

MINUTES of the COUNCIL MEETING of the
SOUTH DERBYSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
held at the Civic Offices, Civic Way, Swadlincote
on Thursday 11 April 2024
at 6.00pm

PRESENT:

Councillor S Bambrick (Chair) and Councillor M Gee (Vice-Chair) and Councillors A Archer, A Haynes, I Hudson, J Jackson, A Jones, L Mulgrew, M Mulgrew, R Pearson, V Redfern, G Rhind, D Shepherd, L Singh, B Stuart, S Taylor, A Tilley and N Tilley.

Conservative Group

Councillors N Atkin, M Ford, K Haines, A Kirke, S Meghani, D Muller and P Watson.

Liberal Democrats

Councillors G Andrew and J Davies

Non-Grouped

Councillor A Wheelton

CL/136 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence from the Meeting were received from Councillors: J Carroll, S Harrison, G Jones D Pegg and K Storey, (Labour Group) and Councillors: D Corbin and J Lowe (Conservative Group).

CL/137 **PRESENTATION: INSPECTOR MIKE SISMAN**

The Chief Executive welcomed Police Inspector Mike Sisman and invited him to address Council.

The Police Inspector presented an overview of Community Safety and the working partnership with the Communities Manager and teams across the Council. Council was updated on Domestic Abuse, youth engagement, shoplifting and Anti-Social Behaviour. The Police Inspector informed Council of a small increase in household burglaries and the thefts of high end cars.

The Police Inspector highlighted how Immediate Justice, a local remedy of community work had helped to reduce repeat offending of Anti-Social Behaviour and how a company called Streetwise had attended schools to work with individuals which had a positive impact in preventing Anti-Social Behaviour.

The Communities Manager addressed Council and confirmed the positive impact that multi-agency working had and how with youngsters had helped to reduce Anti-Social Behaviour.

The Police Inspector thanked officers and Members for their support during his time in South Derbyshire and added that whilst he would be moving to Head Quarters, he would still link in with the Council as it had been the best partnership in his policing career.

The Leader of the Council thanked Police Inspector Sisman for his attendance at Council and commended the successful partnership that had been due to the Police Inspector's openness and accessibility and his ability as a great communicator. The Leader of the Council congratulated the Police Inspector on the promotion and wished him every success in the future.

CL/138 **TO CONFIRM THE OPEN MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS**

The Open Minutes of the Council Meeting held on the 28 February 2024 (CL/110 - CL/132) were approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.

CL/ 139 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Council was informed that a declaration of interest had been received from Councillor N Atkin regarding item CL/147 by virtue of being a County Councillor.

Council was informed that a declaration of interest had been received from Councillor M Ford regarding item CL/147 by virtue of being a County Councillor.

Council was informed that a declaration of interest had been received from Councillor A Haynes regarding item CL/147 by virtue of being a County Councillor.

Council was informed that a declaration of interest had been received from Councillor D Muller regarding item CL/147 by virtue of being a County Councillor.

CL/ 140 **ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR**

The Chair of Council updated Members of his attendance at the Japanese School, the ATC Freedom of the District march and Erewash Civic Dinner. The Chair informed Council of the success of the Northern Soul Fundraising night and invited Members to attend the up and coming Chair's Civic Dinner.

CL/141 **ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE LEADER**

The Leader of the Council addressed Members and informed them of his visit along with the Chair and the Chief Executive to the Japanese School and how interesting it was to learn about Japanese culture and that he was impressed by how much the students enjoyed learning.

The Leader of the Council announced the up and coming elections on 2 May 2024 and thanked the Returning Officer and colleagues for all their hard work.

CL/142 **ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE HEAD OF PAID SERVICE**

The Head of Paid Service addressed Council and thanked former Councillor Martin Fitzpatrick for all his hard work. Members were urged to attend the Emergency and Disruption to Business Continuity Training on 16 April 2024. The Head of Paid Service announced that 1 April 2024 marked the 50 year anniversary of South Derbyshire District Council and that celebrations would commence with Civic Council and other events throughout the year.

CL/143 **QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO. 10**

Council was informed that no questions had been received.

CL/144 **QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO. 11**

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule No.11 Councillor Meghani asked the Leader of the Council the following question:

“Can the Leader of the Council please explain why so many residents in Hilton – 25 streets across the village – did not have their black bins emptied as scheduled on Monday 11 March 2024?”

