

## **BASSETLAW DISTRICT COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2021**

Present:	Councillor J. Bowker (Chairman)	
Councillors	J R Anderson G Bowers H M Brand D K Brett R B Carrington-Wilde D Challinor G Clarkson A K Coultate D A Depledge K Dukes T P Eaton BCA G Freeman K M Greaves S A Greaves M Introna S Isard J A Leigh J W Naish J W Ogle	D G Pidwell J C Plevin J Potts D R Pressley M Richardson N J Sanders J M Sanger MBE B L Schuller S Scotthorne S E Shaw J C Shephard B Sofflet L A Stanniland H L Tamblyn-Saville C Tindle R J Tomlinson C Troop M G Watson J White

Officers in attendance: S.Brown, D Hill and S Wormald.

(Meeting opened at 6.30pm).

#### **26. APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors M R Charlesworth, J Evans S Fielding , D Merryweather, G A N Oxby, M W Quigley MBE

#### **27. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS AND OFFICERS**

##### **(a) Members**

Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in Agenda Item 7 Motions, Universal Credit, was received from Councillor D A Depledge.

Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in Agenda Item 7 Motions, Motion in relation to Miner Workers Pensions Scheme were received from Councillors D Challinor, K M Greaves, D R Pressley, N Sanders. A Non-disclosable Pecuniary Interest in the same item was declared by Councillor M Introna.

(b) Officers

A Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in Agenda Item 34 (a), Designation of Monitoring Officer, was received from Mr S Wormald.

28. MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON 24<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2021

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2021 be approved.

29. COMMUNICATIONS

Chairman's Communications

The Chairman referred to the recent deaths of Alderman DA Vicars and former District Councillor M A Cleasby.

A Minutes silence was held in their memory.

The Chairman commented that:

“ It has been a pleasure to start to be able to attend face to face events. I was able to attend the Rushcliffe Civic Service at the Trent Bridge Cricket Ground and also the Broxtowe Civic Event. I have been delighted to attend a number of community events within the District. Updates on these activities have been posted on social media and within the Members Information Bulletin.”

Chief Executive's Communications

There were none.

Leader's Update

The Leader made the following statement

“This is an Authority that is proudly on the side of business, enterprise and job creation.

Construction work continues transforming the former Middletons Building at Bridge Street in Worksop town Centre with a multi-million pound investment to create state of the art office space for local business and entrepreneurs and reshape Worksop Town Centre.

Councillors should look out for further updates on progress over the weeks ahead.

The ‘Party in the Square’ event in Retford Town Centre was a great success. I pay tribute to the North Notts BID, the local business community and the public who came together to make the event a true success. The planning for this event was undertaken at a time of great uncertainty and I would like to thank the organisers for proceeding with the confidence that they had.

Chair, this is an authority that believes that for the economy of the future, we need to work with education and skills providers to bring skills, training and upskilling opportunities forward for local people. We don't believe that the answer is for people to travel out of the area, we want people to access training locally and join the local economy in gainful employment.

Construction work continues at the Skills Hub in Worksop Town Centre. Signage will be installed in the near future and expect to see more details on progress of this important Government backed project.

Chair, this is an authority that stands up against the behaviour of the irresponsible minority and is proud to work alongside our local police in tackling crime and antisocial behaviour. We believe that when people need help then it should be made available, but we also believe that people have a responsibility to take and accept that help when it is offered to them. Chair, this authority is calling for more front line policing in our town centres and more money to tackle Anti Social Behaviour. We have a bid to the Home Office for Safer Streets funding and we welcome the support of the Police and Crime Commissioner in this process

We are also an authority that is proud of our heritage and history. We are delighted to welcome ambassadors of the Wampanoag Nation. The visitors will speak at an international conference and craft a wetu ,a traditional dwelling, in the Museum's gardens during their visit. In addition, local school children have been attending complementary education sessions to learn about the powerful connections between the Wampanoag and the Mayflower passengers. I am pleased to join these celebrations of our shared history and the opportunity to widen understanding. I thank the County Council, the Arts Council for their support and thank our officers for their work.”

