

Norfolk County Council

Minutes of the Meeting Held at 10am on Monday 23 July 2018

Present:

Mr A Adams	Ms A Kemp
Mr T Adams	Mr K Kiddie
Mr S Aquarone	Mr M Kiddle-Morris
Mr S Askew	Mr B Long
Ms J Barnard	Mr I Mackie
Mr D Bills	Dr E Maxfield
Mr B Borrett	Mr S Morphew
Mr R Brame	Mr G Nobbs
Mrs S Butikofer	Mr G Peck
Mrs P Carpenter	Mr G Plant
Mr S Clancy	Mr R Price
Ms K Clipsham	Mr A Proctor
Mr D Collis	Mr W Richmond
Mr E Colman	Mr D Roper
Mr E Connolly	Mr D Rowntree
Ms E Corlett	Ms C Rumsby
Mr S Dark	Mr M Sands
Mrs M Dewsbury	Mr E Seward
Mr D Douglas	Mr C Smith
Mr P Duigan	Mr M Smith-Clare
Mr F Eagle	Mr B Spratt
Mr T East	Mr B Stone
Mr J Fisher	Mrs M Stone
Mr T FitzPatrick	Dr M Strong
Mr C Foulger	Mr H Thirtle
Mr T Garrod	Mrs A Thomas
Mr A Grant	Mr V Thomson
Mrs S Gurney	Mr J Timewell
Mr R Hanton	Mrs K Vincent
Mr D Harrison	Mrs C Walker
M Chenery of Horsbrugh	Mr J Ward
Mr H Humphrey	Mr B Watkins
Mr B Iles	Mr A White
Mr T Jermy	Mr M Wilby
Mrs B Jones	
Dr C Jones	

Present: 70

Apologies for Absence:

Apologies for absence were received from Mr M Castle; Mr N Dixon, Mr S Eyre; Mr A Jamieson, Mr G Middleton, Mr J Mooney; Ms J Oliver; Mr R Oliver; Mr T Smith; Ms S Squire and Ms C Bowes.

1 Minutes

- 1.1 The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 8 May 2018 were confirmed as a correct record by Council and signed by the Chairman.
- 1.2 The minutes of the Extraordinary County Council meeting held on Friday 1 June 2018 were confirmed as a correct record by Council and signed by the Chairman.

2 Chairman's Announcements

- 2.1 The Chairman formally reported the sad passing of Cliff Jordan and the former Lord Mayor of Norwich and Chairman of Norfolk County Council Raymond Frosdick. Council stood in a minute's silence as a mark of respect for both men.
- 2.2 Council welcomed Ed Connolly to his first meeting since being elected Local Councillor for Yare and All Saints Division.
- 2.3 The Chairman highlighted some of the many engagements she had undertaken since the last meeting, including the grand tour of Norfolk with District Council Chairmen, Vice-Chairmen and Mayors where they had visited 10 iconic Norfolk places in one day and travelled approximately 200 miles. The Chairman reminded Council that Norfolk Day would be taking place on 27 July 2018.

The Chairman drew Council's attention to the Inspirational Women from Norfolk exhibition which would be on display soon. The Chairman also referred to paintings of Elizabeth Fry, Amelia Opie and Harriet Martineau and invited Council to view the exhibition once it was in place.

The Chairman also highlighted a School Council event held recently, where children from Necton School's School Council, aged between 8 and 12 had thoroughly enjoyed seeing how the Council worked, and during which they had asked a variety of searching questions. The Chairman encouraged Members to nominate schools in their Divisions to take part.

- 2.5 The Chairman advised Council that she would be changing the order of business to consider item 9 (Appointments to Committees, Sub-Committees and Joint Committees) after agenda item 3 (Declarations of Interest).
- 2.6 Mr Spratt thanked the Chairman for inviting him and his wife to her summer reception at Norwich Castle and said he had thoroughly enjoyed the event.

3 Declarations of Interest

- 3.1 Mrs C Walker declared an Other Interest in agenda item 7 (Report of the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee meetings held on 24 May and 12 July 2018) as her daughter was a midwife at the James Paget University Hospital.

- 3.2 M Chenery of Horsbrough declared an Other interest in agenda item 7 (Report of the Records Committee) as he was a member of NORAH (Norfolk Archives & Heritage).
- 3.3 Mr T FitzPatrick declared an Other interest as he worked as an IT Consultant.

Council agreed to consider agenda item 9 as its next item of business.

4 Appointments to Committees, Sub-Committees and Joint Committees (Standard Item).

- 4.1 Council received the report setting out the appointments made under delegated authority to Committees:

- 4.2 Council **RESOLVED** to

- **Note** the changes to Committees made under delegated powers as set out in the report.

- 4.3 The Leader thanked Mr T Garrod, Mr D Bills, Mr K Kiddie, Mr M Kiddle-Morris and Mr B Iles for all the work they had undertaken on the Service Committees.

Council **RESOLVED** to **agree** the following appointments which were proposed by the Leader:

Chairman of Business & Property Committee – Barry Stone
Vice-Chairman of Business & Property Committee – Carl Smith
Chairman of Digital Innovation and Efficiency Committee – Tom FitzPatrick
Vice-Chairman of Digital Innovation & Efficiency Committee – Graham Middleton
Vice-Chairman of Communities Committee – Brian Long

- **Appoint** Mr B Spratt as Norfolk County Council Member on the Norfolk Parking Partnership.

