

HARBOROUGH DISTRICT COUNCIL

Held in the Council Chamber, The Symington Building, Adam and Eve Street, Market Harborough

COUNCIL

10th December 2018

commencing at 6.30 p.m.

Present:

Councillor Bowles (Chairman).

Councillors: Mrs Ackerley, Bannister, Bateman, Beesley-Reynolds, Bilbie, Mrs Burrell, Champion, Chapman, Dann, Dunton, Elliott, Evans, Galton, Graves, Hallam, Dr Hill, Holyoak, Johnson, King, Knowles, Liquorish, Modha, Nunn, Mrs. Page, Rook, Mrs Simpson, Spendlove-Mason, Tomlin and Mrs Wood.

Officers: D. Atkinson (until 8.12pm), B. Jolly, M. Perris, N. Proudfoot (until 8.12pm),, S. Riley, P. Storey and V. Wenham

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors: Brodrick, Hadkiss, Hall, Pain, Rickman and Mrs Robinson.

CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman announced that she had recently attended the following events:

- the funeral of the late Councillor Mrs Sheila Leslie Miller;
- the sports waltz at Leicester Grammar School;
- the Market Harborough town lights switch on;
- Fleckney's pantomime, which was hilarious;
- The Royal British Legion Poppy Concert;
- Hinckley and Bosworth's Civic Carol Service;
- An award ceremony at the Athena for the Tourism and Hospitality Awards in Leicestershire. Many businesses from across the district were nominated and many were rewarded with Commended, Highly Commended or actually won. Congratulations to them all. I think the least expected was that Market Harborough was announced as the Best Market Town in Leicestershire;
- She had attended Welland Park School to present a certificate to students who had sold over 90kgs of rice to support Fair Trade;
- She had attended the Market Hall for Market Harborough late night shopping on Friday 7th December;

The Chairman had visited Houghton on the Hill to see the new street names of brothers Frank and Fred Harris, Harold and Thomas Stacey, who have street named after them. They gave the ultimate sacrifice in World War 1

The Chairman thanked all who had attended her Christmas Civic Carol Service on Sunday 9th December.

DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Councillor Hallam declared a possible pecuniary interest regarding the Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Growth Plan. He would leave the room for this item and not take part in the debate and determination. He had mentioned this interest previously and for consistency would continue with this stance.

Councillor Mrs Page declared a personal interest as she is a County Councillor with reference to the items on the agenda relating to the Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Growth Plan and the Unitary Proposals for Leicestershire.

Councillor Dr Hill declared a personal interest as a she is a County Councillor with reference to the items on the agenda relating to the Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Growth Plan and the Unitary Proposals for Leicestershire.

Councillor Liquorish declared a personal interest as he is a County Councillor with reference to the items on the agenda relating to the Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Growth Plan and the Unitary Proposals for Leicestershire.

Councillor Galton declared a personal interest as he is a County Councillor with reference to the items on the agenda relating to the Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Growth Plan and the Unitary Proposals for Leicestershire.

Councillor Nunn declared a personal interest as a she is an employee of the County Council with reference to the items on the agenda relating to the Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Growth Plan and the Unitary Proposals for Leicestershire.

MINUTES

It was moved by Councillor Bannister, seconded by Councillor King and

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 12th November 2018 be received and adopted.

REPORT OF THE LEADER

Councillor Bannister, Leader, presented his report, as set out below:

Loss of life of two residents

It came to my attention this morning that two residents at the Justin Park Travellers Centre tragically lost their lives over the weekend. We should keep their families and friends and akk who mourn in our thoughts.

Leicester City Football Club – Book of Condolence

The Council has received a letter of thanks from the Leicester City Football Club following receipt of the Book of Condolence opened in the Council Offices in respect of the tragic helicopter crash at the King Power Stadium on the 27th October. The Football Club expressed much appreciation for the Council doing this and all messages are being referred to the families concerned.

Leicestershire Tourism Awards

I want to congratulate all the winners from our District that did so well in the Leicestershire Tourism Awards on the 29th November. The Council was nominated for two awards but a special mention must go to the Lutterworth Real Ale Classroom for Best Pub Experience, Boboli in Kibworth for best casual dining experience, Bruntingthorpe Proving Ground for most innovative tourist experience, Waterloo Farm Shop winning Best Farm Shop (with Farndon Fields Farm Shop being highly commended) and to Market Harborough for winning best town award. A lot of people in our district worked extremely hard to win these awards against some pretty stiff competition. They all deserve our congratulations and it just goes to show what a great place the Harborough District is to visit!

