

NEWARK AND SHERWOOD DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of **General Purposes Committee** held in the Castle House, Great North Road, Newark, NG24 1BY on Thursday, 19 June 2025 at 6.00 pm.

PRESENT: Councillor J Hall (Chair)

Councillor N Allen, Councillor A Brazier, Councillor L Brazier, Councillor D Darby, Councillor R Jackson, Councillor D Moore, Councillor P Taylor and Councillor T Wildgust

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Councillor P Rainbow

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Councillor L Tift (Vice-Chair) and Councillor S Michael

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

The Chair advised that the proceedings were being recorded by the Council and that the meeting was being livestreamed and broadcast from the Civic Suite, Castle House.

49 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS FROM MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

Councillors P. Taylor and D. Moore both declared an Other Registerable Interest in Agenda Item 5 - Community Governance Review - Newark Town Council, as they were both Members of Newark Town Council.

50 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 20 MARCH 2025

The minutes from the meeting held on 20 March 2025 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

51 COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW - NEWARK TOWN COUNCIL

The Business Manager – Elections & Democratic Services presented a report which sought approval for the final recommendations on the Community Governance Review of Newark Town Council for submission to the Full Council on 15 July.

The draft Terms of Reference were agreed and published for a first period of consultation following the meeting held on 12 December 2024, with responses considered by the Committee on 20 March 2025.

Nottinghamshire County Council responded questioning the timing of the review given plans for Local Government Reform, but the review is required to rationalise the electoral arrangements for the Town Council ahead of their full elections to be held in May 2027. Newark Town Council were supportive of the draft recommendations. The recommendations proposed that: the Town Council retains 18 Members; the South Ward be renamed Middlebeck; the East Ward be retained but merged with

Beacon; and the minor changes to numbers are Beacon Ward going down from 5 to 4 and Magnus going up from 1 to 2 to improve elector ratios.

AGREED (unanimously) that the General Purposes Committee approve the Final Recommendations as set out at Appendix B to the report, for submission to the Full Council Meeting on 15 July 2025.

52 MERGING OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES AND LICENSING COMMITTEES

The Committee considered the report of the Environmental Health & Licensing Manager which detailed the revised Scheme of Delegation relating to the merging of the General Purposes and Licensing Committees as agreed at Full Council held on 20 May 2025.

The updated Scheme of Delegation, appended to the report, solely reflected the merging of the committees with no other changes. Officers would still have delegated powers to approve licences as they currently did and Members would still be involved in all licensing reviews and panels, and to determine applications where it currently required a panel decision to be made.

AGREED (unanimously) that the General Purposes Committee:

- a) note the approval from Full Council for the merging of the General Purposes and Licensing Committees; and
- b) approve the updated Scheme of Delegation to be incorporated into the Council's Constitution in Appendix A.

53 LICENSING TRAINING - 23 SEPTEMBER 2025

Members noted the date of the upcoming training event and indicated their intention to attend.

54 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

AGREED that under section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1 of part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

55 UPDATE ON PERFORMANCE & ENFORCEMENT MATTERS

The Committee considered the exempt report regarding performance and enforcement matters.

(Summary provided in accordance with Section 100C(2) of the Local Government Act 1972).

Meeting closed at 6.08 pm.

Chair