

Gainsborough Town Council

Richmond House, Richmond Park, Morton Terrace

Gainsborough, Lincolnshire, DN21 2RJ

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FULL COUNCIL MINUTES

Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on **Tuesday 1 April 2025** at **6:30pm** in the Ceremony room, Richmond House, Richmond Park, Morton Terrace, Gainsborough, DN21 2RJ.

Councillors Present: Councillor Kenneth Woolley (Chair)

Councillor Sheila Bibb
Councillor Stephen Blogg
Councillor Nicholas Coxon
Councillor Dennis Dannatt
Councillor Michael Devine
Councillor Richard Doy
Councillor Paul Key

Councillor Mark Binns
Councillor Nigel Bowler
Councillor Richard Craig
Councillor Caz Davies
Councillor David Dobbie
Councillor Paul Hooton
Councillor James Plastow

In Attendance:

Rachel Allbones
Sean Alcock

Town Clerk
Operations Manager

Also Present:

4 members of the public
Emma Wilkinson, Emergency Planning and Business Continuity Officer

A Member of the public from Laybos Fest made a statement supporting Councillor Coxon's motion requesting the Town Council to be a partner in the 2025 festival.

The formal meeting commenced at 6:42pm.

FC25/178 Apologies for Absence

No apologies for absence received.

FC25/179 Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were made.

FC25/180 Dispensation Requests

No dispensation requests were made.

FC25/181 Items for Exclusion of Public and Press

No items for the exclusion of public and press.

FC25/182 Community Emergency Planning

Members received a presentation from Emma Wilkinson, Emergency Planning and Business Continuity Officer regarding Community Emergency Planning, stating that emergencies are not just flooding, but include power outages, large scale fires, gas leak and major road closures.

FC25/183 Minutes of the Previous Meeting (Paper A)

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the Council meeting held on Tuesday 4 March 2025 be approved as a as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chair.

Note: Councillors Dannatt and Hooton abstained from voting on the above resolution.

FC25/184 Committee Meeting Minutes (Papers B - E)

- i. Property and Services Committee, Wednesday 12 March 2025 Paper B
- ii. Personnel Committee, Wednesday 12 March 2025 Paper C
- iii. Planning Committee, Tuesday 118 March 2025 Paper D
- iv. Finance and Strategy Committee, Cancelled

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

FC25/185 Announcements (Paper F)

- i. Chair of Council

The Chair advised he's continuing to support local charities, also attended an Age Matters event in Saxilby with the Leader and Lincoln University event on social prescribing.

- ii. Leader of Council

The Leader advised he attended an Age Matters event in Saxilby with the Mayor and has been dealing with internal Council matters.

- iii. Representatives on Outside Bodies

Councillor Hooton informed Members that St Jon Ambulance are looking at reinstating a cadet group in Gainsborough.

- iv. Town Clerk

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

FC25/186 Appointment for Representation on Outside Body

RESOLVED: to appoint Councillor Davies to Gainsborough in Bloom.

FC25/187 Committee Vacancies (Paper G)

RESOLVED: to defer the appointments until May 2025.

FC25/188 Recommendation made by Committee (Paper H)

Personnel Committee held 12 March 2025 (PC25/098 Carers Leave Policy):

RESOLVED: to adopt the Carers Leave Policy and Procedure.

FC25/189 Motion from Councillor Coxon

I would like to propose a motion for the Town Council to support Laybo Fest by providing a sponsorship/grant of £11,242. This funding is intended for essential

stage, lighting and sound equipment, ensuring that the proceeds raised by the charity directly benefit grieving families who are facing the devastating impact of losing loved ones to suicide.

Supporting Laybo Fest offers numerous benefits for our community. It promises an exciting weekend filled with activities for all ages, encouraging participation from young and old alike. Local groups and performers will have the opportunity to showcase their talents alongside renowned acts, creating an inclusive atmosphere that uplifts everyone.

The festival will feature poignant performances of songs with powerful messages—such as Heather Small’s “Search for the Hero,” Oasis’s “Don’t Look Back in Anger,” and Queen’s “Radio Ga Ga.” These performances are designed to provide hope and connection, particularly for those experiencing difficult times. Laybo Fest is poised to become a beloved annual event, bringing joy and anticipation to our residents, especially as our town’s population is projected to grow by 10,000 by 2040.

In conclusion, I urge the Town Council to consider this motion favourably. By supporting Laybo Fest, we can enhance our local culture, strengthen community ties, and provide essential support to those in need.

WITHDREW: Councillor Coxon withdrew the motion due to being in Purdah.

FC25/190 Annual Assembly of the Town Meeting (Paper H)

RESOLVED: to change the date of the meeting to Thursday 8 May 2025 in an attempt to gain further presenters and attendance.

FC25/191 English Devolution White Paper (Paper I)

Members **NOTED** the English Devolution White Paper, and noted further discussions will be needed once things become clearer.

FC25/192 Correspondence (Paper J)

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

FC25/193 Items for Notification

- i. Devolution – Standing Item
- ii. Standing Orders review – May
- iii. Structure and Functions review – May
- iv. Finance Regulations review – May
- v. Members Code of Conduct review - May

FC25/194 Time and Date of Next Meeting

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

The meeting closed at 7:59pm.

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