5 Questions to Leader of the Council

5.1 Question from Mr S Morpew

- 5.1.1 Mr Morpew said the Labour Group strongly welcomed the Business Case and Leader's comments in opposition to the Police & Crime Commissioner's power grab of Norfolk Fire & Rescue Service. He asked, for the public record, if the Leader would tell Council why the excellent services provided in Norfolk by the Fire & Rescue Service should remain safe with Norfolk County Council.

- 5.1.2 The Leader updated Council about events to date and said everyone valued and respected the service provided by Norfolk Fire & Rescue Service and as Council was aware, the Police & Crime Commissioner was promoting his draft Business Case called "A Case for Change". The Leader continued that initial analysis of the document had found a number of flaws, notably there were major benefits from collaboration which were not properly accounted for; the financial benefits were unquantified; and future funding assumptions lacked depth.

The Leader referred Council to the document that had been produced by Norfolk County Council titled “Norfolk Fire & Rescue Service – Keep in Safe Hands” and listed, in response to Mr Morphew’s question, five points from the summary about why NFRS should remain with Norfolk County Council:

- Efficient, Effective and Economically Viable.
- Strong and productive track record of working together with Norfolk Police.
- Fire and Rescue budgets had been protected.
- We operated from 42 fire stations which, the public tell us, were much valued and needed.
- We had made, and would continue to make, significant investment in the service to ensure it has modern equipment and facilities it needs to operate effectively.

The Leader added, although it was not included in the summary, the fact that the service was Norfolk’s Community Fire and Rescue Service.

5.2 Question from Dr M Strong

5.2.1 Dr Strong said that several of her rural parishes had written to her raising concerns about the proposed 2019-20 cut of some 44% to the mobile library service. She added that her division included 30 villages and hamlets (hamlets did not have a church) and that most, if not all, of the 30 lacked many, if not all of the other amenities. She added that one resident had written to her saying that there was no shop, no pub, no school and no bus, the mobile library was the only amenity left and asking her if they were going to lose that amenity too. Dr Strong asked the Leader to tell her how she should respond.

5.2.2 The Leader suggested that the word “cut” was not the best word to use and that the best phrase to use was “reshaping the service” to ensure it was fully fit for purpose and met the needs of communities.

5.3 Question from Mr T FitzPatrick

5.3.1 Mr FitzPatrick referred to the recent LGA Conference and the Innovation zone which was very popular and an ideal opportunity for Councils to share good ideas. Mr FitzPatrick asked if the Leader could report back on the “In Good Company” presentation made at this years conference.

5.3.2 The Leader replied that the “In Good Company” presentation was well received as part of the Innovation zone and from three perspectives - firstly, it showed that Norfolk was being innovative in what it was doing; secondly, the audience was very appreciative of what we were trying to promote; and thirdly, in terms of the presentation that was made, he had been able to cite examples from a group in Harleston and also highlight the benefits of that particular project.

5.4 Question from Ms A Kemp

5.4.1 Ms Kemp asked when a village was not a village and referred to the fact that Defra had redrawn the boundaries of the European Leader Funding so that West Lynn, which was a village in her Division could not benefit from it which was particularly serious as the ferry service could not continue without funding. Ms Kemp asked if the Leader would take this up with Defra and ask them if they would redraw the boundaries so that villages in Norfolk could benefit from funding

for rural services.

- 5.4.2 The Leader replied that the issue about villages or towns was dependent on how much growth there would be across the county and how much growth we were prepared to accept in those areas, to:

- a) keep the villages and wider communities vibrant and
- b) ensure the areas were protected.

He added that, in terms of status, he accepted there were definitions around whether a place was a village or a town and said we would need to look to the future and decide how we defined our communities to take account of the growth.

5.5 **Question from Mr G Nobbs**

- 5.5.1 Mr Nobbs said, during the time he was Leader of the Council, he supported Norse and knew it was vitally important to maintain a good relationship with our Partners. He added that, since then, Norse had a new Chairman, new MD, new Group MD, new NPS MD. Mr Nobbs said he realised the Leader was new to his current role, but asked if he could tell Council whether we, as Councillors, should be concerned about reports in the EDP about Norwich City Council's decision to cancel four contracts, worth tens of millions of pounds and when the MD of Norse first became aware of the situation. He also asked if the Leader could explain why there had been an apparent total breakdown in the relationship between senior management of Norwich City Council and Norse.

- 5.5.2 The Leader replied that we all supported the work and activities Norse undertook, as we owned the company. The Leader said, regarding the other issues that were in the public domain, he had no comment to make in that respect as it was a matter between Norwich City Council and Norse.

5.6 **Question from Mr D Roper**

- 5.6.1 Mr Roper referred to the recent coverage of the difficulties of at least one bus operator in Norfolk and asked, taking into account the very large public response to proposed cuts in bus subsidies at the last budget consultation, if the Leader was prepared to give a cast iron assurance that there would be absolutely no proposals in the current budget round to reduce bus subsidies or grants.

- 5.6.2 The Leader replied that, as the budget work progressed all the issues would need to be looked at. He added that it would not be right to give a cast iron assurance at this stage, but protecting buses and what they meant to their communities was what we should be doing.

