

COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Council held in the Council Chamber, The Arc, Clowne on Wednesday 12th September at 1000 hours.

PRESENT:-

Members:-

Councillor T. Munro in the Chair

Councillors T. Alexander, A. Anderson, J.E. Bennett, R.J. Bowler, P.M. Bowmer, G. Buxton, M.G. Crane, M.J. Dooley, S.W. Fritchley, H.J. Gilmour, A. Joesbury, B.R. Murray-Carr, K. Reid, M.J. Ritchie, J.E. Smith, P. Smith, 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 - People), K. Hanson (Strategic Director - Place), S. Sternberg (Joint Head of Service for Corporate Governance and Monitoring Officer), D. Clarke (Joint Head of Service – Finance and Revenues & Benefits), P. Campbell (Joint Head of Service – Housing and Community Safety), N Calver (Governance Manager), V Dawson (Team Manager (Legal)), K Shillito (Principal Solicitor), S Chambers (Communications Manager) and P Smith (External Support for Elections)

0285. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors P. Barnes, J. Clifton, T. Connerton, C.P. Cooper, P.A. Cooper, M. Dixey, D. McGregor, C. Moesby and S. Peake

0286. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no interests declared at this meeting.

0287. CHAIRS ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman reported that the LGA were rerunning the national census of Councillors and would produce a survey report in 2019. Further, he advised that on the 19th October he would be hosting a BDC Chairman's event entitled Bolsover Talent Showcase held at Sports Direct commencing at 7pm.

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The Chairman advised that on the 8th September 2018 he had the pleasure to attend and formally open the New Bolsover Project Community House.

From the Chair, the Chairman moved to alter the order of business to take item 11 (Taxi Licensing Policy) prior to the item 9 (Pay Policy Statement).

Moved by Councillor T. Munro and seconded by Councillor B. Watson
RESOLVED that the order of business be amended as discussed.

0288. QUESTIONS

No questions were submitted to this Meeting of Council from either the public under rule 8 or Members under rule 9 of the Council Procedure Rules.

0289. URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS

There were no urgent items of business considered at the meeting.

0290. MINUTES

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Council meeting held on the 18th July 2018 as set out in pages 4-9 of the agenda pack.

Proposed by Councillor A.M. Syrett and seconded by Councillor B. Watson
RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on the 18th July 2018 be approved as a correct record and were signed by the Chairman.

0291. MOTIONS

There were no motions on notice submitted for consideration at this meeting of Council.

0292. DESTINATION MARKETING

Councillor S. Fritchley, Portfolio Holder for Town Centre Renewal, Media and Marketing, presented a short video to Council as a marketing media to attract business and promote tourism within the District.

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The footage that was presented to Council had been acquired over the previous six months by the Communications Team and it was just a taster of a series of four films that would be launched in February. Prior to the meeting the Communications Manager had circulated four editions of the District and Parish Gazette which would now be produced quarterly and be placed in Community buildings. Approval had been sought from the Executive to produce more guides which would be parish specific, and further details would be provided. Also, the Communications team would be producing events leaflets and Members were requested to provide information about events in their parishes and wards to the Communications team to ensure these were included.

A piece of work had been commissioned to produce a book entitled 'Bolsover District From Above' which would contain images of each parish taken from an ariel position. Framed prints would be on sale encompassing a number of photographs which had been taken by the Communications team as part of recent projects as well as development of postcards for tourism purposes.

Also, within the six to nine month plan, a twenty minute video would be produced each month to advertise the District and local events. The Communications Manager would be looking for aspiring presenters and voice over artists.

A tourism exhibition would be produced which would be used at forthcoming corporate events and a reproduction would be sited within the reception area at The Arc. It had been noticed that there were no Tourist Information Centres within the District of Bolsover and the Communications Team were examining how this could be addressed.

Members applauded the excellent work of the Communications Team and they were pleased with the progress made to date to encourage visitors to the area. Some of the footage taken at the Town Show was questioned and it was confirmed that new footage was always being shot and would naturally replace the footage contained in the demonstration video.

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

RESOLVED that the video and update be noted.

