

**SLEAFORD TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Meeting of the **Full Council** held on
Wednesday January 29th, 2014 at 6:45pm
in The Source, Southgate, Sleaford

PRESENT: Councillor B Watson, (Chairman)

Cllr M Graves	Cllr M Allan	Cllr D Suiter
Cllr M Suffield	Cllr K Fernandes	Cllr G Jackson
Cllr D Vere-Critchler	Cllr B Dunbar-Beckford	Cllr J Mathieson
Cllr H Lorimer	Cllr K Dolby	Cllr D Birks
Cllr J Titmus	Cllr G Titmus	

Also Present:

FC.1 APOLOGIES. Apologies, with reasons were given to the Clerk from Councillors T Mayfield, I Dolby.

FC.2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST. To receive any Disclosable Pecuniary or Personal Interests. There were none.

FC.3 FINANCE. To receive Financial Report.

- **Precept setting.** To receive any change to the information regarding the Tax Base and Direct grant, if any, and to agree final Resolution for the precept request to NKDC.
- From F&S: To approve the recommendation from November 27th:

“It was resolved to recommend that £20,000 be taken from the General Reserves Account. At the end of the Financial Year, this exact money to be returned to the General Reserves Account, from savings and underspending cross all Committee budgets from a combination of many different budget lines.
The £20,000 to be placed on the F&S Consultancy Fees line – 40020/2”

It was proposed by Cllr K Dolby and seconded by Cllr K Fernandes to accept the recommendation.

Vote 14 for. 1 abstention. The Resolution was passed.

Cllrs D Suiter and G Jackson raised concerns regarding reduction of funding from NKDC regarding Dog Warden and Litter Picking services. A reduction of £10,000 to STC. It was thought that this particular meeting was not the right time to discuss these issues.

Cllr M Graves echoed Cllr D Suiter’s concerns, adding that in addition to that £10,000, there will be an increase in Pension cost of another £10,000 and the Council may not be able to hold precept in the coming years.

It was moved by Cllr M Allan to resolve that £60,000 be moved across to pay for fees incurred, to be recouped over 3 years.

It was proposed by Cllr M Graves and seconded by Cllr D Vere-Critchler to accept this resolution.

Vote – 15 for. The Resolution was passed.

FC.4 PRESS RELEASES – Report from Cllr B Watson.

Cllr B Watson proposed that in light of the Clerk's absence, the Assistant Clerk and the Chairman be given approval to take over press releases.

Cllr Dolby added that it is procedure for the Assistant Clerk to take over the Clerk's responsibilities, a structure needs putting in place for when both the Clerk and Assistant Clerk are away at the same time.

It was proposed by Cllr M Allan and seconded by Cllr D Birks that the Assistant Clerk and Chairman are to deal with press releases in the absences of the Clerk and to look at the structure.

Vote 15 for. The resolution was passed.

FC.5 RESOLUTION TO MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION. To propose that "in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and the public be temporarily excluded and they are instructed to withdraw". It was proposed by Cllr D Vere-Critchler and seconded by Cllr K Fernandes.

Vote 15 for. The resolution was passed.

FC.6 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT.

Cllr K Dolby was invited by the Chairman to speak.

FC.7 LOSS OF EQUIPMENT – To receive an update on the latest state of the investigation into the theft of Services' equipment and to agree a resolution on the matter.

It was resolved that the report should be passed to the Services Committee to resolve outstanding issues on this matter, especially with regard to insurance excess and equipment security. That a draft report for issue to the public be provided to the Chairman of Full Council.

It was resolved to accept this proposal.

FC.8 PENSION CONTRIBUTION RATES – to approve the Pension Contribution Rates for years ending March 2015, 2016 & 2017.

It was resolved that contribution payments are accepted.

FC.9 TO AGREE AN APPEALS PANEL: Resolution from Full Council May 29th 2013
Appeals: *mayor plus 2 Councillors as appropriate – not necessarily STC Councillors*

The appeals panel to be: The Mayor, Cllr M Suffield and Cllr D Suiter or Cllr J Mathieson if one of those Councillors in not available when required.

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