5.7 **Question from Mr E Colman**

- 5.7.1 Mr Colman asked if the Leader would join him in congratulating the Public Health Team on their recent success at the Municipal Journal (MJ) Awards

- 5.7.2 The Leader replied that he would be happy to congratulate the Public Health team who won the award in the Public Health Category in the MJ Local Government Achievement Awards. He added that something that was not always recognised was how much Norfolk County Council, through its Public Health Team, led in this particular area, in training people in front-line roles and also making sure that where there were signs of abuse they were spotted early so they could be dealt with.

5.8 Question from Ms E Corlett

5.8.1 Ms Corlett said, when Councillor allowances were controversially agreed in December 2017, the arguments used at that time included that the role of Leader and Deputy Leader were both full-time jobs. Ms Corlett asked if the Leader could tell us how this assertion which was used to justify the increase, fitted with his deputy having a full-time job at County, at the same time as being Leader of a District Council and also whether he predicted that the District or County role would be neglected as a result.

5.8.2 The Leader replied that from the work done so far, the Leader and Deputy Leader had worked as a team and there was no reason they shouldn't continue to work as a team in the future.

5.9 Question from Mr B Stone

5.9.1 Mr Stone referred to the Norfolk Show and the very enjoyable day spent there. He asked if the Leader would update Members on the success of this year's Norfolk Show.

5.9.2 The Leader replied that it had been a very good day which had also been very hot. He added that there had been a presentation with the Chamber of Commerce and LEP which had been very positive and that it had been a very productive day.

5.10 Question from Mr S Aquarone

5.10.1 Mr Aquarone asked the Leader, after kicking cuts to special educational needs and disability transport budgets into the long grass, extending children's centre contracts and being forced to increase special needs funding, what steps he had taken to ensure children's centres got things right first time in the future.

5.10.2 The Leader replied that the path we were trying to follow now was to get things right all the time. With regard to the issue about SEN children, there were a number of issues, one of which was provision for schools and after he had discussed the issue with the Executive Director he had directed the service to get on with the work.

5.11 Question from Mr J Fisher

5.11.1 Mr Fisher asked, further to the Chairman's reference to Norfolk Day, if the Leader could provide an update of the activities this Council was doing for Norfolk Day on 27 July.

5.11.2 The Leader replied that the Norfolk flag would be flying all week at County Hall; Norfolk Day was on Friday 27 July, which would be an early start for him as he was due to be at Wroxham at about 5.30am to go out on a boat trip for about 3 hours. He added that some articles had been written for the EDP promoting the work that was being done; the Chairman had already mentioned her Grand Tour of Norfolk; and would also be launching her "Inspirational women" campaign to celebrate inspirational women of the past and also to inspire young women today.

5.11.3 The Chairman added information about the launch of her "Inspirational women" campaign and said that it was 100 years since women had won the vote. She wanted to encourage women to much greater things and would be launching the Charter on 27 July, where a group of inspirational women had already agreed to

attend, including a judge; a young entrepreneur, various CEO's and academics. She continued that this was a wonderful opportunity to raise aspirations of women as not all women had self-belief and she wanted to encourage them to have a "can do" attitude. The Chairman asked all Councillors to support the launch and Charter.

5.12 Question from Mrs C Walker

5.12.1 Mrs Walker asked if the Leader could confirm whether a recent edition of Your Norfolk was scrapped, why it was not circulated to the people of Norfolk and the costs incurred.

5.12.2 The Leader replied that the magazine had included a sensitive issue which he felt was not right to circulate and on that basis that particular edition of Your Norfolk was taken out of circulation.

6 Notice of Motions

6.1 The following motion was proposed by Ms A Kemp and seconded by Mr T East:

"This Council, mindful of its public sector equality duty to eliminate discrimination and advance equality of opportunity for people with protected characteristics, including disabled people and families with young children, asks the Policy and Resources Committee to arrange that the Strategic Equality Group, mothballed since the election of May 2017, should meet on a regular footing with immediate effect; as this Council wishes to challenge itself, in the interests of promoting public health and wellbeing and reducing the future social care budget, to enhance its power to help disabled residents who cannot walk, or who do not drive, or who are visually or sensorily impaired, or have learning difficulties, or mental health issues, and other disabilities, to access the community independently and participate on an equal footing; and therefore wishes to raise the bar for informed policy and decision making in the interests of disabled people, and to complement this Council's important, innovative work in Assistive Technology, with the restoration of the Strategic Equality Group as the forum for Equality Impact Assessments to be debated in detail by members collectively, to better inform this Council, and prove an active force for good in Norfolk."

6.1.2 The following amendment was proposed by Ms Corlett, and as it was agreed by Ms A Kemp as proposer of the original motion, it became the substantive motion:

~~"This Council, mindful of its public sector equality duty to eliminate discrimination and advance equality of opportunity for people with protected characteristics, including disabled people and families with young children, asks the Policy and Resources Committee to arrange that the Strategic Equality Group, mothballed since the election of May 2017, should meet on a regular footing with immediate effect; as this Council wishes to challenge itself, in the interests of promoting public health and wellbeing and reducing the future social care budget, to enhance its power to help disabled residents who cannot walk, or who do not drive, or who are visually or sensorily impaired, or have learning difficulties, or mental health issues, and other disabilities, to access the community independently and participate on an equal footing; and therefore wishes to raise the bar for informed policy and decision making in the interests of disabled people, and to complement this Council's important, innovative work in Assistive Technology, with the restoration of the Strategic Equality Group as the forum for Equality Impact Assessments to be~~

~~debated in detail by members collectively, to better inform this Council, and prove an active force for good in Norfolk~~

1. Requests Policy and Resources Committee to establish an Equalities sub committee to replace and undertake similar functions to the Strategic Equalities Group in overseeing the council's approach to equality, and provide a more robust approach to upholding our Equality Duties.
2. Requests the current working group examining possible future arrangements for a cabinet system to consider and include in their recommendations specific proposals to ensure robust oversight and governance in respect of our Equality Duties, should Council decide to adopt a cabinet form of governance"

6.1.3 Following debate, and upon being put to a vote, with 27 votes in favour, 42 votes against and 0 abstentions, the motion was **LOST**.