The Leader of the Council thanked Councillor S Meghani for his question and informed Council that this was an operational matter and that an unprecedented level of sickness absence meant that some rounds were not covered and that any missed collections were collected the next day.

CL/145 **NOTICES OF MOTION IN ORDER OF WHICH THEY WERE RECEIVED**

Council was informed that no notices of motion had been received.

CL/146 **MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2024/25 – 2028/29**

The Strategic Director (Corporate Resources) addressed Council and presented the report noting that the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2024/25 – 2028-29 responded to the current five year plan which without intervention would deplete reserves.

The Leader of the Council thanked the Strategic Director (Corporate Resources) for the excellent consultation process with Members which had involved all Members of the Council. The Leader of the Council commended the report and noted how the strategy gave financial stability, with a reduction in expenditure and an increase in income.

Councillor Meghani addressed Council and echoed the Leader’s comments regarding the good work and explained that as the Conservative Group had proposed an alternative budget approach the group would not be supporting the strategy.

Councillor Wheelton sought clarity regarding plans for parking and green waste charges.

The Strategic Director (Corporate Resources) explained that there were no plans to charge for parking and collection of green waste.

RESOLVED:

- 1.1 Council approved the Medium-Term Financial Strategy 2024/25 – 2028/29 as per Appendix 1 to the report.***
- 1.2 Council noted the creation of the Sustainable Finance reserve through transfer of £10.4 million from General Reserves, under existing powers delegated to the Strategic Director (Corporate Resources).***

CL/147 **DERBY AND DERBYSHIRE STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP BOARD**

The Chief Executive addressed Council and presented the report noting how the partnership board would enable councils to work together to improve outcomes for all, across Derbyshire and would give South Derbyshire District Council a voice when the Mayoral Combined Authority was created.

The Leader of the Council commended the report and how the partnership board would be a shared voice in the Mayoral Combined Authority and would not be a loss of governance.

RESOLVED:

- 1.1 Council approved the establishment of the Derby and Derbyshire Strategic Leadership Board as a Joint Committee of the Council.***
- 1.2 Council approved that none of the Council's functions would be delegated to the Joint Committee.***
- 1.3 Council noted the Terms of Reference, Functions and Responsibilities, Procedural Rules and Information Procedure Rules for the Strategic Leadership Board as set out at Appendix 3 to the report.***
- 1.4 Council appointed the Leader of the Council as the Council's representative on the Derby and Derbyshire Strategic Leadership Board and the Deputy Leader of the Council as a Substitute.***
- 1.5 Council noted the intention that the Derby and Derbyshire Strategic Leadership Board be the body for the nomination of District and Borough representatives to the East Midlands Combined County Authority, when established.***
- 1.6 Council noted that Derbyshire County Council would act as the host authority for the Joint Committee.***

- 1.7 Council noted the dissolution of the Derby and Derbyshire Joint Committee for Economic Prosperity.**
- 1.8 Council noted the transfer of the remaining funds and responsibilities for the Business Rate Retention pooled funds currently held by the Derby and Derbyshire Joint Committee for Economic Prosperity to the Derby and Derbyshire Strategic Leadership Board.**
- 1.9 Council noted the dissolution of the Vision Derbyshire Joint Committee.**
- 1.10 Council noted the dissolution of the Derbyshire Economic Partnership and noted that the Council's existing financial contribution to that body would cease.**
- 1.11 Council approved South Derbyshire District Council's active participation in the Derby and Derbyshire Strategic Leadership Board together with an annual contribution of £15,000.**

CL/148 **PAY POLICY STATEMENT 2024/2025**

The Strategic Director (Corporate Resources) presented the report and pointed out an error in the covering report, where the figures had been entered against the wrong pay multiple at points 3.2 and 3.3 and that at 3.2 the comparison year should read 2023/2024 and not 2022/23. The Pay Policy Statement itself was correct.

Members considered the report and supported the officer's recommendation.

RESOLVED:

- 1.1 Council approved the Pay Policy Statement, for the financial year 2024/2025, for publication.**

CL/149 **HOUSING CONSUMER STANDARDS**

The Strategic Director (Service Delivery) addressed Council and presented the report. It was explained that at point 4.2 within the report, the four area ratings fell short due to a stock survey and consumer engagement and that the proposed Housing Services Working Group would provide an update to the Housing and Communities Committee in April 2024.

Councillor Rhind supported the report and welcomed the formation of the working group but noted the disappointment of not meeting the government's deadline.

