



# Newmarket TOWN COUNCIL

The Memorial Hall, High Street, Newmarket, CB8 8JP

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## NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN OF A MEETING OF THE NEWMARKET TOWN COUNCIL

to be held at

Memorial Hall, High Street, Newmarket, CB8 8JP

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at 6.15pm**

**Councillors are hereby summoned to attend  
for the purpose of transacting the business that follows**

The meeting is held in public and the public are encouraged to attend and participate. Just occasionally matters such as contractual or staffing matters do have to be held in the confidential part of the meeting.

Members of the public and press may not orally report or comment about a meeting as it takes place if present at a meeting of the Council, but otherwise may:

- a. film, photograph or make an audio recording of the meeting;
- b. use any other means for enabling persons not present to see or hear proceedings at a meeting as it takes place or later;
- c. Report or comment on the proceedings in writing, during or after a meeting or orally after the meeting.

The Council will where possible facilitate such recording unless it is being disruptive. It will also take steps to ensure that children, the vulnerable and members of the public who object to being filmed are protected without undermining the broader purpose of the meeting

## **A G E N D A**

1. **Welcome** - The Mayor to read the fire safety notice and announce that this meeting is being recorded and to ask whether anyone else intends to record the meeting
2. **Apologies** for absence
3. **Declaration of interests**
  - a) Councillors are invited to raise any declarations of interest concerning items on the agenda
  - b) To consider any requests for dispensation
4. **Minutes of the previous meeting held 26<sup>th</sup> February 2024**
  - a) To consider and adopt the minutes, as a true record of the proceedings
  - b) To consider any matters arising
5. **Public participation** – an invitation to members of the public to make representations to Councillors.  
Resolutions can only be made on items on the agenda  
*Rules of public participation: no person may for longer than 3 minutes in total. The maximum time permitted for this item is 15 minutes. This is the only opportunity during the meeting, for members of the public to address Councillors.*
6. **Police Report** – to receive and note a report (verbal or written) from the PCT (Police Community Team)
7. **Councillor Reports** - to receive and note reports (if any) from County and District Councillors, Ward Reports and outside bodies reports from Town Councillors
8. **Announcements** - To receive the Town Mayor's and Deputy Mayor's Announcements (if any)
9. **Committee Meetings**
  - a) To receive the minutes and consider and approve any recommendations from the Development & Planning meetings held on 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> March 2024 (18<sup>th</sup> March to follow)
  - b) To receive the minutes and consider and approve any recommendations from the Community Services meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2024
  - c) To receive the minutes and consider and approve any recommendations from the Finance and Policy Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2024 (to follow)
10. **Consultation** – to receive SCC's consultation regarding Suffolk's proposed Devolution Deal
11. **Date of the next Meeting – 29<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

Signed: *CE Whitaker*

Cathy Whitaker, Town Clerk

Date: 19<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Distribute to the following for information:

County & District Councillors, The Press, Newmarket Town Council Website

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# Newmarket

## TOWN COUNCIL

### **Minutes of the Meeting of Newmarket Town Council held on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2024** **at 6:15pm at the Memorial Hall**

#### **Attendance:**

Councillor P Winter (Town Mayor)  
Councillor M Anderson  
Councillor J Berry  
Councillor J Borda  
Councillor A Drummond  
Councillor J Harvey  
Councillor R Hood

Councillor P Hulbert  
Councillor J Jarvis  
Councillor R Jones  
Councillor E Kavanagh  
Councillor J McHugh  
Councillor R Nobbs  
Councillor K Yarrow

Also Present: C Whitaker – Town Clerk, J Ashton – Minute Assistant, 1 Member of the Press, 5 Representatives – Newmarket Brownies and 5 Members of the Public.

#### **Minute**

##### **24/02/1 Welcome**

The Chairman opened the meeting and read the fire safety notice and confirmed that proceedings were being recorded and asked if anyone else intended to record the meeting.

##### **24/02/2 Apologies for Absence – LGA 1972, Section 85(1) & (2)**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Clover, Crissall, Perry and Starkey.

##### **24/02/3 Declaration of Members Interests & to Remind Councillors of the Need to Keep up to Date Their Register of Member's Interests and to Consider any Requests Received for Member's Dispensation**

None noted. There were no requests for Member's dispensation.

##### **24/02/4 To Receive and Confirm the Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2024 and any Matters Arising.**

The Chairman presented the minutes of the extra-ordinary meeting of the Town Council held on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2024 and the following was agreed:

##### **24/02/4.01 Resolved**

**That the minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2024 be adopted and signed as a correct record by the Town Mayor.**

There were no matters arising.

