

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL HELD AT CIVIC SUITE, BROCKS HILL COUNCIL OFFICES, WASHBROOK LANE, OADBY, LEICESTER, LE2 5JJ ON TUESDAY, 12 DECEMBER 2023 COMMENCING AT 7.00 PM

PRESENT

R H Adams Mayor
C D Kozlowski Deputy Mayor



Meeting ID: 2574

COUNCILLORS

N Alam
L A Bentley Deputy Leader of the Council
G A Boulter
F S Broadley
M H Charlesworth
J K Chohan
H E Darling Deputy Leader of the Opposition
M L Darr
J K Ford
D A Gamble
F S Ghattoraya
C S Gore Leader of the Council
S Z Haq
G G Hunt
J Kaufman
K J Loydall
C J R Martin
I K Ridley
C A M Walter

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

S J Ball Legal & Democratic Services Manager / Deputy Monitoring Officer
B Bull Head of Finance / Section 151 Officer
A E Court Chief Executive / Head of Paid Service
D M Gill Head of Law & Democracy / Monitoring Officer
T Hatton Head of Customer Service & Transformation
S Khan Interim Strategic Director
A Thorpe Head of Built Environment

39. CALLING TO ORDER OF THE MEETING

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

40. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Councillors L M Broadley, N V Joshi, P Joshi and R E R Morris.

41. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor C S Gore declared a non-pecuniary interest with regard to agenda item 10 of

the agenda, insofar as renting a plot in the Aylestone Lane allotments.

Upon the Monitoring Officer's advice, all Members who subscribed to the Garden Waste Service indicated a non-pecuniary interest in relation to agenda item 10.

42. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING(S)

42a. TUESDAY 26 SEPTEMBER 2023

By affirmation of the meeting, it was

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 26 September 2023 be taken as read, confirmed and approved.

42b. TUESDAY 28 NOVEMBER 2023 (EXTRAORDINARY)

By affirmation of the meeting, it was

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on 28 November 2023 be taken as read, confirmed and approved.

43. ACTION LIST ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

There was no action list arising from the previous meeting(s).

44. MOTIONS ON NOTICE

None.

45. PETITIONS, DEPUTATIONS AND QUESTIONS

None.

46. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor reminded those in attendance of the sing-a-long Christmas Carol event at Brocks Hill Country Park on Wednesday 13 December, to whom all were invited.

46a. LIST OF 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.

47. LEADER'S STATEMENT

The Leader of the Council presented a Statement outlining her recent work, the administration's plans and an overview of recent decisions taken since the previous meeting of the Council, together with fielding questions in relation to her Statement.

The Leader spoke upon unprecedented financial challenges the Council was facing due to continuing long-term cuts to funding in addition to more recent pressures around inflation, homelessness and national pay awards for staff, resulting in difficult decisions needing to be made as featured elsewhere on the meeting's agenda.

48. 2024/25 DRAFT REVENUE BUDGET, MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN AND 2024/25 – 2026/27 DRAFT CAPITAL PROGRAMMES

The Council gave consideration to the report and appendices (as set out at pages 13 - 52 of the agenda reports pack) which presented the revised General Fund Annual Budget for 2024/25 and an updated MTFP for 2024/25 to 2026/27, an update on the capital programme for 2024/25 and the HRA Annual Budget for 2024/25.

It was moved by Councillor C S Gore, seconded by Councillor J K Ford and

DEFEATED THAT:

A separate vote by taken on each item contained 'Service Delivery Changes – Financial Sustainability Plan' at Appendix 4 of the report.

Votes For	5
Votes Against	15
Abstentions	1

It was moved by the Deputy Leader of the Council, seconded by Councillor G A Boulter and

RESOLVED THAT:

- (i) The content of the report and appendices be noted;**
- (ii) The general fund balance reserve no longer used to balance the budget;**
- (iii) The Service Delivery Changes – Financial Sustainability Plan be approved, save for a 50% reduction in the funding to Helping Hands and the Community and Wellbeing partnership as opposed to 100%; and**
- (iv) An increase in housing rents, service charges and garage rents by the maximum social rent level of 7.7% (subject to any changes being announced on the rent setting formula) be approved.**

Votes For	15
Votes Against	6
Abstentions	0

49. MINIMUM REVENUE PROVISION POLICY UPDATE (2023)

The Council gave consideration to the report and appendices (as set out at pages 53 – 58 of the agenda reports pack) which presented a revised MRP policy for approval to allow for a change in methodology to be implemented.

It was moved by the Deputy Leader of the Council, seconded by Councillor G A Boulter and

RESOLVED THAT:

- (i) The change in MRP methodology be approved; and**
- (ii) The revised MRP Policy to enable the change in methodology to be implemented be approved.**

Votes For	16
Votes Against	5
Abstentions	0

50. PROTECTED CHARACTERISTICS FOR CARE LEAVERS

The Council gave consideration to the report (as set out at pages 59 – 62) of the agenda reports pack) which proposed that individuals with care experience be treated as if it were a Protected Characteristic under the Equality Act 2010.

It was moved by Councillor M H Charlesworth, seconded by Councillor K J Loydall and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

Care leavers/care experience being treated by the Council as a Protected Characteristic under the Equality Act 2010.

51. APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE TO OUTSIDE BODY

The Council gave consideration to the report (as set out at pages 63 - 64) of the agenda reports pack) asked it to appoint a single Member representative to the Plastic Free Oadby Steering Group.

It was moved by Councillor G A Boulter, seconded by the Leader of the Council and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

Councillor C J R Martin be appointed to the Plastic Free Oadby Steering Group.

52. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

By general 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 paragraphs 1 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act and, in all the circumstances, the public interest in maintaining the exempt item(s) outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

53. INSURANCE AND LEISURE OPERATOR CONTRACT (EXEMPT)

The Council gave consideration to the exempt report and appendix (as set out at pages 65 – 72 of the private agenda reports pack) which asked it to note the information provided and approve of recommendation B.

It was moved by the Deputy Leader of the Council, seconded by Councillor K J Loydall

RESOLVED THAT:

- (iii) Recommendation A be noted.**
- (iv) Recommendation B to approved; and**
- (v) Recommendation C be noted.**

Votes For	16
Votes Against	5
Abstentions	0

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.25 pm