

Norfolk County Council

Minutes of the Meeting Held on 25 November 2013

Present:	Mr T Adams	Mr J Joyce
	Mr S Agnew	Ms A Kemp
	Mr C Aldred	Mr M Kiddle-Morris
	Mr S Askew	Mr J Law
	Mr M Baker	Mrs J Leggett
	Mr R Bearman	Mr B Long
	Mr R Bird	Mr I Mackie
	Mr B Borrett	Mr I Monson
	Dr A Boswell	Mr J Mooney
	Mr B Bremner	Mrs E Morgan
	Mrs J Brociek-Coulton	Mr S Morphew
	Mr M Carttiss	Mr G Nobbs
	Mr M Castle	Mr W Northam
	Mrs J Chamberlin	Mr R Parkinson-Hare
	M Chenery of Horsbrugh	Mr J Perkins
	Mr J Childs	Mr A Proctor
	Mr R Coke	Mr D Ramsbotham
	Ms E Corlett	Mr W Richmond
	Mrs H Cox	Mr D Roper
	Mr D Crawford	Mr M Sands
	Mr A Dearnley	Mr E Seward
	Mrs M Dewsbury	Mr N Shaw
	Mr N Dixon	Mr M Smith
	Mr J Dobson	Mr R Smith
	Mr T East	Mr P Smyth
	Mr T FitzPatrick	Mrs M Somerville
	Mr C Foulger	Mr B Spratt
	Mr T Garrod	Mr M Storey
	Mr P Gilmour	Dr M Strong
	Mr A Grey	Mrs A Thomas
	Mr A Gunson	Mr D Thomas
	Mrs S Gurney	Mr J Timewell
	Mr P Hacon	Miss J Virgo
	Mr B Hannah	Mrs C Walker
	Mr D Harrison	Mr J Ward
	Mr S Hebborn	Mr B Watkins
	Mr H Humphrey	Ms S Whitaker
	Mr B Iles	Mr A White
	Mr T Jermy	Mr M Wilby
	Mr C Jordan	Mrs M Wilkinson

Total present: 80

Apologies for Absence:

Apologies were received from Mr A Byrne, Mr S Clancy, Mr D Collis and Ms D Gihawi.

The Chairman also announced that Leader would be leaving at 1pm for a meeting with Vince Cable MP.

1 **Minutes**

1.1 The minutes from the Council meeting held on 16 September 2013 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman, subject to the following amendment:-

Item 7.5.2 should refer to the Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Panel, not CROSP. The same amendment should be made to the action note on page 26 of the minutes.

1.2 The minutes from the Council meeting held on 28 October 2013 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

2 **Chairman's Announcements**

2.1 The Chairman announced that a collection of non-perishable food items would be held during this week, to be donated to the Norfolk Food Banks, and encouraged Members to bring donations into County Hall.

2.2 The Chairman then advised Members that at the next weeks meeting of Cabinet the Norfolk In Care Council would be presenting the new promise for Norfolk Children in Care and Leaving Care.

3 **Declarations of Interest**

3.1 The following interest were declared:-

Mr Hacon, as a Member of the Broads Internal Drainage Board, in respect of item 6, report of the Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Panel, (the Flood and Water Management Act 2010).

Mr Shaw, as a Member of the Broads Internal Drainage Board, in respect of item 6, report of the Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Panel, (the Flood and Water Management Act 2010).

Ms Corlett as an employee of the Norfolk and Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust, in respect of item 10, Norfolk Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Mr Childs, as the owner of a public house, in respect of item 8(ii).

4 **Questions to the Leader of the Council**

4.1 **Question from Mr Spratt**

Many rural sports people are upset that the cricket pavilion in Lakenham will be pulled down as it is an institution in Norfolk and a part of the culture of Norwich. Why does the pavilion have to be pulled down?

The Leader responded that as a Lakenham man himself he had fond memories of the pavilion and believed that the ground should not be demolished. He advised that Norwich City Council had opposed the development at every stage but that this had been turned down on appeal by the Planning Inspectors, who had paid little attention to local opinion. He agreed to write to Mr Spratt confirming this.

4.2 **Question from Mr Borrett**

There is great interest in the consultation document at the moment as tough decisions are to be made. With £50m of savings still unidentified, could the Leader advise when he intends to consult on the remainder?