Bruntingthorpe Proving Ground

I congratulate the Bruntingthorpe Proving Ground for being awarded a £4,000,000 funding grant from the Government to assist Bruntingthorpe to establish a test track for autonomous vehicles at their site. I think this is brilliant news at the cutting edge of the exciting world of advances in motor technology. Well done to Dave Walton and Paul Atkin and their team that led on this bid.

Joules new headquarters

I am delighted with the news that the retailer Joules has been given planning permission for its landmark new Headquarters in Market Harborough. This is a huge statement of intent so far as the economic vibrancy of the District is concerned and particularly of Market Harborough.

Free car parking in December

I want to give publicity to the free car parking arrangements on the Council's car parks for each Saturday in December. Previously the arrangement has been for the Saturdays leading up to Christmas so I am pleased we have been able to extend it beyond Christmas. Free parking in our council owned car parks should be a real boost to our valuable independent shops in both of our key market towns. We hope that this coupled with the effort that both towns put into celebrating Christmas through decorations, lights and Christmas trees that it will enhance the already unique shopping experience that our local towns bring. I would also like to thank the retailers of Church Street Market Harborough for their patience and understanding in dealing with the changes made to the Christmas lights this year and look forward to working with them next year to find a solution.

Church Street lights

I was also pleased as to how quickly the Council responded to the disappointment of the Church Street, Market Harborough traders after they realised the cross street lights would not be able to be hung this year. We met with the traders and offered a solution for this year which I believe found favour – and we have been able to open a proper dialogue with the traders which will continue throughout next year so as to avoid any such disappointments from happening again. I think we can all agree that the Christmas lights here in Market Harborough are excellent this year - as indeed they are throughout the District.

Staff and Member protection policies

I also wanted to remind members of the Councils policies which seek to protect staff and members from any sort of bullying or intimidation from others. Members and staff must be reassured they can give their views in meetings or for members who engage in social media knowing any such ill behaviour will not be tolerated by this Council. Such instances are thankfully extremely rare in this District but nonetheless a reminder of the policy should be made from time to time.

Christmas and New Year wishes

Finally I would like to take this opportunity to wish all councillors and their families a very happy Christmas and a prosperous new year.

Comments on the Leader's report

Cllr Knowles thanked the leader for the early receipt of his report a few days ago. He associated himself with the Leader's comments about the terrible loss of life of two residents of the district, greatly felt by their families and friends. It is always terrible for lives to be lost, particularly in the lead up to the festive season. A big thankyou to the emergency services who attend so many tragedies and do a wonderful job when they are called upon!

Cllr Knowles was delighted with the achievements of local businesses in the Tourism and Hospitality Awards, the award to Bruntingthorpe Proving Ground and the construction of the new headquarters by Joules. These achievements are notable commitments to the district and will hopefully bring more benefits into the district. He thanked the officers for putting up additional signs regarding the free parking time limits in December. The traders came up with the idea of additional Christmas trees in Church Street as there had been a lot of concern in the town about this issue. The Church Street traders have been extremely co-operative and helpful as it came as a considerable shock to them that the lights in the street would not be put up this year. He was particularly grateful to the Leader for meeting the traders so quickly to deal with this issue and to look at the way forward. This issue had arisen though poor communication, which has been resolved. Everyone is extremely grateful that Christmas has been brought back to Church Street. The Council had been absolutely right to set up a Book of Condolence in respect of the helicopter crash at Leicester City Football Club and it was the right thing to do. Cllr Knowles hoped for a good and amicable meeting and wished everyone a Happy Christmas..

Cllr Dr Hill complimented the Waterloo Farm Shop in Great Oxendon, which she used, but said that it is in Northamptonshire, not Leicestershire.

Cllr King thanked the Leader for reminding everyone about the staff and member protection policies as there have unfortunately been some recent instances which he wholeheartedly condemned. He assured staff and members that future instances will not be dealt with so leniently.

