

Norfolk County Council**Minutes of the Meeting Held on 13 April 2015****Present:**

Mr A ADAMS	Ms A KEMP
Mr S AGNEW	Mr M KIDDLE-MORRIS
Mr C ALDRED	Mr J LAW
Mr S ASKEW	Mrs J LEGGETT
Mr M BAKER	Mr B LONG
Mr R BEARMAN	Mr I MONSON
Mr R BIRD	Mr J MOONEY
Mr B BORRETT	Ms E MORGAN
Dr A BOSWELL	Mr S MORPHEW
Mr B BREMNER	Mr G NOBBS
Mrs J BROCIEK-COULTON	Mr W NORTHAM
Mr M CARTTISS	Mr R PARKINSON-HARE
Mr M CASTLE	Mr J PERKINS
Mr J CHILDS	Mr A PROCTOR
Mr D COLLIS	Mr D RAMSBOTHAM
Mrs H COX	Mr W RICHMOND
Mr D CRAWFORD	Mr D ROPER
Mr A DEARNLEY	Mr M SANDS
Mrs M DEWSBURY	Mr E SEWARD
Mr N DIXON	Mr N SHAW
Mr J DOBSON	Mr M SMITH
Mr T EAST	Mr R SMITH
Mr T FITZPATRICK	Mr P SMYTH
Mr C FOULGER	Mrs M SOMERVILLE
Mr P GILMOUR	Mr B SPRATT
Mr A GREY	Mr M STOREY
Mrs S GURNEY	Dr M STRONG
Mr P HACON	Mrs A THOMAS
Mr B HANNAH (Chairman)	Mr J TIMEWELL
Mr S HEBBORN	Miss J VIRGO
Mr M Chenery of HORSBRUGH	Mr J WARD
Mr H HUMPHREY	Mr B WATKINS
Mr B ILES	Ms S WHITAKER
Mr T JERMY	Mr A WHITE
Mr C JORDAN	Mr M WILBY
Mr J JOYCE	Mrs M WILKINSON

Apologies for Absence:

Apologies for absence were received from Mr A Byrne, Mrs J Chamberlin, Mr S Clancy, Mr R Coke, Ms E Corlett, Mr T Garrod, Ms D Gihawi, Mr D Harrison, Mr I Mackie, Mr D Thomas and Mrs C Walker.

1 Chairman's Announcements

- 1.1 The Chairman announced the sad passing of two former Councillors – Mr John Alston and Mrs Margaret (Peggy) English. Mr Alston had been the Conservative Member for Attleborough and had been Leader of the Council from 1981 until 1987 and from 1989 until 1993. Mr Alston had also been Chairman from 1988 until 1989. The Chairman would be representing the County Council at the thanksgiving service at the Cathedral on 24 April.

Mrs English had been the Conservative Member for Sheringham and was the first woman Chairman of the County Council from 1979 until 1980. Mrs English was awarded the OBE in the New Year's Honours List in 1990 for Services to the Community. The Chairman had attended the thanksgiving service for Mrs English.

Members' paid tribute to Mr Alston and Mrs English and stood in silence as a mark of respect.

- 1.2 The Chairman announced that Adrian Gunson, the longest ever serving Member of the Council, had recently resigned. Mr Gunson had first been elected in 1970 and had been involved in Highways and Transport in Norfolk for more than 40 years, including being a Cabinet Member for Planning and Transportation from 2001-2010. Members' paid tribute to Mr Gunson, thanked him for his outstanding service to the Council and the people of Norfolk and passed on their very best wishes for the future.
- 1.3 The Chairman advised Members that he had hosted a Walk and Tour of the Farm and Workhouse at Gressenhall on 7 March which had been a very enjoyable and informative event.
- 1.4 The Chairman thanked Members and Officers who had sponsored his sleeping out in a cardboard box on 7 March and for helping him raise £1000 for the YMCA and the homeless.

2 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

- 2.1 The minutes of the Council meeting held on 16 February 2015 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.
- 2.2 Mr R Smith advised that he had not yet received the written response to his question about how the Council managed to find the cash resources to make the large compensation payments to Cory Wheelabrator, as set out in paragraph 6.1.1 of the minutes from the meeting held on 15 December 2014. The Leader said he would ensure a reply was sent to Mr Smith as soon as possible.