### 30. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

From Dr Steffi Harangozo:

“As COP26 approaches, will the Council commit to a robust climate emergency plan reducing Bassetlaw’s area-wide emissions by 50% in 10 years and, before COP26 starts, establish and fund a public forum for all key stakeholders and a cabinet member to advise the Council on long-term funded carbon reduction programmes including joint initiatives with local public bodies, businesses and, in particular, our communities?”

Reply from Councillor J White, Cabinet Member for Regeneration

“Thank you very much for submitting your question. I also wish to thank you for sending me the newspaper cuttings regarding the recent flooding incidents in this area and the links to climate change.

This summer, we have all witnessed the deluge in Belgium and northern Germany, the fires in southern Europe and north America and the droughts in Africa – all predicted, all impacts of climate change, and we all know that without action it will get worse.

In June 2019, the Council resolved to call on the UK Government to provide us with the powers, resources and the funding to achieve carbon neutrality. From that point we made a commitment to achieving carbon neutrality within the Council itself. This principle is front and central to the Council’s Corporate Plan.

We have recruited a Climate Change Officer and have moved swiftly since that point, with the publication of a Carbon strategy earlier this year, which began by defining the pathways to achieve Carbon Net Zero in the coming decades. It is prioritising:

1. Continuous Carbon Emission Monitoring
2. Heat and Energy Decarbonisation Plans for Key Buildings
3. Decarbonisation of the councils Fleet
4. Expanding the Scope for Renewable Energy Initiatives
5. Increasing Waste and Water Management

Current actions also include installing for EV Charging points both on our sites and within the community where there is no off-street parking provision. However, we are strongly reliant on government finance streams to progress the schemes. Years of national financial cutbacks leaves us with limited resources to do this ourselves.

The Carbon Strategy feeds into all aspects of Council activities, including, the way it manages and operates all of its facilities, the delivery of its Housing function, Waste Collection as well as how we will approach new development and investment opportunities.

We also recognise the role we can play in carbon offsetting with tree planting programmes. Our Local Plan has already adopted these principles with 5 trees being planted for every house built and sites allocated for woodland. We have also fulfilled our commitment to planting 400 oak trees this spring to commemorate the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Mayflower Pilgrims. Our commitment to tree planting will progress further, and plans include working with the community to achieve our objectives.

We are committed to becoming community exemplars in carbon reduction and will want to work with and assist the public, businesses and other organisations. The focus is on getting our house in order so that we can then support the wider community.

We are strategically working with other authorities across the county to expediate our actions and we are also working with NGO's such as the Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust, supporting their activities to change the behaviour of 1 in 4 people, which is the recognised target if we are to get community commitment to climate change action.

However, the biggest issue for us is that COP26 needs to see the government go beyond its warm words and provides the much-needed finances and resources so that we can do more and commit to wider engagement with the public as quickly as possible".

### 31. QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

Two questions were asked by one Member in accordance with Rules of Procedure Number 11.

From Councillor G Bowers:

"A1 Housing Bassetlaw Limited.

On 8th June 2021 notice was given by Companies House for a Compulsory Striking Off Order for this company as the Directors had failed to ensure the accounts were submitted on time. (The strike off order was later suspended on 19 June 2021). However the accounts still remain overdue. When will the council act to ensure the company is fully compliant with The Companies Act 2006 and protect Bassetlaw District Council from potential litigation?"

Reply from Councillor S Scotthorne, Cabinet Member for Housing

"Chairman, I will answer the question as it was tabled by Councillor Bowers.

Thank you for your Question Councillor Bowers.

As Members will be aware A1 Housing Bassetlaw Ltd was the arm's length management company by which the Council delivered Housing Services.

The Council brought it's Housing Services back in-house from 1 October 2018, and A1 Housing ceased trading from 30 September 2018. The Company's Bank Accounts were closed and it has not subsequently carried on business.

The Council is content for the Company to be formally wound up. This will require a meeting of the Company's Board, and their resolution to wind up the Company. The Council is in process of requesting that the Board meets and resolves to wind-up the Company. Once this decision has been made, and any outstanding issues resolved, an application will be made for voluntary strike off of the Company. These are matters of company law and are being managed by appropriate officers”

Councillor Bowers asked a supplementary question

“When will we see the company accounts that should have been submitted?”

