

COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of South Norfolk District Council held at South Norfolk House, Long Stratton on Monday 15 July 2019 at 8.52 pm

Members Present:	Councillors: Overton (Chairman for the meeting), Amis, Bendle, Bills, Blundell, Brown, Burrill, Clifford-Jackson, Curson, Dearnley, Dewsbury, Duffin, Easter, Elliott, Elmer, Francis, Fuller, Glover, Hornby, Hurn, Kemp, Kiddie, Knight, Laidlaw, Legg, Mason Billig, Neal, Nuri, Ridley, Rowe, J Savage, R Savage, Spruce, Thomas, Thomson, M Wilby and Worley
Apologies:	Councillors: Bernard, Edney, Ellis, Halls, Holden, Hudson, Minshull and J Wilby
Officers in Attendance:	The Managing Director (T Holden), the Director of People and Communities (J Sutterby), the Director of Place (P Courtier), the Assistant Director, Governance and Business Support (E Hodds) and the Assistant Director, Chief of Staff (H Ralph)
Also in Attendance	Former members: Mrs. V Bell, Mr. P Broome, Mr. L Dale, Mr. C Foulger, Mr. D Fulcher, Mr. D Goldson, Dr. M Gray, Mr. L Hornby, Dr. C Kemp, Mr. T Lewis, Mr. J Mooney, Mr. T Palmer, Mr. A Pond, and Mr. G Wheatley.
	9 members of the public

3505 MINUTES

With reference to minute number 3494, members noted that the minute should have read that the shadow cabinet member for Finance and Resources was Cllr T Laidlaw, and for Stronger Communities and Governance, Cllr V Clifford-Jackson.

Subject to the above change, the minutes of the meeting held Wednesday 22 May 2019 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

3506 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Members noted the civic engagements attended by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman for the period 22 May to 14 July 2019.

3507 PRESENTATION TO FORMER MEMBERS

The Chairman welcomed former members to the meeting.

On behalf of the Council, the Chairman thanked the 20 former members whose terms of office ended in May 2019, for their services to the Council:

Mrs. Vivienne Bell
Mr. Peter Broome
Mr. Leslie Dale
Mr. Charles Easton
Mr. Colin Foulger
Mr. Des Fulcher
Mr. David Goldson
Mr. Colin Gould
Prof. Murray Gray
Mr. Lee Hornby
Dr. Christopher Kemp
Mr. Jaan Larnier
Mr. Trevor Lewis
Mr. Joe Mooney
Mr. Tony Palmer
Mr. Andrew Pond
Mr. Brian Riches
Mr. Barry Stone
Mr. Garry Wheatley
Mr. Kevin Worsley

The Chairman then presented each of the former members present with a certificate of appreciation and a small gift from the Council.

On behalf of all former members, Mr. J Mooney thanked Council for a most enjoyable evening. He had thoroughly enjoyed serving as a District Councillor, and it had been a pleasure working with fellow members and staff.

3508 RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE CABINET

(a) Update to Local Development Scheme

Cllr J Fuller outlined the recommendations of the Cabinet, regarding the proposed amendments to the current Local Development Scheme. Members noted the importance of ensuring that the document was kept up to date.

It was unanimously

RESOLVED: To approve the proposed amendments to the current Local Development Scheme (October 2018)

(b) Update to Statement of Community Involvement

Cllr J Fuller outlined the recommendations from the Cabinet, regarding the proposed amendments to the Statement of Community Involvement.

Cllr Fuller explained that the proposed amendments included the advice and support the Council could give to communities involved in the preparation or modification of Neighbourhood Plans or Neighbourhood Development Orders in the District.

It was unanimously

RESOLVED: To approve the proposed amendments to the current Statement of Community Involvement (October 2018)

3509 QUESTIONS TO CHAIRMEN AND PORTFOLIO HOLDERS**(a) Cabinet**

Cllr C Brown asked Cllr J Fuller whether the Council had made any preparations for a “no deal” Brexit.

Cllr Fuller stressed the need for a co-ordinated and integrated approach and he explained that this issue was being considered on a county-wide basis, led by Norfolk County Council. He advised that the implications of Brexit had been discussed at a meeting of the Norfolk Leaders Board, where the implications on ports, transport issues and issues of public safety had been raised.

Cllr F Curson asked Cllr Y Bendle what the position was with regard to rough sleepers in the area. Cllr Bendle explained that the number of rough sleepers had been relatively low in many parts of the District, as they tended to be drawn to more urban areas. However, the numbers of rough sleepers in the market towns had increased slightly, and it was believed that there had been 65 rough sleepers across the South Norfolk and Broadland District, the previous year. She went on to advise members that officers had recently been successful in applying for a grant to help tackle this problem. Members noted that the £128,000 awarded, would be used to employ officers to work closely with Registered Social Landlords, in an attempt to identify those people at risk of sleeping rough, at an early stage. Cllr Bendle looked forward to seeing positive results from the project.

Cllr C Brown asked Cllr K Kiddie if he had seen the plantation of wild flowers along the A143 and the roundabout at Ditchingham, and he asked whether he had considered implementing similar schemes elsewhere. Cllr Kiddie had not seen the site to which Cllr Brown referred, but explained that it was a Norfolk County Council initiative to improve the quality of wildlife along its highways, and that he

also knew of similar schemes at more local levels such as in Diss. He thoroughly supported such initiatives, adding that over 400 acres of farmland in Norfolk was used to produce wildflower seeds to be sown on roadsides and roundabouts.

Cllr Kiddie advised Cabinet that he had recently visited the NEWS Costessey Materials Recycling Facility, and he encouraged members to take up the recent offer of member tours, to see for themselves how the recycling process worked. He urged members to help in educating members of the public with regard to recycling, explaining that contaminated recycling was a big issue at the Facility, and members noted that a large percentage of this contamination was caused by disposable nappies being placed in green bins.

Cllr K Mason Billig updated members with regard to the Council's collaboration with Broadland District Council and the move to a "one officer team". She explained that all the Assistant Director posts had been appointed to, and staff continued to receive regular briefings from the Managing Director. New joint terms and conditions were currently being drafted and the formal consultation period for staff would commence on 2 September. Members noted that a joint member briefing session with Broadland, was to be held the end of August. The new structures would be in place by the New Year, with some teams working under the new arrangements, much earlier.

(b) Scrutiny Committee

There were no questions regarding the work of the Scrutiny Committee.

(c) Licensing Committee

There were no questions to the Chairman of the Licensing Committee.

(d) Development Management Committee

There were no questions to the Chairman of the Development Management Committee.

(e) Electoral Arrangements Review Committee

There were no questions to the Chairman of the Electoral Arrangements Review Committee.

Cllr K Kiddie advised that a meeting was scheduled to take place in August, to discuss a review of Polling Places and Polling Stations, to ensure that suitable and convenient polling arrangements were provided for local electors.

3510 FEEDBACK ON OUTSIDE BODIES

There was no feedback on outside bodies.

(The meeting concluded at 9.21pm)

Chairman