

# Riverside, 4 Canning Road, Lowestoft, Suffolk, NR33 0EQ

Full	Council	

Members:	All Councillors	

Members are invited to a **Meeting of the Full Council**to be held in the Conference Room, Riverside, Lowestoft
on **Wednesday, 25 January 2023** at **6.30pm**This meeting will be broadcast to the public via the East Suffolk YouTube
Channel at https://youtu.be/l8CO0Z7zzUk

An Agenda is set out below.

Part One - Open to the Public

**Pages** 

# 1 Apologies for Absence

To receive apologies for absence, if any.

#### 2 Declarations of Interest

Members and Officers are invited to make any declarations of interests, and the nature of that interest, that they may have in relation to items on the Agenda and are also reminded to make any declarations at any stage during the Meeting if it becomes apparent that this may be required when a particular item or issue is considered.

### 3 Minutes 1 - 23

To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the Meeting held on 23 November 2022.

## 4 Announcements

To receive any announcements from the Chairman, the Leader of the Council, members of the Cabinet, or the Chief Executive, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 5.1(e).

# 5 Questions from the Public

No questions have been submitted by the electorate as provided by Council Procedure Rule 8.

#### **6** Questions from Members

The following question(s) from Members has/have been submitted in pursuance of Council Procedure Rule 9:

## a) <u>Question submitted by Councillor Caroline Topping to Councillor Steve</u> Gallant, Leader of the Council

Would the Leader agree that when a Councillor is elected by the people to represent them and their ward, they should make every effort to attend as many meetings as possible to those committees, etc that they have been selected to sit on (more than the bare minimum) and especially the 10 'Full Council' meetings that are scheduled a year? There are Councillors who have not attended a 'Full Council' meeting for an entire calendar year, have only attended virtual Cabinet meetings or a Planning meeting (where they are not the nominated members, have attended as visitors and have no voting rights). I think when people elect a councillor to represent them it is with the expectation that they will be represented and as fully as possible.

# b) <u>Question submitted by Councillor David Beavan for Councillor James</u> <u>Mallinder, Cabinet Member with responsibility for the Environment</u>

Currently the 2017 Clean Growth Strategy is not on target to improve all homes to EPC rating C or above by 2035. Can you confirm whether the Warm Home scheme is limited to households that have a combined gross income of less than £30,000 and do not have gas central heating, and as a result what percentage of households in East Suffolk are not covered by your scheme? How do you plan to help these households reduce their energy bills and carbon emissions to meet our target of net zero by 2030?

# c) Question submitted by Councillor David Beavan for Councillor Craig Rivett, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member with responsibility for Economic Development

As requested, I have supplied you with a full copy of the original 1509 will of William Godyll which bequeathed Havenbeach Marsh to the people of Southwold. Please can you answer my original question, and tell the council what the legal basis is for your transfer of the ownership of the camping field from the Harbour Lands and Southwold Town Council to East Suffolk District Council as evidenced in the pictures of our GIS asset map (to be emailed to all councillors)?

# d) <u>Question submitted by Councillor Janet Craig to Councillor Stephen</u> <u>Burroughes, Cabinet Member with responsibility for Customer Experience, IT</u> <u>and Operational Partnerships</u>

100 car parking spaces in Sudbury and Stowmarket have been covered in solar panels to help power two Council owned Leisure Centres and provide Electric Vehicle charging points for Leisure Centre users, providing a useful income stream. This was achieved using part funding from two Government schemes.

This sounds like a positive move to support not only residents but also the visitor economy, so what is there to prevent this Council from following the

example from colleagues in Babergh & Mid-Suffolk, and applying to these two sources of grant funding (Getting Building Fund and Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme). We could then do something similar at our Leisure Centres, and also potentially expand the existing EV provision at other Council premises?

# **7** Petitions

No petitions have been received as provided by Council Procedure Rule 10.