The Leader responded that he would be consulting sooner than the previous administration had in similar circumstances. The same procedures had been employed as the Conservative administration had not decided on all the savings they would need to make within the first year of their consultation. The current Administration did not know what the financial situation would be in three years time and in part it depended upon money which would be received for health services. A detailed programme had been made available for the first and second year.

4.3 **Question from Mr Bearman**

Following media coverage of Norfolk County Council working in partnership with Suffolk County Council, when can we expect to hear details of any new savings which would be made as a result of new joint projects, instead of savings which were already happening?

The Leader responded that meetings between the Managing Directors of both authorities would take place in December and savings would be quantified then. He hoped everybody would welcome this venture. County Council budgets were massive compared with district council budgets and it was important that the County Councils did more joint working. As soon as there was more information to share regarding savings, the Leader would share it. He noted that Norfolk County Council did not pay for the launch event.

4.4 **Question from Mr Watkins**

Mr Watkins noted that more economic opportunities were needed to grow the local economy and bring benefits to Norwich, to drive growth and unlock more enterprise opportunities. The Ipswich City Deals bid had already been given approval. When would we hear the result of the Norwich bid?

The Leader replied that he hoped it would be soon. The bid had been submitted and the decision was now in the hands of the Government. He noted that he was meeting with Vince Cable that day and would update Mr Watkins if necessary.

4.5 **Question from Mr Bremner.**

Mr Bremner asked how the County Council was working with the Norfolk and Suffolk Mental Health Trust to respond to the concerns regarding the mental health social care which they were facing?

The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Services responded the social workers were

employed by the Norfolk and Suffolk Mental Health Trust and not by the County Council. Current arrangements were not working as well as they could be and there were six aspects of legal duties which were currently not being fulfilled. The County Council had a legal duty to ensure that proper social care services were provided and conversations were currently being carried out with the Trust to ensure that this was done and that service users received the best service possible. On going discussions were being held.

4.6 **Question from Mrs Somerville**

Mrs Somerville asked why the County Council had continued to employ interim managers rather than advertising the posts in order to get the best staff available?

Mr Nobbs responded that in the case of Children's Services, OFSTED criticism had been taken seriously. Advertising for a permanent Director would have been a long process and so the decision had been taken to appoint the best director possible as soon as possible in an interim role. This was still the correct decision and the Interim Director had done a fantastic job so far. The same was true of the Interim Head of Finance – it was essential to have a well qualified successor in post at a time with the County Council was facing unprecedented financial pressure. Permanent full time members of staff would be recruited in an orderly manner.

5 **Review of Members Allowances Scheme 2013**

5.1 The report was introduced by Mr Nobbs.

5.2 Mr Mackie proposed the following amendment, which was seconded by Mr Garrod.

1. To note that a full review of SRAs has been deferred pending clarification of the Council's intentions with regard to its system of governance.

~~2. To amend the Scheme by removing the requirement for group Leaders to be "Opposition" group leaders in order to be entitled to an SRA and to implement this amendment with immediate effect.~~

3. That the revised SRA arrangements for group leaders be as follows:-

- Leader of Council - £26,373 (as now)
- Leader of the largest non-Administration group - £13,186 (as now)
- Leaders of all other opposition groups - £6,594
- Group leader SRAs to be payable only if the group has at least 9 members.

4. That no change be made to the stipulation that SRAs can only be paid to members of groups that have at least 9 members, nor to the requirement that deputy group leader and group spokesperson SRAs be payable only to opposition groups.

5.3 Following a debate the amendment was put to a vote and with 37 for, 29 against and 9 abstentions the amendment was CARRIED.

5.4 The following recommendations were AGREED in relation to basic allowance:-

1. That the Basic Allowance remains at £9,018 for the financial year 2014/15, subject to the same percentage increase, if any, that is awarded to local authority employees for

that year;

2. That in 2015/16, 2016/17 and 2017/18, the Basic Allowance be increased at the same percentage rate as the local authority employee pay award (if one is paid);

3. That the next review be undertaken by the Panel in 2017, with any resulting changes to be implemented in 2018

5.5 The following recommendation was AGREED in relation to dependent carers' allowance

1. That no change is made to the current rate for the Carers' Allowance and that it continues to be maintained at a rate of 10% above the national minimum wage.