Councillor Scotthorne replied that he would provide a written answer on this point.

From Councillor A K Coultate

“Does the Council believe that the current CCTV system covering public spaces is adequate for purpose?”

Reply from Councillor J White, Cabinet Member for Regeneration

“In 2014, BDC CCTV relocated to the Queens building initially monitoring 47 cameras across Worksop and Retford town centres.

The CCTV System has evolved from the formation of an old partnership between Bassetlaw District Council and the Business Community,

In 2015, Bassetlaw District Council took on the full responsibility of the CCTV system and Staff.

As of 2021 we have over 450 cameras going into the control room.

The Objectives of the system

- To help reduce the fear of crime
- To help deter crime and detect crime
- To assist in the overall management of Worksop and Retford Town Centre's
- To enhance community safety, boost the economy and encourage greater use of the town centre's/shopping areas, etc
- To assist the Local Authority in its enforcement and regulatory functions within the town centre's
- To assist with traffic management
- To assist in supporting civil proceedings
- To assist in the safety and wellbeing of the public

When the CCTV was still run by the Business Community images back then were captured via analogue CCTV cameras these provided adequate quality images, these images were recorded directly onto VHS video tape. Once the operation was moved to Queens Buildings the process of upgrading the cameras and recording equipment began, most cameras were gradually upgraded to High Definition units providing far greater images, improved street lighting meant that evidence provided to the police and ASB partners are clearer. The introduction of live video streaming to Nottinghamshire Police Northern Control has meant that incident management has greatly improved as our operators can now send images directly to police dispatchers enabling them to see incidents in real time.

The control room is run 24 hours a day and cameras record images day and night all incidents picked up by the duty operator are logged down for intelligence purposes. During a typical shift the operator may encounter acts of crime/ anti social behavior etc. Typically operators

will monitor local “hotspots” during the day; this could be town centre shops, parks and open spaces for shop theft and anti-social behavior. The Night time economy is mainly pubs and clubs, monitoring public safety and assisting the police with alcohol related incidents along with observing Industrial estates, these are proactively monitored for burglary and theft.

In 2014 The CCTV control room was carrying out 15 – 20 reviews a month for Police or ASBO. In August 2021, the control carried out 65 reviews for Police, ASBO team or Data Protection team.

Two years ago, the council established S80 Partnership to look at commercial opportunities for council service areas, CCTV was the first approved Business case to trade commercially to offer monitoring to private entities. We tendered for and won a contract with the North Notts BID to install and monitor CCTV in Bassetlaw’s industrial sites, these include Harworth, Tuxford, Carlton in Lindrick, Shireoaks, Worksop and Retford. This has been well received from the business community.

In 2019 the council invested another £100,000 into upgrading the CCTV system again to achieve greater flexible monitoring system which will not just benefit the town centres but to the wider areas of residential homes, Parks, and remote Shopping areas like Celtic Point.

Bassetlaw District Council will hopefully soon benefit from an injection of capital of over £300,000 from the Safer Streets Funding; this will go towards upgrading aging CCTV equipment and see new locations added to the CCTV system in areas identified by local police and ASB partners in BDC. This will open up parts of the Bassetlaw area previously blind to the operation and in turn provide better pro-activity when dealing with crime and ASB in our neighborhoods

We will continue to look at options for improving the service and if members have any specific locations that would like to see additional cameras they should let us know”.

From Councillor M Watson:

“Given the current scale of the refugee problem, most recently including many from Afghanistan, does Bassetlaw District Council have any plans to offer resettlement to refugees within the District?”

Reply from Councillor S Scotthorne, Cabinet Member for Housing:

“Can I first thank the Member for the question as it give me chance to highlight the amount of praise the housing needs team and the Council received after the resettlement of the Syrian refugees back in 2018.

There are positives and negatives.

All three males in the families are working, two families have had babies and the children are doing well. One family have chosen not to engage, but they have not reported any issues. Two families have chosen to move to private rental properties in Bassetlaw. One family wants to move to Manchester to be near their relatives. The Police and Community Protection Team are involved.

