

COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held at the Council Offices, Narborough

TUESDAY, 28 JANUARY 2025

Present:-

Cllr. Nick Chapman (Chairman)
Cllr. Janet Forey (Vice-Chairman)

Cllr. Shabbir Aslam	Cllr. Helen Gambardella	Cllr. Dillan Shikotra
Cllr. Royston Bayliss	Cllr. Hannah Gill	Cllr. Mike Shirley
Cllr. Lee Breckon JP	Cllr. Nigel Grundy	Cllr. Roger Stead
Cllr. Nick Brown	Cllr. Paul Hartshorn	Cllr. Ben Taylor
Cllr. Adrian Clifford	Cllr. Richard Holdridge	Cllr. Matt Tomeo
Cllr. Cheryl Cashmore	Cllr. Mark Jackson	Cllr. Bob Waterton
Cllr. Luke Cousin	Cllr. Becca Lunn	Cllr. Bev Welsh
Cllr. Tony Deakin	Cllr. Antony Moseley	Cllr. Jane Wolfe
Cllr. Roy Denney	Cllr. Les Phillimore	Cllr. Maggie Wright
Cllr. Alex DeWinter	Cllr. Terry Richardson	Cllr. Neil Wright
Cllr. Susan Findlay	Cllr. Tracey Shepherd	

Officers present:-

Julia Smith	- Chief Executive
Sarah Pennelli	- Executive Director - S.151 Officer
Marc Greenwood	- Executive Director - Place
Louisa Horton	- Executive Director - Communities
Paul Coates	- Neighbourhood Services Group Manager
Gemma Dennis	- Corporate Services Group Manager
Jill Stevenson	- Community Development & Partnerships Manager
Jamie Osborne	- Licensing Team Leader
Katie Brooman	- Elections and Governance Manager
Sandeep Tiensa	- Senior Democratic Services & Scrutiny Officer
Nicole Cramp	- Democratic & Scrutiny Services Officer

Youth Council Members in attendance :-
Nathan, Ebony, Lara, Eva, Jadon, Remy & Evelyn.

Apologies:-
Cllr. Stuart Coar and Cllr. Ande Savage

177. MINUTES SILENCE IN REMEMBRANCE OF MALC LEITCH

The Chair, Cllr. Nick Chapman invited Members and Officers to hold a minute silence for Malc Leitch.

Malc Leitch, a former much loved and long serving colleague of the District Cleansing team sadly passed away on 6 January 2025.

178. DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS FROM MEMBERS

No disclosures were received.

179. MINUTES

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 19 November 2024 as circulated, were approved and signed as a correct record.

180. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair, Cllr. Nick Chapman made announcements in respect of the following:

- Attended the Glenfield Christmas light switch on held on 29 November 2024.
- Attended the Cosby Old Peoples Welfare Association Christmas dinner on 30 November 2024.
- The Chairman hosted his Christmas Carol Concert on 5 December 2024.
- Attended the Chairman's Charity Night at of North West Leicestershire's District Council on 6 December 2024.
- Attended a tour of Warning Zone In Leicester on 11 December 2024.
- Attended and presented at the Annual Awards event in Glenfield on 12 December 2024.
- Attended the Mayor of Oadby & Wigston Borough Councils Christmas Carol Concert in Oadby on 18 December 2024.
- Attended Charnwoods Christmas Concert on 19 December 2024.
- Melton Mowbray's Mayor's Charity Quiz Night on 17 January 2025.
- Attended the Mayor's Civic Service in Loughborough, where I was introduced to Colonel Richard Hurwood DL, the new Vice Lord Lieutenant of Leicestershire. He remarked that Blaby District Council set the standard with their exceptional response to homelessness.
- Attended the Holocaust Memorial Day at De Monfort University on 27 January 2025.

The Vice-Chair, Cllr. Janet Forey made announcements in respect of the

following:

- Attended Melton Mowbray's Christmas Carol Service on 12 December 2024.
- Attended Newbold Vernon's Christmas Carol Concert on 14 December 2024.

