

Norfolk County Council

Minutes of the Meeting Held on 9 May 2016

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

Apologies for absence were received from Ms C Bowes and Mr J Dobson.

1 Election of Chairman

1.1 Upon the motion of Mr G Nobbs, seconded by Mr T Coke, it was

1.2 RESOLVED (unanimously)

That Mr D Collis be elected Chairman of the County Council for the ensuing year.

1.3 (Mr D Collis in the Chair)

1.4 Mr Collis, having made the statutory declaration of office, thanked the Council for the honour and privilege conferred upon him and formally took the Chair.

2 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

2.1 The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 11 April 2016 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman, subject to the attendance list being amended to read Mr D Ramsbotham.

3 Election of Vice-Chairman

3.1 Dr M Strong moved, seconded by Mrs C Walker, that Mr D Harrison be elected Vice-Chairman of the Council for the ensuing year.

3.2 It was then moved by Mr I Mackie, seconded by Mrs J Leggett, that Mr J Ward be elected Vice-Chairman of the Council for the ensuing year.

3.3 Following a recorded vote (Appendix A), with 37 votes in favour of Mr D Harrison, 44 votes in favour of Mr J Ward and one abstention it was:

3.4 RESOLVED

That Mr J Ward be elected as Vice-Chairman of the Council for the ensuing year.

4 Vote of Thanks to the Outgoing Chairman

4.1 Mr G Nobbs, as Leader of the Council, proposed a vote of thanks to the outgoing Chairman and thanked him for his hard work and dedication and for all that he had done for Norfolk during his year of office.

4.2 Mr C Jordan seconded the motion and Mr T Coke, Dr M Strong and Mr R Bearman also paid tribute to the hard work of Mr Parkinson-Hare.

4.3 The motion having been carried unanimously, it was

RESOLVED

That the Council place on record its grateful thanks to Mr Parkinson-Hare, stating that he had performed his duties admirably and was a great ambassador for the County.

- 4.4 Mr Parkinson-Hare addressed the Council saying that it had been an honour and a privilege to serve as Chairman of Norfolk County Council. He thanked Democratic Services, in particular Ms K Tyrrell, Ms C Byles and Ms T Rodgers-Daymond for the courtesy and support they had provided throughout the year. He added that he had had an enjoyable year and had met many interesting people. He also thanked all Councillors for electing him as Chairman and thanked his wife in particular for her unfailing support.

5 Chairman's Announcements

- 5.1 There were no announcements.

6 Declarations of Interest

- 6.1 There were no declarations of interest.

7 Election of Leader of the Council

- 7.1 Mr D Roper moved, seconded by Dr M Strong, that Mr G Nobbs be elected Leader of the Council for the ensuing year.
- 7.2 Mr B Stone moved, seconded by Mr R Smith, that Mr C Jordan be elected Leader of the Council for the ensuing year.
- 7.3 There then followed a recorded vote (Appendix B) and with 37 votes in favour of Mr G Nobbs, 41 votes in favour of Mr C Jordan and 4 abstentions, it was **RESOLVED** that:
- 7.4 Mr C Jordan be elected Leader of the Council for the ensuing year.

8 Election of Deputy Leader of the Council

- 8.1 Mr C Jordan moved, seconded by Mr M Wilby, that Mrs A Thomas be elected Deputy Leader of the Council for the ensuing year.
- 8.2 There being no other nominations it was **RESOLVED** that:
- 8.3 Mrs A Thomas be elected Deputy Leader of the Council for the ensuing year.

9 Appointments to Committees, Sub-Committees and Joint Committees for 2016/17

- 9.1 The report by the Head of Democratic Services was received, setting out the current membership of Committees, Sub-Committees and Joint Committees for 2016-17. Council was asked to decide whether to confirm the membership as it was, or to make any changes. Following debate, Council **RESOLVED** (unanimously) to make the appointments for 2016/17 that are set out in Appendix C to these minutes.
- 9.2 **Norwich Highways Agency Joint Committee – Election of Chairman**

Mr C Jordan moved that Mr T Adams be elected Chairman of the Norwich Highways Agency Joint Committee for the ensuing year.

Mr G Nobbs moved that Mr S Morphew be elected Chairman of the Norwich Highways Agency Joint Committee for the ensuing year.

