

COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on Wednesday, 26 May 2021 in the The Chapel - Greshams School, Cromer Road, Holt at 6.00 pm

Members Present:

Mr T Adams	Ms P Bevan Jones
Mr D Birch	Mr H Blathwayt
Mr A Brown	Dr P Bütikofer
Mrs S Bütikofer	Mr C Cushing
Mr N Dixon	Mr P Fisher
Mr T FitzPatrick	Mr V FitzPatrick
Ms V Gay	Mrs P Grove-Jones
Mr C Heinink	Mr P Heinrich
Dr V Holliday	Mr N Housden
Mr R Kershaw	Mr N Lloyd
Mr G Mancini-Boyle	Mrs M Millership
Mr N Pearce	Mr S Penfold
Mrs G Perry-Warnes	Mr J Punchard
Mr J Rest	Mr E Seward
Miss L Shires	Mrs E Spagnola
Mrs J Stenton	Dr C Stockton
Mr J Toye	Mr E Vardy
Mr A Varley	Ms L Withington

Also in attendance:

44 OUTGOING CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman began by welcoming the two newly elected members to the first Annual General Meeting (AGM) for two years. He also welcomed Ginny Seppings (Individual Giving and Community Officer) and Kevin Hart (Interim Joint CEO) representatives from his chosen charity, the Norfolk Wildlife Trust.

The Chairman then spoke about his time as Chairman for the Council. His term had continued for a second year due to the pandemic and this had involved a shift to full council meetings being held remotely and virtual fundraising for his charity. He then gave a presentation to members on the highlights of his time in office.

He said that he was very proud of his work with NWT and the legacy from his fundraising. He had travelled all over Norfolk and worked with 800 children, raising £6000 for charity as well as increasing awareness of the benefits of nature. He invited Kevin Hart, Interim Chief Executive of NWT to speak on behalf of the organisation.

Mr Hart thanked the Chairman for all of his support over the last two years. He spoke to members about the differences that the funding raised would make to NWT's work. He said that the Cley Calling events had been extremely successful and further supported NWT's agenda. He concluded by thanking the Chairman for all his hard work and presented the Council with membership of the Norfolk Wildlife Trust in recognition of the support shown.

45 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

The outgoing Chairman invited nominations for a councillor to hold office as Chairman of North Norfolk District Council for the forthcoming Municipal Year.

Cllr J Rest nominated Cllr J Punchard, this was seconded by Cllr P Butikofer.

There being no further nominations, it was unanimously

RESOLVED that

Cllr J Punchard be elected as Chairman of the Council for the ensuing year.

The outgoing Chairman presented the Chairman's chain of office to the newly elected Chairman.

46 INCOMING CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS

The Chairman took the declaration of office and thanked Members for their support. He thanked the outgoing Chairman for his hard work and dedication. He said that he was looking forward to serving the Council for the forthcoming year and announced that he would be supporting two charities during his term of office – the Firefighter's Charity and Norfolk and Waveney MIND.

47 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

It was proposed by Cllr S Butikofer, seconded by Cllr E Seward and

RESOLVED that

Cllr P Grove-Jones be elected as Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.

She thanked Members for their support and Cllr P Butikofer for offering to act as her consort during the year.

48 VOTE OF THANKS TO THE RETIRING CHAIRMAN AND CONSORT AND THE VICE-CHAIRMAN

The Leader said that she was delighted to propose the vote of thanks. She thanked the outgoing Chairman for his hard work and dedication and for stepping up for a second year in the role during the pandemic. She congratulated him on the exceptional fundraising he had undertaken for his nominated charities. She also thanked his wife for her support and as his consort throughout his time in office.

Members unanimously supported the vote of thanks to the outgoing chairman.

49 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs N Dixon, W Fredericks, G Perry-Warnes and A Yiasimi.

50 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 28th April were approved as a correct record subject to the following amendment:

Minute 33 – ‘further *informed*’ should read ‘further *information*’.

51 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS FROM MEMBERS

None.

52 ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

None received.

53 LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Leader began by saying that when elected, no-one knew that there would be a global pandemic, and how elected members would have to stand up for, and fight for their communities in unprecedented ways.

She said that was proud of the District Council and the communities of North Norfolk, and how everyone rose to meet those challenges. Although it was recognised that North Norfolk was a beautiful part of the country, it was easy to forget the community spirit, the dedication to helping and serving each other and the kindness that regularly occurred in this part of the world.

The Leader then spoke about the impact of the pandemic, saying that no-one had been unaffected by it. She outlined the Council’s response to COVID-19 which included a community support programme for local residents who were shielding or self-isolating, administered support for businesses and residents in the area, including business rate relief, business grants, hardship payments and support for rough sleepers.

She said that through local efforts to provide a COVID-safe environment, North Norfolk had experienced some of the lowest infection rates in the country throughout the summer months, despite significantly higher visitor numbers to coastal towns.

The Leader then outlined further, wider achievements for the Council, aside from the COVID response, which ensured that the core aims as outlined in the Corporate Plan continued to be delivered. She concluded by saying that the Council would continue to deliver for the people of North Norfolk.

