



Nottinghamshire County Council

Meeting COUNTY COUNCIL

Date Thursday, 5 December 2024 (10.30 am – 5.25 pm)

Membership

COUNCILLORS

Richard Butler (Chairman)
Johno Lee (Vice-Chairman)

Reg Adair
Mike Adams
Pauline Allan
Sinead Anderson
Callum Bailey
Matt Barney - apologies
Chris Barnfather
Ben Bradley
Anne Callaghan BEM
André Camilleri
Scott Carlton
Steve Carr
John Clarke MBE
Neil Clarke MBE
Robert Corden
John Cottee
Jim Creamer
Debbie Darby
Sam Deakin
Dr John Doddy
Bethan Eddy
Boyd Elliott
Sybil Fielding
Kate Foale
Stephen Garner
Glynn Gilfoyle
Keith Girling
Penny Gowland
Errol Henry JP
Paul Henshaw
Tom Hollis
Mike Introna

Richard Jackson
Roger Jackson
Eric Kerry
Bruce Laughton
Rachel Madden - apologies
David Martin
John 'Maggie' McGrath
Andy Meakin
Nigel Moxon
John Ogle
Kane Oliver
Philip Owen
Michael Payne MP - apologies
Sheila Place
Mike Pringle
Francis Purdue-Horan
Mike Quigley MBE
Mrs Sue Saddington
Dave Shaw
Helen-Ann Smith
Sam Smith
Tom Smith
Tracey Taylor
Nigel Turner
Roger Upton
Lee Waters
Michelle Welsh MP - apologies
Gordon Wheeler
Jonathan Wheeler
Elizabeth Williamson - apologies
John Wilmott
Jason Zadrozny

HONORARY ALDERMEN

Terence Butler
John Carter
Kay Cutts MBE

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Adrian Smith	(Chief Executive)
Marjorie Toward	(Chief Executives)
Sara Allmond	(Chief Executives)
Luke Barrett	(Chief Executives)
Carl Bilbey	(Chief Executives)
David Hennigan	(Chief Executives)
Katherine Harclerode	(Chief Executives)
James Lavender	(Chief Executives)
Lucy Peel	(Chief Executives)
Phil Rostance	(Chief Executives)
Jen Sheriston	(Chief Executives)
Phil Smith	(Chief Executives)
Nigel Stevenson	(Chief Executives)
Guy VanDichele	(Adult Social Care and Health)
Colin Pettigrew	(Children and Families)
Derek Higon	(Place)
Vivienne Robbins	(Place)
Lucy Rutter	(Place)

OPENING PRAYER

Upon the Council convening, prayers were led by the Chairman.

1. ELECTION OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL UNTIL MAY 2025

The appointment of Councillor Sam Smith as Leader of the Council was moved by Councillor Bruce Laughton and seconded by Councillor Chris Barnfather.

RESOLVED: 2024/036

That Councillor Sam Smith be appointed as Leader of the Council until the Annual Meeting 2025.

Councillor Sam Smith gave a short address to Council and thanked Members for appointing him as Leader of the Council.

2. MINUTES

RESOLVED: 2024/037

That the minutes of the previous meetings held on 26 September 2024 be agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from:-

- Councillor Matt Barney (other reasons)
- Councillor Rachel Madden (medical/illness)
- Councillor Michael Payne MP (other reasons)
- Councillor Michelle Welsh MP (other reasons)
- Councillor Elizabeth Williamson (medical/illness)

Councillor John Clarke MBE and Councillor Francis Purdue-Horan submitted their apologies that they would be arriving late to the meeting.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Reg Adair and Councillor Richard Jackson declared a non-pecuniary interest in motion 1 as they were both Council appointed Directors of Via East Midlands Ltd.

5. CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

Public Service Excellent Award – Best Collaborative Working High Commendation

Councillor Keith Girling introduced the Best Collaborative Working High Commendation which had been awarded to the Growth, Infrastructure and Development teams who were recognised for their outstanding partnership with Nottinghamshire's districts, boroughs and wider partners, driving initiatives in business support, people development, place shaping, visitor economy, digital innovation, and infrastructure.