5.6 The following recommendations were AGREED in relation to co-optees allowance

1. That the PGRs continue to receive a co-optees allowance of £1,010 per annum, subject to an annual increase in line with any pay award to local government employees

2. That no co-optees allowance be paid to the Church representatives, nor to the district councillors co-opted onto the Pensions Committee.

Following a statement from Mr Long, who advised Members that the Chairman and District Members of this Panel did not receive an extra allowance, the following recommendation was lost:- That the independent members of the Police and Crime Panel be given a co-optees allowance of £1,010 per annum and that it be backdated to 1 April 2013 in recognition of their having carried out the role on a nonremunerated basis since August 2012. The allowance to be subject to an annual increase in line with any pay award to local government employees .

5.7 The following recommendations were AGREED in relation to travel and subsistence allowance.

1. That no changes be made to the present arrangements for travel and subsistence allowance.

6 Report from the Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Panel

6.1 Part one of the report was moved by Mr Jordan.

6.2 The following recommendations were CARRIED:-

Officer Code of Conduct – that the current Appendix 19 be deleted and instead be retained as a spare appendix in case additions need to be made to the Constitution at a later stage

Procedure Rules for Full Council meetings (Council budget meeting - stipulation that that business at that meeting will be limited to the budget and its associated items.) - that the Procedure Rules be amended to include such a stipulation, with a caveat that the Chairman has discretion to accept additional items other than those relating to the budget, but only in exceptional or urgent circumstances.

Contract Standing Orders - that the changes proposed in Annex 1 of the report be approved.

Delegation of Non-Executive Powers to Head of Law and Director of Environment, Transport and Development - that the changes proposed in (i) to (iii) in the report be made.

Chief Fire Officer Delegations – Appendix 6 - that the Leader be asked to approve this change to Appendix 6.

Article 12 – Officers - the extension of the description of the role of the Chief Fire Officer to include “regulatory fire safety” and “Integrated Risk Management Planning

Standards Regime - Appendices 18A, 18B - that the proposed amendments be approved shown as track changes at Annex 2.

Public Protection - that the proposals set out in the attached report at Annex 3 be approved

Flood and Water Management Act 2010 – Delegation to Director of ETD - that the Leader be asked to approve the proposed amendment to Appendix 6

6.3 Part two of the report was moved by Mr Jordan.

6.4 Mr Bearman proposed an amendment, which was seconded by Dr Strong, which replaced the first bullet point in recommendation 10(i) with the following:-

“This council agrees to the introduction of a Committee system of governance for Norfolk County Council. The new structure should initially replace Cabinet and scrutiny panels with 7 service committees of 17 Members. This structure to be reviewed after six months of operation.

The council further agrees to the formation of a Cross Party Steering Group consisting of two Members of each political group and the independent member. This steering group will produce detailed changes to the constitution to be voted on by full Council to come into effect from May 2014”.

6.5 Following a debate, and with sufficient Members requesting a recorded vote, with 27 for, 50 against and 3 abstentions the amendment was LOST (see voting sheet at Appendix 1).

6.6 Mr Nobbs proposed an amendment, which was seconded by Mr Coke, as follows:-

“This Council agrees to the introduction of a Committee system of governance for Norfolk County Council, which includes a policy and resources committee.

This Council further agrees to the formation of a cross party Steering Group consisting of two members of each political group and the independent Member. This steering group will produce a detailed committee system proposal to be voted on at an extraordinary meeting of the Council in April 2014 to come into effect from May 2014”.

6.7 Following a debate, and with sufficient Members requesting a recorded vote, with 41 for, 35 against and 2 abstentions the amendment was CARRIED (see voting sheet at

Appendix 2) and became the substantive motion.

- 6.8 Following a debate, with 42 for, 36 against and with 2 abstentions, the motion was CARRIED.

The council adjourned for lunch from 13:10 – 13:45.

7 **Localism Act - Pay Policy Statement**

- 7.1 Mr R Smith proposed the following amendments to point 2.3 of the Council report, and to the recommendation of the report, which were accepted by the mover of the report, Mr Coke.

“2.3 - In respect of large severance packages being considered for staff leaving the organisation, the Personnel Committee considered that our arrangements could be more robust, and amended the Statement so that:
“where severance payments over £100,000 are considered, the Managing Director will consult the members of the Personnel Committee and will refer the matter to full Council. ~~If requested by any of the committee members, the proposed severance payment will be considered at a meeting of the Personnel Committee.” (para 34 of the draft Statement at Appendix A).”~~”

Recommendation:- The Council is recommended to approve the revised Pay Policy Statement at Appendix A. Where payments are over £100,000 the Chief Executive will consult with Members of the Personnel Committee and refer to full Council.

