

Norfolk County Council

Minutes of the Meeting Held on 22 February 2016

Present:		
	Mr A Adams	Ms A Kemp
	Mr S Agnew	Mr M Kiddle-Morris
	Mr C Aldred	Mr J Law
	Mr S Askew	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
	Ms C Bowes	Ms E Morgan
	Ms A Bradnock	Mr S Morphew
	Mr B Bremner	Mr G Nobbs
	Mrs J Brociek-Coulton	Mr W Northam
	Mr A Byrne	Mr R Parkinson-Hare
	Mr M Carttiss	Mr J Perkins
	Mr M Castle	Mr G Plant
	Mrs J Chamberlin	Mr A Proctor
	Mr J Childs	Mr D Ramsbotham
	Mr S Clancy	Mr W Richmond
	Mr T Coke	Mr D Roper
	Mr D Collis	Ms C Rumsby
	Ms E Corlett	Mr M Sands
	Mrs H Cox	Mr E Seward
	Mr D Crawford	Mr N Shaw
	Mr A Dearnley	Mr R Smith
	Mrs M Dewsbury	Mr P Smyth
	Mr N Dixon	Mr B Spratt
	Mr J Dobson	Mr B Stone
	Mr T East	Mrs M Stone
	Mr T FitzPatrick	Mr M Storey
	Mr C Foulger	Dr M Strong
	Mr T Garrod	Mrs A Thomas
	Mr P Gilmour	Mr J Timewell
	Mr A Grey	Miss J Virgo
	Mrs S Gurney	Mrs C Walker
	Mr D Harrison	Mr J Ward
	M Chenery of Horsbrugh	Mr B Watkins
	Mr H Humphrey	Ms S Whitaker
	Mr B Iles	Mr A White
	Mr T Jermy	Mr M Wilby
	Mr C Jordan	Ms M Wilkinson
	Mr J Joyce	

Council welcomed The Rev Dr Liviu Barbu who was attending his first Council meeting following his appointment as Chaplain for Norfolk County Council.

Apologies for Absence:

Apologies for absence were received from Mr M Baker; Mr P Hacon and Mr B Hannah.

1 Minutes

- 1.1 The minutes of the Council meeting held on 14 December 2015 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman, subject to the following amendments:
- The attendance list to be corrected to read Mr D Ramsbotham.
 - Paragraph 8.2.3 (Question from Mr B Bremner) to include an additional sentence - "This meant that 100% of people who it was considered would benefit from a reablement service would be able to do so, as opposed to the 76% who did at the moment."

2 Chairman's Announcements

- 2.1 The Chairman announced that Look East would be filming throughout the meeting.

3 Declarations of Interest

- 3.1 Ms A Kemp declared an other interest as she was a school governor.

4 Norfolk County Council Revenue and Capital Budget 2015-18.

- 4.1 The report setting out the budget proposals was received. Council noted that the report titled Re-Imagining Norfolk – the County Council Plan, set out in Annexe 1 of the report, had been withdrawn.
- 4.2 The Leader of the Council, Mr G Nobbs, moved the budget recommendations as set out in the report.

The meeting adjourned at 10.15am and reconvened at 10.30am.

- 4.3 The Deputy Leader of the Council, Mr D Roper, seconded the recommendations.
- 4.4 The Leader of the Green Group, Mr R Bearman, proposed an amendment to the Budget recommendations as set out in Appendix A.
- 4.5 Mr A Dearnley seconded the amendment.
- 4.6 Following debate, the amendment from Mr Bearman was put to the vote (Appendix B) and with 5 votes in favour the motion was **LOST**.
- 4.7 Ms A Kemp, proposed an amendment to the Budget proposals as shown in Appendix C.

