



www.nelincs.gov.uk

NORTH EAST LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON

14th July, 2022

Present: Councillor Beasant (in the Chair)
Councillors Abel, Aisthorpe, Batson, Boyd, Brasted, Cairns, Callison, Cracknell, Croft, Dawkins, Farren, Freeston, Furneaux, Goodwin, Harness, Hasthorpe, Holland, Hudson, Jackson, Mickleburgh, Parkinson, Patrick, Pettigrew, Reynolds, Shepherd, Shreeve, Shutt, Smith, K.Swinburn, S.Swinburn, Westcott, Wheatley and Wilson.

Officers in Attendance:

- Rob Walsh (Chief Executive)
- Simon Jones (Assistant Director Law, Governance and Assets) (Monitoring Officer)
- Paul Windley (Democratic and Scrutiny Team Manager)
- Sharon Wroot (Executive Director of Environment, Economy and Resources)

The proceedings were opened with prayers by Reverend Joy Osbourne.

NEL.14 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence from this meeting were received from Councillors Astbury, Brookes, Green, Lindley, McLean, Robinson, Sandford and Silvester.

NEL.15 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Goodwin declared a personal interest in item NEL.16 as an employee of a tenant of Freshney Place, Grimsby.

Councillor Abel declared a personal interest in item NEL.16 as he had a business connection with a tenant of Freshney Place, Grimsby.

NEL.16 FRESHNEY PLACE ACQUISITION AND INVESTMENT

The Council considered recommendations referred by Cabinet at its meeting on 22nd June 2022 regarding the proposed acquisition of Freshney Place.

Councillor Jackson moved the recommendations to Council as set out in the report referred to Council by Cabinet. Councillor Shreeve seconded the recommendations.

An amendment was proposed by Councillor Patrick and seconded by Councillor Wilson, as follows:

Any decision to proceed with a final acquisition of Freshney Place through a compulsory purchase order will return to full Council for any approval insofar as price is concerned.

An oversight panel with scrutiny powers will be set up to scrutinise and receive regular reports of all strategic matters and major operational issues with regards to Freshney Place, consisting of representation of but not limited to members of all political groups on the council, residents of the Borough, local business and other stakeholder interests. A select committee across all political groups will investigate the arrangements for such a body and report back the proposal to full Council for approval.

Following a debate, the amendment was put to the vote. Upon a show of hands the amendment was lost.

An amendment was proposed by Councillor Wilson and seconded by Councillor Patrick to recommend to Cabinet that it not proceed by way of a compulsory purchase order.

The amendment was put to the vote and carried upon a show of hands.

The amended motion was then debated. Following the debate, a recorded vote was requested in accordance with the requirements of the Council's Standing Orders. The votes cast were recorded as follows:

For the amended motion

Councillors Abel, Aisthorpe, Batson, Beasant, Boyd, Brasted, Cairns, Callison, Cracknell, Croft, Dawkins, Farren, Freeston, Furneaux, Goodwin, Harness, Hasthorpe, Hudson, Jackson, Parkinson, Patrick, Pettigrew, Reynolds, Shepherd, Shreeve, Shutt, Smith, K Swinburn, S Swinburn, Westcott and Wilson (31 votes).

Against the amended motion

Councillors Holland, Mickleburgh and Wheatley (3 votes).

The motion was declared carried and it was

RESOLVED –

1. That Cabinet be enabled without further formality to authorise the Executive Director Environment, Economy and Resources, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to conclude negotiations with the Freshney Place receivers and their agents, and to acquire Freshney Place for market value as supported by independent advice.
2. That the vagaries of negotiation for an asset of this nature be accepted and the principle of any further special meeting of Full Council being called under the terms of the Constitution be agreed.

With all business having been concluded, the Mayor declared the meeting closed at 8.31 p.m.