

COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of South Norfolk District Council held at South Norfolk House, Long Stratton on Monday 18 February 2019 at 7.30pm.

Members Present:	Councillors: Overton (Chairman) Amis, Bell, Bendle, Bills, Broome, Dale, Dewsbury, Duffin, Ellis, Fulcher, Fuller, Goldson, Gould, Gray, Hardy, J Hornby, L Hornby, C Kemp, W Kemp, Legg, Lewis, Mason Billig, Minshull, Mooney, Neal, Palmer, J Savage, R Savage, Stone, Thomas, Thomson, Wheatley, J Wilby and M Wilby
Apologies:	Councillors Bernard, Blundell, Easton, Edney, Foulger, Hudson, Kiddie, Larner, Pond, Riches, and Worsley
Officers in Attendance:	The Managing Director (T Holden), the Director of Communities and Wellbeing (J Sutterby), the Director of Growth and Business Development (D Lorimer), the Accountancy Manager (M Fernandez Graham), the Head of Governance (E Hodds) and the Head of Business Transformation (H Ralph)
Also in Attendance:	17 members of the public

3475 MINUTES

The minutes of the meetings held on 10 December 2018, and 14 January 2019, were confirmed as correct records and signed by the Chairman.

3476 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman drew members' attention to his list of engagements at page 19 of the agenda.

Members were reminded that a special meeting of the Council was due to take place on Thursday 28 February, at 10.00 am, to consider the Joint Senior Management Recruitment and Appointment arrangements, for Broadland and South Norfolk Councils.

The Chairman explained that as three members of the public present had indicated that they wished to ask questions of portfolio holders, he had decided to bring forward that item, to be considered next on the agenda.

3477 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

The following questions were raised by members of the public present:

Jo Dingle

Last Friday thousands of schoolchildren took strike action to demand the Government take action to address the real and immediate threat of the climate emergency. In Norwich hundreds of children from across Norfolk rallied outside the forum. I believe they are right to worry about their future, where inaction threatens societal collapse. Those in positions of power have a duty to accept the truth of what faces us, and act with boldness. The recent IPCC report has stated we have 12 years to prevent runaway climate change. The Paris Accord will already take us above the target of 1.5 degrees warming and we are on a trajectory of 2.5 – 3 degrees warming by the end of the century. This in short means we have no Carbon budget left. The climate emergency is already impacting communities across the world, resulting in loss of life. We face a world of increased migration, food insecurity and instability. Here in the UK where we produce only 50% of our food we will be vulnerable to food shortages and of course coastal flooding. A 2-degree rise in global warming, would mean for example that Kings Lynn would be abandoned by the end of the century, if not before. Here in South Norfolk, hotter dryer summers will affect agricultural production.

Will South Norfolk join other councils across the UK and the world to declare a climate emergency, work to educate their constituents about the emergency, and start to prepare communities for the changes that will be necessary?

Cllr K Mason Billig welcomed Ms Dingle to the meeting and thanked her for the advance notice of her question.

Cllr Mason Billig explained that the Council continuously worked to protect the environment in South Norfolk. She made reference to the Council's excellent recycling rates, and action it had taken against graffiti, fly tipping and unlawful advertising trailers. She referred to the Council's extended conservation areas, the planting of new hedgerows across South Norfolk, and its support for the Costessey Country Park. She reminded the meeting that the Council had provided electric car charging points across some of the Council owned car parks, and she hoped that this would lead to an increase in the use of electric cars in the area. Whilst understanding the concerns of Ms Dingle, she did not believe it necessary to declare a "climate change emergency", however, she hoped that the Council could build on the good practice already put in place, and stressed that the Council would be doing all it could to positively protect the environment.

Abie Raynsford

The proposed Norwich Western Link road, which South Norfolk Council supports, would drive a dual-carriageway and 30,000 vehicles a day directly through the Wensum and Tud river valleys.

The wider ecology of the area comprises interconnected habitats between these two river valleys containing chalk streams. The proposed road will also damage County Wildlife sites and ancient woodlands.

The Wensum is a Special Area of Conservation, or SAC, and contains species known to be at risk, such as the native White Clawed Crayfish. This creature is sensitive to pollution and silt in our rivers, and nearing extinction in Norfolk and across the UK.

