

Minutes of a meeting of the **SOUTH HOLLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL** held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Priory Road, Spalding on Wednesday 28 February 2007.

PRESENT

Councillors:

A Puttick - Chairman
F Biggadike - Vice-Chairman

B Alcock	P A Espin	G J Taylor
G R Aley	C A Fretwell	M R Taylor
J M Atkin	R Gambba-Jones	D A Tennant
M Bamber	H R Johnson	P M Walls
D G Best	S Keeble	R M B West
C B Bettinson	A M Newton	D P Williams
A J Biggadike	G A Porter	S F Williams
C J T H Brewis	P S Przyszlak	A R Woolf
N T Carter	J J Rowe	C N Worth
G K Dark	M D Seymour	

Mr Keith Slater – Chairman of the Standards Committee

The Chief Executive, Timothy Leader and Andrew Petcher (Corporate Directors), Head of Finance, Head of Organisational Development and the Head of Customer, Legal and Member Services

In attendance: The Press

Apologies for absence were received from or on behalf of Councillors S M Booth, T Bray, E N Davies, C B Jackson, S G Marthews and S A North.

325. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the special meeting held on 18 January 2007 and of the meeting held on 24 January 2007 were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

326. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor G A Porter declared a personal and prejudicial interest in respect of agenda item 11 (iii) Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and Construction Services Unit (CSU) 2007/08 Revenue Estimates in view of his daughter's partner undertaking work on behalf of the Construction Services Unit and gave notice of his intention to leave the Council Chamber at that time.

Councillor A Puttick declared a personal interest, which she did not consider to be prejudicial, in respect of agenda item 16(b) (Reports from members on outside bodies – Lincolnshire County Council Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee) in view of her appointment as Chairman of the Committee.

327. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT**

(a) Civic Reception and Charity Tea Dance

The Chairman reminded members that the Civic Reception would be held on Thursday 15 March 2007, and advised that a Charity Tea Dance would be held on Friday 23 March 2007 (2.30 pm – 5.30 pm). Tickets for the Tea Dance would be on sale soon.

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328. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY LEADER AND MEMBERS OF THE CABINET

(a) Lincolnshire County Council – Waste Supplementary Services

The Leader drew members' attention to the recent withdrawal by the Lincolnshire County Council of the Waste Supplementary Service in South Holland due to a lack of funding.

329. ENHANCED POLICING ARRANGEMENTS

Inspector Tony Smith gave a presentation to members to inform them of Enhanced Policing Arrangements following which members had the opportunity to ask questions.

330. STANDARDS COMMITTEE

The minutes of the special meeting of the Standards Committee held on 23 January 2007 and of the Standards Committee held on 30 January 2007 were submitted for information.

DECISION: That the minutes be received.

331. DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Development Control Committee held on 7 February 2007 were submitted for information.

DECISION: That the minutes be received.

332. APPOINTMENTS AND DISCIPLINARY PANEL

The minutes of the meeting of the Appointments and Disciplinary Panel held on 8 February 2007 were submitted for information.

DECISION: That the minutes be received.

333. QUESTIONS ASKED WITHOUT NOTICE UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULES 10.8

Questions without notice pursuant to Council Procedure Rule 10.8 were asked and answered by the Leader and Cabinet Members as follows:-

	Question by	Answer by	Subject
(1)	Cllr A M Newton	Corporate Services Portfolio Holder (Cllr P S Przyszlak)	Market Stalls - Fee Increase
(2)	Cllr D G Best	Leader (Cllr G A Porter)	Travellers' Sites
(3)	Cllr G Dark	Deputy Leader (Cllr C N Worth)	Leisure Management Consultant
(4)	Cllr D G Best	Deputy Leader (Cllr C N Worth)	Car Park Signage
(5)	Cllr B Alcock	Leader (Cllr G A Porter)	Spalding & Peterborough Transport Forum
(6)	Cllr G K Dark	Health and Security Portfolio Holder (Cllr G J Taylor)	District-wide CCTV Scheme
(7)	Cllr B Alcock	Leader (G A Porter)	Schedule of Meetings

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334. REPORT FROM CABINET

Members were reminded that under Article 4 of the Council's Constitution only the full Council could exercise the function of approving or adopting the policy framework and budget. At its meeting on 20 February 2007, the Cabinet had made recommendations to Council in respect of (i) Leisure Management Options and; (ii) General Fund Revenue 2007/08 Estimates and Discretionary Charges and; (iii) Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and Construction Services Unit (CSU) 2007/08 Revenue Estimates and; (iv) Capital Strategy and; (v) Capital Programme 2007/08 to 2011/12 and; (vi) Medium Term Financial Strategy and; (vii) Treasury Management and Annual Investment Strategy 2007/08 and; (viii) Corporate Plan 2007-2010 and; (ix) Schedule of Delegation to Officers and; (x) Schedule of Delegation to Officers and; (xi) Contract Procedure Rules – Amendments, which if approved, would have the effect of amending the policy framework or budget. Members were therefore invited to consider the recommendations of the Cabinet as follows:-