- 7.2 Following a debate, the amended recommendation was CARRIED.

8 **Notice of Motions**

- 8.1 The following motion, proposed by Mr Harrison and seconded by Ms Whitaker was moved:-

“This Council RESOLVES to oppose the introduction of tolling on either A14 or A47.

Council calls on Cabinet to work closely with our colleagues in local government across East Anglia to ensure that roads here remain free at the point of use.”

- 8.1.1 Mr Coke then proposed the following amendment, which was seconded by Mr East:-

“This Council RESOLVES to oppose the introduction of tolling, excluding shadow tolling, on either the A14 or A47.

Council calls on Cabinet to work closely with our colleagues in local government across East Anglia to ensure that roads here remain free at the point of use.”

- 8.1.2 Following a debate the amended motion was accepted and became the substantive motion.

- 8.1.3 The motion was CARRIED unopposed.

- 8.2 The following motion, proposed by Mr Bremner and seconded by Mr Hacon, was moved:-

“Norfolk has lost a number of community pubs in recent years. It is possible through the Sustainable Communities Act for councils to be given more power to determine if pubs should be demolished or converted into other uses and this could save many valued community pubs.

Council RESOLVES to ask Cabinet to:-

1) Submit a proposal to the government under the Sustainable Communities Act that the Secretary of State help protect community pubs in England by ensuring that planning permission and community consultation are required before community pubs are allowed to be converted to betting shops, supermarkets, pay-day loan stores or other uses, or are allowed to be demolished; and;

2) Work together with Local Works and the Campaign for Real Ale to gain support for the proposal from other councils in the region and across the country.

3) Include in its response to the government's consultation on greater flexibilities in planning regulations a request for controls to prevent pub buildings being transferred to shops and banks and then to residential use with no requirement for planning permission.”

8.2.1 The following amendments were proposed and accepted by Mr Bremner:-

- Delete “community” before “pubs”
- Insert “and the Pub is the Hub” after “ Campaign for Real Ale”

8.2.2 Following a debate, with 51 for, 1 against and with 10 abstentions, the motion as amended was CARRIED.

8.3 The following motion, proposed by Dr Strong and seconded by Mr Hannah, was proposed:-

“This Council agrees to compile a pool of inspirational speakers from across a range of backgrounds who would visit schools and provide motivational lectures to the pupils.”

8.3.1 The following amendment, proposed by Mrs Chamberlin and seconded by Mrs Leggett, was proposed:-

“This Council agrees to compile a pool of *non-political* inspirational speakers from across a range of backgrounds who would visit schools and provide motivational lectures to the pupils.

It will be the responsibility of the school to ensure speakers are properly vetted”.

8.3.2 After a discussion, with 14 for, 33 against, and 9 abstentions, the amendment was LOST.

8.3.3 After a further discussion, with 28 for, 22 against and 5 abstentions, the motion was CARRIED.

8.4 With regard to the motion submitted by Mr Dobson, the Chairman announced that the issues addressed within this motion had been debated fully at the extraordinary meeting of Council on 28 October and therefore she had taken the view there was no

purpose in debating the matter any further.

9 Cabinet Recommendations

9.1 Mr Joyce moved the following recommendation:-

- That the job description for the role of Chief Executive as set out in Appendix D of the Cabinet report, attached as Appendix A to this report, be confirmed by County Council at its meeting on 25 November 2013.
- That the proposed senior management arrangements be endorsed as follows:-

To endorse the changes to Chief Officer posts outlined in the report, and agree that amendments be made to Articles 6 and 12 and Appendices 6, 7, 15 and 23 of the Constitution in line with these proposals and delegate authority to the Head of Democratic Services and Monitoring Officer to make the necessary amendments and any other consequential changes to the Constitution, the proposals being:

The post of Director of Economic Development, Infrastructure and Skills (formerly designated as Director of Environment, Transport and Development) will have management responsibility for:

- Economic Development and Skills
- Highways
- Transport
- Planning and Development Control
- Trading Standards
- Waste and Environment
- Strategic ICT and Information Management

