

## **PUBLIC**

**MINUTES** of the meeting of the **DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**  
held on 13 September 2017 at County Hall, Matlock

### **PRESENT**

Councillor Mrs L M Chilton (In the Chair)

Councillors T Ainsworth, D Allen, R Ashton, K S Athwal, J Atkin, N Atkin, Mrs E Atkins, S A Bambrick, N Barker, B Bingham, J Boulton, S Bull, Mrs S Burfoot, K Buttery, Mrs D W E Charles, J A Coyle, A Dale, Mrs C Dale, J E Dixon, R Flatley, Mrs A Foster, Mrs A Fox, J A Frudd, K Gillott, A Griffiths, Mrs L Grooby, Mrs C A Hart, R Illiffe, Mrs J M Innes, T A Kemp, T King, B Lewis, W Major, P Makin, D McGregor, R Mihaly, C R Moesby, P Murray, G Musson, R A Parkinson, Mrs J E Patten, J Perkins, C Short, S A Spencer, A Stevenson, S Swann, Mrs J A Twigg, M Wall, G Wharmby, Mrs J Wharmby, Ms R Woods and B Wright.

**46/17      APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Mrs S L Blank, S Brittain, Ms H Elliott, M Ford, G Hickton, S Marshall-Clarke, Mrs I Ratcliffe, B Ridgeway, P J Smith, D H Taylor and Ms A Western.

**47/17      DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**      There were no declarations of interest.

**48/17      CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS** The following announcements were made:-

- (a) The Chairman reported the death of former County Councillor Bill Pickford.

A minute's silence was observed and tributes were made.

- (b) The Chairman welcomed Ian Orford, Pat Boyle and Simon Westwood, members of the Independent Remuneration Panel who attended the meeting to present the Panel's Annual Report.
- (c) Tim Blowers, Head of the County Catering Service, Kate Evans, Catering Service Manager, Becky Clarke, Catering Development Officer and Katie Woods, Catering Development Officer attended the meeting to receive the Local Authority Catering Awards for Excellence 2017, Nan Berger Memorial Award for Innovation.
- (d) Lizzie Watt, Virtual School Assistant Headteacher and Kim Johnson, Virtual School Arts Education Consultant attended the

meeting to receive the National Pupil Premium Awards, Pupil Premium Plus Award.

- (e) The Chairman announced that a collection had been established in association with the Red Cross at County Hall on behalf of those affected by the devastation caused by Hurricane Irma.

**49/17**      **MINUTES**    On the motion of Councillor Mrs L Chilton, duly seconded,

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meetings of Council held on 24 May 2017 and 26 July 2017 be confirmed as a correct record.

**50/17**      **REPORT OF THE LEADER**    Councillor B Lewis, Leader of the Council referred to the recent review of the current corporate leadership model and the new structure which would be implemented. He paid tribute to the following officers who had either left or would be leaving the Authority over the next few months; Ian Stephenson, former Chief Executive, Mags Young Assistant Chief Executive and Judith Greenhalgh, Strategic Director for Corporate Resources.

There were no questions on the report.

**51/17**      **PUBLIC QUESTIONS** The Chairman indicated that, as all of the public questions related to the same subject matter, they would be read out and a single response made. Each questioner would have the opportunity to ask a supplementary question.

**(a)      Question from Kate Heaseman to Councillor S Spencer, Cabinet Member for Highways, Transport and Infrastructure**

I am aware from DCC's Response to the HS2 Route Refinement Consultation, that the Council has shown concern on the impact the spur line will have on the villages of Newton and Old Blackwell and as an alternative to the spur line, the Council asked HS2 to consider using the Erewash Line/Midland Mainline from Toton to serve Sheffield and believed this alternative would be cost effective and lessen the impact. This was also included in the response from Bolsover District Council.

Have Derbyshire County Council commissioned or how would you consider commissioning a mitigation report showing the cost savings and reduction in impact by using the Erewash Line/Midland Mainline?

By having such a report this would still provide a link to Chesterfield and Sheffield, capacity would be the same as the proposed

spur line and Derbyshire would benefit by having this section of the Midland Mainline electrified. Such a report could be a combined venture with Bolsover District Council.