##### **24/02/5 Public Open Session**

*Cllr Jones joined the meeting.*

The representatives from the Brownies gave a big thank you for the NTC grant in December 2023 which allowed them to attend the Nomad's Pantomime.

A Brownie presented a card to the Mayor and the Mayor gave out individual awards for their achievements.

*Cllr Berry joined the meeting.*

The retail Manager from Open Door gave an update on the new community hub that they had opened up in Town and that they were also hopeful of keeping the main store open at Craven Way by way of setting up a new Community Interest Company (CIC) and talks are ongoing with West Suffolk Council. The community hub would be open to all, and young people would be especially welcomed.

The Mayor gave her thanks for the update and the retail Manager left the meeting.

*Two members of the public left the meeting.*

**24/02/6     Police Report**

A report was tabled from the CPT at the meeting, and it was noted that they were now styled as Forest Heath Police instead of Mildenhall Police which was welcomed.

**24/02/7     Councillor Reports**

**Suffolk County Council (SCC)** – Cllr Hood reported that the monthly newsletter had been sent out. Cllr Drummond reported that a fake university had been trying to attract fees from foreign students and has been closed down.

**West Suffolk Council (WSC)** – Cllr Jarvis gave thanks for the grant by WS Cllr Anderson to the Festival of Lights event which he attended and it was wonderful to see that the whole route was illuminated. There was more music at the Studlands Social Club and it was a celebration of diversity. He suggested that perhaps the lighting on the Yellow Brick Road could be permanent, making it safer for residents. He also encouraged people to use new reverse recycle vending machine points in the Guineas and Newmarket Leisure Centre.

Cllr Anderson added that the Festival of Light was a fantastic night and very well supported. He gave thanks to the organisers and volunteers.

Cllr Yarrow gave thanks to Louise Eatock from Newmarket Community Arts for organising the event and lantern workshops which were supported by an NTC grant.

A letter will be sent from NTC thanking the organisers.

*Cllr Dicker - WSC joined the meeting.*

Cllr Yarrow reported that he would be attending a meeting with Flagship to discuss regeneration plans for Icewell Hill and Churchill Court

District Cllrs had met with Cabinet and had covered a lot of issues including the market location, the closure of the WSC office and recycling centre, the dilapidated Rutland Hotel and Queensbury Lodge, the waiver of parking charges during shopping hours, a sports hub, no post-16 education and the Yellow Brick Road.

**Ward** – Cllr Nobbs reported that he had attended the AGM of the Newmarket Day Centre and he congratulated them on the ongoing good work.

**Outside bodies** – None noted.

The Mayor welcomed Cllr Dicker to the meeting and advised that he would speak with Members after the meeting.

**24/02/8 Mayors Announcements**

The Mayor reported that, in addition to attending committee meetings, working groups and other meetings, her activities included the following:

5<sup>th</sup> February 2024 – Attended an assembly at Fairstead School and planted a tree to mark Children's Mental Health Week.

**24/02/9 To Receive the Minutes and Consider and Approve any Recommendations from the Development & Planning Committee Meetings held on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2024 and 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024**

The Chairman of the Development & Planning Committee presented the minutes and recommendations from the Development & Planning Committee meetings held on 5<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024. There were no recommendations.

**24/02/10 To Receive the Minutes and Consider and Approve any Recommendations from the Leisure Services Committee Meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2024**

The Chairman of the Leisure Services Committee presented the minutes and recommendations from the Leisure Services Committee meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2024.

**24/02/10.01 Resolved (L/24/02/7.01 Recommendation)**

**That booking continues and logistics are arranged with the Jockey Club for set up and timings.**

**24/02/10.02 Resolved (L/24/02/7.02 Recommendation)**

**That the number of dates for car boot sales for 2024 be approved, with delegation of actual dates to Events Manager, Town Clerk and Chair of LS Committee.**

**24/02/10.03 Resolved (L/24/02/8.01 Recommendation)**

**That the restructured hire fees for Newmarket venues be published and set for 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025, with special consideration for local groups and local charities as necessary and a strategy to monitor at future Committee meetings.**

**24/02/11 To Receive the Minutes and Consider and Approve any Recommendations from the Extra-Ordinary Human Resources Committee Meetings held on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2024**

The Chairman of the Human Resources Committee presented the minutes and recommendations from the Extra-Ordinary Human Resources Committee meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2024.