The post of Chief Fire Officer and Head of Community Safety (formerly designated as Chief Fire Officer) will have management responsibility for:

- Fire and Rescue Services
- Emergency Planning

The post of Director of Children's Services will continue to have management responsibility for services for children and young people encompassing:

- Safeguarding
- Early Help
- Education and School Improvement

The post of Director of Services for Adults and Communities (formerly designated as Director of Community Services) will have management responsibility for:

- Adult Social Care Services
- Enabling Communities
- Integrated Commissioning Development

The post of Director of Public Health will continue to have management responsibility for:

- Health Protection
- Health Improvement
- Healthcare Public Health
- Health Intelligence

A new post Head of Customer Services, at the indicative Grade of Q, will have management responsibility for functions brought together from several present departments as follows:

- Customer Access and Complaints

- Cultural Services
- Registrars
- Internal transactional support
- Traded Services

The Head of Law, at the indicative Grade of Q, will have management responsibility for:

- Legal Services (nplaw)
- Democratic Services

The Chief Finance Officer (formerly designated as Head of Finance) will continue to have management responsibility for:

- Pensions
- Risk
- Audit
- Procurement
- Property

A new post the Head of Performance, at the indicative Grade of Q, will have management responsibility for:

- Strategy and performance
- Programme Management Office
- Human Resources & Organisational Development
- Public affairs and media management
- Marketing and internal communications
- Business intelligence

9.2 Mr Borrett proposed that the first bullet point of the recommendation be amended as follows, with the remaining recommendations to be deleted:-

“That the job description for the role of Managing Director as set out in Appendix D of the Cabinet report, attached as Appendix A to this report, be confirmed by County Council at its meeting on 25 November 2013.

9.3 Following a debate, with 23 for, 28 against and 2 abstentions, the amendment was LOST.

9.4 The motion was voted on and 30 for, 15 against and 6 abstentions was CARRIED.

10 **Reports of Cabinet 5 August and 2 September 2013**

Questions to the Cabinet Member for Environment, Transport, Development and Waste

10.1 Question from Dr Strong. Dr Strong noted that the Environment Agency would shortly be releasing statistics on flooding which would affect many residents in regard to household insurance. Was the County Council putting pressure on the Government regarding this to ensure that not only coastal residents, but also those inland, could continue to afford insurance protection and that the not for profit scheme be finalised?

The Cabinet Member responded that the new water bill had gone through parliament which contained a proposal for affordable insurance to be available to all households in flood risk areas. This new scheme would mean a levy of approximately £10.50 on each household policy, which would cover the insurance on properties in high risk areas. As the lead flood authority, plans had been carried out in Norwich, Kings Lynn

and Great Yarmouth. The Cabinet Member agreed to provide a written answer to all Members on this.

10.2 Question from Ms Kemp.

Ms Kemp asked for reassurance that all Members would be able to read the full version of the independent QC report due on 2nd December, on the quality of advice provided from officers to Members regarding the Willows application. Ms Kemp requested that a written response be given.

The Cabinet Member agreed that he had no objection to this, subject to the agreement of the Legal department.

Questions to the Cabinet Member for Finance, Corporate and Personnel

10.3 Question from Ms Leggett

Mrs Leggett asked whether there had been any progress on the £0.5m in the Community Construction Fund.

The Cabinet Member advised that due to the current financial position the monies would now be held on to until it was determined whether the County Council would have any compensation to pay in respect of the Energy from Waste contract. He was sorry about this but there were no other options.

10.4 Question from Mr R Smith

Mr Smith noted that financial monitoring report contained a major report on the Managing Change area. Over half of the nine programmes had been rated as amber however there had been no discussion about mitigating actions, just about the contingency fund. The Cabinet Member should have been in attendance for such an important item or a substitute Cabinet Member should have attended to clarify why so many of the programmes were at amber rating at that time and what would be done about it.

The Cabinet Member replied that the monitoring report had been produced in a new format which had highlighted areas which had not previously been shown in order to demonstrate any issues and make outcomes more transparent. Whilst all amber items had not been discussed at the Cabinet meeting, this did not mean that the problems had not been interrogated in other meetings with officers. All amber areas would be looked at to see how they could be improved and reports would continue to be robust.