The River Tud supports an increasingly rare diversity of wildlife, such as Eels, and fish species - Stone Loach and Bullheads, along with water voles in the river banks and Red Kites in the woods.

There is no effective way to mitigate the loss of interconnected habitats and as the climate changes, species need to be able to move effectively through the landscape, using unbroken corridors along rivers, and hedges. Put in plain English, this road would cause ecological destruction, or ecocide.

Recent reports have shown that the UK has already lost over half its wildlife in just 25 years. We need to stop seeing nature as something we can just push aside. All the smaller ecocides add up to create this national disgrace.

Last week, a global scientific review reported that the world's insects are hurtling down the path to extinction, threatening a "catastrophic collapse of nature's ecosystems". Insects are literally disappearing and declining before our very eyes, and this in turn could lead to the collapse of food production.

The school children who protested across the country last Friday, including those at the Norwich Forum, were doing so because it is their generation who will suffer the devastating social and environmental impacts if we don't take urgent preventative action now. They are demanding all leaders, like yourselves, to take immediate action to prevent further damage.

Norfolk Wildlife Trust, the Campaign to Protect Rural England, local environmental groups all oppose this link road as does the MP for Norwich South, Clive Lewis.

Will you as responsible councillors, see the crisis that is unfolding, face it squarely and listen to the voices of the future? Please for the sake of all of us, drop your support for this link road.

Cllr Fuller welcomed Ms Raynsford to the meeting and thanked her for the advance notice of her question.

Cllr Fuller explained that South Norfolk Council had been consulted on options for the Norwich Western Link road, and had selected an option (option d), that had been in the best interests of residents in South Norfolk, with minimal impact on the environment. He stressed that South Norfolk Council would not be deciding

whether the road should be constructed, or which option should be selected. Whilst he understood Ms Raynsford's concerns, he suggested that they needed be carefully balanced with the benefits that a new road would bring, including improved road traffic safety, benefits to the economy, and less pollution in the city.

Cllr M Gray had noted from the local press that the Council had expressed its support for option d and was disappointed that the consultation had not been discussed at Cabinet, as it had been at Broadland District Council. Cllr Fuller explained that there had been no scheduled cabinet meeting within the consultation period, however, as none of the proposed routes fell within the boundaries of South Norfolk, it was felt sufficient for officers to send a response, in consultation with the relevant Cabinet member and local members. Cllr Fuller agreed that he would send a copy of the Council's consultation response to interested members after the meeting.

Christina Flores

Would Council hold a minute's silence, in tribute to all the wildlife that would be lost, through the construction of the Norwich Western Link Road?

Cllr Fuller advised that he did not feel it appropriate for the Council to hold a minute's silence, in this respect.

3478 RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE CABINET ARISING FROM THE MEETINGS HELD 7 JANUARY AND 4 FEBRUARY 2019

a) Cabinet Meeting 7 January 2019

i) 2019-20 Council Tax Support Scheme

Cllr J Fuller introduced the report regarding the 2019-20 Council Tax Support Scheme, explaining that the recommendation from the Cabinet was to retain the scheme's current format for a further 12 months.

Cabinet had been satisfied that the current scheme remained fit for purpose, and Cllr Fuller reminded Council that a hardship fund was also in place, as a safety net, for one-off cases.

It was unanimously

RESOLVED: To agree to keep the Council Tax Support Scheme in its current form for a further 12 months

b) Cabinet Meeting 4 February 2019

i) Council Tax (Empty Dwellings) – Changes to Premium Rates

Cllr J Fuller presented members with the recommendations of the Cabinet regarding the proposal to implement the provisions contained within legislation to increase the council tax premiums levied against long term empty dwellings.

Cllr Fuller explained that Cabinet had agreed with the proposals in principle, however, felt that further work was needed to identify a consistent approach and early engagement on properties that were likely to be subject to the 200 or 300% charges.

Members noted that Cabinet had recommended that the issue be referred to the Scrutiny Committee to consider the appropriate proactive steps to work with the owners of empty homes, so that the additional surcharges could be avoided and empty homes brought back into use in a timely manner.