6.2 The following motion was proposed by Mr T Jermy and seconded by Mr S Morphew:

"Council agrees to suspend charges for the disposal of DIY waste pending the outcome of the review of the policy by EDT committee."

6.2.1 The following amendment was proposed by Mr S Aquarone and seconded by Mr T East:

~~"Council agrees to scrap suspend charges for the disposal of DIY waste. pending the outcome of the review of the policy by EDT Committee."~~

6.2.2 As proposer of the original motion, Mr T Jermy did not accept the amendment which was then debated by Council.

6.2.3 Following debate on the amendment and upon being put to a recorded vote (copy attached at Appendix A), with 27 votes in favour, 43 votes against and 0 abstentions, the amended motion was **LOST**.

6.2.4 Council then voted on the substantive motion as set out in paragraph 6.2 above. Upon being put to a recorded vote (attached at Appendix B), with 26 votes in favour, 43 votes against and 0 abstentions the substantive motion was **LOST**.

6.3 The following motion was **WITHDRAWN** by Mr T East.

"Since the introduction on 1 April 2018 by the Council of charges for household DIY waste there has been: -

- A challenge from Norman Lamb MP on the legality of these charges
- Questions raised by Norman Lamb MP in Parliament on these charges
- An Eastern Daily Press investigation showing an increase in fly tipping since these charges were introduced
- Evidence that public use of recycling centres has dropped since the charges were introduced
- Anger and confusion by residents at these charges and how they are

being implemented

- Residents given different answers as to whether they would be charged depending on which recycling centre they went to

Councillor Martin Wilby, as Chairman of the Environment, Development and Transport Committee, told full council on 16 April 2018, that if there was an increase in fly tipping as a result of the policy, the County Council would 'sort it out'.

Given the above, the council will not meet its projected savings target and in doing so will put more clearing up costs on the District Councils. In any good organisation this would be seen as a poor decision and be quickly changed. The Council would then be in line with other authorities such as West Sussex County Council and Derbyshire County Council in reversing the charges.

The Council notes the public anger and frustration that the introduction of these charges has caused as evidenced by the petition calling for the charges to be reversed that has been signed by more than 6600 people.

Council resolves to immediately stop the charges for DIY household waste at its household waste recycling centres."

6.4 The following motion was proposed by Mr J Timewell and seconded by Mr B Watkins:

"A number of major employers have announced recently that they will be leaving Norfolk including Colman's from Norwich. Irwin and Mitchell estimates that for the number of new jobs created next year Norwich will be 27th out of all UK cities compared to Oxford 9th and Cambridge 10th.

The Council's own economic analysis shows that Norfolk is a difficult place to set up a business with Norfolk currently 2.5% behind the national average for business start-ups.

Essex County Council to improve its economic performance and to send out a clear message to everyone that they really are open for business set up an Independent Economic Commission. The Commission has set the ambitious target of Essex becoming the fastest growing economy in the country with the aim of doubling its jobs and wealth by 2025.

The Council resolves that it follows the example set by Essex County Council and

- (A) sets up an independent Economic Commission for Norfolk,
- (B) establishes the remit of the commission to gather evidence and provide recommendations as to how this county/region might realise its full economic potential, providing a stronger engine of growth for the UK economy,
- (C) requests the Commission to bring together expertise from economists, business, finance and universities to provide a stronger analytical base for policy-makers and to make proposals for action,
- (D) ensures that the membership of the commission is truly independent to be

made up of academic, business and economic representatives with no political control, and

(E) asks the commission to report its findings within 1 year from now.”

6.4.1 Following debate and upon being put to a vote, with 12 votes in favour, the motion was **LOST**.

6.5 The following motion was proposed by Mr D Roper and seconded by Mr D Harrison, after Council agreed the alteration set out below:

“Council notes that the airport north roundabout and Wroxham Road roundabout on the Broadland Northway ~~NDR~~ have seen a higher number of crashes than would usually be expected for a road designed to national standards and which passed a safety audit carried out by independent experts.

It is not appropriate though for the council to deny any responsibility for this and to seek to blame it all on poor driving.

The Council should undertake an urgent reassessment of the road, to allay public concerns that should include:

- the layout of lanes at roundabouts and the tailbacks they are causing
- repairs to signage where they have been damaged
- sufficient slow down road markers and rumble strips before roundabouts as are provided at other major roads in the county.

Council resolves to

(A) undertake an urgent safety audit of the Broadland Northway ~~NDR~~,

(B) give delegated responsibility to the Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services to take the remedial work that is needed as part of that audit, and

(C) request the Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services to report to the meeting of the Environmental, Development and Transport Committee on 7 September 2018 on the work that has been undertaken..”