54 REPORT ON APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS OF THE CABINET

The Leader informed Members that Cllr W Fredericks was replacing Cllr G Hayman on Cabinet.

55 TO ESTABLISH THE POLITICAL BALANCE OF THE COUNCIL AND ALLOCATION OF SEATS TO COMMITTEES, SUB-COMMITTEES, WORKING PARTIES AND PANELS

It was proposed by Cllr S Bütikofer, seconded by Cllr J Toye and

RESOLVED

1. To approve the revised political balance calculation as per section 2.4 of this report
2. To approve the allocation of seats to political groups as shown at Appendix A
3. That delegation is given to the Group Leaders to make any appointments to committees, sub-committees, working parties & panels subsequent to the Annual Meeting of Council.

56 APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS AND SUBSTITUTES TO COMMITTEES, SUB-COMMITTEES, WORKING PARTIES AND PANELS

It was proposed by Cllr S Butikofer, seconded by Cllr E Seward and

RESOLVED

1. To appoint Members and substitutes to Committees, sub-committees, working parties and panels for 2021/22 as detailed below:
2. To note the appointment of Members to Executive sub-committees, working parties and Panels

Committee
Licensing & Appeals (15) Liberal Democrats (10) Conservatives (3) Independents (2)
Development Cttee (14) Liberal Democrats (10) Conservatives (3) Independents (1)
Substitutes

Overview & Scrutiny (12) Liberal Democrats (8) Conservatives (3) Independents (1)	H Blar A Bro P Fish P Hei S Per E Spa A Var L With
Substitutes	<i>T Ada</i> <i>P Büti</i>
Standards Committee (7) Liberal Democrats (5) Conservatives (1) Independents (1)	H Blar A Bro P Büti G Per L Shir
Substitutes	
GRAC (6) Liberal Democrats (4) Conservatives (1) Independents (1)	H Blar P Büti P Fish S Per
Substitutes	<i>P Hei</i> <i>L With</i>
Working Parties	
Planning Policy & Built Heritage Working Party (12) Liberal Democrats (8) Conservatives (3) Independents (1)	A Bro P Fish V Gay P Gro P Hei R Ken C Sto J Toy
Constitution Working Party (5) Liberal Democrats (3) Conservatives (2) Independents (0)	V Gay P Gro A Var
Substitutes	
Joint Staff Consultative Committee (5) Liberal Democrats (3) Conservatives (1) Independents (1)	S Büti V Gay P Gro
Substitutes	
Member Development Group (6)	L Shir

Liberal Democrats (4) Conservatives (1) Independents (1)	E Spa J Toy Liz W
NN Sustainable Communities Fund (7) Liberal Democrats (5) Conservatives (1) Independents (1)	P Fish W Fre P Gro S Pen E Spa
Substitutes	
Council Tax Support Working Party (5) Liberal Democrats (4) Conservatives (1) Independents (0)	S Büt R Ker E Sev

57 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMEN AND VICE-CHAIRMEN TO COMMITTEES

Cllr J Rest informed Council that he did not wish to be nominated for Chairman of the Employment & Appeals Committee.

It was proposed by Cllr J Toye and seconded by Cllr S Butikofer and

RESOLVED

That Cllr E Seward be elected as Chairman of the Employment & Appeals Committee.

It was proposed by Cllr R Kershaw, seconded by Cllr A Brown and

RESOLVED

1. To appoint Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen to Committees for 2021/22 as outlined below
2. To note the appointment of Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of executive sub-committees and working parties

Committee	Chairman	Vice-Chairman
Overview & Scrutiny <i>(Chairman must be from the main opposition group)</i>	N Dixon	S Penfold
Development Cttee	P Grove-Jones	P Heinrich
Planning Policy & Built Heritage Working Party	A Brown	P Grove-Jones
Licensing & Appeals	P Bütikofer	H Blathwayt

GRAC	J Rest	S Penfold
Employment & Appeals Committee	E Seward	
Constitution Working Party	V Gay	Adam Varley
Standards Committee	H Blathwayt	J Rest
Joint Staff Consultative Committee	S Bütikofer	N/A (2021/22 taken by a member from the Staff side)
Member Development Group	Liz Withington	Jon Toye
Sustainable Communities Fund	S Penfold	N Housden
Council Tax Support Working Party	E Seward	S Butikofer

58 APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES

The Leader said that following Cllr Frederick's appointment to Cabinet, she could no longer be a substitute on the Norfolk Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee. This appointment had been recommended by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee at their meeting on 19th May. In the absence of the Chairman of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee, she sought support from the Vice-Chairman to appoint Cllr A Varley as a substitute on NHOSC in place of Cllr Fredericks. He indicated his support.

It was proposed by Cllr P Butikofer, seconded by Cllr H Blathwayt and

RESOLVED

1. To agree the Council appointments to Outside Bodies for 2021/22
2. To note the Executive appointments to Outside Bodies for 2021/22

(As set out in Minutes Appendix A)

59 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

60 PRIVATE BUSINESS

The meeting ended at 7.40 pm.

Chairman