

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL HELD AT THE COUNCIL OFFICES,
BUSHLOE HOUSE, STATION ROAD, WIGSTON, LEICESTERSHIRE, LE18 2DR ON
TUESDAY, 5 APRIL 2022 COMMENCING AT 7.07 PM**

PRESENT

Mrs R H Adams Deputy Mayor
D M Carter Acting Vice-Chair



Meeting ID: 2104

COUNCILLORS

L A Bentley
G A Boulter
J W Boyce Leader of the Council
Mrs L M Broadley
F S Broadley
M H Charlesworth
Mrs H E Darling JP
M L Darr
F S Ghattoraya Deputy Leader of the Opposition
Mrs S Z Haq Deputy Leader of the Council
Miss P V Joshi Leader of the Opposition
J Kaufman
Dr I K Ridley

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

T Bingham Strategic Director / Section 151 Officer
A E Court Chief Executive / Head of Paid Service
P Fisher Head of Customer Service & Transformation
D M Gill Head of Law & Democracy / Monitoring Officer
R Helliwell Communications and Marketing Manager
A Thorpe Head of Built Environment
S Tucker Democratic & Electoral Services Manager / Deputy Monitoring Officer

REMOTE ATTENDANCE

C Campbell Head of Finance / Deputy Section 151 Officer
J Wells Senior Strategic Development Manager

139. CALLING TO ORDER OF THE MEETING

The meeting of the Council was called to order to receive Her Worship the Deputy Mayor.

A minute's silence was observed in memory of the late former Chief Constable of Leicestershire Police, Simon Cole.

140. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Councillors N Alam, Lynda Eaton JP, L Kaufman, A Kaur, Ms C D Kozlowski & R E R Morris.

In the absence of Her Worship the Mayor, Councillor L Kaufman, by affirmation of the meeting it was

Full Council
Tuesday, 5 April 2022, 7.00 pm

Mayor / Deputy
Mayor's Initials

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

Councillor D M Carter be appointed Acting Vice-Chair for the duration of the meeting.

141. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor K J Loydall JP declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 12 of the agenda, insofar as he is acquainted with two members of the Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP).

142. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

By affirmation of the meeting, it was

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The minutes of the previous meeting held on Thursday, 24 February 2022 be taken as read, confirmed and signed.

143. ACTION LIST ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

There was no Action List arising from the previous meeting held on Thursday, 24 February 2022.

144. MOTIONS ON NOTICE

144a. USE OF FIRST PAST THE POST FOR GENERAL ELECTIONS

The Council gave consideration to the motion as set out on page 12 of the agenda, calling for the government to reject the use of first past the post for UK Parliamentary elections.

Following a debate, the motion was put to the vote and carried.

Votes For: 16
Votes Against: 3
Abstentions: 0

145. PETITIONS, DEPUTATIONS AND QUESTIONS

145a. SUBSIDISING FUNERALS/BURIALS IN THE BOROUGH

The Deputy Mayor confirmed that two questions had been received from Councillors under Rule 13.2 of Part 4 of the Constitution of the Council.

1. Question from Cllr Michael H Charlesworth (Wigston All Saints Ward) to Councillor Garth (Bill) A Boulter, Chair of Service Delivery Committee:

Has the Council ended the practice of subsidising funerals/burials for residents whose faith is not catered for in the Borough?

Response:

The grant is available for a death occurring up to midnight on 31 March 2022. Generally, the notification of a death comes to OWBC via Leicester City Council and therefore there is a possibility of a grant request being made in early April for a death that occurred up to and including 31 March 2022. However, the availability of the grant was removed from the 2022-2023 Scale of Charges, a decision agreed by Full Council on 21 December 2021. Advance notification of the grant ceasing has been communicated to Oadby Central Mosque, the Muslim Burial Council of Leicestershire and Leicester City Council.

2. Question from Cllr Michael H Charlesworth (Wigston All Saints Ward) to Councillor Garth (Bill) A Boulter, Chair of Service Delivery Committee:

If a life-long resident of the Borough has to go into long-term care outside the Borough (sometimes for years) and then dies, will they be allowed to be buried in the Borough at residents' rates or will they be charged at non-resident rates?

Response:

It is common practice for Burial Authorities to charge additional interment fees (usually double) for non-residents. In some local authority areas this additional charge applies immediately once a person no longer resides within the administrative areas. In the case of Oadby and Wigston Borough Council (acting as the Burial Authority) the following definition of a resident applies and is published annually on the Council's Scale of Charges:

For Interments a *resident* is defined as:

- i) A person who had resided at a private address within the Borough for 5 consecutive years immediately preceding the date of death; OR
- ii) A person who had at the time of death, resided in a residential or nursing home (or similar establishment) outside of the Borough for 3 years or less but had resided at an address within the Borough for the 5 consecutive years (or more) immediately preceding moving to the residential or nursing home; OR
- iii) A person who had resided within the Borough for 5 consecutive years (or more) but had within the 6 months immediately preceding the date of death moved from the Borough.

