

# Council



**Forest Heath**  
District Council

**Minutes** of a meeting of the **Council** held on  
**Wednesday 19 December 2018** at **6.00 pm** at the **Council Chamber,**  
**District Offices,** College Heath Road, Mildenhall IP28 7EY

Present: **Councillors**

**Chairman** Brian Harvey

**Vice Chairman** Chris Barker

Ruth Allen	Victor Lukaniuk
Michael Anderson	Carol Lynch
Andrew Appleby	Robert Nobbs
John Bloodworth	Colin Noble
David Bowman	David Palmer
Ruth Bowman J.P.	Peter Ridgwell
Rona Burt	Nigel Roman
Louis Busuttil	Lance Stanbury
Roger Dicker	James Waters
Stephen Edwards	

## 335. **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 26 September 2018 were unanimously received as an accurate record and were signed by the Chairman.

## 336. **Chairman's Announcements (Report No: COU/FH/18/020)**

The Chairman gave thanks to the Vice-Chairman for ably covering civic duties during the period in which he was recovering from an operation.

The Chairman also drew attention to the Christmas Post Office visits he had undertaken and explained how interesting he had found them.

The report was noted.

## 337. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Simon Cole, Andy Drummond, Christine Mason and Robin Millar.

Councillors Louise Marston and Reg Silvester were also unable to attend the meeting.

**338. Declarations of Interest**

Members' declarations of interest are recorded under the item to which the declaration relates.

**339. The Leader's Report (Report No COU/FH/18/021)**

The Leader presented his statement to the meeting as set out in Report No COU/FH/18/021 and gave thanks to all Members and Officers for their work over the past year.

Councillor Victor Lukaniuk posed a question with regard to the 'Social Prescribing Initiative' as made reference to in the statement.

In the absence of the relevant Cabinet Member, the Assistant Director (Families & Communities) responded and provided further detail on what the scheme entailed. Councillor Lukaniuk was advised that it was yet to have commenced in Brandon or Mildenhall and further information would be circulated to Members prior to it launching.

Councillor Peter Ridgwell asked a question with regard to the Cambridge metro link as written in the Leader's opening paragraph.

In response, the Leader explained that it was currently an aspiration of the Cambridge and Peterborough Combined Authority and he would update Council as and when he was provided with further information.

Councillor Lukaniuk also asked that his thanks be recorded to Councillor David Bowman, Cabinet Member for Operations, for the resurfacing of Brandon Country Park's car park.

**340. Public Participation**

There were no questions or statements from members of the public.

**341. Referrals Report of Recommendations from Joint Executive (Cabinet) Committee (Report No: COU/FH/18/022)**

The Council considered the referrals report of recommendations from the Joint Executive (Cabinet) Committee as set out in Report No COU/FH/18/022 in respect of:

1. West Suffolk Gambling Act 2005: Statement of Policy 2019 to 2022  
(Joint Executive (Cabinet) Committee: 2 October 2018)

Councillor Lance Stanbury, Cabinet Member for Planning and Growth, presented this referral item.

On the motion of the Cabinet Member, seconded by Councillor Michael Anderson and with the vote being unanimous, it was

**RESOLVED:**

That the revised West Suffolk Gambling Act 2005: Statement of Policy for the period 2019 to 2022, as contained in Appendices 1 and 3 to Report No: COU/FH/18/022, be adopted.

2. Forest Heath Statement of Licensing Policy 2019 to 2022 and Newmarket Cumulative Impact Assessment (CIA) Area  
(Joint Executive (Cabinet) Committee: 6 November 2018)

Councillor Lance Stanbury, Cabinet Member for Planning and Growth, presented this referral item.

On the motion of the Cabinet Member, seconded by Councillor Michael Anderson and with the vote being unanimous, it was

**RESOLVED:**

That:-

1. The draft overarching Statement of Licensing Policy for Forest Heath 2019-2022, as set out in Appendix 1 to Report No: CAB/JT/18/041, be adopted; and
2. The existing Newmarket Cumulative Impact Assessment (CIA) Area (as incorporated within Appendix 1 to Report No: CAB/JT/18/041) be:
  - (a) renewed; and
  - (b) reviewed again within approximately 18 months.
3. Recommendations of the St Edmundsbury and Forest Heath Overview and Scrutiny Committees: 7 and 8 November 2018 – West Suffolk Housing Strategy 2018-2023  
(Joint Executive (Cabinet) Committee: 11 December 2018)

The Chairman welcomed Councillor Sara Mildmay-White to the meeting, who was in attendance in her capacity as the West Suffolk Lead for Housing.

Councillor Mildmay-White presented this referral item which sought adoption of the West Suffolk Housing Strategy 2018-2022. Attention was drawn to the supplementary paper circulated after the agenda had been published, which set out a correction to the report before Council.

Councillor Mildmay-White outlined the consultation which had been undertaken as part of the strategy's development and gave thanks to Officers, consultees and the Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

Councillor Victor Lukaniuk questioned why Brandon's allocation of new homes was so low in comparison to other areas of West Suffolk. In response Councillor Lance Stanbury, Cabinet Member for Planning and Growth, explained that development for Brandon was severely

constrained in the North of the town due to the USAF Air Base noise contours and Stone Curlew habitats.

