

Gainsborough Town Council

Richmond House, Richmond Park, Morton Terrace

Gainsborough, Lincolnshire, DN21 2RJ

Tel: 01427 811573

Website: gainsborough-tc.gov.uk



FULL COUNCIL MINUTES

Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on **Tuesday 4 February 2025** at **6:30pm** in the Ceremony room, Richmond House, Richmond Park, Morton Terrace, Gainsborough, DN21 2RJ.

Councillors Present: Councillor Kenneth Woolley (Chair)

Councillor Mark Binns
Councillor Richard Craig
Councillor Caz Davies
Councillor David Dobbie
Councillor Paul Hooton

Councillor Nicholas Coxon
Councillor Dennis Dannatt
Councillor Michael Devine
Councillor Richard Doy
Councillor James Plastow

In Attendance:

Rachel Allbones
Sean Alcock

Town Clerk
Operations Manager

Open Forum Public participation

No public participation.

FC25/146 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors N Bowler, P Key, S Morley, J Ward.

FC25/147 Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were made.

FC25/148 Dispensation Requests

No dispensation requests were made.

FC25/149 Items for Exclusion of Public and Press

RESOLVED: to exclude the public and press from items FC25/159 in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 1 (2) due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed.

FC25/150 Community Emergency Planning

Deferred due to the Emergency Planning and Business Continuity Officer being unable to attend.

FC25/151 Minutes of the Previous Meeting (Paper A)

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the Council meeting held on Tuesday 7 January 2025 be approved as a as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chair.

Note: Councillors Craig, Dannatt and Davies abstained from voting on the above resolution.

FC25/152 Committee Meeting Minutes (Papers B - E)

- i. Personnel Committee, Wednesday 8 January 2025 Paper B
- ii. Property and Services Committee, Tuesday 14 January 2025 Paper C
- iii. Planning Committee, Tuesday 21 January 2025 Paper D
- iv. Finance and Strategy Committee, Tuesday 28 January 2025 Paper E

RESOLVED: to **NOTE** the draft minutes of the Committees.

FC25/153 Announcements (Paper F)

- i. Chair of Council

The Chair advised he'd attended a meeting with Gainsborough in Bloom and continues to support local charities.

- ii. Leader of Council

The Leader had sent apologies for the meeting.

- iii. Representatives on Outside Bodies

Councillor Dobbie advised he had received an email from 20's Plenty and sent it onto the Assistant Clerk.

- iv. Town Clerk

RESOLVED: to **NOTE** the Town Clerk's report.

FC25/154 Committee Vacancies (Paper G)

RESOLVED: to defer all vacancies until the next meeting.

Note: Councillor Coxon abstained from voting on the above resolution.

FC25/155 Recommendation made by Committee (Paper H)

Property and Services Committee held 14 January 2025 (PS25/123 Grass Verge Cutting):

RESOLVED: to appoint Glendale Services as the grass verge contractor for 2025/26.

FC25/156 Recommendation made by Committee (Paper H)

Property and Services Committee held 14 January 2025 (PS25/125 General Cemetery Tree Works):

RESOLVED:

- i That the Council appoint Foxstone Forestry Ltd to undertake the tree management works as quoted.
- ii That a 10% discretion be afforded to the Operations Manager to allow for any price fluctuations or unforeseen works.

FC25/157 Motion from Councillor Coxon

I would like to formally propose a motion for colleagues' support regarding a feasibility study aimed at the establishment of an indoor market.

I am asking the Council to consider conducting a feasibility study regarding the potential interest in establishing an indoor market within our town.

To initiate this process, I propose that we simply gauge public sentiment by placing a poll on the Council's website. This poll could provide insights into whether there is sufficient interest to warrant further discussion around the operational aspects, funding, and management of such a market.

It is important to note that this proposal is intended to be a separate initiative from the existing market and does not involve the West Lindsey District Council in any capacity.

The potential benefits to our community from establishing an indoor market are significant:

1. Community Impact: The indoor market would provide opportunities for existing businesses to expand their reach and engage with new audiences.
2. Support for Entrepreneurs: It would encourage new entrepreneurs to start their ventures with minimal risk, fostering a culture of innovation and growth.
3. Economic Regeneration: The knock-on effects of this initiative could include filling empty retail spaces in the town centre, stimulating further regeneration, and opening doors for new opportunities and investments.

I believe that conducting a feasibility study will allow us to explore this opportunity in depth and assess how we can best serve our community's needs.

Councillor Davies seconded the motion at the meeting.

RESOLVED: under Standing Order 10.1k to exclude the press and public from a meeting for the agenda item.

Note: Councillors Binns, Devine, Dobbie and Plastow abstained from voting on the above resolution.

An amendment to the motion was proposed, seconded and accepted by the original proposer and seconder.

At the request of Councillor Dobbie a recorded vote was taken as follows: -
 For: Councillors Coxon, Craig, Dannatt, Davies, Devine, Doy, Hooton, Woolley
 Against: None
 Abstained from voting: Councillors Binns, Dobbie, Plastow

RESOLVED: that the Council gauge public sentiment by placing a poll on the Council's website. This poll could provide insights into whether there is sufficient interest for the establishing an indoor market.

Poll question:

Would you like to see an indoor market reestablished within the town.
Possible Answers: Yes / No.

FC25/158 Annual Town Meeting (Paper J)

RESOLVED: to hold the Annual Town Meeting on Thursday 1st May 2025 at Marshalls Sports Ground. Should the date not be viable for speakers in consultation with the Chair this can be out back 7 or 14 days.

RESOLVED: to invite to present at the meeting:

- i. Local PC / PCSO
- ii. WLDC Levelling Up
- iii. Gainsborough Transport Board
- iv. Greener Gainsborough / Men's Shed
- v. Community Rail Partnership
- vi. Stagecoach Bus Service
- vii. St Johns Ambulance (possible stall or speaker)

FC25/159 Election Complaint (Paper K)

The Town Clerk and Operations Manager left the meeting at 7:35pm.

Recommendation

- i. The review conducted by Councillor Craig be accepted by Council.

At the request of Councillor Dobbie a recorded vote was taken as follows: -

For: Councillors Coxon, Craig, Dannatt, Davies, Devine, Doy, Hooton, Plastow, Woolley

Against: Councillor Dobbie

Abstained from voting: Councillor Binns

RESOLVED: That the review into the election complaint conducted by Councillor Craig be accepted by Council.

Recommendation

- ii. An independent review should now take place in relation to this complaint, and we submit our findings and outcomes to the Local Government Association.

At the request of Councillor Dobbie a recorded vote was taken as follows: -

For: Councillors Binns, Dobbie

Against: Councillors Coxon, Craig, Dannatt, Davies, Devine, Doy, Hooton, Woolley

Abstained from voting: Councillor Plastow

RESOLVED: That an independent review should NOT take place in relation to the election complaint.

FC25/160 Correspondence (Paper L)

RESOLVED: to **NOTE** the correspondence circulated.

FC25/161 Items for Notification

- i. Community Emergency Planning
- ii. Devolution
- iii. Declaration of acceptance of office, Local Government Act 1972, section 83 (4c)

FC25/162 Time and Date of Next Meeting

RESOLVED: to **NOTE** the date and time of the next Full Council meeting scheduled for Tuesday 4 March 2025 at 6:30pm at Richmond House, Morton Terrace.

The meeting closed at 8:04pm.

Signed as a true record of the Meeting: _____ Dated _____
Presiding chairman of approving meeting