- 4.8 Dr A Boswell seconded the amendment.
- 4.9 Following discussion, the amendment from Ms Kemp was put to the vote (Appendix D); with 6 votes in favour and 1 abstention the motion was **LOST**.
- 4.10 The substantive motion was then debated and, following a summing up by the Leader of the Council, the matter was put to a vote (Appendix E). With 75 votes in favour, 4 votes against and 2 abstentions, the motion was **CARRIED** and Council **RESOLVED** to.
- 4.11.1 Take into account the outcomes of the public consultation and equality and rural impact assessments in reaching decisions about the County Council budget.
- 4.11.2 Approve the revised 2015-16 Minimum Revenue Provision statement, to be applied in 2015-16 and 2016-17.
- 4.11.3 Approve the Annual Investment and Treasury Strategy for 2016-17, including the treasury management Prudential Indicators.
- 4.11.4 Approve a general Council Tax increase of 1.99% and a precept of 2% for Adult Social Care, an overall increase of 3.99% in Council Tax for 2016-17.
- 4.11.5 Agree the Council Tax calculations in Appendix D of the Revenue Budget report, (including the precept to be collected from District Councils).
- 4.11.6 Approve an overall County Council Net Revenue Budget of £338.960m for 2016-17, including budget increases of £128.958m and budget decreases of £108.426m as set out in Table 7 of the report and the actions required to deliver the proposed savings.
- 4.11.7 Note the comments of the Section 151 Officer in the Revenue Budget report (Annexe 5), at paragraph 2.13(b) and Appendix D, on the financial impact of an increase in Council Tax, as set out in section 3, and confirm the assumption that the Council's budget planning in future years may include Council Tax increases for CPI in line with Government assumptions as set out in the Spending Review 2015, plus an increase of 2% for Adult Social Care in each year that this is made available.
- 4.11.8 Approve the budget proposals set out for 2017-18 to 2019-20, including authorising Chief Officers to take the action required to deliver budget savings for 2017-18 to 2019-20 as appropriate.
- 4.11.9 Agree that, with regard to the future years, further plans to meet the remaining budget shortfalls in the period 2017-18 to 2019-20 are developed and brought back to Members during 2016-17.
- 4.11.10 Agree that the Executive Director of Finance be authorised to transfer from the County Fund to the Salaries and General Accounts all sums necessary in respect of revenue and capital expenditure provided in the 2016-17 budget, to make payments, to raise and repay loans and to invest funds.
- 4.11.11 Agree that the Executive Director of Finance be authorised to take appropriate steps to ensure that the Council is in a position to access the four-year allocations

of funding set out in the Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement.

- 4.11.12 Approve the Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) as set out in Annexe 5, Appendix H of the report.
- 4.11.13 Approve the following level of General Balances:
 - a) For 2016-17, a minimum level of General Balances of £19.2m, and
 - b) A forecast minimum level for planning purposes of
 - i) 2017-18 - £23.4m
 - ii) 2018-19 - £25.7m
 - iii) 2019-20 - £26.3m.
- 4.11.14 Agree the level of risk and set of assumptions as set out in Annexe 7 of the report, as recommended by Policy and Resources Committee, which underpin the revenue and capital budget decisions and planning for 2016-20.
- 4.11.15 Approve the programme in Appendix A of the report at Annexe 8, including the new and extended capital schemes outlined in Appendix B of the report.
- 4.11.16 Approve the Prudential Indicators in Appendix E of the report at Annexe 5.
- 4.11.17 Agree the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2016-20, including the two policy objectives to be achieved:
 - a) Revenue: To identify further funding or savings for 2017-18 to 2019-20 to produce a balanced budget in all years 2016-20, in accordance with the timetable set out in the Revenue Budget report.
 - b) Capital: To support the proposed long-term strategy to invest in the Council's assets while minimising the impact on the revenue budget.

The meeting concluded at 12.50 pm

Chairman



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Green Party amendment, County Council Budget 2016/17:

1. Environment, Development Transport Committee

Remove £1.5M – County Council agenda papers page 161, Ref 1D, Establish Road Maintenance and Small Projects Fund (Potholes).