9.3 There then followed a recorded vote (which can be found at Appendix D to these minutes) and with 42 votes in favour of Mr T Adams, 39 votes in favour of Mr S Morphey and 1 abstention, it was **RESOLVED** that:

9.4 Mr T Adams be appointed Chairman of the Norwich Highways Agency Joint Committee for the ensuing year.

10 Appointment of the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of Service Committees

10.1 The Leader, Mr C Jordan, seconded by Mrs A Thomas, put forward the following names for Chairs/Vice Chairs of Committees

Adult Social Care

Chair: Bill Borrett

Vice-Chair: Margaret Stone

Children's Services

Chair: Roger Smith

Vice-Chair: Shelagh Gurney

Communities

Chair: Margaret Dewsbury

Vice-Chair: Harry Humphrey

Environment, Development and Transport

Chair: Martin Wilby

Vice-Chair: Jonathan Childs

Economic Development Sub-Committee

Chair: Stuart Clancy

Vice-Chair: Brian Iles

10.3 There being no other nominations Council **RESOLVED** accordingly.

The meeting adjourned from 11 am until 11.10am to allow the new Committee Chairs to take their allocated seats in the Council Chamber.

11 Questions to Leader of the Council

11.1 Question from Mr G Nobbs

Mr Nobbs referred to devolution and that the Leader would now be negotiating on behalf of Norfolk County Council. He said, at the last meeting when the matter was discussed, the Leader had brought up a proposal about the comparison with the Welsh Assembly and about the government giving devolution powers to County Councils and not to District Councils. Mr Nobbs added that he had noted the Leader and Deputy Leader had held a meeting with Mr Gary Porter, who represented South Holland Council and was also Chairman of the Local Government Association. He asked the Leader if they had discussed the Welsh Assembly proposal and if so, what Mr Porter's reaction had been.

The Leader responded that his meeting with Mr Porter had been a private meeting and not a public meeting and he would therefore not disclose the topics of discussion. The Leader added that he believed in the devolvement of power from national

government to local government and that the model they were choosing, which he was not necessarily in favour of, was already in place as the Welsh Assembly model proved.

11.2 Question from Mr R Coke

Mr Coke asked the Leader if he would be proposing any resolutions on the forthcoming European Referendum and if not, why not?

The Leader replied that a referendum would be held and it would be up to each individual to vote how they wished, it was not up to the Council to make a statement.

11.3 Question from Dr M Strong

Dr Strong asked if the Leader would petition the government to cease imposing cuts and, if so, when.

The Leader replied that he didn't know if there would be any additional cuts so he could not say whether or not he would petition the government. He said that any additional cuts would need to be evaluated and reiterated that he would stand up for Norfolk, as he had been elected to represent Norfolk.

11.4 Question from Mr R Bearman

Mr Bearman asked the Leader what his plans were to tackle poor air quality in Norwich and the market towns and would he honour the previous commitment made at Environment, Development and Transport Committee on 11 March 2016 to respond to the five point plan by July 2016, setting out how this Council could address air pollution produced by diesel particulates.

The Leader replied that the quality of air was very important and that he would be supporting plans to tackle poor air quality, as he himself suffered from asthma which had been related to diesel fumes.

11.5 Question from Mr T Garrod

Mr Garrod said that prior to the meeting, the previous Leader had told the BBC that the Conservative group was more scared of winning than he was of losing. He added that he knew the Leader had not been into the Leader's office yet, but if there was a note in the bottom drawer, what would he expect it to say?

The Leader replied that in politics things tend to go round in cycles and you have to deal with what you have. The Leader added that in his opinion it was time for a new start to bring the Council up, not down.

11.6 Question from Ms A Kemp

Ms Kemp asked if the Leader could put her mind at rest, as well as those of her constituents, and give a categorical assurance that incineration in Norfolk was definitely off the agenda for good.

The Leader replied he could only offer a commitment for one year, after that it would be up to the next Council.

11.7 Question from Mr D Roper

Mr Roper referred to the trend data prior to 2013 on the service mix for Adult Social Care and Children's Services and the fact that Looked After Children numbers were rising year on year. He asked if the Leader could reassure Council that the steps

taken over the last three years, both in halting the increase in Looked After children and promoting independence in Adult Social Care and early intervention in Children's Services were safe and that we would not be returning to the bad old days.

The Leader said that the numbers of Looked After Children had a history of rising and then falling and that the numbers depended on circumstances of families. He added that a careful eye would be kept and that everything would be done to protect the youngsters of the county.

11.8 Question from Mr P Smyth

Mr Smyth asked the Leader if he could give the people of Norfolk reassurance that the Committee System of governance would remain in place until at least 2019.

The Leader said that he would give a commitment that he would do all he could to change the Committee System back to the Cabinet System and therefore bring back accountability.

11.9 Question from Mr D Ramsbotham

Mr Ramsbotham said his question was about the Kings Lynn Incinerator and said that this Council may have forgotten about the disgraceful saga of the King's Lynn Incinerator but the public hadn't. He asked if the new Conservative Administration could give some guarantee of when the results of the ongoing inquiry would be made public.

The Leader replied that all public enquiries, paid for by public money, should be for public perusal.

11.10 Question from Ms E Corlett

Ms Corlett referred to the situation regarding Syrian Refugees which remained desperate and urgent, particularly with the number of unaccompanied children. She added that the next flight to East Anglia arrived in Stansted in June and that there was a plan although there was no commitment yet from central government for the resources needed to receive the families we said we could offer placements to. Ms Corlett asked if the Leader could reassure her that he would take urgent action and lobby government to ensure that we had the resources needed to take a family from the next flight in June.

The Leader replied that he was committed to youngsters in Norfolk as they were the future of our county.

11.11 Question from Mr B Bremner

Mr Bremner asked if the Leader still fully supported the NDR.

The Leader replied that he thought the NDR would benefit Norwich, particularly with the snarl up of traffic through to North Norfolk. He said he fully supported the NDR and wanted to see it completed.

12 Questions to Service Committee Chairs

12.1 Adult Social Care

12.1.1 Question from Ms S Whitaker

Ms Whitaker asked what the Chair's plans were for the future direction of Adult Social Services and if he had any specific priorities for the next twelve months.

The Chair thanked the previous Chair for her work on behalf of the Committee and responded that a Committee System was in place at present and that he was not a Cabinet member so none of the power rested with him alone, it rested with the Committee which had not changed. He added that he hoped to get a consensus from the Committee about the direction it wished to take.

12.1.2 Question from Mr B Watkins

Mr Watkins asked the Chair of ASC what his views were on the “Promoting Independence Strategy” and whether he would be fully supporting its implementation.

The Chair responded that his personal opinion was that promoting independence was something that the last Conservative administration had put forward and believed that when Shelagh Gurney was Cabinet Member money had been contributed towards the strategy.

12.1.3 Question from Ms E Morgan

Ms Morgan said in the past twelve months, the Chair and the Conservative Group had been at best non-participatory, and at worst completely obstructive, at Adult Social Care Committee. She asked for the Chair’s assurance that he and his Group would play a much more proactive and reasonable role in Committee meetings from now on.

The Chair replied that the minutes from Committee meetings would bear out the fact that the Conservatives had done most of the talking and had asked most of the questions. He added that most of the scrutiny of holding Adult Social Services Department to account had come from the Conservative questions at Committee.

12.1.4 Question from Ms A Kemp

Ms Kemp asked how the Chair of Adult Social Care would address the issue of the very low employment rates of people with mental health issues and disabilities in Norfolk. She asked if he would take the initiative and speak to small and large businesses and the public sector to try to get things changed.

The Chair responded that he shared concerns about the low employment rates of the disabled, and he would do everything in his role as Chair to facilitate progress.

12.2 Children’s Services

12.2.1 Question from Ms E Corlett

Ms Corlett asked if the Chair would commit to continuing with the approach that we had been taking with school improvement and would he also join her in congratulating Bignold Primary School, a school which was not yet an academy, which had recently received a good Ofsted Inspection, with three outstanding areas and which had moved from the position of a school requiring improvement.

The Chair paid tribute to the previous Chair for the outstanding work he had carried out over the last three years.

The Chair continued and said there were two main parts of Children’s Services, one was children’s social work which was not part of the question and the other was children in education, supporting schools in a changing landscape. He continued by saying he fully supported the need to support schools regardless of the governance arrangements in place, remembering the mantra that it took a community to raise a

child and that he was keen to promote community involvement in education. He added that the Children's Services Committee, at its meeting on 10 May would be considering a paper on the changing educational landscape.

The Chair asked Ms Corlett to pass on his congratulations to Bignold School.

12.2.2 Question from Mr P Gilmour

Mr Gilmour asked what the Conservative Group's stance on education in Norfolk was now that they controlled the Council and if the Conservative Group would give its support to the Conservative Government's plans for the academisation of schools in Norfolk.

The Chair replied that there was an item on the agenda for Children's Services Committee at its meeting on 10 May called Education in a Changing Landscape where a discussion would be held on the White Paper. He referred to the Department for Education press release that suggested there was a softening of the approach to forced academisation although the detail was yet to be published.