Leader's response

The Leader thanked Cllr Knowles for his support, and Cllr King for his comments on the staff and member protection policies. He stated that although the Waterloo Farm Shop is in Northamptonshire, it is very much part of the Taste of Harborough team with a lot of support in Market Harborough and that he likes to see their stalls in the town as part of the Taste of Harborough trail.

QUESTIONS SUBMITTED BY THE PUBLIC

A question to the Leader had been received from Mrs Caroline Pick of the Campaign for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE) Leicestershire, as detailed below. The question was asked by Mr Windley on behalf of Mrs Pick:

"In the light of public concerns about the Strategic Growth Plan, especially the extra traffic the Expressway will generate on local roads and inflated housing figures which could lead to housing being dumped on the local authority from Leicester thereby increasing commuting, undermining brownfield regeneration and wrecking the countryside with a particular impact on the landscape of High Leicestershire, could the Leader say what steps HDC has taken as a local planning authority to assess the impact of such large scale development, plus the Expressway, on the District's landscape character before it decides whether to sign up to the Plan?"

The response to this question was provided by the Leader, as detailed below:

A Sustainability Appraisal has been undertaken concerning the Strategic Growth Plan. This document is a mechanism for considering and communicating the likely effects of the plan and alternatives with a view to avoiding and mitigating adverse effects whilst maximising the positives. It is a process for helping to ensure that plans achieve an appropriate balance between environmental, economic and social objectives. The appraisal helps to identify and recommend ways to reduce any negative effects of the plan and to increase positive outcomes.

A Habitat Regulation Assessment has also been undertaken concerning the Strategic Growth Plan in order to identify any aspect of the Plan that would cause an adverse effect on the integrity of Natura 2000 sites, otherwise known as European sites, (Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), Special Protection Areas (SPAs) and, as a matter of Government policy, Ramsar sites, either in isolation or combination with other plans and projects. This assessment also provides advice on appropriate policy mechanisms for delivering mitigation where such effects were identified.

QUESTIONS SUBMITTED BY MEMBERS

A question to the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Assets had been received from Councillor Graves, as detailed below:

“Why has the budgeted cost for Open Spaces Maintenance per parish increased by 25% across the board between 17-18 and 18-19 as per the figures I recently received from the s151 Finance officer.

I requested this information from Cllr Hallam, Finance portfolio holder, on 31 August but by 9 October it has still not been provided.

The information should have been provided within 30 days which was confirmed recently by the Council Leader.”

The response to this question was provided by the Portfolio Holder, as detailed below:

A little water has passed under the bridge since the question was asked and Cllr Graves is aware of the answer. For any problems of clarification, the key reason for the increase between the years is the approval by full Council in February 2018 of a tree inspection and remediation budget of £36,000, which has been allocated across all sites.

I apologise to Cllr Graves, and have done so in an email to him, that this request coincided with the annual leave of the s151 Officer and then my own annual holiday, which when I spoke to him I thought he had accepted as being okay.

I know that Cllr Graves has subsequently asked me another question which I believe I answered last week. This question was could I tell him the geographical areas across the district where this money is going to be spent? Unfortunately not until the work of the inspection is done and then it will be allocated on a basis of need priority across the whole district. I am hopeful that answers the question.

Councillor Graves asked a supplementary question, as detailed below:

£100,000 is a very significant amount added to the Council's budget. I would have expected a plan or at least a general specification for how that spend is going to be approached but the answer I got from yourself is one sentence. Can I ask, please, for more information about the extra £100,000 that has been added to the Open Spaces budget for the trees because of all the problems I've had in my ward. O picked up on this very quickly. It just feels that £100,000 is a lot of money to be justified by one sentence.

The Portfolio Holder asked the s151 Officer to clarify the position, as follows:

The £100,000 referenced by Cllr Graves. The question raised with the Portfolio Holder, whom I supported in the answer, was about the spend on the Public Open Spaces General Fund of £183,898 in 2017/18, actual amount, and 2018/19 budget of £218,969, a difference of £35,071, of which the tree works represent £36,000. There are a few other ups and downs but that was the explanation for the major variance. If I am misinterpreting the information which was provided on 21st October by the Portfolio Holder I am happy to provide that information to Cllr Graves, subsequent to this meeting. But that is the amount in the cost Centre for Public Open Spaces General Fund which we believe was the original request but I am happy to follow that up after the meeting if Cllr Graves so wishes.