Supplementary Question from Cllr Michael H Charlesworth:

In a case where people who lived in the Borough for over 50 years and developed a degenerative disease which meant they had to go into long-term care, and under rule number (ii) after 3 years they couldn't come back to be buried at the resident rate. Can I ask Councillor Boulter and the Council to please look at those rules again?; they are rare cases but I don't think you should be asked to pay extra for that privilege.

Response:

Our provisions are far more generous than most other Council's at the present time, however I'm sure that we can have a look at this in exceptional cases. As a Council we have always been sympathetic to people like that.

146. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

146a. OFFICIAL MAYORAL / DEPUTY MAYORAL ENGAGEMENTS

By affirmation of the meeting, it was:

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The list of Official Engagements attended by The Mayor and/or Deputy Mayor be noted.

147. LEADER'S STATEMENT

The Leader of the Council presented a Statement outlining his recent work, the administration's plans and an overview of recent decisions taken since the previous meeting of the Council.

148. LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION (LGA) CORPORATE PEER CHALLENGE (2022)

The Council gave consideration to the report as set out on pages 17 - 45 of the agenda, which asked it to note the findings of a recent Local Government Association (LGA) Peer Review and the next steps of preparing an Action Plan to implement the recommendations arising from the review.

It was moved by Councillor Mrs S Z Haq, seconded by Councillor G A Boulter and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

- (i) The LGA's Feedback report, as published on 18 March 2022 on the Council's website and attached to the report at Appendix 1 be noted;**
- (ii) The requirement for the publication of an Action Plan within 8 weeks of the date of the published report be noted, with the Action Plan setting out how the Council will deliver the Peer team recommendations; and**
- (iii) The Action Plan to be reported to the first Council meeting in the 2022/23 municipal year is to include proposals for Members to develop a new long-term vision for the Borough with local stakeholders.**

149. COMMUNICATION STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN (2022-25)

Cllr M L Darr left the Chamber at 7.44pm and did not return.

The Council gave consideration to the report as set out on pages 46-70 of the agenda, which asked it to approve the Council's Communication Strategy and Action Plan for 2022-25.

The report was welcomed by Members, who acknowledged the importance of the Council maximising digital opportunities whilst also maintaining accessible channels of communication with vulnerable and harder to reach residents. It was requested that the Strategy be kept under regular review, with progress and achievements reported back to Members at an appropriate time.

It was moved by Councillor Mrs S B Morris, seconded by Councillor Mrs S Z Haq and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The Communication Strategy and Action Plan for 2022-25 be approved.

150. SCHEME OF MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES (2022/23)

The Council gave consideration to the report as set out on pages 71-79 of the agenda, which asked it to consider and adopt a Members' Allowance Scheme for the municipal year 2022/23.

It was moved by the Leader of the Council, seconded by Councillor M H Charlesworth and

RESOLVED THAT:

The Scheme of Members' Allowances for 2022/23 as recommended by the Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP) be adopted.

Votes For	17
Votes Against	0
Abstentions	1

151. STATEMENT OF GAMBLING POLICY (2022-2025)

The Council gave consideration to the report as set out on pages 80-116 of the agenda, which asked it to approve and adopt the final proposed Statement of Gambling Policy 2022- 2025 for commencement on 9 May 2022.

It was noted that the Draft Policy had been presented to the meeting of Licensing & Regulatory Committee on 10 March 2022, at which a request was made that the Head of Law & Democracy write to the Gambling Commission on behalf of the Chair in relation to gambling advertisements and to the Transport Secretary in relation to e-scooters. A copy of the letter sent to the Gambling Commission and a copy of the reply subsequently received is attached to the minutes at **Appendix 2A and 2B**. A copy of the letter sent to the Transport Secretary, currently awaiting a reply, is attached to the minutes at **Appendix 3**.

It was moved by Mrs L M Broadley, seconded by F Broadley and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The final proposed Statement of Gambling Policy 2022-25 be approved and adopted for commencement on 9 May 2022.

152. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

By affirmation of the meeting, it was

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting in accordance with Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (Exempt Information) during consideration of the item(s) below on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information, as defined in the respective paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act and, in all the circumstances, the public interest in maintaining the exempt item outweighed

the public interest in disclosing the information.