3 Declarations of Interest

- 3.1 Mrs A Thomas declared an Other Interest in item 6(i) – (Report from Communities Committee meetings held on 14 January and 11 March 2015) as her daughter's partner was a Retained Firefighter.

4 Questions to Leader of the Council

4.1 Question from Mr C Jordan

Mr Jordan asked what the Leader was going to do to save the £150m black hole in the budget.

The Leader replied that work was underway to finalise the details.

4.2 Question from Mr A Grey

Mr Grey asked if the Leader agreed that all staff, particularly high ranking officers of the Council, should be politically neutral and not openly align themselves to political hate groups, ie on social media and in public demonstrations and to ensure all who operated at County Hall were fair and equal to everyone.

The Leader said that he was not aware of the political persuasion of any member of staff. He added that as far as he was concerned all officers, whilst carrying out their normal working activities and when pursuing duties on behalf of the Council, should be totally politically neutral.

4.3 Question from Mr B Watkins

Mr Watkins said that he, as well as many colleagues in the chamber and the wider public at large, were dismayed by the recent turn of events at Hewett School. He asked if the Leader could give any further details about the form the consultation would take at the Hewett School and whether the Council was likely to challenge any centrally imposed funding proposal that did not include all relevant parties?

The Leader replied that, at the meeting on 17 March, the Children's Services Committee had voted unanimously to reserve their position on whether to take legal action until the decision by the Secretary of State was known.

Mr J Joyce, Chairman of Children's Services Committee, informed Members' that no information had yet been received about the details of the consultation, apart from the fact that a consultation would need to take place between the Interim Executive Board (IEB) and the Inspiration Trust.

4.4 Question from Mr R Bearman

Mr Bearman referred to the 'inadequate' grading given to the Adult Education Service following the Ofsted visit earlier in the year. He asked the Leader to confirm his support for the necessary changes to the service, some of which had already been started by staff in terms of their action plan, but also for the future.

The Leader reassured Members that the Adult Education Service had his full support and that every effort would be made to ensure the service continued into the future.

4.5 Question from Mr S Morpew

Mr Morpew referred to the Hewett School, in particular the march that took place through Norwich on 14 March 2015. He added that Cllr Jordan had taken to Twitter to

say about the demonstration organised to protest the way Hewett School was being bullied into becoming an academy and had quoted “.... Obvious that the same people who trashed the school on protest on Saturday”.

Mr Morphew said that the protest had been organised by parents and concerned members of the community, supported by their elected representatives, including the Leader, and asked the Leader if he had any concerns about the Twitter attack on people who were fighting for their children’s future?

The Leader said he had attended the demonstration on 14 March. He added that in his opinion none of the people who had organised the demonstration were in any way to blame for the situation at the Hewett School. He said he regretted the remarks and he was sure that, on reflection, Mr Jordan also regretted the remarks he had made.

4.6 Question from Mrs A Thomas

Mrs Thomas referred to the LGA Conference in 2014, where the Rt Hon Hilary Benn, Shadow Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, had informed those attending that, as the Government’s budget plans for 2015-16 would be inherited, there would not be any more money to allocate to Councils. Therefore Councils would need to continue managing services with less central government funding. Mrs Thomas asked what the Leader was going to do about the £150m black hole in funding?

The Leader said that the deficit in funding had been caused by the reduction in the Government grant, whilst imposing additional responsibilities onto Councils. The Leader added that the Policy and Resources Committee had recently held a very successful workshop to discuss the budget and to gather ideas to fund the services which would be needed over the coming years.

4.7 Question from Mr M Castle

Mr Castle asked the Leader to give his view on the scale of the challenge Norfolk faces over the next five years, given the expectation of further very large reductions in Government Grant. He also asked if the Leader could outline how he believed Norfolk should proceed in order to protect essential public services for local people and also say how he viewed the ‘ad hoc’ proposals from the County Conservative Group for additional unbudgeted expenditure in the face of the severe economies forced on the Council by their own Government, when the Conservative Group itself hadn’t raised these during the preparation of the 2015-16 budget?