It was unanimously

RESOLVED: To adopt the approach to allow the provisions contained within the Rating (Property in Common Occupation) and Council Tax (Empty Dwellings) Act 2018, to increase the premiums levied against long term empty dwellings, subject to further work being carried out by Scrutiny Committee, to make recommendations on a consistent and proactive approach with property owners to bring empty properties back into use.

ii) **Council Tax Local Discount for Care Leavers**

Cllr J Fuller presented members with the recommendations of the Cabinet regarding the proposal to align South Norfolk Council with Norfolk County Council, through the provision of financial support to care leavers, by awarding a local discount to their ongoing council tax liability.

Cllr Fuller explained that whilst Cabinet supported the proposals in principle, there was some concern regarding the arbitrary geographic restrictions of the scheme and the apparent disincentives to care leavers to move in with partners and build long term relationships. Cabinet had therefore recommended that the policy be referred to the Scrutiny Committee to consider further the details of the scheme.

Cllr C Gould made the point that those leaving prison or other custodial sentences, were sometimes equally as vulnerable as those leaving care. Cllr Y Bendle explained that certain exemptions and discounts did apply to those serving custodial sentences, however the Council was currently considering new ways of supporting those being discharged from prison.

Cllr A Thomas welcomed the additional support for care leavers and felt it important that the Scrutiny Committee considered further the policy to ensure that it provided support and encouragement to young people.

Cllr V Thomson, also a member of Norfolk County Council's Children's Services Committee, explained that he had fed back South Norfolk's concerns regarding the Policy.

It was unanimously

RESOLVED: To agree to the policy in principle, to allow full local Council Tax discount to care leavers, however that a review be carried out by the Scrutiny Committee, in consultation with Norfolk County Council, to consider further the details of the scheme and in particular to amend the policy features that introduce perverse disincentives for care leavers to build stable long-term family lives and relationships.

iii) Capital Strategy 2019/20 to 2023/24

Cllr J Fuller outlined the Cabinet's recommendations with regard to the Council's five-year capital strategy, and the future need for a 20-year strategy, as required by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy and Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.

It was unanimously

RESOLVED: To

1. approve the Capital Strategy.
2. approve the Schedule of Non-Treasury Investments referred to in Section 2.3 and contained in Appendix A of the report.
3. note the further work required to develop a longer-term Capital Strategy

iv) Revenue Budget, Capital Programme and Council Tax 2019/20

The Chairman proposed and the Council agreed that, in accordance with Standing Order D4.5, Group Leaders be permitted to speak for 15 minutes each on the budget.

Cllr J Fuller paid tribute to all the Council's staff who had been involved in the preparation and timely delivery of the budget reports, and he gave special mention to Peter Catchpole, the Section 1501 Officer, and Matthew Fernandez-Graham, the Accountancy Manager, who were both leaving the Council's employment. He referred to the Monitoring Officer report (at item 9 on the agenda), which proposed that Debbie Lorimer, and Julie Brown, be appointed as the new Section 151 and Deputy Section 151 Officers.

Cllr J Fuller then explained that this was the twelfth budget he had delivered as Leader, since the Conservatives took control of South Norfolk in 2007. In that time, the Conservative Group had become one of the most respected councils in the country, proving to be agile and responsive to a changing political and economic environment.

He outlined numerous achievements over the last twelve years, including the delivery of social housing with controlled rents and help-to-buy properties. He referred to the success of social prescribing, New Homes Bonus, the services in the Help Hub, investments in sport and leisure, the availability of superfast broadband, and that South Norfolk had been one of only two councils to be

awarded Investors in People Platinum. This, he explained was a record to be proud of.

Referring back to when the Conservatives first took control in 2017, Cllr Fuller explained that the Council was ill prepared for a recession. In contrast, currently the Council had never been stronger, with an increase in Council Tax of just 14% during the 12 years, with reserves remaining high. The Council's focus on commercialisation was yielding great benefits, generating income to enable the Council to spend money on those who needed the Council's help the most.

He referred to the collaboration with Broadland District Council, suggesting that the partnership gave the Council the impetus to go further and reimagine what a council could be like in the future.

Cllr Fuller acknowledged that the Council had been lucky with a number of one-off financial windfalls, which had left the Council with yet another year of underspends. However, he stressed the importance of not being complacent, and he drew attention to the uncertainty of the New Homes Bonus. He had therefore resisted calls for a freeze in council tax during an election year, referring to the Council's responsibility to ensure a long-term sustainable future.