#### 8 Notices of Motion

The following Motions have been submitted in pursuance of Council Procedure Rule 11:

a) <u>Motion submitted by Councillor Tom Daly, to be seconded by Councillor</u> Louise Gooch

Opportunity for a Reset

This Council notes:

- 1. That Scottish Power Renewables are explicit that onshore substation construction will not now start until 2024/2025. This affords a window of opportunity to push for a complete reset of approach.
- 2. National Grid Ventures are consulting on proposals to bring new interconnectors ashore to join our electricity grid to Europe. They propose digging single 1.8GW cables into our AONB to feed rural substations and pylons.
- 3. Each windfarm is also queuing for their own connection. It would be more efficient for our communities, the environment, producers and consumers if a national offshore grid was established to connect everything to an area of high demand like London, rather than Suffolk which is a net producer.
- 4. Their sister company, National Grid ESO, is excluding the option of an offshore grid in the consultation.

This Council resolves:

- 1. To formally support a change of approach that protects the rural integrity of our villages and countryside now and into the future.
- 2. To write to Graham Stuart MP, the Energy Minister, backing the call from James Cartlidge MP for National Grid ESO to conduct an "independent and open-minded review of offshore options".
- 3. To write to the Rt Hon Grant Shapps MP, Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, proposing he consider this review.
- b) <u>Motion Submitted by Councillor Peter Byatt, seconded by Councillor Louise</u> <u>Gooch</u>

This Council notes that:

On 23rd November 2022 this Council approved a Motion regarding sewage pollution flowing untreated into our local waterways and coastal waters.

As a brief reminder, we agreed that a letter should be written to Anglian Water asking for a number of actions to be taken to address this and related issues as a matter of urgency. In addition it was also decided to write to the Secretary of State for the Environment to ask for our water systems to be protected, and for there to be engagement with all stake-holders to work together to improve water quality across East Anglia.

On December 22nd (conveniently timed just before the Christmas period) the Environment Agency announced that their original plans to clean rivers, lakes and coastal waters of sewage and agricultural materials have been moved back from 2027 to 2063 – some 36 years.

This Council agreed to write to Anglian Water and the Environment Agency before this unexpected announcement by the Environment Agency.

Given this unexpected announcement and lengthy delay, this Council asks:

That this matter be discussed at the next Suffolk Public Sector Leaders Group on 17th February, which includes all six Council Leaders, their Chief Executives, the Chief Officers of both Clinical Commissioning Groups that cover Suffolk, the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chief Executive and Chair of the New Anglia LEP.

That the Group discusses the issue of sewage and other water pollution across the whole of Suffolk, and further ask that the six Leaders write to the Environment Agency and our seven Constituent Members of Parliament, expressing their concern at this serious delay in dealing with such an important matter which affects all of Suffolk's residents and visitors.

In addition, given that the Environment Agency are due to publish details of their overall Improvement Plans this month, ask that there be details specifically for Suffolk and East Anglia.

# 9 Suffolk Strategic Approach to Home Energy Efficiency Improvements

To receive a presentation from Councillor Kerry, Cabinet Member with responsibility for Housing, and Teresa Howarth, Principal Environmental Health Officer for Private Sector Housing.

10	Report of the Cabinet Member with responsibility for Resources	44 60
11	Treasury Management Strategy Statement for 2023/24 & Treasury Management Investment Strategy for 2023/24 ES/1428 Report of the Assistant Cabinet Member for Resources	41 - 68
12	Council Tax Premiums on Second Homes and Empty Properties	69 - 92

# ES/1430 ES/1430

Report of the Cabinet Member with responsibility for Resources

# Housing Regulation ES/1432 Report of the Cabinet Member with responsibility for Housing.

# 14 Freeport East Business Rates Relief and Retained Rates Policies 169 - 196 ES/1146

Report of the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member with responsibility for Economic Development and the Cabinet Member with responsibility for Resources.

### 18 Exempt/Confidential Items

It is recommended 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 Paragraphs 3 and 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

# Part Two - Exempt/Confidential

**Pages** 

## 19 Exempt Minutes

- Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).
- Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the authority or a Minister of the Crown and employees of, or office holders under, the authority.

#### Close

Chris Bally, Chief Executive

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