The Leader responded that throughout the last year, assurance had been given by the opposition party that they would be producing a fully funded alternative budget. They had not done so, instead they had produced a single line amendment. The Leader referred to the recent Policy & Resources Committee workshop where the Committee had examined how the council could work more efficiently in the future, particularly with the level of cuts in government funding. The Committee was also looking at the mandatory services the Council needed to provide as well as those services the Council would like to provide.

4.8 Question from Mr B Long

On 29 Jan this year the Shadow Chancellor said cuts in local government would continue under a labour government. Given that doomsday scenario, what was the Leader going to do about it? The Leader had already mentioned a workshop, but what exactly was going to happen as we need leadership.

The Leader replied that there was a need to be realistic and work out exactly what the County Council could and could not provide with the funding constraints imposed by the Government.

4.9 **Question from Ms A Kemp**

Ms Kemp referred to the duty of the County Council to protect the people of Norfolk from risk and that one of the biggest risks in Norfolk was flooding. She added that the Environment Agency had produced a plan for risk management of floods although officers had said the plan did not include adequate conditions to deal with surface water run-off. She added that in Clenchwarten there was a huge problem with housing developments being built on flood plains which caused existing properties to become more susceptible to flooding. Ms Kemp asked the Leader if, under the advisory capacity held by the County Council, it should be encouraging, guiding and counselling Borough Councils as housing authorities to put more stringent conditions in place when giving planning permission for housing developments. She also said that the Council should ensure ditches were regularly cleared to reduce the flood risk.

The Leader agreed with the points raised by Ms Kemp and added that, although planning permission was given by District Councils, the County Council had an advisory role, which meant it had the responsibility but no power to act. He added that he totally agreed with the sentiments raised by Ms Kemp and wished the Council had more powers to act in these cases.

5 **Recommendations from Service Committees**

5.1 **Policy and Resources Committee – 23 March 2015**

Mr G Nobbs, Chairman of Policy & Resources Committee moved the recommendation that County Council approve the removal of the Lowest Common Denominator assessment from the 2015-16 Annual Investment and Treasury Strategy, as explained in paragraph 1.4 of the report and in section 8 of the report to the P&R Committee.

5.1.1 The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the recommendation in the report.

5.2 **Adult Social Care Committee – 9 March 2015**

5.2.1 In light of the decision made by the Policy & Resources Committee at its meeting on 23 March, the Chairman of the Council referred to the proposal from by the Head of Law and Section 151 Officer and **deferred** the discussion on this item until the Council meeting on 27 July. This would allow all the financial information to be made available to Members to facilitate a full debate.

5.3 **Communities Committee – 11 March 2015**

5.3.1 Mr P Smyth, Chairman of Communities Committee moved the recommendations in the report that Council should adopt the Trading Standards Service Plan including Annexes I and II and agree the Customer Service Strategy.

5.3.2 In response to a question from Mr R Smith about whether the Customer Services strategy incorporated improvements to reverse the satisfaction responses incorporated in the MORI poll, Mr Smyth said the strategy did include the

improvement information and he would respond in writing to Mr Smith with more detailed information.

5.3.3 Council **RESOLVED** to agree the recommendations.

5.4 Environment, Transport and Development Committee – 16 January 2015

5.4.1 Mr J Timewell, Vice-Chairman of the Environment Transport and Development Committee, moved the recommendation in the report, that the allocation for the additional £1.797m Department for Transport (DfT) funding in the Highway Capital Programme and Transport Asset Management Plan be agreed.

5.4.2 Council **RESOLVED** to agree the recommendation.

6 Reports from Service Committees (Questions to Chairs)

6.1 Report of the Policy and Resources Committee meetings held on 26 January and 23 March 2015.

Mr G Nobbs, Chairman of Policy and Resources Committee, moved the report.

6.1.1 Question from Mr B Borrett

Mr Borrett asked if the Chairman of Policy & Resources Committee was satisfied with the performance and progress of the DNA programme and if he had any concerns with its deliverability?