This shows how we put plans in place to safe guard any refugees that we resettled, and made sure we had all services ready to step in if needed. As for the Afghan relocations the Council is working with East Midlands Councils who are the Ministry for Housing and Local Governments nominated body for the Afghan Relocation and Assistance Policy in the East Midlands to provide accommodation for Afghans. We have made clear that we are willing to support this policy and to accommodate families within Bassetlaw and are awaiting specific

information about what is required, at which point we seek to secure appropriate accommodation.

We will endeavour to support all vulnerable people that arrive and live in Bassetlaw”.

### 32. MOTIONS

The Agenda contained four motions, notice of which had been given in accordance with Rules of Procedure Number 12.

(a) Proposed by Councillor S A Greaves and seconded by Councillor J.White:

“This Council has grave concerns about the Governments plans to build more homes through the National Planning Policy Framework and through its proposals contained within the forthcoming White Paper on planning which is regardless of the views of local people.

This Council believes that public consultation is a key requirement of the planning system but in reality, the limitations of the NPPF mean that public opinion carries little weight if it does not accord with the views of statutory bodies and “experts”.

The statutory requirement for local authorities to bring forward a Local Plan that meets with anticipated employment and population growth has been straitjacketed by the Government’s National Planning Policy Framework.

This Council welcomes any forthcoming proposals that may reduce the Government’s national housing target of building 300,000 houses per year. However, it believes that whilst the Governments primary focus remains on building houses it will leave little room for the consideration of community aspirations and ambitions.

This Council calls for a democratisation of the planning system where communities can be meaningfully involved, there is a meaningful understanding of what community concerns are and they have a direct say in future local housing numbers, infrastructure needs and future environmental sustainability for their area.

This Council calls on the Secretary of State for Local Government to adopt such proposals in the forthcoming White Paper, to pause all emerging Local Plans to ensure that these proposals can be enacted at a local level and to extend the pause to development sites in emerging plans and a moratorium on speculative development during this timeframe.”

Councillor G Bowers proposed an amendment to the motion which was seconded by Councillor M Introna. Insert the words “for the Bassetlaw Local Plan to be paused for 3 months and calls” after “This Council” and before “on the Secretary of State” in line 1 of paragraph 6 of the original motion.

The Monitoring Officer confirmed the amended motion valid.

(The Chairman called a short recess to allow Members to consider the amendment.)

A vote was held and the amendment was lost.

Councillors G Bowers, M Introna, K Dukes, J W Ogle, R B Carrington-Wilde, J White and S A Greaves spoke to the motion.

A recorded vote was requested by in excess of the required seven Members.

FOR: Councillors J R Anderson, J P Bowker, H M Brand, D K Brett, R B Carrington-Wilde, D Challinor, G Clarkson, K Dukes, T P Eaton, G Freeman, K M Greaves, S A Greaves, J A Leigh, J N Naish, J W Ogle, D G Pidwell, J C Plevin, J Potts, D R Pressley, M Richardson. N J Sanders, J M Sanger, B L Schuller, S Scotthorne, S E Shaw J C Shephard, B Sofflet, H L Tamblyn-Saville, C Tindle, R J Tomlinson, C Troop, M G Watson and J White.

AGAINST: Councillor L A Stanniland.

ABSTAINED: Councillors G Bowers, A K Coultate, D A Depledge, M Introna and S Isard.

**RESOLVED** that the motion be supported.

(b) Proposed by Councillor M. Introna and seconded by Councillor A. Coultate:

“In Bassetlaw we need 2,500 signatures for a petition to be discussed in council and it is proposed that this number is reduced to 1,000 signatures for large scale or district-wide issues. For individual villages or other smaller communities it is proposed that a smaller number is fairer and more representative and as such only 400 signatures are required for issues that primarily impact 1 to 4 district wards and that this would be making our council more supportive of our communities and encouraging community involvement in our local democracy.

In any case it is also accepted that any petition submitted to the council over at least 200 signatures and less than 400 should receive a written response by the relevant department or committee within the council.”

Councillors J White, S A Greaves, J Leigh, G Clarkson, A K Coultate and M Introna spoke to the motion.

A recorded vote was requested by in excess of the required seven Members.

