it was not in The Council's power to change the decision. The Council was still fighting to alleviate the situation.

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:-

An FOI request had shown that HS2 had provided the Secretary of State with misleading information and could the Solicitor to the Council review the information.

Councillor A Syrett thanked Mr Mellors for bringing this to the Council's attention and agreed to review the information.

0364. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS

There were no questions from Members.

0365. REPORTS ON URGENCY DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE EXECUTIVE

It was noted that a meeting of the Executive held on 17th October 2017 had made decisions in relation to a report on Trade Union Negotiations – Equal Pay Claims. This was considered a matter of urgency as the Council had only a short period of time in which to accept or reject the outcome of negotiations and the timing of this decision could not have been predicted.

Moved by Councillor T. Munro and seconded by Councillor A.M. Syrett
RESOLVED that the report be noted.

0366. MINUTES – 11TH OCTOBER 2017

Moved by Councillor S. Peake and seconded by Councillor R. Turner
RESOLVED that the minutes of a meeting of Council held on 11th October 2017 be approved as a true and correct record.

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0367. MINUTE BOOK

Moved by Councillor T. Munro and seconded by Councillor A.M. Syrett

RESOLVED that the minutes as printed in the Minute Book dated 8th November 2017 be noted.

0368. RECOMMENDED ITEMS

There were no recommended items.

0369. MOTION ON NOTICE

The following motion was moved by Councillor A.M. Syrett and seconded by Councillor M. Dooley:

This Council:

Expresses its support for UNISON's Ethical Care Charter (attached) in principle and encourages local authorities responsible for social care to formally adopt the Charter.

Members felt that it was important to support the motion.

RESOLVED that this Council:

Expresses its support for UNISON's Ethical Care Charter in principle and encourages local authorities responsible for social care to formally adopt the Charter.

Councillor C.R. Moesby entered the meeting.

0370. AMBITION, LOCAL INTEGRATION BOARD AND SHEFFIELD CITY REGION EARLY INTERVENTION PILOT

Members were shown a video which illustrated the outcomes of the current Ambition project.

The Assistant Director – Economic Growth presented the report which provided Council with an overview of the outcomes achieved through the Ambition Sheffield City Region (SCR) programme and sought endorsement of the formation of a Local Integration Board (LIB) to support the SCR Early Intervention Employment Pilot, in conjunction with the other local authorities party to the LIB. The report also sought

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endorsement of collaborative working with Sheffield City Council in their role as prospective bidder for delivery of the SCR Early Employment Project, on effective local delivery opportunities and options across North East Derbyshire, Bolsover and Chesterfield.

The initial Ambition SCR pilot had been successful and exceeded its targets and as a result a further employment programme was proposed that would be fully funded by the SCR. It was proposed to support 4,500 people across the region (369 within the Bolsover District Council area)

Members noted that this was an encouraging project and should be encouraged due to benefit changes hitting residents hard.

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

RESOLVED that (1) Council notes the success to date of Ambition SCR,

(2) Council note Bolsover District Council's position as potential subcontractor to deliver the SCR Early Intervention Employment Pilot across north east Derbyshire, Bolsover, and Chesterfield,

(3) one LIB be set up to cover the three local authority areas and governance arrangements are developed for the newly formed LIB. This will be in conjunction with partner local authorities,

(4) Council notes that Executive will receive the LIB framework for approval in due course which will provide full details about the Local Integration Plan.

(Assistant Director – Economic Growth)

0371. B@HOME UPDATE

The Assistant Director – Property and Estates presented the report which provided Members with an update on the B@Home Programme and sought funding for further developments in Shirebrook, Clowne and Bolsover.

The B@Home Programme had so far provided residential development on 3 developments and 2 were under construction. A further 7 sites were at various development stages.

Funding was sought to develop 3 sites in the feasibility stage.

Members noted that this was a good news story and the developments were being built for local need using local employment where possible.

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

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RESOLVED that (1) Council acknowledge the progress update on the B@Home Programme,

(2) Council approve a budget of £987k, funded through HRA headroom borrowing, to deliver new council housing in accordance with the table set out in paragraph 1.9 of the report.

(Assistant Director – Property and Estates)

0372. COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDER – ROOD LANE, CLOWNE

The Assistant Director – Property and Estates presented the report which sought permission to enable the Council to secure the acquisition of all necessary land interests to deliver the regeneration of the Rood Lane site and sought approval for the making of a compulsory purchase order to enable development of the site.