**24/02/11.01 Resolved (H/24/02/7.01 Recommendation)**

**That the delegated HR Panel be given boundaries for negotiations to avoid needing to call further extra-ordinary Committee meetings.**

**24/02/12 UKSPF**

The recommendations from the F&P delegated representatives regarding the Shop Front Improvement Grant Scheme were considered and the following was agreed:

**24/02/12.01 Resolved**

**That the recommendations from the F&P delegated representatives regarding the Shop Front Improvement Grant Scheme be approved.**

The Town Clerk reported that the scheme had been very successful and that had resulted in a shortfall of funds. The BID has agreed to pay half of the shortfall of £2,270. NTC was requested to match it and the following was agreed:

**24/02/12.02 Resolved**

**That NTC provide half of the shortfall of funds of £1,135 for the UKSPF scheme.**

*The Brownies gave thanks and left the meeting.*

**24/02/13 Meeting Schedule Update**

The updated Meeting Schedule to the end of the current municipal year (May 2024) was presented and the following was agreed:

**24/01/13.01 Resolved**

**That the Meeting Schedule to the end of the current municipal year (May 2024) and new start times of the Committee meetings be approved.**

The draft Meeting Schedule for May 2024 – May 2025 was presented and noted.

**24/02/14 Consultations**

**WSC Local Plan** - The response to the WSC Local Plan Submission Consultation from the Neighbourhood Plan Writing Group had been received by councillors. An amended version from the WSC Local Plan Working Group was considered and discussed. The following was agreed:

**24/02/14.01 Resolved**

**That the response to the WSC Local Plan Submission Consultation from the WSC Local Plan Working Group be approved and submitted.**

Suffolk Wildlife Trust are asking for messages of support for their campaign to get developers to deliver more nature from new developments which they will share with WSC. It was felt that the proposed country park at Pinewood would fit well for this.

**WSC Housing Strategy** – The WSC Housing, Homelessness Reduction & Rough Sleeping Strategy – a response to the online consultation and survey was considered and discussed. The following was agreed:

**24/02/14.02 Resolved**

**That a Consultation Working Group be set up comprising of Cllrs Borda, Drummond, Hood, Kavanagh, McHugh and Yarrow and that Delegated Powers be given to respond to the WSC Housing, Homelessness Reduction & Rough Sleeping Strategy consultation.**

**WSC Approach to Street Trading** - A response to the West Suffolk Council's approach to Street Trading online consultation and survey was considered. The following was agreed:

**24/02/14.03 Resolved**

**That Delegated Powers be given to the Market Working Group to respond to the West Suffolk Council's approach to Street Trading.**

**24/02/15 Correspondence**

*Cllr Hulbert declared an other interest in the following item*

**MARPA** – A request for subscription was considered and an item will be added to the next Finance and Policy agenda.

**SEND** – A lobby request from a resident regarding SCC Send Service was received and noted.

**Suffolk Records Closure** – a response from a SCC Cllr regarding the proposed closure of the BSE Records Office and the arguments put forward from Dr R Wood were noted. This matter had been discussed at WS Full Council meeting, with council urging SCC to consider investigating other location options to be able to retain the records locally. It was noted that Dr R Wood would be joining the WSC Group that are looking into this issue.

**24/02/16 Date of the next Meeting**

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2024 in the Memorial Hall.

**24/02/17 Exclusion of the press & public**

With the vote being unanimous, it was:

**24/02/17.01 Resolved**

**To resolve that under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and press be excluded for the remainder of the meeting because of the likely disclosure of private and confidential information or staff matters.**

Members of the press & public left the meeting.

A confidential staff matter was discussed and the following was agreed:

**24/02/17.02 Resolved**

A staff promotion was approved.

Meeting closed at 7.05pm

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Summary of Resolutions**

| Resolution                                                                        | Resolution Wording                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b><u>24/02/10.01 Resolved</u></b><br><b><u>(L/24/02/7.01 Recommendation)</u></b> | <b>That booking continues and logistics are arranged with the Jockey Club for set up and timings.</b>                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b><u>24/02/10.02 Resolved</u></b><br><b><u>(L/24/02/7.02 Recommendation)</u></b> | <b>That the number of dates for car boot sales for 2024 be approved, with delegation of actual dates to Events Manager, Town Clerk and Chair of LS Committee.</b>                                                                                            |
| <b><u>24/02/10.03 Resolved</u></b><br><b><u>(L/24/02/8.01 Recommendation)</u></b> | <b>That the restructured hire fees for Newmarket venues be published and set for 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025, with special consideration for local groups and local charities as necessary and a strategy to monitor at future Committee meetings.</b> |

