



SOUTH NORFOLK COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the South Norfolk Council of South Norfolk Council, held on Monday, 24 July 2023 at 7.30 pm.

Committee Members Present: Councillors: J Easter (Chairman), S Blundell (Vice-Chair), D Bills, G Blundell, C Brown, K Carsok, J Cook, J Cork, K Cross, M Dewsbury, J Eddy, R Elliott, D Elmer, N Fowler, J Fulcher, J Fuller, T Graham, M Hooton, C Hudson, K Hurn, K Kiddie, T Laidlaw, K Mason Billig, J McCloskey, G Minshull, K Murphy, L Overton-Neal, S Nuri-Nixon, J Overton, G Race, S Ridley, D Roberts, M Rosen, D Sacks, R Savage, I Spratt, D Thompson, V Thomson, J Webber and J Woolliscroft

Apologies for Absence: Councillors: B Bernard, A Evans, J Morland and J Rowe

Officers in Attendance: T Holden (Managing Director), P Courtier (Director of Place), D Lorimer (Director of Resources), E Hodds (Chief of Staff), R Fincham (Assistant Director of Finance) and C White (Democratic Services Manager)

3714. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Bernard, Evans, Morland and Rowe.

3715. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

3716. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 24 May 2023 were agreed as a correct record.

Minute No. 3709 – Appointment to Outside Bodies

In response to a query, it was noted that the recent resignation of Cllr K Mason Billig from Big Sky Ventures, meant that Cllr R Elliot was currently the only member director on the Board. Cllr Fuller remained as the shareholder representative.

Minute No. 3712 - Annual Reports and Questions to Chairman and Portfolio Holders

Cllr Hudson was advised that a written answer, in respect of the costs expended by the Council on the removal of the public toilets in Harleston, would be sent to him as soon as the contracts were finalised. It was confirmed, however, that the total cost for the entire project would come within the projected budget.

3717. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman informed Council that he was shocked and saddened to hear of the recent passing of Julian Halls, the Liberal Democrat District Councillor for South Wymondham. He advised the meeting that Julian had been a good friend, who he had worked with for many years.

Cllr C Brown paid tribute to Julian, who he remembered as always very eager to do something for the local and wider community of South Norfolk.

Cllr S Nuri-Nixon recalled Julian as a dear friend and colleague and a wonderful community-minded man. She described how supportive, encouraging and willing to help Julian had been and that she would have never become a councillor without his mentoring.

Council also noted the passing of former district councillor, Tony Palmer. Cllr Minshull explained that Tony had been a District member for Diss and Roydon between 2007 and 2019. Tony had enjoyed a long and varied career and had lived for a period in South Africa. He was an excellent local Councillor and had also served on the Town Council, and as Mayor of Diss. He remembered Tony as a very good friend, who would be sorely missed.

Members then stood to observe a minute's silence in memory of both Julian Halls and Tony Palmer.

Cllr Easter then drew members' attention to the engagements that he and the Vice-Chairman had attended over the period 25 May to 24 July 2023.

3718. PETITIONS

The Chairman advised that no petitions had been received.

3719. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

(a) End Fuel Poverty

Cllr C Brown moved the following motion seconded by Cllr G Blundell:

"This Council notes:

- The work to date on ending fuel poverty in our area,
- That thousands of households are estimated to be in fuel poverty and

- that more can be done to end fuel poverty by 2030,
- Principle Four of our Environmental Strategy and Delivery Plan 2023-2025, which states that “We will assist households in fuel poverty who are struggling to pay their energy bills”,
- The increase in energy prices in causing severe difficulties to many of our residents and leading some to have to make a choice between heating or eating,
- Cold and damp homes can have a significant negative impact on health and wellbeing,
- The LGA has noted that reducing fuel poverty can both improve people’s lives and reduce demand on public spending.

This Council believes that:

- Everybody has the right to a warm, dry home that they can afford to heat and power,
- Ending fuel poverty can contribute towards the Council’s aspirations to reduce carbon emissions in the area.

