Minutes of a meeting of the SOUTH HOLLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Priory Road, Spalding, on Wednesday, 24 May 2017 at 6.30 pm.

PRESENT

M D Seymour (Chairman)
R Grocock (Vice-Chairman)

B Alcock  M G Chandler  G A Porter
D Ashby   H Drury     J L Reynolds
J R Astill L J Eldridge E J Sneath
J Avery   P C Foyster A C Tennant
M D Booth R Gambba-Jones J Tyrrell
C J T H Brewis A Harrison  P A Williams
P E Coupland C N Johnson A R Woolf
G J Taylor C J Lawton  C N Worth
T A Carter J D McLean
A Casson  A M Newton

Apologies for absence were received from or on behalf of Councillors G R Aley, R Clark, G K Dark, J L King and S-A Slade,

In Attendance: Chief Executive, Director of Place, Director of Strategy and Governance, Executive Manager – Strategy and Governance, Executive Manager – People and Public Protection.

1. **ELECTION OF A CHAIRMAN**

   The outgoing Chairman thanked Councillors for their support during his Chairmanship. He invited nominations for the election of Chairman of the Council for the ensuing year. Councillor Grocock was nominated and seconded.

   **DECISION:**

   That Councillor R Grocock be elected as Chairman for the ensuing year.

   (Councillor Grocock thereupon took the Chair and signed the declaration of acceptance of office.)

2. **ELECTION OF A VICE-CHAIRMAN**

   The Chairman invited nominations for the appointment of a Vice Chairman of the Council for the ensuing year. Councillor Drury was nominated and seconded.
DECISION:

That Councillor H Drury be appointed as Vice Chairman of the Council for the ensuing year.

3. MINUTE SILENCE

The Chairman referred to the flag flying at half mast outside the Council’s offices due to the recent act of terrorism in Manchester. As a sign of respect to the families and friends of the deceased he lead the Council in a minute’s silence.

The Chairman was also saddened to announce the recent deaths of Councillor Pullen and former Councillor David Dewsbury.

Councillor Chandler paid tribute to Councillor Pullen whom he said had dedicated himself to public service by serving on the District Council, Whaplode Parish Council and also working as a Responsible Adult to help young people. He was a father, grandfather and a great-grandfather. He was very well respected and would be missed.

Councillor Brewis paid tribute to Councillor Dewsbury who had been a District Councillor during the 1970s, 80s and 90s as well as Chairman of the Council. He had also been a Parish Councillor for 50 years.

The Council observed a minute’s silence to mark the recent deaths of Councillor Michael Pullen and former Councillor David Dewsbury. Condolences were passed to their families and friends.

4. MINUTES

The Council considered the minutes of the meeting held on 12 April 2017.

DECISION:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 12 April 2017 be agreed as a correct record and be signed by the Chairman.

5. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.

It was noted that, although Councillors Coupland and Newton did not have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in agenda item 15 - Compass Point Business Services Ltd Business Plan, in the
interests of transparency they wished it to be recorded that they were Directors of the Company and would not be voting on the item.

6. **CHAIRMAN’S ANNOUNCEMENTS.**

The Chairman announced that a copy of his appointments were in the Members’ Room.

7. **ANNOUNCEMENTS BY LEADER AND MEMBERS OF THE CABINET.**

The Leader, on behalf of the Council, thanked Councillor Seymour and his wife, Pauline, for the work that they undertook as Chairman and Lady during 2016/17.

The Leader thanked Councillor Sneath who had stepped down from her position as Cabinet Support Member. Councillor Carter would be filling this position. He also announced that Councillor Johnson would be joining the Cabinet.

8. **QUESTIONS ASKED ON NOTICE UNDER STANDING ORDER 6**

There were no questions asked under Standing Order 6.

9. **QUESTIONS ASKED WITHOUT NOTICE UNDER STANDING ORDER 7**

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<tr>
<th>Question to:</th>
<th>Councillor Lawton</th>
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<tr>
<td>Question from:</td>
<td>Councillor Newton</td>
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<td>Subject:</td>
<td>Wellbeing Service</td>
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Councillor Newton referred to the Key Decision Plan and asked for an update on the Lincolnshire Wellbeing Service.

Councillor Lawton responded that a Memorandum of Understanding had been signed and that a report would come to Councillors in September 2017.

Councillor Newton asked a supplementary question regarding whether signing the Memorandum of Understanding would have any bearing on the current review of warden services.

Councillor Lawton replied that she would find out and an answer would be circulated.
Councillor Newton asked whether any progress had been made with Welland Homes?

Councillor Coupland replied that this week the 15th house had been completed for this year. The first layer of the business plan had been approved with the 2nd and 3rd layers being worked upon currently. These would come to Council for approval.

Councillor Foyster enquired as to what the plans were for Moulton Park?

Councillor Worth replied that a feasibility report would be taken to the next cabinet meeting. The Council was working with the Parish Council regarding the provision of a play area.

Councillor Brewis referred to the District Council stopping the Service Level Agreement with the Lincolnshire County Council regarding Emergency Planning and asked what support would be forthcoming?

Councillor Worth replied that the Council had taken the decision to serve notice in respect of the Service Level Agreement. An Emergency Planning Officer would be employed by the District Council. Support would continue to be given until the new post holder was in place. The Council would continue to be an active member of the Lincolnshire Resilience Forum.

Councillor Brewis referred to the Council’s reputation for providing a fine sheltered housing service. He asked who would keep an eye on elderly tenants if the last wardens were lost?

Councillor Lawton replied that when Supporting People was
withdrawn the Council had been reluctant to lose wardens. An
intensive landlord service was now in place. Councillor Lawton
had not heard any plans to change this but would provide a
written update.

