

Norfolk County Council

Date: **Tuesday, 9 May 2023**

Time: **10 am**

Venue: **Council Chamber, County Hall, Martineau Lane,
Norwich NR1 2DH**

To: All members of the Council. You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Council for the purpose of transacting the business set out in this agenda.

Advice for members of the public:

This meeting will be held in public and in person.

It will be live streamed on YouTube and members of the public may watch remotely by clicking on the following link: [Norfolk County Council YouTube](#)

We also welcome attendance in person, but public seating is limited, so if you wish to attend please indicate in advance by emailing committees@norfolk.gov.uk.

We have amended the previous guidance relating to respiratory infections to reflect current practice but we still ask everyone attending to maintain good hand and respiratory hygiene and, at times of high prevalence and in busy areas, please consider wearing a face covering.

Please stay at home if you are unwell, have tested positive for COVID 19, have symptoms of a respiratory infection or if you are a close contact of a positive COVID 19 case. This will help make the event safe for attendees and limit the transmission of respiratory infections including COVID-19.

Prayers

AGENDA

- 1 Apologies**
- 2 To elect a Chair for the ensuing year**
- 3 Minutes**
- 4. To elect a Vice-Chair for the ensuing year**
- 5. Vote of thanks to the outgoing Chair**

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To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 28 March 2023.

6 Any items of business the Chair decides should be considered as a matter of urgency

7 Members to declare any interests

If you have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in a matter to be considered at the meeting and that interest is on your Register of Interests you must not speak or vote on the matter. It is recommended that you declare that interest but it is not a legal requirement. If you have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in a matter to be considered at the meeting and that interest is not on your Register of Interests you must declare that interest at the meeting and not speak or vote on the matter.

In either case you may remain in the room where the meeting is taking place. If you consider that it would be inappropriate in the circumstances to remain in the room, you may leave the room while the matter is dealt with.

If you do not have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest you may nevertheless have an Other Interest in a matter to be discussed if it affects to a greater extent than others in your division:

- Your wellbeing or financial position, or
- that of your family or close friends
- Any body –
 - o Exercising functions of a public nature.
 - o Directed to charitable purposes; or
 - o One of whose principal purposes includes the influence of public opinion or policy (including any political party or trade union);of which you are in a position of general control or management.

If that is the case then you must declare such an interest but can speak and vote on the matter.

8 Election of Leader of the Council

9 To receive any announcements from the Chair, Leader or Head of Paid Service (maximum of 15 minutes)

10 To be notified by the Leader of the number of members to be appointed to the Cabinet, those Members' names and their intended portfolio of responsibilities.

11. Appointment of Committees for the Municipal Year
Report by the Director of Democratic and Regulatory Services

**To
Follow**

- | | | |
|------------|---|------------------|
| 12. | To appoint the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of Committees and appoint to outside bodies | To Follow |
| | Report by the Director of Democratic and Regulatory Services | |
| 13 | Request for Dispensation under Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972 | Page 36 |
| | Report by the Director of Legal Services (nplaw) and Monitoring Officer | |
| 14 | To consider any business specified in the summons to the meeting: recommendations from Cabinet | |
| | 14.1 Meeting held on 3 April 2023 | Page 37 |
| 15 | Notice of Motions | Page 38 |
| 16 | Questions on notice under Rule 9.3: none | |

Tom McCabe
Head of Paid Service
County Hall
Martineau Lane
NORWICH
NR1 2DH



Agenda Published: 27 April 2023

**Norfolk County Council
Minutes of the Meeting Held at 10 am on
Tuesday 28 March 2023**

Present:		
	ADAMS Tony	KIDDLE-MORRIS Mark
	ANNISON Carl	LONG Brian
	AQUARONE Steffan	MASON BILLIG Kay
	ASKEW Stephen	MAXFIELD Ed
	BAMBRIDGE Lesley	MORIARTY Jim
	BENSLY James	MORPHEW Steve
	BILLS David	OLIVER Rhodri
	BLUNDELL Sharon	OSBORN Jamie
	BORRETT Bill	PECK Greg
	BROCIEK-COULTON Julie	PENFOLD Saul
	CARPENTER Graham	PLANT Graham
	CARPENTER Penny	PRICE Ben
	CLANCY Stuart	REILLY Matthew
	COLWELL Robert	RICHMOND Will
	CONNOLLY Ed	ROPER Dan
	CORLETT Emma	SANDS Mike
	DARK Stuart	SAVAGE Robert
	DEWSBURY Margaret	SAYERS David
	DUFFIN Barry	SHIRES Lucy
	DUIGAN Phillip	SMITH Carl
	EAGLE Fabian	SMITH-CLARE Mike
	ELMER Daniel	STONE Barry
	FISHER John	THOMAS Alison
	FITZPATRICK Tom	THOMSON Vic
	GRANT Andy	VARDY Eric
	GURNEY Shelagh	VINCENT Karen
	HEMPSALL Lana	WALKER Colleen
	HORSBRUGH Michael Chenery of	WARD John
	JAMES Jane	WATKINS Brian
	JAMIESON Andrew	WEBB Maxine
	JERMY Terry	WHYMARK Fran
	KEMP Alexandra	
	KIDDIE Keith	

Present: 64

1A Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Tim Adams, Cllr Alison Birmingham, Cllr Claire Bowes, Cllr Michael Dalby, Cllr Chris Dawson, Cllr Nigel Dixon, Cllr Ian Mackie, Cllr Paul Neale, Cllr Judy Oliver, Cllr Richard Price, Cllr Andrew Proctor, Cllr Martin Storey and Cllr Tony White.

1B Chair's Remarks

The Chair reminded Councillors that meetings of the Council would not normally extend beyond 3 hours unless this was extended in accordance with rule 11. 1 (n) of the Council Procedure Rules, however it was her intention to enact rule 4 (v) and rule 4 (vi) of the constitution once the meeting period has elapsed if any business remains. The practical application of this will be that the meeting will continue on a vote only basis.

The Chair also said that she intended to adjourn the meeting after about 1.5 hours for a short comfort break and would be asking Councillors at the point when the meeting restarted if they wished to have the meeting extend beyond 3 hrs, should that become necessary.

2. Minutes

2.1 The minutes of the Council meeting held on 21 February 2023 were confirmed as an accurate record of the meeting.

In confirming the minutes, the following points were noted and amended in the minutes:

1. **Page 6, para 2.1.1:** to have the EGM without asking a Council: insert "whether" to proceed with a County deal "or not"
2. **Page 15, para 5.4.4 budget amendment regarding ferry and footpath funding:** the funding should have been noted as being £2m

3 Chair's Announcements

3.1 The Deputy Leader gave his best wishes to the Leader for a full recovery. The Chair also wished the Leader a full and speedy recovery on behalf of the Council.

3.2 The Chair shared with Council the sad news of the passing of former Conservative County Councillor Robert Chase. He had represented the Acle division from May 1985 to 1997. Council held a minute's silence as a mark of respect.

3.3 The Chair's engagements were on the Chairman's page on the NCC website. In particular she wished to share the following engagements: She took the opportunity to mention that she had visited the Norwich University of the Arts in Norwich and view its amazing facilities and she attended the Norwich Science Festival and the launch of the Norfolk and Norwich Arts Festival, as part of her chosen theme which was supporting and enabling children and young people to flourish. Over the last month, also linked to this theme and in other parts of the

county, the Chair had visited Lotus, the Skills and Careers Festival, and had the opportunity to speak to young people and organisations about opportunities for the future in whatever field they chose including areas such as science, technology, engineering, maths and apprenticeships.

The Chair had visited a Share Sounds performance in Great Yarmouth where talented students and teachers from four schools across the county co-wrote and performed their own piece with a BBC concert.

The Chair had also attended a service in King's Lynn celebrating youth and hope at King's Lynn Minster. It had been a privilege to represent the county over the last few months.

The Chairman thanked Simon George who was leaving the council shortly after Easter for all he had done for the Council, particularly in the testing times during the Covid-19 pandemic. The Chair wished him well for his future endeavours.

4 Declarations of Interest

- 4.1 Cllr Emma Corlett declared "an other" interest related to motion 7 as she was a member of Unite and Unison trade unions
- 4.2 Cllr Steve Morphew declared "an other" interest related to motion 7 as he was a member of Unite union.
- 4.3 Cllr Maxine Webb declared "an other" interest related to motion 7 as she was a member of Unite union.
- 4.4 Cllr Mike Smith-Clare declared "an other" interest related to motion 7 as he was a member of Unite union.
- 4.5 Cllr Mike Sands declared "an other" interest related to motion 7 as he was a member of NEU.
- 4.6 Cllr Julie Brociek-Coulton declared "an other" interest related to motion 7 as she was a member of Unison trade union.
- 4.7 Cllr Walker declared "an other" interest related to motion 1 as a WASPI woman and related to item 4 as she was a member of the GMB union.
- 4.8 Cllr Matthew Riley declared "an other" interest related to motion 7 as he was a member of GMB union.
- 4.9 Cllr Jamie Osborn declared "an other" interest related to motion 7 as he was a member of Unite union.
- 4.10 Cllr John Ward declared "an other" interest related to item 17.1, museums report as he was the Chairman and director of the Norfolk Museums Development Foundation
- 4.11 Cllr Alexandra Kemp declared "an other" interest related to motion 7 as she was a member of GMB union.
- 4.12 Cllr Michael Chenery declared "an other" interest related to the Norfolk Records

Committee report as he was a member of the Norfolk Record Office.

- 4.13 Cllr Shelagh Gurney declared “an other” interest related to motion 1 as a WASPI woman
- 4.14 Cllr Stephen Askew declared “an other” interest related to motion 7 as he was a member of Equity.
- 4.15 Cllr Penny Carpenter declared “an other” interest related to motion 1 as a WASPI woman
- 4.16 Cllr Terry Jermy declared “an other” interest related to motion 7 as he was a member of Unison union.

5 Petitions presented to Council

- 5.1 There were no items of petition for Council to consider.

6. Business (if any) remaining from the last Council meeting

- 6.1 No business was outstanding since the meeting of the 21 February 2023.

7. Questions to the Leader

7.1 Question from Cllr Terry Jermy

Cllr Jermy highlighted an issue that some residents in Thetford were concerned that a 20-minute neighbourhood policy would be imposed, with people being forced out of their cars. Despite there being no evidence that this was County Council policy, concerns had spread on social media. Cllr Jermy asked Cllr Plant, as Cabinet Member for Highways, Infrastructure and Transport and as Acting Leader of the Council, to confirm the Council’s position related to 20-minute neighbourhoods.

In reply, the Deputy Leader clarified that the idea of a 20-minute neighbourhood was to allow people to reach services they required within a 10 minute walk from and back to their home. This idea had been hijacked by a group who thought that this would mean fencing-off 20-minute areas and banning vehicles in these areas, which was not the case. There were no plans for residents to be locked in their homes or neighbourhoods and no part of Norfolk had been identified as an area for this to be implemented. Restricting people from getting to their preferred doctor, school and shops was an unfounded claim, spreading on social media and causing panic. The Deputy Leader noted that the Council did not want people to have to travel long distances to reach services, however, freedom of choice would remain. The Council would work with communities and residents in the county to understand what was best and help them flourish and prosper in the best way for them.