The Chairman received the award from Councillor Keith Girling and presented it to Fardad Amirsaeedi – Business and Enterprise Manager, Laura Simpson – Visitor Economy Manager, Sonja Smith – People and Skills Manager and Nicola Stevens – Place Strategy Manager.

Public Service Excellence Award – Best Service Team: Soft Facilities Management Commendation

Councillor Keith Girling introduced the Best Service Team Commendation for the Soft Facilities Management team which were commended for their commitment to excellence, consistently meeting today's challenges with innovative solutions that ensure smooth, reliable services despite growing demands.

The Chairman received the award from Councillor Keith Girling and presented it to Suzanne Smith – Team Manager Property Safety and Facilities Management, James Silveston – Team Manager Property Safety, Sam Williams – Team Leader Site Services and Becky Hardiman – Team Leader Property Business Support Administration.

Youth Service Recognition of the Young Carer Friendly Certificate

Councillor Tracy Taylor introduced the Youth Carer Friendly Quality Mark Certificate which had been awarded to the Youth Service in recognition of the Council's unwavering commitment to enhancing support for young carers across Nottinghamshire.

The Chairman received the certificate from Councillor Tracey Taylor and presented it to Pom Bhogal – Group Manager Young People's Services and Andy Allsopp – Team Manager.

Celebrating 50 years of 'Shadow'

Councillor Tracey Taylor introduced the certificate which had been presented in recognition of the incredible contributions of the Youth Service and Notts Outdoors in delivering the Shadow event for the past 50 years.

The Chairman received the certificate from Councillor Tracey Taylor and presented it to Pom Bhogal – Group Manager Young People's Services and Gary Richards – Service Manager, Notts Outdoors.

CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS SINCE THE LAST MEETING

The Chairman updated Members on the business he had carried out since the last meeting.

6. CONSTITUENCY ISSUES

The following Members spoke for up to three minutes on issues which specifically related to their division and were relevant to the services provided by the County Council:-

Councillor Lee Waters regarding highways issues related to Torkard Medical Practice, Hucknall

Councillor Sue Saddington regarding requests for permanent traffic lights to be installed on Hawton Bridge

Councillor Stephen Garner regarding the condition of roads in Mansfield South

Councillor John 'Maggie' McGrath regarding Remembrance in Stapleford

Councillor Boyd Elliott regarding the condition of roads in Woodborough

The time limit for constituency speeches was reached and all remaining speeches fell.

Councillor Debbie Darby left the Chamber at 11.11am during consideration of this item and returned to the Chamber later in the agenda.

7a. PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS

The following petitions were presented to the Chairman as indicated below: -

- (1) Councillor Sue Saddington requesting a 20mph limit through Elston village
- (2) Councillor Sue Saddington requesting permanent traffic lights to be installed on Hawton Bridge
- (3) Councillor John Cottee requesting improved SEND provision in Nottinghamshire
- (4) Councillor Stephen Garner regarding yellow lines at the junction of Harlow Avenue and Nottingham Road
- (5) Councillor Reg Adair request for resurfacing of Stone Bridge Drive, East Leake
- (6) Councillor Tom Smith requesting improvements to make Haywood Oaks Lane, Blidworth safer
- (7) Councillor Tracey Taylor request for resurfacing of a road in Clayworth
- (8) Councillor Nigel Moxon request to review access plans for the Elmsley Health housing development, Mansfield
- (9) Councillor Dave Shaw regarding parking issues on Knoll Drive, Hucknall
- (10) Councillor Lee Waters regarding parking issues on Long Hill Rise
- (11) Councillor Sybil Fielding regarding the state of roads in Shireoaks

RESOLVED: 2024/038

That the petitions be referred to the appropriate Cabinet Member for consideration in accordance with the Procedure Rules, with a report being brought back to Council in due course.

Having left the Chamber earlier in the agenda, Councillor Debbie Darby returned to the Chamber at 11.26am during consideration of this item.