10. COMMITTEE MINUTES

Governance and Audit Committee – 27 March 2017

DECISION:

That the minutes be received.

Planning Committee – 29 March 2017

DECISION:

That the minutes be received.

Planning Committee – 26 April 2017

DECISION:

That the minutes be received.

11. KEY DECISION PLAN

Consideration was given to the Key Decision Plan.

Cllr Newton raised a query regarding land at Weston and asked
whether work was likely to start soon. Councillor Coupland
replied that this matter was being looked at to assess whether it
might be developed through the Housing Revenue Account.

DECISION:

That the Key Decision Plan be received.

12. APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP AND
CHAIRMEN AND VICE-CHAIRMEN

The Council considered a report by the Executive Director of
Strategy and Governance seeking to appoint Councillors and
Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen to Committees.

Councillors noted that, with regard to the proposed nominations
for the Standards Panel, Councillor Seymour should read
Councillor Clark.
DECISION:

1. That the Council appoints, for the period 2017-2019, the Committees and Panels as set out in paragraphs 1.4-1.6 of the report (subject to changing Councillor Seymour to Councillor Clark on the Standards Panel) along with the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen as indicated and

2. That the Monitoring Officer be instructed to make the necessary changes to the Constitution to allow the appointments to run until May 2019.

13. APPOINTMENTS OF COUNCILLORS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

The Council considered a report by the Executive Manager – Strategy and Governance seeking to appoint to Outside Body and Councillor Champion roles.

Councillors noted that a review of Outside Bodies would take during 2017/18 and be reported back to Council.

DECISION:

1. That appointments to Outside Bodies be made in accordance with the nominations set out in Appendices A and B of the report; and

2. That the Monitoring Officer be instructed to make the necessary changes to the Constitution to allow the appointments to run until May 2019.

14. CHANGES TO THE CONSTITUTION.

There were no additional proposed changes to the Constitution.

15. COMPASS POINT BUSINESS SERVICES (EAST COAST) LTD - BUSINESS PLAN 2017/18

The Council considered a report by the Executive Director of Strategy and Governance introducing the annual Business Plan for 2017/18 from Compass Point Business Services (East Coast) Ltd. The Business Plan replaced the previous 2016-2020 Business Plan.

Councillors noted that the same Business Plan had been reported to and approved by East Lindsey District Council. The Leaders, Deputy leaders and Chief Executives of South Holland district
Council and East Lindsey District Council were working together to produce a plan of action ahead of 2020 which would be brought to Council by the end of the year.

**DECISION:**

1) That Councillors support and approve the Business Plan from Compass Point Business Services (East Coast) Ltd for 2017-18;

2) That Councillors support the removal of the annual 5% contractual savings target;

3) That Councillors support the required reinvestment within the Revenues and Benefits Service and

4) That Delegated authority is agreed for the Monitoring Officer to update the Shareholder Agreement and Management Agreement governing documents to reflect recommendation 2.

16. **ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN DECIDES ARE URGENT**

There were no urgent items.

17. **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

**DECISION:**

That, under section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1,2,3,4 and 7a of Schedule 12(A) of the Act.

18. **EXEMPT MINUTE OF THE MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON 12 APRIL 2017**

**DECISION:**

That the exempt minute of the meeting held on 12 April be agreed as a correct record and be signed by the Chairman.

19. **PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A SHARED CENTRAL CONTRACTS TEAM**

The Council gave consideration to a report of the Deputy Leader <3> PA
of the Cabinet and Executive Manager People and Public Protection seeking member approval to establish a centralised contracts team.

Councillors supported the proposal and stressed the importance of monitoring the performance of the team to ensure that savings were met. The arrangements would be reviewed after one year.

Councillors noted that the proposed split of funding (60 percent Breckland, 40 percent South Holland) might change in future years, depending on workload, to ensure that one council is not subsidising the other.

DECISION:

1) That Council approves the proposal to establish a Shared Central Contracts Team;

2) That Council approves the creation of 3.0 FTE posts and a Modern Apprenticeship that will be delivered within the existing budget envelope and from savings generated from contract efficiencies; and

3) That the proposed split of funding between the two councils is 60 percent Breckland, 40 percent South Holland, which reflects the levels of support needed by both councils at the present time. This will be reviewed annually to reflect work levels.

20. REVIEW OF CORPORATE IMPROVEMENT TEAM

The Council considered a report by the Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Strategy, Governance and Transformation and the Head of the Paid Service seeking approval to proceed with the implementation of the proposal to restructure the service.

Councillors supported the recommendations.

DECISION:

1) That the Head of the Paid Service and/or the Executive Director for Strategy & Governance, in consultation with the Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Strategy, Governance & Transformation be authorised to implement the proposals subject to no major change.

2) That the Head of the Paid Service and/or the Executive Director for Strategy & Governance, in consultation with the
Executive Member for Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Strategy, Governance & Transformation be authorised to make minor amendments and redundancies as necessary.

21. PLACE SERVICE REVIEW: HOUSING, COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

The Council considered a report by the Head of Paid Service seeking to obtain approval to proceed with the implementation of the proposal to restructure the Council’s Housing, Community and Environmental Services Teams.

Councillors discussed future staffing levels and considered reasons for the proposals. It was acknowledged that this had been a difficult and far-reaching review that would deliver an efficient and effective service.

Councillors supported the recommendations.

DECISION:

1) That the Head of the Paid Service and/or the Executive Director for Place, in consultation with the Executive Members for Place, Communities and Facilities, Housing and Health, be authorised to implement the proposals subject to no major change and

2) That the Head of Paid the Service and/or the Executive Director for Place, in consultation with the Executive Members for Place, Communities and Facilities, Housing and Health, be authorised to make minor amendments and redundancies as necessary.

(The meeting ended at 8.30 pm)

(End of minutes)