This Council resolves to:

- Instruct the Managing Director and officers to create a strategy with the aim of ending fuel poverty in the area by 2030. This will be achieved by:
 1. improving the energy efficiency of Council / housing association housing stock
 2. enforcement of existing regulations on energy efficiency and property standards, particularly in the private rented sector
 3. publishing a statement of intent and setting locally appropriate eligibility criteria to access Energy Company Obligation funding via the Local Authority Flexibility arrangements (if not already in place)
 4. leveraging in funds to improve the energy efficiency standards of all housing
 5. improving private tenants’ rights
 6. providing accessible information, advice and guidance in a variety of formats to those most in need
 7. maximising the incomes of low income households through the efficient delivery of Council-administered benefits, sensitive recovery of debt and the provision of advice and support
 8. working in partnership with other agencies and voluntary and community groups to implement and monitor delivery of the Strategy, including signpost, refer and follow-up cases of debt to ensure residents are supported.
- To instruct the Managing Director and officers to report on progress on ending fuel poverty every six months.
- To request the Council Leader to write to the HM Treasury asking for adequate funding to upgrade homes.
- To become a Member of the End Fuel Poverty Coalition.”

Cllr Brown informed the meeting that he was passionate about this issue, which

should not be happening in a country as wealthy as the United Kingdom.

He reminded members that fuel poverty could be defined as where households were unable to afford to heat their home to an adequate temperature or where the cost of heating the house would leave residents incomes below the poverty line. In England there were around three and a quarter million households in fuel poverty, by this measure.

Fuel poverty was also a major determinant of ill health and around 7,400 people died each winter due to cold homes and a significant number of these people lived in properties that were off the gas grid, as did many residents in rural South Norfolk.

Moreover, a huge amount of energy was wasted due to poor home insulation, which also had a huge impact on carbon emissions.

The motion set out a number of elements and actions to address this issue by prioritising the energy efficiency of homes in the District. This could create thousands of jobs and boost the economy by billions of pounds.

He added that the Council needed to provide information, advice, and support to residents to make sure that they could improve the energy efficiency of their homes.

South Norfolk also needed to leverage in funding from Government and working in partnership with other agencies it should set out a Strategy to end fuel poverty in South Norfolk by 2030.

In summary, he proposed that progress with the Strategy should be reported back to Council every six months and the Leader should write to the HM Treasury asking for adequate funding to upgrade homes and for the Council to become a Member of the End Fuel Poverty Coalition.

Cllr M Rosen advised the meeting that the Labour Group was generally supportive of the motion, however, he wished to propose the following amendment:

To add after point 8:

9. To investigate implementing Community Energy Schemes in the next six months.

Members were advised that Community Energy Schemes allowed communities to take collective responsibility for matters such as generating their own fuel and taking control of contracts for buying energy and were supported in doing so by local authority advice. It was suggested that this would go towards addressing a lot of the issues that Cllr Brown had put forward.

The amendment was seconded by Cllr J McCloskey and Cllr Brown agreed that it could be added to his original motion.

Debate continued and Cllr K Mason Billig suggested that the motion had not been well thought out as the measurement of fuel poverty was ill defined. She suggested that it was more important to help those households who were struggling with their bills and the cost of fuel in South Norfolk and she pointed out that the Council was already doing many of the things that were being asked for in the recommendations. She therefore would not support the motion.

Cllr Elmer was similarly critical of the definition of fuel poverty, and he also emphasised that the Council should target help towards those struggling with their

energy bills.

Cllr J Fuller suggested that greater care should have been taken in benchmarking the points made in the motion against what the Council was actually doing. For example, the Council had recently agreed a deed of variation with Saffron Housing to provide the flexibility to improve the energy efficiency of their housing stock, which was around ten percent of all the housing in the District. Similarly, the Council had already introduced regulations requiring landlords to meet strict energy efficiency standards, with up to £30,000 fines for those who failed to do so. The Council had also leveraged funds to improve energy efficiency standards through the Safe and Warm Grants, which had benefited from an extra half a million pounds last year and it was already providing accessible information through the Help Hub to up to 200 people per week.

He reiterated that the Council was already doing most of what was being proposed in the motion and suggested that if anything the motion was unambitious. He also reminded members that Cabinet received quarterly performance reports rather than the six monthly one proposed in the motion.

In summary, he advised the meeting that the motion did the Council a disservice by suggesting that it was doing little in this area, when nothing could be further from the truth.

