

# **MINUTES COUNCIL**

**Wednesday 4 June 2025**

Councillor Kyle Robinson-Payne (Mayor)

Present:	Councillor Sandra Barnes	Councillor Darren Maltby
	Councillor Michael Adams	Councillor Ron McCrossen
	Councillor Pauline Allan	Councillor Viv McCrossen
	Councillor Roy Allan	Councillor Julie Najuk
	Councillor Stuart Bestwick	Councillor Marje Paling
	Councillor David Brocklebank	Councillor Lynda Pearson
	Councillor John Clarke	Councillor Sue Pickering
	Councillor Jim Creamer	Councillor Catherine Pope
	Councillor Andrew Dunkin	Councillor Grahame Pope
	Councillor Boyd Elliott	Councillor Martin Smith
	Councillor David Ellis	Councillor Sam Smith
	Councillor Rachael Ellis	Councillor Ruth Strong
	Councillor Roxanne Ellis	Councillor Clive Towsey-Hinton
	Councillor Andrew Ellwood	Councillor Jane Walker
	Councillor Kathryn Fox	Councillor Henry Wheeler
	Councillor Helen Greensmith	Councillor Russell Whiting
	Councillor Paul Hughes	Councillor Paul Wilkinson
	Councillor Alison Hunt	

Absent: Councillor Paul Feeney, Councillor Jenny Hollingsworth, Councillor Michael Payne and Councillor Alex Scroggie

## **15 THOUGHT FOR THE DAY**

The Mayors Chaplain, Fr Philipp, delivered a thought about being good citizens and having respect for everyone in the community.

## **16 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Feeney, Hollingsworth, Payne and Scroggie.

## **17 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor gave an update on a discussion held at the previous meeting surrounding the time between ordinary meetings in 2026 and noted that due to the business required to be transacted over the coming year, the dates were unfortunately unable to be amended. He confirmed that members were free to send questions to officers at any time, who would be happy to help.

The Mayor then gave an update on the start of his mayoral year and thanked members for their generosity in helping to raise over £300 for his charity, Motor Neurone Disease Association.

**18 TO APPROVE, AS A CORRECT RECORD, THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON 22 JANUARY, 19 MARCH AND 21 MAY 2025**

**RESOLVED:**

That the minutes of the above meetings, having been circulated, be approved as a correct record.

**19 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

Councillor Rachael Ellis declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 10 on the agenda, St Albans CGR, noting she was a parish councillor for the parish of St Albans.

**20 TO DEAL WITH ANY PETITIONS RECEIVED UNDER PROCEDURAL RULE 7.8**

None received.

**21 TO ANSWER QUESTIONS ASKED BY THE PUBLIC UNDER PROCEDURAL RULE 7.7**

One question was received, and the questioner was in attendance to ask their question. The question and answer is as follows:

Question 1 - Asked by Matthew Francis:

On 29 August 2024, the Leader of the Council made the decision, designated as D1552, under delegated responsibility, to approve the granting of a lease to the Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner for part of the Civic Centre and part of Arnot Hill Park, along with the Heads of Terms for said lease.

In the decision notice there were five enclosures, which were all restricted and not provided to the public, due to this, the only pertinent information released to the public as part of that notice, is the information I have just stated. This decision has now resulted in the removal of use for the public, of sixteen parking bays, out of forty six bays, from the Bowling Green Car Park at Arnot Hill Park, which are now allocated to Nottinghamshire Police. As this car park is close to the play park, and the area that families use with their children, this is impacting where they can park, with some having to park on the road outside. Also, as you can imagine this is potentially impacting disabled people, as the amount of bays that are close to the park, has reduced by just shy of 35%, these are people that need support and understanding.

It has been ascertained through an information request, that Gedling Borough Council did not carry out a consultation in relation to this lease or the decision to implement it, did not carry out an Equality Impact Assessment to see what effect this would have on protected groups, including disabled people, should have only allocated fifteen bays, and as stated above, restricted all the enclosures on the decision notice from the public eye.

Considering Gedling Borough Council's belief in transparency along with Diversity, Equality and Inclusion, can the Portfolio Holder for Life Chances and Vulnerability explain what Gedling Borough Council will do to rectify this apparent failure in governance?

Response from Councillor Clarke:

I approved a decision to lease part of the civic centre to Nottinghamshire Police in August 2024 as this was a commercial decision with the council as landlord. The appropriate rules for dealing with land were followed and the report was not fully in the public domain as it contained information which was deemed commercially sensitive.

In respect of car parking, in order to ensure the police could operate effectively from the civic centre, a number of spaces within the park were redesignated for police parking. There was no removal of public disabled parking bays from the car park and the process under the car park order was correctly followed.

The decision to grant the police the lease of the park supported the council's ongoing commitment to collaborate with other public sector partners and has provided a visible police presence within the local community. The location of police at the civic centre should provide assurances to the park users that the park is a safe space for all.

It is of course important that our parks and open spaces, as well as all of our facilities, are accessible hence the provision of disabled parking within the park has not reduced as a result of this arrangement within the park.

Our facilities team will continue to monitor the impact of the redesignated parking bays on park users and address any specific issues as they arise. If something comes up Mr Mayor, then we'll look to alleviate if there is a problem that's showing. At the moment the value we've got is there are 130 police officers using this building on a daily 24/7 basis and I'd much rather see that than an empty building.

**23                    REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE OR A COMMITTEE (PROCEDURAL RULE 7.10)**

**(a)                    ENHANCED DBS CHECKS FOR COUNCILLORS  
RESOLVED that:**

- I.     the contents of the report be noted; and
- II.    the Policy and Procedure for Disclosure and Barring Services checks for Councillors at Appendix 1 be agreed; and
- III.   the Leader of the council writes to the Minister of State for Local Government to call for the introduction of a requirement for enhanced DBS checks for all councillors as part of the next steps of the devolution legislation.

**24                    COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW (CGR) FOR ST ALBANS**

**RESOLVED that:**

Council agrees:

- I.     That a new Parish with a Parish Council is established to cover the Deer Park, Bestwood Lodge area of the St Albans Parish named "The Parish Council of Deer Park". The Parish Council should have five members; and
- II.    That a new Parish with a Parish Council is established to cover the area comprised of the Top Valley, Emmanuel Church area of the St Albans Parish, named "The Parish Council of St Albans". The Parish Council should have seven members; and
- III.   That the new parishes shall not be warded; and
- IV.   The boundaries of the new parishes should be shown on the map contained at Appendix 4; and
- V.    That Elections shall be held in May 2026 for the new Parish councils, with further elections held the year after to return the parish councils to the appropriate cycle of elections for all other Gedling Parishes; and
- VI.   The current Parish Council of St Albans should be dissolved, and the current Parish of St Albans be abolished; and
- VII.   To delegate authority to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Member working group to make the Reorganisation Order to give effect to the recommendations made in the review in order that its commencement is consistent with the statutory electoral timetable and the process for setting any parish budget requirements.

**25                    TO CONSIDER COMMENTS, OF WHICH DUE NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN, UNDER PROCEDURAL RULE 7.11**

No points or comments were raised.

**TO CONSIDER MOTIONS UNDER PROCEDURAL RULE 7.12**

None received.

The meeting finished at 6.37 pm

Signed by Chair:

Date: