

Present: Councillor Chris Burke (*in the Chair*),
Councillor Kathleen Brothwell, Councillor Sue Burke,
Councillor Bob Bushell, Councillor Thomas Dyer,
Councillor Geoff Ellis, Councillor Paul Gowen, Councillor
Gary Hewson, Councillor Ronald Hills, Councillor
Jackie Kirk, Councillor Rosanne Kirk, Councillor
Jane Loffhagen, Councillor Helena Mair, Councillor
Liz Maxwell, Councillor Adrianna McNulty, Councillor
Ric Metcalfe, Councillor Neil Murray, Councillor
Donald Nannestad, Councillor Lucinda Preston,
Councillor Fay Smith, Councillor Edmund Strengiel,
Councillor Ralph Toofany, Councillor Naomi Tweddle,
Councillor Pat Vaughan, Councillor Keith Weaver and
Councillor Peter West

Apologies for Absence: Councillor Biff Bean, Councillor Yvonne Bodger,
Councillor Gill Clayton-Hewson, Councillor Jim Hanrahan,
Councillor Andy Kerry, Councillor Tony Speakman and
Councillor Loraine Woolley

41. Mayoral Announcements

The Mayor highlighted that information on his recent civic engagements was available for viewing via his social media profiles and that his final charity function would be a ceilidh on 7 April 2018.

42. Confirmation of Minutes - 23 January 2018

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 23 January 2018 be confirmed.

43. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Liz Maxwell declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest with regard to the agenda item titled 'Portfolio Holder for Housing'. Councillor Maxwell was a residential landlord in Lincoln and it was noted that she would leave the meeting room if housing in multiple occupation was discussed as part of this item of business. No such discussion took place so no action was taken.

Councillor Ralph Toofany declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest with regard to the agenda item titled 'Portfolio Holder for Housing'. Councillor Toofany was a residential landlord in Lincoln and it was noted that he would leave the meeting room if housing in multiple occupation was discussed as part of this item of business. No such discussion took place so no action was taken.

Councillor Donald Nannestad declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest with regard to the agenda item titled 'Medium Term Financial Strategy 2018 - 2023'. Councillor Nannestad leased an allotment from the Council. A dispensation had been granted to all members who had a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest for any license to occupy land in the area of the authority for a month or longer and the nature of the business specifically related to the consideration of the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy as a whole. Councillor Nannestad therefore remained in the meeting during consideration of the item.

Councillor Ralph Toofany declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest with regard to the agenda item titled 'Medium Term Financial Strategy 2018 - 2023'. Councillor Toofany leased an allotment from the Council. A dispensation had been granted to all members who had a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest for any license to occupy land in the area of the authority for a month or longer and the nature of the business specifically related to the consideration of the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy as a whole. Councillor Toofany therefore remained in the meeting during consideration of the item.

44. Receive Any Questions under Council Procedure Rule 11 from Members of the Public and Provide Answers thereon

No questions had been received.

45. Receive Any Questions under Council Procedure Rule 12 from Members and Provide Answers thereon

No questions had been received.

46. Receive Reports under Council Procedure Rule 2 (vi) from Members

(a) Portfolio Holder for Housing

Councillor Pete West, Portfolio Holder for Housing, presented an annual report on the work of his portfolio. He highlighted that all figures set out in the report reflected the position at the end of December 2017, reporting that at the end of January 2018 the position had not changed.

Councillor West, as part of his presentation, made the following additions to support his report:

- Yvonne Fox had recently been appointed as the Assistant Director for Housing Management;
- works on new housing schemes were progressing, with the scheme at Blankney due for completion and formal handover today;
- negotiations regarding the Section 106 Agreement in respect of the Queen Elizabeth Road development were progressing;
- works at De Wint Court would be completed towards the end of May 2018;
- the rogue landlord initiative continued to deliver results, with a £10,000 prosecution having recently been made and a further two prosecutions expected to be finalised very soon;
- Bob Ledger, Strategic Director of Housing and Regeneration, would be retiring in May 2018. Mr Ledger had moved the department forward on many fronts and placed the Council in a good position from a housing perspective. Councillor West, on behalf of the Council, wished him well for his future endeavours.

Councillor West highlighted that this would be his last report to Council as Housing Portfolio Holder due to deciding not to stand for the City Council elections in May 2018. He thanked officers for their forbearance in his time as Portfolio Holder and, in particular, placed on record his thanks to Alison Hewson, Democratic Services Officer, for the support she had provided to him.

The Mayor and a number of members expressed their thanks to Pete West for the work he had done as Portfolio Holder for Housing and wished Bob Ledger well for his retirement, noting that there would be further opportunities for members to express their gratitude before they both left the authority.

Councillor Edmund Strengiel asked a question regarding voids. Councillor West reported that the target of 25 days to fill voids was not likely to be met and anticipated the actual performance to be approximately 27 days. This level of performance for 2017/18 had been expected, but the service had put itself in a position where the 25 days target would be achievable in future years.

Councillor Strengiel also expressed his concerns in respect of asbestos in that it was still being found and having to be dealt with. Councillor West responding by saying that asbestos could appear anywhere and that it was not always obvious where it had been used or was located. As soon as asbestos was found as part of any works carried out by the Council it would be removed and disposed of accordingly.

47. To Consider the Following Recommendations of the Executive and Committees of the Council

(a) Medium Term Financial Strategy 2018 - 2023

It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED that Council Procedure Rule 17.4 regarding the content and length of speeches be suspended to allow the Leader of the Council and Leader of the Opposition unlimited time to speak on this item.