(i) Leisure Management Options

Following consideration of a report by the Cabinet Working Party on Leisure Facility Options, the Cabinet at its meeting on 20 February 2007 had recommended:

- (a) That the project budget, as set out in section 4 of the Cabinet report, be approved; and
- (b) That further provision be made from general fund receipts in the first instance until all other funding options had been explored.

DECISION: That the recommendations of the Cabinet be approved.

(ii) General Fund Revenue 2007/08 Estimates and Discretionary Charges

Following consideration of a joint report by the Head of Finance and Portfolio Holder for Finance, the Cabinet at its meeting on 20 February 2007 had recommended that the budget for the General Fund Revenue 2007/08 Estimates and Discretionary Charges be approved.

DECISION: That the recommendation of the Cabinet be approved, subject to an amendment to Appendix B in relation to market stall rents, the increase to be £1.50 for Spalding rather than £3.

(iii) Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and Construction Services Unit (CSU) 2007/08 Revenue Estimates

Following consideration of a joint report by the Head of Finance and the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Housing, the Cabinet at its meeting on 20 February 2007 had recommended:

- (a) That the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and Construction Services Unit (CSU) revenue estimates for 2008/09 and the outline estimates for 2007/08 to 2011/12, attached at appendices A and B of the Cabinet report, be approved;
- (b) That in accordance with Council policy the fees and charges be increased from 1 April 2007 in accordance with the details set out at appendix C to the Cabinet report;

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334. **REPORT FROM CABINET** (Continued)

(iv) Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and Construction Services Unit (CSU) 2007/08 Revenue Estimates (Continued)

- (c) That service charges be calculated based on the same methodology as in previous years; and
- (d) That the requisite notices of rent increase for 2007/08 be served.

DECISION: That the recommendations of the Cabinet be approved.

(Councillor G A Porter having declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the above matter (by virtue of his daughter's partner working for the CSU) left the meeting at 7.50 pm and returned at 7.51 pm.)

(iv) Capital Strategy

Following consideration of a report by the Head of Finance, the Cabinet at its meeting on 20 February 2007 had recommended that the Capital Strategy 2007-2012 be approved.

DECISION: That the recommendation of the Cabinet be approved.

(v) Capital Programme 2007/08 to 2011/12

Following consideration of a report by the Capital Programme Working Group, the Cabinet at its meeting on 20 February 2007 had recommended that the capital programme and associated financing for 2007/08, as set out in the appendices to the Capital Programme Working Group's report, be approved.

DECISION: That the recommendation of the Cabinet be approved.

(vi) Medium Term Financial Strategy

Following consideration of a report by the Head of Finance, the Cabinet at its meeting on 20 February 2007 had recommended that the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2007-12, as set out in the appendix to the Head of Finance report, be approved.

DECISION: That the recommendation of the Cabinet be approved.

(vii) Treasury Management and Annual Investment Strategy 2007/08

Following consideration of a joint report by the Head of Finance and Portfolio Holder for Finance, the Cabinet at its meeting on 20 February 2007 had recommended that the Treasury Management and Annual Investment Strategy, as set out in the appendix to the Head of Finance and Portfolio Holder for Finance report, be approved.

DECISION: That the recommendation of the Cabinet be approved.

(viii) Corporate Plan 2007-2010

Following consideration of a report by the Assistant Chief Executive, the Cabinet at its meeting on 20 February 2007 had recommended that the pre-publication proof of the Corporate Plan for 2007-2010 and action plan, as set out in appendices 1 and 2 to the Assistant Chief Executive's report, be approved.

DECISION: That the recommendation of the Cabinet be approved.

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334. REPORT FROM CABINET (Continued)

(ix) Schedule of Delegation to Officers

Following consideration of a joint report by the Head of Customer, Legal and Member Services and the Portfolio Holder for Contracts, the Cabinet at its meeting on 20 February 2007 had recommended that the Contract Procedure Rules be amended to ensure that the functions allocated to specified officers coincided with the delegations referred to in the Head of Customer, Legal and Member Services and the Portfolio Holder for Contracts report.

DECISION: That the recommendation of the Cabinet be approved.