Cllr D Roberts said that he supported the motion, as his ward was one of the most deprived in the District, with 8.4 percent of the population in fuel poverty, and with high interest rates and inflation still high people would be soon be struggling to keep a roof over their heads.

Cllr G Minshull, noted that the motion called on the Government for additional funding but pointed out that Norfolk County Council had already received £13.9m this year to help residents with utility bills and the cost of living and on top of that the County Council had added an extra £0.4 million pounds to support households in need. There was also the Norfolk Assistance Scheme which provided support for utility bills. He urged members to encourage any residents in their wards to contact the Help Hub to ensure they were getting all the support available to them.

Cllr Brown informed the meeting that he was not suggesting that the Council was not doing anything to help residents in fuel poverty, but he was saying that it was not doing enough. He noted that a number of councils around the country had signed up to the End Fuel Poverty Coalition, as well as many charitable bodies.

He reminded members that South Norfolk was a largely rural district that was hugely affected by fuel poverty, which still had not been solved, despite all the initiatives already mentioned and that an overall Strategy was needed to reach the target by 2030.

With 17 votes for and 20 against, the motion was then lost.

(b) Tattoo Hygiene Rating Scheme

Cllr G Blundell proposed the following motion, seconded by Cllr D Roberts.

“The Council notes that:

- Tattoos have become increasingly popular forms of self-expression,
- Many tattoo studios already maintain high standards of cleanliness and safety,

- There is currently no consistent system in place to inform the public about these practices,
- In May 2023 the Council adopted a consolidated set of Model Byelaws for the regulation of hygiene and infection control within businesses carrying out tattooing, semi-permanent skin colouring, cosmetic piercing, electrolysis and the practice of acupuncture,
- A voluntary rating system could assess factors such as sterilization techniques, equipment maintenance, staff training, and compliance with health regulations.
- Other local authorities, for example Kings Lynn & West Norfolk, have already implemented a voluntary rating scheme.

This Council believes that adopting a voluntary Tattoo Hygiene Rating Scheme would:

- Provide our residents with valuable information to make informed decisions when choosing a tattoo studio or artist.
- Benefit Public Safety: The scheme would encourage high standards so that residents receive tattoos in environments that meet rigorous hygiene standards.
- Improve Consumer Confidence: A visible hygiene rating would allow individuals seeking tattoos to make informed choices and trust that the tattoo studios they select prioritise their safety and well-being.
- Enhance Industry Accountability: The scheme would encourage tattoo studios to maintain high hygiene standards and continually improve their practices to achieve higher ratings.
- Support Economic Growth: A reputable scheme could support the growth of the tattoo industry locally.
- Demonstrate our commitment to transparency, public safety, consumer protection, and the growth of the local tattoo industry.

This Council resolves to:

1. Research and develop a voluntary Tattoo Hygiene Rating Scheme suitable for our district, drawing upon best practices and experiences from other areas.
2. Engage with relevant stakeholders, such as tattoo studio owners, professional tattoo artists, health officials and residents, to gather input and ensure the scheme's effectiveness and feasibility.
3. Present a draft voluntary Tattoo Hygiene Rating Scheme for agreement within 6 months and implement a scheme within a year.
4. The council establishes a clear framework for inspections, ratings, and ongoing monitoring of tattoo studios and artists.
5. The council ensures that the rating information is easily accessible to the public, through online platforms, local publications, and relevant signage at tattoo studios.”

Cllr G Blundell noted the popularity of tattoos and informed the meeting that the motion was being put forward so residents could be assured that the premises where they were getting a tattoo met a good hygiene standard. He suggested using the same hygiene rating model already used for food establishments in the District.

Cllr M Rosen proposed the following amendment to the motion, which was seconded by Cllr J Eddy:

To add after point 5:

6. *That this scheme should not incur any additional net costs to South Norfolk District Council.*

Cllr Brown noted that the Licensing Service had recently been subject to a review with the aim that fees and charges would recover the cost of the service. Therefore, any additional cost for the proposed hygiene rating system would be recoverable and not involve an increase in net costs to the Council.

Council then voted on the amendment and with 7 in favour and 32 against amendment was lost.

The debate then moved to the substantive motion.