**(b) Question from Graham Heaseman to Councillor S Spencer, Cabinet Member for Highways, Transport and Infrastructure**

How have the consequences of the decision by the Department for Transport to cut a separate new HS2 route through the parish of Blackwell been examined by the council in recent weeks in terms of its impact on the effected communities?

**(c) Question from Tony Mellors to Councillor S Spencer, Cabinet Member for Highways, Transport and Infrastructure**

Referring to the situation in South Yorkshire, The Sheffield Star Newspaper reported on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> August:  
“Campaigners have accused high-speed rail bosses of downplaying the impact of the so-called ‘M18 route’ after current official estimates said just 51 properties on the route were due to be affected – a number that only takes account of those directly due to be demolished on the intended line.

But a recent report commissioned by Sheffield City Region bosses and conducted by engineering firm SNC Lavalin has estimated the number of homes and businesses in South Yorkshire that could claim some form of compensation for being within 300m of the route at 1,295.”

Can the councillor tell me please, what is Derbyshire County Council’s estimate of the number of homes and businesses which could claim some form of compensation for being within 300m of the route through Derbyshire? And if there is no estimate yet, will you consider commissioning a similar report in order that you have the information in advance of any negotiations with HS2?

**(d) Question from Andrew Burrows to Councillor S Spencer, Cabinet Member for Highways, Transport and Infrastructure**

Blackwell Parish & Newton are “In The Jaws” of two HS2 Lines, one passing to the East and the other ploughing through Newton, causing the demolition of homes, road closures, breaking the Silverhill Trail (twice) and the destruction of Doe Hill Country Park. HS2 have continually avoided contact with the Parishioners holding their meetings away from the Parish. They have also ignored over 1k consultation response forms.

As HS2 are clearly going to ignore us, what are DCC going to do help mitigate against the threat we have from their project? HS2 have already bought completed, empty houses from Wheeldon on the Newton Fields estate; houses that could not be sold due to HS2. Wheeldon have made a tidy profit from HS2 but parishioners have seen 30%+ devaluation of their homes due to HS2. We are imprisoned by HS2. The Erewash Rail Line could take HS2 trains from Toton to Sheffield without the need to plough through Newton. What has DCC done/can do to have the route changed to and avoid the devastation HS2 will bring? We would welcome a visit from DCC so you can see our plight.

Councillor Spencer responded to the four questions as follows:

Derbyshire County Council is fully aware of the controversial nature of the provision of HS2, the major infrastructure programme that the Government are in the process of delivering.

I am sure there are many different points of view of support or opposition to the HS2 programme within this room but I need to articulate without patronising in trying to understand the issues that related to the questions I have heard today.

I think it would be fair to say the County Council has taken a very broad approach with regard to our position with regard to the Government led scheme. It is a Government led scheme. It is not a County Council scheme. We are continually in the process of being a consultee and having discussions with the Government about the provision of these routes but we do not make the final decision, as I am sure everybody in this room can appreciate.

We have attempted as a County Council to obtain the best we can, the economic benefits from HS2 provision right the way across the county and I know many of the questions today related to the issues of concern and I will come to those shortly, but I think we ought to go through the process as a whole and highlight where we are with regard to the county as a whole and the economic benefits as a whole.

I now sit on the HS2 Strategic Board and represent Derbyshire County Council. The whole tenor of the discussions that are taking place at this moment in time is how we get the best from the difficult situations that have arisen by the provision of HS2.

Now Toton is in Nottinghamshire, as we know, but Toton is close enough to Derbyshire for Derbyshire to benefit, in my opinion. I believe that in years to come you will see a huge hi-tech community with a hi-tech rail network and a very progressive development taking place year

on year on year, interconnectivity between Derby, Nottingham and outlying areas, the airports and everything else. That work is being carried out. Hopefully we will have a presentation on the issues relating to Toton in due course.

There is, of course, the wish of Derbyshire residents. If we are going to experience HS2 we need to obtain the benefit of having the service provision within the county. When you look at the provision within Chesterfield we will be pushing very strongly for at least two stops an hour to stop in Chesterfield itself.

