

Council

Date: **Monday 18 January 2010**

Time: **10.00am**

Venue: **Council Chamber, County Hall, Norwich**

Persons attending the meeting are requested to turn off mobile phones.

Prayers

To Call the Roll

AGENDA

1. Minutes

**To confirm the minutes of the meeting of the Council held (Page)
on 23 November 2009.**

2. To receive any announcements from the Chairman

3. Members to Declare any Interests

Please indicate whether the interest is a personal one only or one which is prejudicial. A declaration of a personal interest should indicate the nature of the interest and the agenda item to which it relates. In the case of a personal interest, the Member may speak and vote on the matter. Please note that if you are exempt from declaring a personal interest because it arises solely from your position on a body to which you were nominated by the County Council or a body exercising functions of a public nature (e.g. another local authority), you need only declare your interest if and when you intend to speak on a matter.

If a prejudicial interest is declared, the member should withdraw from the room whilst the matter is discussed unless members of the public are allowed to make representations, give evidence or answer questions about the matter, in which case you may attend the meeting for that purpose. You must immediately leave the room when you have finished or the meeting decides you have finished, if earlier.

4. **Cabinet Recommendation**
Meeting held on 7 December 2009 (Page)
5. **Reports**

Cabinet
Meeting held on 7 December 2009 (Page)
Meeting held on 4 January 2010 (Page)

Cabinet Scrutiny Committee
Meeting held on 24 November 2009 (Page)
Meeting held on 27 November 2009 (Page)
Meeting held on 22 December 2009 (Page)

Personnel Committee
Meeting held on 7 December 2009 (Page)

Norfolk Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Meeting held on 26 November 2009 (Page)

Planning (Regulatory) Committee
Meeting held on 20 November 2009 (Page)
Meeting held on 18 December 2009 (Page)

Joint Committees
 - Norwich Highways Agency Joint Committee meeting held on 26 November 2009 (Page)
 - Joint Museums Committee meeting held on 13 November 2009 (Page)
 - Records Committee meeting held on 13 November 2009 (Page)
6. **Appointments to Committees etc (Standing Item)**
 - a) To note appointments made by the Chief Executive under delegated powers:-
 - Mrs J. Chamberlin to replace Mrs A. Thomas on the Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Panel and the Norfolk Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee
 - Mrs J. Chamberlin to replace Mrs A. Steward on the Fire and Community Protection Overview and Scrutiny Panel
 - Mr T. Williams to replace Mr J. Carswell on the Corporate Affairs Overview and Scrutiny Panel

- Mr B. Iles to replace Mrs A. Steward and Mrs J. Murphy respectively on the Planning, Transportation, Waste and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel and the Planning (Regulatory) Committee
 - Mr B. Borrett to replace Mr T. Williams on the Personnel Committee and on the Eastern Shires Purchasing Organisation
- b) To consider any proposals from Group Leaders for changes to committee membership
7. **To answer Questions under Rule 8.2 of the Council Procedure Rules**

Chris Walton
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Date Agenda Published: 7 January 2010

For further details and general enquiries about this agenda please contact the Assistant Head of Democratic Services:

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Norfolk County Council

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Norfolk County Council

Minutes of the Meeting Held on 23 November 2009

Present: Mrs S C Gurney in the Chair

Mr A D Adams	Mr M A Kiddle-Morris
Mr R Bearman	Mr M C Langwade
Mr W P Borrett	Mr S R Little
Dr A P Boswell	Mr B W C Long
Mr J S Bremner	Mr I J Mackie
Mr A J Byrne	Mrs J Mickleburgh
Mr D R Callaby	Mr J Mooney
Mr J A Carswell	Mr P D Morse
Mr M R H Carttiss	Mr D Murphy
Miss C L Casimir	Mrs J A Murphy
Mrs J R M Chamberlin	Mr G Nobbs
Mrs M Chapman-Allen	Mr R E Parkinson-Hare
Baron M Chenery of Horsbrugh	Mr J H Perry-Warnes
Mr S M Clancy	Mr G R Plant
Mrs D M Clarke	Mr A J Proctor
Mr B J E Collins	Mr P K Rice
Mr N Dixon	Mr R C Rockcliffe
Mr A J Dobson	Mr J D Rogers
Mr S Dorrington	Mr M J Scutter
Mr S Dunn	Mr N C Shaw
Mr T East	Mr J R Shrimplin
Mr R A Edwards	Mr R A Smith
Mr T S C Garrod	Mr B H A Spratt
Mr A J Gunson	Mrs A Steward
Mr B J Hannah	Dr M Strong
Mr R C Hanton	Mrs A M Thomas
Mr P A Hardy	Mrs H Thompson
Mr D G Harrison	Mr A D Tomkinson
Mr D Harwood	Ms J S Toms
Mr M Hemsley	Mrs C M Walker
Mr J R Herbert	Mr J M Ward
Mr H A S Humphrey	Mr P A G Wells
Mrs S E L Hutson	Mr A M White
Mr B J M Iles	Mr M J Wilby
Mrs D Irving	Mr A T Williams
Mr G R Jones	Dr F C Williamson
Mr C Jordan	Mr A J Wright
Mr J M Joyce	

Total present: 76

Also Present: - Mrs J Middleton, Standards Committee Chairman

Apologies:

Apologies for absence were received from Mr S Bett, Mr M P Brindle, Mr P G Cook, Mr D Cox, Mr P Duigan, Mr I A C Monson, Mr W J Nunn and Mr R J Wright.

1. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 28 September 2009 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman, subject to the following amendments:

Paragraph 10, final sentence to read: "The meeting was therefore suspended at 12.33pm and reconvened at 1.10pm with Mr Tomkinson in the Chair."

2. Chairman's Announcements

Mrs Valerie Guttman

The Chairman announced that Mrs Valerie Guttman, a former member, had sadly passed away. Mrs Guttman was elected to the County Council in April 1973 and she served as a County Councillor and local member for the Crome division until May 1981. Mrs Guttman was also the Lord Mayor of Norwich in 1979. Council stood in silence in honour of her memory.

Chairman's Events

The Chairman announced that since the last Council meeting she had attended a number of events including the following:

- Gooderstone Primary School where she met The Duke of Gloucester.
- Group Lotus in the presence of the King and Queen of Malaysia.
- Installation of the Rt Rev'd Alan Winton as Bishop of Thetford at Norwich Cathedral.
- A number of 'Build your own future" days for schools children in years 10, 11 and 12.
- The opening of a re-furbished Great Yarmouth Library.
- The opening of a £1.3M vocational centre at Watton.
- Various Battle of Britain Services and Remembrance Services.
- The Annual Fire Brigade Awards
- The Green Apple Environment Awards in London where the Chairman received a bronze award on behalf of the County.
- The Chairman also hosted a reception for Norfolk's Caring Communities at Hellesdon Community Centre.

The Chairman thanked the Vice Chairman for deputising for her at various events whilst she was unwell.

Mr Rockcliffe offered his congratulations to the Chairman on her birthday last Saturday and was pleased that she was able to spend part of that day on an informal visit to King's Lynn and The Green Quay.

3. Declarations of Interest

The Chairman advised on the following:

“In relation to the report at Item 5, the Code of Conduct provides an exemption which means that members do not have a prejudicial interest where the business relates to the authority’s functions in respect of allowances. Therefore all members can stay in the Council Chamber for, debate and vote on the recommendations of the Independent Panel. However, that provision does not extend to any other matters you may wish to debate in relation to twin-hatters, such as conflicts of interest, dedication to public service, time commitments etc. There are two places on the agenda where issues relating to twin hatters might be discussed – the report on allowances at Item 5 and the report of the Cabinet Scrutiny Committee meeting of 27 October 2009 and consequently where prejudicial interests may arise. The Standards Dispensations Sub-Committee has considered requests made by members for dispensations to take part in the debates upon these reports and has determined that they may. A list of the members who have received dispensation has been distributed to all members this morning. Therefore there is no need for those members to declare their interests in these matters or to withdraw from the room. My ruling on this matter is final, in accordance with Procedure Rule 22.”

The following Members declared interests:

- Mr R Smith declared a personal interest in the Report of the Cabinet meeting held on 12 October 2009, paragraph 3 and the Report of the Cabinet meeting held on 9 November 2009, paragraph 1.2, as he is a trustee of Whitlingham Charitable Trust, the tenant of the site.
- Dr Boswell declared personal interests in Item 5, ‘Review of Members Allowances Scheme 2009’, particularly with reference to the Special Responsibility Allowance recommendation 6.2, and Item 7 ‘Standards Committee – Appointment of Independent Members, Report of the Selection Panel’ as a member of the Selection Panel.
- Mr Borrett declared a personal interest in the Report of the Cabinet Meeting held on 9 November 2009, paragraph 12, ‘A47/A1067 Link Road’ as the Local Member for Elmham and Mattishall.
- Mr Bremner, declared a personal interest in Item 5, ‘Review of Norfolk County Council Members’ Allowances Scheme by Independent Remuneration Panel’ and Item 8, the Report of the Cabinet Scrutiny Meeting held on 27 October 2009, paragraph 2 which refers to the proposed item of scrutiny in relation to twin-hatters, as a County Councillor.
- Mrs Thompson declared a personal interest in the Report of the Meeting of the Norfolk Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, held on 15 October 2009, paragraph 5 ‘Cromer Hospital Redevelopment’, as the Local Member and a possible user of the services of Cromer Hospital.

The following Members declared personal interests in the Report of the Cabinet Meeting held on 9 November 2009, paragraph 2.2, concerning Flood Sirens:

- Mr Rice, as he lives in the flood risk area.

- Dr Strong, as an unpaid volunteer flood warden for Wells and unpaid volunteer representing North Norfolk senior flood wards on the Norfolk Resilience Forum (Voluntary Sector).
- Mr Hanton, as a member of the Norfolk Constabulary.
- Mr Humphrey as a member of the Police Authority.
- Mrs Mickleburgh, as the Borough Councillor for St Margaret and St Nicholas Ward, King's Lynn, an area of high risk to flooding.
- Mr Perry-Warnes, as a member of the Police Authority.
- Mr Rockcliffe, as a family member owns property at North Beach, Heacham.
- Mr Tomkinson, as a member of the Police Authority.
- Mr Iles, as a member of the Police Authority.
- Mr Shrimplin, as a member of the Police Authority.
- Mr Wells, as a member of the Police Authority.
- Mr Dorrington, as a member of the Police Authority.
- Mr Hardy, as a member of the Police Authority.
- Mr Byrne, as a member of the Police Authority.
- Mr Hannah, as a member of the Police Authority.

4. Motion by Mr T East

Mr East moved the following motion, which was seconded by Mr Joyce:

“That this Council believes it is vital that Norfolk demonstrates political leadership at all levels and across all parties in response to climate change.

This Council notes the declared support of Liberal Democrat, Labour and Conservative MPs to the objective of the 10:10 campaign which calls for 10 per cent greenhouse gas emission reductions by the end of 2010; and encourages individual Members of Norfolk County Council to personally sign up to the 10:10 campaign and publicise what actions they are taking to reduce their own carbon emissions by 10% in the year 2010.”

Mr Smith moved an amendment to this motion, which was seconded by Mr Nobbs:

“That this Council believes it is vital that political leadership is demonstrated in response to climate change and encourages World Leaders to reach an agreement in Copenhagen next month.