Councillor Tom Smith left the Chamber at 11.35am during consideration of this item and returned to the Chamber later in the agenda.

7b. RESPONSES TO PETITIONS PRESENTED TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL

RESOLVED: 2024/039

That the contents and actions taken as set out in the report be noted.

8. NOTTINGHAMSHIRE LIBRARY STRATEGY REFRESH

Councillor Scott Carlton introduced the report and moved a motion in terms of resolution 2024/040 below.

The motion was seconded by Councillor Gordon Wheeler.

Following a debate, the Chairman put the motion to the meeting and after a show of hands the Chairman declared it was carried and it was:-.

RESOLVED: 2024/040

That the Nottinghamshire Library Strategy 2025-2035, attached as Appendix A to the report, be approved.

Having left the Chamber earlier in the agenda, Councillor Tom Smith returned to the Chamber at 11.56am during consideration of this item.

Having previously submitted his apologies, Councillor John Clarke MBE arrived at the meeting at 12.08pm during consideration of this item.

The Council adjourned for lunch from 12.42pm to 1.49pm.

Having previously submitted his apologies, Councillor Francis Purdue-Horan arrived at the meeting at 1.54pm during consideration of this item.

The following members left the Chamber for more than 10 minutes during consideration of this item:

- Councillor Samantha Deakin left the Chamber at 11.43am and returned after the lunchbreak
- Councillor Jason Zadrozny left the Chamber at 11.53am and returned later in the agenda
- Councillor Kane Oliver left the Chamber at 11.57am and returned at 12.13pm
- Councillor Sybil Fielding left the Chamber at 12.42pm and did not return
- Councillor Philip Owen left the Chamber at 12.42pm and did not return
- Councillor Tom Hollis left the Chamber at 1.51pm and returned later in the agenda
- Councillor Kane Oliver left the Chamber at 1.55pm and returned later in the agenda

9. TREASURY MANAGEMENT MID-YEAR REPORT 2024/25

Councillor Richard Jackson introduced the report and moved a motion in terms of resolution 2024/041 below.

The motion was seconded by Councillor André Camilleri.

The Chairman put the motion to the meeting and it was:-.

RESOLVED: 2024/041

That the actions taken by the Section 151 Officer to date, as set out in the report, be noted.

Having left the Chamber earlier in the agenda, Councillor Tom Hollis returned to the Chamber at 2.05pm during consideration of this item.

10. QUESTIONS TO COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

17 questions had been received as follows: -

- 1) from Councillor Bethan Eddy regarding traffic issues outside Birklands Primary (Councillor Neil Clarke MBE replied)
- 2) from Councillor Mike Pringle regarding cost of Oak House (Councillor Keith Girling replied)
- 3) from Councillor Jason Zadrozny about local government reorganisation (Councillor Sam Smith replied)
- 4) from Councillor Eric Kerry about technology enabled care (Councillor Jonathan Wheeler replied)
- 5) from Councillor Penny Gowland concerning West Bridgford shoppers' parking consultation (Councillor Neil Clarke MBE replied)
- 6) from Councillor Dr John Doddy concerning hospice provision (Councillor Bethan Eddy replied)
- 7) from Councillor John Lee concerning youth service provision (Councillor Tracey Taylor replied)
- 8) from Councillor Steve Carr concerning highways scheme on A614-A6097 (Councillor Neil Clarke MBE replied)
- 9) from Councillor Mike Pringle about local urgent and emergency services in Newark (Councillor Roger Jackson replied)

- 10) from Councillor Lee Waters regarding contributions to road closure costs for events (Councillor Neil Clarke MBE replied)
- 11) from Councillor Paul Henshaw about social care staff view of increased national living wage (Councillor Jonathan Wheeler replied)
- 12) from Councillor Andy Meakin regarding replacement for Kirkby and Mansfield HWRCs (Councillor Neil Clarke MBE replied)

The full responses to the questions above are set out in set out in Appendix A to these minutes.