12.2.3 Question from Mr J Joyce

Mr Joyce stated that for the last three years children had been put first in Norfolk and good or outstanding schools had risen from just below 60% to around 85-86%. That result had been led by the Committee system and as long as the focus remained on children and the Committee makes the right decisions, the children in Norfolk would be looked after which was down to all Members. There were just over 1043 Looked after children, which we were all parents to. The rate of LAC had remained static over the last year which was good compared to what was happening around the country. He added that he would continue to put children first and would be at the Committee meeting on 10 May, offering advice and moving forward.

The Chairman replied that Norfolk County Council did not run schools, governors ran schools with the head teachers running the operational side. Norfolk County Council offered support to schools. He added that Children's Services Committee was unique in the Council as not only were there 17 Councillor members on the Children's Services Committee, there were also ten other co-opted members, two of which were voting members.

12.2.4 Question from Mrs J Leggett

Mrs Leggett asked the Chair about Youth Advisory Boards and the future of the Youth Support Model in Norfolk. She added that the draft minutes of the Children's Services Committee of 15 March stated that the Executive Director Children's Services had reassured the Committee that the proposals in the report were not the final set of proposals but those the department wished to formally consult on. Mrs Leggett said she was a Member of the Broadland Youth Advisory Board (YAB) and had been informed recently by a YMCA worker that there was a consultation circulating. She said she was amazed that the consultation had not been drawn to her attention and asked the Chair to look into this and ensure that once the consultation was over, it was as representative as possible and easily accessible to everyone.

The Chair responded that he was concerned to hear the comments and said that any consultation should be made freely available to those who wanted to respond. He said he would look into the apparent gap in reaching stakeholders and would ask the communications team and children's services department to ensure it reached the intended recipients.

12.3 **Communities**

12.3.1 **Question from Mr G Nobbs**

Mr Nobbs asked if the Chair would share in the delight of the recent news that the Heritage Lottery Fund had earmarked a total of £9.2m for Norwich Castle Museum redevelopment. He asked if the Chair could assure him that the bipartisan approach which had secured the funding would continue under their chairmanship.

The Chair replied that, as we were working a Committee system, the Communities Committee had worked very well together over the last 3 years and she was assuming that business would continue as normal.

12.3.2 **Question from Dr M Strong**

Dr Strong asked the Chair if, under this administration, we could be reassured that no libraries would be shut.

The Chair replied that she would do her best to ensure no libraries were shut as she had a library in her area which was now run by one member of staff.

12.4 **Environment, Development and Transport and Economic Development Sub-Committee**

12.4.1 **Question from Mrs C Walker**

Mrs Walker asked the Chair of Economic Development for a commitment that the third river crossing would be pushed forward as hard as the Labour group had been pushing for it to happen as it was a lifeline to Gt Yarmouth and she hoped it would continue.

The Chair of EDT replied that he was fully committed to supporting the third river crossing and that he would be showing his support by attending a meeting on 10 May.

12.4.2 **Question from Mr T East**

Mr East asked if the Chair would be supporting the concept of finishing off the NDR by crossing the Wensum Valley, would he be supporting the dualling of the Acle Straight and would he be supporting the dualling of the A47.

The Chair replied that he supported the NDR and on a recent visit, travelling the whole route, had found it impressive to see the work that had already been carried out. He said he had found it impressive to see how the road would work as a distributor road around the north of Norwich. He felt the road would be of great benefit to the city of Norwich, the Broads, north Norfolk as well as Norwich airport.

The Chair added that the Acle straight had been discussed at a recent EDT meeting and it should be in the 2025 programme. He added that it was recognised as a very dangerous road and said he was sure the EDT Committee would be pushing for dualling the road.

The Chair continued by saying he agreed that work should be undertaken to improve the A47 in 2020 and he looked forward to working with the A47 Alliance to dual the entire A47 in the future.

12.4.3 **Question from Mr T Jermy**

Mr Jermy said that one of the things concerning residents in his constituency most of

all from the previous Conservative administration was the introduction of part night lighting where street lights were turned off at midnight and turned on back in the early morning. He said it was of considerable concern and he knew that previously Conservative Members on EDT Committee had not been overly bothered about street lights being turned off. He asked the Chair if this was something he personally would pursue or if he was happy with the previous decision which was to postpone any further increase in lights being turned off.

The Chair replied that it would be for the Committee to discuss and make any decisions about part night lighting.

12.4.4 Question from Mr B Bremner

Mr Bremner said he had read in the EDP that Richard Bearman, Leader of the Green Group, had said he would stand back from the vote to elect a Leader as a result of Mr Nobbs' ardent support for constructing the NDR. He asked if it was correct that the Chair supported the NDR as the Leader did.

The Chair replied that he had already answered that in his earlier response.