|                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b><u>24/02/11.01 Resolved</u></b><br><i>(H/24/02/7.01 Recommendation)</i> | That the delegated HR Panel be given boundaries for negotiations to avoid needing to call further extra-ordinary Committee meetings.                                                                                                                |
| <b><u>24/02/12.01 Resolved</u></b>                                         | That the recommendations from the F&P delegated representatives regarding the Shop Front Improvement Grant Scheme be approved.                                                                                                                      |
| <b><u>24/02/12.02 Resolved</u></b>                                         | That NTC provide half of the shortfall of funds of £1,135 for the UKSPF scheme.                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b><u>24/01/13.01 Resolved</u></b>                                         | That the Meeting Schedule to the end of the current municipal year (May 2024) and new start times of the Committee meetings be approved.                                                                                                            |
| <b><u>24/02/14.01 Resolved</u></b>                                         | That subject to the amendments being made, that the response to the WSC Local Plan Submission Consultation from the Neighbourhood Plan WSC Local Plan Working Group be approved and submitted.                                                      |
| <b><u>24/02/14.02 Resolved</u></b>                                         | That a Consultation Working Group be set up comprising of Cllrs Borda, Drummond, Hood, Kavanagh, McHugh and Yarrow and that Delegated Powers be given to respond to the WSC Housing, Homelessness Reduction & Rough Sleeping Strategy consultation. |
| <b><u>24/02/14.03 Resolved</u></b>                                         | That Delegated Powers be given to the Market Working Group to respond to the West Suffolk Council's approach to Street Trading.                                                                                                                     |
| <b><u>24/02/17.02 Resolved</u></b>                                         | A staff promotion was approved.                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |

## **Mayors Engagements**

**Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> March** – Attended the Suffolk Justice Service at St Edmundsbury Cathedral

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# Newmarket

## TOWN COUNCIL

### Minutes of a Meeting of the Development & Planning Committee Held on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at 6.15pm

#### Attendance:

Councillor R Hood (Chairman)  
Councillor J Clover  
Councillor A Drummond  
Councillor J Harvey

Councillor P Hulbert  
Councillor E Kavanagh  
Councillor R Nobbs

Also Present: C Whitaker - Town Clerk, J Ashton – Minute Assistant, Cllr Winter as an observer, 1 Member of the Press and 1 Member of Public.

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Minute | Action by |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|-----------|
| <p><b>D/24/03/1</b> <u><b>Chairman to Read the Fire Safety Notice and Announce that Proceedings May be Filmed or Recorded</b></u><br/>The Chairman welcomed everyone, opened the meeting, and read out the Fire Notice and announced that proceedings were being recorded and asked if anyone intended to record the meeting.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |        |           |
| <p><b>D/24/03/2</b> <u><b>Apologies</b></u><br/>Apologies were received from Cllrs Berry and Perry.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |        |           |
| <p><b>D/24/03/3</b> <u><b>Declaration of Members Interests &amp; to Remind Councillors of the need to keep up to date their Register of Member's Interests and to Consider any Requests Received for Member's Dispensation</b></u><br/>Cllr Hood declared an 'other' interest in applications D/24/03/7/4 DC/24/0265/TCA - Beech Hurst 46 Bury Road and D/24/03/7/5 DC/24/0262/TCA - Jockey Club Chambers 101 High Street. There were no requests for dispensation.</p>                                                                                                                             |        |           |
| <p><b>D/24/03/4</b> <u><b>To Confirm the Minutes of the Meeting Held on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024 and any Matters Arising</b></u><br/>The Chairman presented the minutes of the Development &amp; Planning Committee held on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024 and the following was agreed:</p> <p><u><b>D/24/03/4.01 Resolved</b></u><br/><b>That the minutes of the Development &amp; Planning Committee held on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024 be adopted and signed as a true record by the Chairman of the Development &amp; Planning Committee.</b></p> <p>There were no matters arising.</p> |        |           |
| <p><b>D/24/03/5</b> <u><b>Public Open Session</b></u><br/>A member of the public spoke to planning application DC/23/1897/FUL/ DC/23/1898/LB - 43 High Street and gave an explanation of the plans for the plans for the outbuilding and was happy to answer any questions.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |        |           |

The Chairman proposed that planning application DC/23/1897/FUL/DC/23/1898/LB – 43 High Street be brought forward, and the following was agreed:

**D/24/03/5.1 Resolved**

**That planning application DC/23/1897/FUL/DC/23/1898/LB – 43 High Street be brought forward.**

**DC/23/1898/FUL – 43 High Street – Holding objection 19/02/2024 – to receive detailed plans of outbuilding proposal and parking arrangements.**

Plans of the outbuilding had now been received.

