

Confirmed



Minutes of a Meeting of the **Shareholder Reference Group** held in the Deben Conference Room, East Suffolk House, on **Tuesday, 3 January 2023 at 8:30pm**

Members of the Shareholder Reference Group present:

Councillor Stephen Burroughes, Councillor Maurice Cook, Councillor Steve Gallant, Councillor James Mallinder, Councillor Craig Rivett

Other Members present:

Councillor Peter Byatt, Councillor Louise Gooch, Councillor Mary Rudd

Officers present: Chris Bing (Head of Legal and Democratic Services), Andy Jarvis (Strategic Director), Brian Mew (Chief Finance Officer & Section 151 Officer), Lorraine Rogers (Deputy Chief Finance Officer), Alli Stone (Democratic Services Officer), Julian Sturman (Specialist Accountant – Capital and Treasury Management), Nicola Wotton (Deputy Democratic Services Manager)

1 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence.

2 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Stephen Burroughes declared an Other Registerable Interest as a member of the Joint Venture Board for Waveney Norse and Suffolk Coastal Norse.

Andrew Jarvis declared a Non-Pecuniary Interest as both a member of the Board of Directors of East Suffolk Services Limited and a member of the Joint Venture Board for Waveney Norse and Suffolk Coastal Norse.

3 Minutes

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 4 October 2022 be agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

4 Shareholder Reference Group – Terms of Reference

The Shareholder Reference Group received report **ES/1402** by the Leader of the Council, which asked its Members to note the Group's Terms of Reference. The Leader reported that at its meeting on 6 September 2022, Cabinet had resolved to establish a committee of Cabinet, to be known as the Shareholder Reference Group (SRG). The SRG would undertake the functions of the Council, as shareholder and ultimate owner of its group of companies, and exercise the Council's rights under the Articles of each company and under the Shareholder Agreement, with the exception of any rights which the Cabinet or Leader reserved to themselves from time to time or which could only be exercised by Full Council.

Members noted that at the September Cabinet meeting, Cabinet also resolved to delegate to the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, the drafting of Terms of Reference for the SRG for incorporation into East Suffolk Council's Constitution. This report was the result of that delegation.

The Leader thanked Chris Bing, Head of Legal and Democratic Services, for his work on the report, which all Members would have read with interest.

The Leader invited questions on the Terms of Reference, however, there were none received.

The Leader moved the recommendation within the report, which was seconded by Councillor Rivett. Upon being put to the vote it was unanimously

RESOLVED

That the Terms of Reference for the Shareholder Reference Group be noted.

5 Exempt/Confidential Items

The Leader reported that in exceptional circumstances, the Council may, by law, exclude members of the public from all, or part of, an executive decision-making meeting. The Council should, unless there were urgent circumstances, give notice of its intention to do so via the Forward Plan, which was updated and published on its website 28 clear days prior to the meeting.

There were various reasons that the Council, on occasions, had to do this and examples were because a report contained information relating to an individual, information relating to the financial or business affairs of a particular person, or information relating to any consultations or negotiations.

This evening, there was just one substantive exempt matter to be considered, as outlined on the published agenda at item 6. This related to the East Suffolk Services Loan funding; East Suffolk Services needed access to pre-trading funding in compliance with subsidy control requirements to ensure the smooth transition of its activities and this paper sought to authorise that funding.

On the proposition of Councillor Gallant, seconded by Councillor Rivett, it was by a unanimous vote

RESOLVED

That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

6 East Suffolk Services Loan Funding

- Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

The meeting concluded at 8.42 pm.

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Chairman