12.5 Policy & Resources

12.5.1 Question from Mr G Nobbs

Mr Nobbs asked the Chair if he could find any other person (Councillor, MP, Leader, Member of Government) who agreed with his idea that the Welsh Assembly model was the correct one for devolution.

The Chair responded that he had not asked them. He added that his conversation with Mr Porter was private and he would not disclose anything discussed.

12.5.2 Question from Dr A Boswell

Dr Boswell asked the Chair, who had previously said he was opposed to an elected mayor under the devolution deal although this appeared to have been signed away already from the debate in parliament recently, if he would commit to doing everything he could to stop devolution in this area and not to have an elected mayor?

The Chair replied that he had made his position clear about an elected mayor. He added that the Government had said that devolution and an elected mayor went together and he did not know if there would be any change to that policy. He added that he fully supported devolution and power being devolved to local councils, although he was not comfortable with Norfolk being ruled remotely as it was a huge area if Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire joined together. He said that he had not been party to all the discussions so far and at the moment he was not comfortable with the deal based on the information he had.

12.5.3 Question from Mr D Ramsbotham

Mr Ramsbotham said that under the devolution proposal the Government was effectively allocating each Norfolk resident an extra £14 per annum. This compared to the net direct cost of £153 per annum [for every child and adult in the County] of being in the EU. He asked if the Leader appreciated this exorbitant net cost of our membership of the EU – for which we get absolutely nothing - and did he think that this was money well spent.

The Chair replied that the public would be able to make their decision on whether they wanted to be part of the EU. He added that he would not commit as Leader and

would make up his own personal mind at the election.

12.5.4 Question from Ms A Kemp

Ms Kemp asked about devolution and the concerns that the Leader had about the ambitious housing targets which we knew the elected mayor would be given by government. She added in West Winch in her division she was fighting the building of 300 houses in a water meadow which was very unpopular and we would be at risk of having more unwanted housing under a devolved deal. She also asked what the Chair's views were on the ability of an elected mayor to sell off Norfolk's assets, as he would be chairing an Assets committee and asked where the money would go and if it would come back to Norfolk. She also asked what the Chair's views were on the fact that the elected mayor would be able to take back control of the highways and adult education according to the information we had been given.

The Chair replied that he was not fully aware of all the details. He said he had heard concerns from both sides but as he did not know the full details he would not comment. He added that he would make up his own mind and then let Councillors know what his views were.

12.5.5 Question from Mr T Jermy

Mr Jermy said that the Chair, when he was Cabinet Member for Efficiency, had an approach to council assets of non-engagement with local communities - an approach that did not harness local energy and support communities, in particular the Silver rooms, Essex rooms, Wensum Lodge and Charles Burrell Centre. He said now that we had seen many fantastic examples of how a different approach might work, if the Chair would be amending his attitude towards council assets, or if he would continue in the vein that he had previously.

The Chair replied that those decisions had confirmed his attitude and not changed it. He said that his intentions had been misunderstood. What he had meant was people could stand on their own feet. The social side of the Council was not the assets weren't for social use. The assets were for the benefit of the people of Norfolk and if you want to use them in a different way it was for a different committee to agree, not through efficiency, that was what I had meant.

13 Reports from Committees

13.1 Report of the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 14 April 2016

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

13.2 Report of the Health and Wellbeing Board meeting held on 26 April 2016.

Mr B Watkins moved the report. Council **RESOLVED** to note the report

13.3 Report of the Audit Committee meeting held on 21 April 2016.

Mr I Mackie moved the report. Council **RESOLVED** to note the report.

13.4 Report of the Planning (Regulatory) Committee meeting held on 1 April 2016.

Mr B Long moved the report. Council **RESOLVED** to note the report

13.5 **Report of the Records Committee meeting held on 22 April 2016.**

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

13.6 **Report of the Joint Museums Committee meeting held on 22 April 2016.**

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

14 Notice of Motion

14.1 The following motion was proposed by Ms E Corlett and seconded by Mr J Joyce:

This council notes:

The publication of the Government's White Paper, Educational Excellence Everywhere, which

- dictates that any schools that have chosen not to adopt the academy model must do so by 2022
- is projected to cost the people of Norfolk around £4500 per school transferred
- will remove from parents the right to be represented on the governing body of their child's school
- proposes to leave the council with duties which it will no longer have the power or the money to enact
- The majority of the schools that will be affected by forced academisation are primary schools, over 87% of which are already rated good or excellent by Ofsted nationally (86% in Norfolk), despite only 17 per cent being academies

Council further notes the wide-ranging objections raised over recent weeks;