It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED that:

- (1) The Chief Finance Officer's statement on the robustness of the budget and the adequacy of reserves be noted.
- (2) The Medium Term Financial Strategy 2018-2023 and the Capital Strategy 2018-2023 be approved, including the following specific elements:
 - a council tax increase of 2.95% for 2018/19;
 - a housing rent decrease of 1% for 2018/19;
 - the Council being a member of the Lincolnshire Business Rates pilot for 100% business rates retention in 2018/19;
 - the general fund reserve forecast 2018/19-2022/23 as shown in Appendix 1 of the report and the main basis on which the budget had been calculated;
 - the general investment programme 2018/19-2022/23 as shown in Appendix 2 of the report and the main basis on which the programme had been calculated;
 - the housing revenue account forecast 2018/19-2022/23 as shown in Appendix 3 of the report and the main basis on which the budget had been calculated;
 - the housing investment programme 2018/19-2022/23 as shown in Appendix 4 and the main basis on which the programme had been calculated.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 19.7 a recorded vote was taken, the result of which was detailed below:

For	Against	Abstained
Councillor Brothwell		
Councillor C Burke		
Councillor S Burke		
Councillor Bushell		
Councillor Dyer		
Councillor Ellis		
Councillor Gowen		
Councillor Hewson		
Councillor Hills		
Councillor J Kirk		
Councillor R Kirk		
Councillor Loffhagen		
Councillor Mair		
Councillor Maxwell		
Councillor McNulty		
Councillor Metcalfe		
Councillor Murray		
Councillor Nannestad		
Councillor Preston		
Councillor Smith		
Councillor Strengiel		
Councillor Toofany		
Councillor Twedde		
Councillor Vaughan		
Councillor Weaver		
Councillor West		

(b) Council Tax 2018/2019

It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED that:

- (1) The Council Tax Base for 2018/19, as calculated in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012, accepted as 23,943.
- (2) The following amounts be calculated for the year 2018/19 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:
 - a) £106,585,210 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act taking into account all precepts issued to it by Parish Councils.
 - b) £100,191,720 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act.

- c) £6,393,490 being the amount by which the aggregate at 2(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 2(b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act as its Council Tax requirement for the year. (Item R in the formula in Section 31A (4) of the Act).
- d) £267.03 being the amount at 2(c) above (Item R), all divided by Item T (1 above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B(1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (including Parish precepts).
- e) £0 being the aggregate amount of all special items (Parish precepts) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act.
- f) £267.03 being the amount at 2c) above less the amount at 2e) above, all divided by the amount at 1 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.

g) **City of Lincoln Council**

A	B	C	D
£178.02	£207.69	£237.36	£267.03
E	F	G	H
£326.37	£385.71	£445.05	£534.06

being the amounts given by multiplying the amount at 2f) above by the number which, in proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular band divided by the number which in 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 for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different bands.

- (3) That it be noted that for the year 2018/19 Lincolnshire County Council have stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council, in accordance with the dwelling bandings shown below:

Lincolnshire County Council

A	B	C	D
£820.98	£957.81	£1,094.64	£1,231.47
E	F	G	H
£1,505.13	£1,778.79	£2,052.45	£2,462.94

- (4) That it be noted that for the year 2018/19 Police & Crime Commissioner Lincolnshire have stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council, in accordance with the dwelling bandings shown below:

Police & Crime Commissioner Lincolnshire

A	B	C	D
£144.96	£169.12	£193.28	£217.44
E	F	G	H
£265.76	£314.08	£362.40	£434.88

- (5) That having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 2g, 3 and 4 above, the Council, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the following as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2018/19 in accordance with the dwelling bandings shown below:

Total Council Tax Charge 2018/19

A	B	C	D
£1,143.96	£1,334.62	£1,525.28	£1,715.94
E	F	G	H
£2,097.26	£2,478.58	£2,859.90	£3,431.88

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 19.7 a recorded vote was taken, the result of which is detailed below:

For	Against	Abstained
Councillor Brothwell		
Councillor C Burke		
Councillor S Burke		
Councillor Bushell		
Councillor Dyer		
Councillor Ellis		
Councillor Gowen		
Councillor Hewson		
Councillor Hills		
Councillor J Kirk		
Councillor R Kirk		
Councillor Loffhagen		
Councillor Mair		
Councillor Maxwell		
Councillor McNulty		
Councillor Metcalfe		
Councillor Murray		
Councillor Nannestad		
Councillor Preston		
Councillor Smith		
Councillor Strengiel		
Councillor Toofany		
Councillor Twedde		
Councillor Vaughan		
Councillor Weaver		
Councillor West		

(c) Prudential Indicators 2017/18 - 2020/21 and Treasury Management Strategy 2018/19

It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED that:

- (1) The prudential indicators be approved.
- (2) The Treasury Management Strategy, including the treasury management prudential indicators and the Investment Strategy, be approved.

(d) Council House and Garage Rents 2018/19

It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED that:

- (1) The basis of rent calculation for changes to individual council house rents, as set out in paragraph 6 of the report, which represents a decrease in the average 52 week net rent in 2018/19 of 1% for housing rents be approved.
- (2) That council garage rents for 2018/19 be increased by 3% in accordance with the proposal set out at paragraph 6.1 of the report.

48. Annual timetable of meetings 2018-19

It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED that the timetable for meetings for 2018-19 be approved.