Cllr Graves stated that there needs to be clarification because the information he had already been given is for a £100,000 difference, which he had received in writing from the Portfolio Holder. He did not know why the figure of £35,000 keeps being mentioned because he the information he had been given is £100,000 upwards.

RECOMMENDATION FROM THE EXECUTIVE MEETING HELD ON 15TH OCTOBER 2018

FINAL REVISED LEICESTER AND LEICESTERSHIRE STRATEGIC GROWTH PLAN

Cllr Hallam left the meeting whilst this item was considered and determined.

The Executive on 15th October 2018 had considered the revised Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Growth Plan (the revised SGP) which was attached as Appendix A to the officer's report to that meeting.

It was moved by Cllr King and seconded by Cllr Bannister that the recommendation be amended to reflect concerns which had been raised in respect of the Leicester and Leicestershire Growth Plan by the addition of a further paragraph, 2.3: a) – g) as set out below to form the substantive motion:

“2.3 That the Council notes the following:

- a) If the A46 Expressway is not delivered the SGP will be reviewed and an alternative distribution of growth considered.
- b) The housing numbers in the SGP are 'notional estimates' and not authoritative. The amount of houses required will be determined by the Council's subsequent Local Plan(s) based on up-to-date evidence of housing need at the time and informed by agreements with other authorities. The SGP will act as a guide to subsequent Local Plans.
- c) National Policy requires authorities with a shortage of land, to meet as much of the identified need for housing as possible - This will be tested robustly at examination. It is important that any authority identifies, quantifies and robustly evidences any unmet needs. No stone should be left unturned in seeking to find appropriate sites and capacity must be maximised particularly in built-up areas where there is an opportunity for higher density development.
- d) The Council will ensure that development is sustainable and that the environment is appropriately protected through subsequent Local Plans which will determine the amount and location of development.
- e) The impact of the proposed infrastructure (including the A46 Expressway) must be considered early and improvements to the wider road network identified. Meaningful improvements to sustainable travel and public transport must be considered, along with other road improvements which should not be limited to the radial routes into/out of the City.
- f) The Council must be appropriately represented at meetings/groups which influence the delivery and routing of strategic infrastructure, including the A46 Expressway and the A5 improvements.

g) Further stakeholder consultation on important strategic matters will be undertaken.”

Following discussion on issues and concerns relating to the Strategic Growth Plan a further amendment was proposed by Cllr Knowles, seconded by Cllr Galton, that:

“We request that the MAG be convened and the Portfolio Holder, the Joint Chief Executive and a senior Planning Officer be requested to achieve a better balance for Harborough district addressing amongst other things housing numbers, environmental impact and air quality issues of the proposed new road.”

The Monitoring Officer confirmed that the amendment fell within the provisions of Paragraph 13.6 a) of Part 4(1) of the Constitution.

At the request of a member, supported by four other members, there was a recorded vote on this proposed amendment.

For:

Councillors Beesley-Reynolds, Mrs Burrell, Dunton, Elliott, Galton, Graves, Dr Hill, Johnson, Knowles, Modha, Rook and Mrs Simpson (12).

Against:

Councillor Mrs Ackerley, Bannister, Bateman, Bilbie, Champion, Chapman, Dann, Evans, Holyoak, King, Liquorish, Nunn, Mrs Page, Spendlove-Mason, Tomlin and Mrs Wood (16).

Abstentions:

Councillor Bowles (1).

On being put to the vote the amendment was lost.

The recommendation, as amended by the addition of 2.3, was then put to the vote as the substantive motion.

At the request of a member, supported by four other members, there was a recorded vote on this proposed amendment.

For:

Councillor Mrs Ackerley, Bannister, Bateman, Bilbie, Champion, Chapman, Dann, Evans, Holyoak, King, Liquorish, Nunn, Mrs Page, Tomlin and Mrs Wood (15).

Against:

Councillors Beesley-Reynolds, Mrs Burrell, Dunton, Elliott, Galton, Graves, Dr Hill, Johnson, Knowles, Modha, Rook and Mrs Simpson, Spendlove-Mason (13).

Abstentions:

Councillor Bowles (1).

On being put to the vote the motion was carried.