Then on top of that we have the service provision at Staveley which will create many thousands of jobs, many hi-tech jobs; many long-term jobs for the benefit of our communities here in the county, but on the back of that there is what you could clearly say if it affects you as an individual complete and utter devastation within small communities and it is our job as a County Council to do our best to understand those issues and understand how we can best help those communities, how we can best address their concerns. I think there has to be an understanding that we are not the body who controls these decisions but we do have a duty as an Authority to address those needs of the population, the people we represent.

I have heard today, and I knew obviously that representations were made I think it was back in March 2017 about using the already Midland Mainline route. We did make representations on those lines, along with Bolsover Borough Council as well I have to say, and we are still awaiting any official response. We are going to push for that official response so we can provide that to you in due course of why that was not supported.

We are also going to be chairing the East Midlands Mitigation Board. Now the East Midlands Mitigation Board has been set up by the Strategic HS2 Board to address all the issues of mitigation that need to be looked at. How communities are affected; how businesses are affected; how country parks are affected; how World Heritage Sites are affected; how all the beauty and natural flora of our county is affected by the provision of HS2. Whether we support the programme or not I can assure you today that Derbyshire chairing that Mitigation Board in my opinion is of huge benefit to the residents of Derbyshire and we will endeavour to take on board the concerns of all residents as best we can.

There is an opportunity to carry out studies, as has been suggested today, but we need to be careful where we go with regard to the studies because HS2 have carried out numerous studies already and it is not a case of reinventing the wheel, but with the Mitigation

Board we can and will facilitate certain studies in certain areas to address certain concerns. You have my word on that.

I have also heard in different correspondence that we have not been prepared to engage. I can give you an assurance today that I will encourage the HS2 Strategic Board to make sure they try and hold some engagement meetings in areas that are directly affected by the proposals of the HS2 route and I will also encourage the Mitigation Board and the County Council to have a constructive regular dialogue with people who have concerns about the route of HS2, although the final decision will be in the hands of the Government.

The following supplementary questions were asked:

Mr Mellors - You mentioned the location for local events of HS2. You are aware, I am sure, that the pamphlet went out to advise there was a meeting last week to be held in Hilcote. It said "Hilcote" which is a village within Blackwell. The event was to be held in South Normanton, not in Blackwell Parish. The objections about the venue came from this small group of people not from our representatives. It is important that we work with you because we are on the ground and we know what is happening day-to-day. We are engaging with HS2 but we want to engage with you, with the District Council and anyone else who can have an impact upon mitigation for our community.

At the event last week the most affected area in Newton is Alfreton Road where HS2 say there will be five properties to be demolished. In actual fact HS2 were encouraging people in Alfreton Road within the safeguarding area to apply for blight so that more houses could be demolished to allow for a cheaper cutting to enable the cut and cover tunnel to be built. These are the details but it is very important you realise the detail as we realise the detail because we live there.

Mr Heaseman - I would like to ask the councillor if it is possible because he mentioned he would like to keep an open line of communication between ourselves and him and the Council generally - can he describe in which way he intends to establish these links and would he be prepared with both himself and anybody else on the Council who is perhaps more closely involved with this HS2 project to actually come to Newton to show him on the ground the complete ins and outs of everything and the evidence we have from HS2 that doesn't necessarily correspond with what HS2 are telling the Ministry of Transport?

Mr Burrows - Whilst I respect what you had to say it did sound very much like you were treating it as you can't make an omelette

without breaking a few eggs. That is not really the way, I don't think, you should be doing it. I know you are saying you have not got the final decision, it is a Government one, but you are our Council and whilst you can say it is the Government's decision we are asking you for your assistance, that is what we are asking for. We are not doing anything. All we are doing is we are saying, "Look, we are facing this devastation". I am pretty sure if this was going to go through Ashover, or Matlock, or Ashbourne I think people would be a little bit more anti-HS2 in the Chamber than they possibly are now. The fact it is going through an ex-mining community with Dennis Skinner as the MP it just does not smell right. I am just saying I think you should be fighting for our side.

Councillor Spencer responded to the supplementary questions as follows:

I was not aware of the meeting. As I am sure you are aware now I have been slightly indisposed over the last few weeks. I take on board your views and I take on board the comments with regard to the meeting. I will share your comments with officers who are listening today, taking copious notes I hope, and the Strategic Board with regard to location of meetings. Please have my assurance that that will be the case.

