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## **NORTH EAST LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON**

**30<sup>th</sup> October 2024**

### **Present:**

Councillor Beasant (in the Chair)  
Councillors Aisthorpe, Augusta, Bonner, Boyd, Bright, Brookes, Cairns, Clough, Cracknell, Crofts, Dawkins, Downes, Emmerson, Farren, Freeston, Goodwin, Harness, Hasthorpe, Henderson, Holland, Hudson, Humphrey, Jackson, Jervis, Kaczmarek, Lindley, Mickleburgh, Mill, Morland, Parkinson, Patrick, Pettigrew, Shepherd, Shreeve, Shutt, Silvester and Wheatley.

### **Officers in Attendance:**

- Rob Walsh (Chief Executive)
- Simon Jones (Assistant Director Law and Governance) (Monitoring Officer)
- Sharon Wroot (Executive Director for Place and Resources)
- Paul Windley (Democratic and Scrutiny Team Manager)

### **NEL.46 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence from this meeting were received from Councillors Haggis, K. Swinburn, S. Swinburn and Wilson.

### **NEL.47 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest by Members in the items on the agenda for this meeting.

### **NEL.48 CARE EXPERIENCE AS A LOCALLY PROTECTED CHARACTERISTIC**

The Council considered a report from the Portfolio Holder for Children and Education proposing that North East Lincolnshire Council treat care experience as if it were any other protected characteristic.

## RESOLVED –

1. That the decision of Cabinet to instruct the Portfolio Holder for Children and Education to include the following in relevant policies and strategies across the Children and Family Service function, be noted:

*“To continue to prioritise the needs of care experienced adults across North East Lincolnshire and commit to our duty as corporate parents to those that experienced care as children.*

*That this council will treat care experience as if it were any other protected characteristic”.*

2. That the decision of Cabinet to delegate authority to the Director for Children’s Services to support the Portfolio Holder for Children and Education in the above, be noted.
3. That the decision of Cabinet to delegate authority to Executive Director Place and Resources, Director for Adult Social Services and Director for Public Health to support the above inclusion in relevant policies and strategies across the wider council in consultation with the relevant portfolio holder, be noted.
4. That the principle of constitutional change to include the above as an addition to the Constitution, ostensibly as part of the general principles of the Scheme of Delegation to Officers so that the ethos set out becomes part of the decision-making process, be approved and that the Monitoring Officer be authorised to make such change in line with previous delegations made.

## **NEL.49 WARD BOUNDARY REVIEW**

The Council considered a report from the Chief Executive seeking approval of North East Lincolnshire Council’s response to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England’s consultation on new ward boundaries in North East Lincolnshire.

Councillor Shepherd proposed the recommendation in the report, along with an additional recommendation that authority be delegated to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Group Leaders, to submit the final response (including any required narrative) to the Boundary Commission. This was seconded by Councillor Jackson.

Councillor Holland proposed an amendment that the Ward Boundary Review Working Group’s proposed options be noted, but that a “no response” submission be made at this time. This was seconded by Councillor Henderson.

Following a debate, the amendment was put to the vote. The vote was lost.

Councillor Aisthorpe proposed the following amendment:

That HE3 polling district remain part of Heneage Ward to reflect the historical and community identity of the area.

That HE1 polling district be included in the East Marsh Ward to preserve and strengthen the area's historical and community identity.

This was seconded by Councillor Emmerson.

Following a debate, the amendment was put to the vote and, upon a show of hands, was carried.

A further amendment was proposed by Councillor Wheatley, as follows:

That consideration of this item be deferred to allow the urgent recall of the Ward Boundary Review Working Group for reconsideration of this matter and that this then be brought back to an emergency meeting of Council to be held next week.

This was seconded by Councillor Mill.

Following a debate, Councillor Freeston moved a closure motion that the vote be put. This was seconded by Councillor Hudson and, upon a show of hands, was duly carried.

The amendment was put to a vote and, upon a show of hands, was lost.

Council then debated the substantive motion (as amended)

Note – Councillors Bonner, Bright, Downes, Henderson and Holland left the meeting during the debate on the substantive motion.

During the debate, Councillor Freeston moved a closure motion that the vote be put. This was seconded by Councillor Boyd. The Mayor felt that the debate should continue as it had not been reasonably exhausted.

At the conclusion of the debate, the substantive motion (as amended) was put to a vote and, upon a show of hands, was carried.

**RESOLVED –**

1. That the Ward Boundary Review Working Group's preferred option (Option 1 as set out in the report now submitted) be approved for submission to the Local Boundary Commission for England as this Council's preferred warding pattern for North East Lincolnshire, subject to
  - HE3 polling district remaining part of Heneage Ward to reflect the historical and community identity of the area.
  - HE1 polling district being included in the East Marsh Ward to preserve and strengthen the area's historical and community identity.

2. That authority be delegated to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Group Leaders, to submit the final response (including any required narrative) to the Boundary Commission.

There being no further formal business, the Mayor took the opportunity to congratulate Great Coates In Bloom for achieving a gold award in the national In Bloom competition. The Mayor then declared the meeting closed at 9.17 p.m.