

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting

held THE BEECHES COMMUNITY CENTRE, Birch Court, Tuxford on Thursday
20 October 2022, commencing 7:00pm

PRESENT: Cllrs J Moorhouse (Chair) E Bett, D Clark, P Downing, G Frost, S Outram, R Patman, M Richards, S Richardson, K Rutherford, and R Walker.

IN ATTENDANCE: Clerk, and three members of the public were also present. Cllr Ogle joined the meeting at 7:20pm.

FC150 Inform Members and the Public (if any in attendance) that the meeting is being recorded

Meeting is recorded for the purpose of accurate minute recording. Recordings are destroyed once minutes have been approved.

FC151 Apologies for Absence

Cllr C Longmore. District Councillor's S Isard and L Stanniland.

RESOLVED: Reasons for apologies were given and accepted.

FC152 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

FC153 Minutes of the previous meeting held on 29 September 2022 (folio ref 2022/084-092)

RESOLVED: Proposed by Cllr GF, seconded by Cllr MR, all in favour that the minutes of the meeting held above, having been circulated prior to the meeting, were taken as read, approved, and signed by the chairman as an accurate record.

FC154 Action Update from previous meeting

FC156 (20.01.2022) – CIL Letter to Bassetlaw District Council and FC179 – Assistance re CIL money at Bassetlaw District Council – ONGOING: ACTION: Cllr JM to draft a letter to Bassetlaw District Council to ask how the capital expenditure has been allocated for the top 5 towns/villages within Bassetlaw District Council boundary – letter emailed 18.10.2022 to Cllr James Naish. ONGOING: Await a reply FC008 (21.04.2022) – District Council Report – relay funding request information is known and chase Asset of Community Value response – Cllr Stanniland – RESOLVED: Clerk advised that the district council have approved the application on 04 October 2022.

FC008 (21.04.2022) – Surface Flooding – Lincoln Road – Cllr Ogle – ONGOING. Cllr Ogle was not present, this was not discussed.

FC018 (21.04.2022) – Newark Road Car Park – Car Park and Electric Points – Cllr JM has emailed the headmistress at Tuxford Primary Academy to ask them to obtain further clarity and ask them to re-visit that decision.

Newark Road car park – electric points. Company approached advised that the cost for installation of these points is not cost effective. Currently in talks with other companies. ONGOING.

FC061 (16.06.2022) – Sports and Leisure – Chair to trust **ACTION:** As Cllr CL was not in attendance an update was not available

FC115 (18.08.2022) – Gilbert Avenue Playing Field – Cllr JM is awaiting on a response from Bassetlaw District Council. ONGOING.

FC134 (29.09.2022) – Church Yard and Grass Cutting - **RESOLVED:** Clerk advised that under LGA 1894 this work cannot be carried out by the town council. Church have been informed.

FC139 (29.09.2022) – Cemetery Rules and Fees – **RESOLVED:** Clerk actioned.

FC141 (29.09.2022) – Drainage/Infrastructure – Liaise with Cllr Ogle – **ACTION:** Cllr JM emailed Walks of Life Museum to ask them to liaise with Cllr Ogle direct. Cllr Ogle has requested maps of the town to accurately pinpoint where the issues are. **ACTION:** Cllr KR advised that he may be able to obtain the maps.

FC142 (29.09.2022) – Devolution Deal – **RESOLVED:** On item 13 of the agenda.

FC144 (29.09.2022) – Christmas Tree Quote – **ACTION:** Clerk still waiting on further quote.

FC147 (29.09.2022) – Platinum Jubilee Bench – **RESOLVED:** Bench has been delivered. **ACTION:** Grounds Maintenance staff to install.

FC155 To receive, accept and resolve to approve any recommendations (if any) contained within the minutes/notes of the following meeting:

Planning Committee 29 September 2022 (folio ref: 2022/082-083)

RESOLVED: Proposed by Cllr GF, seconded by Cllr JM, all in favour that the minutes of the meeting held above, having been circulated prior to the meeting, were noted.

Finance and Services Committee 29 September 2022 (folio ref: 2022/097-099)

Recommendation to Full Council to authorise the usage of the council land at the top of the allotments to be used by all allotment tenants who will tidy, utilise, and maintain it. If they fail to do so the council reserve the right to take this area back.

RESOLVED: Proposed by Cllr GF, seconded by Cllr MR, all in favour that the minutes of the meeting held above, having been circulated prior to the meeting, were taken as read, approved, noted and recommendation approved.