Cllr Fuller advised the meeting that the Council had an overarching public health responsibility and licensing was one element of this. He noted that there were a whole range of procedures undertaken at this type of premises, which was a wider issue that was worthy of further debate. He did not feel it appropriate for Council to make any decisions without the advice from relevant officers and he thought the proposals required detailed consideration. He therefore, proposed that the motion be referred to the appropriate Policy Committee or Licensing Committee for further discussion.

It was unanimously

RESOLVED:

That the motion be referred to the appropriate Committee for discussion

3720. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE CABINET ARISING FROM THE MEETINGS HELD ON 12 JUNE AND 17 JULY 2023

a) South Norfolk Health and Wellbeing Partnership's Health and Wellbeing Strategy

Cllr K Carsok presented the recommendations from Cabinet regarding the South Norfolk Health and Wellbeing Partnership's Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

Cllr Carsok advised the meeting that the Health and Wellbeing Strategy established a framework to guide the work of the Health and Wellbeing Partnership in the implementation of local programmes and projects aimed at improving the health and wellbeing of South Norfolk residents.

Members noted that the Strategy, which had been developed in partnership with key stakeholders and partners from a variety of sectors set out the following three core themes:

- Mental health and well-being.
- Resilient and healthy communities.
- Access and prevention.

It was unanimously

RESOLVED

To endorse the Health and Wellbeing Strategy as a partner organisation in the South Norfolk Health and Wellbeing Partnership.

a) Licensing Fees and Charges Review

The Chairman advised the meeting that this item had been deferred, as Cabinet had requested further work to be undertaken before they could make a recommendation to Council.

c) Long Stratton Bypass Funding

The Chairman informed members that this item would be considered later in the meeting following the exclusion of the press and public.

3721. ADOPTION OF WYMONDHAM NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Cllr L Neal presented the report of the Senior Community Planning Officer, which sought Council approval to adopt the Wymondham Neighbourhood Plan.

Cllr Neal informed the meeting that the Wymondham Neighbourhood Plan had been developed over a number of years. The recently held referendum had seen overwhelming support for the Neighbourhood Plan, with 85 percent of the vote supporting its adoption.

Members were reminded that Wymondham was one of the key towns in the District and the Neighbourhood Plan would be taken into account when planning decisions were being made in the area.

Local ward members for North, South and Central Wymondham all expressed their support for the Plan and commended the work of the Neighbourhood Plan Team.

Cllr D Roberts, ward member for North Wymondham, was particularly pleased to see that the Plan took account of the views of disabled people in Wymondham.

It was unanimously

RESOLVED

To adopt the Wymondham Neighbourhood Plan, following a successful outcome at the Referendum held on 8 June 2023.

3722. APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

The Monitoring Officer explained that the appointments to the Norfolk Police and Crime Panel were required to be politically balanced across the whole of Norfolk, which had unfortunately not been appreciated when nominations to the Panel had been confirmed at the 24 May 2023 AGM. This also meant that the main

representative and the substitute member needed to be from the same political party.

The Monitoring Officer advised that discussions were continuing with neighbouring authorities to rectify the balance and it was, therefore, proposed to seek representatives and substitutes for two options, so that once the political balance had been resolved, the members selected could take their seats on the Panel.

Members noted that should the allocation on the Panel remain as a Labour seat, then the appointed member would be Cllr M Rosen, and the substitute Cllr J Cork. Should South Norfolk be required to appoint a Conservative member, then its representative would be Cllr K Murphy and the substitute Cllr S Ridley.

Council was asked to agree both of these options to allow the Panel to progress once the negotiations had been finalised.

Members were also advised that following the sad passing of Cllr Julian Halls, it was proposed that Cllr Roberts would take the seat on the Development Management Committee and Cllr Laidlaw would take the seat on the Scrutiny Committee.

It was unanimously

RESOLVED

To agree the amendments to the appointments to outside bodies and to the appointments to Committees.

3723. QUESTIONS TO CHAIRMAN AND PORTFOLIO HOLDERS

In response to a query from Cllr R Savage about the sale of the ex-Town Council offices in Middleton Street Wymondham, Cllr R Elliott, the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Resources, informed the meeting that the sale had been slightly delayed because of various works that had to be undertaken first, but he was pleased to report that the sale of that building should take place shortly.