Councillor Knowles asked if the Whip had been applied to members of the Conservative Group. The Leader stated that it had not been applied.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the Strategic Growth Plan (SGP) “Leicester and Leicestershire 2050: Our Vision for Growth” be approved; and
- (ii) That approval be given that the Chief Executive (or equivalent) of each SGP partner authority, following consultation with the Leader of that authority and the Joint Strategic Planning Manager, be authorised to agree, prior to publication, any final minor amendments to the SGP which do not significantly change the overall content or purpose of the document.
- (iii) That Council notes the following:
 - a) If the A46 Expressway is not delivered the SGP will be reviewed and an alternative distribution of growth considered.
 - b) The housing numbers in the SGP are ‘notional estimates’ and not authoritative. The amount of houses required will be determined by the Council’s subsequent Local Plan(s) based on up-to-date evidence of housing need at the time and informed by agreements with other authorities. The SGP will act as a guide to subsequent Local Plans.
 - c) National Policy requires authorities with a shortage of land, to meet as much of the identified need for housing as possible - This will be tested robustly at examination. It is important that any authority identifies, quantifies and robustly evidences any unmet needs. No stone should be left unturned in seeking to find appropriate sites and capacity must be maximised particularly in built-up areas where there is an opportunity for higher density development.
 - d) The Council will ensure that development is sustainable and that the environment is appropriately protected through subsequent Local Plans which will determine the amount and location of development.
 - e) The impact of the proposed infrastructure (including the A46 Expressway) must be considered early and improvements to the wider road network identified. Meaningful improvements to sustainable travel and public transport must be considered, along with other road improvements which should not be limited to the radial routes into/out of the City.
 - f) The Council must be appropriately represented at meetings/groups which influence the delivery and routing of strategic infrastructure, including the A46 Expressway and the A5 improvements.
 - g) Further stakeholder consultation on important strategic matters will be undertaken.

Summary of reasons:

1. Approval of the SGP will put in place a key long-term strategy for the future development and prosperity of Leicester & Leicestershire.
2. The revised SGP is being submitted to each participating authority for approval during the autumn/early winter and it is likely that, during this process, the need for some minor changes will be identified. Enabling the Chief Executive (or equivalent) to make such amendments following consultation with the Leader and Joint Strategic Planning Manager (JSPM) will avoid unnecessary delay: the Joint Strategic Planning Manager reports to all partner organisations and acts on behalf of the Members’ Advisory Group.

Cllr Hallam re-joined the meeting following the discussion and determination of the above item.

REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE

It was moved by Cllr Bannister and seconded by Cllr King and

RESOLVED that the report from the Executive be received.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

There were none.

REPORTS ON THE BUSINESS OF JOINT ARRANGEMENTS AND EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS

There were none.

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SCRUTINY COMMISSION

Councillor Dann presented his report, as set out below:

We have now entered into the third cycle of Scrutiny meetings for the year, with the meeting of the Scrutiny Commission having taken place on 29th November and (at the time of writing) the meeting of the Communities Scrutiny Panel scheduled for 6th December 2018.

The minutes from these meetings and those in the second cycle will be available on-line once approved at the following meeting. In the meantime I can summarise some of the main outcomes:

Scrutiny Commission:

The Scrutiny Commission received a report on the Council's Performance at the end of Quarter Two and also agreed the Scrutiny Workplan for the forthcoming months, which promises to keep us fully engaged.

Finally, the Commission considered a paper recommending options for streamlining its work. After discussion it was resolved that the Commission would move to two scheduled meetings each year (in June and November), with a further two dates reserved for any additional meetings that might be required. This change remains within the scope of the existing Scrutiny Procedure Rules and can be made by resolution of the Commission itself. At its two regular meetings, the Commission will continue to consider half-year / end of year performance reports and the Scrutiny Workplan.

Future Scrutiny Events

The third cycle of Scrutiny meetings will be concluded later in December. The following items are currently planned - further details are included in the full Scrutiny Workplan, which is available to view in the ["Public Documents" section on CMIS](#).