FOR: Councillors G Bowers, A K Coultate, D A Depledge, M Introna, S Isard, J W Ogle, J C Plevin, J Potts, B Sofflet, L A Stanniland and H L Tamblyn- Saville.

AGAINST: Councillors J R Anderson, J P Bowker, H M Brand, D K Brett, R B Carrington-Wilde, D Challinor, G Clarkson, K Dukes, T P Eaton, G Freeman, K M Greaves, S A Greaves, J A Leigh, J N Naish, D G Pidwell, D R Pressley, M Richardson. N J Sanders, J M Sanger, B L Schuller, S Scotthorne, S E Shaw J C Shephard, C Tindle, R J Tomlinson, C Troop, M G Watson and J White.

ABSTAINED: None

**RESOLVED** that the motion be not carried.

(c) Proposed by Councillor H L Tamblyn-Saville and seconded by Councillor G. Clarkson

“Council notes:

1) That members of the public have the right to be able to scrutinise the business of the Council and that this should be made as easy as possible.

2) That all Members are elected to represent the electorate and should remain transparent and accountable to them at all times.

3) The United Kingdom has a population of 64.1 million (2016) and 89% of this population are active internet users. 38 million people actively use social media and a further 50% of the total population actively use their mobile phones to access social media (source:



thinkdigitalfirst.com).

4) Since January 2014, there has been a 4% growth in active internet users, 6% growth in social media users and 7% growth in mobile users accessing social media (source: thinkdigitalfirst.com).

5) That during the Covid-19 pandemic when meetings were held online, members of the public were able to access council meetings streamed online, increasing accessibility and transparency of meetings

Council resolves:

That all public meetings (excluding those items held in exemption) are live streamed through all supported media outlets that it currently manages, as well as any future social media platforms it may use.”

Councillor S A Greaves proposed an amendment to the motion which was seconded by Councillor J White. Insert the words “it scopes out the costs and technology to ensure” between “That” and “all” on the first line of the final paragraph.

The Monitoring Officer confirmed the amended motion valid.

(The Chairman called a short recess to allow Members to consider the amendment.)

The proposer of the motion confirmed that she was happy to accept the amendment.

**RESOLVED** that the Council scopes out the costs and technology to ensure all public meetings (excluding those items held in exemption) are live streamed through all supported media outlets that it currently manages, as well as any future social media platforms it may use.

(d) Proposed by Councillor S A Greaves and seconded by Councillor J White

(Councillor D A Depledge left the meeting having declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in the motion)

“This Council recognises the impact that the covid-19 pandemic has had on the local economy and the labour market, forcing many to rely on welfare benefits to survive at this difficult time.

It notes the importance that the temporary uplift to universal credit of £20 per week has played in providing a lifeline for those struggling financially and registers its deep concern at plans to remove this vital support.

It notes that the Joseph Rowntree Foundation has estimated that if this temporary uplift is withdrawn, it will remove over £1000 a year from some Bassetlaw households.

This Council believes that this will leave many unable to afford basic necessities such as housing costs, food and heating. It recognises that after a four year benefit freeze, as well as the numerous challenges posed by the universal credit system, such as the five-week wait before payments are made, have created huge pressure on the budgets of the most vulnerable, leaving many trapped in debt and despair; and calls on the Government to end the uncertainty faced by millions of households and ensure that this temporary uplift in universal credit is made permanent to avoid a financial cliff-edge for claimants and to commit to a longer term strategy to tackle the shameful levels of poverty across the UK.

This Council commits to writing to the local Members of Parliament and to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions to highlight our concerns.”

Councillors G Bowers, M Introna, K Dukes, J W Ogle, R B Carrington-Wilde, J White and S A Greaves spoke to the motion.

A recorded vote was requested by in excess of the required seven Members.

FOR: Councillors J R Anderson, J P Bowker, G Bowers, H M Brand, D K Brett, R B Carrington-Wilde, D Challinor, G Clarkson, A K Coultate, K Dukes, T P Eaton, G Freeman, K M Greaves, S A Greaves, M Introna, J A Leigh, J N Naish, D G Pidwell, J Potts, D R Pressley, M Richardson. N J Sanders, J M Sanger, B L Schuller, S Scotthorne, S E Shaw J C Shephard, B Sofflet, H L Tamblyn-Saville, C Tindle, R J Tomlinson, C Troop, M G Watson and J White.

