



www.nelincs.gov.uk

NORTH EAST LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON

30th November, 2017

PRESENT

Councillor Shepherd (in the Chair)
Councillors Beasant, Bolton, Bramley, Brown, Burton, Cairns, Chase, Colquhoun, Cracknell, De Freitas, Dickerson, Fenty, Goodwin, Harness, Hasthorpe, Hudson, Hyldon-King, Jackson, James, Lindley, McGilligan-Fell, Mickleburgh, Oxby, Parkinson, Patrick, Pettigrew, Rogers, Rudd, Shreeve, Stinson, Stockton, Sutton, Walker, Watson, K. Wheatley, P. Wheatley and Wilson.

OFFICERS:	Rob Walsh	Chief Executive
	Simon Jones	Monitoring Officer
	Sharon Wroot	Director of Finance, Resources and Operations
	Iain Lovell	Group Manager Customer and Communications
	Paul Windley	Democratic and Scrutiny Team Manager

NEL.102 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence from this meeting were received from Councillors Barber, Barfield, Brookes and Darby.

NEL.103 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillors Beasant declared a personal interest in NEL.104 as a trustee of Harbour Place and the Grimsby, Cleethorpes and District Citizens Advice Bureau.

Councillors Bramley, Rogers, Shreeve and Sutton declared their personal interest in NEL.104 as trustees of the Grimsby, Cleethorpes and District Citizens Advice Bureau.

MOTION TO THE COUNCIL

Council considered a motion submitted in accordance with the Council's Constitution, and requested by six Members of Council, to be proposed by Councillor Beasant and seconded by Councillor Chase as follows:

Council agrees that the intention of Universal Credit (UC) to make benefits less complicated and to allow those in low paid work to keep more of their wages is a good idea, but believes that the evidence demonstrates that the Universal Credit process is flawed and causing unnecessary hardship to local families.

Council noted that UC was deliberately introduced on a slow rollout so that any issues could be seen and corrected before the benefit was introduced to all claimants.

Council further notes that the evidence of council's across the country is that UC is causing huge increases in rent arrears and in general debt levels amongst claimants, many of whom have never been in debt before. In addition, evidence demonstrates that most private landlords and even some housing associations are refusing to accept tenants receiving UC, leading to an increase in those registering as homeless and seeking temporary accommodation.

Locally, charities are reporting massive increases in rent arrears and in general debt levels amongst claimants, Registered Social Landlords are similarly saying that rent arrears have increased dramatically and worryingly charities are reporting a huge increase in individuals sleeping rough.

Council therefore resolves to write to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, making these points, requesting that the Government addresses these issues, and that the roll-out is halted until the problems are fixed.

An amendment to the Motion had been received, in accordance with the Constitution, and was moved by Councillor Patrick, seconded by Councillor Hyldon-King, requesting that the following be inserted between the penultimate and final paragraph:

Council will also note, that whilst advanced payments are available for new claims, these are paid back in the form of a loan, all be it interest free, this amounts to a practice of claimants paying for their benefits from their own benefits, thus removing part of their entitlement for the following year, which depending on circumstances can drastically impact on claimants standard of living.

Members debated this amendment and at the conclusion of the debate, the amendment was put to the vote. A recorded vote was held in accordance with the requirements of the Council's Standing Orders, the votes cast were recorded as follows:

For the Amendment

Councillors Beasant, Bolton, Bramley, Brown, Burton, Chase, De Freitas, Goodwin, Hyldon-King, James, McGilligan-Fell, Mickleburgh, Oxby, Patrick, Rogers, Rudd, Stockton, Sutton, Walker, Watson, K. Wheatley, P. Wheatley and Wilson (23 votes).

Against the Amendment

Councillor Hudson (1 vote).

Abstained

Councillors Cairns, Colquhoun, Cracknell, Dickerson, Fenty, Harness, Hasthorpe, Jackson, Lindley, Parkinson, Pettigrew, Shepherd, Shreeve and Stinson (14 votes).

The amended Motion, being the new substantive Motion, was then debated and put to the vote by the Mayor. A recorded vote was held in accordance with the requirements of the Council's Standing Orders, the votes cast were recorded as follows:

For the Motion

Councillors Beasant, Bolton, Bramley, Brown, Burton, Chase, De Freitas, Goodwin, Hyldon-King, James, McGilligan-Fell, Mickleburgh, Oxby, Patrick, Rogers, Rudd, Stockton, Sutton, Walker, Watson, K. Wheatley, P. Wheatley and Wilson (23 votes).