*Cllr Winter joined the meeting as an observer.*

**24/03/5.02 Resolved**

**The Committee support the renovation of the property and improvement to the area but object to the lack of parking and requested that bike racks be installed with some mitigation for the lack of onsite parking being made.**

*A member of the public left the meeting.*

**D/24/03/6 Impact of Newmarket Neighbourhood Plan Policies on Applications Being Considered**

Policy 14 – Trees and Policy 1 – Conservation Area/Listed Buildings.

**D/24/03/7 Planning Applications**

*Week Commencing 12/02/2024 & 19/02/2024.*

**D/24/03/7/1 DC/24/0230/LB – Application for listed building consent – Replacement of non-historic internal timber cabinetry, internal refurbishment and decorations – 34-36 Waggon And Horses Public House High Street Newmarket Suffolk.**

**D/24/03/7.01 Resolved**

**The Committee voiced no objection subject to the approval of the Listed Buildings Officer.**

**D/24/03/7/2 DC/24/0179/TPO – TPO 012(1956) tree preservation order – one Horse Chestnut (T1 on plan), one Lime (T2 on plan) crown lift by six meters to previous pollard points 7 Halifax Way Newmarket Suffolk.**

**D/24/03/7.02 Resolved**

**The Committee actively encourages responsible tree management, however they requested that no work to be done on the tree prior to a visit from the Tree Officer to carry out a full assessment regarding the safety concerns and objections from the neighbours.**

**D/24/03/7/3 DC/23/1897/FUL - Planning application - a. refurbishment of existing ground floor retail unit b. change of use of first and second floors to residential use c. conversion of existing outbuilding for residential use - 43 High Street Newmarket Suffolk.**

**D/24/03/7.03 Resolved**

**The Committee support the renovation of the property and improvement to the area but object to the lack of parking and requested that bike racks be installed and that some mitigation for the lack of onsite parking is made.**

*Cllr Hood declared an 'other' interest in the following two applications and left the meeting. The vice chairman took the Chair.*

**D/24/03/7/4 DC/24/0265/TCA** - Trees in a conservation area notification - 21 Lime trees (marked red on plan) overall crown reduction by up to five metres to previous pruning points - Beech Hurst 46 Bury Road Newmarket Suffolk.

**D/24/03/7.04 Resolved**

**The Committee actively encourages responsible tree management and does not object to this application, subject to the Tree Officer's approval.**

**D/24/03/7/5 DC/24/0262/TCA** - Trees in a conservation area notification - six Limes (marked on plan) Pollard to 12 metres - Jockey Club Chambers 101 High Street Newmarket Suffolk.

**D/24/03/7.05 Resolved**

**The Committee actively encourages responsible tree management and does not object to this application, subject to the Tree Officer's approval.**

*Cllr Hood returned to the meeting and took the Chair.*

**D/24/03/8 Amended and Deferred Planning Applications**

**D24/03/8.01 DC/23/1262/VAR** – Plot 1 Police Station Vicarage Road – re-consultation.

**24/02/8.01 Resolved**

**The Committee objected to the reduction of parking provision; this contravenes the Committees' parking statement and, being adjacent to a primary school, will likely have a detrimental effect on the safety of parents and children.**

**NEWMARKET TOWN COUNCIL'S STANDARD PLANNING RESPONSE FOR APPLICATIONS WITH PUBLIC TRANSPORT AND PARKING CONCERNS**

**"Newmarket Town Council (NTC) takes serious issue with any view that considers that the town has good, or even adequate, public transport. For the reasons listed below, public transport does not meet the Suffolk County Council (SCC) guidance criteria as it is neither "frequent" nor "wide-ranging".**

- **There is no direct bus service into Bury St Edmunds, which is a major destination for work, education and leisure.**
- **The most frequent services (bus and train) run hourly.**
- **There is no bus service on a Sunday.**
- **Bus services stop running early evening / late afternoon.**
- **There is no bus service to / from the railway station<sup>1, 2</sup>**
- **There is no bus service covering the South side of the town. Most local amenities are situated either in the High Street, which bisects the town East to West, or to the North of the town.**
- **Many bus routes are dependent on short term funding by Cambridge and**

Peterborough Combined Authority (CPCA) and hence cannot be guaranteed in the long term.

- The railways station is on a branch line and there is poor connectivity to mainline services.
- Cycle lane provision is limited.
- There is no cycle lane running from Newmarket to Cambridge, although the Cambridge end of the route does have a cycle lane in place.