AGAINST: Councillors L A Stanniland.

ABSTAINED: Councillors S Isard and J W Ogle.

**RESOLVED** that the motion be supported.

(Councillor C Plevin left the meeting)

(e) Proposed by Councillor S A Greaves and seconded by Councillor J.White:

(Councillors D Challinor, K M Greaves, D R Pressley, N Sanders left the meeting having declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in the motion)

“This Council is aware that between 1987 and 1995 British Coal did not pay any employer contributions into the UK industry Mine Workers Pension Schemes (MPS) which benefited them as employers by approximately £1.136 billion.

This Council notes that when its representatives and others voted to consequently close the schemes, they also took the decision to allow 50 per cent of any surpluses to be taken by the Government which it is calculated will result eventually in the Government receiving in excess of £8 billion from both the MPS and its associate the BCSSS pension scheme.

This Council is disappointed that a review called by the Parliamentary Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy Committee to give £1.2bn of pension funds to ex-miners was rejected by Government earlier this year, when they described the scheme as “fair and beneficial”.

This would have given a £14 increase to the average weekly pension of £84.and this Council believes that this decision is unfair and unjust and calls on the Minister for Industry, Business and Financial Affairs to reconsider this decision.”

Councillors G Bowers, J W Ogle, J White and S A Greaves spoke to the motion.

A recorded vote was requested by in excess of the required seven Members.

FOR: Councillors J R Anderson, J P Bowker, H M Brand, D K Brett, R B Carrington-Wilde, G Clarkson, K Dukes, T P Eaton, G Freeman, S A Greaves, M Introna, J A Leigh, J N Naish, D G Pidwell, M Richardson, J M Sanger, B L Schuller, S Scotthorne, S E Shaw J C Shephard, B Sofflet, H L Tamblyn-Saville, C Tindle, R J Tomlinson, C Troop, M G Watson and J White.

AGAINST: None.

ABSTAINED: Councillors G Bowers, A K Coultate, D A Depledge, S Isard, J W Ogle and L A Stanniland.

**RESOLVED** that the motion be supported.

### 33. REFERRALS

(a) Audit and Risk Scrutiny Committee – 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2021 – Minute No. 16(f) – Local Code of Corporate Governance 2021/22

The Code is a 'living document' in that it must be periodically reviewed and amended to ensure that it satisfies the changing financial and corporate environment. Responsibility for review of the Code will ultimately be the responsibility of Council, acting upon the recommendations of the Audit & Risk Scrutiny Committee, having taken account of monthly reviews carried out by Officers under the aegis of the Corporate Governance Working Group. Council will be expected to take careful note of such recommendations. The Local Code of Corporate Governance is a forward looking document that sets out what the Council will do in the coming year.

The intention is that the Council is able to demonstrate that its practices and procedures fully comply with the CIPFA/SOLACE objectives and that the Local Code is fully observed. Compliance and monitoring of the Code is demonstrated through the 'vowel' test recommended by CIPFA/SOLACE Guidance, namely:

- Accountability
- Effectiveness
- Integrity
- Openness and Inclusivity
- Up to date

The Council receives an annual report from the Chief Executive and Leader: the "Annual Governance Statement", which defines the position on whether the corporate governance arrangements as defined within the Code are adequate and operating effectively.

**RESOLVED** that Council approves the updated Local Code of Corporate Governance for 2021/22, and to implement the procedures as set out in the report.

(b) Overview & Scrutiny Committee – 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021 – Minute No. 42(a) – Overview and Scrutiny Committee Annual Report

Members were presented with the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2020-21. The report gave a detailed summary of work undertaken by the Overview and Scrutiny function during 2020/21. The Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee, advised Council that during this period, the Committee was able to quickly adapt to new ways of working whilst prioritising its workloads and alleviating pressures on teams.

Despite the disruption, Overview and Scrutiny was able to continue to perform its functions including monitoring the Council's Forward Plan to focus on 'pre-decision scrutiny', whilst also scrutinising key decisions taken by Cabinet to ensure they deliver for our communities and the Council.

