

EAST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

22 JUNE 2022

PRESENT: Councillors Whittle (Chairman), Abraham, Aitken, Beaumont, Birch, Boynton, Burton, Copsey, Corless, Coultish, Davison, Dealtry, Dennis, Elvidge, Evison, Fox, Gateshill, Gill, Green, Hammond, Handley, Harold, Healy, Heslop-Mullens, Holmes, Holtby, Jefferson, B Jeffreys, D Jeffreys, Johnson, Jump, Lee, Mathieson, Matthews, Medini, Meredith, Nickerson, Nolan, Norman, Owen, Padden, Rogers, Rudd, Smith, Sutton, Sykes, Temple, A Walker, Weeks, K West, P West and Wilkinson.

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors C Bayram, L Bayram, Dewhurst, Healing, Horton, Sargeantson, Skow, Stathers, Steel, Tucker and Winter.

The Council meeting was held at County Hall, Beverley and was live streamed on YouTube.

57/22 MINUTE'S SILENCE - The Council held a minute's silence in respect of former Councillor, Pauline Greenwood, Ward Councillor for Beverley Rural, who sadly passed away in June 2022.

58/22 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY, NON-PECUNIARY AND PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS - In relation to Minute 67/22 - Notice of Motion - Bank Closures, Councillor Wilkinson declared a non-pecuniary interest insofar as he had been a director of various banks and was in receipt of an associated pension.

In relation to Minute 70/22 - Notice of Motion - Access to GP and NHS Dental Services, Councillors Norman and A Walker declared non-pecuniary interests insofar as they were trustees of Bridlington Health Forum.

In relation to Minute 70/22 - Notice of Motion - Access to GP and NHS Dental Services, Councillor Abraham declared a non-pecuniary interest insofar as she was a registered patient of Hessle Grange Medical Group.

In relation to Minute 71/22 - Notice of Motion - Yorkshire Coast Business Improvement District, Councillor Evison declared a non-pecuniary interest insofar as she was an ex-officio director of the Yorkshire Coast Business Improvement District board.

In relation to Minute 71/22 - Notice of Motion - Yorkshire Coast Business Improvement District, Councillor Norman declared a pecuniary interest insofar as he was a director of a business which was subject to Yorkshire Coast Business Improvement District levy.

In relation to Minute 71/22 - Notice of Motion - Yorkshire Coast Business Improvement District, Councillor Burton declared a non-pecuniary interest insofar as he owned businesses which had the potential to become subject to Yorkshire Coast Business Improvement District levy.

59/22 MINUTES - Moved by the Chairman, seconded by Councillor Owen, and

Resolved - That the minutes of the meeting held on 12 May 2022 be approved and signed as a correct record.

60/22 MINUTES OF THE CABINET AND COMMITTEES - Moved by the Chairman, seconded by Councillor Owen, and

Resolved - That the minutes of the meetings listed at Item 6 on the Council Summons be received and the recommendations contained therein be approved and adopted with the exception of Minute 102/22 of The Cabinet held on 7 June 2022, Minutes 14/22 and 26/22 of the Health, Care and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee held on 8 March and 24 May 2022 respectively, and Minute 32/22 of the Environment and Regeneration Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee held on 25 May 2022.

The Cabinet:-

19 April 2022
17 May 2022
7 June 2022

Overview Management and Scrutiny Committee and Sub-Committees:-

Health, Care and Wellbeing of 15 February, 8 March, 26 April and 24 May 2022
Overview Management and Scrutiny of 24 March and 7 April 2022
Children and Young People of 18 May 2022
Safer and Stronger Communities of 19 May 2022
Environment and Regeneration of 13 April and 25 May 2022

Non-Executive Committees:-

Audit of 18 March 2022
Health and Wellbeing Board of 24 March 2022
Staff Terms and Conditions of 11 April 2022
Planning of 7 and 28 April and 26 May 2022
Eastern Area Planning of 21 March, 11 April and 16 May 2022
Western Area Planning of 22 March, 12 April and 17 May 2022
Standards Assessment of 29 March 2022
Licensing Act 2003 of 30 March, 26 April, 10 and 20 May 2022
Standards of 5 April 2022
Pensions of 29 April 2022
Appointments of 17 and 30 May, 1, 6 and 7 June 2022
Licensing of 6 June 2022.