153. REFUSE AND RECYCLING REVIEW (EXEMPT PRESENTATION)

The Committee gave consideration to the exempt presentation, delivered in closed session by the Senior Strategic Development Manager.

By affirmation of the meeting it was

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The content of the presentation be noted.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.03 pm



Mayor / Deputy Mayor

Tuesday, 10 May 2022

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The Gambling Commission
4th Floor
Victoria Square House
Birmingham
B2 4 BP

Please Ask For: David Gill
Direct Dial: (0116) 257 2626 **Ext:** 626
Email: david.gill@oadby-wigston.gov.uk
Website: www.oadby-wigston.gov.uk
Date: 30 March 2022

Dear Sirs

Re: Television and Radio advertisements promoting gambling competitions

I am instructed to write to you on behalf of the Licensing and Regulatory Committee of Oadby and Wigston Borough Council.

At its meeting on 10 March 2022, members expressed their concerns about the proliferation of advertisements on both the television and radio promoting gambling competitions and betting sites. Members were of the view that at the time of the current 'Cost of Living' crisis such advertisements have the potential to draw into debt (or further debt) those people that can least afford it.

Members have requested to be advised of what steps if any could be taken in an attempt to curb the quantity of such advertisements.

Yours faithfully

David Gill
Monitoring Officer
(Head of Law and Democracy)



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oadby-wigston.gov.uk



OadbyWigstonBC



Oadby_Wigston

Steven Tucker

From: Gambling Commission <INFO@GAMBLINGCOMMISSION.GOV.UK>
Sent: 04 April 2022 15:54
To: David Gill
Subject: 04/04/22- Letter - Oadby & Wigston [Advertising] [#608AEC]
Attachments: 30 March Oadby-Wigston .pdf

Dear Mr Gill,

Thank you for your letter dated 30 March 2022 (attached), which expresses concern on the volume of gambling advertising on TV and radio, particularly within the current economic climate. You have requested advice on how to reduce the quantity of gambling advertisement.

All gambling advertising, wherever it appears, is subject to strict controls on content and placement. Gambling operators and their marketing affiliates (third-parties) must abide by the advertising codes issued by the Broadcast Committee of Advertising Practice (BCAP) and the Committees of Advertising Practice (CAP). Compliance with the codes is a licence condition for gambling operators. If an operator's advertising breaches the code, the Advertising Standard Authority (ASA) can refer an operator to the Gambling Commission to take enforcement action.

The Gambling Commission's principal remit is to prevent the advertising of unlawful gambling. We can issue codes of practice which may include provisions relating to how gambling is advertised, such as restricting the offering of inducements to gamble. In exercising such powers, we must take into account our statutory duty to permit gambling insofar as it is reasonably consistent with our licensing objectives. The Commission does not, however, have the remit to control the volume of advertising appearing in broadcast and non-broadcast formats. This is an issue for the Government.

The Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) is currently reviewing the Gambling Act 2005, including the evidence on advertising. Amongst other things, it will consider the potential for harm from placement and targeting of adverts across all sectors, including gambling advertising. Further information on the review can be found here - [Review of the Gambling Act 2005 Terms of Reference and Call for Evidence - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Yours sincerely

Pradeep Rajania

Senior Manager-Consumer Policy

GAMBLING COMMISSION

Victoria Square House

Victoria Square

Birmingham B2 4BP

Tel: 0121 230 6666

www.gamblingcommission.gov.uk

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 Think of the environment before printing out this message



The Transport Secretary
Department for Transport
Great Minster House
33 Horseferry Road
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SW1P 4DR
United Kingdom

Please Ask For: David Gill
Direct Dial: (0116) 257 2626 **Ext:** 626
Email: david.gill@oadby-wigston.gov.uk
Website: www.oadby-wigston.gov.uk
Date: 30 March 2022

Dear Sirs

Re: Potential Dangers to Pedestrians from E-scooters and Mobility Scooters.

I am instructed to write to you on behalf of the Licensing and Regulatory Committee of Oadby and Wigston Borough Council.

At its meeting on 10 March 2022, members expressed their concerns about the proliferation of the use of E-scooters and Mobility scooters on public footpaths without insurance/tax or a driving licence and were of the view that more powerful vehicles of both descriptions are using the footpaths in an unregulated manner, putting pedestrians at risk.

Members are aware of the current trials in relation to the use of E-scooters but would ask that given the increasing number of deaths and injuries being reported in the media urgent steps are taken to regulate there general use.

Yours faithfully

David Gill
Monitoring Officer
(Head of Law and Democracy)



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