<sup>1</sup> *The proposed service linking Newmarket and Haverhill will include the railway station but only runs every two hours. The last bus is several hours before the last train. Therefore, it cannot be considered a connecting service.*

<sup>2</sup> *A privately funded shuttle bus links Newmarket Railway Station with the racecourse on race days.*

This is particularly relevant to any “car free application” when there are also potentially significant impacts due to current on-street parking stress and very limited ready access to off-street parking.

There is a clear indication that there is a lack of parking and this should be evidence for future planning applications. NTC will continue to press SCC Highways to update their information regarding both Newmarket public transport and parking provision to ensure accurate advice is provided to West Suffolk Planning Authority.”

**D/24/03/9 Planning Appeals**

No new applications. The Lanwade Park appeal is progressing; being heard by public enquiry on 16/04/2024 for three days with decision letter on 31/05/2024. Venue is to be confirmed.

**D/24/03/10 East Cambs Planning Applications**

The East Cambs Weekly List for 16/02/2024 was noted. Town Clerk was asked to get more information on application 24/00158/SCREEN Burwell – Battery storage facility at site at Anchor Lane Farm, Newton Drove.

**D/24/03/11 To Receive Results of Applications as Determined by West Suffolk and Plans Withdrawn**

West Suffolk Planning Determinations received during week commencing 12/02/2024 & 19/02/2024.

| Applications   | Description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Address                                           | WS Decision | NTC Decision         |
|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|-------------|----------------------|
| NMA(A)/23/1382 | Non-material amendment to DC/23/1382/FUL - a. removal of cladding on front and rear elevations b. replace window to left of front door with smaller window c. remove window on lean-to and replace with sliding doors d. two roof lights on single storey roof e. addition of flue to front elevation. | Land Adjacent To 26 Paget Place Newmarket Suffolk | Approved    | Comments not invited |
| DC/24/0073/TCA | Trees in a conservation area notification - 18 trees consisting of Amelanchier, Crab Apple, Gleditsia and Silver Birch - remove to improve present light filtration to adjacent apartments blocks                                                                                                      | Land At Meridian Gardens Newmarket Suffolk        | Withdrawn   | Objected             |

|                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                        |          |              |  |
|----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|----------|--------------|--|
| DC/24/0028/TCA | Trees in a conservation area notification - one Robinia (T1 on plan) fell                                                                                                                                                                                | 7 Balaton Place<br>Snailwell Road<br>Newmarket Suffolk | Approved | Objected     |  |
| DC/23/2011/TPO | TPO 012 (1956) tree preservation order - T1 Lime (on plan and within A1 of order) - Initiate pollard management reducing height to approximately 8 metres and radial spread from stem base centre to approximately 4 metres where suitable points occur. | 13 Collings Place<br>Newmarket Suffolk                 | Approved | No Objection |  |
| DC/23/0980/FUL | Planning application - a. replacement shopfront, including office entrance b. extension to the rear                                                                                                                                                      | 53 High Street<br>Newmarket Suffolk                    | Approved | Objected     |  |

**It was noted that DC/23/0980/FUL was approved despite the objection by Newmarket Town Council; although recognised that these occurrences are fewer now.**

**D/24/03/12 Delegation Panel Decisions**

None noted.

**D/24/03/13 Licensing**

128 High Street – a response from WSC Licensing to the NTC objection was considered and the following was agreed:

**D/24/02/13.1 Resolved**

**The Committee repeated their previous objections to the application and added the following:**

**1: Excessive hours for the sale of alcohol – Council believes that the applicant should not be given a licence to sell alcohol due to the lack of engagement with the community and lack of regard to the local community and its concerns.**

**2: Noise control – Council welcomes the extension and awaits receipt of the impact assessment report.**

**3: Community engagement – Committee strongly rejects the Licence Officer's view that the views of elected representatives should not be taken into account; repeated breach of planning requirements by the applicant who has shown no regard for the concerns raised by the local residents.**

**In addition, Committee would draw to the attention of the Licencing Officers that the applicant is now storing a line of trolleys on the highway with no application for permission to do so and no restraining mechanisms; these are causing safety concerns.**

**D/24/03/14 Enforcement**

Information regarding a property operating as an AirBnB on Mill Hill was considered and the following was agreed:

**D/24/03/14.01 Resolved**

**The Committee requested that the Council's District Cllrs liaise with WSC Planning Enforcement team immediately regarding progression of this matter. That Cllr Yarrow will lead this liaison.**

**D/24/03/15 On Street Advertising**

A report from the On Street Working Group was considered and the following was agreed:

**D/24/3/15.01 Resolved**

That a board audit be carried out by NTC/BID, that contact is made with WSC Events Officer to discuss the 'form' of the advertisement posters, that developer signage is investigated regarding authorisation, monitoring etc and that investigation into the enforcement for the signs at the White Hart and Moons takes place.