ACTION: Clerk to notify the allotment tenants of the change of use.

FC156 District Councillor and County Councillor Reports

District Council

Cllr Stanniland provided the following report, sent electronically to all councillors prior to the meeting, as he could not attend:

The information he obtained regarding CIL payments 'It is correct that the development on Ashvale Road, Tuxford is not providing any CIL payments as the development is entirely for affordable housing. Where a development provides affordable housing the CIL Regulations provide Social Housing Relief which means any floorspace provided as an affordable home is not liable for CIL.

The Section 106 with the outline planning application requires the provision of 12.8% affordable housing, a reduction was agreed due to scheme viability. For clarity, the Local Planning Authority never insisted on the scheme being 100% affordable housing, this was a decision taken by the developer.

As there rightly is no distinction in the Use Classes Order between a dwelling and an affordable dwelling, if a developer wishes to development market housing as affordable there is not breach of planning control unless there are specific conditions preventing this. The affordable dwellings are then exempt from CIL which obviously results in a loss of payments to the Council.'

In terms of capital investment, I have asked that at a full council meeting previously. The response from Cllr. Jo White focused on Tuxford not having a neighbourhood plan, which is why it wouldn't receive as much investment. I pointed out to her that it does have one, and is in process of updating it, and didn't really receive any answer as to why we don't get much investment compared to other areas in the District. Full exchange can be found here:

<https://www.facebook.com/LewisForTuxfordAndTrent/videos/4654500077967636>

County Council

Cllr Ogle was not in attendance for this part of the meeting, he updated members after item 9 – Councillor Reports but it is inserted here for ease.

Fusion:

The world's first prototype fusion energy plant to develop a commercial power station produced by fusion reactions to generate electricity. Fusion offers an inherently safe and virtually limitless source of clean electricity by copying the processes that power the sun.

Devolution:

The devolution deal has been approved between Derby, Nottingham City, and Nottinghamshire, making £1.4 billion available over the next 20 years. It is hoped there will be no charge on council tax but there is the option for it to be. For every £1 that goes in, £7 is topped up. One project that may be considered is for a railway crossing between Lincoln and Nottinghamshire to increase the capacity by 40%.

With this deal all the councils remain the same, but they'll be more liaison between the county boundaries. It is aimed at strategic things, with money set aside for education and health. It is anticipated that it will take a year to come in.

Cllr SR asked what it will mean for rural communities. Cllr Ogle advised that solar panels had been placed on council properties in Tuxford. Cllr DC stated that they have been that the EPC's on these properties have not been amended to reflect this.

ACTION: Cllr Ogle to look into this and advise.

Information provided by Bassetlaw District Council has been circulated to Councillors

Cllr MR asked about Woodhead Construction. Cllr Ogle advised that NCC should scrutinise the district council and have asked the questions but accept there will be a significant financial loss as a result.

The meeting was adjourned to allow questions from the public at 7:12pm.

There were two police officers in attendance who gave a report and were there to answer questions from councillors.

There were 5 crimes reported between January and October 2021, with 14 crimes reported during the same period for 2022.

Items reported to the police were anti-social behaviour on Eldon Green, cars parking on Gilbert Avenue, parking issues along Newark Road and Eldon Street (although this is a Bassetlaw District Council issue unless there is an obstruction, when the police can intervene) and trailer parking on Newark Road.

The police did advise that if crimes are witnessed to call 101 and not Crimestoppers and to refrain from discussing the alleged crimes on social media as that can impact on whether the CPS can prosecute.

ACTION: Clerk to contact Traffic Wardens and ask them to visit Tuxford at key times.

There were no further comments from the other members of the public present.

Cllr JM reconvened the meeting at 7:32pm.

FC157 Councillor Applications – co-opt vacancies

- Mr Ian Nicholls

Clerk advised that there are three vacancies, and one application has been received,

Mr. Nicholls was not in attendance at the meeting. Cllr JM, with all in favour, decided to defer the application to when Mr. Nicholls can attend.

ACTION: Clerk to defer item to the next meeting and contact Mr. Nicholls.