(x) Schedule of Delegation to Officers

Following consideration of a joint report by the Head of Customer, Legal and Member Services and the Leader of the Council, the Cabinet at its meeting on 20 February 2007 had recommended that the Schedule of Delegation to Officers be amended to ensure that any function delegated to a Head of Service, other than where it was by virtue of the position of Monitoring Officer or Section 151 Officer, which did not come within the jurisdiction of the Cabinet it be exercised by the Chief Executive and Directors, where appropriate the delegation to be in consultation with the relevant portfolio holder.

DECISION: That the recommendation of the Cabinet be approved.

(xi) Contract Procedure Rules – Amendments

Following consideration of a joint report by the Head of Customer, Legal and Member Services and the Portfolio Holder for Contracts, the Cabinet at its meeting on 20 February 2007 had recommended that the Contract Procedure Rules be amended in accordance with the details set out at Appendix C to the signed Cabinet minutes of 20 February 2007 in order to provide an alternative check and balance mechanism for officers authorising exceptions to the Contract Procedure Rules.

DECISION: That the recommendation of the Cabinet be approved.

335. 2007/08 COUNCIL TAX SETTING

The Head of Finance submitted for consideration a report containing recommendations for setting the level of Council Tax for 2007/08.

Members were advised that the Council's total budget requirement for 2007/08 amounted to £12,703,284. This figure included £474,056 for Parish Precepts and a sum of £171,660 which under current legislation could be identified as Special Expenses and was recovered as a charge on the former Spalding Urban District Council. For Council Tax purposes the budget requirement after deducting local precepts and special expenses was reduced by the receipt of Revenue Support Grant and a contribution from the Non-Domestic Rates Pool. Therefore the Council's element of the Band D council tax for 2007/08 was £145.19, an increase of 3.50% on 2006/07.

The Lincolnshire County Council had a Council Tax requirement of £26,917,274.62 after taking into consideration the Revenue Support Grant and a contribution from the non-domestic rates pool. This represented a Council Tax Band D charge of £987.21, an increase of £42.48 or 4.50% increase on 2006/07, and the Lincolnshire Policy Authority had a Council Tax requirement of £3,587,660.28, after taking into account Revenue Support Grant, Police Specific Grant and a contribution from the non-domestic rates pool. This represented a Council Tax Band D charge of £131.58, an increase of £6.21 or 4.95% on 2006/07.

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335. 2007/08 COUNCIL TAX SETTING (Continued)

Full details of calculations for each Council Tax band were attached to the report at Appendix A.

- DECISION:
- (a) That the calculations set out in Appendix A attached to the signed minutes, which form the statutory Council Tax resolutions, be approved;
 - (b) The Band D Council Tax for this Council's element be set at £145.19; and
 - (c) That the overall average Band D Council Tax for 2007/08 be set at £1,287.66.

336. FORWARD PLAN

The Cabinet Forward Plan for the period March 2007 – June 2007 was submitted. In response to a member's query, it was noted that the cemetery lodge decision previously included on the Forward Plan had been removed to allow further consultation with relevant parties.

- DECISION: That the Forward Plan for the period March 2007 – June 2007 be received.

337. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS ON OUTSIDE BODIES

- (a) Lincolnshire Forum for Agriculture and Horticulture

Consideration was given to the report of Councillor C B Bettinson detailing matters considered at a recent meeting of the Lincolnshire Forum for Agriculture and Horticulture.

- DECISION: That the report be noted.

- (b) Lincolnshire County Council Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Consideration was given to the report of Councillor M Bamber detailing matters discussed at the meeting of the Lincolnshire County Council Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 11 January 2007.

- DECISION: That the report be noted.

338. EARLY RETIREMENT AND REDUNDANCY DISCRETIONARY PAYMENTS

Consideration was given to the report of the Head of Organisational Development in relation to Early Retirement and Redundancy Discretionary Payments to agree a new policy on the exercising of the Council's discretionary powers.

Members were informed that the Local Government (Early Termination of Employment) Discretionary Compensation (England and Wales) Regulations 2006 had replaced the 2000 Regulations under which the Council's current policy on discretionary compensation for employees whose employment was terminated prematurely on redundancy or efficiency grounds was formulated as detailed in Appendix A to the report. As a consequence the Council was required to review the policy and make recommendations for implementation.