181. LEADER'S STATEMENT

The Leader, Cllr. Terry Richardson presented his statement in respect of the following:

- Storm Henk Flooding
- Devolution
- New Lubbethorpe topping out ceremony
- Council Tax premiums consultation results
- Youth Council anti-hate school artwork competition
- Going Green at the Depot

182. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT- STANDARDS COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

Considered- Report of the Elections and Governance Manager.

A request for a recorded vote by Cllr. Terry Richardson was made and supported by the required number of Members in accordance with Part 4, Section 1, Paragraph 17.5 of the Councils Constitution.

Voting on the report was taken as follows:

For	Against	Abstain
Cllr. Shabbir Aslam		
	Cllr. Royston Bayliss	
Cllr. Lee Breckon		
Cllr. Nick Brown		
Cllr. Cheryl Cashmore		
Cllr. Nick Chapman		
Cllr. Adrian Clifford		
	Cllr. Luke Cousin	
Cllr. Tony Deakin		
Cllr. Roy Denney		
Cllr. Alex DeWinter		
Cllr. Susan Findlay		
Cllr. Janet Forey		
Cllr. Helen		

Gambardella		
	Cllr. Hannah Gill	
Cllr. Nigel Grundy		
	Cllr. Paul Hartshorn	
	Cllr. Richard Holdridge	
Cllr. Mark Jackson		
Cllr. Rebecca Lunn		
Cllr. Anthony Moseley		
Cllr. Les Phillimore		
Cllr. Terry Richardson		
Cllr. Tracey Shepherd		
Cllr. Dillan Shikotra		
Cllr. Mike Shirley		
Cllr. Roger Stead		
Cllr. Ben Taylor		
Cllr. Matt Tomeo		
Cllr. Bob Waterton		
	Cllr. Bev Welsh	
Cllr. Jane Wolfe		
Cllr. Neil Wright		
Cllr. Maggie Wright		

The Chairman, Cllr. Nick Chapman declared that the recommendations as set out in the report was carried.

DECISIONS

1. That the Terms of Reference for the Standards Committee be amended as detailed in the report.
2. That the amendments to the Terms of Reference for the Standards Committee become effective from Annual Council to be held in May 2025.

Reasons:

1. To create and maintain public confidence in the committee and to ensure that the membership of the Standards Committee models the behaviour required by the Code of Conduct supported by the Nolan Principles.
2. To provide clarification for Group Leaders prior to consideration of their nominations for the committee for the municipal year 2025/26.

183. PRESENTATION: YOUTH COUNCIL UPDATE

Members received a presentation from Youth Council Members.

The presentation covered the following points:

- Parliament Trip on 7 October 2024.
- Hate has no home here competition.
- Youth Council Conference taking place on 27th February 2024.

184. PUBLIC SPEAKING PROTOCOL

Pursuant to Part 5, Section 9 of the Council's Constitution, in relation to the public speaking protocol the Chairman allowed Cllr. Hetherington, Vice-Chairman of Enderby Parish Council to speak for 3 minutes on Agenda Item 9 – Petition objecting to the inclusion of Carlton Park and Enderby Golf Course in the New Local Plan.

185. TO RECEIVE A PETITION OBJECTING TO THE INCLUSION OF CARLTON PARK AND ENDERBY GOLF COURSE IN THE NEW LOCAL PLAN

Cllr. Dillan Shikotra left the meeting during the consideration of this item and did not return.

The Chairman, Cllr. Nick Chapman welcomed Sue Wareham to present their petition at the meeting.

The Chairman opened the item for debate allowing a maximum of 2 minutes to enable all Members who wish to speak to do so.

The petition was referred to the Group Manager for Planning & Strategic Growth to be considered as part of the Local Plan process.

186. TO RECEIVE A PETITION TO KEEP ENDERBY GOLF COURSE OPEN

The Chairman, Cllr. Nick Chapman welcomed Chris D'Araujo to present their petition to the meeting.

The Chairman opened the item for debate allowing a maximum of 2 minutes to enable all Members who wish to speak to do so.

The petition was referred to the Group Manager for Assets and Major Project for a written response.

The Chairman, Cllr. Nick Chapman adjourned the meeting at 6.30pm for Members to take a short comfort break and reconvened the meeting at 6.40pm.

187. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS

No questions were received.