Against the Motion

Councillor Hudson (1 vote).

Abstained

Councillors Cairns, Colquhoun, Cracknell, Dickerson, Fenty, Harness, Hasthorpe, Jackson, Lindley, Parkinson, Pettigrew, Shepherd, Shreeve and Stinson (14 votes).

The Monitoring Officer declared the substantive motion carried.

RESOLVED – That this Council write to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, making the points made in the original and amended motion, requesting that the Government addresses these issues, and that the roll-out is halted until the problems are fixed.

At this point, the Mayor moved a brief adjournment of the meeting to allow Members to reflect on advice on the following item, which had been provided by the Monitoring Officer immediately prior to this meeting.

MOTION TO THE COUNCIL

Council considered a motion submitted in accordance with the Council's Constitution, and requested by six Members of Council, to be proposed by Councillor Harness and seconded by Councillor Shreeve as follows:

In view of the overwhelming public objection to the replacement of Toll Bar roundabout with a traffic light controlled junction, this Council calls for the abandonment of the proposed system of 24 hour traffic lights and the design of a new scheme that takes full account of the safe crossing for children.

An amendment to the Motion had been received, in accordance with the Constitution, and was moved by Councillor Watson, seconded by Councillor Oxby, as follows:

In view of issues raised during recent public engagement on the replacement of Toll Bar Roundabout with a Traffic Light Controlled Junction, this Council supports the decision to review the currently proposed option via a Cabinet Working Group led by Cllr Watson Portfolio Holder for Energy and the Environment and including Cllr Wheatley Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Assets, Skills and Housing, Cllr Jackson the Leader of the Principal Opposition, a representative from the Town and Parish Council Liaison Committee, a Ward Councillor for Humberston and New Waltham and a representative from Tollbar Academy, with an instruction that that Group reports back to Cabinet before January 31st 2018 with its findings, including any alternative proposals, to enable an overall scheme to be progressed within agreed timescales and to the required standard to ensure safe crossing for children.

Members debated this amendment and at the conclusion of the debate, the amendment was put to the vote. A recorded vote was held in accordance with the requirements of the Council's Standing Orders, the votes cast were recorded as follows:

For the Amendment

Councillors Beasant, Bolton, Brown, Burton, Chase, De Freitas, Goodwin, Hyldon-King, James, McGilligan-Fell, Mickleburgh, Oxby, Patrick, Rogers, Rudd, Sutton, Walker, Watson, K. Wheatley, P. Wheatley and Wilson (21 votes).

Against the Amendment

Councillors Bramley, Cairns, Colquhoun, Cracknell, Dickerson, Fenty, Harness, Hasthorpe, Hudson, Jackson, Lindley, Parkinson, Pettigrew, Shepherd, Shreeve, Stinson and Stockton (17 votes).

The amended Motion, being the new substantive Motion, was then debated and put to the vote by the Mayor. A recorded vote was held in accordance with the

requirements of the Council's Standing Orders, the votes cast were recorded as follows:

For the Motion

Councillors Beasant, Bolton, Brown, Burton, Chase, De Freitas, Goodwin, Hyldon-King, James, McGilligan-Fell, Mickleburgh, Oxby, Patrick, Rogers, Rudd, Sutton, Walker, Watson, K. Wheatley, P. Wheatley and Wilson (21 votes).

Against the Motion

Councillors Bramley, Cairns, Colquhoun, Cracknell, Dickerson, Fenty, Harness, Hasthorpe, Hudson, Jackson, Lindley, Parkinson, Pettigrew, Shepherd, Shreeve, Stinson and Stockton (17 votes).

The Monitoring Officer declared the substantive motion carried.

RESOLVED - That the decision to review the currently proposed replacement of Toll Bar Roundabout with a Traffic Light Controlled Junction via a Cabinet Working Group led by Cllr Watson Portfolio Holder for Energy and the Environment and including Cllr Wheatley Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Assets, Skills and Housing, Cllr Jackson the Leader of the Principal Opposition, a representative from the Town and Parish Council Liaison Committee, a Ward Councillor for Humberston and New Waltham and a representative from Tollbar Academy, be supported with an instruction that that Group reports back to Cabinet before January 31st 2018 with its findings, including any alternative proposals, to enable an overall scheme to be progressed within agreed timescales and to the required standard to ensure safe crossing for children.

There being no further business, the Mayor declared the meeting closed at 9.35 p.m.