The Chairman responded that, due to the lack of investment over the last 20 years, the system had become so out of date which had caused delays in the roll-out of the DNA programme. He added that he would like the roll-out to be quicker, but the DNA roll-out team was doing the best they could in very difficult circumstances.

6.1.2 Question from Mr J Dobson

Mr Dobson referred to paragraph 11.1 of the report and asked the Chairman of the Committee if he agreed that the decision made by the P&R Committee at its meeting on 23 March about the Review of the Residential and Non-Residential Charging Policy associated with War Veterans was ultra-vires?

The Chairman of Policy & Resources Committee said that he did not consider the decision ultra-vires and that the advice of the Head of Law and Monitoring Officer had been taken. Although totally sympathetic to the aims of the proposal, the Chairman reiterated that there was a need to fully understand where the money would be coming from and Policy & Resources had made a legitimate and sensible proposal to defer a decision until the funding options were known.

6.1.2.1 As a supplementary question, Mr Dobson referred the Chairman of the Committee to the fact that three years ago, and with his support, the Council had set up a body that supported the armed forces. He asked if the Chairman would agree that the first time that this Council had been called upon to put its money where its mouth was the Chairman had changed his mind and would he agree that this was disgraceful?

In response, the Chairman reiterated that the Committee had not said they would

not be providing funding, but that more information about the funding options were required before a decision could be made. Therefore the Committee had agreed to wait until the accounts were closed for the present year before funding options could be considered.

6.1.3 Question from Mrs M Somerville

Mrs Somerville asked if it could be construed that the Council did not value war veterans to which the Chairman responded that war veterans and armed forces personnel should not be used as a political football.

6.1.4 Council RESOLVED to note the report.

6.2 Report of the Adult Social Care Committee meetings held on 12 January and 9 March 2015

Ms S Whitaker, Chair of Adult Social Care Committee moved the report.

6.2.1 Question from Mr B Bremner

Mr Bremner asked the Chairman of Adult Social Care what ideas were being considered about the Adult Social Care department being able to balance its budget in this and future years.

The Chairman replied that it would not be possible to carry on providing services as had been done previously and the next Adult Social Care committee meeting on 11 May would be considering a report on how services could be provided in the future.

6.2.2 Question from Mrs A Thomas

Mrs Thomas said that, when the new committee system was introduced Members were told that this would deal with the democratic deficit and that all members of service Committees would have a vote and that the vote would be equal and valued. Mrs Thomas asked the Chairman how she was going to address the concerns of members of the committee, that when a committee made a decision, and those decisions were voted and agreed by the majority of the committee, why they appeared to have been over-ruled and disregarded outside of the Committee process. She added that this appeared to have happened on two occasions, one was the Adult Social Care Committee decision on the budget and the second was the Adult Social Care Committee decision on the war veterans. Both of those decisions had been agreed by majority votes and yet they seemed to have been disregarded. Mrs Thomas also asked why three notes that had not formed part of the motion had been included in the Committee recommendations at paragraph 1.2 of the report.

The Chairman replied that it was her recollection that the first three notes were part of the original recommendations in the report and that the resolution on the motion proposed by Cllr Dobson, seconded by Cllr Proctor, were the points at numbers 4 and 5. Ms Whitaker added that she recalled asking for the Committee's agreement on the first three notes before the Committee voted on the Cllr Dobson's motion. The Chairman added that this was a matter for discussion at the next Adult Social Care Committee meeting.

With regard to the recommendations made to the Policy & Resources Committee, the Chairman said that as she was not part of that Committee, she had no influence over what was discussed at those meetings, or what was on the agenda, although she hoped this may change when the Committee system was reviewed.

6.2.3 In response to a supplementary question from Mrs Thomas about whether the Policy & Resources committee had the power to over-rule a decision made by the Adult Social Care Committee, the Head of Law and Monitoring Officer replied that the role of Policy & Resources Committee was to coordinate the budget and to make recommendations to Full Council on the budget as a whole, therefore Adult Social Care Committee could take a view on how the budget could be met, but Policy & Resources committee would then need to make a recommendation to full Council, as had been done in this case.