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338. EARLY RETIREMENT AND REDUNDANCY DISCRETIONARY PAYMENTS (Continued)

Furthermore the Council was required to formulate, publish and keep under review its policy it applied in the exercise of its discretionary powers relating to early retirement and redundancy payments. Any change to an existing policy could not be implemented until one month had elapsed from the publication of the new policy. However, the first policy the Council made under the 2006 Regulations would not constitute a change to a policy published under those regulations, as that was the inaugural policy under the 2006 Regulations and therefore not a change to a policy made under those regulations. Therefore, the policy could be implemented from the date the policy was agreed. The current policy, which was made under the 2000 Regulations, would lapse at midnight on 31 March 2007, at the latest.

Members had two options to (i) confirm that the new policy as attached as Appendix B to the report; or (ii) amend the new policy as detailed in Appendix B having regard to the discretion which Council had as detailed in the report.

- DECISION:
- (a) That the new policy attached as Appendix B to the report be approved, published and implemented with effect from 1 April 2007.
 - (b) That the policy be reviewed in twelve months time.

339. SUPPORTING PEOPLE (300/07)

Following a presentation to full Council on 24 January 2007 (minute number 300/07) by the Interim Director of Supporting People, Paul Rowley and the Chairman of the Supporting People Commissioning Body, Chris Cook, it was suggested that a report be submitted to the next meeting of Council. Therefore Andrew Petcher, Corporate Director presented to members the report of the Interim Head of Housing and Property in relation to Supporting People which sought approval for proposed changes to the delegated authority of the Portfolio Holder for Housing in order that decisions could be made in relation to Supporting People.

Members were reminded that at full Council held on the 12 April 2006 (minute number 349/06) members approved the Supporting People, Memorandum of Understanding and Constitution for Lincolnshire.

The Administering Authority were now seeking the agreement of two further changes, which were recently considered by the Supporting People Commissioning Body in respect of the delegation of authority to the Core Strategy Group and Conflict of Interest and to allow for the Council's representative on the Supporting People Commissioning Body (Portfolio Holder for Housing – Councillor Delia Williams) to have the delegated authority to act on behalf of the Council in all matters before that body.

This would allow the Portfolio Holder for Housing to make decisions including amendments to the Constitution and Memorandum of Understanding without reference to Full Council. A minor change to the Council's constitution would be required to reflect the delegated authority to the Portfolio Holder for Housing.

- DECISION:
- (a) That, for a 12 month period, the Portfolio Holder for Housing (currently Councillor D P Williams) be given the delegated authority to make decisions without reference to full Council; and

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339. SUPPORTING PEOPLE (300/07) (Continued)

- (b) That all decisions be made in consultation with the Interim Head of Housing and Property; Supported Housing Manager and appropriate members to ensure that the best interests of the authority were maintained.
- (c) That the constitution be amended to reflect the delegated authority to the Portfolio for Housing

340. SCHEDULE OF DELEGATION

The Head of Customer, Legal and Member Services reported to members upon the Schedule of Delegation to Officers – Dangerous Structures for members to consider changes to the Schedule of Delegation regarding emergency measures to dangerous structures as outlined in the Head of Planning and Development’s report.

Members were informed that Building Control Officers were called out to deal with dangerous structures under Sections 78 and 81(1) of the Building Act 1984 and were often required to recommend emergency measures.

Currently under the Schedule of Delegation, Section 10 of the Constitution, the Head of Planning and Development was given authority to act as ‘Proper Officer’ in relation to emergency measures and service of notices on those undertaking demolition. However, in practice, Building Control Officers were called out and required to exercise professional and technical judgement. To ensure that the officer called out had the necessary authority to act, it was suggested that the Schedule of Delegation in relation to Sections 78 and 81(1) be expanded to include the Building Control Manager, Principal Building Control Surveyor and Senior Building Control Surveyor.

DECISION:

- (a) That the Schedule of Delegation to Officers in relation to Sections 78 and 81(1) of the Building Act 1984 be expanded to give authority to act as ‘Proper Officer’ to the Building Control Manager, Principal Building Control Surveyor and Senior Building Control Surveyor.
- (b) That the Constitution be amended accordingly.

341. RECALCULATION OF COMMITTEE SEATS

Consideration was given to the report of the Head of Customer, Legal and Member Services in the reallocation of Political Seats on Committees and Working Parties in accordance with the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulation 1990. This was due to the recent death of Councillor A Parker.

The Political Groups representation was amended to:

Conservative Group (25)	67.6%
Independent Group (10)	27.0%
Others (2)	5.4%

The application of the regulations resulted in one change to the number of seats held by the Groups in relation to the South Holland District Local Development Framework Working Party (11 members):

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341. RECALCULATION OF COMMITTEE SEATS (Continued)

- Conservative Group 7(-1)
- Independent Group 3
- Others 1(+1)

The implication was that the Conservative Group lost one seat with the 'others' having gained one seat on the South Holland District Local Development Framework Working Party. The vacant seat that was created would be required to be allocated to either Councillor C A Fretwell or Councillor R M B West.