- Sir David Carter, the new national schools commissioner, voiced fears that education funding would be used to pay lawyers to manage academy conversion "... the extra money that we are given to help us achieve this will just wash through in to law firms and I want to get as much as this in to the classroom as we can". He noted that although the cost of conversion had "fallen dramatically", the average cost of £32,000 was still too high.
- Conservative chair of the Local Government Association Lord Porter spoke of his opposition to significant powers being given to Regional Schools Commissioners as they are an "unelected body which parents and residents can't hold to account"

Cllr Roger Gough, Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform at Kent County Council, has expressed his objection to the White Paper on the grounds that

- "Whitehall now clearly believes that it knows those schools' best interests better than they do themselves..... nor are the wishes or choices of parents seen to count for anything, a paternalistic and technocratic approach reflected in the equally unjustified proposal to end the requirement for parent governors"
- There is a weak evidence base for the proposals "A little over a year ago, the Education Select Committee – cross-party under a Conservative chairman – concluded.... "current evidence does not allow us to draw conclusions about whether academies in themselves are a

positive force for change... Academisation is not always successful nor is it the only proven alternative for a struggling school”

Louise Goldsmith, leader of West Sussex County Council, has called on the government to rethink these plans as “I have reservations that the ‘one size fits all’ academies approach that ministers are proposing does not seem to promote any benefits to pupils and parents in West Sussex”

Council shares these concerns and believes that no one system has a monopoly on delivering the best results, and that is why a centrally imposed forced academisation programme is not the answer.

Council does not believe that a ‘one size fits all’ approach is in the best interests of pupils or parents, and is concerned that the proposals as they stand limit parental choice.

Council believes that well achieving schools should not be forced in to a reorganisation that the school governing body does not believe is in the best interests of its pupils

Council has very specific concerns about how vulnerable children will fare under the proposals, particularly in terms of inclusion, a statutory responsibility that will rightfully remain with the council but with very few powers to help us to fulfil that duty.

Council notes that the following local authorities have rejected the government proposals, and called upon the Secretary of State to rethink their proposals; Kent, West Sussex, Birmingham

Council therefore resolves to:

Instruct the Managing Director to write to the Secretary of State for Education to set out the concerns that Council has about the potential impact of the proposed changes as laid out in this motion, and set out to her our following constructive suggested amendments to the White Paper proposals:

- Well achieving schools should not have to convert to an academy if the governing body does not believe that it is in the best interests of pupils
- A requirement for elected parent governors should be retained
- A requirement for local community representation on governing bodies should be explicit
- The people of Norfolk should be compensated for any reorganisation through reimbursement of costs to the council.
- Provide local authorities with adequate resources and powers to fulfil our duties to vulnerable children, to planning of places and to fulfil our role of ‘championing’ parents and children.

14.2 Following debate, and upon being put to a vote, with 37 votes in favour, 34 votes against and 0 abstentions, the motion was **CARRIED**.

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

15.1 There were none.

The meeting concluded at 12.45pm.

Chairman



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

Norfolk County Council

Date – 9 May 2016

VOTING – ITEM NUMBER: 3 – Election of Vice-Chairman.

DH = Mr D Harrison. JW – Mr J Ward.

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

With 37 votes in favour of Mr D Harrison, 44 votes in favour of Mr J Ward and 1 abstention, Mr J Ward was elected Vice-Chairman of the County Council for the ensuing year.

Norfolk County Council

Date – 9 May 2016

VOTING – ITEM NUMBER: 7 – Election of Leader of the Council

GN = Mr G Nobbs. CJ = Mr C Jordan

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

With 37 votes in favour of Mr G Nobbs, 41 Votes in favour of Mr C Jordan and 4 abstentions, Council **RESOVLED** that Mr C Jordan be elected Leader of the Council for the ensuing year.

**Appointments to Committees, Sub-Committees
and Joint Committees for 2016/17**

SECTION 1

SERVICE COMMITTEES AND POLICY AND RESOURCES

Policy and Resources Committee - 17

Conservative (9)

Cliff Jordan
Andrew Proctor
Hilary Cox
Ian Mackie
Bev Spratt
Barry Stone
Ian Monson
Judy Leggett
Alison Thomas

Labour (3)

Mick Castle
Steve Morpew
George Nobbs

Liberal Democrat (2)

Marie Strong
Daniel Roper

UKIP & Ind (2)

Fred Agnew
Michael Baker

Green(1)

Adrian Dearnley

Adult Social Care Committee - 17

Conservative (8)

Beverley Spratt
Margaret Stone
William Richmond
Shelagh Gurney
Tom Garrod
Martin Storey
Joe Mooney
Bill Borrett

Labour (3)