10.5 Question from Mr Jordan

Mr Jordan asked whether the County Council had a reservoir of spare money as engineers working on the refurbishment of County Hall had said that they had found extra work which needed to be done, and what would the final costs be?

The Cabinet Member stated that he would get an update on the works and arrange an urgent briefing for himself and Mr Jordan. A written answer would also be circulated to all Members.

Questions to the Cabinet Member for Public Protection

10.6 Question from Dr Strong

Dr Strong asked for assurance that the proposed savings would not endanger the valuable role played by Trading Standards, particularly in relation to the vulnerable.

The Cabinet Member responded that the suggested savings were very real cuts to front line services and so he could not give any assurances.

10.7 Question from Mr Ward

Mr Ward asked what percentage of retained firefighters were in the Fire Brigade Union and what percentage of stations had opened during the recent strikes.

The Cabinet Member agreed to provide a written response after the meeting with exact figures. He noted that 50% of appliances had been available during the strikes.

10.8 Question from Mrs Thomas

Mrs Thomas advised that she and other Members had received an email from All About Justice containing serious allegations. She asked whether Trading Standards and NP Law could provide guidance on how best to respond to it.

The Cabinet Member confirmed that written advice would be circulated to all Members.

10.9 Question from Mrs Leggett

Mrs Leggett asked whether the Cabinet Member would express support for the Say No Campaign, regarding domestic violence?

The Cabinet Member responded that he wholeheartedly supported the campaign and would have been at the launch of the campaign had it not clashed with the Council meeting.

Questions to the Cabinet Member for Safeguarding

10.10 Question from Mrs Leggett

Mrs Leggett noted that an Interim Director for Early Help was in post and asked what progress had been made in this area.

The Cabinet Member responded that early health was at the core of what the County Council was doing on safeguarding. If problems could be prevented from progressing then this would help to provide a better outcome.

Questions to the Cabinet Member for Schools

10.11 Question from Mr Ward

Mr Ward enquired as to whether the Cabinet Member had written to Brandon Lewis MP regarding additional monies for discretionary bus journeys.

The Cabinet Member replied that he would be meeting with Mr Lewis on 30 December to discuss the issue along with Councillor Joyce. He did not know what the response would be as yet.

10.12 Question from Ms Corlett

Ms Corlett noted that she had received a large amount of contact from parents at Cavell Primary and Nursery School, who were adamantly opposed to the proposal to turn the school in to an Academy. This had had also received media coverage. How had the decision had been arrived at, did the County Council have a choice in the course of action taken, and how would the relationship with the cluster as a whole be rebuilt?

The Cabinet Member responded that if a school failed an OFSTED visit the County Council had limited scope as to its options. He was satisfied that officers had acted correctly. He agreed that there had been disquiet in the community regarding this and as such the local Member and the Interim Head of Children's Services had visited the school in the previous week. A local sponsor for the school would be announced within the next two weeks. He was pleased that the school was showing signs of improvement and noted that there was no reason that it could not remain a part of the cluster.

10.13 Question from Mr R Smith

Mr Smith noted that he had also planned to ask a question around Cavell Primary and Nursery School but that he had been heartened by the above response as he had seen the publicity surrounding this. He hoped that Members would do their best to foster and preserve the community interest in the school and not alienate parents

The Cabinet Member responded that it was not just this school which would find itself in this situation. Governing bodies were not always removed but the budget was often taken over by the County Council. He accepted that the way such situations were dealt with was very important and the local Member and Interim Director were now repairing relationships. This would resolve uncertainties and a better future would be moved towards.

Questions to the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Services

10.14 Question from Miss Morgan

Miss Morgan asked when the Herondale respite centre would be closed, whether the County Council had carried out an impact assessment and how service users had been consulted.

The Cabinet Member replied that the Centre would be closed by the end of 2013. The County Council had owned the building but the facility had actually been run by Age UK. The County Council had ended a contract with Age UK, which had led them to choose to close the service, it had not been the County Council's decision. As such, any consultations would have been carried out by Age UK.

10.15 Question from Dr Strong

Dr Strong asked whether the Cabinet Member shared her concerns that if budgets

were reduced, Trading Standards could only be reactive not proactive, which would place elderly residents in life threatening danger in regard to dangerous foods and cheap electrical items.

The Cabinet Member responded that there were risks around all the proposed cuts. This was a worry, particularly as the service dealt with the elderly and vulnerable.

