

**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.**

<b>Votes For</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Votes Against</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Abstentions</b>	<b>1</b>

**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**



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**Mayor / Deputy Mayor**

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**Tuesday, 12 July 2022**

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