As normal, we were able to monitor performance information on a quarterly basis and consider annual reports on complaints, with a report on street homelessness forming the basis of the Annual Scrutiny of the Community Safety Partnership. We also undertook a Scrutiny Review of Flooding through a Virtual Task and Finish Group – a first for Overview and Scrutiny in Bassetlaw. Holding the Review virtually worked to our advantage, as it was easier for more witnesses to attend whilst reducing the need to travel to a physical location to participate. A

Virtual meeting also facilitated the consideration of a detailed report and presentation on the performance of BPL Leisure Centres and impacts of COVID-19.

Finally, Councillor Shephard thanked the members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Officers and all participants involved for continuing to make scrutiny a success during this period of rapid change and uncertainty. Whilst there were many lessons from the Pandemic that can put to use in the future, he looked forward to returning to more normality.

**RESOLVED** that the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report be approved.

#### 34. REPORTS OF THE DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE RESOURCES

(Mr S Wormald left the meeting during this item).

##### (a) Designation of the Council Monitoring Officer and Deputy

Section 5 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 requires the Council to designate one of its officers as Monitoring Officer. The Monitoring Officer may not also be the Council's Chief Financial Officer (Section 151 officer) or the Chief Executive / Head of Paid Service.

At the 6th July 2021 Cabinet approved the proposals for the restructuring of the Legal & Licensing section which included formalising the arrangements for the Monitoring Officer and to make provision for a Deputy Monitoring Officer. The Council was asked to give formal approval to those arrangements.

**RESOLVED** that:

1. The Council Solicitor be designated as the Monitoring Officer
2. The Principal Solicitor (Regulatory) as the Deputy Monitoring Officer.

##### (b) Annual Treasury Management Review 2020/21

The Annual Treasury Management Report for 2020/21 was presented to the Audit Risk & Scrutiny Committee on 22 July 2021 and to Cabinet on 13 July 2021.

Under the Treasury Management Code of Practice an Annual outturn report is required to be presented to Council to detail and explain activities in the year. The report was presented for information and it included the Prudential Indicators that the Council is required to report and monitor. It was noted that there are no issues to highlight to Members on these indicators.

**RESOLVED** that Council receives the Annual Report on Treasury Management Activity and comments as appropriate, as required by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's Code of Practice on Treasury Management.

##### (c) Community Governance Review

The Council considered commencing a Community Governance Review to address a number of matters raised by Parish Councils and members of the community.

The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 amended the responsibility for parish area reviews from what is now the Local Government Boundary Commission for England to principal councils, subject to adherence to regulations and directions from the

Department for Communities and Local Government and the Electoral Commission. The process for considering a change is now termed a Community Governance Review.

**RESOLVED** that:

1. Council notes the requests to review Parish amalgamations, warding and Numbers of Parish Councillors
2. Council Agree to undertake a Community Governance Review of the Parishes of Beckinghamcum- Saundby, Misson, Rampton and Woodbeck, and Ranskill and Torworth and consider the boundary between the Carlton-in-Lindrick Parish and Worksop.
3. Officers be authorised to progress the requirements of the Review process.
4. Terms of Reference of the review as detailed in Appendix B be agreed, including the timetable and arrangements for public consultation.
5. Further reports be brought to Council in order that decisions may be made in respect of draft proposals and final recommendations of the Review.

**35. REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER**

- (a) Appointments to Council Committees and Outside Organisations 2021/22 Municipal Year

At its Annual General Meeting each year, the Council appoints councillors to committees and as representatives on outside organisations for the coming Municipal Year.

Following on from the Council AGM on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2021 when changes occur that affect the representatives appointed to committees or outside organisations at that meeting for the ensuing municipal year, these must be presented to and ratified by Full Council.

**RESOLVED** that:

1. The proposals for the amendments to Council Committees as set out at 3.3 of the Report be approved.
2. The proposals for the amendments to Outside Organisations as set out at 3.4 of the Report be approved.