61/22 EXCEPTED MINUTE - THE CABINET - MINUTE 102/22 - EAST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE RURAL STRATEGY 2022-2027 - Moved by Councillor Owen, seconded by Councillor Handley, and

Resolved - That the excepted minute be received.

62/22 EXCEPTED MINUTE - HEALTH, CARE AND WELLBEING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE - MINUTE 14/22 - COMMUNITY HOSPITALS - Moved by Councillor Beaumont, seconded by Councillor Fox, and

Resolved - That the excepted minute be received.

63/22 EXCEPTED MINUTE - HEALTH, CARE AND WELLBEING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE - MINUTE 26/22 - HESSLE GRANGE PRACTICE MERGERS - Moved by Councillor Beaumont, seconded by Councillor Fox, and

Resolved - That the excepted minute be received.

64/22 EXCEPTED MINUTE - ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE - MINUTE 32/22 - LEVELLING UP THE EAST YORKSHIRE COAST - Moved by Councillor Meredith, seconded by Councillor K West, and

Resolved - That the excepted minute be received.

65/22 LEADER'S UPDATE - The Leader of the Council submitted an oral report updating the Council on current issues. At the conclusion of his report Members had the opportunity to ask questions relating to the content of his update.

66/22 QUESTIONS UNDER PROCEDURE RULE 7.8(i) -

(a) Councillor Abraham asked whether, given that a feasibility study was carried out in 2019, supported by this Council, into a new parkway railway station in Melton, and an area of land had been set aside by the owners of the allocated employment site known as Melt E, along its southern boundary, if the Leader could provide an update as to the stage that this potential project had reached, and when members of the local communities that may be impacted would be apprised of and consulted on the same?

Councillor Owen replied.

Councillor Abraham asked a supplementary question.

Councillor Owen replied.

(b) Councillor Healy asked if the Leader shared residents' frustration that the Elm Tree Park development in Molescroft remained unadopted after more than six years of occupancy due to inaction and delay on the part of the developer, and what could the Council do if developers failed in their responsibilities to progress developments to adopt in a timely manner?

Councillor Holmes replied.

Councillor Healy asked a supplementary question.

Councillor Holmes replied.

(c) Councillor Johnson asked whether, with so many of our residents in debt or struggling to pay energy bills, buy food and afford fuel, would the Leader agree that we should do more to publicise our Money Helper Service and Welfare Visiting Team which could assist people with their financial worries and also protect their mental health?

Councillor Owen replied.

Councillor Johnson asked a supplementary question.

Councillor Owen replied.

(d) Councillor Nickerson ask if the Leader agreed with him that the role of the Parent Carer Forum as a critical friend had been essential to the ongoing improvement of our SEN service and the Council should do everything within its powers to ensure they receive their essential DFE funding as soon as possible?

Councillor Aitken replied.

(e) Councillor Hammond asked if the Leader agreed with him, that Natural England's Proposed designation of an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Status for the Yorkshire Wolds was far too small, and this Council should be doing all it can to push for the designation area to be widened to encompass more of our beautiful Wolds?

Councillor Evison replied.

(f) Councillor Fox asked if the Leader could provide her with an update on the Ouse Bridge and Boothferry Bridge repair works?

Councillor Owen replied.

(g) Councillor Burton asked if the Leader could confirm whether there were plans to levy fuel subsidies for care workers?

Councillor Harold replied.

67/22 PORTFOLIO HOLDER REPORTS

(a) Councillor Holmes, the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Infrastructure and Housing submitted an oral report on matters within the remit of her portfolio. At the conclusion of the report, Members had the opportunity to ask questions relating to the content of the report.

(b) Councillor Elvidge, the Portfolio Holder for Community Empowerment and Voluntary Sector submitted an oral report on matters within the remit of his portfolio. At the conclusion of the report, Members had the opportunity to ask questions relating to the content of the report.

NOTICES OF MOTION

68/22 BANK CLOSURES - Moved by Councillor Evison, seconded by Councillor Green, and

Resolved - That this Council:

recognises that the use of high street banks has reduced in recent years and the argument made by the banks that it is not viable to maintain the same presence is valid. However, there are many people who have banking needs but do not have computers or are reluctant to bank online. The closure of a high street's banks can also reduce the access to ATM machines.