7.2 Question from Cllr Brian Watkins

Cllr Watkins noted that if the County Deal came to fruition, it must lead to a better form of governance for the people of Norfolk, who would want to see the tangible benefits from devolution and how people in power could be held to account for their actions. He asked the Deputy Leader what his thoughts were on how the council could strengthen local accountability through the directly elected leader model and how he would work with others to ensure that devolution could command broad support and engagement from the district councils, business community and important partners.

In reply, the Deputy Leader said that there was a working party chaired by Cllr Penny Carpenter working through these details as well as looking at how the system worked with Member input. It was therefore important for members to engage with this. He clarified that district councils would lose no power as power could only be devolved down, from Government to the County Council. The Deputy Leader also added that this was a first deal, therefore the opportunities for Norfolk moving forward would be greatly improved by getting a Devolution Deal, seen by growth and funding gained by other areas; Norfolk would lose out on power and kudos if this was not pursued, in his view.

7.3 Question from Cllr Jamie Osborn

Cllr Jamie Osborn asked about the expansion of free childcare announced in the Government budget last week, noting that the amount paid by the council to childcare providers for funded childcare was lower than the rate it cost to provide childcare, meaning food or nappies would have to be charged for, or the rate for under 3's would need to be paid to keep these providers open. It was good that Norfolk paid a higher rate for 2 year olds than other councils however he believed there was a need for more funding for childcare providers to help them remain sustainable and asked the Deputy Leader to look into this

The Deputy Leader replied that he had not looked into this in depth but agreed to provide a written response to Cllr Osborn.

7.4 Question from Cllr Ed Maxfield

Cllr Ed Maxfield noted the opportunities provided by the University of East Anglia for many and was worried about the financial position about the provider. He asked if the Deputy Leader had any comments about this and what steps the council was taking to offer young people life changing opportunities.

The Deputy Leader replied that the University of East Anglia was a key partner and element of what made Norfolk what it was, with an international reputation. The Council would work with the University of East Anglia to help them get to where they needed to get to overcome their financial troubles. the deputy leader said there would be no monetary payment from the council to help the funding crisis. However, The Deputy Leader agreed this was a concern and hoped it would be a short-term issue.

7.5 Question from Cllr Jane James

Cllr Jane James was grateful to the Council and officers for support in addressing

resident concerns in Thetford regarding 20-minute neighbourhood and asked the Deputy Leader to confirm that the Council would never support restrictions on movement of County residents on this matter

The Deputy Leader replied to this question, noting that 20-minute neighbourhood would never take away anyone's rights to travel but was about providing services closer to home so that people did not have to drive long distances to reach services unless they wanted to. He felt that this idea was a good idea for those with health and mobility issues; in China there are gated off 20-minute areas, but this was not something which was being suggested in Norfolk. Instead, this would be ensuring people could reach services within a 10-minute walk or cycle of their home.

7.6 **Question from Cllr Alexandra Kemp**

Cllr Alexandra Kemp raised the subject of the climate change strategy being drawn up and a protest rally which had been held at Harding's Way. She asked if the Deputy Leader would ensure that Harding's Pits and Harding's Way would be put in the County's Nature Recovery Strategy

The Deputy Leader agreed to provide a written response to this question.

7.7 **Question from Cllr Mike Smith-Clare**

Cllr Mike Smith-Clare asked what the Deputy Leader would do to repair deep divisions caused by the devolution deal and the reputational damage it was causing in the County.

The Deputy Leader said he did not recognise the issues that were raised within the question.

7.8 **Question from Cllr Rob Colwell**

Cllr Rob Colwell noted that West Norfolk had been waiting for 1277 days for an announcement of the rebuild of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in King's Lynn; students at a school in this area had asked why the process to rebuild the hospital was so slow

The Deputy Leader replied that the rebuild of the hospital was not the responsibility of the County Council however the Council had been campaigning alongside the groups who wanted this hospital rebuilt and he therefore supported this.

8 **Recommendations from Cabinet**

8.1 Cllr Graham Plant, Deputy Leader and Vice-Chair of Cabinet, moved the report of the Cabinet meetings held on 30 January and 6 March 2023.

Recommendation 1 from the meeting of the 6 March 2023 related to Norfolk Fire and Rescue Service was an agenda item for discussion by Full Council at item 12.3, so was **not** included for consideration and agreement at this point.

8.2 Council **RESOLVED** to **AGREE** the reports.

9. Cabinet Report (Questions to Cabinet Members)

9.1.1 Cllr Graham Plant, Deputy Leader and Vice-Chair of Cabinet, moved the report of the Cabinet meetings held on 17 January 2023, 30 January 2023 and 6 March 2023

9.1.2 Council **RESOLVED** to **AGREE** the reports.

9.2 Question from Cllr Emma Corlett to the Deputy Leader and Cabinet member for Highways, Infrastructure and Transport

Cllr Emma Corlett noted that it had been acknowledged that there may be delay to the start of construction of the Norwich Western Link. She asked how long the Cabinet member considered the delay may be and what would be the impact on the final finances of the project?

The Deputy Leader replied that the delay was from Government in releasing finances; the Council was working on planning for the scheme, and he felt that if there was any change to the finances this would be brought back to Cabinet and Full Council.

9.3 Question from Cllr Saul Penfold to the Cabinet Member for Environment and Waste

Cllr Saul Penfold asked the Cabinet Member for Environment and Waste to congratulate North Norfolk District Council in surpassing its 4-year tree planting target having planted over 115,000 trees. Norfolk County Council had planted a fifth of its target in 3 years. He asked for an explanation of why the Council had failed to meet these levels of success

The Cabinet Member for Environment and Waste replied that the Council had planted 234,620 trees. Many of the trees had been planted because of the work of County Councillors using their allowances to fund them. The Cabinet Member for Environment and Waste had funded 300 trees to be planted in his own constituency. The Council was looking at increasing planting on county farms and purchase land specifically for woodland creation to support carbon capture and storage, biodiversity, recreation, water quality and reduce flooding. The Council was actively increasing the number of trees being planted and the Cabinet Member for Environment and Waste would ensure this would increase over time.

9.4 Question from Cllr Jamie Osborn to the Cabinet Member for Children's Services

Cllr Jamie Osborn noted that over the past 10 years, many children's centres had been closed due to budget cuts. At the last meeting of Full Council the Green Group had put forward a budget amendment which would have assessed how some children's centres could have been opened which was dismissed. Cllr Jamie Osborn asked what impact assessment had been done to evaluate the impact of the closure of children's centres since 2019 and the impact on social and emotional development of children.

The Cabinet Member for Children's Services replied that children's centres were not closed because of cuts but due to reorganisation of the service, which moved

towards providing more online provision and a system of reaching out to people rather than people attending centres; 25% of people who the service needed to reach were not attending children's centres. The Cabinet Member for Children's Services could not say if there had been an impact and would find out if any figures were available.

9.5 Question from Cllr Ed Maxfield to the Cabinet Member for Growing the Economy

Cllr Ed Maxfield asked about local visitor economy partnerships developed by the national tourism agency; concerns had been raised about a lack of accountability in this process and that small businesses would have a tourism "push" put on them without any say in supporting infrastructure like roads and parking. Cllr Ed Maxfield asked how the council would ensure that local people's voices would be heard in this process

The Cabinet Member for Growing the Economy replied that this was a new process with destination management organisations going to the local visitor economy partnerships which Visit East of England would be. Tourism was a large part of the Norfolk economy, and it would be important to ensure it was managed correctly; there was a big push on skills as part of this and it would need to be done on a measured approach. He agreed that tourism only worked if it was to the benefit of the local community and hoped that everyone would work together to find the areas to push forward.

9.6 Question from Cllr Stephen Askew to the Cabinet Member for Growing the Economy

Cllr Stephen Askew asked for more detail about the digital and creative industry investment made by the council of £1.5m.

The Cabinet Member for Growing the Economy replied that there were 12 projects going on in this area. The Weylands project would help support the high street here and noted the involvement of Dr David Dent. The project would focus on gaming and technology development and would be located on a main route to the Wayland School, providing opportunities for high skilled jobs to young people in this rural area. An additional project was development of a seaweed farm for providing fertiliser, which had huge possibilities.

9.7 Question from Cllr Alexandra Kemp to the Cabinet Member for Highways, Infrastructure and Transport

Cllr Alexandra Kemp noted that she had been advised, when asked what action to take, that her member budget could be used to repair a river footpath, which would be very costly. She asked if it would be helpful for opposition members to take part in the West Norfolk Infrastructure Steering Group so better decisions could be made

The Cabinet Member for Highways, Infrastructure and Transport replied that this group was set up by King's Lynn and West Norfolk District Council and considered that this question should be directed to them.

9.8 **Question from Cllr Mike Sands to the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Services, Public Health and Prevention**

Cllr Mike Sands noted that 670 pharmacies had closed across the country including many in Norfolk; given that people were encouraged to consult with their pharmacies due to difficulties in getting a GP appointment he asked if the Cabinet Member would sign the petition “savingourpharmacies.co.uk”, which supported the 20 minute cities initiative. He also requested this be put on the agenda of Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Services, Public Health and Prevention replied that the council had responsibilities within social care and had a Health and Wellbeing Board which brought together health and partners. However, the Council did not run health, but were attendees and partners to the NHS. The Health and Wellbeing Board received the pharmaceutical needs assessment annually which was produced in conjunction with the Director of Public Health. There was anecdotal evidence that since Covid-19, with the pressure on the NHS and increased demand for primary care appointments there had been stresses in the delivery to pharmacies which was set out in the pharmaceutical needs assessment. He agreed to make the case, as other had done, that there was more work to be done in this area and highlight to health partners the need for further resource and focus in this area.

9.9 **Question from Cllr Lucy Shires to the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Services, Public Health and Prevention**

Cllr Lucy Shires noted a recent report by Health Watch Norfolk which discussed the poor state of Norfolk’s dental provision, with no NHS dentists accepting new adult patients and only one accepting new child patients. She asked what the Council was doing to alleviate pressures on dental services and what work was ongoing within communities to ensure dental care was not neglected through public health interventions.

The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Services, Public Health and Prevention replied that dental services were run by the NHS on a regional basis. They received a grant from central Government to run their services and he therefore suggested that the question should be directed to the Minister for Health and the NHS. The Cabinet Member looked forward to the day when dental services were devolved to the ICB in Norfolk and Waveney as this would allow an opportunity for more control and change in the system.

9.10 **Question from Cllr Ben Price to the Deputy Leader and Cabinet member for Highways, Infrastructure and Transport**

Cllr Ben Price reported that residents around Sprowston Road had concerns about the proposed highway changes in this area having had difficulty in receiving updates from officers on the project. It was now clear that there had been a request for an extension of the funding for this project and the funding may be lost; he asked if the Cabinet Member was happy with the management of this project and the value for money it delivered.