NCC is spending £28.5M on structural maintenance in 2015/16, and have already reallocated £2.1M extra from Integrated transport to Highways maintenance for the 2016/17 year. We don't believe it is desirable to allocate even more resources to another maintenance fund, but wish to redirect funds as shown below.

Thus we wish to remove this growth item and for the £1.5M to be allocated to:

- A) £0.100M for an Action Plan to address improving Air Quality in Norwich & Norfolk. Diesel emissions are a severe public health risk, and tens of thousands of deaths result from diesel use in the UK each year. The County Council acknowledges that Norwich has an air quality issue that "needs urgent action". This £100K is intended to kick-start a 5 point action plan, including supporting research at Hethel into reducing engine emissions, and recognising the importance of air quality and lowering emissions as quickly as possible in the Bus Charter between the County and operators. The outcome of this investment will be a reduction of public transport pollution in the county, and a move towards an Ultra Low Emission Vehicle bus fleet.
- B) Reverse savings of £0.150M for school crossing patrols (ref CHI015 on County Council agenda papers page 150).
- C) Reallocate £1.25M to offset cuts to Adults Social Care – wellbeing activities for people receiving support through a personal budget (reference COM033 on County Council agenda papers page 145) reducing these savings from £2.5M to £1.25M.

It was proposed at Adults Social Care Committee that the whole £3m savings here would be removed, yet the budget papers only show £0.5M of reduction in this line.

- 2. The government recently awarded £7.7m of Transitional Relief Funding (TRF) spread over 2 years. The net amount for 2016/17 is c.£4.6m and the net amount for 2017/18 is c.£3.1M and is explained on pages 24 and 25 of the County Council agenda papers but no details as to its eventual allocation to services has been given.

We call for a special agenda item to be tabled to a Full Council meeting **before end of July 2016** for Council to debate how this additional money should be allocated. The Green Party group wish to ensure that £3M savings for ASC well-being activities are funded from TRF (or continue to be funded) in both 2016/17 and 2017/18. We strongly believe the fate of this money should not be decided by the Policy and Resources Committee as it relates to the Council budget it should go to Full Council for debate. Nor do we support placing the money in unallocated reserves or pre-determining that it must be "Invest to Save".

3. EDT Committee Capital budget

Council to agree to the addition of £1M to the 2016/17 Capital Programme (Council agenda papers page 287, Highways Capital Improvements) for ring-fenced additional expenditure on road safety small crossing schemes, to improve road safety for pedestrians and cyclists at no revenue cost for 2016/17.

Advice from Section 151 Officer:

The £1M capital expenditure in 2016/17 would not incur any Minimum Revenue Provision charge and will be unlikely to incur any borrowing costs due to the Council's current cash holdings (Lost interest would be circa £0.004M which can be accommodated within the existing Treasury budget). As such no additional revenue expenditure needs to be budgeted for in 2016/17.

For 2017/18 the additional MRP and interest charge would be circa £0.100M. If the amendment is approved the cost will be added to the MTFS and form part of the 2017/18 budget.

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ITEM NUMBER: 4 – Norfolk County Council Revenue and Capital Budget 2016-20.
Amendment moved by Cllr Bearman