With regard to if the route was somewhere else I personally support the provision of HS2 in this county and in this country. I am sure there are many councillors in this room who do not. I have not done a straw poll. I have not had a discussion with my colleagues about the rights and wrongs of whether HS2 is something that is a good investment or a bad investment, but it would be wrong to label the County Council's position politically because you as a Group have been trying to engage with this Authority for some considerable time prior to my administration with the previous administration. We have been having discussions, or you have been attempting to have discussions with them about your plight and the issues you wish to articulate and it is not my job to purely say that a Conservative administration at County Hall is not interested in certain parts of Derbyshire because that certainly is not the case and I can give you that reassurance today. Dennis Skinner and I will agree on a few things, we will agree to disagree on many others, but I respect his position. Of course he was part of the government that put forward the proposals for HS2 in the first place, so perhaps it is very easy to criticise the outcome of those proposals but not take responsibility for the decision that was originally made in the first place.

I can give you an assurance today that this Authority wishes to discuss with the local communities that are directly affected any

mitigation effects that we possibly can. We will take your concerns seriously. I have not come up with a solution yet how we are going to do that but we will. The officer team are listening very carefully to what I am saying. We will work out a system where we can have a dialogue and you can feed in your concerns in a constructive way. I am not going to promise you we can cure, we can put right and address all those concerns, but what I can promise you is you will get a hearing and this Authority will take on board your concerns. The Mitigation Board as I have already said that is being chaired by this Authority is going to try and address them as we move forward.

**52/17            PETITIONS** There were no petitions to report.

**53/17            MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES SCHEME AND**  
**APPOINTMENT OF THE INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL**

Mrs Patricia Boyle, Ian Orford and Simon Westwood, members of the Independent Remuneration Panel, attended the meeting for the presentation of this report.

Mr Orford, the Chair of the Independent Remuneration Panel (the Panel) presented the Panel's report in order that the Council could consider the proposals to amend the Members' Allowances Scheme which had been put forward at the meeting on 24 May 2017. Approval was also sought to appoint Mrs Boyle to serve on the Panel for a second term of four years.

At its meeting on 24 May 2017, the Council considered proposals for provisional Members' Allowances arrangements. These had now been considered by the Independent Remuneration Panel who had prepared a report which detailed proposed future arrangements.

The main proposed changes were:-

- reduction of the Special Responsibility Allowance for the Deputy Leader from 80% to 75%;
- reduction of the Special Responsibility Allowance for Cabinet Members from 60% to 50% whilst increasing the number of Cabinet Members from four to five;
- the creation of Cabinet Support Members to replace the Deputy Cabinet Member role and the Special Responsibility Allowances for Cabinet Support Members being reduced to 26% from the 30% formerly offered to Deputy Cabinet Members;
- increase the Special Responsibility Allowance for the Leader of the Opposition to 45%;
- no change to the Basic Allowance.



The total cost would be around £350,562 per annum which could be contained within existing budgetary provision. The Remuneration Panel report confirmed its support of the proposed arrangements.

At the Council meeting held on 18 April 2012, it had been agreed that members of the Remuneration Panel should be allowed to serve for up to two terms of office of four years. Mrs Boyle was a current member of the Panel and her first term of office had now expired. It would be helpful to secure Mrs Boyle's continuation in office for a second term in view of her experience and she had indicated that she would be happy to continue for a second term.

On the motion of Councillor B Lewis, duly seconded,

**RESOLVED** that (1) that the Members' Allowance arrangements, provisionally agreed on 24 May 2017, be adopted;

(2) Mrs Patricia Boyle be appointed to the Independent Remuneration Panel for a second four year term.

**54/17      REVISED BUDGET 2017-18 AND FIVE YEAR FINANCIAL PLAN**

The Director of Finance and ICT presented a report which sought approval for the proposals which had been considered and recommended to Council by Cabinet at its meeting on 20 July 2017, for the revision of the 2017-18 Revenue Budget and Five Year Financial Plan.

At its meeting on 8 February 2017, Council had approved the Revenue Budget 2017-18, which set out details of pay and price increases, budget savings targets and service pressures, together with details of the General Reserve position and medium-term financial projections with assumed Council Tax increases of 3.99% in both 2018-19 and 2019-20. This included a 2% increase for the Adult Social Care precept.