This Council recognises that Norfolk County Council is attempting to play its part in addressing the causes and impacts of climate change.

That this Council urges all residents of Norfolk, including Members of Norfolk County Council, to reduce their carbon footprint, for instance, in the manner suggested by the current 10:10 Campaign.”

The amendment was CARRIED and then became the substantive motion.

Dr Boswell moved a further amendment, seconded by Mr Bearman, that an additional paragraph be included as follows:

“That this Council recognises that there is a climate change emergency and will write to the Prime Minister to call for the Government to do everything possible to reach a lasting agreement at the Copenhagen Climate Summit.”

The amendment was CARRIED and then became part of the substantive motion.

RESOLVED: Following debate the motion was CARRIED unanimously, as follows:

“That this Council believes it is vital that political leadership is demonstrated in response to climate change and encourages World Leaders to reach an agreement in Copenhagen next month.

That this Council recognises that there is a climate change emergency and will write to the Prime Minister to call for the Government to do everything possible to reach a lasting agreement at the Copenhagen Climate Summit.

This Council recognises that Norfolk County Council is attempting to play its part in addressing the causes and impacts of climate change.

That this Council urges all residents of Norfolk, including Members of Norfolk County Council, to reduce their carbon footprint, for instance, in the manner suggested by the current 10:10 Campaign.”

5. Review of Norfolk County Council Members’ Allowances Scheme by Independent Remuneration Panel

Mr Bremner left the room for this item and took no part in the debate.

Mr Murphy moved the recommendations contained within the Independent Remuneration Panel’s Report.

Following debate, all the recommendations as set out in the Panel’s report were approved, except the recommendation relating to a Special Responsibility Allowance for the leader of the 2nd opposition group, which was not approved.

Mr Little proposed an amendment to the recommendation relating to the Carers’ Allowance, seconded by Mr Edwards, to add the following:

“That the issue of carers’ allowances be subject to further review with particular reference to payments to carers and the period of time for which the carers allowance is paid.”

RESOLVED: to agree the above amendment and the following recommendations:

Basic Allowance:

- i) That the Basic Allowance remains at £8,929 for the financial year 2010/11, with no index-linked uprating in that year.
- ii) That in 2011/12, 2012/13 and 2013/14, the Allowance be increased at the same percentage rate as the local authority employee pay award (if one is paid).
- iii) That the next review be undertaken by the Panel in 2013, with any resulting changes to be implemented in 2014.

Special Responsibility Allowances (SRAs):

- i) That with immediate effect, the limit on the number of Deputy Cabinet Member/Cabinet Support Member SRA posts is increased from 6 to 7 but that the level of the SRA for DCM posts is contained within the present sum of

£39,168 (6x £6,528) so that the overall expenditure on these posts does not rise.

- ii) That there be no increase in SRA levels in 2010/11, but that in 2011/12, 2012/13 and 2013/14, SRAs be increased in line with the pay award for local government employees.
- iii) That SRAs next be reviewed by the Panel in 2013 with any resulting changes to be implemented in 2014.

Carers' Allowances:

- i) 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.
- ii) That the Allowances Scheme be amended with immediate effect to read as follows:
 - A. Councillors who incur costs for the care of children for whom they have parental responsibility or for dependent relatives in order to allow them to carry out their Council duties can claim a Carers' Allowance. The rate for the Allowance is set out in Appendix A of this scheme. A Carers' Allowance can be claimed only in respect of approved duties as set out in Appendix C of the scheme.
 - B. In the case of a Carers' Allowance for childcare:-
 - (i) The allowance is available for the care of children under 14 years of age who normally reside with the councillor
 - (ii) The allowance cannot be claimed for the care of children of compulsory school age during normal school hours except where the child is absent from school due to illness
 - iii) That the issue of carers' allowances be subject to further review with particular reference to payments to carers and the period of time for which the carers allowance is paid.
 - C. In the case of a Carers' Allowance for the care of a dependent relative, the relative must normally reside with the councillor, be dependent on the councillor and require constant care
 - D. Expenditure incurred will be reimbursed up to the maximum hourly rate (as set out in Appendix A of this scheme) for each hour of absence from home
 - E. Payment will only be made for the period of the qualifying meeting and the travelling time to and from the councillor's home
 - F. A signed receipt from the carer, showing their name, signature and address, the period worked and the amount received must be submitted with the claim
 - G. A Carers' Allowance can be paid only for care provided by a registered childminder or other statutory approved childcare provider, or to agencies or persons professionally qualified or registered to provide the care required by the dependent relative. An allowance will not normally be paid for care provided by anyone else or by someone who is a close relative of the councillor. In exceptional circumstances, where a councillor is unable to find a suitable statutory provider or registered professional carer, a claim to pay another person may be considered, subject to the approval of the Head

of Finance before the expense is incurred. If an exceptional circumstances claim relates to care provided by a family member, it must be accompanied by a statement signed by the carer and the councillor verifying that the carer incurred a loss of income in order to provide the care.

Travel and Subsistence Allowance – Approved Duties:

To amend with immediate effect the approved duty category relating to Cabinet Members to read:

“Attendance by Cabinet Members and Deputy Cabinet Members/Cabinet Support Members at meetings of Informal Cabinet and at pre-arranged briefing meetings with Chief Officers/Senior Officers on matters relating to their areas of responsibility.”

The Council also reaffirmed its current position in respect of Co-optees Allowances and Pensions for Councillors.

6. County Council Summary – Statement of Accounts 2008-09

In moving the report, Mr Smith drew Members’ attention to key items and invited questions.

Mr Mackie offered his congratulations to Mr Smith and the Senior Officers concerned for the enormous amount of work involved in producing the Statement of Accounts.

Mr Nobbs said that it would be useful to include information on the previous year’s figures in the report. In response, Mr Smith said that the Audit Committee would take this suggestion forward.

RESOLVED: to note the report.

7. Standards Committee – Appointment of Independent Members – Report of the Selection Panel

Mr Jones, Chairman of the Selection Panel, moved the recommendations contained within the report and thanked Dr Boswell and Mrs Chamberlin for their work as members of the Selection Panel. All the applicants had been outstanding and Members could be assured of the independence of those appointed.

RESOLVED: to approve the appointments of:

Mr Paul Bland – 3 year term – 1 January 2010 to 31 December 2012

Ms Lesley Cunneen – 4 year term – 1 January 2010 to 31 December 2013

Mr Peter Gibbs – 3 year term as Vice-Chairman – 1 January 2010 to 31 December 2012

Mr Jocelyn Goodey – 4 year term – 1 January 2010 to 31 December 2013

Mr Stephen Revell – 4 year term as Chairman – 1 January 2010 to 31 December 2013

8. Report of the Cabinet Meeting held on 12 October 2009

In moving the report, Mr Murphy drew Members’ attention to key items and invited questions.

Public Questions, Paragraph 1.1

Mr Harrison asked whether the construction of a waste compost plant on land at Wood Farm Marsham, had been confirmed.

In his absence, it was agreed that Mr Monson, Cabinet Member for Environment and Waste, would provide a written answer.

Public Questions, Paragraph 1.3

Dr Boswell asked the new Cabinet Member to confirm that the principles contained in a report by the Government's Sustainable Farming and Food Adviser had been reflected in the Cabinet Scrutiny Committee Working Group's recommendations and remained the policy framework for the ongoing management of the Farms Estate. Secondly, Dr Boswell asked what this authority was doing to promote the production of renewable energy and local food on County Farms. Finally, he asked whether the Cabinet Member or a member of the County Farms team would attend the free one day workshop, organised by Farming Future, on the business case for investing in renewable energy for farmers and land managers.

In response, Mr Borrett, Cabinet Member for Corporate Affairs and Efficiency, confirmed that the principles contained within the report remained the policy framework for the ongoing management of the Farms Estate including recommendations for renewable energy and local food production. Further, Mr Borrett requested Dr Boswell forward details of the workshop.

Local Member Questions, Paragraph 2.1

Mr Bremner asked whether it was possible to instigate a record system concerning attendance at conferences, seminars and away days by officers and/or councillors of this Authority to ensure that attendance at all events was necessary and the money well spent. Mr Nobbs agreed and said that it was ludicrous that the authority had no idea of how much was spent on attendance at these events.

In response, Mr Borrett agreed to provide details concerning attendances at conferences and would see what could be done to instigate a record system. Mr Gunson, Cabinet Member for Planning and Transportation, said that there was great value in officers attending conferences but that gathering information on the amount of officer travelling time would outweigh its use.

Local Member Questions, Paragraph 2.2

Dr Boswell said that he had not received a breakdown of the summary of annual expenditure on the Norwich Northern Distributor Road (NDR) and Norwich Area Transport Strategy (NATS) and he asked that the Cabinet Member provide this information.

In response, Mr Gunson, Cabinet Member for Planning and Transportation, advised that this information had been forwarded to Dr Boswell last week but he would forward it again.

Strengthening Norfolk County Council's Commissioning from the Third Sector, Paragraph 7

Mr Little said that the report mentioned supporting local communities, and, given that Adult Social Services were expecting the third sector to fill the gap, he asked how it was intended to increase capacity when support was being

reduced and he asked that the Cabinet take note of the concerns of voluntary organisation.

Mr Morse noted that the Cabinet minutes about voluntary sector contracts did not show a timescale and he asked when this information would be brought back to the Cabinet. He referred to previous concerns he had about contract management in social care and street lighting, the former with contracts in the voluntary sector. He said that the authority should ensure organisations deliver what the authority requires but must also recognise that one size does not fit all and further, that some voluntary organisations are quite large.

In response to both questions, Mr Harwood, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Services said that the importance of the voluntary sector had been recognised and the authority worked closely with the voluntary sector on all issues, as they were extremely important in the delivery of services – providing 70% of total services. No decisions would be made until the results of the consultation were made available.

Submission of an Outline Business Case to the Department for Children, Schools and Families for the City Academy Norwich, Paragraph 8

Mr Bearman said that the City Academy Norwich had received £100K for involvement in the local community. He said that as the Local Member he should have been kept informed of what was happening with regard to the spinney and the proposed swimming pool.

In response, Mrs Hutson, Cabinet Member for Children's Services said that she would provide a written answer concerning the swimming pool and Spinney.

Norwich Area Transport Strategy (NATS) Update including Norwich Northern Distributor Road (NDR), Paragraph 10

Dr Boswell said that the Cabinet Member had indicated that the Department for Transport (DfT) had requested further information to be supplied by 16 November. He asked for confirmation that all of the information had now been provided, including updated and additional models from Norfolk County Council and partner Mott MacDonalds and the final report sent to the DfT.

In response, Mr Gunson advised that the information requested by the DfT had been provided but that this was an ongoing process and they might require further information before making a decision in December.

Mr East asked whether there was any likelihood that the Government might revise its promises in terms of procurement and further, whether the authority had a Plan B if it did not receive approval for the NDR.

In response, Mr Gunson confirmed that, of course, the Government could refuse funding to proceed with the NDR. However, South Norfolk District Council, Broadland District Council, Norwich City Council and the County Council all agreed that the NDR would bring adequate infrastructure to enable the growth in the Norwich area that the Government requires.