188. ASSET DISPOSALS AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING SITE UPDATE

Considered- Report of the Neighbourhood Services Group Manager, presented by Cllr. Nigel Grundy – Neighbourhood Services & Assets Portfolio Holder.

DECISIONS

1. That delegated Authority be given to the Neighbourhood Services Group Manager in consultation with the Neighbourhood Services and Assets Portfolio Holder to dispose of the underutilised land at College Road, Whetstone to East Midlands Housing Group for a nominal fee.
2. That delegated Authority be given to the Executive Director (S151 Officer) in consultation with the Housing, Community Safety and Environmental Services Portfolio Holder to agree an affordable housing contribution to be made towards the College Road Site.
3. That delegated Authority be given to the Neighbourhood Services Group Manager in consultation with the Neighbourhood Services and Assets Portfolio Holder to dispose of:
 - The underutilised land at High Street, Whetstone to Whetstone Parish Council for a disposal value of £137,500 and
 - Trinity Park Open Space, Whetstone for a nominal fee.
4. That delegated Authority be given to the Neighbourhood Services Group Manager in consultation with the Neighbourhood Services and Assets Portfolio Holder to dispose of Glen Hills Nature Area, Glen Parva to Glen Parva Parish Council for a nominal fee.

Reasons:

1. The recommendations seek to ensure that the Council utilises assets appropriately, assessing the future use to meet the Council's priority around affordable housing; to generate a monetary return or to pass open space to Parishes where it might be appropriate to do so and reducing maintenance costs and liability to the Council.
2. The recommendation at 2.2 will allow the level of affordable housing contributions to be agreed without further delay and assist the development of the two dementia friendly bungalows on the College Road site to be progressed.

189. 3 YEAR REVIEW OF GAMBLING ACT 2005 STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

Considered- Report of the Environmental Health Manager, presented by Cllr. Les Phillimore – Housing, Community Safety and Environmental Services Portfolio Holder.

DECISION

That the draft Statement of Principles 2025 - 2028 be agreed and adopted.

Reasons:

1. It is appropriate that members of the Council review the Statement of Principles 2025-2028 prior to its adoption by Council.
2. This is to ensure that any last-minute amendments can be incorporated into the final Statement, prior to it being published, with the aim that it takes effect from 1st April 2025.

190. POLLING PLACE REVIEW- CROFT AND HUNCOTE

Considered- Report of the Elections and Governance Manager, presented by Cllr. Terry Richardson – Leader of the Council.

DECISION

That the revised polling places for the polling districts as set out in the report be approved.

Reason:

The local authority has a duty to review their polling districts, places and polling stations to ensure that electors have accessible facilities for voting when an existing venue becomes unavailable.

191. APPOINTMENT TO THE INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL

Considered- Report of the Elections and Governance Manager, presented by Cllr. Terry Richardson – Leader of the Council.

DECISIONS

1. That Louise Spiers be appointed to serve on the Independent

Remuneration Panel.

2. That the term of office for all members of the Independent Remuneration Panel be until 28 January 2028.

Reasons:

1. To comply with the requirements as set out in the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003.
2. The terms of office of the Members of the Independent Remuneration Panel need to be reasonable to avoid revisiting of the recruitment process with undue frequency and to enable a level of expertise to be built.

192. DEBATE NOT HATE

Considered- Report of the Elections and Governance Manager, presented by Cllr. Terry Richardson – Leader of the Council.

DECISIONS

1. That the Local Government Association (LGA) Debate not Hate campaign be endorsed and supported by signing the LGA Debate not Hate public statement and that each councillor be invited to demonstrate the pledge by signing the statement following this Council Meeting
2. That the 'Debate Not Hate: Councillor Handbook for personal safety and healthy debate' be accepted.

Reasons:

1. The intimidation, personal attack and harassment of local politicians undermines democracy – preventing elected councillors from representing the communities they serve, deterring individuals from standing for election, and undermining public trust in democratic processes. Endorsing the Debate not Hate campaign demonstrates the Council's public commitment to tackling the abuse of elected councillors.
2. The 'Debate Not Hate: Councillor Handbook for personal safety and healthy debate' gives councillors vital information on how to report abuse, what support is available and how to prevent abuse from happening.

THE MEETING CONCLUDED AT 7.04 P.M.