Furthermore the political composition of the Performance Monitoring Panel, appointed in accordance with political group regulations remained unchanged, although Councillor Parker was a Conservative Group Member on the Performance Monitoring Panel. Therefore consideration of nomination for the appointment of a member to replace Councillor Parker would be required.

Also Councillor Parker was a member of the Licensing Committee and Committee of the Licensing Authority. Although there was no legal requirement for the Licensing Committee and Committee of the Licensing Authority to appoint along political lines, a vacancy existed on each Committee and therefore the Council was invited to nominate a replacement councillor to serve on each Committee.

DECISION:

- (a) That the allocation of seats on the South Holland District Local Development Framework Working Party be amended, with immediate effect, as follows:

Conservative Group	7(-1)
Independent Group	3
Others	1(+1); and

- (b) That a Conservative Group member of the South Holland District Local Development Framework Working Party be removed and replaced with Councillor R M B West with immediate effect;
- (c) That Councillor S G Marthews be appointed to the Performance Monitoring Panel with immediate effect to replace Councillor A Parker;
- (d) That Councillor D P Williams be appointed to the Licensing Committee with immediate effect to replace Councillor A Parker; and
- (e) That Councillor D P Williams be appointed to the Committee of the Licensing Authority with immediate effect to replace Councillor A Parker.

342. MEMBER DEVELOPMENT CHARTER

Consideration was given to the report of the Head of Customer, Legal and Member Services by members upon the Member Development Charter which sought approval of Council to sign up to the East Midlands Member Development Charter.

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342. MEMBER DEVELOPMENT CHARTER (Continued)

Members were informed that a Member Development Charter was a statement by the Council of its commitment to developing and supporting its elected Councillors. The Charter aimed to help Councils adopt a structured approach to Councillor development and to building elected member capacity. Each region had its own Charter, which, in the case of the Council would be the East Midlands Charter, should the Council sign up to it. This was in turn supported by the Improvement and Development Agency (IDeA).

Furthermore the Accreditation Good Practice Guidelines, developed by the IDeA and Regions, were heavily influenced by the Investors in People ('IIP') national quality standard. The process to achieve accreditation was in three steps, which would include an external review at Stage 2 for member and officer peers to visit as critical friends. A reassessment would be required within a minimum of three years.

Members were advised that the main benefit of the Member Development Charter was to demonstrate a commitment to member training and development. The Charter also worked in line with the IIP award, which South Holland District Council had recently received.

A commitment to the Charter by the Council would require additional officer support to deliver the action plan which also included a commitment from members. The officer support would be required from the Member Services Team; however this would compliment the existing work on member development.

Therefore members were asked to commit to the Charter which would demonstrate support for the existing member development programme and illustrate a commitment to strengthen the skills and abilities of individual members.

- DECISION:
- (a) That the Council sign up to the East Midlands Regional Member Development Charter; and
 - (b) That progress reports on the Member Development Charter be received.

343. REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

The Head of Customer, Legal and Member Services reported to members on Representatives on Outside Bodies for consideration to be given to the appointment of representatives to the Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board; Citizens Advice Bureau Management Committee; Welland and Deepings Internal Drainage Board; Primary School Provision Review Panel and the Wash Shoreline Management Plan – Elected Members' Forum.

The vacancies to the Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board; Citizens Advice Bureau Management Committee and Welland and Deepings Internal Drainage Board had been due to the death of Councillor A Parker. The Primary School Provisions Review Panel was as a result of a request for this authority to nominate a representative. A request was received for the appointment of Councillors P A Espin and J J Rowe to the Wash Shoreline Management Plan – Elected Members' Forum in view of their current roles as representatives on the Wash Estuary Strategy Group .

The report detailed the appointment to each Outside Body individually. Members were asked to consider whether, in view of the fact that the District Council Elections were due to take place in May 2007, the appointments should be delayed until Annual Council when all Outside Body appointments were considered, although members were advised that in relation to (i) the Primary School Provisions Review Panel there was a deadline for submitting nominations; and (ii) the Wash Shoreline Management Plan Elected Members' Forum next meeting was due to be held on 13 March 2007.