He turned to the capital programme which was focussed on infrastructure delivery and economic growth and he gave mention to the Long Stratton by-pass, the Norwich Research Park Enterprise Zone, and other investments to create commercial space. This was, he stated, a budget and a capital programme that was certified as low risk and was affordable over the next 3 years.

Turning to the service of Sandra Dinneen, the Council's former Chief Executive, Cllr Fuller expressed his appreciation of her service, insight and professionalism, explaining that the Council's enviable position was the result of her talents. However, the Council was now entering a new chapter, and he had confidence in the new Managing Director, to build on these strong foundations.

Cllr Fuller believed the proposed budget to be affordable and fair and would allow the Council to build better lives and communities. He then commended the budget to members.

Cllr K Mason Billig informed Council that she believed the budget to be financially prudent whilst still being generous to residents. The budget had been balanced over the previous 12 years and this clearly demonstrated the trust and confidence that could be placed in the Conservative administration. She applauded the Leader of the Council, explaining his commercial awareness had been key to the Council's success over the last 12 years.

Cllr T Lewis explained that in the main, the Liberal Democrat Group supported the proposed budget, and as in previous years, was very grateful for the opportunity for all members to be involved in the budget preparation process. He did however outline some concerns regarding the level of the increase in council tax, which he felt, coupled with other increases, could prove to be a big burden for some residents. He welcomed commercial investments, to provide additional income to the Council, adding that this initiative originated from the Liberal Democrat administration, however, did not believe that such investments should always be made through Big Sky Developments. He also expressed the need for the Council

to be more ambitious in its estimate of savings to be made through the collaboration with Broadland, and he wanted to see residents directly benefitting from these savings. He then proposed the following amendment:

That the band D level of Council Tax be amended from the proposed £150.00 for General Expenditure, to £148.00.

This amendment was seconded by Cllr M Gray.

Cllr G Minshull explained that he would not be supporting the amendment. He made reference to the Liberal Democrat controlled Diss Town Council, where the council tax precept was now the second highest in the District, with cuts being made to local services under the Town Council control.

Cllr J Fuller referred back to the previous Liberal Democrat Administration at South Norfolk where the Cabinet member boasted of “selling off the family silver” (the proceeds from Large Scale Voluntary Transfer) and running a “bankrupt policy”. The proposed budget was, he said, not unambitious, but prudent, and he could not support the amendment.

Cllr M Gray, took exception to Cllr Fuller’s claim that the previous Liberal Democrat administration had nearly bankrupted the Council, stating that it was simply not true. He expressed his support for the amendment, explaining that he felt residents should benefit from savings the Council had made.

The amendment was then conducted as roll call vote as follows:

Cllrs Amis, Bell, Fulcher, Gray, and Lewis voted in favour of the amendment.

Cllrs Bendle, Bills, Broome, Dale, Dewsbury, Duffin, Ellis, Fuller, Goldson, Gould, Hardy, J Hornby, L Hornby, C Kemp, W Kemp, Legg, Mason Billig, Minshull, Mooney, Neal, Overton, Palmer, J Savage, R Savage, Stone, Thomas, Thomson, Wheatley, J Wilby and M Wilby voted against.

With five votes for and thirty against, the amendment was lost.

Referring to the Scrutiny Committee’s consideration of the budget, Cllr G Minshull, as the Chairman of the Committee, explained that after a very constructive debate and interesting contributions from members, the meeting had commended the budget to Council.

Cllr J Hornby then addressed the Council, referring to the outstanding record of the Conservatives, since 2007. He referred to numerous grants that had been awarded to community groups over the years and also gave mention to the recent investment in the Long Stratton Leisure Centre and Ketts Park in Wymondham. He urged members to support the proposed budget.

Members then voted on the recommendations and a roll call vote was conducted as follows:

Cllrs Bendle, Bills, Broome, Dale, Dewsbury, Duffin, Ellis, Fuller, Goldson, Gould, Hardy, J Hornby, L Hornby, C Kemp, W Kemp, Legg, Mason Billig, Minshull,

Mooney, Neal, Overton, Palmer, J Savage, R Savage, Stone, Thomas, Thomson, Wheatley, J Wilby and M Wilby voted in favour of the recommendations.

Cllrs Amis, Bell, Fulcher, Gray, and Lewis abstained from the vote.