The Deputy Leader replied that in order to move ahead with schemes,

consultations needed to take place. The scheme had not stalled but was being looked at and finances were in place for it to go ahead. He believed that once the process was completed work on the scheme would continue. He hoped that residents who took part in this consultation would understand that officers needed to look into the proposals.

9.11 Question from Cllr Barry Duffin to the Cabinet Member for Commercial Services and Asset Management

Cllr Barry Duffin asked, with the current cost of living pressures and rises of interest costs, how this was impacting on business operations of Repton Property Developments Ltd.

The Cabinet Member for Commercial Services and Asset Management replied that despite recent inflationary pressures, sales were holding up and the company was ahead of delivering on its business plan. The sites were proving popular, with lots of interest being converted to sales. Repton Property Developments Ltd. was due to return £1m to the shareholder in the coming year. Repton Property Developments Ltd was outperforming competition due to having an excellent partner in Lovells, providing a quality product. Schemes to provide 600 homes were in the pipeline. The remit of the company was to deliver income for the shareholder and provide social good. The Acle site of 137 houses had 69 for the open market, 42 for social housing and the rest were shared ownership. The site at Hopton had 200 houses in total with 140 for open market and 60 for social housing and shared rental. The site at Attleborough had 48 shared ownership and affordable rent homes, which was the whole site. The company was exceeding the number of affordable homes required by the Council in every case.

9.12 Question from Cllr Maxine Webb to the Cabinet Member for Children's Services

Cllr Maxine Webb noted that if the Council was serious about supporting more children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities to stay in mainstream schools as per the safety valve agreement and first inclusion plan, a large change would be needed and support and advice to help parents advocate for their children. Cllr Maxine Webb had been advised that extra advice had been put into the service when raising concerns about waiting times for the Council's support and advice service. The wait to speak to an advisor was now longer, at 43 days, with a note on the Facebook page for the service advising of a long wait for telephone appointments. She asked what more the council would do to provide advice and support to parents.

The Cabinet Member for Children's Services replied that the Council was reviewing this on a regular basis and were adding in resources when needed, however was unable to anticipate demand as it was often higher than expected. This was a national issue. He assured that the Council would do all they could and were continuing to look at resources to see how this could be improved. Feedback had indicated that the service had improved however he would like to make further improvements and satisfy parents who were currently dissatisfied with the service. The Safety Valve Programme would put more money into the service, allowing more schools and special resource bases to be built.

9.13 **Question from Cllr Sharon Blundell to the Deputy Leader and Cabinet member for Highways, Infrastructure and Transport**

Cllr Sharon Blundell noted that, recently, the Police and Crime Commissioner for Norfolk had stated that most 20mph speed limits in the county were advisory and could not be legally enforced, meaning many speeding drivers will not be prosecuted. There was a 20% chance of being killed by a car at 30mph and a 2.5% chance of a fatality of a car travelling at 20mph. She asked what the council could do to ensure that those breaking the 20mph speed limits were discouraged and if possible punished.

The Deputy Leader replied that he understood that 20mph speed limits could be enforced however 20mph speed zones were advisory.

10. **Recommendations from the Scrutiny Committee and Norfolk Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

10.1 There were no recommendations from the Norfolk Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

11. **Recommendations from Committees**

11.1 There were no recommendations from Committees.

12. **Specific Business Items**

12.1 **Appointment for Chair and Vice Chair for Corporate Select Committee**

12.1.1 The Deputy Leader of the Council, Cllr Graham Plant, moved the report

12.1.2 Council resolved to **APPOINT** Cllr Penny Carpenter as Chair of Corporate Select Committee and Cllr Barry Duffin as Vice Chair of Corporate Select Committee

12.2 **Pay Police Statement 2023-24**

12.2.1 The Deputy Leader of the Council, Cllr Graham Plant, moved the report.

12.2.2 Council **RESOLVED** to approve the pay Policy Statement for 2022/23 that was an appendix to the report at page 71 of the agenda pack.

12.3 **Norfolk Fire and Rescue Service Community Risk Management Plan 2023/26**

12.3.1 The Deputy Leader of the Council, Cllr Graham Plant, moved the report.

12.3.2 Council **RESOLVED** to approve the Norfolk Fire and Rescue Service Community Risk Management Plan 2023/26 that was an appendix to the report.

12.4 **Recommendations to Council from the Employment Committee Appointment Panel: Appointment of Section 151 / Chief Finance Officer**

- 12.4.1 The Deputy Leader of the Council, Cllr Graham Plant, moved the report.
- 12.4.2 Council **RESOLVED** to appoint Harvey Bullen as the Section 151 / Chief Finance Officer.
- 12.5 Update of the Council Constitution**
- 12.5.1 The Deputy Leader of the Council, Cllr Graham Plant, moved the report.
- 12.5.2 Council **RESOLVED** to agree;
1. The changes to job titles, statutory roles, responsibilities, and delegations set out in the document attached under Appendix B of the report.
 2. The new standardised format is together with the correction of typographical errors, points of clarification, resolution of omissions and updated references.
 3. The version of the Constitution appended to the report should be adopted as the Council's Constitution with effect from 28th March 2023.
13. **Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 26 January 2023, 15 February 2023 and 16 March 2023**
- 13.1 Cllr Steve Morphew, Chair, moved the report. Council **RESOLVED** to note the report.
14. **Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 19 January 2023**
- 14.1 Cllr Alison Thomas, Chair, moved the report. Council **RESOLVED** to note the report.
15. **Reports from other Committees**
- 15.1 **Audit and Governance Committee held on 13 March 2023**
- 15.1.1 Council **RESOLVED** to note the report.
- 15.2 **Planning Regulatory Committee held on 27 January 2023**
- 15.2.1 Council **RESOLVED** to note the report.
- 15.3 **Pensions Committee**
- 15.3.1 There had not been a Pensions Committee held since the last County Council meeting.
- 15.4 **Employment Committee held on 17 February 2023**
- 15.4.1 Council **RESOLVED** to note the report.

15.5 **Health and Wellbeing Board held on 8 March 2023**

15.5.1 Council **RESOLVED** to note the report.

16. **Reports from Select Committees**

16.1 **Corporate Select Committee held on 16 January 2023**

16.1.1 Council **RESOLVED** to note the report.

16.2 **Infrastructure and Development Select Committee held on 18 January and 15 March 2023**

16.2.1 Council **RESOLVED** to note the report.

16.3 **People and Communities Select Committee held on 6 February 2023**

16.3.1 Council **RESOLVED** to note the report.

17. **Reports about the business of joint arrangements and external organisations**

17.1 **Norfolk Joint Museums Committee held on 3 February 2023**

17.1.2 Council **RESOLVED** to note the report

17.2 **Norfolk Records Committee held on 3 February 2023.**

17.2.1 Council **RESOLVED** to note the report.

18. **Notice of Motions**

18.1 **Motion 1 – WASPI Women**

18.1.1 The following motion was proposed by Cllr Mike Smith-Clare and seconded by Cllr Colleen Walker.

Council regrets the lack of progress in resolving the pension injustice for WASPI women, an important issue which requires resolution to compensate those women affected by what Peter Aldous, MP for Waveney, has described as “systemic shortcomings dating from 2005, maladministration, and a failure to comply with the civil service code.”

Over 52,000 women in Norfolk alone (over 1 in 10 women in our county) born in the 1950s have been affected because of the unfair way the changes to the State Pension Age were implemented, with inadequate or no notice.

Council notes that in this month’s Spring budget the Chancellor found billions of

pounds of public money to reduce the tax this country's wealthiest 1% of earners will pay on their pension pots, but made no effort to compensate the United Kingdom's 3.7 million women who have been cheated out of their basic State Retirement Pension entitlement.

Council reaffirms our support for their campaign and requests the Chair of Council to write to the Norfolk WASPI campaign, copied in to the Prime Minister and all Norfolk MPs, confirming our continued wish to see a just solution.

Council notes the Crowdfunding appeal towards legal costs that will have closed before council meets <https://www.crowdjustice.com/case/fair-compensation-for-waspi-women/>

- 18.1.2 Cllr Alison Thomas moved an amendment (which had been accepted by the mover of the motion) to read:

~~Council regrets the lack of progress in resolving the pension injustice for WASPI women;~~ This remains an important issue which requires resolution to compensate those women affected by what Peter Aldous, MP for Waveney, has described as "systemic shortcomings dating from 2005, maladministration, and a failure to comply with the civil service code."

Over 52,000 women in Norfolk alone (over 1 in 10 women in our county) born in the 1950s have been affected because of the unfair way the changes to the State Pension Age were implemented, with inadequate or no notice.

~~Council notes that in this month's Spring budget the Chancellor found billions of pounds of public money to reduce the tax this country's wealthiest 1% of earners will pay on their pension pots, but made no effort to compensate the United Kingdom's 3.7 million women who have been cheated out of their basic State Retirement Pension entitlement.~~

Council reaffirms our support for their campaign and requests the Chair of Council to write to the Norfolk WASPI campaign, copied in to the Prime Minister and all Norfolk MPs, confirming our continued wish to see a just solution.

Council notes the Crowdfunding appeal towards legal costs that will have closed before council meets <https://www.crowdjustice.com/case/fair-compensation-for-waspi-women/>

- 18.1.3 Following debate, the amendment which had become the substantive motion, was put to a recorded vote (Appendix A) and with 64 votes in favour, the motion was **CARRIED** unanimously.

18.2 Motion 2 – Rights of Rivers

- 18.2.1 This Council acknowledges the increasing pressures on our freshwater environments and waterways from pollution, climate change, land management practices, development and amenity use. Norfolk's rivers are unique and have rare ecosystems, but are slowly dying from pollution, habitat destruction and drought. Decades of neglect has resulted in every one of our rivers being affected.

This Council recognises that current legislation is failing to protect our rivers in preventing the destruction of nature and instead only regulate the rate of destruction. These precious ecosystems can be revived and re-built, but first they need proper protection.

This council notes the far-reaching consequences of not tackling pollution of freshwater environments and waterways. The Wildlife Trust indicates that pollution levels in waterways place 10% of freshwater and wetland species at risk of extinction, these species can reduce the impact of flooding, an issue that is all too familiar in Norfolk. Additionally, a recent report by the LGA indicated that the building of up to 20,000 new affordable homes has been delayed due to river pollution and low water levels.

This Council acknowledges the emerging global movement of governments recognising the Rights of Nature, particularly the Right of Rivers. Rights of nature require a respectful, holistic, and empathic approach to rethinking our relationship with nature, moving from one of dominance to one of interdependency. It can also act as a catalyst to shift our thinking from an extractive economy towards a regenerative green economy.

This Council notes that nature has rights, and as such, we must intervene using a Rights of Nature lens to give rivers a voice as a single entity, from source to sea.