That this issue be added to the discussions with the WSC Planning Enforcement team regarding AirBnBs.

**D/24/03/16 Listed Buildings**

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

**D/24/03/17 Correspondence**

Resident request for an additional pedestrian crossing in Exning Road was noted. Town Clerk to respond regarding the current provision of nearby crossing and pedestrian refuge islands.

**D/24/03/18 Date of Next Meeting**

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at the Memorial Hall.

Meeting closed at 7:27pm.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Summary of Resolutions/Recommendations

| Resolution/Recommendation           | Resolution/Recommendation Wording                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b><u>24/03/5.02 Resolved</u></b>   | The Committee support the renovation of the property and improvement to the area but object to the lack of parking and requested that bike racks be installed with some mitigation for the lack of onsite parking being made.                                     |
| <b><u>D/24/03/7.01 Resolved</u></b> | The Committee voiced no objection subject to the approval of the Listed Buildings Officer.                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b><u>D/24/03/7.02 Resolved</u></b> | The Committee actively encourages responsible tree management; however they requested that no work to be done on the tree prior to a visit from the Tree Officer to carry out a full assessment regarding the safety concerns and objections from the neighbours. |
| <b><u>D/24/03/7.03 Resolved</u></b> | The Committee support the renovation of the property and                                                                                                                                                                                                          |

|                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                      | improvement to the area but object to the lack of parking and requested that bike racks be installed and that some mitigation for the lack of onsite parking is made.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b><u>D/24/03/7.04 Resolved</u></b>  | The Committee actively encourages responsible tree management and does not object to this application, subject to the Tree Officer's approval.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b><u>D/24/03/7.05 Resolved</u></b>  | The Committee actively encourages responsible tree management and does not object to this application, subject to the Tree Officer's approval.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b><u>D/24/03/8.01 Resolved</u></b>  | <p>The Committee objected to the reduction of parking provision; this contravenes the Committees' parking statement and, being adjacent to a primary school, will likely have a detrimental effect on the safety of parents and children.</p> <p><b><u>NEWMARKET TOWN COUNCIL'S STANDARD PLANNING RESPONSE FOR APPLICATIONS WITH PUBLIC TRANSPORT AND PARKING CONCERNS</u></b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b><u>D/24/0/13.01 Resolved</u></b>  | <p>The Committee repeated their previous objections to the application and added the following:</p> <p>Excessive hours for the sale of alcohol – Council believes that the applicant should not be given a licence to sell alcohol.</p> <p>Noise control – Council welcomes the extension and awaits receipt of the impact assessment report.</p> <p>Community engagement – Committee strongly rejects the Licence Officer's view that the views of elected representatives should not be taken into account; repeated breach of planning requirements by the applicant who has shown no regard for the concerns raised by the local residents.</p> <p>In addition, Committee would draw to the attention of the Licencing Officers that the applicant is now storing a line of trolleys on the highway with no application for permission to do so and no restraining mechanisms; these are causing safety concerns.</p> |
| <b><u>D/24/03/14.01 Resolved</u></b> | The Committee requested that the Council's District Cllrs liaise with WSC Planning Enforcement team immediately regarding progression of this matter. That Cllr Yarrow will lead this liaison.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b><u>D/24/3/15.01 Resolved</u></b>  | That a board audit be carried out by NTC/BID, that contact is made with WSC Events Officer to discuss the 'form' of the advertisement posters, that developer signage is investigated regarding authorisation, monitoring etc and that investigation into the enforcement for the signs at the White Hart and Moons takes place.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |

|  |                                                                                                              |
|--|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  | <b>That this issue be added to the discussions with the WSC Planning Enforcement team regarding AirBnBs.</b> |
|--|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

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# Newmarket

## TOWN COUNCIL

### Minutes of a Meeting of the Community Services Committee Held on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at 7:30 pm

#### **Attendance:**

Councillor P Winter (Chairman)  
Councillor J Borda  
Councillor J Harvey  
Councillor P Hulbert

Councillor J Jarvis  
Councillor E Kavanagh  
Councillor R Nobbs  
Councillor K Yarrow

Also Present: C Whitaker – Town Clerk, J Ashton – Minute Assistant and 1 Member of the Press.  
Minute

**C/24/03/1 Chairman to Read the Fire Safety Notice and Announce that Proceedings May be Filmed or Recorded**

The Chairman opened the meeting and advised that the fire safety notice was not required and confirmed that the meeting was being recorded.

