

***NOTE THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION AT THE  
NEXT MEETING OF THIS COMMITTEE***

## **TOWN AND PARISH COUNCILS' LIAISON COMMITTEE**

**8<sup>th</sup> July 2021**

Present: Councillor Hasthorpe (in the Chair)  
Councillors Astbury, Pettigrew and Shreeve

G W Baker	New Waltham New Waltham Parish
R Breed	Council
	Barnoldby Le Beck Parish Council
J Braton	Stallingborough Parish Council
T Crofts	
S Greenbeck	Laceby Parish Council
D Johnson	Laceby Parish Council
K Kiddle Bailey	Waltham Parish Council
K Kirkham	Ashby cum Fenby Parish Clerk
L Mumby	Waltham Parish Council
D Raper	New Waltham Parish Council
B Turner	Bradley Parish Council
V Turner	Bradley Parish Council

Also in attendance:

PCC Jonathan Evison	Police and Crime Commissioner
Paul French	Humberside Police – Chief Inspector
Beverly O'Brien	Scrutiny and Committee Advisor
Deb Swatman	Traffic Team Manager – Engie
Yvonne Vermeersch	Team Supervisor
Paul Windley	Democratic and Scrutiny Team Manager

### **LM.1 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN**

Upon nominations being requested, it was moved by Councillor Shreeve, seconded by Councillor Breed and carried upon a show of hands that Councillor Hasthorpe be appointed Chair of this committee for the Municipal Year 2021/22.

RESOLVED – That Councillor Hasthorpe be appointed as Chair of this committee for the municipal year 2021/22.

COUNCILLOR HASTHORPE IN THE CHAIR

## **LM.2 APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY CHAIRMAN**

RESOLVED – That the appointment of Deputy Chair be deferred pending an appropriate nomination.

## **LM.3 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence from this meeting were received from Councillor Hudson and Councillor Dawkins.

## **LM.4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest by any Committee Member in respect of items on the agenda for this meeting.

## **LM.5 MINUTES**

The minutes of the Town and Parish Council Liaison Committee held on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2021 were approved as a correct record.

## **LM.6 COMMITTEE ACTION PLAN**

The committee received an update on the action plan for the Town and Parish Council Liaison Committee.

RESOLVED – That all completed actions be removed from the Committee action plan.

## **LM.7 POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER**

The committee were introduced to the new Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC), Jonathan Evison, and received an update on his priorities.

The Commissioner explained how he had communicated extensively with communities within his remit. He stated that there were various things individuals wanted him to prioritise and consider. The Commissioner reported how the highest crime rates were for anti-social behaviour, services associated with drugs, fly tipping and domestic abuse. He added that members of the public had also mentioned how there had been a lack of police presence within their communities. He explained that due to health and safety measures being in place for COVID-19, officers had found it difficult to communicate safely. However, they were now beginning to reintroduce officers back onto the streets, as well as training new staff as part of the government's pledge to put 20,000 officers back on the streets.

The Commissioner also mentioned how a large part of his work would focus on young people and keeping them safe. Particularly by educating young people at a younger age to help divert them from crime. He was confident that although each authority within the Humber area had different issues, if we could find a way to work together, he believed they would be able to implement a much safer community.

Councillor Baker wondered whether the PCC would be carrying on the work of his predecessor and increase police numbers within the community. The Commissioner confirmed that he was the chair of the Police and Crime Committee for seven years, so he had worked closely with Keith Hunter. He confirmed that although their political backgrounds were different they shared a lot of the same aspirations to improve and add to the police force.

RESOLVED – That the update be noted.

## **LM.8 POLICING PLANS**

The committee received an update from Humberside Police on policing plans for the summer holidays.

Chief Inspector French informed committee members of recent warrants and arrests that had been undertaken within the Borough. He also detailed a number of operations that were currently underway including the work they were currently doing to tackle antisocial behaviour. He explained how they were currently working with the Youth Offending Team to implement controls and educate young people to try and divert crime at a much younger age.