This Council therefore undertakes a survey of Bank Closures within the area covered by the East Riding of Yorkshire Council, which has left many residents with very little or no banking service including the removal of an ATM provision, and ask the banks who have closed branches to:

(a) Investigate the possibility of offering a mobile service or an outreach service using village halls or community facilities, and

(b) Look into alternative provision of ATM machines being located on the premises of alternative existing businesses.

69/22 PLANNING SYSTEM COMMUNICATIONS CAMPAIGN - Moved by Councillor Hammond and seconded by Councillor P West:

That this Council:

- (a) recognises the importance for local residents to be aware of, and to be able to comment on planning applications in their area and influence decisions made on said applications.
- (b) has concerns that not all residents are fully aware of how to navigate the planning system to their benefit to ensure this.
- (c) resolves to launch a communications campaign to inform residents of the East Riding on the planning system, so that they understand how to be informed of relevant planning applications and how to put their views forward. Specifically, the campaign will aim to inform residents on how the planning system works, what are material planning considerations, and the relevance of national and local planning policy and the role of statutory consultants in reaching a decision.

The aspects of this campaign will include, but does not have to be limited to the following:

1. A section in the Council's magazine, 'Your East Riding', sent to every household in the County.
2. A media campaign, involving both relevant Members and officers, using traditional media and social media.
3. A podcast series involving both relevant officers and Members, to be promoted on the Council's YouTube Channel with a permanent link from the Planning section of the East Riding Council Website.

Councillor Nolan had submitted the following amendment, moved by Councillor Nolan and seconded by Councillor Davison:

To add: (d) revert back to the practice of issuing neighbour notification letters.

Amendment lost.

Voting on the amendment was by way of a recorded vote as follows:

For: Councillors Boynton, Corless, Davison, Gill, Healy, Heslop-Mullens, Jefferson, B Jeffreys, D Jeffreys, Johnson, Jump, Mathieson, Nolan, Norman, Padden, Sutton, A Walker and Whittle.

Against: Councillors Abraham, Beaumont, Birch, Burton, Copsey, Dennis, Elvidge, Evison, Fox, Gateshill, Green, Hammond, Handley, Harold, Holmes, Holtby, Lee, Matthews, Medini, Meredith, Nickerson, Owen, Rogers, Rudd, Smith, Sykes, Temple, Weeks, K West, and P West.

Abstentions: Councillor Wilkinson.

For: 18

Against: 30

Abstentions: 1

Councillor Norman moved a further amendment, seconded by Councillor A Walker:

To add to paragraph (c): ...and to inform residents of how their applications can be considered by committees.

Amendment lost.

Resolved - That this Council:

- (a) recognises the importance for local residents to be aware of, and to be able to comment on planning applications in their area and influence decisions made on said applications.
- (b) has concerns that not all residents are fully aware of how to navigate the planning system to their benefit to ensure this.
- (c) resolves to launch a communications campaign to inform residents of the East Riding on the planning system, so that they understand how to be informed of relevant planning applications and how to put their views forward. Specifically, the campaign will aim to inform residents on how the planning system works, what are material planning considerations, and the relevance of national and local planning policy and the role of statutory consultants in reaching a decision.

The aspects of this campaign will include, but does not have to be limited to the following:

A section in the Council's magazine, 'Your East Riding', sent to every household in the County.

- (i) A media campaign, involving both relevant Members and officers, using traditional media and social media.
- (ii) A podcast series involving both relevant officers and Members, to be promoted on the Council's YouTube Channel with a permanent link from the Planning section of the East Riding Council Website.

70/22 ASYLUM SEEKERS' RESETTLEMENT SCHEME - Moved by Councillor Medini and seconded by Councillor Green:

That this Council:

writes to the Minister for Safe and Legal Migration, and the Home Secretary, to express our concerns and dissatisfaction in respect of the UK asylum seekers' resettlement scheme in the East Riding. Residents have been left in the dark, with no consultation or opportunity to engage with the Home Office and the contractor running the scheme, as they hide behind an NDA in their contract. Local communities are not in the thinking process regarding these schemes.