This Council recognises the Universal Declaration of River Rights, which establishes the fundamental rights that all rivers shall possess, including the right to flow, perform essential functions within the river's ecosystem, be free from pollution, feed and be fed by sustainable aquifers, have native biodiversity, and regeneration and restoration.

This Council resolves to explore with local communities and relevant stakeholders, such as the Norfolk Rivers Trust whom have given their support to this motion, the implementation of the Rights of Rivers framework to ensure that our rivers have the fundamental rights necessary to protect their health, integrity, and natural functioning.

This Council commits to work towards the implementation of the Rights of Rivers framework, ensuring that we are doing our part to protect and restore our rivers, and safeguard the ecological and cultural values that rivers provide to our communities.

This Council urges the government and other local authorities to join in recognising the Rights of Rivers, to work together to protect and restore our freshwater environments and waterways for the benefit of present and future generations.

- 18.2.2 Cllr Vardy moved an amendment (which had been accepted by the mover of the motion) which proposed that this motion should be forwarded to the Infrastructure and Development Select Committee to see if there was any value in pursuing the motion and declaration.
- 18.2.3 Following debate, the amendment which had become the substantive motion, was put to a recorded vote (Appendix B) and with 58 votes in favour, the motion was **CARRIED** unanimously.

18.3 Motion 3 – Accessible Streets

18.3.1 The following motion was proposed by Cllr Jamie Osborn and seconded by Cllr Ben Price:

This council notes :

1. Pavement parking, parking over dropped kerbs, pavement cycling/E-Scooter riding and overgrown bushes and hedges all affect accessibility, including for people with mobility issues and visual impairments.
2. Visually impaired residents and visitors in particular are finding it increasingly difficult to navigate our streets, with guide dogs struggling to safely guide their owners around obstacles; high obstacles such as rope barriers causing canes to miss them, causing them to walk into them, or safe routes completely blocked, requiring visually impaired residents having to use the road.
3. The lack of tactile definition of roadway and pavement means that visually impaired people and guide dogs cannot tell if they are on the road or pavement in some areas, such as along Earlham Road in Norwich.
4. That there are not enough dropped kerbs within certain areas of our city and towns, and many stretches of pavement have no accessible routes or unsuitable dropped kerbs, leaving those with accessibility issues having to use the road.

This council resolves to:

1. Ensure that all highways works take into account accessibility, and that improving accessibility of our pavements is treated as high priority, including increasing the number of dropped kerbs, particularly on streets where there are no accessible routes currently in place, and that dropped kerbs and crossing points should have tactile surfaces to indicate their location.
2. Review the responses to requests for pruning and trimming work to bushes, trees and hedges that are causing pavement obstruction, to ensure that these are dealt with promptly
3. Ensure that EV charging points are built out into the carriageway and do not take footway space
4. Ensure that areas where motor vehicles are prohibited are appropriately enforced, for example using ANPR cameras
5. Write to the PCC for Norfolk and the Chief Constable for Norfolk urging the police to make full use of their powers in enforcing issues such as:
 - a. pavement obstruction and parking on dropped kerbs, for example using Section 22 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 and The Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations 1986
 - b. rules and regulations around the use of prohibited vehicles using the pavement.

18.3.2 Following debate, the motion was put to the vote (Appendix C) and with 20 votes in favour, 2 abstentions and 34 against, the motion was **LOST**.

18.4 Motion 4 – County Deal

- 18.4.1 The following motion was proposed by Cllr Alexandra Kemp and seconded by Cllr Emma Corlett:

The Conservatives often say the Members run this Council. But Members will not run the Council anymore, if the Administration does not discontinue the County Deal. Because Government would transfer all of this Council's executive powers to one person, who would not be a Councillor. The Government would deal directly with him instead of with the Council. He would not even have to call Cabinet. How undemocratic this would be. It would be a Government Power Grab. The Members would lose control of their own Council. He could even vote at Council, but no-one knows on what. The lack of clarity is alarming.

The Levelling Up Bill says this person would be an Elected Mayor - but can go by a different title of Elected Leader, Commissioner or Governor. Under a future devolution deal, it is possible the Elected Mayor/Leader/Commissioner/Governor could raise a precept, take over the Police Crime Commissioner Role and even take over the functions of District Councils.

This is far too much power for one person and would be very bad news for local democracy in the Norfolk Districts. The Government could access Norfolk County Council assets through the powers of the Elected Mayor - who could sell them off - while only offering Norfolk a desultory £20 million a year, which will not cover the County Council's budget deficit of £60 million. The County Deal does not even include funding for the rebuild of the QEH in West Norfolk.

The Government says the County Deal is the first step in a devolution journey and could later make regulations setting up a Combined County Authority Area and give it the functions of a District Council. This could wipe out local democracy in the Districts.

- 18.4.2 Cllr Steve Morphew moved an amendment (which had been accepted by the mover of the motion) which read as follows:

- 18.4.3 ~~The Conservatives often say the Members run this Council. But Members will not run the Council any more, if the Administration does not discontinue the County Deal. Because Government would transfer all of this Council's executive powers to one person, who would not be a Councillor. The Government would deal directly with him instead of with the Council. He would not even have to call Cabinet. How undemocratic this would be. It would be a Government Power Grab. The Members would lose control of their own Council. He could even vote at Council, but no-one knows on what. The lack of clarity is alarming.~~
~~The Levelling Up Bill says this person would be an Elected Mayor - but can go by a different title of Elected Leader, Commissioner or Governor. Under a future devolution deal, it is possible the Elected Mayor/Leader/Commissioner/Governor could raise a precept, take over the Police Crime Commissioner Role and even take over the functions of District Councils.~~
~~This is far too much power for one person and would be very bad news for local democracy in the Norfolk Districts. The Government could access Norfolk County Council assets through the powers of the Elected Mayor - who could sell them off - while only offering Norfolk a desultory £20 million a year, which will not cover the County Council's budget deficit of £60 million. The County Deal does not even include funding for the rebuild of the QEH in West Norfolk.~~

~~The Government says the County Deal is the first step in a devolution journey and could later make regulations setting up a Combined County Authority Area and give it the functions of a District Council. This could wipe out local democracy in the Districts.~~

The Norfolk public rejected the Elected Mayor in 2016, because they did not approve of so much power in the hands of one person and did not want to pay for it. It is not the Norfolk way. We haven't had a "Governor" since the time of Boudicea. It is time to halt the recent decline of Norfolk Democracy, with the Conservatives effectively cutting the time for Motions by placing them at the end of Council meetings, with the ruling group refusing to sit after 3 hours so most Motions could not be heard; and the undemocratic placing of ruling group motions first and a new hierarchy of Motions. This must all now be reversed.

1. This Council will write to the Government to strongly object to Government seeking to impose a top-down elected bureaucrat in the place of the Leader of the Council, instead of funding the Council properly as it should.

2. This Council will also ask its officers to review the Council constitution, with a view to reverse the undemocratic changes made last year at full Council ~~together with recommendations for enhancing the influence of members who are not part of the executive over decisions.~~

3. Council welcomes the statement by the council Leader that improvements in the deal may be possible before the governance arrangements are brought to council in December 2023. Council therefore requests the Leader to seek inclusion in the deal of the following:

a) increased powers and funding over the care market

b) increased powers and responsibility over flood prevention and coastal erosion together with access to finances required to fulfil those responsibilities

c) the right as part of the deal text for this council to vote on the substantive deal as well as the governance arrangements.

18.4.5 Following debate, the amendment which had become the substantive motion, was put to a recorded vote (Appendix D) and with 12 votes in favour, 9 abstentions, and 36 against, the motion was **LOST**.

18.5 Three Hour Meeting Time Elapses

18.5.1 At this point in the proceedings the Chair pointed out that the 3 hours for the meeting had elapsed and council had not agreed to extend the meeting.

18.5.2 As a result, Council moved to the part of the meeting where all remaining business be they motions or amendments to motions would be considered moved and seconded in line with procedure rule 4 (iv).

18.5.3 The Chair said that she would deal with each motion in turn. Initially she would ask the proposer of the motion if they wanted the motion to go ahead or be withdrawn. If the motion was withdrawn Council would continue through the motions in the order they appeared on the agenda, which was by reference to the size of the group. If the motion was not withdrawn, the Chair would consider if there were amendments. If there were, then Council would vote on those first and then, when those were

completed, Council would vote on the substantive motion.

18.6 Motion 5 – Norwich Western Link

18.6.1 The motion was **WITHDRAWN**.

18.7 Motion 6 – School Meals

18.7.1 The following motion was proposed by Cllr David Sayers and seconded by Cllr Steffan Aquerone:

This council notes that:

- The number of pupils entitled to free school meals in Norfolk is rising steadily, indeed the number of children eligible rose by 21pc to almost 23,000 between January 2020 and January 2021. Additionally, more families than ever are becoming reliant on food banks.
- The cost-of-living crisis will lead to a general deepening of health inequalities among children and ‘being hungry’ in the school day will have a detrimental impact on their education.
- Research by the Child Poverty Action Group has shown that the cohort most vulnerable to food poverty is families who are on very low incomes, but who do not qualify for free school meals because their annual household earnings (excluding benefits) exceed £7,400.
- The Government previously rejected the recommendation of its own independently commissioned National Food Strategy, published in 2021 that it should increase the threshold for free school meals up to £20,000, this being the minimum income required for people to afford to feed a family.
- The Government’s Food Strategy (June 2022) states it “will continue to keep free school meal eligibility under review, to ensure that these meals are supporting those who most need them.”

The Council further notes that:

- The Council announced in October 2022 it had used £3.6m of its £14.3m Household Support Grant to continue providing food vouchers to eligible children to October, with the balance on other measures to help the most vulnerable families.
- The Council is due to receive £13.4m to provide support to households, who would otherwise struggle to buy food or pay essential utility bills or meet other essential living costs or housing costs for the period 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024

This Council believes that:

- Free school meals should be a basic right for all children who need them and therefore supports the expansion of free school meals provision to every child whose family is in receipt of Universal Credit or equivalent, or with a low-income.
- Provision be made for food vouchers to cover school holidays for all families in receipt of Universal Credit or with low-income.

This Council resolves to call upon the Cabinet to:

- I. Look at every possible way in which the Council can do more to assist children in need and to extend the provision of free school meals.

- II. Write to the Chancellor the Exchequer, Rt Hon Jeremy Hunt MP, Norfolk's MPs and the Secretary of State for Education Rt Hon Gillian Keegan MP, seeking their support for this aim.

18.7.2 After being put to the recorded vote (Appendix E), with 20 votes in favour, 1 abstention and 36 against, the motion was **LOST**.

18.8 **Motion 7 - Local Government Pay: A Fully funded, proper pay rise for Council and School Workers**

18.8.1 The following motion was proposed by Cllr Ben Price and seconded by Cllr Jamie Osborn:

This council notes:

Local government has endured central government funding cuts of more than 50% since 2010. Between 2010 and 2020, councils have lost 60p out of every £1 they have received from central government. Councils across England are now facing a collective funding gap of £2.4bn for the financial year 2023/24 and a cumulative funding gap of £4.08bn for 2024/25, according to UNISON research.

