

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

TOWN AND PARISH COUNCILS' LIAISON COMMITTEE

9th July 2026

Present: Councillor Dawkins, Humphrey, Jackson, Mayne, and Taylor

A Moss
J Welham
T Crofts
P Fieldgate
K Swinburn
S Swinburn
R Childs
B Barford
D Wilding
B Devlin

Waltham Parish Council
New Waltham Parish Council
Stallingborough Parish Council
Healing Parish Council
Immingham Town Council
Immingham Town Council
Laceby Village Council
Laceby Village Council
Habrough Parish Council
Habrough Parish Council

Also in attendance:

Tom Clay – Executive Officer (ERNLLCA)
Joanne Paterson (Scrutiny and Committee Advisor)
Paul Windley – Democratic and Scrutiny Team Manager (North East Lincolnshire Council)

L.M.1 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

RESOLVED – That Councillor S. Swinburn be appointed as Chair of this committee for the ensuing municipal year.

L.M.2 APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY CHAIR

RESOLVED – That Councillor Joanne Welham be appointed as Deputy Chair of this committee for the ensuing municipal year .

COUNCILLOR S.SWINBURN IN THE CHAIR

LM.3 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence from this meeting were received from Councillor Russell.

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 16th April 2026 were approved as a correct record.

LM.6 POLICING MATTERS

Councillor Moss noted historical issues with police presence at meetings. Officers confirmed that a Humberside Police representative was expected to attend this meeting. Officers would follow this up with Humberside Police.

Concerns were raised by councillors regarding the lack of detailed crime reports from the police to parish councils, a matter previously discussed. It was noted that some parishes received online reports, but these were often delayed i.e. six weeks old, it was also noted that the level of detail had decreased.

RESOLVED- That the issues of non-attendance of police representatives and the lack of consistency in police reporting to parish councils be followed up with Humberside Police.

LM.7 HIGHWAYS/TRAFFIC UPDATE

Mr Windley reported that a council officer from highways had been invited but was not present.

The committee expressed strong dissatisfaction with the non-attendance, highlighting the importance of these updates to parish councils. It was suggested that this matter be escalated to the portfolio holder for highways matters to ensure attendance at future meetings. Mr Windley clarified that, traditionally, officers rather than portfolio holders had attended these meetings to respond to issues. He agreed to feed back the committee's concerns.

Councillor Crofts requested that Highways present the Transport Plan and funding allocations to parish councils to provide clarity on local projects. He also enquired whether there was a slurry plan for footpaths.

Councillor Dawkins raised concerns about remedial resurfacing plans from the previous summer, which were promised at no cost to the local authority, having not materialised.

Councillor Humphrey also raised specific issues in his ward regarding road conditions and signage, particularly concerning ward boundaries and new developments.

RESOLVED-

1. That the committee's dissatisfaction regarding non-attendance of officers be raised internally with senior officers.
2. That Highways Officers be invited to present the Local Transport Plan and funding allocations to this committee.
3. That responses be sought on whether there was a slurry plan for footpaths, remedial resurfacing plans and around road signage for new developments on ward boundaries.

LM.8 CONSULTATIONS

The committee received an update on current consultations being conducted by North East Lincolnshire Council (NELC).

Mr Windley confirmed that the following consultations were being conducted:-

- Homelessness Prevention and Rough Sleeping Strategy.
- Humber and North Yorkshire Cancer Alliance Survey.
- National Loneliness and Social Isolation Survey.

It was noted that none of these directly impacted town and parish councils.

Councillor Childs referred to the Local Plan consultation and asked about the new administration's position on the Local Plan, particularly concerning the Grimsby West site.

Councillor Mayne stated that the Reform group had visited the site but had not yet formally discussed their position. Mr Windley confirmed that a third consultation on the Local Plan was expected in the coming months, with reports going through Scrutiny, Cabinet, and Full Council.

Councillor Jackson clarified that the existing Local Plan, which included the Grimsby West housing site, remained a valid legal document for at least the next two years. It was doubtful that Grimsby West would be removed from the plan, as it was crucial for meeting housing targets.

The Chair requested that a council officer attend a future Town and Parish Council Liaison Committee meeting to provide an update on the Local Plan.

RESOLVED - That an update on the Local Plan be submitted to a future meeting of this committee.

LM.9 ERNLLCA UPDATE

The committee received an update on ERNLLCA matters.

In terms of the Executive Committee Elections, Mr Clay asked for two Parish/Town Councillors from North East Lincolnshire to be elected to the ERNLLCA Executive Committee.

Mr Clay noted that Councillor Hartley, Waltham and Councillor Sandford, Immingham were the current representatives.

Councillor Hartley and Councillor Sandford had confirmed their willingness to continue, and this was approved by a show of hands from Parish and Town Council representatives.

Mr Clay noted that the ERNLLCA AGM would take place remotely via Zoom on Thursday, 22 October, at 7 pm. No motions were put forward by the district committee, nor were there any nominations for honorary positions, President/Vice President.

Mr Clay explained that the Honorary President role was primarily for recognising long service of Parish and Town Councillors, often remaining vacant.

Mr Clay advised that the ERNLLCA conference was scheduled for September this year noting that 62 out of 75 places were already booked.

Mr Clay advised that ERNLLCA offered an extensive and regularly refreshed training programme, including sessions for new councillors and chairs covering topics such as GDPR and finance. He advised that in-person training could also be arranged for groups of councillors, with a small associated fee.

RESOLVED –

1. That the update be noted
2. That Parish and Town Councils note the ERNLLCA AGM date and consider attending the September conference or utilising training programmes.
3. Councillor Hartley and Councillor Sandford were approved to continue their tenure on the ERNLLCA Executive Committee for a year.

LM.10 MEMBER DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Mr Windley advised that this item provided an opportunity for Town and Parish Councils to raise development issues for discussion with the council or ERNLLCA.

Councillor Humphrey asked the committee whether there was capacity for Parish Council members to be co-opted onto North East Lincolnshire Council's Standards and Adjudication Committee.

It was noted that the Standards Committee dealt with ethics, standards of conduct for councillors, and parish council complaints relating to code of conduct breaches.

Mr Humphrey invited interested parish councillors to attend the next Standards Committee meeting on 15th July to learn more, with potential co-option discussed at a subsequent meeting.

RESOLVED

1. That the update be noted.
2. That the Parish Councils discuss internally any interest in having a representative co-opted onto North East Lincolnshire Council's Standards Committee.

LM.11 REFERRALS TO SCRUTINY

Mr Windley reiterated that referrals to scrutiny should be considered a last resort for matters unresolved through this committee.

Councillor Moss raised significant issues with North East Lincolnshire Council's Tree Policy, citing resident complaints about dangerous trees not being addressed by the council, while trees on main roads were prioritised. The councillor requested more clarity on the policy and a potential review to allow Parish Councils the ability to influence it more.

Councillor Moss noted that this has been a long-standing concern since the policy's introduction a couple of years ago.

It was proposed that a council officer or the Portfolio Holder for Environment attend a future meeting to explain the current Tree Policy and discuss potential changes. If matters still persisted then a referral to scrutiny could be considered.

RESOLVED –

1. That the update be noted.

2. That the Portfolio Holder for Environment or a Council Officer be invited to attend a future meeting to explain the current Tree Policy.

There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 7.33 pm.