In addition, this Council encourages integration and community cohesion by strengthening links between refugees, those seeking asylum and local communities, challenging discrimination and negative perceptions of refugees and those seeking asylum.

Councillor Mathieson had submitted the following amendment, moved by Councillor Mathieson and seconded by Councillor Jump:

That this Council:

writes to the Minister for Safe and Legal Migration, and to the Home Secretary, to express our concerns in respect of the UK asylum seeker's resettlement scheme in the East Riding.

Fear of the unknown, unchecked by appropriate public information, leaves residents vulnerable to misinformation and scaremongering. We seek reassurance that risk assessments undertaken when allocating suitable placements fully consider the sensitivities of local communities and the impact of publicity. Unfounded fears create unnecessary obstacles to this Council and to community groups as we seek to promote integration and community cohesion and to challenge discrimination and negative perceptions of refugees and those seeking asylum.

Amendment lost.

Voting on the substantive motion was by way of a recorded vote as follows:

For: Councillors Abraham, Beaumont, Boynton, Corless, Davison, Dennis Elvidge, Evison, Gateshill, Gill, Green, Hammond, Handley, Harold, Healy, Heslop-Mullens, Holmes, Holtby, Jefferson, B Jeffreys, D Jeffreys, Johnson, Lee, Matthews, Medini, Meredith, Nickerson, Nolan, Owen, Padden, Rogers, Rudd, Smith, Sutton, Temple, A Walker, Weeks, K West, P West and Whittle.

Against: none.

Abstentions: Councillors Jump, Mathieson and Norman

For: 40

Against: 3

Abstentions: 0

Resolved - That this Council:

writes to the Minister for Safe and Legal Migration, and the Home Secretary, to express our concerns and dissatisfaction in respect of the UK asylum seekers' resettlement scheme in the East Riding. Residents have been left in the dark, with no consultation or opportunity to engage with the Home Office and the contractor running the scheme, as they hide behind an NDA in their contract. Local communities are not in the thinking process regarding these schemes.

In addition, this Council encourages integration and community cohesion by strengthening links between refugees, those seeking asylum and local communities, challenging discrimination and negative perceptions of refugees and those seeking asylum.

71/22 ACCESS TO GP AND NHS DENTAL SERVICES - Moved by Councillor Heslop-Mullens, seconded by Councillor Nolan, and

Resolved - That this Council:

(a) Notes with concern that access to GP's and NHS Dentists appears to be worsening for our residents and is at an unacceptable level.

(b) Lobbies the relevant bodies to improve these vital services, and

(c) Writes to the Government and local MP's expressing our concern at the erosion of these important local services.

Having declared a pecuniary interest in the following item (Minute 72/22), Councillor Norman left the chamber and took no part in the discussion or voting on this item.

72/22 YORKSHIRE COAST BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT - Moved by Councillor Nolan, seconded by Councillor A Walker, and

Resolved - That this Council:

In light of the extraordinary, unforeseeable and unpredicted hardships to businesses throughout the pandemic and these early days of its aftermath, in consideration of the many unprecedented challenges facing BID Levy-payers, now additionally burdened by repayments under the Coronavirus Bounce Back Loan Scheme (BBLs), now examine and debate the past and present performance of the Yorkshire Coast BID, its future operation and fitness for purpose.

Additionally, following recent professional and VAT expert advice to businesses in the Scarborough Borough Council area, this Council resolves to:

(a) Review all financial procedures in order to ensure that this Council has followed the correct and legal billing and invoicing procedures.

(b) Resolve to abstain from voting on the establishment or maintenance of further 'Business Improvement Districts' in order that the outcome truly is the will of businesses.

73/22 THE CABINET - URGENT DECISIONS - The Director of Corporate Resources submitted a report setting out urgent key decisions taken by The Cabinet. The arrangements for urgent key decisions required to be made by The Cabinet were specified in the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) Access to Information Regulations. Urgent key decisions could only be taken in cases of special urgency and with the agreement of the Chairman of the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee. If the Chairman was unable to act for any reason, then the regulations stated that the agreement of the Chairman of the Council or in his or her absence the Vice-Chairman would suffice.

Moved by Councillor Owen, seconded by Councillor Handley, and

Resolved - That the report be noted.