Mr Bearman said that EEDA had published a Transport Carbon Study which found that transport CO2 emissions would increase by 33% between 2006 and 2031. He asked in view of the 25,000 extra tonnes of CO2 if the NDR is built, what sectors of the authority would be cut in order to reduce this by 34% by 2020, in line with legally binding targets. Further, Mr Bearman asked that a

report on the EEDA publication be presented to the next Planning and Transportation Overview & Scrutiny Panel.

In his absence, it was agreed that Mr Monson would provide a written answer.

Norfolk's Draft Joint Dementia Commissioning Strategy, Paragraph 12

Mr Morse noted that the draft Norfolk Dementia Strategy would be released for a three-month period of public consultation and he requested that any decisions made following this period be made available as soon as possible.

In response, Mr Harwood, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Services said the outcome should be available on 7 June 2010. An action plan was being drawn up with the voluntary sector, as consistent systems and a corporate approach were required. The consultation would continue until mid-February and the Cabinet would receive a report in March 2010. A report concerning dementia would be made available as soon as possible.

RESOLVED: to note the report.

9. Report of the Cabinet Meeting held on 9 November 2009

In moving the report, Mr Murphy drew Members' attention to key items and invited questions.

Mr Morse said that the Cabinet Meeting of 9 November had heralded the introduction of three new Cabinet Members and he wished to offer thanks, on behalf of the Liberal Democrat Group, to the previous Cabinet Members, Mrs Chamberlin, Mr Williams and Mr Iles who had always dealt with questions openly and been supportive on Division issues. He noted that whilst one of the previous Cabinet Member's responsibilities included Partnerships and Performance, the new Cabinet Member role excluded Partnerships and he asked how the Cabinet would ensure partnerships would be developed and made fit for purpose. Dr Boswell endorsed Mr Morse's thanks to the previous Cabinet Members and noted that Commercial Services was also no longer included in Cabinet Member responsibilities.

In response, Mr Murphy said that he would ask Mr Cox, as Leader of the Council, to provide a written response concerning the changes but he could confirm that Commercial Services would come under the remit of Mr Borrett, the new Cabinet Member for Corporate Affairs and Efficiency.

Public Questions, paragraph 1.3

Mr Joyce said that the Honingham to Lenwade (A1067/A47) road improvements were badly needed and he asked that funds be found to instigate the proposed scheme as soon as possible.

In response, Mr Gunson said that this would depend on funding being made available and whilst the authority would do its best to instigate the proposed scheme, if it were to go ahead there would be an impact on other schemes.

Local Member Questions, paragraph 2.2

Dr Strong said that the country had, once again, witnessed the appalling devastation wrought by flooding and she implored the administration to uphold its manifesto promise to ensure that the County siren system would be retained – or at the very least to extend the deadline. She said she had been advised by

another Flood Warden team that without the sirens it would not be able to assist with evacuation.

In response, Mr Humphrey, Cabinet Member for Fire and Community Protection, said that the Environment Agency had been made aware that Flood Warning Direct in Norfolk did not have full support. However, parish and district councils had been given until January 2010 to decide whether they wished to take over responsibility for the flood sirens. Mr Humphrey noted Dr Strong's comment that without the sirens Flood Warden Teams would not be able to assist with evacuation but he advised that the authority would direct funding towards training.

Members requested that the Chairman write to the Chairman of Cumbria County Council, on their behalf, to express their condolences for the recent terrible flooding that had occurred in the Cumbria region.

Local Member Questions, paragraph 2.5

Mrs Walker noted that the amount spent by the authority on consultants over the last four years should have been included in the report. Mr Nobbs said that the figure quoted had been £3.87m and the Leader of the Council had stated that a lot of the authority's VAT costs had been returned to the authority because of the consultants work. Mr Nobbs asked why there were no members of staff in the Legal Department who could have undertaken this work.

Mr Murphy said that VAT was a highly specialised area of law.

2009-10 Finance Monitoring Report, Paragraph 4

Dr Boswell said that the Joint Core Strategy Proposed Submission document published this month by the Greater Norwich Development Partnership (GNDP) stated that the NDR costs were £110m and that the Postwick Hub would be £25m, a total of £135m. The discussion at Cabinet had been based on a total figure of £127m with £21m being for the Postwick Hub. The additional £8M appeared to be £4m for the NDR and a further £4m for the Postwick Hub. Dr Boswell asked for an explanation as to what these cost rises related and how they would be funded.

In response, Mr Gunson advised that there had been no increase in the cost of the NDR and the full costs had been set out in the 12 October Cabinet Report. Further, Mr Gunson said he would check with GNDP why their document was different to the County figures.

Future Commissioning Models – Community Care In House Day Services, paragraph 5

Mr Scutter welcomed the fact that the Administration would be consulting with regard to the Essex Rooms, Silver Rooms and Hempnall Mill and he sought reassurance that the consultation would be wide ranging.

Mr Little requested that all stakeholders be included in the consultation proposals and he asked who these would be.

Mr Harwood confirmed that there would be full consultation with all who use the services at these centres, their families and all other agencies involved.

Mr Bremner said that the Independent Living Norfolk, part of the Norfolk Coalition for Disabled People had been set a target of introducing 4000 personal budgets by 2009-10. He voiced concern that the target had been set too high

and he asked on what basis the targets had been set. Further, he asked whether Independent Living Norfolk would be paid by results and whether they had a vested interest in encouraging elderly people towards personal budgets. Finally, he asked how much the authority would be spending to encourage people to manage their own personal budgets.

Mr Bremner said that in response to the Green Paper 'Shaping the Future of Care Together' the authority had stated that the Green Paper did not give a high enough profile to prevention but that the authority had cut prevention services. He asked how the authority intended to deliver and fund prevention work in the future.

Finally, Mr Bremner asked whether Age Concern would in future provide bathing services provided by the authority.

Mr Harwood agreed to provide written answers to Mr Bremner's questions.

Implications of the Carbon Reduction Commitment for Norfolk County Council, paragraph 8

Mr Joyce noted that the Cabinet had "agreed to encourage the Council to embed carbon reduction strategies within policy and project decision-making"; but for the past two years he, together with Mr East, had requested that a statement be included on all Council reports concerning environmental impact and he asked why the Cabinet would not agree to this proposal. Dr Boswell said that there had been unanimous cross-party support for this proposal.

In his absence, it was agreed that Mr Monson would provide a written answer.

Mr Little asked how the authority would insist that contractors build to the highest efficiency standards when building schools for the future.

In response, Mrs Hutson said that there was a great deal of ongoing discussion concerning efficiency standards for school developments and the authority did comply with the green standards. With reference to the Open Academy, everything possible had been done to achieve low carbon emissions.

Waste Procurement Strategy, paragraph 9

Mr East sought reassurance that all contracts would include the costs of transporting waste and he asked what progress had been made to agree disposal contracts with other authorities in the interim period.

Mr Perry-Warnes asked why the existing waste disposal and landfill contracts were being extended when it had earlier been stated that they would close in 2011.

In his absence, it was agreed that Mr Monson would provide written answers to these questions.

Hunstanton to Kelling Shoreline Management Plan – Consultation Response, paragraph 11

Dr Strong said that a number of coastal villages had been concerned that the Environment Agency's Shoreline Management Plan might endanger flood defences. On behalf of these villages Dr Strong thanked the Cabinet for insisting that the Environment Agency address these concerns before the County expressed approval, and, on behalf of concerned residents, she sought

confirmation that the Cabinet would ensure the Environment Agency did not act without resubmitting their proposals to the County Council.

East of England Plan Review to 2031 – EERA consultation on scenarios for housing and economic growth up to 2031, paragraph 13

Mr Little asked whether the authority was willing to adopt a sustainable approach to housing development.

In response, Ms Steward, Cabinet Member for Economic Development said that the authority had always recognised constraints to growth in Norfolk and would continue to make these points forcefully and at every opportunity.

RESOLVED: to note the report.

10. Report of the Cabinet Scrutiny Committee Meeting held on 29 September 2009

RESOLVED: to note the report.

11. Report of the Cabinet Scrutiny Committee Meeting held on 27 October 2009

RESOLVED: to note the report.

12. Report of the Standards Committee Meeting held on 14 October 2009

In moving the report, the Chairman of the Standards Committee recommended that Members be invited to consent to their individual Register of Interest entries being published on the Internet, subject to it being affordable.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to their individual Register of Interest entries being published on the Internet, subject to it being affordable.

The Chairman said that this was the last meeting of the Full Council that Mrs Middleton would attend as Independent Chairman of the Standards Committee. Mrs Middleton had served two terms of office as an Independent Member of the Standards Committee and would have completed just over eight years service by the end of December 2009. Mrs Middleton was appointed as Chairman of the Committee in 2003 and had carried out that role since then. She played a major part in guiding the Standards Committee through a period of significant change in the ethical framework within local government and she was instrumental in developing the processes and procedures to enable the Committee to meet the challenges arising from those changes. On behalf of the Council, the Chairman thanked Mrs Middleton for her contribution to this vitally important area of local government and she presented a bouquet of flowers to Mrs Middleton as a sign of the Council's appreciation for all her work over the last eight years.

13. Report of the Audit Committee Meeting held on 24 September 2009

Mr Smith, Chairman of the Audit Committee, moved the report and drew Members' attention to page 81 of the report which made reference to the internal audit of Members and Chief Officers Expenses and Allowances. This audit identified no particular issues in procedures or compliance and the message from the Audit Committee to Members and Officers was to continue with strict compliance to procedures.

RESOLVED: to note the report.

14. Report of the Norfolk Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 15 October 2009

Mr Humphrey asked about the additional £750,000 required to build a new decontamination unit for endoscopy equipment and he requested clarification concerning the legislation for this. Mrs Thompson endorsed Mr Humphrey's request for clarification.

In response, Mr Cartiss, Chairman of the Norfolk Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, said that this report related to an initial meeting of the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee; the NHS Foundation Trust had been asked to report back to the 21 January 2010 meeting of the Committee as this proposal for Cromer hospital represented a substantial variation which necessitated public consultation. A public consultation process would be completed next month and the Committee would then determine whether it agreed with the proposals. Mr Cartiss confirmed that, due to legislation, there could be no endoscopy unit at the Cromer Hospital without the decontamination unit.

RESOLVED: to note the report.

15. Report of the Planning (Regulatory) Committee Meeting held on 16 October 2009

RESOLVED: to note the report.

16. Report of the Norwich Highways Agency Joint Committee held on 24 September 2009

RESOLVED: to note the report.

17. Matters considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Panels

RESOLVED: to note the report.

18. Appointments to Committees/Panels for the Ensuing Year

Mr Murphy moved the report and noted the following appointments made by the Chief Executive under delegated powers:

- Mr P Wells to replace Mr A J Byrne on the Children's Services Overview & Scrutiny Panel
- Mr A J Byrne to replace Mr P Wells on the Cabinet Scrutiny Committee

The meeting concluded at 1.20pm.

CHAIRMAN



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RECOMMENDATION FROM THE CABINET MEETING HELD ON 7 DECEMBER 2009
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1. Norfolk Minerals and Waste Development Framework: Core Strategy and Development Control Policies Development Plan Document: Publication of Pre-Submission Document

- 1.1 The Cabinet received a report (Item 17), which asked it to agree to recommend to Council that it approve publication of the Core Strategy and Development Control Policies Pre-submission document for representations to be made by statutory bodies and members of the public, over an 8-week period.