6.2.4 **Question from Mrs M Somerville**

Mrs Somerville asked in light of the forecast of a £6m overspend in the Adult Social Care budget and the constant use of reserves in this and other areas -

1. Was this to be the policy of the Labour led administration now and in the future?
and
2. what initiatives had been developed to create an income stream to replenish the reserves, or was it to be a policy of leaving the cupboard bare when the Conservatives eventually took over?

The Chair replied that the Council needed to operate with the money it had available and there was no policy to leave the cupboard bare. She added that the introduction of the new Care Act meant that Norfolk County Council would need to review its charges.

6.2.5 **Question from Mr B Borrett**

Mr Borrett asked if the Chairman thought two years into the administration and just starting to look at the plan was soon enough?

The Chairman replied that she did not want to pre-empt any ideas that may come out of the Committee, therefore she had deliberately not stated her own opinions.

6.2.6 Council **RESOLVED** to note the reports.

6.3 **Report of the Children's Services Committee meetings held on 13 January, 10 and 17 March 2015.**

Mr J Joyce, Chairman of Children's Services Committee moved the report.

6.3.1 **Question from Mr B Watkins**

Regarding the recent report into the absenteeism in schools in Norfolk, in particular the bad results in Great Yarmouth, Norwich and King's Lynn, would the Chairman like to comment on the report's findings and what actions could be taken to improve this situation?

The Vice-Chairman, Mr Bearman, responded that there was some new data which had been published about absenteeism. Persistent absence had been improving in schools although it had recently taken a turn for the worse. Children's Services Committee received regular information about all types of absenteeism, some of which was related to parents taking term-time holidays, although this did not account for all of the absenteeism. Schools had made a concerted effort to improve absence by employing Attendance Officers and it was important that the Council maintained

dialogue with schools to ensure attendance remained high priority and to ensure education attainment did not suffer.

6.3.2 Question from Mr R Smith

Mr Smith asked about the commentary on the management of the numbers of Looked After Children and the pledge to reduce those numbers. He added that there were currently 1070 children being looked after, which was about same as the January 2014 figure of 1073. Mr Smith asked for reassurance about how the numbers of looked after children was being managed.

The Chairman replied that every child that needed to be looked after was being looked after for a specific reason. The target for the end of the last financial year was 1065 and the Council was currently 5 above that.

The Chairman reiterated that if the police decided that a child needed to be taken into care, Norfolk County Council had an obligation to do so. Over the last few years, Norfolk County Council had been investing in early help in both education and social care. This meant working with families to help them stay together as it was recognised that children had the best chances in life if they remained near their families. The Chairman said that the figures were reviewed continually and were moving in the right direction.

6.3.3 Question from Mr B Spratt

Mr Spratt reminded Members about the Working Group which had been set up in 2011 to scrutinise absenteeism. One of the outcomes of that scrutiny was that schools with good levels of absenteeism shared information with other schools. He asked if Children's Services was still following that policy.

The Chairman said that Governors received information about absenteeism at Governor meetings and the current figure was approximately 95%. He added that it was the responsibility of schools to ensure that children attended school regularly, with the assistance of the County Council as required.

6.3.4 Question from Mr B Bremner

Mr Bremner suggested using Mile Cross Primary school as a contact point as they had excellent results on absenteeism. He asked if Children's Services could liaise with the schools that had good absentee results so they could offer some advice to those schools which had issues with absenteeism.

The Chairman agreed that Mile Cross was a beacon school.

6.3.5 Council RESOLVED to note the report.

6.4 Report of the Communities Committee meetings held on 14 January and 11 March 2015

Mr P Smyth, Chairman of Communities Committee, moved the report.

6.4.1 Question from Mr D Roper

Mr Roper said that he was pleased to see that 15 new fire-fighters had been recruited in Norfolk and asked if the Chairman could comment on the difference this would make to the people of Norfolk and how quickly they would be placed on active duty?

