

NEWARK AND SHERWOOD DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of **Full Council** held in the Civic Suite, Castle House, Great North Road, Newark, Nottinghamshire, NG24 1BY on Tuesday, 13 December 2022 at 6.00 pm.

PRESENT: Councillor S Saddington (Chairman)  
Councillor Mrs L Hurst (Vice-Chairman)

Councillor R Blaney, Councillor L Brazier, Councillor M Brock, Councillor Mrs B Brooks, Councillor S Carlton, Councillor Mrs R Crowe, Councillor R Crowe, Councillor D Cumberlidge, Councillor Mrs E Davis, Councillor K Girling, Councillor L Goff, Councillor P Harris, Councillor S Haynes, Councillor Mrs R Holloway, Councillor J Kellas, Councillor B Laughton, Councillor J Lee, Councillor D Lloyd, Councillor Mrs S Michael, Councillor N Mison, Councillor P Peacock, Councillor Mrs P Rainbow, Councillor M Skinner, Councillor T Smith, Councillor T Thompson, Councillor I Walker, Councillor K Walker, Councillor T Wendels, Councillor R White, Councillor T Wildgust and Councillor Mrs Y Woodhead

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Councillor L Brailsford, Councillor M Cope, Councillor Mrs L Dales, Councillor A Freeman and Councillor R Jackson

38 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

There were no declarations of interest from Members or Officers and the Council noted the interests previously declared by Members in Agenda Item No. 12 – Minutes for Noting.

39 NOTIFICATION TO THOSE PRESENT THAT THE MEETING WILL BE RECORDED AND STREAMED ONLINE

The Chairman advised the Council that the meeting was being recorded and streamed online in accordance with the usual practice.

40 MINUTES FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 18 OCTOBER 2022 AND THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING HELD ON 9 NOVEMBER 2022

AGREED that that minutes of the meeting held on 18 October 2022 and the Extraordinary meeting held on 9 November 2022, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

41 COMMUNICATIONS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN, LEADER, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OR PORTFOLIO HOLDERS MAY WISH TO LAY BEFORE THE COUNCIL

The Chairman informed the Council that the petition due to be presented under Agenda Item No. 6 would be deferred to the next meeting given Councillor A. Freeman's absence.

The Chairman informed Members of her honour to attend the memorial mass church service at St. Mary Magdalene Church, Newark for the re-patriation of the remains of

the three Polish presidents in exile back to Poland. The Chairman also advised that she received on behalf of the Council a Certificate to mark the Gold Award for the Armed Forces Covenant at an event held at the National Arboretum. She added that the Certificate would be presented to staff representatives at the February meeting of the Council.

The Chairman also advised Members of her plans for a fund-raising event that would be held on Saturday, 25 February 2023 at 7pm, at the North Muskhams Rural Community Centre. The evening would be themed around 'Songs from the Musicals' sung by the Soprano Lily Taylor-Ward.

42 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND COUNCIL

In accordance with Rule 3.3.2, Rowan Cozens submitted a question to the Council. Details of the question put forward and the response given from Councillor Mrs R Holloway are attached as Appendix A to these minutes.

43 PROPOSED SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS 2023/24

The Council considered the report of the Assistant Director – Legal & Democratic Services which set out a proposed Schedule of Meetings for the period May 2023 to May 2024, which reflected the Council's new governance arrangements and the creation of the new Executive Shareholder Committee.

It was noted that the schedule may be subject to change once the new Council was elected in May 2023, and that there was a proposed change to the Annual Council Meeting date to Tuesday 23 May 2023, given the additional Bank Holiday on Monday 8 May and the timing of the District Council Elections.

AGREED (unanimously) that the proposed Schedule of Meetings for 2023/2024 (attached as Appendix B to these minutes), be approved.

44 AUDIT & GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

The Council considered the report of the Director – Resources and Section 151 Officer, which provided an update on the activity undertaken by the Audit and Accounts/Audit and Governance Committee during the 2021/22 financial year.

AGREED: (unanimously) that the report be noted.

45 TREASURY MANAGEMENT MID-YEAR REPORT 2022/23

The Council considered the report of the Director – Resources and Section 151 Officer which provided an update on the Council's treasury activity and Prudential Indicators for first half of 2022/2023. The report had been considered by the Audit & Governance Committee at their meeting held on 23 November 2022 and recommended to the Council for approval.

AGREED (unanimously) that the treasury management activity and the Prudential Indicators detailed in Sections 6 and 7 of the report, be noted.

46 NOTICES OF MOTION

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule No. 3.4.3, Councillor P. Peacock moved and Councillor L. Brazier seconded a motion to the following effect:

“That this Council is seriously concerned that the current proposals to introduce Voter ID requirements in order to vote at the 2023 local elections in England will be unable to be implemented fairly which could lead to thousands of voters being turned away and result in legal challenges to election results.

Just months before the first provisions of the Elections Act 2022 are set to be enacted in May 2023’s local elections, very little has been done to ease widespread concerns about the impact of this legislation and accordingly this Council supports the calls for an inquiry into the implementation of Voter ID by the cross-party Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee.

As such the Council will write to the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities and the Chair of the Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee requesting an inquiry into the implementation of Voter ID.”

The motion, on being put to the meeting, was declared lost with 9 votes for and 25 against.

47 MINUTES FOR NOTING

47a CABINET - 1 NOVEMBER 2022

47b POLICY & PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE - 17 OCTOBER 2022

47c POLICY & PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE - 28 NOVEMBER 2022

47d PLANNING COMMITTEE - 10 NOVEMBER 2022

47e AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE - 23 NOVEMBER 2022

Minute No. 23 - Strategic Risk Review

Councillor P. Peacock challenged the use of the term the ‘Cost of Living Challenge’ which had been chosen to describe the cost of living crisis that the country was facing.

Councillor Mrs S Michael advised that the Audit & Governance Committee had discussed the appropriate term which was considered to be ‘challenge’ rather than ‘crisis’.

48 GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE - 1 DECEMBER 2022

48a LICENSING COMMITTEE - 1 DECEMBER 2022

Meeting closed at 6.46 pm.

Chairman