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343. REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES (Continued)

DECISION:

- (a) That the following appointments be made to serve on each of the following Outside Bodies, until the review at the meeting of Annual Council on 23 May 2007:
 - (i) Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board – Councillor A Puttick
 - (ii) Citizens Advice Bureau Management Committee – Councillor F Biggadike
 - (iii) Welland and Deepings Internal Drainage Board – Councillor G J Taylor.
- (b) That Councillor C N Worth be nominated to serve as representative on the Primary School Provision Review Panel; and
- (c) That Councillors P A Espin and J J Rowe be appointed as representatives to serve on the Wash Shoreline Management Programme - Elected Members' Forum in view of their current roles as representatives on the Wash Estuary Strategy Group.

344. PRE-DETERMINED DEBATES

Consideration was given to the report of the Head of Customer, Legal and Member Services in relation to Pre-determined Debates whereby members were asked to choose a subject matter for debate on 11 April 2007 at full Council.

Members were reminded that at the Council meeting of 20 December 2006 (minute number 273/06) the decision was made for a regular item to appear on the Council agendas in April, July and November to enable debates to be held upon a pre-determined issue of importance to members.

Therefore members were invited to determine the subject matter for debate at the 11 April 2007 Council meeting, from issues which had been previously raised under Questions without Notice as detailed within the report, for the period from 21 June 2006 to 24 January 2007. Questions without Notice asked at beginning of the meeting were also eligible for selection.

In order to promote good informed debates, members were requested to present to the Head of Customer, Legal and Member Services, preferably by not later than Friday 16 March 2007, details of information that they required to enable the matter to be debated fully, which would be prepared and provided by the appropriate Head of Service and supplied to all members.

DECISION:

- (a) That a debate be held on the Peele Sports Centre, Long Sutton at the full Council meeting of 11 April 2007; and
- (b) That members present to the Head of Customer, Legal and Member Services in good time, preferably by not later than Friday 16 March 2007, details of information required to enable the matter to be fully debated.

345. LINCOLNSHIRE PATHFINDER BID

The Chief Executive reported to members on the Lincolnshire Pathfinder Bid to inform them of the bid made by the Lincolnshire authorities.

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345. LINCOLNSHIRE PATHFINDER BID (Continued)

Members were advised that the government white paper on local government entitled “Strong and Prosperous Communities” introduced an opportunity for authorities within “two tiered” areas (i.e. County Council and District Councils) to put forward proposals for their area to become unitary local government, for improving and enhancing the way in which two tiered local government worked or to make no proposals at all.

Members were reminded that the government looked for proposals which had consensus amongst the constituent local authorities although it was felt unlikely that proposals for unitary status would come forward for Lincolnshire. However there was interest in developing a bid to become a pathfinder for improved two tiered working, which had a deadline of 24 January 2007.

Therefore a bid had been submitted, a summary of which was appended to the report and was also available on the Council's website. The end of March was the expected date to hear whether the bid had proved successful.

The report briefly outlined financial and legal implications that would result in consequence of a successful bid.

DECISION: That the report be noted.

(Meeting ended at 8.45pm.)

(End of minutes.)

FORMAL RESOLUTIONS AND CALCULATIONS

- 1) That the revenue estimates for 2007/08 be approved.
- 2) That it be noted that at its meeting on 16th January 2007, the Cabinet calculated the following amounts for the year 2007/2008 in accordance with regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 1992 made under Section 33(5) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:

Number of dwellings in each council tax band taking into account the multipliers, discounts, exemptions and rate of collection

- (a) 27,266 being the amount calculated by the Council, in accordance with regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 1992, as its council tax base for the year

The tax base for each Parish

- (b) (In accordance with decisions of the Council taken in previous financial years, the term 'Part of the Council's Area' in the following resolutions refers to Parish boundaries with the exception of Spalding, which refers to the area of the former Spalding U.D.C.)

<u>Part of Council's Area</u>	<u>Taxbase</u>	<u>Part of Council's Area</u>	<u>Taxbase</u>
Cowbit	425	Moulton	1,150
Crowland	1,355	Pinchbeck	1,750
Deeping St Nicholas	589	Quadring	429
Donington	862	Spalding	8,320
Fleet	696	Surfleet	456
Gedney	743	Sutton Bridge	1,325
Gedney Hill	222	Sutton St Edmund	208
Gosberton	953	Sutton St James	338
Holbeach	3,306	Tydd St Mary	317
Little Sutton	38	Weston	634
Long Sutton	1,621	Whaplode	1,116
Lutton	413		

being the amounts calculated by the Council, in accordance with regulation 6 of the Regulations, as the amounts of its council tax base for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate.