He added that South Norfolk Council had offered to reserve the proceeds from the sale, for improvements to the public realm in Wymondham, in partnership with the Town Council, and that the Town Council had initially welcomed the proposal. He stressed that it was important to progress the matter imminently and for the new Town Council to indicate whether this project was still a priority.

Cllr J Fuller added that the Council had made a conditional offer to reserve the proceeds of the sale and to double it again through the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Co-investment Fund, if the Town Council agreed to match funding. Members noted that additional funding might also be available from the County Council, as it had been in discussions about public transport improvements in the Town.

Cllr Fuller suggested that the same model as used in Harleston could be utilised

in Wymondham with a cross-party group from the Town, District and County Council working together to maximise the public realm in the Town. He suggested that this be done with some urgency, as the CIL Co-Investment Fund was being depleted as other projects were progressed. In response to a query from Cllr M Rosen, Cllr Fuller gave assurances that local members would be kept fully informed with regard to the proposals.

Cllr K Mason Billig informed the meeting that Norfolk County Council had recently agreed a motion regarding National Grid's Norwich to Tilbury pylon project. The motion had attracted cross party support and asked National Grid for detailed costs on all the options and had called for an extended consultation period. She asked Cllr Fuller whether he would like to associate himself with the motion.

In response, Cllr Fuller advised members that he shared the concerns expressed about the timing of the consultation and he commended Cllr L Neal, the Portfolio Holder for Stronger, Greener Economy, for writing to National Grid on behalf of the Council pointing out that it was ill conceived to hold a consultation at such short notice, as it would not allow many parish councils time to respond on a formal basis. In response to a question from Cllr J Webber, it was confirmed that the contents of the letter were sent on behalf of the Council and were published in the Eastern Daily Press.

Cllr Fuller added that he believed that National Grid had provided insufficient evidence to support their argument that it was too expensive to put the powerlines offshore. He also questioned why the pylons could not closely follow existing routes and why, if the powerlines were to be buried in Dedham Vale, they could not be buried at Roydon Fen and Wortham Ling.

Cllr J Webber asked whether South Norfolk would be working with Mid-Suffolk to make a case to ensure that the pylons were buried in the Waveney Valley. Cllr Fuller advised the meeting that the Council was working with Mid-Suffolk Council and was taking a two-pronged approach, by criticising the consultation process and secondly by putting forward its arguments against the proposal. A joint representation by Norfolk, Suffolk and Essex County Councils was also being made in opposition to the proposal, and this was also being supported by a number of MPs.

Cllr C Brown asked Cllr K Kiddie, the Portfolio Holder for Cleaner, Safer Environment, whether disposable vapes were causing an issue for the refuse collection service and whether he agreed with the Local Government Association's request to the Government to ban the sale and manufacture of single use vapes. He also asked for an update on proposals for a battery and coffee pod collection service. Cllr Brown added that he felt the Council's waste collection service to be exemplary, referring to a recent repair to his own brown bin.

In response, Cllr Kiddie confirmed that he would be discussing the collection of batteries, vapes and coffee pods, at a meeting on Thursday. He was not aware of any particular issues relating to vapes, however he was of course aware of the problems they could cause and the harm to the environment and he personally supported a ban on single use vapes, especially those products which appealed to children.

In answer to a query from Cllr G Blundell about the collection of side waste, Cllr Kiddie advised the meeting that recycling side waste was collected whenever possible, however, this was sometimes not possible if the waste collection vehicle was nearly at full capacity. He added that there may need to be a restriction on the collection of recycling side waste in the future.

Cllr G Blundell asked if there had been any progress in the recruitment of an officer to deal with double yellow line enforcement, which he believed now to be the responsibility of the district council. The Managing Director confirmed that he would provide a response to Cllr Blundell following the meeting.

In answer to a question from Cllr C Hudson regarding Assets of Community Value, and in particular what the appeals process was for the nominator, Cllr Carsok confirmed that she would provide him with a written response following the meeting.

Cllr Sacks noted that a new risk recently added to the Council's Risk Register dated from the 2018 Waste Management Strategy. She expressed concern about this and questioned if there were any other risks that might have similarly been missed.