6.5.1 Mr M Wilby, Chairman of Environment, Transport and Development (EDT) Committee advised that a safety audit had recently been undertaken, with input from the Police, and some remedial works had been completed. He added that a major traffic survey monitoring exercise was to take place late 2018, which was approximately six months after the opening of the Broadland Northway, the results of the survey as well as a report on the monitoring of the junctions would be presented to EDT Committee at a future meeting.

6.5.2 As the proposer, Mr Roper **WITHDREW** the motion after receiving the necessary assurances from the Chairman of EDT that investigations would continue and EDT Committee would receive the results in the near future.

6.6 The following motion was proposed by Mr M Smith-Clare and seconded by Ms E Corlett, including the additional word in the final paragraph:

“Council acknowledges the importance of members operating within a framework of accountability and transparency, and notes that requirement of disclosure of membership of the Freemasons by other Local Authorities represents best practice.

Council further acknowledges that for the public to have confidence in its elected representatives there must be total openness and scrutiny to safeguard against any perceived potential conflicts of interests in our decision making.

Council therefore resolves that all NCC members be required to declare any **current** membership of the Freemasons on their register of interests.”

6.6.1 The Practice Director nplaw advised Council that Members were not required to declare if they were a Freemason, however if a Member held a management role as a Mason, they should declare that fact as an “other” interest. Anyone that had declared an interest would still be able to speak and vote on the matter.

6.6.2 The following amendment was proposed by Mr Tom Garrod and seconded by Mr B Stone:

~~“Council acknowledges the importance of members operating within a framework of accountability and transparency, and notes that requirement of disclosure of membership of the Freemasons by other Local Authorities represents best practice.~~

~~Council further acknowledges that for the public to have confidence in its elected representatives there must be total openness and scrutiny to safeguard against any perceived potential conflicts of interests in our decision making.~~

~~Council therefore resolves that all NCC members be required to declare any current membership of the Freemasons on their register of interests.~~

Council acknowledges the importance of members operating within a framework of accountability and transparency and asks the Standards Committee to review the current code of conduct to ensure that it meets these requirements”

6.6.2 Following a query about whether the amendment negated the motion, the Practice Director nplaw advised Council that the amendment did not negate the motion.

6.6.3 As proposer of the original motion, Mr Smith-Clare did not accept the amendment which was debated by Council.

6.6.4 Following debate on the amendment and upon being put to a vote, with 44 votes in favour, 20 votes against and 4 abstentions, the amended motion was **CARRIED** and became the substantive motion.

6.6.5 Council then debated the substantive motion as set out below:

“Council acknowledges the importance of members operating within a framework of accountability and transparency.

Council acknowledges the importance of members operating within a framework

of accountability and transparency and asks the Standards Committee to review the current code of conduct to ensure that it meets these requirements.”

The Labour Group left the meeting at 12.45 p.m.

- 6.6.6 Following debate and upon the substantive motion being put to a vote, with 1 abstention the motion was **CARRIED**.

Council adjourned from 12.50pm until 1.30pm.

7 Recommendations from Service Committees

7.1 Policy & Resources – Recommendations from the meetings held on 4 June and 16 July 2018.

- 7.1.1 Mr A Proctor, Chairman of Policy & Resources Committee, moved the recommendations in the report, proposing an additional recommendation to the Annual Treasury Management Report 2017-18, following advice received from the Auditors in light of the revised MRP guidance from central government, to amend the MRP policy to ensure Council continued to achieve:

- The revenue savings assumed in 2017/18, and
- Savings in future years until full utilisation of the over-provision of MRP (estimated at £41m remaining, subject to further detailed calculations).

A copy of the revised Statement is attached at Appendix C to these minutes.

The additional recommendation to read:

- 2 To agree the Revised Minimum Revenue Provision Statement 2017-18 and 2018-19.

7.1.2 Annual Treasury Management Report 2017-18

Council **RESOLVED** to:

1. **Approve** the Annual Treasury Management Report 2017-18.
2. **Agree** the Revised Minimum Revenue Provision Statement 2017-18 and 2018-19.

7.1.3 NORSE Consents

Council **RESOLVED** to:

- **Approve** the appointment of Directors to companies in the Norse Group as detailed in Appendix B of the report.

7.1.4 Limited Company Consents

Council **RESOLVED** to:

- **Approve** the appointment of Directors to companies in the Norse Group as

detailed in Appendix C of the report.

- **Agree** the change in registered office for Norse Group companies as detailed below:
 - In August the Group Solicitors team, which is responsible for the administration of the Norse Group company books will move to Fifers Lane. As the registered office of a company is where official communications are sent it would be appropriate to change the registered office of all the Norse Group companies to the Fifers Lane address (Addfills registered office is Fifers Lane). **280 Fifers Lane, Norwich, Norfolk, NR6 6EQ.**

7.1.5 **Officer Employment Procedure Rules**

Council **RESOLVED** to:

- **Agree** that the position of Head of Communications is included in the list set out in Part A of the Appendix to Part 6 of the Constitution (Senior Officers which will be appointed by a Member Panel).
- **Agree** that the Constitution Advisory Group (CAG) should consider if there are any other Senior Officer positions that need to be added to the list of appointments which are made by a Member Panel.