- 3) That the following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the year 2007/2008 in accordance with sections 32 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:

Total Expenditure

- (a) £35,976,014 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in section 32(2)(a) to (e) of the Act

Total Income

- (b) £23,272,730 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in section 32 (3)(a) to (c) of the Act

The difference between expenditure and income

- (c) £12,703,284 being the amount by which the aggregate at (3)(a) above exceeds the aggregate at (3)(b) above, calculated by the council, in accordance with section 32(4) of the Act, as its budget requirement for the year.

Income from non-domestic rates pool, revenue support grant, council tax surplus and community charge surplus

- (d) £8,098,818 being the aggregate of the sums which the Council estimates will be payable for the year into its general fund in respect of redistributed non-domestic rates, revenue support grant, additional grant or special grant reduced by the amount of the sums which the Council estimates will be transferred in the year from its collection fund to its general fund in accordance with Section 97(3) of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 (Council Tax Surplus) and increased by the amount of any sum which the Council estimates will be transferred from its collection fund to its general fund pursuant to the Collection Fund (Community Charges) Directions under Section 98(4) of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 made on 7th February 1994 (Community Charge Surplus)

Average Council Tax for Band D property (District and Parish)

- (e) £168.87 being the amount at (3)(c) above less the amount at (3)(d) above, all divided by the amount at (2)(a) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 33(1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its council tax for the year

The total of Parish Precepts and Special Expenses

- (f) £645,716 being the aggregate amount of all special items referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act

The Council's Council Tax for a Band D property (excluding Parish Precepts and Special Expenses)

- (g) £145.19 being the amount at (3)(e) above less the result given by dividing the amount at (3)(f) above by the amount at (2)(a) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no special item relates

(h)	<u>Part of the Council's Area</u>	£	<u>(Memo)</u>
			<u>Special Items</u>
			£
	Cowbit	14.11	6,000
	Crowland	41.59	56,363
	Deeping St Nicholas	13.58	8,000
	Donington	16.82	14,500
	Fleet	14.36	10,000
	Gedney	28.26	21,000
	Gedney Hill	18.01	4,000
	Gosberton	13.11	12,500
	Holbeach	40.03	132,358
	Little Sutton	15.78	600
	Long Sutton	30.22	49,000
	Lutton	14.28	5,900
	Moulton	28.95	33,300
	Pinchbeck	13.14	23,000
	Quadring	17.48	7,500
	Spalding	20.63	171,660
	Surfleet	2.19	1,000
	Sutton Bridge	32.07	42,500
	Sutton St Edmund	18.19	3,785
	Sutton St James	14.05	4,750
	Tydd St Mary	31.54	10,000
	Weston	25.23	16,000
	Whaplode	10.75	12,000

being the amounts given by adding to the amount at (3)(g) above, the amounts of the special item or items relating to dwellings in those parts of the Council's area mentioned above divided in each case by the amount at (2)(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(3) of the Act, as the basic amounts of its council tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate

(i) <u>Part of the Council's area</u>	<u>Valuation Band</u>							
	<u>A</u> £	<u>B</u> £	<u>C</u> £	<u>D</u> £	<u>E</u> £	<u>F</u> £	<u>G</u> £	<u>H</u> £
Cowbit	106.20	123.90	141.60	159.30	194.70	230.11	265.51	318.61
Crowland	124.52	145.27	166.03	186.78	228.29	269.80	311.31	373.57
Deeping St Nicholas	105.84	123.48	141.13	158.77	194.05	229.33	264.62	317.54
Donington	108.00	126.00	144.01	162.01	198.01	234.01	270.01	324.02
Fleet	106.37	124.10	141.82	159.55	195.01	230.47	265.92	319.11
Gedney	115.63	134.90	154.18	173.45	211.99	250.54	289.08	346.90
Gedney Hill	108.80	126.93	145.07	163.20	199.47	235.74	272.01	326.41
Gosberton	105.53	123.12	140.71	158.30	193.48	228.66	263.84	316.61
Holbeach	123.48	144.06	164.64	185.22	226.38	267.54	308.70	370.45
Little Sutton	107.31	125.20	143.09	160.97	196.75	232.52	268.29	321.95
Long Sutton	116.94	136.43	155.92	175.41	214.40	253.38	292.36	350.83
Lutton	106.31	124.03	141.75	159.47	194.91	230.35	265.79	318.95
Moulton	116.09	135.44	154.79	174.14	212.84	251.54	290.24	348.29
Pinchbeck	105.55	123.14	140.74	158.33	193.51	228.70	263.88	316.66
Quadring	108.44	126.52	144.59	162.67	198.82	234.97	271.12	325.34
Spalding	110.54	128.97	147.39	165.82	202.67	239.52	276.37	331.64
Surfleet	98.25	114.63	131.00	147.38	180.13	212.88	245.63	294.76
Sutton Bridge	118.17	137.87	157.56	177.26	216.65	256.05	295.44	354.53
Sutton St Edmund	108.92	127.07	145.23	163.38	199.69	236.00	272.31	326.77
Sutton St James	106.16	123.85	141.54	159.24	194.63	230.01	265.40	318.48
Tydd St Mary	117.82	137.46	157.09	176.73	216.01	255.28	294.55	353.47
Weston	113.61	132.55	151.49	170.42	208.29	246.17	284.04	340.85
Whaplode	103.96	121.28	138.61	155.94	190.59	225.25	259.90	311.88