1.2 RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL -

That it:

- 1) Approve the publication of the Core Strategy and Development Control Policies Pre-Submission document for representations to be made by statutory bodies and members of the public, over an 8-week period, in accordance with Regulation 27 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004 (as amended).
- 2) Authorise officers, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Planning and Transportation, to make minor corrections (such as typographical or grammatical) that are identified, prior to the publication of the Core Strategy in February 2010.
- 3) Authorise officers, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Planning and Transportation and the Minerals and Waste LDF Member Reference Group, to review the Pre-Submission representations made following the close of the representations period. If no fundamental weaknesses are identified, the Core Strategy should be formally submitted in late spring 2010. If any significant weaknesses are identified, appropriate remedial measures, involving further work and a delay in formal submission will be identified.

Note from the Head of Democratic Services

A copy of the report and supporting documents (at Item 17 of the 7 December Cabinet agenda) can be viewed on the committee papers pages of the County Council's website. A copy has been given to all Group Leaders and can be viewed in the Members Room. Please contact Greg Insull on 01603 223100 if you would like a hard copy.



If you need this report in large print, audio, Braille, alternative format or in a different language please contact Jo Martin on 0344 800 8020 or 0344 800 8011 (textphone) and we will do our best to help.

REPORT OF THE CABINET MEETING HELD ON 7 DECEMBER 2009
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1. Public Questions

- 1.1 Mr Martin had put a question to the Cabinet, asking whether it agreed that it was inappropriate to hold political group meetings to the meeting of the Planning (Regulatory) Committee. The Cabinet Member for Planning and Transportation advised that all members of the committee were well aware of the potential issues of predetermination. He assured Mr Martin that group meetings were not used for members to make up their minds in advance and where the committee had been split on a decision this had frequently not been on party lines.
- 1.2 Mr Martin had also put a question to the Cabinet about the Chief Executive's salary. The Leader explained that the salary was comparable to those of other Local Authority Chief Executives. He pointed out the size and complexity of the organisation and that equivalent jobs in the private sector were paid considerably more.
- 1.3 Three questions had been put to the Cabinet in relation to outcomes of the recent consultations on school organisation in four 3-year junior clusters. The Cabinet Member for Children's Services explained that the County Council had a duty to keep the pattern of school provision under review and to propose options for change when necessary to ensure the right number of high quality places. Details of the individual responses can be found in the minutes of the meeting.
- 1.4 Sixteen questions had been put to the Cabinet in relation to the Norfolk Minerals and Waste Local Development Framework. The Cabinet Member for Planning and Transportation explained that he was unable to answer detailed questions submitted about individual sites but answered four questions referring to the process of development of the Minerals and Waste Framework, which applied to all sites. Details of the individual responses can be found in the minutes of the meeting.

2. Local Member Questions

- 2.1 Janet Murphy, Local Member for Gayton and Nar Valley Division, had asked the Cabinet to advise the timescale for the feasibility work for the preferred option for the Grimston 3-year junior cluster. The Cabinet Member for Children's Services explained that further feasibility work would be commissioned during the Spring Term and that a final decision was likely to be made in the autumn 2010. She confirmed that community stakeholders would be engaged in the development of more detailed thinking.

- 2.2 Andrew Boswell, Local Member for Nelson Division, had asked the Cabinet to explain what specific projects were being carried out that were having a measurable and deliverable reduction in carbon emissions across the general population. The Cabinet Member for Waste and Environment explained that overall progress on this target was monitored by Norfolk Ambition and outlined some of the projects being measured,
- 2.3 Andrew Boswell, Local Member for Nelson Division, had also asked the Cabinet to provide annual figures for the County Council's spend on software licensing over the last three years and whether Open Source software had been considered in order to make savings in the 2010/11 ICT Plan. The Cabinet Member for Corporate Affairs and Efficiency provided overview figures and a detailed written response.
- 2.4 Richard Bearman, Local Member for Mancroft Division, had asked the Cabinet to confirm that the proposed funding for blight and purchase of properties (in relation to the Great Yarmouth Third River Crossing preferred route) would have no impact on sustainable transport projects currently programmed across the county. The Cabinet Member for Planning and Transportation explained that funding of blight costs would need to be considered as part of the budget planning process for future years. It was not possible to say at this stage, what, if any, implications there were for other transport projects in the programme.
- 2.5 Richard Bearman, Local Member for Mancroft Division, had asked the Cabinet to put a moratorium on any further academies being developed in Norfolk, until such time as the effect on admission and attainment of pupils had been evaluated. The Cabinet Member for Children's Services explained that the County Council would not have a moratorium on any future academies as it would always judge each case on its merits.
- 2.6 George Nobbs, Local Member for Crome Division, had asked the cost, in the last financial year, of employing Chief Officers, deputy Chief Officers and the Heads of Service above and beyond the cost of their basic salaries. The Leader explained that the cost was £726,000. Over 70% of the figure was superannuation contributions, over which the County Council had no discretion as it was a statutory pension scheme.

3. Overview and Scrutiny Panel Issues

The Cabinet Member for Fire and Community Protection highlighted that at its last meeting, the Fire and Community Protection Overview and Scrutiny Panel had received a presentation outlining Norfolk's multi-agency approach to tackling Domestic Violence.

The Cabinet Member for Cultural Services, Customer Services and Communications commented on the positive contribution that the cultural sector and creative industries were making to the economy in

Norfolk and that an announcement was imminent regarding the designation of Norwich as a UNESCO city of literature. He also reported that Norfolk had secured European Union funding to support delivery of the 2012 Olympiad and that a King's Lynn sports centre had been chosen to be one of the pre-Games training camps.

The Cabinet Member for Children's Services reported that the Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Panel had agreed to set up a working group looking into the recruitment and retention of headteachers in Norfolk. The County Council had successfully secured £80m from the Building Schools for the Future programme and had exceeded its performance target to support children and young people not in employment, education or training. Norfolk County Council had also won a national award in the bus industry 'Oscars' for the TITAN project.

The Cabinet Member for Economic Development confirmed that funding had been received to cover the cost of carrying out Local Economic Assessment

4. Integrated Performance and Finance Monitoring Report – Quarter 2 2009-10

The Cabinet has:

- 1) Noted the latest 2009-10 monitoring information.
- 2) Agreed that Overview and Scrutiny Panels should continue to monitor relevant Performance Indicators and identify any action required.

5. ICT Plan 2010/11

The Cabinet has approved the ICT Plan 2010/11 and the basis of funding as set out in the Cabinet report.

6. Organisation of Norfolk Coroners' Service

The Cabinet has approved the submission of a draft Order to the Secretary of state, for the re-organisation of the Coroners' districts in Norfolk, involving the amalgamation of the two existing districts into a single district to be known as the Norfolk Coroners' District, and to give public notice that the Order was to be submitted.

7. Proposed New Governance for the Registration Service

The Cabinet has agreed that consultation with staff, customers and stakeholders should be undertaken with a view to implementing a scheme change to enable a single district and new governance for the Norfolk Registration Service from April 2011.

8. Proposed Transfer of Norfolk County Council Trusts to Norfolk Community Foundation

The Cabinet has agreed that:

- 1) The assets of The Colitshall Educational Foundation and The Jacqueline Magee Trust should be transferred to the Norfolk Community Foundation.
- 2) The existing Children's Services Trusts, where the County Council was the sole Trustee, should be dissolved and the assets transferred to the Norfolk Community Foundation, to manage these Trusts on behalf of the County Council within a new Fund called 'Norfolk Children's Fund'.
- 3) This resolution should be sent to the Charity Commission.
- 4) Subject to approval by the Charity Commission, that the implementation arrangements be delegated to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Children's Services.
- 5) A review should be undertaken of Adult Social Services Trusts with a view to following a similar process.

9. School Organisation Issues: 3-Year Junior Clusters and Academy Strategy

The Cabinet has:

- 1) Considered the outcomes of the consultation into the review of 3-year junior clusters and agreed that statutory consultations should be held in January and February on the preferred options.
- 2) Considered the current position with the development of Norfolk's academy strategy in King's Lynn and Thetford and approved further development of an Expression of Interest for Oriel High School, Gorleston.

10. Strategy for Special Educational Needs (SEN): Complex Needs Schools (Change of Designation) and Specialist Resource Bases (Implementation) – Outcome of Statutory Public Notices

The Cabinet has noted the outcome of the Public Notice consultations, in the context of the implementation plan for the Strategy for Special Educational Needs (SEN) and, based upon the responses provided by officers to these contributions, agreed that they did not constitute significant objections to the overall strategy and, therefore, determined that the Strategy for SEN could progress in full, namely that:

- 1) The Department for Children, Schools and Families can be advised that Norfolk special schools (excluding Eaton Hall School) will formally change designation to Complex Needs

Schools, with an age range of 3-19, with effect from 1 January 2010.

- 2) The implementation plan for the Specialist Resource Bases can be progressed fully, including capital developments within 12 of the 59 bases across the county.

11. Procurement method for Support and Enablement Services for Adults with Learning Difficulties

The Cabinet has agreed to defer this item.

12. Renewing Supporting People Service Contracts

The Cabinet has agreed to an extension of the exemption on re-tendering expiring Supporting People contracts by three months, up to and including 31 March 2010, in order to facilitate sectoral review.

13. Minerals and Waste Development Framework Fifth Annual Monitoring Report

The Cabinet has agreed:

- 1) To endorse the findings of the Annual Monitoring Report and that it be submitted to the Secretary of State.
- 2) That the revised Minerals and Waste Development Scheme should have effect from 18 January 2010.

14. Nar Ouse Regeneration Area – Proposed Variation to Previous Agreement to Support Utilities’ Diversions

The Cabinet has agreed to sustain the County Council's support for the Nar Ouse Regeneration Scheme, through the provision of £200,000 from the Economic Development Strategies Sites fund to enable the relocation of the sewer and other infrastructure works.

15. Appointments to Committees (Standing Item)

The Cabinet has approved the following amendments to committee appointments:

- 1) Teachers’ Joint Consultative Committee and School Admissions Forum - Mrs J Murphy to replace Mr I Mackie
- 2) Norfolk Foster Panel (East) - Mrs A Thomas to replace Mrs A Steward
- 3) Norse Shareholder Committee - Mr B Borrett to replace Mr P Wells

- 4) Member Support and Development Advisory Group – Mrs J Chamberlin to replace Mr C Jordan
- 5) Mr B Borrett to replace Mr T Williams on the following:
 - Joint Consultative and Negotiating Committee
 - Property Reference Panel
 - Treasury Management Panel
 - Corporate Procurement Panel
 - ESPO Bonus Sub-Committee

16. Great Yarmouth Third River Crossing Preferred Route

The Cabinet has agreed:

- 1) To adopt the route as shown on the plan in Appendix A, as the preferred route for the Great Yarmouth Third River Crossing by way of a dual carriageway link utilising a 50m span bascule bridge over the river.
- 2) To authorise the purchase of properties the subject of valid Blight Notices served upon the Council subject to approval by the Head of Law in consultation with the Managing Director of NPS Property Services Limited.
- 3) To delegate to the Leader the decision of which preferred funding option for blight purchases, as set out in the exempt report, should be presented as part of the 2010/11 budget setting process.
- 4) That further study work into funding/procurement options for the Third River Crossing should be undertaken.