Communities (06/12/2018):

- Annual review of Partnership Register
- Lightbulb Service Delivery
- Charities and Voluntary Organisations
- Empty Property Update

Performance (13/12/2018):

- Quarterly Financial Performance: Quarter 2
- Risk and Opportunity Management, End of Quarter 2
- Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act (RIPA)
- Planning Enforcement Protocol

ANNUAL TREASURY MANAGEMENT REPORT AND ACTUAL PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS 2017/18 AND MID YEAR TREASURY MANAGEMENT REPORT 2018/19

The Council considered the report and noted that treasury management is an integral part of the Council's finances providing for cash flow management and financing of capital schemes and

therefore underpins all of the Council's aims. The Annual Treasury report is a requirement of the Council's reporting procedures, and covers the treasury management activity for 2017/18 and the actual Prudential Indicators for 2017/18 in accordance with the requirements of the Prudential Code.

The treasury position as of 31 March 2018 confirmed that the Council has remained a net investor during 2017/18, despite not undertaking any new borrowing since 2008, for which approval has already been given by the Council in approving the capital programme and prudential indicators.

It was moved by Councillor Hallam, seconded by Councillor Bannister and

RESOLVED that:

- (i) The Annual Treasury Management Report for 2017/18 be noted.
- (ii) The outturn Prudential Indicators for 2017/18 be approved.
- (iii) The 2018/19 mid year Treasury Management Report be noted.
- (iv) The amendment to the Minimum Revenue Policy (MRP) set out in Appendix A, Section 8 (d) of the officer's report be approved.

Summary of reasons:

- 1 The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's (CIPFA) Code of Practice on Treasury Management in Local Authorities requires an Annual Treasury Report be brought before Council following the end of the financial year in question.
2. The Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities, introduced on 1 April 2004, requires that the Council approves the actual Prudential Indicators after the end of the financial year.

SPECIAL EXPENSES POLICY

Council was asked to approve the updated special expenses policy for application from 1st April 2019 and to note changes to the reporting of special expenses in the recommendation by Executive of budget proposals to Council for approval to aid clarity and transparency.

It was moved by Cllr Hallam, seconded by Cllr King that the recommendation be amended to include an additional paragraph, 2.3, as the substantive motion, as follows:

"2.3. To engage constructively with the affected Parish Councils to listen to any concerns that may be raised and give clarification to them about the said policy."

The Portfolio Holder stated that special expenses were not charged to all resident of the district and were a fair and transparent way of charging for expenses. The last review of the policy had taken place on 22nd February 2016. He had requested the s151 officer to undertake a review of the policy following a number of changes in special expenses since that time. The review had been completed, as detailed at Appendix b to the officer's report, and affected residents would be notified of the changes via their 2019/20 Council Tax bills.

A further amendment was proposed by Cllr Dann, seconded by Cllr Tomlin, that:

"This Council should defer this paper until such time the relative parishes noted in the report have been given the opportunity to either accept the special expense or agree to take on all or part of the work from their parish precept."

The Monitoring Officer confirmed that the amendment fell within the provisions of Paragraph 13.6 a) of Part 4(1) of the Constitution.

On being put to the vote the amendment was lost.

The recommendation, as amended by the addition of 2.3, was then put to the vote as the substantive motion.

At the request of a member, supported by four other members, there was a recorded vote on the motion.

For:

Councillor Mrs Ackerley, Bannister, Bateman, Beesley-Reynolds, Bilbie, Champion, Chapman, Dann, Evans, Hallam, Holyoak, King, Liquorish, Modha, Nunn, Rook,, Spendlove-Mason, Tomlin and Mrs Wood (19).

Against:

Councillors, Dunton, Galton, Graves, Dr Hill, Johnson, Knowles (6).

Abstentions:

Councillors Bowles, Mrs Burrell, Elliott, Mrs Page and Mrs Simpson (5).

On being put to the vote the motion was carried.

RESOLVED that

- (i) That the updated Special Expense Policy set out in Appendix B of the officer's report be adopted for application from the 1st April 2019.
- (ii) That it be noted and approved that surpluses/deficits from the 2017/18 outturn be transferred to an Earmarked Reserve in line with the proposed policy.
- (iii) To engage constructively with the affected Parish Councils to listen to any concerns that may be raised and give clarification to them about the said policy.

Summary of Reasons:

To refresh the Special Expense Policy (last updated in February 2016) and to recommend that additional information of the distribution of expenditure between General Fund items and Special Expense items is provided within the Executive's recommendation of budget to the Council.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER

The Meeting continued until 9.15p.m. In accordance with Part 4, Section 1, Paragraph 4.2 of the Council's Constitution (Duration of Meetings), it was proposed by Cllr King, seconded by Cllr Bannister.