It was noted that the Council had tried all other methods to secure the site and compulsory purchase of the land secured the site for development.

Members noted that development of the site would broaden the range of housing stock offered in the District.

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

RESOLVED that (1) Council agree to the making of 'Bolsover District Council (Land to the East of Rood Lane) Compulsory Purchase Order ("CPO")' to acquire the land indicated by the blue area on the annexed plan which is required to deliver the proposed housing development on the Site pursuant to section 17 Housing Act 1985 because it considers that the acquisition will deliver an increase in new, high quality housing within the District,

(2) Council authorise the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader and Executive Member for Planning and Regeneration, to take all necessary steps to commence the process for the making, confirmation and implementation of the CPO, including securing the appointment of suitable external advisors and preparing all necessary CPO documentation.

(Assistant Director – Property and Estates)

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0373. TREASURY MANAGEMENT

The Assistant Director – Finance and Revenues & Benefits presented the report which updated Council on the Treasury Management activities for the half year period April 2017 to September 2017.

The report also sought permission to undertake HRA borrowing of up to £973,000 to fund the purchase of 13 properties from Keepmoat on the Mooracre Lane development at Bolsover and HRA borrowing of up to £987,265 to fund additional developments for the B@Home Programme.

The new Markets in Financial Instruments Directive was also noted and the need for the Council to opt up to professional status in order to access the higher rates of investment interest currently achieved.

Members noted the need to monitor all investments.

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

RESOLVED that (1) Council notes the treasury management activities undertaken during the period April to September 2017 as outlined in Appendix 1 of the report,

(2) Council approve prudential borrowing of £973,000 for the purchase of 13 properties at Mooracre Lane Bolsover,

(3) Council approve prudential borrowing of £987,265 to build 6 additional units as part of the B@Home Programme,

(4) Council approve the decision to opt up to professional status to obtain best results.

Having previously declared their interests Councillors A. Anderson, S.W. Fritchley, S. Peake, B.R. Murray-Carr, K.F. Walker and J. Wilson left the meeting during discussion of the following item of business.

The Assistant Director – Finance and Revenues & Benefits noted that Shirebrook Town Council had approached the Council for a loan of up to £350,000 on commercial terms for the Town Centre Development, part of which would be used as a Contact Centre by the Council.

A discussion took place and it was noted that the loan would be on commercial terms and all Council costs would be covered.

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

RESOLVED that (5) Council approve in principle, a loan to Shirebrook Town Council of up to £350,000 at the Council's internal rate of interest and delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer in consultation with the Leader of the Council to approve the final loan agreement, repayment period and measures to mitigate risk.

(Chief Executive Officer/Assistant Director – Finance and Revenues & Benefits)

Councillors A. Anderson, S.W. Fritchley, S. Peake, B.R. Murray-Carr, K.F. Walker and J. Wilson returned to the meeting.

Councillors G. Buxton and S. Statter left the meeting.

0374. PROPOSED DIVERSION OF PUBLIC FOOTPATH 46, SCARCLIFFE

The Assistant Director – Legal and Governance presented the report which sought permission to divert Public Footpath 46 in accordance with Planning Permission granted for development on the Mooracre Lane site at Bolsover.

Permission was also sought for future applications be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer.

Members requested that Local Members be consulted prior to diversions being made and it was noted that this was already part of the consultation process.

Moved by Councillor T. Munro and seconded by Councillor A.M. Syrett

RESOLVED that (1) Council make the order to divert public footpath 46, Scarcliffe, as outlined at paragraph 1.3 of the report,

(2) Council delegates authority to the Chief Executive Officer to confirm the order to divert public footpath 46, Scarcliffe, following the conclusion of the statutory consultation and the grant of planning permission,

(3) Council delegates authority to the Chief Executive to determine future applications for the diversion of public footpaths, including both the making and the confirmation of the orders,

(4) Council includes the delegation at 6.3 above in the Scheme of Delegation within the Constitution.

(Assistant Director – Governance, Solicitor to the Council and Monitoring Officer)

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0375. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair invited Councillor A.M. Syrett to make an announcement. Councillor A.M. Syrett introduced K. Hanson, the new Strategic Director to Members and wished her well for the future.

The meeting concluded at 1145 hours.