Councils led the way in efforts against the Covid-19 pandemic, providing a huge range of services and support for our communities. Local government has shown more than ever how indispensable it is. But Covid has led to a massive increase in expenditure and loss of income, and as we emerge from the pandemic, local authorities and schools need far more support from Westminster. Recent funding announcements from the Government relating to schools did nothing to help. Council and school workers kept our communities safe through the pandemic, often putting themselves at considerable risk as they work to protect public health, provide quality housing, ensure our children continue to be educated, and look after older and vulnerable people.

Since 2010, the local government workforce has endured years of pay restraint with the majority of pay points losing at least 25% of their value since 2009/10. Staff are now facing the worst cost of living crisis in a generation, with inflation hitting 10% and many having to make impossible choices between food, heating and other essentials. This is a terrible situation for anyone to find themselves in.

At the same time, workers have experienced ever-increasing workloads and persistent job insecurity. Across the UK, 900,000 jobs have been lost in local government since June 2010 – a reduction of more than 30 per cent. Local government has arguably been hit by more severe job losses than any other part of the public sector.

There has been a disproportionate impact on women, with women making up more than three-quarters of the local government workforce.

Unions representing local government works have submitted a pay claim for RPI+2%. RPI when this claim was submitted was above 10%, with that level of inflation having had a serious impact on many people's lives. The current offer made by employers amounts to just over 5% for Norfolk County Council employees, significantly below inflation.

Recent research shows that if the Government were to fully fund the unions' 2023 pay claim, around half of the money would be recouped thanks to increased tax revenue, reduced expenditure on benefits and tax credits, and increased consumer spending in the local economy.

This council believes:

1. Local government workers deserve a proper real-terms pay increase. The Government needs to take responsibility and fully fund this increase; it should not put the burden on local authorities whose funding has been cut to the bone and who were not offered adequate support through the Covid-19 pandemic.
2. That local government workers should be encouraged to join a union in order to support workers' welfare, rights, and the long-term engagement of workers.

This council resolves to:

1. Support the pay claim submitted by UNISON, GMB and Unite on behalf of council and school workers, for an increase of RPI + 2%
2. Call on the Local Government Association to make urgent representations to central government to fund the NJC pay claim
3. Write to the Chancellor and Secretary of State to call for a pay increase for local government workers to be funded with new money from central government
4. Meet with local NJC union representatives to convey support for the pay claim and consider practical ways in which the council can support the campaign
5. Encourage all local government workers to join a union.

18.8.2 On a point of clarification, the 5% pay rise referred to was an average pay rise. The pay rise was a nominal figure so for those on a lower pay scale it equated to a higher percentage and for those on higher pay scale, it equated to a lower percentage.

18.8.3 The following amendment was deemed moved and seconded::

This council notes:

Local government has endured central government funding cuts of more than 50% since 2010. Between 2010 and 2020, councils have lost 60p out of every £1 they have received from central government. [New research by UNISON has shown that](#) ~~C~~councils across England, [Wales and Scotland](#) are ~~now~~ facing a collective funding ~~gap shortfall~~ of ~~£2.43bn~~ ~~for by~~ the financial year 2023/24 and a cumulative funding gap of ~~£4.085bn~~ for 2024/25. ~~, according to UNISON research.~~

Councils led the way in efforts against the Covid-19 pandemic, providing a huge range of services and support for our communities. Local government has shown more than ever how indispensable it is. But Covid has led to a massive increase in expenditure and loss of income, and as we emerge from the pandemic, local authorities and schools need far more support from Westminster. Recent funding announcements from the Government relating to schools did nothing to help. Council and school workers kept our communities safe through the pandemic, often putting themselves at considerable risk as they work to protect public health, provide quality housing, ensure our children continue to be educated, and look after older and vulnerable people.

Since 2010, the local government workforce has endured years of pay restraint with the majority of pay points losing at least 25% of their value since 2009/10. Staff are now facing the worst cost of living crisis in a generation, with inflation hitting 10% and many having to make impossible choices between food, heating and other

essentials. This is a terrible situation for anyone to find themselves in. At the same time, workers have experienced ever-increasing workloads and persistent job insecurity. Across the UK, 900,000 jobs have been lost in local government since June 2010 – a reduction of more than 30 per cent. Local government has arguably been hit by more severe job losses than any other part of the public sector.

There has been a disproportionate impact on women, with women making up more than three-quarters of the local government workforce.

~~Unions representing local government workers have submitted a pay claim for RPI+2%. RPI when this claim was submitted was above 10%, with that level of inflation having had a serious impact on many people's lives. The current offer made by employers amounts to just over 5% for Norfolk County Council employees, significantly below inflation.~~

Recent research shows that if the Government were to fully fund the unions' 2023 pay claim, around half of the money would be recouped thanks to increased tax revenue, reduced expenditure on benefits and tax credits, and increased consumer spending in the local economy.

This council believes:

1. Our workers are public service super-heroes. They keep our communities clean and safe, look after those in need and keep our towns and cities running.

2. Without the professionalism and dedication of our staff, the council services our residents rely on would not be deliverable.

3. Local government workers deserve a proper real-terms pay increase. The Government needs to take responsibility and fully fund this increase; it should not put the burden on local authorities whose funding has been cut to the bone and who were not offered adequate support through the Covid-19 pandemic.

~~2. That local government workers should be encouraged to join a union in order to support workers' welfare, rights, and the long-term engagement of workers.~~

This council resolves to:

1. Support the pay claim submitted by UNISON, GMB and Unite on behalf of council and school workers, for an increase of RPI + 2%

2. Call on the Local Government Association to make urgent representations to central government to fund the NJC pay claim

3. Write to the Chancellor and Secretary of State to call for a pay increase for local government workers to be funded with new money from central government

4. Meet with local NJC union representatives to convey support for the pay claim and consider practical ways in which the council can support the campaign

5. Encourage all local government workers to join a union.

18.8.4 After being put to the recorded vote (Appendix F), with 16 votes for, 6 abstentions and 34 against, the amendment was **LOST**.

18.8.5 On being put to the vote the substantive motion (Appendix G) was then **LOST**, with 20 votes for, 1 abstention and 35 votes against.

18.9 Motion 8 – Childcare Contribution to the Norfolk Economy

18.9.1 The following motion was proposed by Cllr Matt Reilly and seconded by Cllr Julie Brociek-Coulton:

Council recognises childcare is crucial to the Norfolk economy.

Accessible, affordable, reliable childcare enables parents to be part of the workforce and develop careers that contribute to generating income for their families, tax revenue and successful businesses.

Council welcomes plans unveiled by the Chancellor in his Spring Budget statement earlier this month to increase funding available to childcare providers and reducing the age from which children will be entitled to some free hours of childcare.

It is regrettable that these improvements have not been made sooner and that the voices of childcare providers, warning of the crisis within the sector, have not been listened to until now.

Council notes that the Chancellor's announced changes will not be fully implemented until September 2025, after a General Election has taken place.

Council is committed to making sure that Norfolk begins immediately to reduce the decline in childcare provision in our County and will oversee a plan to provide high quality childcare places and appropriate training is available to childcare professionals.

Council therefore requests Cabinet to build into assumptions for next year's budget planning an ongoing allocation of £10m per year from county deal funding to improve the economy of Norfolk through the provision of more and better childcare.

- 18.9.2 After being put to the recorded vote (Appendix H), with 20 votes for, 1 abstention and 35 votes against, the motion was **LOST**.

19. Questions on notice under rule 9.3

- 19.1 There were no questions.

20. Appointments to Committees, Sub-Committees and Joint Committees

- 20.1 Council **RESOLVED** to note the following changes;
Cllr Blundell has been appointed to fill the vacant Liberal Democrat position on the People and Communities Select Committee
Cllr Long has been appointed to replace Cllr Kiddle-Morris on the People and Communities Committee

- 20.2 **Council RESOLVED to note the following changes:**

Norfolk Parking Partnership Joint Committee

The representative on this body is an Executive Member and the Chairman of the Joint Committee needs to be the member for the County Council.

Cllr Wilby was the Chairman of this Joint Committee and Cllr Plant has replaced him in this position.

Transport for Norwich Advisory Committee

The County Council appoints 4 Members to this body one of whom is the Cabinet member with responsibility for transport who also Chairs the Committee. As the Cabinet member with this responsibility Cllr Plant now fulfils this role.

Internal bodies

In his role as Cabinet member Cllr Wilby was also a member of the following bodies on which Cllr Plant now sits:

- West Norfolk Transport and Infrastructure Steering Group
- Norwich Western Link Working Group
- Norfolk Windmill Trust
- Long Stratton Bypass Committee.

Member Champion for Rural Economy

As Cllr Eagle has become Cabinet member for Growing the Economy, Cllr Chris Dawson has been appointed as Member Champion for the Rural Economy.

Meeting ended at 1.39pm

Chair

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Norfolk County Council
Date: 28 March 2023 APPENDIX A

RECORDED VOTE Motion 1 – WASPI Women

	For	Against	Abstain		For	Against	Abstain
ADAMS Timothy	Absent			KIDDLE-MORRIS Mark	X		
ADAMS Tony	X			KIRK Julian	Absent		
ANNISON Carl	X			LONG Brian	X		
AQUARONE Steffan	X			MACKIE Ian	Absent		
ASKEW Stephen	X			MASON BILLIG Kay	X		
BAMBRIDGE Lesley	X			MAXFIELD Ed	X		
BENSLY James	X			MORIARTY Jim	X		
BILLS David	X			MORPHEW Steve	X		
BIRMINGHAM Alison	Absent			NEALE Paul	Absent		
BLUNDELL Sharon	X			OLIVER Judy	Absent		
BORRETT Bill	X			OLIVER Rhodri	X		
BOWES Claire	Absent			OSBORN Jamie	X		
BROCIEK-COULTON Julie	X			PECK Greg	X		
CARPENTER Graham	X			PENFOLD Saul	X		
CARPENTER Penny	X			PLANT Graham	X		
CLANCY Stuart	X			PRICE Ben	X		
COLWELL Robert	X			PRICE Richard	Absent		
CONNOLLY Ed	X			PROCTOR Andrew	Absent		
CORLETT Emma	X			RICHMOND Will	X		
DALBY Michael	Absent			Reilly Matthew	X		
DARK Stuart	X			RILEY Steve	Absent		
DAUBNEY Nick	Absent			ROPER Dan	X		
DAWSON Christopher	Absent			Rumsby Chrissie	Absent		
DEWSBURY Margaret	X			SANDS Mike	X		
DIXON Nigel	Absent			SAVAGE Robert	X		
DUFFIN Barry	X			SAYERS David	X		
DUIGAN Phillip	X			SHIRES Lucy	X		
EAGLE Fabian	X			SMITH Carl	X		
ELMER Daniel	X			SMITH-CLARE Mike	X		
FISHER John	X			STONE Barry	X		
FITZPATRICK Tom	X			STOREY Martin	Absent		
GRANT Andy	Absent			THOMAS Alison	X		
GURNEY Shelagh	X			THOMSON Vic	X		
HEMPSALL Lana	X			VARDY Eric	X		
HORSBRUGH Michael Chenery of	X			VINCENT Karen	X		
JAMES Jane	X			WALKER Colleen	X		
JAMIESON Andrew	X			WARD John	X		
JERMY Terry	X			WATKINS Brian	X		
JONES Brenda	Absent			WEBB Maxine	X		
KEMP Alexandra	X			WHITE Tony	Absent		
KIDDIE Keith	X			WHYMARK Fran	X		
				WILBY Martin	Absent		