One member had concerns regarding the lack of community officers being present locally and currently did not know who their dedicated local policing officer was. Chief Inspector French apologised for this as this was not the service they were aspiring for. He stated that there have been a few tweaks within the service recently and as officers have had to work within a COVID safe environment it may have prohibited them in working in their usual way. However, he reassured Members that he would send out a 'Know the Team' poster so that Members knew who they could contact if an issue arose.

Other Members of the Committee stated that they were happy with the level of representation within their parishes.

RESOLVED – That the update be noted.

## **LM.9 ISSUES RAISED BY TOWN/PARISH COUNCILS**

Waltham Parish Council

Waltham Parish Council requested a review of North East Lincolnshire Council's Customer Portal system so that parish clerks could communicate more effectively with the council, and for better feedback to be provided on matters reported.

Ms Vermeersch informed the Committee the process for the customer portal. She stated that there was an email address set up for Elected Members only, but she was happy to extend that opportunity to Parish Councillors. She advised that they were trying to discourage Members contacting Officers direct as this was preventing them from getting issues resolved. If Members were to report an issue through the specific email address it would allow customer service staff to implement the record quicker, along with an audit trail being launched.

One Member explained how they struggled to know whether the issue they had reported had been processed as no feedback was ever received. Sometimes it was easier to just have the discussion with the person in question. Ms Vermeersch apologised to Members as it was their intention to make sure people felt supported when using the portal.

Members believed it would be useful if all Parish Clerks received the dedicated email address for Councillors only. Ms Vermeersch promised to forward this on to all Parish Clerks.

#### Humberston/Healing and Stallingborough Parish Councils

Humberston, Healing and Stallingborough Parish Councils requested that the future of the Town and Parish Liaison Committee be considered. Members felt that communication changes and improvements being made by the principal authority had brought closer working relationships, leading to most matters being dealt with at a local level rather than through this committee. Therefore, they wondered whether the Town and Parish Liaison Committee should be held twice a year or called, when necessary, instead of scheduling every quarter.

The committee believed that it was better to leave the scheduled meetings in for this Municipal year in place and determine whether each meeting merited taking place.

### **LM.10 HIGHWAYS/TRAFFIC UPDATE**

The committee received an update on highways and traffic matters.

Ms Swatman updated the committee on the activity that had taken place within their parishes. She explained how the A18 was still ongoing, but phase one had now been open for over a year. Phase two was due to start in September 2021, which included the final stages of finalising everything. Ms Swatman added that as part of the minor works funding that was included in the Local Transport Programme (LTP), £10,000 had been put aside to allow parishes to suggest highway improvements

schemes. There had been various issues already raised, but she just wanted to make members aware of the opportunity. She explained that an email containing the proforma form had already been sent out to clerks and the deadline to submit requests was 27<sup>th</sup> August 2021.

Ms Swatman added that there was a website which allowed individuals to keep up to date on roadwork information via a live feed. It allowed everyone to see what exactly was happening at a specific site. The Chair asked if the website link could be sent to all Parish Clerks.

RESOLVED –

1. That the update be noted.
2. That the website link for the live feed on all roadwork information be sent to all Parish Clerks.

## **LM.11 MEMBER DEVELOPMENT UPDATE**

Mr Windley expressed how there had been an increased focus on online learning during the COVID pandemic. He also reported on the induction programme that was currently taking place for newly elected members to North East Lincolnshire Council.

One member stated that they had recently attended a virtual training session, particularly focusing on planning. He wondered whether future training of this nature could be offered to parish councils as they were heavily involved in discussing planning matters within their Parishes.

Mr Windley agreed to inform the dedicated Learning and Development Advisor so that parish clerks could be informed of future sessions. He noted that planning officers had previously agreed to visit individual parish councils to update on planning matters.

## **LM.12 REFERRALS TO SCRUTINY**

There were no matters referred to scrutiny.

There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 8.10 p.m.