7.2 **Children's Services Committee – Recommendations from the meeting held on 10 July 2018.**

7.2.1 Mrs P Carpenter, Chairman of Children's Services Committee moved the recommendations in the report.

7.2.2 **Youth Justice Plan**

7.2.3 Council **RESOLVED** to **approve** the Norfolk Youth Justice Plan 2018-2021.

8 **Reports from Service Committees (Questions to Chairmen)**

8.1 **Report of the Policy and Resources Committee meetings held on 4 June and 16 July 2018.**

Mr A Proctor, Chairman of Policy and Resources Committee, moved the report.

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

8.2 **Report of the Adult Social Care Committee meetings held on 14 May and 2 July 2018.**

Mr B Borrett, Chairman of Adult Social Care Committee moved the report.

8.2.1 **Question from Mr B Watkins**

Mr Watkins said that whilst the Liberal Democrat Group welcomed the publication of the new Learning and Disability Strategy, it must bring quantifiable changes across Norfolk as we owed that to the 17000 users who had not always had their

best interests served. Mr Watkins asked the Chairman, when he believed the lives of people who had a learning disability in Norfolk would see an improvement in their lives as a result of the new Strategy.

The Chairman replied that the Strategy was going to inform every decision made by anyone interacting with anybody in that field. The Chairman continued that he thought it was a fantastic new strategy and welcomed the opportunity to talk about it as he thought it was going to be a step change in putting the desires and aspirations of service users at the heart of all decisions. The work would commence from now and Adult Social Care Committee would be monitoring progress.

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

8.3 **Report of the Business & Property Committee meetings held on 15 May and 3 July 2018**

Mr B Stone, Chairman of Business & Property Committee moved the report.

8.3.1 **Question from Ms A Kemp**

Ms Kemp said that the Business and Property Committee had set up a company to bring in assets to the Council. She asked if the Chairman was in a position to say how much profit the Business & Property Committee had brought in over the past year for use by other services.

The Chairman replied that Repton Property Company had been set targets and they were included in the Medium Term Plan. The Chairman was unable to give an exact figure at the current time, but did reassure Council that the medium term plan was in operation.

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

8.4 **Report of the Children's Services Committee meetings held on 22 May and 10 July 2018.**

Mrs P Carpenter, Chairman of Children's Services Committee moved the report.

8.4.1 **Question from Mr B Watkins**

Mr Watkins referred to recent reports about delays to waiting times for people with suspected autism who were waiting almost four years to receive a diagnosis. He asked the Chairman if any pressure could be put on the NHS to try to reduce waiting times for assessments across Norfolk.

The Chairman responded that a Children's Services and Adult Social Care Partnership Board had now been established to look into that issue and that a report would be presented to a future meeting of the Committee.

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

8.5 **Report of the Communities Committee meetings held on 21 May and 4 July 2018.**

Mrs M Dewsbury, Chairman of Communities Committee, moved the report.

8.5.1 **Question from Ms S Butikofer**

Mrs Butikofer asked if the Chairman of Communities Committee was planning to call a Special Meeting of the Committee to oversee the critical service provided by this Council in the form of the Norfolk Fire & Rescue Service, so that Members could debate a joint response to the consultation published by the Police & Crime Commissioner.

The Chairman replied that she would be considering holding a special meeting to consider its response to the consultation.

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

8.6 **Report of the Digital Innovation & Efficiency Committee meetings held on 11 May and 11 July 2018.**

Mr T FitzPatrick, Chairman of the Digital Innovation & Efficiency Committee moved the report. The new Chairman thanked both the outgoing Chairman and Vice-Chairman for all the work they had completed.

8.6.1 **Question from Mr S Aquarone.**

Mr Aquarone asked the Chairman if there were any plans in place which would allow parish councils or village hall owners to take part in the same merchandising of possible small transmitter sites that had come out on the back of the mobile phone coverage research. He added that the County Council had a lot of property where it could invite mobile phone network operators to install transmitters and plug the gap in coverage and that it would be a good idea if there was a scheme whereby other community organisations could offer their sites up for inclusion in the process.

The Chairman responded that the IMT Manager was looking into this topic at the moment and that he would find out what progress had been made.

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

8.7 **Report of the Environment, Development and Transport Committee meetings held on 18 May and 6 July 2018.**

Mr M Wilby, Chairman of EDT Committee moved the report.

8.7.1 **Question from Mr S Aquarone**

Mr Aquarone referred to the recent incident when a resident was locked in a recycling centre and not allowed to leave until he had paid the DIY waste charge. He added that he made no judgement as to whether this was because they were unaware of the fee and failed to bring any means of payment, or whether they refused to pay, but given the potential for Norfolk people to take matters into their own hands and rebel over these charges, had the Chairman considered whether some sense-checking of management culture might be in order to support centre staff.

The Chairman replied that he had been made aware of the situation as soon as it was happening and that officers at the site had kept him fully involved. The Chairman felt the situation was dealt with professionally and stated he was happy with the way the matter was resolved.

8.7.2 **Question from Ms A Kemp**

Ms Kemp asked if the Chairman would like to comment on the efficiency and ethnicity of the democratic process in Norfolk, bearing in mind that the residents in her division had two public inquiries refused recently – one by the Secretary of State about the EP Power Station and one by Norfolk County Council over the Hardings Way traffic order.

The Chairman replied that he was very happy with the democratic process in Norfolk.