Councillor Colin Noble spoke on the importance of the strategy and remarked on the need in future versions to expand on the aging population element of the document.

On the motion of the Councillor Lance Stanbury, seconded by Councillor David Bowman and with the vote being unanimous, it was

**RESOLVED:**

That the West Suffolk Housing Strategy 2018-2022, attached as Appendix 1 to Report No CAB/JT/18/051 be adopted.

4. Recommendations of the Forest Heath Performance and Audit Scrutiny Committee: 28 November 2018 – Mid- Year Treasury Management Report and Investment Activity (1 April – 30 September 2018)  
(Joint Executive (Cabinet) Committee: 11 December 2018)

Councillor Stephen Edwards, Cabinet Member for Resources and Performance, presented this referral item.

On the motion of the Cabinet Member, seconded by Councillor Louis Busuttil and with the vote being unanimous, it was

**RESOLVED:**

That the Mid-Year Treasury Management Report 2018-2019 and Investment Activity (1 April to 30 September 2018), as set out in Report No OAS/FH/18/040, be approved.

5. West Suffolk Local Development Scheme (LDS) December 2018: Adoption  
(Joint Executive (Cabinet) Committee: 11 December 2018)

Councillor Lance Stanbury, Cabinet Member for Planning and Growth, presented this referral item.

On the motion of the Cabinet Member, seconded by Councillor Rona Burt and with the vote being unanimous, it was

**RESOLVED:**

That the West Suffolk Local Development Scheme (LDS), as set out in Working Paper 1 to Report No CAB/JT/18/054, be adopted.

6. Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) December 2018: Adoption  
(Joint Executive (Cabinet) Committee: 11 December 2018)

Councillor Lance Stanbury, Cabinet Member for Planning and Growth, presented this referral item.

On the motion of the Cabinet Member, seconded by Councillor Rona Burt and with the vote being unanimous, it was

**RESOLVED:**

That the West Suffolk Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) as set out in Working Paper 1 to Report No CAB/JT/18/055, be adopted.

**342. West Row: Reorganisation Order (Report No: COU/FH/18/023)**

*(Councillor Ruth Bowman declared a non-pecuniary interest in this item as she was the current Chairman of Mildenhall Parish Council. She indicated that she would remain in the meeting and would speak on the item, but would abstain from the voting thereon.)*

The Leader presented this report which sought to bring into effect the decision of Council in July 2017 to create a new Parish for West Row.

Councillor Ruth Bowman spoke in her capacity as Chairman of Mildenhall Parish Council and advised Members that the Parish Council wished West Row every success.

On the motion of the Leader, seconded by Councillor David Bowman and with 20 voting for the motion and with 1 abstention, it was

**RESOLVED:**

That:-

1. The Forest Heath District Council (Reorganisation of Community Governance) Order 2019 ("the Order") be approved; and
2. The Service Manager (Democratic Services) make the Order as soon as practicable after the West Suffolk (Electoral Changes) Order 2019 is made.

**343. LATE URGENT ITEM - Forest Heath Single Issue Review and Site Allocations Local Plan (Report No: COU/FH/18/024)**

*(Councillor Robert Nobbs declared a non-pecuniary interest in this item in that he had made comments in the past in relation to this matter. He indicated that he would remain in the meeting but would abstain from voting on the report.)*

The Chairman agreed that this item could be considered by Council as a matter of urgency, in accordance with S100B(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, in order that this matter could be resolved within the necessary timescale.

Councillor Lance Stanbury, Cabinet Member for Planning and Growth, presented this item which set out the submission from Newmarket Horseman's Group to the Inspectors who carried out the Examination into the

Forest Heath Single Issue Review (SIR) and Site Allocations Local Plan (SALP) and sought endorsement of the Council's response and approach to this.

Councillor Rona Burt spoke in her capacity as Chairman of the FHDC Local Plan Working Group and voiced disappointment and frustration at the delay that the submission would cause, which was shared by the Cabinet Member.

Councillor Andrew Appleby inquired as to whether this matter would delay the Hatchfield Farm Planning Inquiry, scheduled for Spring 2019, but was advised that it would not.

On the motion of the Cabinet Member, seconded by Councillor Rona Burt and with 20 voting for the motion and with 1 abstention, it was

**RESOLVED:**

That:-

1. The Newmarket Horseman's Group submission to the Inspectors dealing with the Forest Heath Single Issue Review (SIR) and Site Allocations Local Plan (SALP) on matters relating to Habitat Regulations Assessment be noted; and
2. The Council's response and approach to the HRA matters raised be endorsed in that:
  - i. In light of the recent European judgements, the Council is now required to review and update the Habitat Regulations Assessment. This update may result in modifications to the SIR and SALP; and
  - ii. The Council expects that the updated HRA and any suggested modifications will be complete and submitted to the Inspectors March 2019.

**344. Questions to Chairmen of other Committees**

There were no questions to Chairmen of other Committees.

**345. Urgent Questions on Notice**

There were no urgent questions on notice.

The Chairman concluded the meeting by reminding Council that their meeting in January had been cancelled, although the West Suffolk Shadow Council meeting was still taking place that month, and wished all present a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

The meeting concluded at 6.55pm

**Signed by:**

**Chairman**

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