The time limit of 60 minutes allowed for questions was reached before the following questions were asked. A written response to the questions would be provided to the Councillors who asked the questions within 15 working days of the meeting and be included in the papers for the next available Full Council meeting after the deadline.

- 13) from Councillor David Martin concerning lane rental scheme (Councillor Neil Clarke MBE to reply)
- 14) from Councillor Dave Shaw concerning works on Watnall Road / A6011 (Councillor Neil Clarke MBE to reply)
- 15) from Councillor Kate Foale regarding Council standards (Councillor Sam Smith to reply)
- 16) from Councillor Dr John Doddy regarding Health Scrutiny work programming (Councillor Roger Jackson to reply)
- 17) from Councillor Tom Hollis about sculptures outside County Hall (Councillor Keith Girling to reply)

Having left the Chamber earlier in the agenda, Councillor Jason Zadrozny returned to the Chamber at 2.10pm during consideration of this item.

Having left the Chamber earlier in the agenda, Councillor Kane Oliver returned to the Chamber at 2.49pm during consideration of this item.

The following members left the Chamber for more than 10 minutes during consideration of this item:

- Councillor Helen-Ann Smith left the Chamber at 2.08pm and returned at 2.49pm
- Councillor Samantha Deakin left the Chamber at 2.16pm and returned later in the agenda
- Councillor Jason Zadrozny left the Chamber at 2.21pm and returned at 3pm
- Councillor Tom Smith left the Chamber at 2.29pm and returned to at 2.54pm
- Councillor Penny Gowland left the Chamber at 2.29pm and returned at 2.57pm
- Councillor Sheila Place left the Chamber at 2.31pm and returned at 2.44pm

- Councillor Helen-Ann Smith left the Chamber at 2.55pm and returned later in the agenda
- Councillor Sam Smith left the Chamber at 3.08pm and returned later in the agenda

11. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

MOTION ONE – REINTRODUCING HIGHWAYS MANAGE AND OPERATE PARTNERSHIPS (MOPS)

A motion as set out below was moved by Councillor Jason Zadrozny and seconded by Councillor Steve Carr:

“That Nottinghamshire County Council:

- 1) recognises that making sure roads are properly maintained / improved are a key priority for local people. Investigate whether Borough / District Councils are best placed to deliver on the highway’s priorities of residents.
- 2) will write to the Leaders / Chief Executives of all seven Borough and District Councils to ascertain whether they wish to investigate taking more responsibility for highway’s issues.
- 3) requests that Nottinghamshire County Council’s Place Select Committee consider how Borough and District Councils could be more involved in highways priorities including investigating whether Borough / District Councils can take more responsibility for highways through MOPS agreements.

Following a debate, a motion to move to the vote was proposed by Councillor Chris Barnfather and seconded by Councillor Bruce Laughton. The motion was accepted by the Chairman. The Chairman put the motion to the meeting and after a show of hands the Chairman declared it was carried and it was:-

RESOLVED: 2024/042

That the motion be moved to the vote.

The substantive motion was put to the meeting. The requisite number of Members requested a recorded vote and it was ascertained that the following 13 members voted ‘**For**’ the motion:-

Steve Carr
Debbie Darby
Samantha Deakin
Tom Hollis
David Martin
Andy Meakin
Kane Oliver

Francis Purdue-Horan
Dave Shaw
Helen-Ann Smith
Lee Waters
John Wilmott
Jason Zadrozny

The following 34 members voted '**Against**' the motion:

Reg Adair	Mike Introna
Mike Adams	Richard Jackson
Sinead Anderson	Roger Jackson
Callum Bailey	Eric Kerry
Chris Barnfather	Bruce Laughton
Ben Bradley	Johnno Lee
Richard Butler	Nigel Moxon
André Camilleri	John Ogle
Scott Carlton	Mike Quigley MBE
Neil Clarke MBE	Sue Saddington
Robert Corden	Sam Smith
John Cottee	Tom Smith
Dr John Doddy	Tracey Taylor
Bethan Eddy	Nigel Turner
Boyd Elliott	Roger Upton
Stephen Garner	Gordon Wheeler
Keith Girling	Jonathan Wheeler

The following 11 members '**Abstained**' from the vote:

Anne Callaghan BEM	Errol Henry JP
John Clarke MBE	Paul Henshaw
Jim Creamer	John 'Maggie' McGrath
Kate Foale	Sheila Place
Glynn Gilfoyle	Mike Pringle
Penny Gowland	

The Chairman declared that the motion had fallen.