Details of the full discussion on any of the matters above can be found in the minutes for this meeting.

**CHAIRMAN
DANIEL COX**



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**REPORT OF THE CABINET MEETING
HELD ON 4 JANUARY 2010**

1. Local Member Questions

- 1.1 Marie Strong, Local Member for Wells Division, had asked the Cabinet to continue to fight the Environment Agency, to ensure it continued to provide modern sirens which would effectively warn of flooding and inform of evacuation. The Cabinet Member for Fire and Community Protection explained that last summer the County Council made a submission regarding the flood sirens using the Sustainable Communities Act (SCA). The Selector (the Local Government Association) had now completed the SCA sifting process. He was pleased to be able to announce that the County Council's submission had been included in the shortlist that had been forwarded to the Secretary of State (SoS). The SoS would now consider which of the 199 schemes on the shortlist should be implemented. The Selector hoped that "the process will be completed before the Easter recess" (approximately end of March).
- 1.2 Marie Strong, Local Member for Wells Division, had also asked the Cabinet to explain what action was planned to alleviate problems experienced by rural villages in her area as a result of "second-home blight". The Leader explained that North Norfolk had the lion's share of second homes and over the years had had the largest share of the monies collected. This would not change, and North Norfolk would continue to have access to approximately £686,000 each year, through its Local Strategic Partnership. The Leader went on to say that he was strongly in support of the proposed Infrastructure Fund which would have enormous benefits for the county as a whole when otherwise major improvement projects could stall because of the recession. Whilst he entirely understood Dr Strong's local concern, his priority as Leader of the council was to make this money work for the most people in the county – and as the Lib Dem spokesperson on the economy, he was sure that Dr Strong would understand the enormous leverage such a fund could bring for the long-term economic sustainability of the area.
- 1.3 Paul Morse, Local Member for North Walsham East Division, had asked the Cabinet to explain why "Partnership", the LAA, LSP and local working no longer warranted a Cabinet portfolio. The Leader explained that the changes in Cabinet portfolios reflected the changing context in which the County Council worked. Given the scale of the financial pressures facing local government, and the national and international economic situation, he needed additional Cabinet level focus to drive the corporate efficiency agenda where we dramatically need to ramp up our savings. In addition, he wanted to ensure a separate Cabinet-level financial and performance

overview of services. Whilst the word 'partnership' may not appear in the title of any portfolio, it was clearly embedded in how the County Council did its business.

2. Overview and Scrutiny Panel Issues

The Cabinet Member for Planning and Transportation reported that the Chairman of the Planning, Transportation, Environment and Waste Overview and Scrutiny Panel had agreed to take an urgent business item on winter maintenance at the 6 January meeting.

The Cabinet Member for Children's Services reported that Ministerial approval had been given to move to the feasibility stage for an academy in King's Lynn to replace The Park High School.

3. 2009-10 Finance Monitoring Report

The Cabinet has:

- 1) Noted the action needed by the Council, in response to the recommendations in the Annual Audit Letter.
- 2) Confirmed the key messages from the Annual Audit Letter and the Organisational Assessment.

4. Annual Audit Letter and Norfolk County Council's Organisational Assessment

The Cabinet has:

- 1) Noted the action needed by the Council, in response to the recommendations in the Annual Audit Letter.
- 2) Confirmed the key messages from the Annual Audit Letter and the Organisational Assessment.

5. School Organisation Issues: Academy Strategy and Earsham VA First School

The Cabinet has considered the current position with the development of Norfolk's academy strategy and agreed that the consultation on the closure of The Park High School, King's Lynn should begin and that consultations on the future of Charles Burrell and Rosemary Musker, Thetford, and Costessey High Schools should begin once those proposals had been formally submitted for Ministerial approval.

6. Procurement Method for Support and Enablement Services for Adults with Learning Difficulties

The Cabinet has agreed to the dissolution of the current Standing List and its replacement by an adapted Framework Agreement for the procurement of support and enablement services for adults with a learning difficulty.

7. Ombudsman Report 2008/09

The Cabinet has confirmed the figures relating to Ombudsman complaints for the year to 31 March 2009.

8. Residual Waste Treatment Project

The Cabinet has agreed to ensure that the lessons learnt from Procurement of Phase One of the Residual Waste Treatment Project were being applied to Project B and noted that this would be the subject of a further scrutiny by the Cabinet Scrutiny Committee at a timescale to be agreed.

9. Proposal to create a Norfolk Infrastructure Fund

The Cabinet has agreed to:

- 1) Establish a Norfolk Infrastructure Fund, using 25% of second homes monies collected, which had been used for affordable housing projects with district councils.
- 2) Task officers to prepare a report for the Cabinet to consider detailing proposals for how the Fund will operate.
- 3) Incorporate this decision as part of the overall budget process at the end of January 2010 and seek agreement at Full Council in February.

10. Wash Shoreline Management Plan

The Cabinet has agreed:

- 1) The formal response, contained in the Cabinet report and including Cabinet Member views, should be submitted to the Environment Agency by 15 January 2010
- 2) That responsibility for resolving any issues raised at the Planning, Transportation, Environment and Waste Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 6 January 2010 and approving the final consultation response should be delegated to the Cabinet Member for Waste and Environment.

11. Amendment to Park and Ride Contract Award

The Cabinet has agreed the revised recommendation, as set out in the Cabinet report, to award contracts at Airport, Postwick and Sprowston sites to Norse.

12. Appointments to Committees, Panels, Boards and Working Groups

The Cabinet has agreed:

- 1) To the suggested changes to the political balance of working groups, as set out in the Cabinet report.
- 2) To the establishment of the County Farms Tenants' Advisory Board and its Terms of Reference, as set out in the Cabinet report.

Details of the full discussion on any of the matters above can be found in the minutes for this meeting.

**CHAIRMAN
DANIEL COX**



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**Report of the Cabinet Scrutiny Committee meeting held on
24 November 2009**

1. Residual Waste Treatment Project

Members received the suggested approach by the Scrutiny Support Manager, together with a report by the Director of Environment, Transport and Development.

Mr I Monson, Cabinet Member for Environment and Waste, Ms Victoria McNeill, Head of Law, Mr M Allen, Head of Environment & Waste Management and Mr J Hull, Project Director - Residual Waste Services, attended the meeting to answer questions. Mr M Jackson, Director of Planning and Transportation, sent his apologies, as he was unable to attend due to a prior commitment.

Following discussion, the Committee agreed:

- To respond to Cabinet setting out a summary of the 'Lessons that can be applied to other major projects', as set out in paragraph 6 of the report.
- To make further recommendations to reflect discussions that had taken place during this meeting, in particular SPVs and cost ceilings.
- Members would like to make sure lessons learnt from this project are being applied to the Waste PFI and this will be a subject of scrutiny by this Committee at a timescale to be agreed.

2. Councillor Call for Action (CCfA) Guidance

Members received the report by the Scrutiny Support Manager

Officers were thanked for bringing this item forward which would be greatly beneficial to Members and it was suggested that this be included in the Council's Constitution.

The Committee agreed that this be referred to the Constitution Working Group so that the CCfA can be discussed and any necessary amendments be made to the Constitution, before being agreed at a meeting of Full Council.

3. Forward Work Programme

In the light of discussions that took place at the Full Council meeting on 23 November, it was suggested that a scrutiny of Adult Social Services in respect of older people's day care centres and the reorganisation of the provision of dementia care takes place as a matter of urgency.

It was agreed that Overview and Scrutiny Strategy Group should consider, as a matter of urgency, a scrutiny of Adult Social Services in respect of older people's day care centres and the reorganisation of the provision of dementia.

Details of the full discussion can be found in the minutes of the meeting.

Paul Morse
Chair, Cabinet Scrutiny Committee

Report of the Cabinet Scrutiny Committee meeting with MEPs held on 27 November 2009

1. Meeting with Members of the European Parliament (MEPs)

The Chair welcomed Mr Agnew, Mr Duff, Mr Howitt, Mr Van Orden and members of the public to the meeting of the Cabinet Scrutiny Committee and advised that this would not be a traditional scrutiny meeting but would enable councillors and members of the public to have a better understanding of the role of MEPs and also to consider how Norfolk County Council and MEPs could work together for the benefit of Norfolk.

A wide-ranging question and answer session then took place which included discussion of the following:

Questions from Members of the Public:

- The benefits of membership of the EU and whether the UK's multi-billion contribution was value for money.
- EU legislation to terminate or abate the massive stripping of sand and shingle offshore to Norfolk.
- World Horse Welfare's campaign to end the suffering of thousands of horses transported across Europe.
- Improvements to the A11.
- Deportation of immigrants convicted of serious crimes.

Member Questions:

- How Members can communicate better with MEPs on key issues, both in terms of supporting them and gaining their support on issues of importance.
- The input of MEPs in the debate regarding the new funding period and how the authority could provide support to MEPs in lobbying on its behalf to maximise eligibility.
- What support MEPs required from Norfolk County Council to lobby on relevant issues and what could Norfolk do to obtain funding support to meet its transport priorities.
- What, if any, funding was available to strengthen environmentally friendly modes of transport which could help improve the rail transport system in Norfolk.
- What, if any funding was available to support the higher carbon reduction target that the Eastern Region has set itself
- Why France receives twice as much arts funding as the UK.
- Money wasted by the transfer between Strasbourg and Brussels.
- MEPs views on whether the tensions between the EU and NATO could rise again.

Due to the lack of time remaining, the MEPs agreed to provide written answers to the following questions:

- What do MEPs do?

- Recently there had been problems with regard to MPs expenses and also with House of Lords Expenses. What were MEPs doing to ensure there was no abuse of their expenses?

It was agreed that the next Cabinet Scrutiny meeting on 22 December should include a brief agenda item to discuss what had been learned during this meeting with MEPs and to give consideration to the format of future meetings with MEP.

Details of the full discussion can be found in the minutes of the meeting.

Paul Morse
Chair, Cabinet Scrutiny Committee

**Report of the Cabinet Scrutiny Committee meeting held on
22 December 2009**

1. Items of urgent business

- 1.1 The Chair advised Members that the draft Terms of Reference for the scrutiny of Norfolk County Council's role in commissioning and developing services for people with dementia would be taken as urgent business to enable this item to be included on the 19 January 2010 Cabinet Scrutiny Committee agenda as this would give the Committee the opportunity to feed in views to the consultation on the draft Norfolk Joint Commissioning Strategy for Dementia. A copy of the draft Terms of Reference was circulated to members.
- 1.2 Members said that there were two issues to be considered;
 - (i) Full Council had discussed this and it had been stated that older people were having service levels reduced to pay for dementia services, and
 - (ii) Two TV programmes had stated that the treatment dementia sufferers received in care homes was, in many cases, being conducted by untrained staff and that there was a complete lack of leadership in terms of how staff were being managed.
- 1.3 Members agreed that the Chair and Scrutiny Leads should work with Officers to amend the Terms of Reference wording, to take into account both the above, and that a report would be received by the 19 January 2010 Cabinet Scrutiny Committee.