For	64
Against	0
Abstentions	0

Norfolk County Council
Date: 28 March 2023 APPENDIX B

RECORDED VOTE Motion 2 – Rights of Rivers

	For	Against	Abstain		For	Against	Abstain
ADAMS Timothy	Absent			KIDDLE-MORRIS Mark	x		
ADAMS Tony	Absent			KIRK Julian	Absent		
ANNISON Carl	X			LONG Brian	X		
AQUARONE Steffan	X			MACKIE Ian	Absent		
ASKEW Stephen	X			MASON BILLIG Kay	X		
BAMBRIDGE Lesley	X			MAXFIELD Ed	Absent		
BENSLY James	X			MORIARTY Jim	Absent		
BILLS David	X			MORPHEW Steve	X		
BIRMINGHAM Alison	Absent			NEALE Paul	Absent		
BLUNDELL Sharon	Absent			OLIVER Judy	Absent		
BORRETT Bill	X			OLIVER Rhodri	x		
BOWES Claire	Absent			OSBORN Jamie	X		
BROCIK-COULTON Julie	X			PECK Greg			
CARPENTER Graham	X			PENFOLD Saul	X		
CARPENTER Penny	x			PLANT Graham	X		
CLANCY Stuart	x			PRICE Ben	X		
				PRICE Richard	Absent		
COLWELL Robert	X			PROCTOR Andrew	Absent		
CONNOLLY Ed	X			RICHMOND Will	X		
CORLETT Emma	X			Reilly Matthew	X		
DALBY Michael	Absent			RILEY Steve	Absent		
DARK Stuart	X			ROPER Dan	X		
DAUBNEY Nick	Absent			Rumsby Chrissie	Absent		
DAWSON Christopher	Absent			SANDS Mike	X		
DEWSBURY Margaret	X			SAVAGE Robert	X		
DIXON Nigel	Absent			SAYERS David	X		
DUFFIN Barry	X			SHIRES Lucy	X		
DUIGAN Phillip	X			SMITH Carl	X		
EAGLE Fabian	X			SMITH-CLARE Mike	X		
ELMER Daniel	X			STONE Barry	X		
FISHER John	X			STOREY Martin	Absent		
FITZPATRICK Tom	X			THOMAS Alison	X		
GRANT Andy	Absent			THOMSON Vic	X		
GURNEY Shelagh	X			VARDY Eric	X		
HEMPSALL Lana				VINCENT Karen	X		
HORSBRUGH Michael Chenery of	Absent			WALKER Colleen	X		
JAMES Jane	X			WARD John	X		
JAMIESON Andrew	x			WATKINS Brian	X		
JERMY Terry	X			WEBB Maxine	X		
JONES Brenda	Absent			WHITE Tony	Absent		
KEMP Alexandra	X			WHYMARK Fran	X		
KIDDIE Keith	x			WILBY Martin	Absent		

For	58
Against	0
Abstentions	0

Norfolk County Council
Date: 28 March 2023 APPENDIX C

RECORDED VOTE Motion 3 – Accessible Streets

	For	Against	Abstain		For	Against	Abstain
ADAMS Timothy	Absent			KIDDLE-MORRIS Mark		X	
ADAMS Tony	Absent			KIRK Julian	Absent		
ANNISON Carl		X		LONG Brian		X	
AQUARONE Steffan	X			MACKIE Ian	Absent		
ASKEW Stephen		X		MASON BILLIG Kay		x	
BAMBRIDGE Lesley		X		MAXFIELD Ed	Absent		
BENSLY James		X		MORIARTY Jim	Absent		
BILLS David	Absent			MORPHEW Steve	X		
BIRMINGHAM Alison	Absent			NEALE Paul	Absent		
BLUNDELL Sharon	X			OLIVER Judy	Absent		
BORRETT Bill		X		OLIVER Rhodri		X	
BOWES Claire	Absent			OSBORN Jamie	X		
BROCIK-COULTON Julie	X			PECK Greg		X	
CARPENTER Graham		X		PENFOLD Saul	X		
CARPENTER Penny		x		PLANT Graham		X	
CLANCY Stuart			X	PRICE Ben	X		
				PRICE Richard	Absent		
COLWELL Robert	X			PROCTOR Andrew	Absent		
CONNOLLY Ed		X		RICHMOND Will		X	
CORLETT Emma	X			Reilly Matthew	X		
DALBY Michael	Absent			RILEY Steve	Absent		
DARK Stuart		X		ROPER Dan	X		
DAUBNEY Nick	Absent			Rumsby Chrissie	X		
DAWSON Christopher	Absent			SANDS Mike	X		
DEWSBURY Margaret		X		SAVAGE Robert		X	
DIXON Nigel	Absent			SAYERS David	X		
DUFFIN Barry		X		SHIRES Lucy	X		
DUIGAN Phillip		X		SMITH Carl		X	
EAGLE Fabian		X		SMITH-CLARE Mike	X		
ELMER Daniel		X		STONE Barry		X	
FISHER John		X		STOREY Martin	Absent		
FITZPATRICK Tom		X		THOMAS Alison		X	
GRANT Andy	Absent			THOMSON Vic	Absent		
GURNEY Shelagh		X		VARDY Eric		X	
HEMPSALL Lana	Absent			VINCENT Karen			X
HORSBRUGH Michael Chenery of		X		WALKER Colleen	X		
JAMES Jane		X		WARD John		X	
JAMIESON Andrew		X		WATKINS Brian	X		
JERMY Terry	X			WEBB Maxine	X		
JONES Brenda	Absent			WHITE Tony	Absent		
KEMP Alexandra	X			WHYMARK Fran		X	
KIDDIE Keith		x		WILBY Martin	Absent		

For	20
Against	34
Abstentions	2

Norfolk County Council
Date: 28 March 2023 APPENDIX D

RECORDED VOTE Motion 4 – County Deal

	For	Against	Abstain		For	Against	Abstain
ADAMS Timothy	Absent			KIDDLE-MORRIS Mark		X	
ADAMS Tony	Absent			KIRK Julian	Absent		
ANNISON Carl		X		LONG Brian		X	
AQUARONE Steffan			X	MACKIE Ian	Absent		
ASKEW Stephen		X		MASON BILLIG Kay		X	
BAMBRIDGE Lesley		X		MAXFIELD Ed	Absent		
BENSLY James		X		MORIARTY Jim	Absent		
BILLS David	Absent			MORPHEW Steve	X		
BIRMINGHAM Alison	Absent			NEALE Paul	Absent		
BLUNDELL Sharon			X	OLIVER Judy	Absent		
BORRETT Bill		X		OLIVER Rhodri		X	
BOWES Claire	Absent			OSBORN Jamie	X		
BROCIK-COULTON Julie	X			PECK Greg		X	
CARPENTER Graham		X		PENFOLD Saul			X
CARPENTER Penny		x		PLANT Graham		X	
CLANCY Stuart		X		PRICE Ben	X		
				PRICE Richard	Absent		
COLWELL Robert			X	PROCTOR Andrew	Absent		
CONNOLLY Ed		X		RICHMOND Will		X	
CORLETT Emma	X			Reilly Matthew	X		
DALBY Michael	Absent			RILEY Steve	Absent		
DARK Stuart		X		ROPER Dan			X
DAUBNEY Nick	Absent			Rumsby Chrissie	Absent		
DAWSON Christopher	Absent			SANDS Mike	X		
DEWSBURY Margaret		X		SAVAGE Robert		X	
DIXON Nigel	Absent			SAYERS David			X
DUFFIN Barry		X		SHIRES Lucy			X
DUIGAN Phillip		X		SMITH Carl		X	
EAGLE Fabian		X		SMITH-CLARE Mike	X		
ELMER Daniel		X		STONE Barry		X	
FISHER John		X		STOREY Martin	Absent		
FITZPATRICK Tom		X		THOMAS Alison		X	
GRANT Andy	Absent			THOMSON Vic	Absent		
GURNEY Shelagh		X		VARDY Eric		X	
HEMPSALL Lana	Absent			VINCENT Karen			X
HORSBRUGH Michael Chenery of		X		WALKER Colleen	X		
JAMES Jane		X		WARD John		X	
JAMIESON Andrew		X		WATKINS Brian			X
JERMY Terry	X			WEBB Maxine	X		
JONES Brenda	Absent			WHITE Tony	Absent		
KEMP Alexandra	X			WHYMARK Fran		X	
KIDDIE Keith		x		WILBY Martin	Absent		

For	12
Against	36
Abstentions	9

Norfolk County Council
Date: 28 March 2023 APPENDIX E

RECORDED VOTE Motion 6 – School Meals

	For	Against	Abstain		For	Against	Abstain
ADAMS Timothy	Absent			KIDDLE-MORRIS Mark		X	
ADAMS Tony	Absent			KIRK Julian	Absent		
ANNISON Carl		X		LONG Brian		X	
AQUARONE Steffan	x			MACKIE Ian	Absent		
ASKEW Stephen		X		MASON BILLIG Kay		X	
BAMBRIDGE Lesley		X		MAXFIELD Ed	Absent		
BENSLY James		X		MORIARTY Jim	Absent		
BILLS David	Absent			MORPHEW Steve	X		
BIRMINGHAM Alison	Absent			NEALE Paul	Absent		
BLUNDELL Sharon	x			OLIVER Judy	Absent		
BORRETT Bill		X		OLIVER Rhodri		X	
BOWES Claire	Absent			OSBORN Jamie	X		
BRODIEK-COULTON Julie	X			PECK Greg		X	
CARPENTER Graham		X		PENFOLD Saul	x		
CARPENTER Penny		X		PLANT Graham		X	
CLANCY Stuart		X		PRICE Ben	X		
COLWELL Robert	x			PRICE Richard	Absent		
CONNOLLY Ed		X		PROCTOR Andrew	Absent		
CORLETT Emma	X			RICHMOND Will		X	
DALBY Michael	Absent			Reilly Matthew	X		
DARK Stuart		X		RILEY Steve	Absent		
DAUBNEY Nick	Absent			ROPER Dan	x		
DAWSON Christopher	Absent			Rumsby Chrissie	Absent		
DEWSBURY Margaret		X		SANDS Mike	X		
DIXON Nigel	Absent			SAVAGE Robert		X	
DUFFIN Barry		X		SAYERS David	x		
DUIGAN Phillip		X		SHIRES Lucy	X		
EAGLE Fabian		X		SMITH Carl		X	
ELMER Daniel		X		SMITH-CLARE Mike	X		
FISHER John		X		STONE Barry		X	
FITZPATRICK Tom		X		STOREY Martin	Absent		
GRANT Andy	Absent			THOMAS Alison		X	
GURNEY Shelagh		X		THOMSON Vic	Absent		
HEMPSALL Lana	Absent			VARDY Eric		X	
HORSBRUGH Michael Chenery of		X		VINCENT Karen			X
JAMES Jane		X		WALKER Colleen	X		
JAMIESON Andrew		X		WARD John		X	
JERMY Terry	X			WATKINS Brian	X		
JONES Brenda	Absent			WEBB Maxine	X		
KEMP Alexandra	X			WHITE Tony	Absent		
KIDDIE Keith		X		WHYMARK Fran		X	
				WILBY Martin	Absent		