Having left the Chamber earlier in the agenda, Councillor Samantha Deakin returned to the Chamber at 3.09pm during consideration of this item.

Having left the Chamber earlier in the agenda, Councillor Helen-Ann Smith returned to the Chamber at 3.09pm during consideration of this item.

Having left the Chamber earlier in the agenda, Councillor Sam Smith returned to the Chamber at 3.46pm during consideration of this item.

The following members left the Chamber for more than 10 minutes during consideration of this item:

- Councillor Tom Hollis left the Chamber at 3.51pm and returned at 4.22pm
- Councillor Tracey Taylor left the Chamber at 3.52pm and returned at 4.05pm
- Councillor John Clarke MBE left the Chamber at 3.52pm and returned at 4.05pm
- Councillor Boyd Elliott left the Chamber at 3.52pm and returned at 4.05pm
- Councillor Jonathan Wheeler left the Chamber at 3.52pm and returned at 4.05pm

- Councillor Sue Saddington left the Chamber at 3.53pm and returned at 4.08pm

MOTION TWO – RESPONSE TO LABOUR’S AUTUMN BUDGET

A Motion was moved by Councillor Richard Jackson and seconded by Councillor André Camilleri in terms of resolution 2024/043 below.

Following a debate, the Chairman put the motion to the meeting and after a show of hands the Chairman declared it was carried and it was:-

RESOLVED: 2024/043

That Nottinghamshire County Council is concerned that the Chancellor’s increases to employers’ National Insurance and the National Living Wage will cause a £31 million increase in pressures on our budget from care providers, and a further £4.5 million direct pressure on the council as an employer.

The Council is additionally concerned that the Chancellor expects councils to use what she euphemistically describes as ‘council tax flexibilities’ to meet at least some of these costs, which would be a clear and obvious contradiction of her commitment “to not increase taxes on working people”.

The Council therefore supports the Council Leader in writing to the Chancellor calling on her, in view of Labour’s projected £40 billion of extra national tax income,

- to allocate through the Local Government Finance Settlement sufficient funds to fully cover the extra cost pressures placed upon councils by her National Insurance and National Living Wage decisions,
 - to invest sufficient further resources through the promised three-year Government Spending Review to tackle the broader unsustainable financial position facing local government,
- and in conjunction,
- to deliver the fairer funding mechanism that Nottinghamshire and other East Midlands councils have long awaited.

The following members left the Chamber for more than 10 minutes during consideration of this item:

- Councillor Glynn Gilfoyle left the Chamber at 4.40pm and returned at 4.54pm
- Councillor Ben Bradley left the Chamber at 4.40pm and returned at 5pm
- Councillor David Martin left the Chamber at 4.40pm and did not return to the meeting
- Councillor Samantha Deakin left the Chamber at 4.40pm and returned at 7.07pm
- Councillor Helen-Ann Smith left the Chamber at 4.40pm and did not return to the meeting

- Councillor Andy Meakin left the Chamber at 4.40pm and did not return to the meeting
- Councillor Jason Zadrozny left the Chamber at 4.49pm and returned at 5.07pm
- Councillor Tom Smith left the Chamber at 5pm and returned at 5.19pm
- Councillor Tom Hollis left the Chamber at 5.02pm and did not return to the meeting
- Councillor Mike Introna left the Chamber at 5.07pm and did not return to the meeting
- Councillor Nigel Turner left the Chamber at 5.10pm and did not return to the meeting

As there would not be enough time to conclude any further business before the time limit of 5.30pm was reached, all remaining business would be carried over to the next ordinary meeting of Full Council.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 5.25 pm.

CHAIRMAN