RESOLVED: That the Meeting should continue for the duration of the remaining items

GAMBLING ACT 2005 – REVISED STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES 2019-2022

Approval of the revised Statement of Principles 2019 – 2022 for Gambling Premises was sought following public consultation between 10th September 2018 and 21st October 2018, to which no representations had been received. The existing Statement of Principles will expire on 31st January 2019 and the Licensing Committee at its meeting on 5th September 2018 had approved public consultation on the revised Statement of Principles.

It was moved by Cllr Bannister, seconded by Cllr King and

RESOLVED that the revised Statement of Principles under the Gambling Act 2005 as set out in Appendix A to the officer's report be approved.

Summary of Reasons

- 1 In accordance with the Gambling Act 2005 the Council is required to publish a Statement of Principles and the document must be reviewed every three years.
- 2 The existing Statement of Principles expires on 31st January 2019.
- 3 At the meeting of the Licensing Committee on 5th September 2018, members approved that the revised Statement of Principles as set out in Appendix A should be subject to a period of public consultation running from 10th September 2018 to 21st October 2018.
- 4 No representations were received during the consultation period.

UNITARY PROPOSALS FOR LEICESTERSHIRE - UPDATE

Council received an update on the current position regarding Leicestershire County Council's ("the County Council") proposals for developing a unitary structure for Leicestershire and specifically to consider if it wished to make representations to the County Council on the proposals. Council considered the detail of the report made to the County Council's Cabinet on 16th October 2018 (as appended to the officer's report), particularly the attached appendices which set out the detail of the County Council proposals. It was noted that the proposals were not considered by the County Council on 23rd November 2018 as anticipated in the County Council's Cabinet report of 16th October 2018.

The Leader proposed that in view of the lateness of the hour the item be deferred until the scheduled Council meeting in January 2019 to enable it to be fully debated and to allow all members to give their views on the matter. He gave an assurance that the views of members of both parties and of the officers would be sought to prepare a draft submission for consideration at that meeting.

It was moved by Cllr Bannister, seconded by Cllr Knowles and

RESOLVED: That in view of the lateness of the hour the report be deferred until the scheduled Council meeting on 28th January 2019 to enable the item to be detailed in full and to give all members an opportunity to air their views.

Summary of reasons:

To consider the County Council's proposals regarding its proposals for a unitary structure for Leicestershire and whether the Council wants to submit a formal representation on the options to the County Council. The deferral would allow an opportunity to prepare a draft submission for debate and take into account the views of the opposition group.

SECTION 100A LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

RESOLVED that the public and press be excluded from the remainder of the meeting on the grounds that the matter yet to be discussed involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972.

LAND AT DE VERDON ROAD, LUTTERWORTH: FUTURE OPTIONS: EXEMPT

Council considered a recommendation made from the Executive at its meeting held on 13th November 2018.

It was moved by Cllr Hallam, seconded by Cllr King and

RESOLVED

- (i) That the capital programme is revised in line with the Outline Business Case, as set out below:

Expenditure	£000	Capital Receipts	£000
	11,050		15,920

- (ii) That authority be delegated to the Joint Chief Executive (BJ) in consultation with the Head of Legal and Democratic Services to take any necessary actions to complete the sales of the residential houses at the figure outlined in the Final Business Case or Market Value at the point of sale.

Summary of Reasons:

1. To satisfy Corporate Delivery Plan 2018/19 Critical Outcome 3: Quality Homes for all, KA.03.01 Achieve delivery of an appropriate mix and type of housing that meets local need throughout the District, across all tenures.
2. To seek to deliver the right homes for first time buyers and improved quality affordable homes in conjunction with an agreed Register Provider.
3. In addition to the primary objective in 3.1 and 3.2 above, to satisfy Corporate Delivery Plan 2018/19 Critical Outcome 10: Deliver Financial Sustainability for the future, KA 10.01 To develop business cases to deliver cost savings and income generation proposals (including capital investment options).
4. To seek to realise the maximum benefits from the Council's assets.

URGENT ITEMS

There were none.

The Meeting ended at 9.33p.m.