Julie Brociek-Coulton
Mike Sands
Sue Whitaker

Liberal Democrat (2)

Brian Watkins
Eric Seward

UKIP & Ind (3)

Denis Crawford
Rex Parkinson-Hare
Jim Perkins

Green(1)

Elizabeth Morgan

Children's Services Committee- 17 plus 2 Church representatives (voting)

Conservative (8)

Judith Virgo
Jenny Chamberlin
Roger Smith
Tony Adams
Shelagh Gurney
Mark Kiddle-Morris
Barry Stone
Tony White

Labour (3)

Chrissie Rumsby
Emma Corlett
Mike Sands

Liberal Democrat (2)

James Joyce
Brian Hannah

UKIP & Ind (3)

Denis Crawford
Paul Gilmour
Jim Perkins

Green(1)

Richard Bearman

Communities Committee - 17

Conservative (8)

Harry Humphrey
Hilary Cox
Margaret Dewsbury
John Ward
Nigel Shaw
Nigel Dixon
Wyndham Northam
Jason Law

Labour (3)

Julie Brociek-Coulton
Mike Sands
Chrissie Rumsby

Liberal Democrat (2)

Allison Bradnock
David Harrison

UKIP & Ind (3)

Colin Aldred
Jonathon Childs
Paul Smyth

Green(1)

Richard Bearman

Environment, Development & Transport Committee - 17

Conservative (9)

Colin Foulger
Stuart Clancy
Tony White
Brian Iles
Judy Leggett
Martin Wilby
Margaret Dewsbury
Graham Plant
Claire Bowes

Labour (3)

Bert Bremner
Terry Jermy
Colleen Walker

Liberal Democrat (2)

Tim East
John Timewell

UKIP & Ind (2)
Toby Coke
Jonathan Childs

Green(1)
Andrew Boswell

SUB-COMMITTEES

Economic Development Sub-Committee – 9

Conservative (5)

Brian Iles
Stuart Clancy
Claire Bowes
Tony White
Colin Foulger

Labour (2)

Collen Walker
Terry Jermy

Liberal Democrat (1)

John Timewell

UKIP & Ind (1)

Jonathan Childs

OTHER COMMITTEES

Planning (Regulatory) Committee - 17

Conservative (8)

John Ward
Tony White
Jason Law
Stephen Askew
Wyndham Northam
Brian Long
Martin Storey
Colin Foulger

Labour (3)

Bert Bremner
David Collis
Mike Sands

Liberal Democrat (2)

Eric Seward
David Harrison

UKIP & Ind (3)

Fred Agnew
Michael Baker
Alan Grey

Green (1)

Elizabeth Morgan

Panel of Substitutes for Regulatory Committees - 17

Conservative (8)

Brian Iles
Jenny Chamberlin
Adrian Gunson
Ian Monson
Alec Byrne
William Richmond
Margaret Stone
Nigel Dixon

Labour (3)

Terry Jermy
2 Vacancies

Liberal Democrat (2)

Tim East
John Timewell

UKIP & Ind (3)

Colin Aldred
David Ramsbotham
Richard Bird

Green (1)

Adrian Dearnley

Norfolk Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee 8**Conservative (4)**

Michael Carttiss
Margaret Stone
Jennifer Chamberlin
Michael Chenery

Judith Virgo (named substitute)
Nigel Dixon (named substitute)
Shelagh Gurney (named substitute)
Alison Thomas (named substitute)

Labour (1)

Bert Bremner
Margaret Wilkinson (named substitute)

Liberal Democrat (1)

David Harrison
Brian Hannah (named substitute)

UKIP & Ind (1)

Colin Aldred
Paul Gilmour (named substitute)

Green (1)

Richard Bearman
Adrian Dearnley (named substitute)

Audit Committee 7**Conservative (4)**

Ian Mackie
Roger Smith
Harry Humphrey
Shelagh Gurney

Labour (1)

Bert Bremner

UKIP & Ind (1)

David Ramsbotham

Liberal Democrat (1)

James Joyce

Standards Committee - 7**Conservative (4)**

Alec Byrne
Ian Monson
Mark Kiddle-Morris
William Richmond

Labour (1)

Patrick Hacon

UKIP & Ind (1)

Fred Agnew

Liberal Democrat (1)

John Timewell

Emergency Committee - 5 (Must include the Leader of the Council)**Conservative (2)**

Stephen Askew
Wyndham Northam

Labour (1)