The Chairman agreed that the recruitment was good news and that some of the new fire-fighters were already on active duty. He added that the vast majority of Norfolk fire fighters were retained fire fighters and he thanked them for the work they carried out. He also thanked their families and also their employers for allowing them to carry out their retained fire fighter duties.

The Chairman added that there were still some areas where more recruitment was needed.

6.4.2 Question from Dr Strong

Dr Strong proposed that a press release be issued on behalf of the County Council to formally record its thanks to the retained fire fighters.

The Chairman agreed to follow this up.

6.4.3 Question from Mr R Smith

Regarding the recent disappointing Ofsted report on Adult Education Services which could result in the service closing, Mr Smith asked what the current position was as the people who worked in the service and those who used the service must be very worried.

The Chairman said that the report from Ofsted was a very serious issue, but said that closure of the service would only become an option if the next Ofsted report did not show a significant improvement. A steering group had been established to look at the management of the service, and a meeting had been held with Ofsted inspectors where a discussion had taken place about the proposed improvements. The steering group would be reporting back to the Communities Committee at its meeting in May.

6.4.4 Question by Mr H Humphrey

Mr Humphrey asked if the terms of reference for the steering group had been bumped up because of Ofsted report.

The Chairman responded that they had been.

6.4.5 Council RESOLVED to note the report.

6.5 Report of the Environment, Development and Transport Committee meetings held on 16 January and 13 March 2015

Mr J Timewell, Vice-Chairman of EDT Committee moved the report.

6.5.1 Question from Mrs Brociek-Coulton

The new swipe system on the buses to try to take cards that were out of date, or people that had passed away, out of the system was a really good way forward. Mrs Brociek-Coulton asked if the swipe system for partially blind and blind people using their cards had been rectified as last week the digits on the cards were not swiping and several residents had problems with their cards not swiping at all. Could the Chairman tell me if the bus drivers were using the reporting mechanism on the machines to see what was going wrong with the system, and if there had been many complaints from the public and when problems would be rectified?

The Vice-Chairman replied that he was aware of the issues which were currently being

investigated and would provide a written response.

6.5.2 Question from Mr J Mooney

Could the Vice-Chairman provide an update on the proposed charges to staff parking at County Hall?

The Vice-Chairman said that, as it affected staff, the matter of the car park charging had been delegated to the Managing Director who would be presenting a report to the Policy & Resources committee in the future.

6.5.3 Question from Ms A Kemp

Ms Kemp asked if the Council should be encouraging the use of new technology for processing residual waste as not enough recycling was taking place at the present time.

The Vice-Chairman said that the immediate task for officers was to look at procurement of a waste contract for the next four years, which was now in its final stages. Once this had been completed, officers would be looking at recycling and making recommendations to EDT Committee.

6.5.4 Question from Dr M Strong

Dr Strong congratulated Wells Recycling Centre on the service it provided and asked the Vice-Chairman to outline the economic development benefits of the A11 dualling.

The Vice-Chairman said that tourism had already increased as a result of the dualling of the A11, with both day and stay figures rising above those of last year. The benefits of the A11 were also being felt with the number of enquiries which had already been received about the Scottow Enterprise Park. He added that the A11, NDR, A47 and broadband coming on line was all good news for Norfolk.

6.5.6 Question from Mr M Wilby

Mr Wilby asked for reassurance that the toilet facilities at all Park and Ride sites would be re-opened as soon as possible?

The Vice-Chairman said that as far as he was aware toilets would be re-opened at all Park and Ride Sites.

6.5.7 Council RESOLVED to note the report.

6.6 Report of the Economic Development Sub-Committee meetings held on 19 January and 19 March 2015

6.6.1 Council RESOLVED to note the report.

6.7 Other Committees

6.8 Reports of the Personnel Committee meeting held on 2 March 2015

Mr G Nobbs moved the report including the recommendation that Council approve the draft Pay Policy Statement. Council **RESOLVED** to approve the Pay Policy Statement.

6.9 Report of the Audit Committee meeting held on 29 January 2015

Mr J Dobson, Vice-Chairman, moved the report. Council **RESOLVED** to note the report.