For	20
Against	36
Abstentions	1

Norfolk County Council
Date: 28 March 2023 APPENDIX F

**RECORDED VOTE Motion 7 AMENDMENT – Local Government Pay:
A Fully funded, proper pay rise for Council and School Workers**

	For	Against	Abstain			For	Against	Abstain
ADAMS Timothy	Absent				KIDDLE-MORRIS Mark		X	
ADAMS Tony	Absent				KIRK Julian	Absent		
ANNISON Carl		X			LONG Brian		X	
AQUARONE Steffan	x				MACKIE Ian	Absent		
ASKEW Stephen		X			MASON BILLIG Kay		X	
BAMBRIDGE Lesley		X			MAXFIELD Ed	Absent		
BENSLY James		X			MORIARTY Jim	Absent		
BILLS David	Absent				MORPHEW Steve	X		
BIRMINGHAM Alison	Absent				NEALE Paul	Absent		
BLUNDELL Sharon	x				OLIVER Judy	Absent		
BORRETT Bill	Absent				OLIVER Rhodri	X		
BOWES Claire	Absent				OSBORN Jamie			X
BROCIK-COULTON Julie	X				PECK Greg		X	
CARPENTER Graham		X			PENFOLD Saul	x		
CARPENTER Penny		X			PLANT Graham		X	
CLANCY Stuart		X			PRICE Ben			X
COLWELL Robert			x		PRICE Richard	Absent		
CONNOLLY Ed		X			PROCTOR Andrew	Absent		
CORLETT Emma	X				RICHMOND Will		X	
DALBY Michael	Absent				Reilly Matthew	X		
DARK Stuart		X			RILEY Steve	Absent		
DAUBNEY Nick	Absent				ROPER Dan	x		
DAWSON Christopher	Absent				Rumsby Chrissie	Absent		
DEWSBURY Margaret		X			SANDS Mike	X		
DIXON Nigel	Absent				SAVAGE Robert		X	
DUFFIN Barry		X			SAYERS David			X
DUIGAN Phillip		X			SHIRES Lucy			x
EAGLE Fabian		X			SMITH Carl		X	
ELMER Daniel		X			SMITH-CLARE Mike	X		
FISHER John		X			STONE Barry		X	
FITZPATRICK Tom		X			STOREY Martin	Absent		
GRANT Andy	Absent				THOMAS Alison		X	
GURNEY Shelagh		X			THOMSON Vic	Absent		
HEMPSALL Lana	Absent				VARDY Eric		X	
HORSBRUGH Michael Chenery of		X			VINCENT Karen			X
JAMES Jane		X			WALKER Colleen	X		
JAMIESON Andrew		X			WARD John		X	
JERMY Terry	X				WATKINS Brian	X		
JONES Brenda	Absent				WEBB Maxine	X		
KEMP Alexandra	X				WHITE Tony	Absent		
KIDDIE Keith		X			WHYMARK Fran		X	
					WILBY Martin	Absent		

For	16
Against	34
Abstentions	6

Norfolk County Council
Date: 28 March 2023 APPENDIX G

RECORDED VOTE Motion 7 SUBSTANTIVE – Local Government
Pay: A Fully funded, proper pay rise for Council and School Workers

	For	Against	Abstain			For	Against	Abstain
ADAMS Timothy	Absent				KIDDLE-MORRIS Mark		X	
ADAMS Tony	Absent				KIRK Julian	Absent		
ANNISON Carl		X			LONG Brian		X	
AQUARONE Steffan	x				MACKIE Ian	Absent		
ASKEW Stephen		X			MASON BILLIG Kay		X	
BAMBRIDGE Lesley		X			MAXFIELD Ed	Absent		
BENSLY James		X			MORIARTY Jim	Absent		
BILLS David	Absent				MORPHEW Steve	X		
BIRMINGHAM Alison	Absent				NEALE Paul	Absent		
BLUNDELL Sharon	x				OLIVER Judy	Absent		
BORRETT Bill	Absent				OLIVER Rhodri		x	
BOWES Claire	Absent				OSBORN Jamie	X		
BROCIK-COULTON Julie	X				PECK Greg		X	
CARPENTER Graham		X			PENFOLD Saul	x		
CARPENTER Penny		X			PLANT Graham		X	
CLANCY Stuart		X			PRICE Ben	X		
					PRICE Richard	Absent		
COLWELL Robert	X				PROCTOR Andrew	Absent		
CONNOLLY Ed		X			RICHMOND Will		X	
CORLETT Emma	X				Reilly Matthew	X		
DALBY Michael	Absent				RILEY Steve	Absent		
DARK Stuart		X			ROPER Dan	X		
DAUBNEY Nick	Absent				Rumsby Chrissie	Absent		
DAWSON Christopher	Absent				SANDS Mike	X		
DEWSBURY Margaret		X			SAVAGE Robert		X	
DIXON Nigel	Absent				SAYERS David	X		
DUFFIN Barry		X			SHIRES Lucy	X		
DUIGAN Phillip		X			SMITH Carl		X	
EAGLE Fabian		X			SMITH-CLARE Mike	X		
ELMER Daniel		X			STONE Barry		X	
FISHER John		X			STOREY Martin	Absent		
FITZPATRICK Tom		X			THOMAS Alison		X	
GRANT Andy	Absent				THOMSON Vic	Absent		
GURNEY Shelagh		X			VARDY Eric		X	
HEMPSALL Lana	Absent				VINCENT Karen			X
HORSBRUGH Michael Chenery of		x			WALKER Colleen	X		
JAMES Jane		X			WARD John		X	
JAMIESON Andrew		X			WATKINS Brian	X		
JERMY Terry	X				WEBB Maxine	X		
JONES Brenda	Absent				WHITE Tony	Absent		
KEMP Alexandra	X				WHYMARK Fran		X	
KIDDIE Keith		X			WILBY Martin	Absent		

For	20
Against	35
Abstentions	1

Norfolk County Council
Date: 28 March 2023 APPENDIX H

RECORDED VOTE Motion 8 - Childcare Contribution to the Norfolk Economy

	For	Against	Abstain			For	Against	Abstain
ADAMS Timothy	Absent				KIDDLE-MORRIS Mark		X	
ADAMS Tony	Absent				KIRK Julian	Absent		
ANNISON Carl		X			LONG Brian		X	
AQUARONE Steffan	x				MACKIE Ian	Absent		
ASKEW Stephen		X			MASON BILLIG Kay		X	
BAMBRIDGE Lesley		X			MAXFIELD Ed	Absent		
BENSLY James		X			MORIARTY Jim	Absent		
BILLS David	Absent				MORPHEW Steve	X		
BIRMINGHAM Alison	Absent				NEALE Paul	Absent		
BLUNDELL Sharon	x				OLIVER Judy	Absent		
BORRETT Bill	Absent				OLIVER Rhodri		x	
BOWES Claire	Absent				OSBORN Jamie	X		
BROCIK-COULTON Julie	X				PECK Greg		X	
CARPENTER Graham		X			PENFOLD Saul	x		
CARPENTER Penny		X			PLANT Graham		X	
CLANCY Stuart		X			PRICE Ben	X		
					PRICE Richard	Absent		
COLWELL Robert	X				PROCTOR Andrew	Absent		
CONNOLLY Ed		X			RICHMOND Will		X	
CORLETT Emma	X				Reilly Matthew	X		
DALBY Michael	Absent				RILEY Steve	Absent		
DARK Stuart		X			ROPER Dan	X		
DAUBNEY Nick	Absent				Rumsby Chrissie	Absent		
DAWSON Christopher	Absent				SANDS Mike	X		
DEWSBURY Margaret		X			SAVAGE Robert		X	
DIXON Nigel	Absent				SAYERS David	X		
DUFFIN Barry		X			SHIRES Lucy	X		
DUIGAN Phillip		X			SMITH Carl		X	
EAGLE Fabian		X			SMITH-CLARE Mike	X		
ELMER Daniel		X			STONE Barry		X	
FISHER John		X			STOREY Martin	Absent		
FITZPATRICK Tom		X			THOMAS Alison		X	
GRANT Andy	Absent				THOMSON Vic	Absent		
GURNEY Shelagh		X			VARDY Eric		X	
HEMPSALL Lana	Absent				VINCENT Karen			X
HORSBRUGH Michael Chenery of		X			WALKER Colleen	X		
JAMES Jane		X			WARD John		X	
JAMIESON Andrew		X			WATKINS Brian	X		
JERMY Terry	X				WEBB Maxine	X		
JONES Brenda	Absent				WHITE Tony	Absent		
KEMP Alexandra	X				WHYMARK Fran		X	
KIDDIE Keith		X			WILBY Martin	Absent		

For	20
Against	35
Abstentions	1

**Request for Dispensation under Section 85(1) of
the Local Government Act 1972**

Report by the Director of Legal Services (nplaw) and Monitoring Officer

Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972 requires a member of a Local Authority to attend at least one meeting of the Authority within a six-month consecutive period, in order to avoid being disqualified as a Councillor. The Act states that “if a member of a Local Authority fails, throughout a period of six consecutive months from the date of their last attendance, to attend any meeting of the Authority, he shall, unless the failure was due to some reason approved by the Authority before the expiry of the period, cease to be a member of the Authority”.

The Council’s Monitoring Officer has received a request for the Council to consider approving an extension to the usual six-month attendance rule due to ill health for Councillor Martin Wilby, enabling him to remain in office until he is able to resume normal duties should he not be able to attend today’s Council meeting.

Council can only consider approval of any reasons for non-attendance before the end of the relevant six-month period, which will be 12th June 2023.

This is the final Council meeting at which approval could be sought for an extension of the time limit. If approval to any extension is not therefore agreed at this meeting Cllr Wilby would, under Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972 be disqualified after 12th June 2023 from office as a Councillor

Recommendation:

1. That the reason provided for non-attendance at Council meetings by Cllr Wilby is approved pursuant to Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972, on the basis that the resolution is applied to take effect on 12th June 2023 and Council approves an extension of the time limit until 12th December 2023

Kat Hulatt
Director of Legal Services (nplaw) and Monitoring Officer

Recommendations from the Cabinet Meeting held on 3 April 2023

1 Finance Monitoring Report 2022-23 P11: February 2023

1.1 Cabinet received the report giving a summary of the forecast financial position for the 2022-23 Revenue and Capital Budgets, General Balances, and the Council's Reserves at 31 March 2023, together with related financial information.