Councillor Wheelton sought clarity as to why there was no update report prior to the deadline of 01 April 2024.

The Strategic Director (Service Delivery) addressed Council and explained that officers had been working through the process and were probably a bit ambitious given the deadline.

RESOLVED:

- 1.1 Council approved that the Regulator for Social Housing be advised of the outcome of South Derbyshire District Council's self-assessment against the Housing Consumer Standards.**
- 1.2 Council approved that south Derbyshire District Council made a self-referral for non-compliance with the Housing Consumer Standards, along with a request of a 12 month extension to meet the required standards.**
- 1.3 Council approved the formation and appointment of Member representatives to a Housing Services Working Group and approved the Terms of Reference of the Group as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report.**
- 1.4 Council approved that the Performance Improvement Plan, agreed by the Housing Services Working Group, be reported to the Housing and Community Services Committee, with regular updates on progression of the Plan.**

CL/150 **DRAFT CYCLE OF MEETINGS 2024-25**

Councillor Shepherd proposed that the Planning Committee meetings be amended to include a three weekly cycle of meetings for a twelve month period.

RESOLVED:

- 1.1 That the Draft Cycle of Meetings 2024/25 be deferred so that it could be amended to include a 3 weekly cycle of Planning Committees for a 12 month period and then revert back to the 4 weekly cycle as approved by Environmental and Services Committee.**

CL/151 **OPEN MINUTES:**

Council received and considered the open minutes of the following Committees.

Committee	Date	Minutes Nos
Housing and Community Services	01 February 2024	HCS/63 – HCS/76
Finance and Management	15 February 2024	FM/91– FM/102
Environmental and Development Services	29 February 2024	EDS/80 – EDS/88
Planning	05 March 2024	PL/180 – PL/194
Housing and Community Services Committee	07 March 2024	HCS/85 – HCS/93

Licensing and Appeals Sub-Committee	12 March 2024	LAS/39 – LAS/41
Finance and Management Committee	14 March 2024	FM/110 – FM/122
Planning (Extraordinary)	19 March 2024	PL/197 – PL/209

RESOLVED:

That the Open Minutes of the above mentioned Committees were approved as a true record.

CL/152 **APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES, SUB-COMMITTEES AND WORKING PANELS 2023/24**

Members reviewed the composition of Committees, Sub-Committees and Working Panels 2023/24.

RESOLVED:

Council was informed no amendments were to be made.

CL/153 **COMPOSITION OF SUBSTITUTE PANELS**

Members reviewed the composition of the Substitute Panels 2023/24.

RESOLVED:

Council was informed no amendments were to be made.

CL/154 **APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES 2023/24**

Members reviewed the Outside Bodies representation list 2023/24

RESOLVED:

Council was informed that no amendments were to be made.

CL/155 **APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER CHAMPIONS**

Members reviewed the Representation of Member Champions.

RESOLVED:

Council was informed no amendments were to be made.

CL/156 **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 (AS AMENDED BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT [ACCESS TO INFORMATION] ACT 1985)**

RESOLVED:

That in accordance with Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) the press and public be excluded from the remainder

of the Meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined under the paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act as indicated in the reports of Committees.

EXEMPT MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL

The Exempt Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 28 February 2024 (CL/133 - CL/135) were approved as a true record.

EXEMPT QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NUMBER 11

Council was informed that no questions had been received.

EXEMPT MINUTES

Council received and considered the Exempt Minutes of its Committees.

<i>Committee</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Minutes Nos</i>
<i>Housing and Community Services Committee</i>	<i>01 February 2024</i>	<i>HCS/77 - HCS/84</i>
<i>Finance and Management Committee</i>	<i>15 February 2024</i>	<i>FM/103 – FM/109</i>
<i>Environmental and Development Services Committee</i>	<i>29 February 2024</i>	<i>EDS/8 – HCS/90</i>
<i>Planning</i>	<i>05 March 2024</i>	<i>PL/195 – PL/197</i>
<i>Housing and Community Services Committee</i>	<i>07 March 2024</i>	<i>HCS/94– HCS/98</i>
<i>Licensing and Appeals Sub-Committee</i>	<i>12 March 2024</i>	<i>LAS/42</i>
<i>Finance and Management Committee</i>	<i>14 March 2024</i>	<i>FM/123 – FM/126</i>

The meeting terminated at 19:00hours.

COUNCILLOR S BAMBRICK

CHAIR OF THE DISTRICT COUNCIL