

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

EXTRAORDINARY MEETING

11 August 2022

- Present -

THE MAYOR – Councillor J Briggs

Councillors Ali, Armiger, Bainbridge, Clark, A Davison, J Davison, Ellerby, L Foster, Gosling, Grant, Kirk, Lee, Longcake, Marper, Mitchell, O'Sullivan, Poole, Rayner Robinson, Ross, Saunby, C Sherwood, Southern, Swift, K Vickers, Walshe, Waltham MBE, Wilson and Yeadon.

The Council met at The Pods, Ashby Road, Scunthorpe.

- 2851 **DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND PERSONAL OR PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS** - The following declarations of a personal interest were indicated as follows -

Members

Subject

Councillors J Briggs and R Waltham Members of the Humberside Fire Authority
MBE

- 2852 **NOTICE OF MOTION AND AMENDMENT – OPEN WATER SAFETY –**

It was moved by Councillor A Davison and seconded by Councillor L Foster -

That this council creates a post of Warden for Ashby Ville.

If this proves successful, then this council will consider creating additional posts for open water safety throughout the council area.

That this council also works with the affiliated and licensed groups who regularly use the pond to ensure clarity, and to standardize the rules and regulations for individuals and groups alike.

That this council commences a planting program, or some form of deterrent to the 'beach' area to make it more difficult to enter the water.

Ashby Ville is not a natural body of water, unlike other open water areas within North Lincolnshire. It is a disused quarry and there are hidden dangers beneath its depths such as metal spikes and rusty cars, as well as reeds and weeds. It is not dredged, unlike some other waterways.

Despite ongoing educational visits from the police, fire service etc in schools every summer, we continue to see people visiting Ashby Ville to swim, and some are travelling from out of area just to swim in the pond.

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Although there are numerous signs, there were lots of people swimming and using inflatables as well as boats.

North Lincolnshire Council has recently introduced powers that include preventing swimming in open water and should take its corporate responsibility seriously to enforce these powers to ensure the safety of our communities and those visiting what is a beautiful nature reserve.

It was moved by Councillor R Waltham MBE and seconded by Cllr N Poole as an amendment -

This council is committed to promoting water safety through working with our stakeholders in education, the Police, the Fire and Rescue Service and the Environment Agency to ensure that safety around our waterways, rivers and open water across North Lincolnshire remains of paramount importance. The council resolves to work with schools, colleges and the Youth Council to deliver an annual certificated programme highlighting the dangers of open water.

This council resolves to create a new One-Council Enforcement model that will enforce on swimming in open water and other offences detailed in the North Lincolnshire Public Spaces Protection Order.

Furthermore, this Council remains committed to promoting and providing Free Swimming for our young people to ensure that they have a clean and safe environment in which to swim with their friends and family.

This council continues to invest in signage and implement a planting programme at sites across North Lincolnshire, including Ashby Ville, that will restrict access and promote diversity of the natural marine environment.

The council also resolves to ban all watercraft on council assets that do not have prior approval.

This council will work across partnerships and affiliated and licensed groups to address the broad issues of water safety. We will raise awareness of the risks of open water and waterways across North Lincolnshire, especially Ashby Ville and other disused quarries. We will focus on communities most at risk, engaging with the public, private and voluntary sectors who use waterways to ensure that they understand the risks and address them.

Following a number of councillors speaking on the motion and amendment, the Mayor then proceeded to the vote -

Motion Lost
Amendment Carried
Substantive Motion Carried.