2. Report on The Pitt Review (NCC Progress Update)

- 2.1 Members received the suggested approach by the Scrutiny Support Manager, together with a report by the Director of Environment, Transport and Development and the Head of Emergency Planning which looked at the current situation in Norfolk with regard to the recommendations put forward by Sir Michael Pitt in his review of the multi-agency response to the flooding nationally in June and July 2007.
 - 2.2 The Chair reminded Members that Full Council had given this Committee responsibility to investigate the progress of the County Council's implementation of the Pitt Review and that over the past four years there had been many incidences of flooding in Norfolk. As a local member the Chair had experienced a lack of coordination and accountability during incidences of flooding in his local area.
 - 2.3 Mr Nobbs suggested a Working Group should be set up to look at how Norfolk responds to flood alerts. There was no seconder for this proposal.
 - 2.4 Mr Dobson proposed that Cabinet should be invited to read the minutes of this debate, but that as far as this Committee was concerned he suggested that The Pitt Review should be brought back to the Committee as soon as the Bill was enacted and the associated guidance published. Mr Kiddle-Morris seconded this proposal.
- This was carried with 11 votes in favour, none against and 1 abstention. It was also agreed that Cabinet should be invited to read the minutes of this debate.

3. Supporting People in Economic Difficulties

- 3.1 Members received the report by the Scrutiny Support Manager
- 3.2 The Chair noted that at the start of the recession the Cabinet Scrutiny Committee wanted to see what steps Norfolk County Council were taking to support people facing economic difficulties and received regular reports. This report was a mixture of the big strategic picture and specific information responding to the recession and it was the latter aspect that contained the origins for this piece of scrutiny.
- 3.3 Mr Scutter proposed that further investigation should take place to look behind the 18 – 24 year old unemployment figures and that this could be done as a brief report in the first instance. Mr Nobbs seconded this proposal.

With 3 votes in favour and 7 against, this proposal was lost.

4. Meeting with MEPs

- 4.1 Members received the suggested approach by the Scrutiny Support Manager.
- 4.2 It was agreed that any future meeting with MEPs should be publicized more widely.
- 4.3 Members agreed that there should be a further meeting with MEPs next year. They asked that officers work up a proposal for a 'Question Time' format with MEPs not knowing the questions in advance.

Details of the full discussion can be found in the minutes of the meeting.

Paul Morse
Chair, Cabinet Scrutiny Committee

**Report of the Personnel Committee Meeting
held on 7 December 2009**

1. Modern Reward Strategy – Project Update

- 1.1 The Committee was advised that, in having now reached collective agreement, Norfolk was one of just a handful of Councils to do so in recent months.
- 1.2 Members noted the work underway to implement MRS with effect from 1 April 2010.
- 1.3 **RESOLVED** to note the report.

**Daniel Cox
Chairman**

**Report of the Meeting of the
Norfolk Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Held on 26 November 2009**

1 Respite Services – Short Breaks for Carers

1.1 The Committee received a suggested approach from Maureen Orr, Scrutiny Support Manager (Health) to a report from NHS Norfolk, NHS Great Yarmouth and Waveney, Adult Social Services and Children's Services about respite services (short breaks). The report outlined progress on joint commissioning of respite care for adults; progress towards implementing a carers' strategy; financing of health and social care respite; respite services for disabled children.

1.2 The Committee received evidence from the following witnesses:

Stuart Marpole, Service Manager, Special and Additional Needs, Children's Services

Janet Leeson, Programme Manager, Short Breaks Pathfinder for Disabled Children, Children's Services

Hilary Mills, Head of Commissioning and Partnerships, Adult Social Services

Ginny Buchan, Commissioning Officer (Carers), Adult Social Services

Chris Humphris, Deputy Director of Commissioning, NHS Great Yarmouth and Waveney

Wendy Hardicker, Assistant Director, Out of Hospital Care, NHS Norfolk

David Sparkes, Norfolk Local Involvement Network (commenting on adult respite services)

Ann Poberefsky, Norfolk LINK and Chair of North Norfolk Alzheimer's Society (commenting on adult respite services).

1.3 In hearing from the witnesses and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee noted the following:

Respite Services for Adults –

- The Carers' Council was the lead decision making body for carers in Norfolk, with links into other groups including those for young carers. The Carers' Council was made up of carers and staff from Adult Social Services, Children's Services, the NHS and the voluntary sector.
- There were estimated to be some 80,000 carers in Norfolk and this figure was rising. Norfolk had an ageing population and people were living longer. Carers in Norfolk had been consulted about what improvements in respite services they would like to see. Approximately 6,000 paper copies of a consultation document had been handed out, but only 241 responses were received.

- Many adults did not see themselves as carers, they saw themselves as relatives, partners or friends and they cared because of the relationship they had with the person that they supported.
- Members commented that many carers were unable to find the spare time to take on a training course, even if they had the funding to do so. Members asked for training courses for carers to be published in libraries and GP practices in order to raise general public awareness of respite issues.
- Funding should be channelled into areas of care support that reduced expenditure on hospital services.

Respite Services for Children –

- Approximately 2,000 young carers in Norfolk were estimated to be undertaking age-inappropriate personal care tasks. Young carers were aged from 5 years to 18 years of age. Some 75% of those they care for were adults. The remaining 25% were siblings. In a family with young carers, the siblings who did not need care often ended up getting less personal attention.
- Many young carers were “hidden” in Norfolk society. Young carers could feel isolated from other children and find it difficult to balance their own needs and those of the person they cared for. Young carers could experience difficulties at school such as poor attendance and failure to reach their full academic potential. To help overcome this, young carers could be issued with “young carers’ cards” for use at times when they were late attending school or needed to leave school early. Those working for the Young Carers’ Schools Project aimed to talk to teachers and other staff in schools and deliver awareness raising sessions. The Young Carers’ Project Workers covered the whole of the county and could refer young carers to other services.
- Crossroads Care in Norfolk could arrange support for young carers. They worked together with Children’s Services to provide a range of care and support services for children caring for family members.

- 1.4 It was agreed that the Joint Commissioners (NHS Norfolk, NHS Great Yarmouth and Waveney, Adult Social Services and Children’s Services) should report back to the Committee in six months’ time (no later than July 2010) on progress in developing the Carers’ Service through joint commissioning.

2 Older People’s Mental Health Services – Dementia

- 2.1 The Committee received a PowerPoint presentation and reports on (a) progress towards consultation on a draft joint commissioning strategy “Living Well with Dementia”; (b) the outcome of transferring the Octagon Day Treatment Hospital from the Hellsdon Hospital site to the Julian Hospital site and development of Norfolk and Waveney Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust’s Dementia Outreach Service and (c) Norfolk and Waveney Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust’s progress towards providing a Dementia Intensive Care Unit.
- 2.2 The Committee received evidence from the following witnesses:

Maureen Begley, Commissioning Manager, Older People's Services, Adult Social Services
Steve McCormack, Programme Manager, Mental Health and Learning Disabilities, NHS Norfolk
Chris Humphris, Deputy Director of Commissioning, NHS Great Yarmouth and Waveney
Pauline Goffin, Norfolk and Waveney Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust
Hugo de Waal, Norfolk and Waveney Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust
David Sparkes, Norfolk Local Involvement Network
Patrick Thompson, Norfolk LINK.

2.3 In hearing from the witnesses and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee noted the following:

- It was estimated that there were 700,000 people with dementia in the UK and that this cost £17billion; more than stroke, heart disease and cancer combined, with costs spread across health and social care services. It was also estimated that over the next 30 years the number of people with dementia would double and that the costs would treble. The Dementia Services in Norfolk would become unsustainable within 20 years.
- In 2008 there were 12,714 people in Norfolk over 65 years of age with dementia. By 2025, this was predicted to increase to 20,312. This was a rise of 62% compared to a national predicted increase of 51%.
- The Joint Norfolk Dementia Commissioning Strategy was due to be presented for approval in spring 2010, after the public consultation had been completed. It would include a robust financial impact assessment. This would be in addition to the Impact Assessment report which supported the strategy.
- The strategy provided for a Dementia Intensive Care Unit of Excellence and a Dementia Acute Admission Ward.
- The Julian Day Treatment Service would provide a mixture of fixed full days and outreach days in rural Norfolk, offering advice and support including depression support, coping skills, assertiveness and communication.
- Norfolk LINK was seeking further clarification regarding the usage of the Dementia Intensive Care Unit beds and wanted sufficient capacity to be maintained to avoid having to use out-of-county facilities.
- Norfolk LINK wanted to be involved in consultation and strategy meetings regarding the design and delivery of services for older people.
- The number of people in Norfolk under the age of 65 that were known to have dementia was estimated to be only a quarter of the number that it should be.
- There remained a lack of vision in south Norfolk for those with dementia. The NHS planned to address this issue after the strategy had been agreed.
- It was pointed out that dementia was extremely difficult to detect in its early

stages. This was a specialist task. However, GPs needed more expertise in diagnosing the condition. It was estimated that GPs were only diagnosing one third of the patients that they could diagnose as having dementia and that there were a number of reasons for this.

- 2.4 The Committee agreed to respond to the Dementia Strategy Consultation at its meeting on 21 January 2010. It was further agreed that the NWMHFT should report back to the Committee on progress in developing its Dementia Services, including bed usage statistics, in six months' time (at the 15 July 2010 meeting).

3 Hospital Discharge Processes

- 3.1 Patrick Thompson, Norfolk LINK, introduced the findings of a pilot study undertaken by Norfolk LINK aimed at influencing NHS Trusts and Adult Social Services to bring about changes in working practices that would lead to higher levels of patient satisfaction. He said that since producing the report, there had been black alerts at Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital even though the hospital's delayed discharge numbers had fallen. He said that for many patients knowing when they were likely to be discharged from hospital had a positive impact on their recovery. The social impact of discharge on relatives and other carers needed to be taken more into account. He added that during a visit to the Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital LINK and Committee Members were informed that a recent spot check had found there were some 300 patients at the hospital suffering from dementia. Some of these patients could possibly be treated better elsewhere. The Committee agreed to invite Norfolk LINK to provide an update of its work in 2010 (at a date to be mutually agreed with Norfolk LINK).

4 Changes to Intermediate Care in Central Norfolk

- 4.1 The Committee received an update report from the Intermediate Care Implementation Monitoring Group that was monitoring the implementation of changes to intermediate care services in central Norfolk. This was the fourth report from the Committee's Monitoring Group and it was introduced by its Chairman Dr Nigel Legg.
- 4.2 In reply to questions, David Stonehouse, NHS Norfolk, said that they were not competing with NHS Great Yarmouth and Waveney for intermediate care beds in the Beccles and Halesworth areas. He also assured the Committee that –
- Procedures for calling GPs out to attend intermediate care patients in nursing homes were well understood by all the nursing homes in which NHS Norfolk had supported beds.
 - NHS Norfolk was not yet looking to revise its intermediate care strategy.
 - The Intermediate Care Implementation Monitoring Group would be given information on the demand management initiatives that NHS Norfolk intended to adopt and how it would measure the effectiveness of those measures.
- 4.3 It was agreed that the Intermediate Care Implementation Monitoring Group should continue to monitor NHS Norfolk's progress in implementing the changes to intermediate care in central Norfolk that it agreed in 2007/08 and continue to report back to the Committee at regular intervals.