10.16 Question from Mr R Smith

Mr Smith asked why the call-in of the respite services Cabinet item had resulted in the County Council incurring an additional £100,000 in expenditure, as only one part of the decision regarding exempt recommendations had been called in.

The Cabinet Member explained that the part of the decision which had been called in was integral to the recommendations. Without it the decision could not be implemented and so the contract had carried on for an additional two months, which had cost £100,000. The Cabinet Member agreed to write to Mr Smith with a written response.

Questions to the Cabinet Member for Communities

10.17 Question Mr H Humphrey

Mr Humphrey noted the ongoing review within the Adult Education Service and asked when the outcome of the Wensum Lodge investigation would be known so that the review of adult education could be completed.

The Cabinet Member agreed to provide a written response.

10.18 Question from Mr Wilby

Why had the 8th October Norfolk Community Fund Panel been cancelled and by whom? Could the response be passed to the 60 Norfolk-wide groups who were still waiting for the meeting?

The Cabinet Member responded that she apologised for the short notice in cancelling the meeting. The meeting had originally been rearranged to November but had been cancelled due to a spending freeze which had been put on the Cabinet. There had been various reasons for the cancellation and a notice had been put out to the relevant groups requesting dates when the groups would be available. The Cabinet Member was hopeful that it would be rearranged in the new year.

Questions to the Cabinet Member for Economic Development.

10.19 Question from Mr Law

Regarding the Rural Development Strategy can the Cabinet Member give reassurance that the County Council understands the meaning of sustainable development in respect of Norfolk and that it will not rely on the national or rural options of other counties.

The Cabinet Member agreed to provide a written response.

10.20 Question from Mr Borrett

Mr Borrett asked whether the new Cabinet Member would sit on the new Local Enterprise Partnership and what steps would the Cabinet Member take to keep the Council informed of the progress of the new enterprise partnership, given the large sums of money which was held by the partnership.

The Cabinet Member agreed to provide a written response.

11 **Reports**

11.1 **Report of the Cabinet Scrutiny Committee 17 September 2013.**

RESOLVED to note the report.

11.2 **Report of the Standards Committee 13 November 2013**

RESOLVED to note the report.

11.3 **Report of the Audit Committee 26 September 2013.**

Mr Mackie moved the report.

Mr Dearnley asked why the Committee had not questioned the £25m quoted as the cost of planning failure in the case of the Willows project which, despite the fact it had been noted as a possible risk, had no mitigation plan in place.

Mr Mackie responded that Members and officers had been fully aware of the risks and implications. These had been included on the risk register for a while and had been discussed at Overview and Scrutiny Panels a number of times. A report would be taken to Cabinet on 2 December 2013.

RESOLVED to note the report.

11.4 **Report of the Norfolk Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee 5 September 2013**

RESOLVED to note the report.

11.5 **Report of the Norfolk Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee 10 October 2013**

RESOLVED to note the report.

11.6 **Report of the Planning (Regulatory) Committee 27 September 2013**

RESOLVED to note the report.

11.7 **Report of the Planning (Regulatory) Committee 1 November 2013**

RESOLVED to note the report.

Report of the Joint Committees – Norwich Joint Highways Committee Meeting 19 September 2013.

RESOLVED to note the report.

12 **Appointments to Committees / Panels etc**

RESOLVED that Mr Seward be appointed to the vacancy of the Community Services Overview and Scrutiny Panel.

13 **To Answer Questions on notice under rule 8.3 of the Council Procedure Rules**

There were none.

The meeting concluded at 16:30pm.

Chairman

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**Norfolk County Council
25 November 2013**