Under Section 24 of the Local Government Act 2003, the Director of Finance and ICT reported on the robustness of the estimates and the adequacy of the reserves allowed for in the budget. The budget report identified a number of budget savings. However, there was a shortfall in the overall amount of savings required in order to achieve a balanced budget and it had been agreed that the shortfall would be met from the Council's Budget Management Reserve.

The Council had no power to re-set the level of Council Tax for 2017-18 and, other than announcements made by Government following the budget set by Council in February detailed in the report,

the funding allocations would remain the same as those previously reported.

Details in respect of the Revenue Budget 2017-18, the outturn for 2016-17, changes in funding in 2017-18, the Contingency Budget, service priorities and budget savings were presented in the report.

The Five Year Financial Plan was updated on an annual basis. The Plan had been revised, where possible, to reflect the latest funding announcements including those announced in the Government's Spring Budget 2017, and it supported corporate planning and shaped the Council's Financial Strategy and annual budgets by establishing the resources that were likely to be available for allocation to meet service priorities contained in the Council Plan. A copy of the updated Plan was attached at Appendix 2, to the report together with the assumptions used in its development.

The Council had in place a Reserves Policy which set out the framework within which decisions would be made regarding the level of reserves. In line with this framework, the balance and level of reserves over the medium-term were regularly monitored to ensure they were adequate to manage the risk of the Council, covering both the General and Earmarked Reserves. Details of the last review were reported to Cabinet on 24 January 2017 and a further review of Earmarked Reserves was scheduled to take place in the summer, details of which would be reported in due course. It was noted that as at 31 March 2017, the Council had a General Reserve balance of £51.267m, further details of which were presented in the report.

On the motion of Councillor B Lewis, duly seconded,

**RESOLVED** to (1) note the changes to funding received since the Council approved the budget in February 2017;

(2) approve the allocation of base budget and one-off funding to departments for 2017-18 and future years;

(3) approve the allocation of £1.000m from Earmarked Reserves to support grants to the voluntary sector;

(4) approve the revised Five Year Financial Plan as detailed in the report and Appendix 2 to the report;

(5) note the General Reserve projections; and

(6) note the budget savings proposals as detailed in Appendix One.

**55/17      COUNCIL PLAN 2017- 2021**    The Interim Head of Paid Service presented a report which sought approval of the Authority's Council Plan for 2017 – 2021.

The draft Council Plan was attached to the report at Appendix A and had been drawn up to set the strategic direction for the Council's work over the next four years. The Plan outlined the Council's ambition, values and the overarching outcomes for Derbyshire that the Authority would work towards with partners and local people. It also outlined the priorities the Council would focus on during 2017-18 to contribute towards these outcomes.

The Plan detailed the following priorities:

- work efficiently and effectively;
- unlock economic growth and access to economic opportunities;
- invest in employment and skills;
- repair and improve the condition of Derbyshire roads;
- improve accessibility in vulnerable and rural communities;
- improve social care;
- transform services for people with learning disabilities;
- keep children and adults safe;
- be a good corporate parent for children in our care;
- help children and young people get the best start;
- encourage healthy lifestyles;
- champion local communities;
- support local library services;
- protect local people and communities;
- promote Derbyshire as a global cultural and tourist destination;
- protect and enhance the natural environment.

Commitments which summarised the actions the Council would take to make progress on each priority were also included in the Plan.

The report also detailed the consultation which had been undertaken and how the Plan would be implemented.

Departmental Service Plans would outline how each department would contribute to and deliver the outcomes, priorities and commitments set out in the Council Plan. Measures which would help the Council to monitor achievement of the Council Plan outcomes had also been identified, and these would be monitored and reported through the Council's performance management system. The Council

Plan would be reviewed and updated on an annual basis to ensure that it continued to reflect the ambitions and priorities of the Council.

On the motion of Councillor B Lewis, duly seconded,

**RESOLVED** to approve the Council Plan 2017-2021.

**56/17      DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE PLANS 2017-2021** The Interim Head of Paid Service presented a report which sought approval for the departmental Service Plans.