5 Cromer Hospital Redevelopment – Consultation Update

- 5.1 The Committee received a report from Maureen Orr, Scrutiny Support Manager (Health), on Norfolk and Norwich University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust's revised public involvement/consultation process for Cromer Hospital and its timetable for considering responses. The Committee is due to debate and respond to the proposals for Cromer Hospital redevelopment at its meeting on 21 January 2010.

John Bracey
VICE CHAIRMAN

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NORFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL

18 January 2010

Item 5

**REPORT OF THE PLANNING (REGULATORY) COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON 20 NOVEMBER 2009**

- 1. Minerals and Waste Applications Referred to Committee for Determination**
 - 1.1. C/1/2008/1014: Stody: Land Adjacent to Breck Farm, Processing and Removal of Surplus Sand and Gravel and Soils Arising From the Construction of Two Linked Agricultural Reservoirs**
 - 1.2 The recommendation to approve the application as recommended in the report was defeated on the grounds that the adverse impact upon amenity associated with the additional traffic movements outweighed the environmental benefits that would accrue from the proposal, contrary to saved policy MIN 6 of the Adopted Norfolk Minerals Local Plan (2004).
- 2. C/5/2009/5007: The Runway, Woodforde Farm, Weston Longville, Extension Of Existing Composting Facilities to Include an in Vessel Composting System For The Composting Of Waste Including Meat**
 - 2.1 That the grant of planning permission be delegated to the Director of Environment, Transport and Development subject to:
 - (i) A Section 106 Agreement concerning landscaping requirements including number and mix of species, provision and long term maintenance of new habitat and construction, adoption and maintenance of surface water drainage systems and finally an appropriate routing agreement
 - (ii) Conditions including time limit, in accordance with the approved plans and documentation, lighting, Environment Agency requirements to carry out development in accordance with Flood Risk Assessment, hours of working, external materials/colours, background noise levels, shredder and screening equipment to be electrically operated, limit on tonnage including record keeping, type of waste, 10% of energy from renewable resource.
- 3. C/6/2009/6013: Borough of Great Yarmouth: Caister on Sea, West Road, Variation Of Condition 1 of Planning Permission
C/6/2008/6003**

- 3.1** That the Director be authorised to issue a decision notice granting planning permission for a further period of one year, subject to the re-imposition of those conditions attached to planning permission C/6/2008/6003 which covered hours of working, archaeological requirements, control of noise and dust, location and height of stockpiles, Environment Agency requirements, requirements of the Internal Drainage Board, revised haul route, protection of water vole habitat, protection of public right of way, phased scheme of working, field drainage, restoration and aftercare

John Rogers

**Chairman
Planning (Regulatory) Committee**

NORFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL

18 January 2010

Item 5

**REPORT OF THE PLANNING (REGULATORY) COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON 18 DECEMBER 2009**

- 1. Minerals and Waste Applications Referred to Committee for Determination**
- 1.1 C/1/2008/1007: Extraction of Sand and Gravel Restoration to Agriculture with Small Wetland Feature (Processing at Existing, Adjoining Plant Site the Subject of a Separate Related Section 73 Application) Holt Quarry, Hunworth Road, Holt**
- 1.2 The Director was authorised to issue a permission, subject to:
 - A Section 106 Agreement concerning vehicle routeing as referred to.
 - Condition limiting the time period for the extraction and restoration work for five years from the date of consent, hours of operation, additional landscaping and tree planting for the restoration scheme, built in accord with flood risk assessment dust mitigation in accordance with the approved scheme, background noise level conditions and mitigation measures to protect species being carried out.
- 2. Bracon Ash and Wreningham Parishes Application Y/7/2009/7042 – Hethel Engineering Centre Extension and Alterations to Provide eleven Additional Single Storey Incubator Units with Mezzanine Floors, Including Outside Access and Service Area and New Landscaping**
- 2.1 With the proviso that a mature tree be planted on the site the Director of Environment Transport and Development was authorised to grant planning permission subject to the conditions as set out below:
 - Three year time limit within which development must be commenced.
 - External materials to match existing.
 - Implementation and maintenance of landscaping for 5 years.
 - Additional planting within the surface water storage pond.
 - Vegetation clearance to be done outside nesting season or otherwise under the supervision of a experienced ecologist; no works or storage to be undertaken in areas offering refuge for great crested newts; no works or storage to be undertaken within 8 metres of the existing southern boundary ditch.

- Submission and written approval of details of all external lighting prior to commencement of development, and control over its use.
- Written approval of implementation of the parking and servicing areas before the building is brought into use.
- Written approval of details of on site wheel cleaning for construction vehicles prior to commencement of works.
- Control of the level of noise emitted from the building and prior written approval of details of any generator, compressor or cooling plant before installation.
- Implementation and ongoing monitoring and review of the submitted Travel Plan.
- No use of the site shall take place outside the hours of:
 - i) 06.00 and 22.00 on Monday to Friday.
 - ii) 06.00 to 18.00 on Saturdays
 - iii) 08.00 to 13.00 on Sundays and public holidays
- Restriction of surface water runoff to be limited to 15.2 litres per second.
- Associated modifications to surface water storage pond to be implemented prior to commencement of works. Details of pollution interceptor controls to be submitted to and approved in writing prior to commencement of works.
- No means of foul water disposal to be used other than as set out in the submitted application.
- If ground contamination is found during construction works, works to cease until necessary remedial work is approved in writing and carried out accordingly.
- Use of the premises to be limited to occupiers undertaking engineering, innovation, and or research in engineering or manufacturing, where close proximity to the Lotus Group or another enterprise within the engineering cluster of Norfolk would be conducive to the furtherance of such activities.

John Rogers

**Chairman
Planning (Regulatory) Committee**

**Report of the Norwich Highways Agency Committee
Meeting Held on 26 November 2009**

1. Petition

1.1 Thorpe Park, Norwich

- 1.2 A petition was presented on behalf of residents of Thorpe Park regarding the parking situation on Wilson Road at the entrance to the Development which was felt to be extremely dangerous.
- 1.3 It was noted that there was a proposal in the report on the Waiting Restrictions for Implementation in 2009/10 recommending single yellow lines in Wilson Road. There was no reason why this proposal could not be changed to double yellow lines, subject to consultation. There was also funding to extend the controlled parking zone (CPZ) and, although residents of Thorpe Park had previously rejected controlled parking twice, further consultation to extend the CPZ might provide a solution to the problems the residents experienced with parking.

1.4 Doman Road – Parking

- 1.5 A petition was presented on behalf of residents in Doman Road in Lakenham relating to parking concerns. The residents were unhappy about the lack of parking adjacent to their houses and having to park several streets away.
- 1.6 The Transportation Manager said that it was not feasible from an administrative and residents' point of view to base a CPZ on a single street. It was the policy of the committee to control parking within an area as there needed to be greater flexibility for residents to park in neighbouring streets within the zone.

2. Public Questions

2.1 Lakenham Ward – Road Safety Issues

- 2.2 The Divisional Councillor for Lakenham Ward said that the current road safety concerns in her division were:
- a need for traffic calming on Sandy Lane- 20mph/speed bumps/reinforcement etc;
 - safety at the junction of Bracondale/City Road/Ber Street;

- a need for a pedestrian crossing at Bracondale junction with King's Street (County Hall end);
- a need for designated disabled parking spots within existing CPZs.

2.3 In the light of Norwich Area Transportation Strategy (NATS) and city-wide changes, she asked what could be done to address these concerns.

2.4 The Committee had resolved to await further advice from the Department of Transport (DoT) on the use of 20 mph speed limits in residential areas before deciding whether the signed only 20 mph speed limit should be rolled out across the city. It would therefore be premature to go ahead with a traffic calming scheme on Sandy Lane at present. There had been five accidents at the junction of Bracondale/City Road/Ber Street but these were not at a level that warranted a local safety scheme. There was not much that could be done because of the alignment of the road. Approval of planning applications for the industrial unit site could be subject to a condition to improve the visibility at that junction. The Bracondale junction with King's Street was the most requested one for improvements for pedestrians and cyclists. There were no immediate plans to improve the junction and any works would be limited as it was in a conservation area. The Implementation Team was looking at what improvements could be made. The committee would be considering a report on designated disabled parking spots within existing CPZs at its next meeting.

2.5 Norwich Area Transport Strategy – Mobility Scooters

2.6 It was asked the views of people with disabilities, who were users of motor scooters could be taken into account in the consultation process in the Norwich Area Transportation Strategy document. People with disabilities had been completely left out and this was a poor reflection on the County Council which should make every effort to include everyone in their surveys.

2.7 It was agreed that their views would be taken into account and that there were further consultations planned with the Citizen's Panel, where there would be specific questions relating to mobility scooter use.

2.8 Essex Street – speed management

2.9 It was stated that the residents of Essex Street have consistently raised the matter of speeding on this street as a serious concern despite it being included recently in the 20mph pilot schemes.

2.10 There was also a concern that if the large 20mph posters were removed as proposed, the limit would be even less effective. It was

asked if this issue would be given serious consideration by officers and a report be drafted with options produced for the committee's consideration.

- 2.11 It was noted that the Committee would not be making a decision on the roll out of 20mph speed limits until after the advice had been received from the DoT. In the past speed tables had been ruled out for Essex Street because of ambulances accessing the old hospital. Speed assessments showed that the average speed of drivers was just over 20mph. It would be wrong to take Essex Street in isolation.

2.12 Magdalen Street – Signage for cyclists

- 2.13 The Committee was asked to approach the Joint Highways give permission for signs to be put at the end of Magdalen Street showing cyclists there is no entry for them. The City Council has been approached but there were no funds for this project. There had been interest from the people who run the graffiti wall on Edward Street who wanted to design a sign and when it has gone through Norwich City Council and has been authorised they would like it put at the end of the Magdalen Road.
- 2.14 It was noted that the issue of cyclists using the pavement on Magdalen Street and elsewhere had been raised with the police. Legally cyclists should not cycle on the pavement unless there was a sign. Officers were discussing with the police about using posters, similar to the 20mph pilot scheme posters, advising cyclists not to ride on the pavement, and this would be taken forward through the Community Safety Crime and Disorder Partnership.

3. Ashby Court Parking Permit Eligibility Review

- 3.1 The Ward Councillor for Town Close asked on behalf of residents that the Committee consider the allocation of a small number of permits to the scheme manager. This would recognise the needs of the Ashby Court residents and minimise the impact on parking in the area.
- 3.2 The following options in the report were agreed:
- Option 4: No change to policy; Ashby Court properties remains ineligible for parking permits with the following proviso: current Ashby Court residents may retain and renew existing “residents” parking permits and retain but not renew existing “visitor” parking permits
 - Option 5: A limited number of visitor permits are allocated to the Ashby Court scheme manager; 5 are suggested as a reasonable number.

4. Results Of Public Consultation On The Proposed Island Construction And Right Turn Ban – Ber Street Junction With Brooke Place And Thorn Lane

4.1 It was agreed to:

- approve the principles of the proposals for Ber Street and Thorn Lane, but reduce the Ber Street island length to allow existing turning movements in and out of Brooke Place to continue.
- abandon the proposal to implement a traffic order to ban the right turn into and out of Brooke Place from Ber Street.
- extend the scheme to include a new formal uncontrolled crossing point on Ber Street opposite the John Lewis car park entrance / exit splitter island.