**36. REPORTS OF THE HEAD OF REGENERATION**

- (a) Neighbourhood Planning: Request to modify the boundary of a designated area – Retford Town Centre (Key Decision No. 857)

The Report advised that on 18<sup>th</sup> June 2021 the District Council received an application seeking to modify the boundary of Retford Town Centre Neighbourhood Area, as originally designated in March 2021 for the purpose of producing a neighbourhood plan. The request accords with statutory processes as defined in the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended) and the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

Following the conclusion of a statutory public consultation on the proposal, the Council must now decide whether to approve the application and allow the boundary of the Neighbourhood Area to be modified.

**RESOLVED** that:

1. The application to modify Retford Town Centre Neighbourhood Area be approved as at Part 1: Option A.

2. Part 2,; Option A, to identify Retford Town Centre Neighbourhood Area as a business area be approved.
3. The District Council contacts Retford Town Centre Neighbourhood Planning Group to congratulate them on their successful application, and to offer ongoing support with the development of their Neighbourhood Plan.

(b) Neighbourhood Planning: Modification to and arrangements for a Referendum relating to Sturton Ward Neighbourhood Plan

Members' approval was sought for the designation of Sturton Ward as a Neighbourhood Area for the purposes of producing a Neighbourhood Plan, as defined in the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended).

The Cabinet Member for Regeneration commended the work and commitment undertaken by both the people of the Sturton area to achieve this stage in the process. She added that a Neighbourhood Plan makes a real difference to local communities in regard to housing provision and future employment in the area. Neighbourhood Plans are well supported in Bassetlaw.

**RESOLVED** that:

1. The Examiner's recommendation as set out at 6.2 of the report be approved, which include modifications to the Sturton Ward Neighbourhood Plan (Review), as set out in the Examination Report at Appendix 1 and in the Draft Decision Statement at Appendix 2.
2. The holding of a Neighbourhood Plan Referendum in the Sturton Ward Neighbourhood Area on 11 November 2021 be approved.
3. Subject to a simple majority of those voting in the referendum, the Council 'makes' the Sturton Ward Neighbourhood Plan (Review).
4. The Council congratulate Sturton Ward Planning Group on reaching this stage in the neighbourhood planning process, and offer ongoing support in respect of monitoring the use of the Plan in practice.

(Councillor C Troop left the meeting)

37.. LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

**RESOLVED** that, in accordance with Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, and after considering the public interest test as set out by the officer in the body of the report, Members agreed that the following items of business involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3, in accordance with Section 100A of the Act, the press and public be excluded from the meeting:

Agenda Item No. 12 (a) Referrals – Paragraph 3 Agenda Item 13 (a) Report of Interim Chief Executive

38. REFERRALS

- (a) Cabinet – 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021 – Minute No. 49(c) – Approval of the Bassetlaw Garden Village Vision Statement (Key Decision No. 859)

Members received a referral from Cabinet to approve the Bassetlaw Garden Village Vision Statement.

Councillors J W Ogle, R Carrington-Wilde, K Dukes, J Leigh and S A Greaves spoke to the motion.

A recorded vote was requested by in excess of the required seven Members.

FOR: Councillors J R Anderson, J P Bowker, H M Brand, D K Brett, R B Carrington-Wilde, D Challinor, G Clarkson, K Dukes, T P Eaton, G Freeman, K M Greaves, S A Greaves, J A Leigh, J N Naish, D G Pidwell, J Potts, D R Pressley, M Richardson, N J Sanders, J M Sanger, B L Schuller, S Scotthorne, S E Shaw, J C Shephard, B Sofflet, H L Tamblyn-Saville, C Tindle, R J Tomlinson, M G Watson and J White.

AGAINST: None.

ABSTAINED: Councillors G Bowers, A K Coultate, D A Depledge, M Introna, S Isard, J W Ogle and L A Stanniland.

**RESOLVED** that the Vision Statement for the Bassetlaw Garden Village be endorsed.

#### 39. REPORT OF THE INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE

**RESOLVED** that for the reasons as set out in the report Councillor J Evans non-attendance at meetings be approved, for the purposes of s.85(1) and 85(2A) of the Local Government Act 1972 until 31 March 2022.

#### 40. ANY OTHER BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR CONSIDERS TO BE URGENT

As there was no other urgent business to be discussed, the Chairman closed the meeting.

(Meeting closed at 9:56pm).