Service Plans, outlined how each department would contribute to, and deliver, the outcomes, priorities and commitments set out in the 2017-2021 Council Plan. Service Plans for the Adult Care, Children's Services and Economy, Transport and Communities departments were attached to the report and available for approval. The Service Plan for the new Commissioning, Communities and Policy department would follow. All Service Plans, once approved, would be refreshed on an annual basis to ensure they continued to be up to date and fit for purpose.

On the motion of Councillor B Lewis, duly seconded;

**RESOLVED** to approve the Adult Care, Children's Services and Economy, Transport and Communities departmental Service Plans 2017-2021.

**57/17      DESIGNATION OF INTERIM HEAD OF PAID SERVICE** The Director of Legal Services sought approval of interim arrangements for the designation of a Head of Paid Service and to amend the Constitution to delegate urgent decision-making powers to the Head of Paid Service.

At its meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> July 2017, Council adopted a new senior management model. In deleting the post of Chief Executive, the Council had been advised of the statutory requirement for local authorities to designate one of their officers as Head of Paid Service and it had been decided that all Strategic Directors in the new structure would be eligible to apply for the role. The designation would be the responsibility of a politically balanced Appointments Panel, including at least one Cabinet Member, and would be subject to the final approval of Full Council. Note had been made that an Interim Head of Paid Service could be designated whilst the process was underway and this was now necessary, pending the appointment of the Strategic Director, Commissioning, Communities and Policy.

Following consultation with the current Strategic Directors, it was proposed that Mike Ashworth, Strategic Director, Economy, Transport and Communities be designated as Interim Head of Paid Service for the period 14 August to 30 September 2017 and that Joy Hollister, Strategic Director of Adult Care, be designated as Interim Head of Paid Service from 1 October 2017 until a permanent designation had been made by the Council.

The report made reference to the Council's Constitution (Scheme of Delegation, paragraph C1) in respect of urgent decision-making powers, previously delegated to the Chief Executive. As a consequence of the adoption of a new senior management model, it was considered appropriate to amend the Constitution by changing the reference to "the Chief Executive" to Head of Paid Service" so that it was clear that this urgent decision-making facility continued to be available.

The Head of Paid Service would attract a supplementary allowance of £10k per annum and this would be paid pro-rata to the officers designated on an interim basis.

On the motion of Councillor B Lewis, duly seconded;

**RESOLVED** to (1) designate Mike Ashworth, Strategic Director - Economy, Transport and Communities, as the Council's Interim Head of Paid Service for the period 14 August to 30 September 2017;

(2) designate Joy Hollister, Strategic Director - Adult Care, as the Council's Interim Head of Paid Service from 1 October until a permanent designation has been made by the Council; and

(3) amend the Council's Constitution (Scheme of Delegation, paragraph C1) to delegate urgent decision-making powers to the Head of Paid Service.

**58/17      STRATEGIC DIRECTOR, COMMISSIONING, COMMUNITIES AND POLICY – APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENT** The Director of Legal Services sought approval for the appointment of the post of Strategic Director, Commissioning, Communities and Policy.

At its meeting on 26 July 2017, Council had approved the implementation of a new corporate senior management structure which had deleted the posts of Chief Executive, Assistant Chief Executive and Strategic Director - Corporate Resources. Approval had also been given for the establishment of a new post of Strategic Director, Commissioning, Communities and Policy. Recruitment to this post had taken place in accordance with the Council's Officer Employment Procedure Rules.

The post was set at Grade 20, with a salary of £110,260 - £121,285 and it was a requirement of the Council's Pay Policy that all appointments in excess of £100,000 per annum were reported to and approved by Council. Emma Alexander had been selected for appointment, subject to the approval of the Council.

On the motion of Councillor B Lewis, duly seconded,

**RESOLVED** to approve the appointment of Emma Alexander to the post of strategic Director - Commissioning, Communities and Policy.

**59/17      LOCAL PENSION BOARD**      The Strategic Director - Corporate Resources sought approval to extend the appointment of the four voting Local Pension Board members.

At its meeting on 8 April 2015, Council approved the establishment of the Derbyshire Pension Board, as required by the Local Government Pension Scheme (Amendment) Regulations 2015.