FC158 To Receive Councillor Reports

Transport – Nothing to report

Housing – Nothing to report

Roads – Nothing to report

Green Tuxford – Nothing to report

Infrastructure – Nothing to report

Health and Social Care – Nothing to report

Sports and Leisure – Nothing to report

Village Hall Grounds - Nothing to report

*Jobs and Businesses – A report of commercial waste being disposed of in the public litter bins was reported. **ACTION:** Clerk to report these concerns to Environmental Health at Bassetlaw District Council.*

FC159 Finance

All following paperwork was sent electronically to all members prior to the meeting and paper copies were given to the Chair to authorise in the presence of members and any public present.

To approve invoices for payment

Payments on the report attached at Appendix 'e' were approved and signed
Bank Transfers totalling £10,202.51
Direct Debits totalling £746.26
Debit Card payments totalling £247.50
Cheque payments totalling £0.00
Income received totalling **£0.00**

RESOLVED: Cllr GF advised she had checked through the above and agreed with the totals. Proposed by Cllr GF, seconded by Cllr KR, all members approved. Chair authorised.

Bank Account Balance of £108,326.83 was approved and Chair authorised

Bank Reconciliation/Budget Variation

Bank Account Balance at 18.10.2022 of £108,326.83 Co-op Bank,
£37,161.75 Hampshire Trust Bank and £100.00 Petty Cash float.

Clerk gave all members an up-to-date report on the expenditure, receipts, variances up to and including 18 October 2022, which was sent in advance of the meeting.

RESOLVED: Cllr GF advised she had checked through the above and agreed with the totals. Proposed by Cllr KR seconded by Cllr GF, all members approved. Chair authorised.

2023.24 – Precept (Full Council 1st Draft)

All relevant paperwork was sent electronically to all members prior to the meeting. Four options were presented. Option 1 – 9.15%, Option 2 – 4.18%, Option 3 – 2.05%

and Option 4 – 1.95%. Finance and Services Committee recommend an increase of 1.95%. Preliminary budget has been drafted.

Cllr GF said she would like to keep the precept as low as possible and suggested option 4. Clerk advised that other services supplied to the council have increased their costs, the electricity for the Christmas lighting and the finance system (which is increasing by 20% for 2023.24, with a similar increase on insurance). To enable the council to achieve this there is a need to cut some of the services offered, an example is £3,500 spent of summer floral displays. One option discussed was to plant evergreen plants.

Final amount in monetary terms will be determined at the Full Council meeting in January 2023 once the Tax Base figure for 2023/24 has been received from Bassetlaw District Council.

ACTION: Clerk to contact Retford Town Council to enquire about their planting scheme and look up a similar scheme for Tuxford and add to November 2022 Full Council agenda, where it is hoped more information will be available.

FC160 To review and approve the following policies:

- Grant Awarding Policy

Cllr JM suggested that the maximum grant award should be increased to £300 and only one application per organisation per year, with a budget set at £2,000.

RESOLVED: Proposed by Cllr JM, seconded by Cllr KR, all in favour to approve the Grant Awarding Policy.

- Child and Young Person Protection Policy

RESOLVED: Proposed by Cllr KR, seconded by Cllr SO, all in favour to approve the Child and Young Person Protection Policy

- Equal Opportunities

RESOLVED: Proposed by Cllr KR, seconded by Cllr SO, all in favour to approve the Equal Opportunities Policy

FC161 Devolution Deal

The Devolution Deal was discussed under item FC156 above.

RESOLVED: All councillors noted the content.

FC162 Proposals to restructure the Council and amend Financial Regulations

Cllr PD proposed that the financial regulations be amended to allow for the clerk to have authority to spend up to the value of £1,500. This was seconded by Cllr DC.

Cllr JM felt this was too much and after discussion she proposed an amendment to the proposal of £500, this was seconded by Cllr GF.

RESOLVED: With no further request to amend the proposal, all in favour to amend Financial Regulations to £500. This resolution was made on the proviso that it can be revisited in the event of a change of structure with the Clerk and/or Chairman.

ACTION: Clerk to amend and get approved in November 2022 full council meeting.

Cllr PD proposed to restructure the council and asked members if they would consider creating working groups for key priorities of the town. Some councillors felt that they could not commit further time to additional working groups and asked if committees already in existence could revise their terms of reference to cover these issues.

Cllr JM felt that most priorities would be incorporated in the Regeneration and Neighbourhood Plan, as they are two groups already established to address these priorities, or possibly combining these two groups together. It was agreed that most of the key priorities will be covered in the Neighbourhood Plan and the main priority at this time is the Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr PD would like to invite members of the community that have the energy and talent to be part of the process.