0293. TAXI LICENSING POLICY REVIEW

Members gave consideration to the revised taxi licensing policy, which covered areas such as drivers, vehicles, operators and Enforcement Act medical exemptions. The report had been considered fully by the Licensing Committee and was recommended for approval following an extensive overhaul of the taxi licensing policy to identify areas of improvement and best practice. As part of the review a full public consultation took

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place with the overall response being small but positive. The new policy was not only user friendly but improved and raised standards, tightened licensing conditions for drivers and incorporated more recent legislation including the Equalities Act.

Members thanked officers for their meticulous work to undertake the review and welcomed the changes to the policy.

Proposed by Councillor H. Gilmour and seconded by Councillor A. Anderson

RESOLVED that the revised Taxi Licensing Policy amendments be approved.

0294. PAY POLICY STATEMENT

Council considered a report of Councillor D McGregor, Portfolio Holder for Corporate Governance to seek approval for publication of the draft Pay Policy Statement as set out in Appendix 1 to the report.

The Pay Policy Statement for the Council had been reviewed as part of an annual process and updated for 2018/19. The Pay Policy Statement included the recently approved pay award, agreed nationally for 2018/19.

Proposed by Councillor A. Syrett and seconded by Councillor B. Watson

RESOLVED that the draft Pay Policy Statement 2018/19 attached as Appendix 1 be approved for publication.

0295. DRAFT COUNCILLOR COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

The Monitoring Officer presented the Councillors Complaints Procedure for approval. It was noted that a Council Complaint Summary document was currently available on the website but it was felt that this could be more specific and include information on Member Complaints. The procedure attached to the report was simple and aimed at those who wished to make a formal complaint about the conduct of a District or Parish Councillor. It set out the existing Policy clearly and simply, managing complainant expectations, detailing the role of the Monitoring Officer, and action to be taken. The Standards Committee had been consulted on the draft Councillor Complaint Procedure and recommended it to Council for approval.

In regard to section four within the Appendix on page 28 of the report it stated that the Monitoring Officer would take a decision as to whether a complaint merited for more investigation within 20 working days from receipt of the claim. It was confirmed that in practice this time scale would be much shorter.

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Moved by Councillor A. Syrett and seconded by B. Watson

RESOLVED that the Councillor Complaints Procedure as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report be approved.

0296. STRATEGIC ALLIANCE JOINT COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

At its meeting on the 2nd July 2018 the Standards Committee gave consideration to a report setting out a suggested revised terms of reference for the Strategic Alliance Joint Committee. After full consideration the Committee recommended the proposed revisions to Council for approval.

It was noted that a revised terms of reference had also been considered by the Strategic Alliance Joint Committee as a Consultee.

Proposed by Councillor A. Syrett and Seconded by Councillor B. Watson

RESOLVED

- 1) that the revised terms of reference set out in appendix one to the report be approved;
- 2) the Council's Constitution be amended to reflect the changes.

0297. POLLING PLACE REVIEW

The Chief Executive in his role as Returning Officer presented a report which set out proposals as a result of a review of Polling Places undertaken to implement new Electoral Arrangements determined by the Local Government Boundary Commission.

In summary, the review proposed that Bolsover should retain 37 Councillors however, the number of wards that they represented should be reduced by three to 17. Only six of the existing District Wards would remain unchanged and those to be revised were set out in the report. The new Electoral Arrangements would come into force at the Local Elections in May 2019.

A point of information was made on page 166 of the pack to clarify that the proposed polling place was actually 'Little School' and the Returning Officer endeavoured to feed this information back to the Elections Manager for their records..

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Proposed by Councillor A. Syrett and seconded by Councillor B. Watson

RESOLVED that

- 1) the final proposals setting out the changes to the Polling Districts and polling places and the revised schedule of designated polling places in the polling districts be approved;
- 2) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to formally publish the notice with the conclusion of the review, its findings, the responses from consultees with all other relevant documentation;
- 3) in the event of a polling place being unavailable in the run up to an Election the Acting Returning Officer be delegated authority to seek an appropriate alternative; and
- 4) the Electoral Registration Officer incorporate the changes to the polling district and polling places in the revised Electoral Register to be published on the 1st December 2018.

Meeting closed at 10:41hours