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

8.8 Following a proposal from Mrs S Butikofer, Council **AGREED** to place on record its thanks to the Norfolk Fire and Rescue Service, particularly the Retained Fire Fighters, for all their hard work during the recent spell of hot weather.

9 Other Committees

9.1 **Report of the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee meetings held on 24 May and 12 July 2018.**

9.1.1 M Chenery of Horsbrugh, Chairman, moved the report. Council **RESOLVED** to note the report.

9.1.2 **Question from Ms A Kemp**

Ms Kemp referred to the speech and language therapy waiting times and the fact that people are limited to six sessions and asked what HOSC was going to do about the situation.

The Chairman replied that he was still waiting for a reply.

9.2 **Report of the Personnel Committee meeting held on 19 June 2018.**

Mr A Proctor, Chairman, moved the report. Council **RESOLVED** to note the report.

9.3 **Report of the Health and Wellbeing Board meeting held on 2 May 2018.**

Mr B Borrett, Chairman, moved the report. Council **RESOLVED** to note the report.

9.4 **Report of the Records Committee meeting held on 29 June 2018.**

9.4.1 Mr P Duigan, Vice-Chairman, moved the report. Council **RESOLVED** to note the report.

9.5 **Report of the Planning (Regulatory) Committee meeting held on 13 July 2018.**

9.5.1 Mr C Foulger, Chairman, moved the report. Council **RESOLVED** to note the report.

9.6 **Report of the Norwich Highways Agency Joint Committee meeting held on 7 June 2018**

Mr J Fisher, Chairman, moved the report. Council **RESOLVED** to note the report.

10 Land at Willows Business Park, Saddlebow, King's Lynn.

10.1 Council received the report by the Executive Director of Finance and Commercial Services, setting out details of an enquiry received from EP UK Power Development Ltd in relation to land owned by the County Council known as "The Willows" in King's Lynn. Additional land was required for the delivery of a planned Combined Cycle Gas Turbine Power Station and Carbon Capture Plant, which was a requirement of the existing consent for the development and without this provision there could be no development.

10.2 Mr B Long declared a possible conflict of interest as part of the land was owned by the Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk and was currently leased to Norfolk County Council for the operation of the Household Waste Recycling Centre.

10.3 Council **RESOLVED** to:

1. **Confirm** the Willows site is surplus to the future waste strategy.
2. **Note** the motion 5.5 from full Council in December 2014 is being met.
3. **Approve** delegating the leasing of the property to the Business and Property Committee subject to the controls discussed in Sections 1.6 of the report being in place.
4. If a lease decision is required outside of the normal committee cycle, Council **agrees** to delegate the decision to the Executive Director of Finance and Commercial Services, in consultation with the Chair of the Business and Property Committee.

11 To answer questions under Rule 8.3 of the Council Procedure Rules

There were none.

The meeting concluded at 2pm

Chairman



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Norfolk County Council

23 July 2018

MOTION 2 – Amended Motion 2 Proposed by Mr S Aquarone and seconded by Mr T East.

	For	Against	Abstain		For	Against	Abstain
ADAMS Tony		X		KEMP Alexandra	X		
ADAMS Timothy	X			KIDDIE Keith		X	
AQUARONE Steffan	X			KIDDLE-MORRIS Mark		X	
ASKEW Stephen		X		LONG Brian		X	
BARNARD Jess	X			MACKIE Ian		X	
BILLS David		X		MAXFIELD Edward	X		
BORRETT Bill		X		MIDDLETON Graham		Absent	
BOWES Claire		Absent		MOONEY Joe		Absent	
BRAME Roy		X		MORPHEW Steve	X		
BROCIEK-COULTON Julie		Absent		NOBBS George	X		
BUTIKOFER Sarah	X			OLIVER Judy		Absent	
CARPENTER Penny		X		OLIVER Rhodri		Absent	
CASTLE Mick		Absent		PECK Greg		X	
CLANCY Stuart		X		PLANT Graham		X	
CLIPSHAM Kim	X			PRICE Richard		X	
COLLIS David	X			PROCTOR Andrew		X	
COLMAN Ed		X		RICHMOND William		X	
CONNOLLY Edward		X		ROPER Dan	X		
CORLETT Emma	X			ROWNTREE David	X		
DARK Stuart		X		RUMSBY Chrissie	X		
DEWSBURY Margaret		X		SANDS Mike	X		
DIXON Nigel		Absent		SEWARD Eric	X		
DOUGLAS Danny	X			SMITH Carl		X	
DUIGAN Phillip		X		SMITH Thomas		Absent	
EAGLE Fabian		X		SMITH-CLARE Mike	X		
EAST Tim	X			SPRATT Bev		X	
EYRE Simon		Absent		SQUIRE Sandra		Absent	
FISHER John		X		STONE Barry		X	
FITZPATRICK Tom		X		STONE Margaret		X	
FOULGER Colin		X		STOREY Martin		Absent	
GARROD Tom		X		STRONG Marie	X		
GRANT Andy		X		THIRTLE Haydn		X	
GURNEY Shelagh		X		THOMAS Alison		X	
HANTON Ron		X		THOMSON Victor		X	
HARRISON David	X			TIMEWELL John	X		
HORSBRUGH Michael Chenery of		X		VINCENT Karen		X	
HUMPHREY Harry		X		WALKER Colleen	X		
ILES Brian		X		WARD John		X	
JAMIESON Andrew		Absent		WATKINS Brian	X		
JERMY Terry	X			WHITE Tony		X	
JONES Brenda	X			WILBY Martin		X	
JONES Chris	x			YOUNG Sheila		Absent	

With 27 votes in favour, 43 votes against and 0 abstentions, the amended motion was **LOST**.