FOR	AGAINST.	ABST.		FOR	AGAINST	ABST	
	X		ADAMS Tony		X		JORDAN Cliff
	X		AGNEW Stephen		X		JOYCE James
	X		ALDRED Colin	X			KEMP Alexandra
	X		ASKEW Stephen		X		KIDDLE-MORRIS Mark
Absent			BAKER Michael		X		LAW Jason
X			BEARMAN Richard		X		LEGGETT Judy
	X		BIRD Richard		X		LONG Brian
	X		BORRETT Bill		X		MACKIE Ian
X			BOSWELL Andrew		X		MONSON Ian
	X		BOWES Claire		X		MOONEY Joe
	X		BRADNOCK Allison	X			MORGAN Elizabeth
	X		BREMNER Bert		X		MORPHEW Steve
	X		BROCIK-COULTON Julie		X		NOBBS George
	X		BYRNE Alec		X		NORTHAM Wyndham
	X		CARTTISS Michael		X		PARKINSON-HARE Rex
	X		CASTLE Mick		X		PERKINS Jim
	X		CHAMBERLIN Jenny		X		PLANT Graham
	X		CHILDS Jonathon		X		PROCTOR Andrew
	X		CLANCY Stuart		X		RAMSBOTHAM David
	X		COKE Toby		X		RICHMOND William
	X		COLLIS David		X		ROPER Daniel
	X		CORLETT Emma		X		RUMSBY Chrissie
	X		COX Hilary		X		SANDS Mike
	X		CRAWFORD Denis		X		SEWARD Eric
X			DEARNLEY Adrian		X		SHAW Nigel
	X		DEWSBURY Margaret		X		SMITH Roger
	X		DIXON Nigel		X		SMYTH Paul
	X		DOBSON John		X		SPRATT Bev
	X		EAST Tim		X		STONE Barry
	X		FITZPATRICK Tom		X		STONE Margaret
	X		FOULGER Colin		X		STOREY Martin
	X		GARROD Tom		X		STRONG Marie
	X		GILMOUR Paul		X		THOMAS Alison
	X		GREY Alan		X		TIMEWELL John
	X		GURNEY Shelagh		X		VIRGO Judith
Absent			HACON Pat		X		WALKER Colleen
Absent			HANNAH Brian		X		WARD John
	X		HARRISON David		X		WATKINS Brian
	X		HORSBRUGH Michael Chenery of		X		WHITAKER Sue
	X		HUMPHREY Harry		X		WHITE Tony
	X		ILES Brian		X		WILBY Martin
	x		JERMY Terry		X		WILKINSON Margaret

With 5 votes in favour, 76 votes against the amendment was lost.

Budget amendment proposed by Cllr Alexandra Kemp

Budget Amendment to secure the future of the 98 existing School Crossing Patrols at 76 schools and to increase the number of School Crossing patrols by making 76 new School Crossing Patrols available to those Norfolk Communities already waiting for Pedestrian Crossings on the Long List thus meeting a vital need.

This will cost £0.340m, being:

- £0.150m reversal of the proposed school crossing patrols saving of £0.150m (reference CHI015 on County Council agenda papers on page 150) and;
- £0.190m being the cost of 76 new School crossing patrols (£2.5k per crossing)

To be funded by reducing the £4.561m set aside to manage business risk on County Council agenda papers on page 168 by £0.340m.

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FOR	AGAINST.	ABST.		FOR	AGAINST	ABST	
	X		ADAMS Tony		X		JORDAN Cliff
	X		AGNEW Stephen		X		JOYCE James
	X		ALDRED Colin	X			KEMP Alexandra
	X		ASKEW Stephen		X		KIDDLE-MORRIS Mark
Absent			BAKER Michael		X		LAW Jason
X			BEARMAN Richard		X		LEGGETT Judy
	X		BIRD Richard		X		LONG Brian
	X		BORRETT Bill		X		MACKIE Ian
X			BOSWELL Andrew		X		MONSON Ian
	X		BOWES Claire		X		MOONEY Joe
	X		BRADNOCK Allison	X			MORGAN Elizabeth
	X		BREMNER Bert		X		MORPHEW Steve
	X		BROCIK-COULTON Julie		X		NOBBS George
	X		BYRNE Alec		X		NORTHAM Wyndham
	X		CARTTISS Michael		X		PARKINSON-HARE Rex
	X		CASTLE Mick		X		PERKINS Jim
	X		CHAMBERLIN Jenny		X		PLANT Graham
	X		CHILDS Jonathon		X		PROCTOR Andrew
	X		CLANCY Stuart		X		RAMSBOTHAM David
	X		COKE Toby		X		RICHMOND William
	X		COLLIS David		X		ROPER Daniel
	X		CORLETT Emma		X		RUMSBY Chrissie
	X		COX Hilary		X		SANDS Mike
	X		CRAWFORD Denis		X		SEWARD Eric
X			DEARNLEY Adrian		X		SHAW Nigel
	X		DEWSBURY Margaret		X		SMITH Roger
	X		DIXON Nigel			X	SMYTH Paul
	X		DOBSON John		X		SPRATT Bev
	X		EAST Tim		X		STONE Barry
	X		FITZPATRICK Tom		X		STONE Margaret
	X		FOULGER Colin		X		STOREY Martin
	x		GARROD Tom		X		STRONG Marie
x			GILMOUR Paul		X		THOMAS Alison
	X		GREY Alan		X		TIMEWELL John
	X		GURNEY Shelagh		X		VIRGO Judith
Absent			HACON Pat		X		WALKER Colleen
Absent			HANNAH Brian		X		WARD John
	X		HARRISON David		X		WATKINS Brian
	X		HORSBRUGH Michael Chenery of		X		WHITAKER Sue
	X		HUMPHREY Harry		X		WHITE Tony
	X		ILES Brian		X		WILBY Martin
	X		JERMY Terry		X		WILKINSON Margaret