being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at (3)(g) and (3)(h) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation band D, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in the different valuation bands.

- 4) That it be noted that for the year 2007/2008 that Lincolnshire County Council and Lincolnshire Police Authority have stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

<u>Valuation Band</u>	<u>County Council</u> £ per Property	<u>Police Authority</u> £ per Property
A	658.14	87.72
B	767.83	102.34
C	877.52	116.96
D	987.21	131.58
E	1,206.59	160.82
F	1,425.97	190.06
G	1,645.35	219.30
H	1,974.42	263.16

5) That, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at (3)(i) and (4) above, the Council, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the following amounts as the amounts of council tax for the year 2007/2008 for each of the categories of dwellings as shown below:

<u>Parts of the Council's area</u>	<u>Valuation Band</u>							
	<u>A</u> £	<u>B</u> £	<u>C</u> £	<u>D</u> £	<u>E</u> £	<u>F</u> £	<u>G</u> £	<u>H</u> £
Cowbit	852.06	994.07	1,136.08	1,278.09	1,562.11	1,846.14	2,130.16	2,556.19
Crowland	870.38	1,015.44	1,160.51	1,305.57	1,595.70	1,885.83	2,175.96	2,611.15
Deeping St Nicholas	851.70	993.65	1,135.61	1,277.56	1,561.46	1,845.36	2,129.27	2,555.12
Donington	853.86	996.17	1,138.49	1,280.80	1,565.42	1,850.04	2,134.66	2,561.60
Fleet	852.23	994.27	1,136.30	1,278.34	1,562.42	1,846.50	2,130.57	2,556.69
Gedney	861.49	1,005.07	1,148.66	1,292.24	1,579.40	1,866.57	2,153.73	2,584.48
Gedney Hill	854.66	997.10	1,139.55	1,281.99	1,566.88	1,851.77	2,136.66	2,563.99
Gosberton	851.39	993.29	1,135.19	1,277.09	1,560.89	1,844.69	2,128.49	2,554.19
Holbeach	869.34	1,014.23	1,159.12	1,304.01	1,593.79	1,883.57	2,173.35	2,608.03
Little Sutton	853.17	995.37	1,137.57	1,279.76	1,564.16	1,848.55	2,132.94	2,559.53
Long Sutton	862.80	1,006.60	1,150.40	1,294.20	1,581.81	1,869.41	2,157.01	2,588.41
Lutton	852.17	994.20	1,136.23	1,278.26	1,562.32	1,846.38	2,130.44	2,556.53
Moulton	861.95	1,005.61	1,149.27	1,292.93	1,580.25	1,867.57	2,154.89	2,585.87
Pinchbeck	851.41	993.31	1,135.22	1,277.12	1,560.92	1,844.73	2,128.53	2,554.24
Quadring	854.30	996.69	1,139.07	1,281.46	1,566.23	1,851.00	2,135.77	2,562.92
Spalding	856.40	999.14	1,141.87	1,284.61	1,570.08	1,855.55	2,141.02	2,569.22
Surfleet	844.11	984.80	1,125.48	1,266.17	1,547.54	1,828.91	2,110.28	2,532.34
Sutton Bridge	864.03	1,008.04	1,152.04	1,296.05	1,584.06	1,872.08	2,160.09	2,592.11
Sutton St Edmund	854.78	997.24	1,139.71	1,282.17	1,567.10	1,852.03	2,136.96	2,564.35
Sutton St James	852.02	994.02	1,136.02	1,278.03	1,562.04	1,846.04	2,130.05	2,556.06
Tydd St Mary	863.68	1,007.63	1,151.57	1,295.52	1,583.42	1,871.31	2,159.20	2,591.05
Weston	859.47	1,002.72	1,145.97	1,289.21	1,575.70	1,862.20	2,148.69	2,578.43
Whaplode	849.82	991.45	1,133.09	1,274.73	1,558.00	1,841.28	2,124.55	2,549.46