Cllr RW updated members of the current position of the Neighbourhood Plan. He, along with the clerk have applied for technical assistance from 'Locality'. The engagement window with the community is between now and April 2023 and he will be in contact with Bassetlaw District Council to ensure things are put in place. It was requested for councillors to consider joining Cllr RW and KR with help on the Neighbourhood Plan, with the priority at this time being on focus and communication.

ACTION: Cllr RW to clarify the structure, with a detailed timeline and plan for the engagement once he has spoken with Bassetlaw District Council.

FC163 Cemetery

Memorial Safety Checks

Clerk advised that a quote has been received of £1,000 for the ICCM (Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management) to perform the memorial safety checks in the cemetery.

As some of the ground is consecrated it requires the authorisation of the Diocese of Southwell. Clerk informed council that a request for approval has been sought. Awaiting a response.

RESOLVED: Proposed by Cllr JM, seconded by Cllr GF, all in favour to approve the quote from ICCM and authorise the clerk to undertake the checks to carry out this legal requirement. Clerk to liaise with Full Council before any works commences.

ACTION: Clerk to implement.

FC164 Clerk Report

NOTED: All Councillors noted the contents of the report.

FC165 Update on Regeneration Group

Cllr KR informed members they are awaiting confirmation from the Charity Commission after submitting a revised constitution.

He advised that the Reads Exhibition Foundation would receive a decision from the Regeneration Group by 31 October 2022 regarding the Asset of Community Value and the Old Grammar School.

FC166 Update on Town Plan and Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr RW gave his update under item FC162 above.

FC167 To receive items for information and future agenda items

- Cllr RW – Update on Neighbourhood Plan and Process
- Cllr JM – Warm Hub

Christmas

Clerk advised that the licence to install the Seasonal Lights -1st Inspection, had been approved by VIA East Midlands on 17 October 2022, once the lights are installed there needs to be a 2nd inspection.

Clerk advised that she has been approached by Tuxford Community Events to enquire whether they are organising the Christmas Shop Window competition this year or whether the town council were. Clerk advised that she has already purchased the plaque at the same time that the Queens Platinum Jubilee shop window plaque was purchased to save on costs and time.

RESOLVED: Proposed by Cllr JM, seconded by Cllr KR, all in favour for Tuxford Community Events to organise the Christmas Shop Window competition, with the hope that the group can amend the plaque.

6ft Christmas Tree

RESOLVED: Proposed by Cllr GF, seconded by Cllr MR, all in favour to not purchase an additional tree for outside the Old Lock-Up.

Extra Ordinary Meeting – The Beeches Community Centre

Clerk asked members when they would like to organise the Extra Ordinary Full Council meeting to discuss this, as agreed at the Full Council meeting of 29 September 2022.

ACTION: Proposed by Cllr JM, seconded by Cllr GF, all in favour to arrange extra ordinary meeting for Thursday 03 November 2022. Clerk to invite Tuxford Community Group.

Poppies

At the full council meeting of 20 January 2022, it was approved to purchase five poppy wreaths. The cost of these wreaths is £20.00 each. Clerk asked if council still wished to go ahead with purchasing five wreaths.

RESOLVED: Proposed by Cllr JM, seconded by Cllr KR, all in favour to only purchase one wreath for Remembrance Sunday,

ACTION: Clerk to purchase

FC168 Private and Confidential – Personnel Committee Minutes 13 October 2022
(folio ref: 2022/100-101)

Cllr JM read out the following statement.

PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960 PRIOR TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE NEXT BUSINESS, THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS PROPOSED, SECONDED AND “That in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded, and they are instructed to withdraw”

Recommendation to Full Council - seek authorisation to offer the position of full time grounds maintenance operative to Mr Adrian Holmes, effective from 31 October 2022.

RESOLVED: Proposed by Cllr KR, seconded by Cllr DC, all in favour that the minutes of the meeting held above, having been circulated prior to the meeting, were taken as read, approved, and signed by the chairman as an accurate record, and recommendation was approved. All in favour.

Clerk advised that a member of staff had requested to retract their resignation. It was felt by all that with the resignation being accepted nearly 3 weeks ago the council should continue with the recommendations made by the personnel committee.

FC169 Date of next meeting: Scheduled for Thursday 17 November 2022

The Chair thanked Councillors for their contributions to the meeting.

With there being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:20pm.

CHAIRMAN'S SIGNATURE..... DATE