1.2 Cabinet **RESOLVED**

1. To recommend to full Council the addition of **£17.491m** to the capital programme to address capital funding requirements funded mostly from various external sources as set out in detail in capital Appendix 3 of the report, paragraph 4.1 as follows:
 - £5m flexible use of Capital Receipts to fund the Adult Social Care Transformation Programme costs as previously earmarked in Appendix 3 of the report, paragraph 3.3
 - £1.011m uplift to the Better Broadband Next Generation project funded from BT rebates received
 - £11.480m Department of Transport funding received to expand the Zero Emissions Bus Regional Area (ZEBRA) scheme for 55 additional electric buses

[Please click here to view the reports considered by Cabinet at its meeting on 3 April 2023 and the minutes of that meeting](#)

Cllr Graham Plant
Vice Chairman, Cabinet

Notice of Motions

Notice of the following motions has been given in accordance with the Council Procedure Rules:

**1. Conservative Group Motion
King Charles Coronation
Proposer – TBC
Seconder – TBC**

This year marks the Coronation of King Charles III following the death of Her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Norfolk is proud of our long association with the Royal Family, with Sandringham being home to the Monarch for several generations, spanning well over a century.

We have just seen the Coronation of King Charles III and this Council stands ready to welcome in the new Carolean era. Communities across our County hosted events, bringing every part of their community together celebrating this monumental occasion as His Majesty acceded to the throne.

Last year this County willingly supported Her Majesty's Green Canopy initiative and Platinum Jubilee trails, aiding accessibility to our wonderful natural assets across this County and encouraging exercise and enjoyment of the wider outdoor experience.

Now this new era has begun this Council resolves to continue our loyal support to the Monarch, supporting His Majesty to deliver His new progressive policy agenda, helping support disadvantaged communities across our County, in line with our ambitious programmes to provide better outcomes for families, support for regenerative agriculture and deliver His inspirational green initiatives.

**2. Labour Group Motion
Sewage discharges
Proposer – Cllr Mike Smith-Clare
Seconder – Cllr Terry Jermy**

Council believes sewage discharges in rivers and coastal waters is unacceptable. There is a direct and indirect adverse impact on water quality, the environment, human health, amenity and businesses. It also damages the reputation of our beautiful county.

Council regrets the lack of urgency and meaningful sanctions for sewage discharges and recognises increased development in Norfolk will add to the problem in future unless action is taken at source.

Council welcomes the government's intention to consult on the introduction of Schedule 3 of the Flood and Water management Act 2010 and urges government to expedite the process.

Council believes Water companies should be held automatically liable for any sewage discharge. In addition to fines levied upon them, water companies should automatically be

liable for compensation for direct and indirect impacts on those, particularly businesses, near to or affected by the discharge assessed by an independent body funded by water companies but not appointed by or accountable to them.

3. Liberal Democrat Group Motion
Potholes and Highways Maintenance Budgets
Proposer – Cllr Steffan Aquarone
Seconders – Cllr TBC

This council acknowledges the shortfall in local authority's highways maintenance budgets which were reduced by £500 million or 28% in 2020/21. Although the Spring Budget announced a top up of £200m to the 'Potholes Fund', local authorities are still £300m out of pocket.

This council recognises the commendable work carried out by the County's highways maintenance teams working tirelessly on a limited budget across the county to ensure that highways are roadworthy and suitable for all road users.

This council recognises that the time it takes to repair potholes across the county is increasing. The average amount of time it took to repair a pothole in Norfolk in 2021/22 was approximately 40 days, double that of the time it took in 2020/21. On one occasion it took 482 days to carry out repairs on a single pothole.

This council recognises that there are vital repairs required to Norfolk's highways and roads to ensure they're safe and roadworthy to all users including cyclists, cars, motorbikes, lorries, pedestrians and mobility scooters.

This council acknowledges the importance of prevention rather than cure when it comes to Norfolk's roads. Allowing potholes to fester results in higher repair costs and can be hazardous to road users and pedestrians, indeed, in the last two years there have been 80 compensation claims relating to potholes and poor road conditions upheld against the council resulting in £100,000 in pay outs.

This council commits to lobby the Government to fully restore local authority highways maintenance budgets to ensure that councils can clear their backlog of road repairs.

This council resolves to review, and if necessary, amend its TAMP plan (2021 – 2026) to ensure that the utmost is being done to clear the backlog of repairs and to identify vital repair works before further degradation occurs.

4. Green Group Motion
Norwich Western Link
Proposer: Cllr Jamie Osborn
Seconders: Cllr Ben Price

The Norwich Western Link is opposed by over a dozen organisations as they say it would cause an increase in carbon emissions, damage irreplaceable natural habitats, and would be a reckless expenditure at a time of budgetary strain for the county council.

The project costs have soared by nearly £100m already, and recent questions to Cabinet Members have revealed that cost could continue to rise, with no guarantee of an upper ceiling on costs.

As costs continue to rise due to inflation, project delays, and the infrastructural challenges of the proposed route, the value for money of the project will need to be reassessed. The Cabinet Member for Finance has publicly stated that the project would need to be reconsidered if the DfT does not provide the funding that the county council has applied for.

The risk to the council is heightened by the fact that any capital funds committed to the project will revert to revenue if the project is cancelled. This could entirely wipe out the council's revenue reserves.

In December 2022, Norfolk County Council unanimously voted to support a motion on 20 minute neighbourhoods. This motion recognises that in order to provide sustainable travel, total car journeys need to be reduced and driving needs to be less of a direct option than walking, cycling, wheeling or public transport. The motion states that "Reduced traffic levels will create safer environments for all users of the transport network" and "highlights how a 20 minute neighbourhood approach can also support sustainable tourism and help to boost the visitor economy." The Norwich Western Link, if built, would violate the proposals of this motion as it would result in increased traffic levels and would facilitate car-dependent development instead of sustainable, healthy and economically thriving 20-minute neighbourhoods.

Council resolves to:

1. Halt all work on the Norwich Western Link as soon as possible and rededicate officer time to developing 20-minute neighbourhood proposals and improving sustainable transport.
2. Issue a public apology on behalf of councillors for wasting taxpayers' money on the Norwich Western Link when resources could have been focused on dealing with the climate emergency.
3. Ask the leaders of all political groups to write to the Secretary of State for Transport and to the Climate Change Minister to call for the Government's £25bn funding for new roads to be reallocated to sustainable transport.
4. Establish a Citizens Assembly as a form of participatory democracy to decide on the future of transport policy for Norfolk.

**5. Labour Group Motion
Norwich NHS Walk-In Centre
Proposer – Cllr Brenda Jones
Seconder – Cllr Julie Brociek-Coulton**

Council recognises the importance, value and public support for the Norwich walk-in centre to residents, visitors and businesses that use the city. Council recognises the positive impact it has on Accident and Emergency services, support for those struggling to obtain a GP appointment.

This council calls on NHS Norfolk and Waveney to retain and continue to fund the vital primary care services provided by Norwich Walk-in Centre.

**6 Liberal Democrat Motion
End Fuel Poverty
Proposed by Cllr Saul Penfold
Seconded by Cllr TBC**

This Council acknowledges that all Norfolk residents deserve to live in a warm, dry home which they can afford to heat and power. More than 30pc of households in various neighbourhoods across Norfolk were living in fuel poverty in 2022, a number which is estimated to rise due to rising energy costs, inflation and the worsening cost of living situation.

This council recognises the work carried out to end fuel poverty in Norfolk, but acknowledges that thousands of households are estimated to fall into fuel poverty within the next decade. Additionally, it is recognised that more can be done to end fuel poverty by 2030.

This council acknowledges the findings of a British Medical Journal report on the detrimental impact on children growing up in cold, damp, and mouldy homes due to fuel poverty. It is recognised in the report that these children have “higher than average rates of respiratory infections, asthma, chronic ill health, and disability. They are also more likely to experience depression, anxiety, and slower physical growth and cognitive development.”

This council resolves to:

1. To create a strategy with the aim of helping to end fuel poverty in Norfolk by 2030
2. To ask the Executive/Cabinet/Leader to report on progress with the strategy every six months
3. Work with partners such as the Health and Wellbeing Board, Integrated Care Board and advice services to develop effective referral systems to reduce fuel poverty and cold-related health
4. Develop a strategic approach to improve energy efficiency to create jobs and prosperity in our local communities
5. Explore ways of reducing fuel poverty that involve the whole community, including district and parish councils and community organisations
6. To become a member of the End Fuel Poverty Coalition

7 Green Group Motion
Support for children in early years
Proposer: Cllr Paul Neale
Seconder: Cllr Jamie Osborn

Council notes:

1. Physical children’s centres in Norfolk have been cut drastically over recent years, with no clear analysis of the impact that this has had on health, educational and social attainment outcomes for children, especially those from low-income families. In 2019, 38 children’s centres were closed across the county, and many residents have said that these closures have reduced their access to services and impacted on their lives. When asked how the impact of these closures had been evaluated, the Cabinet Member in March 2023 was unable to answer.

2. Many children in Norfolk are living in poverty, yet do not qualify for means-tested Free School Meals. If a family earns more than £7,400 a year, they do not qualify, leaving 1.7 million children in poverty unable to receive them nationwide, and this threshold has not been updates since 2018 despite huge rises in the cost of living. The National Education Union and others are calling for the Government to implement Free School Meals for all

primary school children; in the immediate term, some councils have introduced FSM for all primary-age children in order to help improve educational attainment and ensure no child is left hungry. Funding for this has been supplied across London boroughs by the Mayor of London's office.

Council resolves to:

1. Commission an evaluation of the impact of closure of children's centres, including Sure Start centres, on children's health, education and social attainment outcomes, particularly those in deprived communities, young parents, and with diagnosed or suspected special educational needs, and explore options for reopening of children's centres where there is demonstrated need.
2. Formally support the NEU's No Child Left Behind Campaign to provide Free School Meals to all primary-age children.
3. Call on the government to raise the income threshold for Free School Meals so that all families receiving Universal Credit are eligible, ensuring that primary age children are therefore eligible for the attached pupil premium and secondary-age pupils can access means tested Free School Meals, reducing the impact of poverty on children and teenagers in Norfolk.

8 Labour Group Motion
Devolution
Proposer – Cllr Steve Morphew
Seconder – Cllr Emma Corlett

Council recognises the decision of Cornwall council to seek to renegotiate their devolution deal from level 3 to become a level 2 deal is an important precedent that Norfolk should follow. Council reiterates its commitment to a meaningful devolution of powers and resources from central government to local councils and believes a level 2 deal for Norfolk would form a strong basis to develop a positive relationship with government for the benefit of all of Norfolk.

Council therefore requests the Leader and cabinet to withdraw from the current devolution deal and return to government to seek a strengthened level 2 deal.