The role of the Local Pension Board was to assist the County Council as Administering Authority in securing compliance with pensions legislation and ensuring the efficient governance and administration of the Derbyshire Pension Fund. The Board had oversight of the work undertaken by the Council, through the Pensions and Investments Committee.

The Derbyshire Local Pension Board comprised two employer and two member representatives, all with voting rights, which was the minimum number prescribed by the Regulations, and a non-voting independent Chairman.

Council had reviewed the operation of the Board, extended the appointment of its Chairman, and reviewed the appointment of the four voting members at its meeting on 7 December 2016. It had been agreed to extend the term of office of one employer representative and one scheme member representative by twelve months and the Chairman of the Pension Board by eighteen months. This approach would eliminate any continuity issues that might have arisen from the initial requirement to replace all voting members of the Board within a three month period before September this year.

However, the increasingly effective performance of the Board and the desire for the Pensions and Investments Committee to benefit fully from the training that had been invested in the Board members, had led to a reconsideration of the current tenure arrangements. Following consultation with the representatives, it was proposed that the terms of

office of the two Member and two Scheme Employer representatives were further extended as follows;

Role	Name	Start Date	Amended term	Expiry
Member Rep	N Read	June 2015	3 years	June 2018
Member Rep	K Gurney	June 2015	4 years	June 2019
Employer Rep	J Watson	Sept 2015	3 years	Sept 2018
Employer Rep	M Nelson	Sept 2015	4 years	Sept 2019

Future appointments of Board members would be made for a fixed-term of four years.

On the motion of Councillor B Lewis, duly seconded,

**RESOLVED** to approve that future appointments of Member and Scheme Employer representatives to the Board shall be for a fixed-term of four years.

**60/17      RECOGNITION OF FORMER COUNCILLORS – HONORARY ALDERMEN AND ALDERWOMEN** The Director of Legal Services presented a report which sought Council's consideration of the introduction of arrangements which would enable the Council to formally recognise valuable service provided to the Council by former Councillors.

The recent County Council elections had seen a number of County Councillors who had provided valuable service to the Council, step down from public office. The Council was invited to consider the recognition of such service by way of appointing Honorary Aldermen and Honorary Alderwomen.

Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972, enabled a principal council to confer the title of honorary aldermen or honorary alderwomen on persons who had in the opinion of the council rendered eminent service as past members. Eminent service was not defined within the Act, but was left to the discretion of the authority. It was proposed that to qualify for this title, a former Member must have provided outstanding or exceptional service to the Council and community over a significant period of time. To confer the honorary title, the Council must pass a resolution by not less than two-thirds of the Members present at a meeting specially convened for the purpose.

Honorary Aldermen and Alderwomen would enjoy particular privileges and would be entitled to attend meetings of the Council and

would be allocated a seat in the Council Chamber. Their names would be included on a roll of Honorary Aldermen and Alderwomen held by the Monitoring Officer.

The report referred to the nomination and appointment process. Paragraph 2.4, page 59 of the Constitution would be amended by adding 'Conferring the title of Alderman or Alderwoman'.

This proposal had been considered by the Standards Committee at its meeting on 19 July 2017 and was commended to the Council. There would be an initial cost of £300 for the production of the badge of office with subsequent costs in the region of £60 for each badge thereafter, which could be met from the Chairman's fund.

On the motion of Councillor B Lewis, duly seconded.

**RESOLVED** to (1) approve and adopt the proposal to appoint Aldermen and Alderwomen;

(2) approve the purchase of engraved badges of office; and

(3) adopt the proposed addition to the Council's functions within the Constitution.

**61/17      COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULES – DURATION OF COUNCIL MEETINGS** The Director of Legal Services sought approval for the proposed amendment to the Rules of Procedure to allow for the adjournment of any Council meeting which lasted for three hours or longer.

It was considered that excessively lengthy meetings did not serve the interests of good decision-making and under the current arrangements, the Rules of Procedure did not provide for the length of Council Meetings to be restricted or provide for their adjournment.