With 6 votes in favour, 74 votes against and 1 abstention the amendment was lost.

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FOR	AGAINST.	ABST.		FOR	AGAINST	ABST	
X			ADAMS Tony	X			JORDAN Cliff
X			AGNEW Stephen	X			JOYCE James
X			ALDRED Colin	X			KEMP Alexandra
X			ASKEW Stephen	X			KIDDLE-MORRIS Mark
Absent			BAKER Michael	X			LAW Jason
	X		BEARMAN Richard	X			LEGGETT Judy
X			BIRD Richard	X			LONG Brian
X			BORRETT Bill	X			MACKIE Ian
	X		BOSWELL Andrew	X			MONSON Ian
X			BOWES Claire	X			MOONEY Joe
X			BRADNOCK Allison		X		MORGAN Elizabeth
X			BREMNER Bert	X			MORPHEW Steve
X			BROCIEK-COULTON Julie	X			NOBBS George
X			BYRNE Alec	X			NORTHAM Wyndham
X			CARTTISS Michael	X			PARKINSON-HARE Rex
X			CASTLE Mick	X			PERKINS Jim
X			CHAMBERLIN Jenny			X	PLANT Graham
X			CHILDS Jonathon	X			PROCTOR Andrew
X			CLANCY Stuart	X			RAMSBOTHAM David
X			COKE Toby	X			RICHMOND William
X			COLLIS David	X			ROPER Daniel
X			CORLETT Emma	X			RUMSBY Chrissie
X			COX Hilary	X			SANDS Mike
X			CRAWFORD Denis	X			SEWARD Eric
	X		DEARNLEY Adrian	X			SHAW Nigel
X			DEWSBURY Margaret	X			SMITH Roger
X			DIXON Nigel	X			SMYTH Paul
X			DOBSON John	X			SPRATT Bev
X			EAST Tim	X			STONE Barry
		X	FITZPATRICK Tom	X			STONE Margaret
X			FOULGER Colin	X			STOREY Martin
X			GARROD Tom	X			STRONG Marie
X			GILMOUR Paul	X			THOMAS Alison
X			GREY Alan	X			TIMEWELL John
X			GURNEY Shelagh	X			VIRGO Judith
Absent			HACON Pat	X			WALKER Colleen
Absent			HANNAH Brian	X			WARD John
X			HARRISON David	X			WATKINS Brian
X			HORSBRUGH Michael Chenery of	X			WHITAKER Sue
X			HUMPHREY Harry	X			WHITE Tony
X			ILES Brian	X			WILBY Martin
X			JERMY Terry	X			WILKINSON Margaret

With 75 votes in favour, 4 votes against and 2 abstentions, the Recommendations in the report were CARRIED and the budget was RESOLVED accordingly.