With 30 votes in favour and 5 abstentions it was

RESOLVED: To:

- (a) Approve the base budget; as shown in para 6.1, subject to confirmation of the finalised Local Government finance settlement figures which may, if significant, necessitate an adjustment through the General Revenue Reserve to maintain a balanced budget.
- (b) Approve the use of the revenue reserves as set out in section 12.
- (c) Agree that the Council's demand on the Collection Fund for 2019/20 for General Expenditure shall be £7,370,700 and for Special Expenditure be £10,440;
- (d) Agree that the Band D level of Council Tax be £150.00 for General Expenditure and £0.21 for Special Expenditure.
- (e) Agree that the assumptions on which the funding of the capital programme is based are prudent.
- (f) Approve the capital programme for 2019/20 to 2023/24.

v) **Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2019/20**

Cllr J Fuller presented the recommendations from the Cabinet relating to the Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2019/20.

It was unanimously

RESOLVED: To Approve:

- (a) The Treasury Management Strategy Statement
- (b) The Prudential Indicators and Limits for the next 3 years contained within Section 4 and Appendix A of the report, including the Authorised Limit Prudential Indicator.
- (c) The Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Statement (section 3D) that sets out the Council's policy on MRP.
- (d) The Annual Investment Strategy (section 5) contained in the Treasury Management Strategy, including the delegation of certain tasks to the Section 151 Officer
- (e) The Treasury Management Policy Statement (Appendix E).

3479 COUNCIL TAX RESOLUTION

A roll call vote was conducted as follows:

Cllrs Amis, Bendle, Bills, Broome, Dale, Dewsbury, Duffin, Ellis, Fuller, Goldson, Gould, Hardy, J Hornby, L Hornby, C Kemp, W Kemp, Legg, Mason Billig, Minshull, Mooney, Neal, Overton, Palmer, J Savage, R Savage, Stone, Thomas, Thomson, Wheatley, J Wilby and M Wilby voted in favour of the recommendations.

Cllrs Bell, Gray and Lewis abstained from the vote.

With 31 votes in favour and 3 abstentions it was **RESOLVED:**

- 1) To approve the recommendations of the Cabinet meeting 4th February 2019 relating to the Council Tax Base for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relates as in the attached Appendix B and C be approved.
- 2) To approve the recommendations of the Cabinet meeting 4th February 2019 relating to the Revenue and Capital Estimates 2019/20, as amended to reflect the final figures for special expenses described in section 3.4 of this report, be approved.
- 3) That the Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2019/20 (excluding Parish precepts and special expenses) be calculated as £7,370,700.00.
- 4) That the Council Tax requirement for special expenses be calculated as £10,925.48.
- 5) That the following amounts be calculated for the year 2019/20 in accordance with Sections 30 to 36 of the Act.
 - a) £70,349,251.00 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act taking into account all precepts issued to it by Parish Councils and any additional special expenses.
 - b) £59,125,314.70 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act.
 - c) £11,223,936.30 being the amount by which the aggregate at 6(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 6(b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act as its Council Tax requirement for the year. (Item R in the formula in Section 31B of the 1992 Act).
 - d) £228.42 being the amount at 6(c) above (Item R), all divided by Item T (1 above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 33(1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (including Parish precepts and special expenses).
 - e) £3,853,236.30 being the aggregate amount of all special items (Parish precepts and special expenses) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act (as per attached

Appendix B and C).

- f) £150.00 being the amount at 6(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 6(e) above by Item T (1 above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the 1992 Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no Parish precept or special expense relates.
- 6) To note that Norfolk County Council and the Norfolk Police and Crime Commissioner have issued precepts to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Act for each category of dwellings in the Council's area as indicated in the table below.
- 7) That the Council, in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the Act, hereby sets the aggregate amounts shown in the table below as the amounts of Council Tax for 2019/20 for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings.

	Valuation Bands							
Precepting Authority	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
South Norfolk Council	100.00	116.67	133.33	150.00	183.33	216.67	250.00	300.00
Norfolk County Council	908.16	1,059.52	1,210.88	1,362.24	1,664.96	1,967.68	2,270.40	2,724.48
Norfolk Police and Crime Commissioner	168.72	196.84	224.96	253.08	309.32	365.56	421.80	506.16
Aggregate of Council Tax Requirements (excluding Parish Precepts and Special Expenses)	1,176.88	1,373.03	1,569.17	1,765.32	2,157.61	2,549.91	2,942.20	3,530.64

- 8) The Council has determined that its relevant basic amount of Council Tax for 2019/20, which reflects an increase of £3.59, is not excessive in accordance with principles approved under Section 52ZB of the Act.