Appendix 1

Recorded Vote – Minute 6.3– Mr Bearman Amended Motion

Name	For	Against	Name	For	Against
Adams Tony		X	Iles Brian		X
Agnew Stephen	X		Jermy Terry		X
Aldred Colin	X		Jordan Cliff		X
Askew Stephen		X	Joyce James	ABSTAIN	
Baker Michael	X		Kemp Alexandra	X	
Bearman Richard	X		Kiddle-Morris Mark		X
Bird Richard	X		Law Jason		X
Borrett Bill		X	Leggett Judy		X
Boswell Andrew	X		Long Brian		X
Bremmer Bert		X	Mackie Ian		X
Brociek-Coulton Julie		X	Monson Ian		X
Byrne Alec	ABSENT		Mooney Joe		X
Cartiss Michael		X	Morgan Elizabeth	X	
Castle Mick		X	Morphew Steve		X
Chamberlin Jenny		X	Nobbs George		X
Chenery of Horsbrugh Michael		X	Northam Wyndham		X
Childs Jonathon	X		Parkinson-Hare Rex	X	
Clancy Stuart	ABSENT		Perkins Jim	X	
Coke Toby	ABSTAIN		Proctor Andrew		X
Collis David	ABSENT		Ramsbotham David	X	
Corlett Emma		X	Richmond William		X
Cox Hilary		X	Roper Daniel	X	
Crawford Denis	X		Sands Mike		X
Dearnley Adrian	X		Seward E	X	
Dewsbury Margaret		X	Shaw Nigel		X
Dixon Nigel		X	Smith Matthew	X	
Dobson John		X	Smith Roger		X
East Tim	X		Smyth Paul	X	
FitzPatrick Tom		X	Somerville Margaret		X
Foulger Colin		X	Spratt Bev		X
Garrod Tom		X	Storey Martin		X
Gihawi Deborah	ABSENT		Strong Marie	X	
Gilmour Paul	X		Thomas Alison		X
Grey Alan	X		Thomas David	X	
Gunson Adrian		X	Timewell John	X	
Gurney Shalagh		X	Virgo Judith		X
Hacon Pat		X	Walker Colleen		X
Hannah Brian	X		Ward John		X
Harrison David	X		Watkins Brian	X	
Hebborn Stan	ABSTAIN		Whitaker Sue		X
Humphrey Harry		X	White Tony		X
			Wilby Martin		X
			Wilkinson Margaret		X

For 27, Against 50, Abstentions 3 – **LOST**

**Norfolk County Council
25 November 2013**

Appendix 2

Recorded Vote – Minute 6.5 – Mr Nobbs Amended Motion

Name	For	Against	Name	For	Against
Adams Tony		X	Iles Brian		X
Agnew Stephen	X		Jermy Terry	X	
Aldred Colin	X		Jordan Cliff		X
Askew Stephen		X	Joyce James	X	
Baker Michael	X		Kemp Alexandra	X	
Bearman Richard	X		Kiddle-Morris Mark	ABSENT	
Bird Richard	X		Law Jason		X
Borrett Bill		X	Leggett Judy		X
Boswell Andrew	X		Long Brian		X
Bremmer Bert	X		Mackie Ian		X
Brociek-Coulton Julie	X		Monson Ian		X
Byrne Alec	ABSENT		Mooney Joe		X
Cartiss Michael		X	Morgan Elizabeth	X	
Castle Mick	X		Morphew Steve	X	
Chamberlin Jenny		X	Nobbs George	X	
Chenery of Horsbrugh Michael		X	Northam Wyndham		X
Childs Jonathon	X		Parkinson-Hare Rex	X	
Clancy Stuart	ABSENT		Perkins Jim	X	
Coke Toby	X		Proctor Andrew		X
Collis David	ABSENT		Ramsbotham David	X	
Corlett Emma	X		Richmond William		X
Cox Hilary	ABSTAIN		Roper Daniel	X	
Crawford Denis	X		Sands Mike	X	
Dearnley Adrian	X		Seward E	X	
Dewsbury Margaret		X	Shaw Nigel		X
Dixon Nigel		X	Smith Matthew	ABSTAIN	
Dobson John		X	Smith Roger		X
East Tim	X		Smyth Paul	X	
FitzPatrick Tom		X	Somerville Margaret		X
Foulger Colin		X	Spratt Bev		X
Garrod Tom		X	Storey Martin		X
Gihawi Deborah	ABSENT		Strong Marie	X	
Gilmour Paul	X		Thomas Alison		X
Grey Alan	X		Thomas David	X	
Gunson Adrian		X	Timewell John	X	
Gurney Shalagh		X	Virgo Judith	ABSENT	
Hacon Pat	X		Walker Colleen	X	
Hannah Brian	X		Ward John		X
Harrison David	X		Watkins Brian	X	
Hebborn Stan	X		Whitaker Sue	X	
Humphrey Harry		X	White Tony		X
			Wilby Martin		X
			Wilkinson Margaret	X	

For 41, Against 35, Abstentions 2 – **CARRIED**