Whilst the general management of Council meetings would remain at the discretion of the Chairman, it was considered that the establishment of parameters would be helpful. It was therefore proposed to amend the Council's Rules of Procedure (Part 4 of the Constitution) with a new clause 4.1 as follows:

**DURATION** Unless the majority of Members present vote for the meeting to continue, any meeting that has lasted for three hours will adjourn without delay. Any remaining business will be considered at the next ordinary meeting of the Council or an alternative date and time for a meeting will be arranged.



This proposed change to the Rules of Procedure had been considered and commended by the Standards Committee at its meeting on 19 July 2017. It was proposed that the new arrangements would take effect from the next meeting of the Council on 6 December 2017.

On the motion of Councillor B Lewis, duly seconded,

**RESOLVED** to approve and adopt the proposed amendment to the Council's Rules of Procedure.

**62/17      WAIVER OF THE CALL-IN PROVISIONS** On the motion of Councillor B Lewis, duly seconded;

**RESOLVED** to note the report on the agreements to waive the call-in provisions.

**63/17      REPORT OF CABINET AND MEMBERS' QUESTIONS ON THE REPORT** Councillor B Lewis, Leader of the Council, presented a report on the decisions that had been taken at meetings of Cabinet held on 9 and 29 June and 20 July 2017.

There were no questions on the report.

On the motion of Councillor B Lewis, duly seconded,

**RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

**64/17      COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS**

**(a)      Question from Councillor B Woods to Councillor Jean Wharmby, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care**

The proposed closure of Shire Hill Hospital in Glossop will have serious implications on Adult Social Care in the area, which would put a great strain on an already stretched service. What do you intend to do about it?

Councillor Mrs J Wharmby responded as follows:-

Councillor Woods, I can't pre-empt the consultation but I must stress this is not a Derbyshire County Council consultation, it is a Tameside Clinical Commissioning Group consultation, but whatever the outcome I can assure you and the people of Glossop and Derbyshire as a Conservative run Council we will be working with officers to maintain the best care for our residents and keep them safe. That is the job I was given to oversee and I can assure you that is the job I intend to do.

A supplementary question was asked as follows:-

Thank you for the answer. To get back to the matter in hand please could the member for Adult Care tell me as a resident of Glossop Dale what she has been doing personally regarding the proposed closure as from what I can gather there have been more sightings of Lord Lucan in Glossop since the consultation was announced and perhaps she could let us know what her actual stance is on it in general?

Councillor Mrs J Wharmby responded as follows:-

The original question was as a Cabinet Member but I understand you did not put a public question in to ask me as a resident. I can assure you that between now and the end of the consultation, which is November, we will be considering every implication from the Adult Care side. My personal side I will work with my residents and I will work with the community to do as much as possible for Shire Hill and what they want to do, but that is a very twisted question and I think you have actually got another question in there. I think I have answered it. I don't know if it is what you wanted me to say but I can assure you I work with my residents fully.

#### **65/17      MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF COMMITTEES AND OTHER BODIES**

On the motion of Councilor Mrs L M Chilton, duly seconded,

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the following meetings be received:-

- (a) Regulatory – Licensing and Appeals Committee held on 24 July 2017
- (b) Regulatory – Planning Committee held on 5 June, 10 July and 7 August 2017
- (c) Pensions and Investment Committee held on 14 June and 2 August 2017
- (d) Standards Committee held on 19 July 2017
- (e) Improvement and Scrutiny Committee – Resources held on 20 July 2017
- (f) Improvement and Scrutiny Committee – People held on 5 July 2017
- (g) Improvement and Scrutiny Committee – Places held on 19 July 2017
- (h) Improvement and Scrutiny Committee – Health held on 17 July 2017
- (i) Health and Wellbeing Board held on 29 June 2017

(j) Derbyshire Police and Crime Panel held on 13 July 2017

**66/17        EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC    RESOLVED** to exclude the public from the meeting during the consideration of the remaining item on the agenda to avoid the disclosure of exempt or confidential information.

**SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS CONDUCTED AFTER THE PUBLIC WERE EXCLUDED FROM THE MEETING**

1.        To confirm the exempt minutes of the meeting held on 26 July 2017.

**67/17        EXEMPT MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

On the motion of Mrs L M Chilton, duly seconded,

**RESOLVED** that the exempt minutes of the meeting held on 26 July 2017 be confirmed as a correct record.