As the billing authority, the Council has not been notified by a major precepting authority that its relevant basic amount of Council Tax for 2019/20 is excessive and that the billing authority is not required to hold a referendum in accordance with Section 52ZK of the Act.

3480 MONITORING OFFICER REPORT

Members considered the report of the Monitoring Officer, which sought Council to make appointments to both officer and member positions.

Cllr J Fuller introduced the report, explaining that the recommendations sought to appoint Debbie Lorimer and Julie Brown to the positions of Section 151 Officer and the Deputy Section 151 Officer, respectively. He advised that he had nominated Cllr A Pond to serve as the Council's representative on the Community Interest Organisation for Queens' Hill and informed Council that he had appointed Cllr K Mason Billig as Deputy Leader of the Council, following Cllr Edney's decision to step down from that position.

Cllr V Bell expressed her disappointment that Cllr S Blundell had not been considered to represent the Council on the Community Interest Organisation. Cllr Blundell, she explained, was keen to ensure that the future vision for the open space at Queens Hill, met the needs of the local community, and that her knowledge of the area would prove to be a real asset on the Group. Cllr Bell suggested that the appointment wait until after the election.

In response, Cllr Fuller explained that the appointment was required before the election, so as not to delay the application to the Charity Commission, to create a Charity Interest Organisation, and he reminded members that the appointment would be reviewed at the Council's AGM in May.

As the Chairman of the Finance, Resources, Audit and Governance Committee, Cllr P Hardy expressed his support for the proposed appointments to the positions of Section 151 Officer and its Deputy, and Cllr T Lewis also expressed his support for these proposed appointments.

It was unanimously

RESOLVED: To

1. Appoint Debbie Lorimer as the Council's Section 151 Officer, from 19 February 2019.
2. Appoint Julie Brown as the Council's Deputy Financial Officer, from 23 February 2019.
3. Note that Cllr Mason Billig is designated as Deputy Leader of the Council with immediate effect.
4. Appoint Cllr Pond to the Community Interest Organisation for Queens Hill.

3481 PAY POLICY STATEMENT 2019/20

Members considered the report of the Payroll Manager, which sought Council approval of the authority's Pay Policy Statement for 2019/20.

Cllr T Lewis drew attention to the officer head count, which had increased from that in 2018/19, suggesting that this should in fact be reducing, following the collaboration with Broadland District Council.

Cllr Fuller explained that the headcount was not a true reflection on the number of FTE positions due to the high number of part time staff, but he suggested that these figures would be presented differently the following year.

Cllr Fuller made reference to Dave Renault, the Council's Payroll Officer, who was retiring from the Council, after over 40 years of service. Members paid tribute to his long and loyal service.

It was unanimously

RESOLVED: To approve the content of South Norfolk Council's 2019/20 Pay Policy statement as attached, in advance of its publication on the Council's website, by 31 March 2019.

3482 QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIRMEN AND PORTFOLIO HOLDERS

a) Cabinet

Cllr Lewis referred back to the questions to portfolio holders, from members of the public, earlier that evening, regarding climate change and global warming, and asked whether in terms of energy efficiency, the Council's policies regarding standards in both private and public sector housing, required review.

Cllr Y Bendle explained that standards in both the private and public sector housing were taken very seriously. Cllr Fuller added that the Greater Norwich Development Partnership, in developing the Local Plan for 2020, had chosen to impose stricter conditions on developers with regard to energy efficiencies, than that imposed by statutory requirements already in place.

In response to a query from Cllr M Gray, concerning the European elections on 23 May, Cllr Fuller explained that the Council would be prepared for the election, should the United Kingdom fail to leave the European Union on 29 March.

b) Scrutiny Committee

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

c) Licensing Appeals and Complaints Committee/Licensing and Gambling Acts 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.

3483 OUTSIDE BODIES – FEEDBACK FROM REPRESENTATIVES

Norfolk Police and Crime Panel

Member noted Cllr C Kemp's report regarding the Police and Crime Panel for Norfolk.

(The meeting concluded at 9.31pm)

Chairman