In response, Cllr S Ridley advised the meeting that as Chairman of the Finance Resources, Audit and Governance Committee he was confident that officers ensured that all relevant risks were included in the Risk Register. Cllr Fuller added that although the Waste Strategy had been published in 2018, it was a living document that generated new risks and issues as it progressed.

As Chairman of the Development Management Committee, Cllr V Thomson welcomed Cllr D Roberts to the Committee. He expressed his sadness on the passing of Cllr Halls, who had been a very valued member of the Committee.

Cllr J Cork spoke on behalf of Cllr J Rowe, Chairman of the Scrutiny Committee, who had been unable to attend the meeting. Cllr Rowe wished to express his sorrow at the passing of the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Cllr Halls and he wished to pass on his condolences to all Cllr Halls' family and friends. He looked forward to the first meeting of the Committee, to be held the following week.

The Chairman of the Licensing Committee, Cllr J Easter, advised the meeting that a number of meetings had already been held to determine various licensing applications. He hoped that the Committee would also be considering the Fees and Charges review, consideration of which had recently been deferred to a future meeting of the Cabinet.

3724. OUTSIDE BODIES - FEEDBACK FROM REPRESENTATIVES

Council noted the report from Cllr Hudson on the meeting of the Waveney, Lower Yare and Lothingland Internal Drainage Board held on 14 June 2023.

The Chairman reminded the meeting that representatives of the Council on outside bodies should report any pertinent matters to Council.

3725. THE SALE OF THE SOUTH NORFOLK HOUSE SITE

Members were advised that consideration of the report on the sale of South Norfolk House had been deferred, due to an application from Long Stratton Town Council, to request a ruling on whether South Norfolk House could be designated as an Asset of Community Value.

Cllr Fuller noted that this application had come at a late stage in the process. The legislation was designed so that local communities were not taken unawares when a valued and much-loved building used by the community was at risk of being taken away. However, this was not the case with South Norfolk House, as all parties concerned had the opportunity to engage fully on the matter for at least 12 months. Moreover, the Council had extended any decision on the future of the site because of representations from the Town Council for a further 90 days, during which the Council and Council Taxpayers had incurred significant additional costs.

The Monitoring Officer assured members that the assessment of the Asset of Community Value nomination and the landlord function in respect of South Norfolk House, were kept as strictly separate processes within the Council.

It was then

RESOLVED

To exclude the press and public from the meeting for the remaining items of business because otherwise, information which was exempt information by virtue of Paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006 would be disclosed to them.

Discussion followed during which members sought clarity on the next steps of the process. Some members expressed their concerns regarding the long term impact the delays in the sale could have on Council budgets.

Members were reminded that the property had been marketed for commercial use only for a period of 6 months, in line with planning policy. Members were also reminded that they not only had a responsibility to those residents in Long Stratton when considering the issue, but also to residents across the whole of the District.

3726. LONG STRATTON BYPASS FUNDING

Members considered the recommendations from Cabinet regarding the funding of the Long Stratton bypass.

Cllr J Fuller outlined the salient points of the report to members, explaining that the proposals would guarantee the delivery of the bypass, whilst ensuring that the position of the Council was maintained.

Cllr L Neal commended the proposals and reminded members that planning permission for the bypass was recently granted.

Cllr Fuller strongly refuted comments made by Cllr D Sacks who suggested that the Council had failed in its negotiations which had resulted in an outcome of a single track access road, not a bypass. Cllr Fuller stressed that the Council had opposed original plans by the developer and Norfolk County Council had stepped in and designed the road to highway standard.

RESOLVED

To agree the recommendations as outlined in the report.

3727. LOAN TO NORFOLK ENVIRONMENTAL CREDITS

Cllr R Elliott presented the *exempt* report of the Assistant Director of Finance, which sought agreement for a loan to Norfolk Environmental Credits Ltd from the Council, to assist in mitigating nutrient neutrality.

Members noted that it was not yet known whether the loan would be required as funding was also being sought from other sources. He drew attention to the terms of the loan which were favourable to the Council.

In response to a query regarding risks and guarantees, members noted that advice had been sought and officers were comfortable with the proposals.

RESOLVED

To agree the recommendations as outlined in the report

To Follow

(The meeting concluded at 10.06 pm)

Chairman