Norfolk County Council 23 July 2018

MOTION 2 – Substantive Motion 2 Proposed by Mr T Jermy and seconded by Mr S Morpew.

	For	Against	Abstain		For	Against	Abstain
ADAMS Tony		X		KEMP Alexandra	X		
ADAMS Timothy	X			KIDDIE Keith		X	
AQUARONE Steffan	X			KIDDLE-MORRIS Mark		X	
ASKEW Stephen		X		LONG Brian		X	
BARNARD Jess	X			MACKIE Ian		X	
BILLS David		X		MAXFIELD Edward	X		
BORRETT Bill		X		MIDDLETON Graham		Absent	
BOWES Claire		Absent		MOONEY Joe		Absent	
BRAME Roy		X		MORPHEW Steve	X		
BROCIEK-COULTON Julie		Absent		NOBBS George	X		
BUTIKOFER Sarah	X			OLIVER Judy		Absent	
CARPENTER Penny		X		OLIVER Rhodri		Absent	
CASTLE Mick		Absent		PECK Greg		X	
CLANCY Stuart		X		PLANT Graham		X	
CLIPSHAM Kim				PRICE Richard		X	
COLLIS David	X			PROCTOR Andrew		X	
COLMAN Ed		X		RICHMOND William		X	
CONNOLLY Edward		X		ROPER Dan	X		
CORLETT Emma	X			ROWNTREE David	X		
DARK Stuart		X		RUMSBY Chrissie	X		
DEWSBURY Margaret		X		SANDS Mike	X		
DIXON Nigel		Absent		SEWARD Eric	X		
DOUGLAS Danny	X			SMITH Carl		X	
DUIGAN Phillip		X		SMITH Thomas		Absent	
EAGLE Fabian		X		SMITH-CLARE Mike	X		
EAST Tim	X			SPRATT Bev		X	
EYRE Simon		Absent		SQUIRE Sandra		Absent	
FISHER John		X		STONE Barry		X	
FITZPATRICK Tom		X		STONE Margaret		X	
FOULGER Colin		X		STOREY Martin		Absent	
GARROD Tom		X		STRONG Marie	X		
GRANT Andy		X		THIRTLE Haydn		X	
GURNEY Shelagh		X		THOMAS Alison		X	
HANTON Ron		X		THOMSON Victor		X	
HARRISON David	X			TIMEWELL John	X		
HORSBRUGH Michael Chenery of		X		VINCENT Karen		X	
HUMPHREY Harry		X		WALKER Colleen	X		
ILES Brian		X		WARD John		X	
JAMIESON Andrew		Absent		WATKINS Brian	X		
JERMY Terry	X			WHITE Tony		X	
JONES Brenda	X			WILBY Martin		X	
JONES Chris	x			YOUNG Sheila		Absent	

With 26 votes in favour, 43 votes against and 0 abstentions, the substantive motion was **LOST**.

- A1 Regulations issued by the Department of Communities and Local Government in 2008 require the Council to approve a Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) statement in advance of each year.
- A2 Members are asked to approve the MRP statement annually to confirm that the means by which the Council plans to provide for repayment of debt are satisfactory. Any revisions to the original statement must also be issued. Proposals to vary the terms of the original statement during the year should also be approved.
- A3 MRP is the provision made in the Council's revenue budget for the repayment of borrowing used to fund capital expenditure - the Council has a statutory duty to determine an amount of MRP which it considers to be prudent, having regard to guidance issued by the Secretary of State.
- A4 In 2017-18 and 2018-19:
- For capital expenditure incurred before 1 April 2007-which is supported by Formula Grant (supported borrowing), the MRP policy will be to provide the amount to set aside calculated in equal instalments over 50 years.
 - For all capital expenditure since that date which is supported by Formula Grant (supported borrowing), the MRP policy will be to provide the amount to set aside calculated in equal instalments over 50 years from the year set aside is first due.
 - In calculating the amounts on which set aside is to be made pre 1 April 2007 Adjustment A will be applied.
 - The over-provision identified by the change will be released in a phased manner until 2021-22, to the extent that it has not been fully used.
 - For expenditure since 1 April 2008, the MRP policy for schemes funded through borrowing will be to base the minimum provision on the estimated life of the assets in accordance with the guidance issued by the Secretary of State.
 - Having identified the total amount to be set aside for previously unfunded capital expenditure the Council will then decide how much of that to fund from capital resources with the residual amount being the MRP for that year.
- A5 Where loans are made to third parties for capital purposes, the capital receipt received as a result of each repayment of principal, under the terms of the loan, will be set aside in order to re-pay NCC borrowing and to reduce the Capital Financing Requirement accordingly. MRP will only be accounted for if an accounting provision has been made for non-repayment of the loan or if there is a high degree of uncertainty regarding the repayment. This arrangement will also be applied where a third party has committed to underwrite the debt costs of a specific project through amounts reserved for capital purposes.
- A6 The Council will continue to make provision at least equal to the amount required to ensure that each debt maturity is met.