5. Tombland Hackney Carriage Stand: Making Permanent Experimental Traffic Regulation Order

5.1 It was agreed to authorise the Head of Transportation and Landscape and the Head of Legal, Regulatory and Democratic Services to carry out the necessary statutory procedures to make a permanent Traffic Regulation Order for the Retention of the Experimental Taxi Rank in Tombland (and the removal of the previous ranks).

6. Norwich Area Transportation Strategy Implementation – Newmarket Road Bus Lane Extension

6.1 It was agreed to:-

- Approve for implementation the proposal to convert the existing 8am – 6.30pm parking restriction between No. 9 and No. 31 Newmarket Road to an ‘at any time’ parking restriction, the proposal to provide both an on road cycle feeder lane and pedestrian refuge on Unthank Road, close to the junction with Newmarket Road, and the proposal to provide a shared use cycle track between Unthank Road and Bluebell Road slip-road;
- Ask the Head of Transportation and Landscape and Head of Legal, Regulatory and Democratic Services to progress the necessary statutory procedures associated with implementing the conversion of the existing 8am – 6.30pm parking restriction on Newmarket Road to an ‘at any time’ parking restriction
- Convert the existing footway on the north side of Newmarket Road between Bluebell Road slip-road and Unthank Road to shared use cycle track.

7. Draft 2010/11 And 2011/12 Highways Improvement Capital Programme

- 7.1 A resident of Mount Pleasant addressed the committee calling for members to change its policy with regard to the implementation of traffic speed management measures in Mount Pleasant.
- 7.2 It was agreed to:
- endorse the proposed submissions for Local Transport Plan (LTP) funds for 2010/11 and 2011/12 as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report;
 - ask the County Council's Cabinet to consider this Committee's submission for LTP funding as part of the overall highways and transportation capital programme for the coming years.

8. Waiting Restriction Requests For Implementation 2009/10

- 8.1 The proposals for South Park Avenue and Parmenter Avenue were referred to and it was requested that the introduction of yellow lines should include waiting restrictions on Pettus Road, which would give residents the opportunity to comment as part of the consultation.
- 8.2 The Transportation Manager advised against yellow lines on both sides of Wilson Road, as there was a possibility that, depending on the outcome of the consultation on controlled parking zones, parking bays could be installed on the other south side of the road.
- 8.3 The Head of Transportation and Landscape and Head of Legal, Regulatory and Democratic Services were asked to carry out the necessary statutory procedures to introduce waiting or loading restrictions at the following locations, subject to the inclusion of Pettus Road in the proposals for South Park Avenue and Parmenter Avenue; and the installation of double yellow lines rather than single yellow lines on the northern side of Wilson Road.

9. Revised Waiting Restrictions For Dereham Road Service Road

- 9.1 The Head of Transportation and Landscape and the Head of Legal, Regulatory and Democratic Services, at the City Council were asked to carry out the necessary processes to implement revised waiting restrictions on Dereham Road (service road).

10. Norwich Park And Ride Fare Review

- 10.1 It was agreed to:-
- amend the fares for the Airport Park and Ride Site as detailed in Appendices A and B of the report;
 - request that Norwich City Council advertised the proposed fares in accordance with Section 35C of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 for the Airport site to commence on Monday, 11 January 2010.

11. Highway Performance Monitoring Of The Highways Agency Agreement

11.1 The performance results were noted.

12. Major Roadworks – Regular Monitoring

12.1 The report was noted.

Tony Adams

Chair

**Report of the Meeting of the
Norfolk Joint Museums and Archaeology Committee
held on 13 November 2009**

1 Carrow House Costume and Textile Study Centre

- 1.1 The Joint Committee are pleased to report that Carrow House Costume and Textile Study Centre has reopened to the public after two years of closure, following extensive maintenance work on the fabric of the building. During the closure, Norfolk Museums and Archaeology Service (NMAS) staff have overhauled the collections and improved the range and quality of the services that are offered to the public. Research visits to the Study Centre are by appointment and are encouraged from individuals and groups for research and general interest purposes. A public activities and events programme is being organised in liaison with the Costume and Textile Association, starting in January 2010.

2 Performance and Budget Monitoring

- 2.1 The Joint Committee received and noted a report that set out the latest service planning and performance information together with the projected outturn for the 2009/10 revenue budget, the 2009/10 capital programme and forecasts of provisions and reserves at 31 March 2009. The NMAS is forecasting a break-even budget position in 2009/10 and has used reserves and provisions to support the revenue budget. The NMAS is also on target to achieve its performance indicators.

3 Service and Budget Planning 2010-13

- 3.1 The Joint Committee received a report that set out the main planning considerations for the services of the NMAS covered by the Joint Committee and the context in which they were set. This included the financial position and the relevant performance and improvement considerations which relate to the Council's delivery of its corporate objectives. The report also set out the overall funding prospects and spending pressures of £0.166m for the NMAS and the draft, potential savings options of £116m to balance the 2010/11 service budget.
- 3.2 Members noted that the County Council is re-evaluating new capital building projects where building work has not already started, and recommendations for any revision to the capital building programme will be reported to the January 2010 meeting of the Joint Committee. The Joint Committee noted the proposed spending pressures and savings and affirmed its support for the capital bids for the Bridewell Museum development project (the planning process has already commenced) and for the construction of three new eco buildings on the

Gressenhall Farm and Workhouse site. If capital funding can be provided for the construction of these new buildings (using a variety of low carbon methods) then Gressenhall Farm and Workhouse will be able to provide improved facilities for the increasing audiences attracted to its events, and to showcase local initiatives with reference to carbon reduction and waste management throughout the museum open season.

4 Review of the Collection at Gressenhall Farm and Workhouse

- 4.1 The Joint Committee received a report that set out the background to a review of collections at Gressenhall Farm and Workhouse and agreed to de-accession a group of social history items that are in poor condition and which fall outside the NMAS Acquisition and Disposal Policy. Priority will be given to retaining the items within the public domain. This can include schools and other public bodies as well as museums. The objects will, however, be offered in the first instance to other Accredited Museums likely to be interested in their acquisition. They will then be offered to the museum community at large or any other suitable public body. If no interest is expressed they will be sold at auction or destroyed. Any monies received from the disposal of items will be used for the benefit of the collections. Decisions on disposal are not made with the aim of generating funds.

5 Identifying the Hidden Histories in NMAS Collections

- 5.1 The Hidden Histories project has explored objects relating to disability from the collections and given people with disabilities a voice within the NMAS that they did not have before. Many of the objects in the NMAS collections were gathered or created by people with a disability and yet the contribution of disabled people to NMAS collections has not been acknowledged before now. The whole ethos of NMAS disability work has been refocused on consultation with disabled people about how chosen objects should be displayed. The NMAS Disability Access Advisory Group has fed its comments on the needs of the disabled community into all aspects of NMAS activity. The Joint Committee are pleased to hear of the significant improvements that have been made in this line of work.

6 Annual Report on Archaeology and the Historic Environment

- 6.1 The Joint Committee received an annual report on archaeology and the historic environment that described the work of Norfolk Landscape Archaeology (NLA) over the last year in recording, protecting and managing the County's archaeology and historic environment. The report was accompanied at the meeting by a PowerPoint presentation with illustrations on the work of the NLA. Members were shown late-middle Palaeolithic flint handaxes of around 60,000 years old from Lynford and told that these finds were relocating to Norfolk after several years in Northamptonshire where they had been undergoing detailed study. The finds will be put on display at a new "Moving Stories, Making Thetford Home" exhibition at Thetford Museum from 16 January 2010.
- 6.2 The NLA are working with Norfolk Constabulary to provide a briefing note about illegal metal detecting for use by Safer Neighbourhood Teams situated in areas with archaeological sites most at risk.

7 Great Yarmouth Museums

- 7.1 The Joint Committee received a PowerPoint presentation from the Area Museum Officer for Great Yarmouth about the Great Yarmouth Museums events programme.
- 7.2 The relocation of the Mantis submarine (that appeared in the James Bond film “For Your Eyes Only”) to Time and Tide Museum has been a success and the exhibit is proving to be a popular visitor attraction. Great Yarmouth Museum staff have discussed proposals for a more efficient lighting system for Time and Tide Museum with NPS Property Consultants Ltd and others and this should help improve the display of the submarine.

8 The Fakenham Carers’ Café

- 8.1 Members paid tribute to the initiative that has been shown by staff at Cromer Museum in supporting the creation of the Fakenham Carers’ Café and in putting together reminiscence kits that are available as loans from the Library Service.

9 The Norfolk Straw Museum

- 9.1 The Joint Committee noted that Ella Carstairs, whom created the Norfolk Straw Museum from her own work and from that of other artists from around the world, is looking to retire as curator of the collection in the near future. It is pleasing that Ella Carstairs has shown interest in dedicating the collection to a suitable new home if one can be found. Members paid tribute to Ella’s work and asked to be shown examples at a future meeting.

10 The Castle Mound

- 10.1 Norwich City Council has carried out an extensive survey to identify what work is needed to secure and stabilise the castle mound, which is at risk of falling into disrepair. Structural work on the castle mound is due to start shortly. For safety reasons there are no plans to reopen the “Spanish Steps” that go up the mound. It has, however, been suggested that the City Council may like to consider making plans to introduce new steps up the castle mound to run alongside the lift.

Mr Stuart Dunn
Chairman

Report of the Norfolk Records Committee Meeting held on 13 November 2009

1. Norfolk Record Office – Performance and Budget Monitoring Report

- 1.1 The report by the County Archivist was received. It provided Members with an update of progress with the Record Office's Service Plan and Performance, together with an update of the budget position at the end of September 2009. Members were asked to note these two aspects of the report.
- 1.2 The Committee resolved to note the NRO's revenue and reserves and provisions budget monitoring position for 2009/10 and to note progress with service planning actions.

2. Service and Budget Planning 2010-13

- 2.1 The report by the County Archivist and Head of Finance was received. The report set out the main planning considerations by this committee and the context in which they were set. This included the financial position and the relevant performance and improvement considerations which related to the council's delivery of its corporate objectives. It also set out the overall funding prospects and spending pressures for the service and the draft, potential savings options for balancing the 2010/11 service budget. The report asked Members for their views and comments on these issues.
- 2.2 Following a discussion, the Committee resolved to note the report.

3. Risk Register

- 3.1 The report by the County Archivist was received. This report asked the committee to note the latest version of the Norfolk Record Office's risk register and invited any comments.
- 3.2 The Committee resolved to note the report and to add to the risk register the potential impact presented by climate change on records stored outside the NRO, which might result in an increase in approaches to the Records Office from owners of records for assistance.

4. Periodic Report, 1 April – 30 September 2009

- 4.1 The report by the County Archivist was received. This report informed the committee in detail about the activities of the Norfolk Record Office during the period, giving Performance Indicators and listing the accessions received during the period. Members were asked to note the report.
- 4.2 The Committee discussed the valuable contributions made by Norfolk Record Office volunteers and discussed ways of adequately recognising their generosity.

4.3 The Committee resolved to note the report.

5. Archive of G. King and Son Ltd Cataloguing Project

5.1 Nick Sellwood (Senior Conservator) and Lucy Purvis (Archivist) gave a presentation on their work in connection with the Archive of G. King and Son Ltd cataloguing project. Members were invited to view the display which they had set up at the end of The Green Room following the close of the meeting.

Derrick Murphy, Chairman



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