

Gainsborough Town Council

Richmond House, Richmond Park, Morton Terrace

Gainsborough, Lincolnshire, DN21 2RJ

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DRAFT FULL COUNCIL MINUTES

Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on **Tuesday 1 September 2026** at **6:30pm** in the Ceremony room, Richmond House, Richmond Park, Morton Terrace, Gainsborough, DN21 2RJ.

Councillors Present: Councillor Sheila Bibb (Vice Chair)

Councillor Mark Binns
Councillor Nicholas Coxon
Councillor David Dobbie
Councillor Paul Key
Councillor Glenn Puxty
Councillor Kenneth Woolley

Councillor Nigel Bowler
Councillor Michael Devine
Councillor Richard Doy
Councillor James Plastow
Councillor Richard Thompson

In Attendance:

Rachel Allbones

Town Clerk

Also Present:

Paul Drury, Lincolnshire Armed Forces Community Covenant Officer
WLDC Councillor Karen Carless
1 member of the public

FC27/072 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillors Blogg, Craig, Dannatt, Hooton.

FC27/073 Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were declared.

FC27/074 Dispensation Requests

No dispensation requests were made.

FC27/075 Items for Exclusion of Public and Press

No items for the exclusion of public and press.

FC27/076 Presentation from Lincolnshire Armed Forces Community Covenant Officer

Members received a presentation from Paul Drury, Lincolnshire Armed Forces Community Covenant Officer.

Members were advised that the Council could become an **Armed Forces Friendly Council** by signing the Armed Forces Covenant and committing to honour the Covenant and support the Armed Forces Community. It was noted that, following signing, Members would receive a one-day training session. Members were also advised that North Hykeham Town Council and Mablethorpe and Sutton Town Council had already signed the Covenant.

Note: Paul Drury left the meeting following the presentation.

FC27/077 Minutes of the Previous Meeting (Paper A)

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Council meeting held on Tuesday 7 July 2026 be approved as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chair.

Note: Councillors Binns and Doy abstained from voting on the above resolution.

FC27/078 Committee Meeting Minutes (Papers B - H)

- i. Finance and Strategy Committee, Tuesday 7 July 2026
- ii. Personnel Committee, Wednesday 8 July 2026
- iii. Property and Services Committee, Tuesday 14 July 2026
- iv. Neighbourhood Plan Working Group, Thursday 23 July 2026
- v. Finance and Strategy Committee, Tuesday 28 July 2026
- vi. Planning Committee, Tuesday 18 August 2026
- vii. Finance and Strategy Committee, Tuesday 25 August 2026

RESOLVED: To NOTE the draft minutes of the Committees.

Note: Councillors Key and Plastow abstained from voting on the above resolution.

FC27/079 Committee and Working Group Appointments

- i. X1 Planning Committee
- ii. X1 Neighbourhood Plan Working Group
- iii. X1 Property & Services Committee – substitute
- iv. X1 Personnel Committee – substitute

RESOLVED: To defer all appointments until after the by-election.

Note: Councillor Plastow voted against the above resolution.

Note: Councillors Dobbie and Key abstained from voting on the above resolution.

FC27/080 Announcements (Paper I)

- i. Chair of Council

No announcements received.

- ii. Leader of Council

The Leader advised that he had attended the first Aisby Walk Community Day, a meeting with Local Partnerships, and a meeting with WLDC Officers regarding the Christmas Lights Festival. The latter two meetings were attended alongside the Town Clerk.

- iii. Representatives on Outside Bodies

Councillor Woolley advised that he is looking into getting a War memorial plaque for Gainsborough to identify the significant role Gainsborough played during the First World War.

iv. Town Clerk

RESOLVED: To reschedule the Planning Committee meeting for September for Monday 14 September 2026 due to the Community Emergency Plan tabletop exercise.

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

RESOLVED: To NOTE the Town Clerk's report.

FC27/081 Local Government Reorganisation

Members noted the Government announcement on its decision on Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) in Greater Lincolnshire which would see the creation of two new unitary authorities – a Lincoln City unitary and a Lincolnshire unitary.

The new unitary authorities would comprise:

- a Lincoln City unitary council (covering an extended area from the current city boundary incorporating some wards in the West Lindsey and North Kesteven districts)
- a Lincolnshire unitary council (covering the rest of the West Lindsey and North Kesteven districts as well as the remaining four district council areas)
- North Lincolnshire Council and North East Lincolnshire Council (already unitaries) to remain as they are.

FC27/082 Correspondence (Paper J)

RESOLVED: To NOTE the correspondence circulated.

FC27/083 Items for Notification

- i. Armed Forces Covenant
- ii. Presentation of x2 past mayors badges.
- iii. Debt Write Off

FC27/084 Time and Date of Next Meeting

RESOLVED: To NOTE the next Full Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 6 October 2026 at 6:30pm at Richmond House, Morton Terrace.

FC27/085 Recommendation made by Committee.

Finance and Strategy Committee held 25 August 2026 (FS27/054 Investments)

RESOLVED: That the £164,791.44 S106 funding be temporarily invested in the CCLA Public Sector Deposit Fund until the Aisby Walk Skate Park invoice is received and payment is required.

To amend paragraph 10.5 of the Investment Strategy to reflect the temporary increase in the amount invested with CCLA.

The meeting closed at 7:53pm.

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

DRAFT