6.10 Reports of the Norfolk Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee meetings held on 15 January and 26 February 2015

Mr M Carttiss moved the reports. Council **RESOLVED** to note the reports.

6.11 Report of the Health and Wellbeing Board meeting held on 4 February 2015

Mr D Roper moved the report. Council **RESOLVED** to note the report.

6.12 Reports of the Planning (Regulatory) Committee meetings held on 9 January, 20 February and 27 March 2015.

Mr D Collis moved the reports. Council **RESOLVED** to note the reports.

6.13 Report of the Joint Museums Committee meeting held on 8 January 2015

Mr J Ward moved the report. Council **RESOLVED** to note the report.

6.14 Report of the Records Committee meeting held on 8 January 2015

Mr M Chenery of Horsbrugh moved the report. Council **RESOLVED** to note the report.

6.15 Reports of the Norfolk Highway Agency Committee meetings held on 27 November 2014 and 22 January 2015.

Mr T Adams moved the reports. Council **RESOLVED** to note the reports.

7 New regulatory requirement to establish a Local Pension Board for the Norfolk Pension Fund under the Public Service Pensions Act 2013.

7.1 Council received the report by the Interim Executive Director of Finance and the Head of the Norfolk Pension Fund asking Council to agree arrangements to enable mandatory compliance with the Public Service Pensions Act 2013 (PSPA13) and the Local Government Pension Scheme (Amendment) (Governance) Regulations 2015; approve the proposed Terms of Reference and associated arrangements for the establishment of the Norfolk Pensions Fund's Local Pension Board in accordance with the Regulations agreed by Pensions Committee on 24 February 2014 and delegate authority to the Head of the Norfolk Pension Fund, following consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chairman of the Pensions Committee, to agree detailed arrangements to implement the requirements, including minor drafting amendments to the Terms of Reference.

7.2 Members placed on record their congratulations to Nicola Mark, Head of the Norfolk Pension Fund on receiving an MBE.

7.3 In response to a question from Mr R Smith about how much the recommendation would cost, Mr S Morphew, the Chairman of the Committee said that it was anticipated

that the proposals would cost approximately £100k in the first year, as this would involve the election of the representatives to the Pensions Board. There would be a significant reduction in the second and subsequent years, although the exact budget would need to be worked out and approved by the Pensions Committee.

7.4 Members of the Fund would elect the representatives to sit on the Pension Board.

7.5 Once the Pension Board had been established, the work programme would be drafted and agreed.

7.6 Council **RESOLVED** to :

- Agree the proposed Terms of Reference and associated arrangements so that work could commence to establish the Local Pension Board in compliance with the regulations.
- Delegate authority to the Head of the Norfolk Pension Fund, following consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chairman of Pensions Committee to agree detailed arrangements to implement the legislative requirements, including minor drafting amendments to the Terms of Reference as required.

8 Appointments to Committees, Sub-Committees and Joint Committees

8.1 The Council received a report by the Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services setting out a proposal that Council should consider making appointments to the Bus Lane Adjudication Service Joint Committee (1 member of the Council and a named substitute).

8.1.1 Authority was delegated to the Managing Director to identify and nominate a member and substitute member to the Bus Lane Adjudication Service Joint Committee.

8.2 To **note** the following appointments made under delegated powers.

Mr B Borrett, Mr R Smith and Mr I Monson be appointed to Policy & Resources Committee, replacing Mr T FitzPatrick, Mr T Garrod and Mr T Adams.

Mr B Long, Mr A White, Mr B Spratt and Mr T Adams be appointed to the Children's Services Committee replacing Mrs J Leggett, Mr T Garrod, Mrs M Dewsbury and Mr C Foulger.

Mr T FitzPatrick and Mr W Richmond be appointed to the Adult Social Care Committee, replacing Mr M Chenery and Mr C Jordan.

Mr C Foulger be appointed to the Environment, Development and Transport Committee, replacing Mr W Richmond.

Mr C Jordan be appointed to the Personnel Committee, replacing Mr T FitzPatrick.

8.3 To consider any proposals from Group Leaders for changes to committee places.

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

There were none.

The meeting concluded at 11.45am

Chairman



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