George Nobbs

UKIP & Ind (1)
Jonathan Childs

Liberal Democrat (1)
Marie Strong

General Purposes (Regulatory) Committee – 5

Conservative (2)
Alec Byrne
Ian Monson

Liberal Democrat (1)
Brian Watkins

UKIP & Ind (1)
Jonathan Childs

Labour (1)
Vacancy

Pensions Committee 5

Conservative (3)
Judith Virgo
Martin Storey
Jason Law

Liberal Democrat (1)
Allison Bradnock

UKIP & Ind (1)
David Ramsbotham

Personnel Committee - 5 (Must include the Leader of the Council)

Conservative (3)
Cliff Jordan
Andrew Proctor
Alison Thomas

Labour (1)
George Nobbs

UKIP & Ind (1)
Toby Coke

SECTION 2

Employment Appeals Panel – 11

When the Panel meets, it has a membership of 3 appointed by the Head of Human Resources and drawn from the wider Panel of 11

Conservative (5)

Cliff Jordan
Andrew Proctor
Bill Borrett
Tony White
Judy Leggett

Labour (2)

Emma Corlett
Steve Morphew

Liberal Democrat (1)

Marie Strong

UKIP & Ind (2)

David Ramsbotham
Vacancy

Green (1)

Richard Bearman

Health and Wellbeing Board (3)

- * Chairman of the Children's Services Committee –James Joyce
- * Chairman of the Adult Social Care Committee – Susan Whitaker
- Brian Watkins

*Statutory member of the Board

SECTION 3

JOINT COMMITTEES

Norfolk Joint Museums & Archaeology Committee – 9

Conservative (4)

Harry Humphrey
John Ward
Mark Kiddle-Morris
Martin Storey
Jason Law (named substitute)

Labour (2)

Julie Brociek-Coulton
Margaret Wilkinson
Terry Jermy (named substitute)

Liberal Democrat (1)

James Joyce
Tim East (named substitute)

UKIP & Ind (1)

Paul Gilmour
Alan Grey (named substitute)

Green (1)

Elizabeth Morgan
Adrian Dearnley (named Substitute)

Norfolk Records Committee – 3

Conservative (1)

Michael Chenery
Brian Iles (named Substitute)

Labour (1)

Margaret Wilkinson (1)
Mike Sands (named Substitute)

UKIP & Ind (1)

Paul Smyth
Fred Agnew (named substitute)

Eastern Inshore Fisheries Conservation Authority – 3

Conservative (1)

Hilary Cox

Labour (1)

Margaret Wilkinson

UKIP & Ind (1)

Michael Baker

Norfolk Police & Crime Panel – 3

Conservative (1)

Alec Byrne
Michael Chenery (named substitute)

Liberal Democrat (1)

Brian Hannah
James Joyce (named substitute)

Labour (1)

Terry Jermy
Mick Castle (named substitute)

Note: The overall political composition of the Norfolk Police and Crime Panel is required to reflect the political balance across the whole County (County and District councils). That balance must be reviewed after the results of the District Council elections being held on 5 May have been analysed. If this affects the County Council's political representation on the Panel, the political groups will be advised in advance of the Council meeting.

SECTION 4

Norwich Highways Agency Joint Committee – 2

Conservative – Tony Adams

Labour – Steve Morpew

Council is also required to appoint one of its two above representatives as the Chairman of the Joint Committee

Non-Voting Advisors (3)

Conservative (1) - Nigel Shaw

Labour (1) - Mike Sands

UKIP & Ind (1) - Fred Agnew

Eastern Shires Purchasing Organisation Joint Committee- 2

Conservative – Ian Monson

Labour – Mick Castle

Norfolk Parking Partnership Joint Committee (1 Member of the Council)

Mick Castle

Tony White (named substitute)

Planning and Traffic Regulation Outside London Joint Committee (1 Member of the Council)

Mick Castle

Tony White (named substitute)

National Bus Lane Adjudication Committee (1)

Bert Bremner

Mick Castle (named substitute)

Norfolk County Council

Date – 9 May 2016

VOTING – ITEM NUMBER: 7 – Election of Chairman of Norwich Highways Agency Joint Committee

TA = Mr T Adams. SM = Mr S Morpew.

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

With 42 votes in favour of Mr T Adams, 39 Votes in favour of Mr S Morpew and 1 abstention, Council **RESOVLED** that Mr T Adams be elected Chairman of the Norwich Highways Agency Joint Committee for the ensuing year.

Norfolk County Council

Date – 9 May 2016

VOTING – ITEM NUMBER: 14 – Motion by Ms E Corlett, seconded by Mr J Joyce

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

Upon being put to a recorded vote, with 37 votes in favour, 34 Votes against and 0 abstentions, the Motion was **CARRIED**.