**C/24/03/2 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Crissall, McHugh and Perry.

**C/24/03/3 Declaration of Member's Interests and to Remind Councillors of the Need to Keep up to Date Their Register of Member's Interests and to Consider Any Requests Received for Members Dispensation**

None noted. There were no requests for dispensations.

**C/24/03/4 To Receive and Confirm for Accuracy the Minutes of the Community Services Committee Meeting Held on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024 and Any Matters Arising**

Members received the minutes of the Community Services Committee meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024 and the following was agreed:

**C/24/03/4.01 Resolved**

**That the minutes of the Community Services Committee meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024 be adopted and signed as a true record by the Chairman of the Community Services Committee.**

There were no matters arising.

**C/24/03/5 Public Open Session**

No members of the public were present.

**C/24/03/6 To Receive the Accounts**

The accounts for February 2024 were received and noted.

**C/24/03/7 Newmarket Cemetery**

**Cemetery fees** – the new fees proposal from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024 were presented and the following was agreed:

**C/24/03/7.01 Recommendation**

**That the new Cemetery fees proposal from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024 be approved.**

**Cemetery Regulations** – the revised Regulations proposal from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024 were presented and the following was agreed:

**C/24/03/7.02 Recommendation**

**That the new Cemetery Regulations proposal from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024 be approved.**

**Memorial benches and alternative options** – a report was received and discussed and the following was agreed:

**C/24/03/7.03 Recommendation**

**That memorial benches would continue to be provided with stricter controls and be administered by Town Council staff. That alternative options continue to be provided, such as memorial bushes and metal plaques to offset the costs of benches. That a policy be created.**

**C/24/03/8 Outside Services**

A report on the additional outside services contracts was considered and the following was agreed:

**C/24/03/8.01 Recommendation**

**That new annual contracts with the Jockey Club for additional outside services be approved.**

**C/24/03/9 Correspondence**

None noted.

**C/24/03/10 Date of Next Meeting**

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2024 at the Memorial Hall.

Meeting closed at 8:10pm.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Summary of Recommendations

| Recommendation                            | Recommendation Wording                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|-------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b><u>C/24/03/7.01 Recommendation</u></b> | <b>That the new Cemetery fees proposal from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024 be approved.</b>                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b><u>C/24/03/7.02 Recommendation</u></b> | <b>That the new Cemetery Regulations proposal from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024 be approved.</b>                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b><u>C/24/03/7.03 Recommendation</u></b> | <b>That memorial benches would continue to be provided with stricter controls and be administered by Town Council staff. That alternative options continue to be provided, such as memorial bushes and metal plaques to offset the costs of benches.</b> |

Book number 17 2023 -2024

|                                           |                                                                                                    |
|-------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                           | <b>That a policy be created.</b>                                                                   |
| <b><u>C/24/03/8.01 Recommendation</u></b> | <b>That new annual contracts with the Jockey Club for additional outside services be approved.</b> |

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# EMPOWERING SUFFOLK'S FUTURE

**Public consultation  
on the proposed  
Suffolk Devolution Deal**



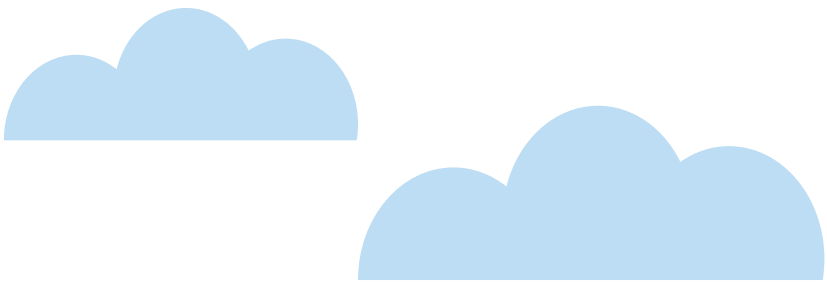
**Have your say**

**18 MARCH - 26 MAY 2024**

## **EMPOWERING SUFFOLK'S FUTURE**

**In December 2022, the Government and Suffolk County Council signed a proposed, in principle, devolution deal which would transfer certain powers and funding from the Government to Suffolk. It would mean more decisions about Suffolk's future being made in Suffolk, rather than nationally. This type of county-level devolution deal is new, and Suffolk is one of the first areas to explore it.**





## WHAT IS A DEVOLUTION DEAL?

Councils make many decisions about public services. Much of the country, including Suffolk, has two tiers of local government: district and borough councils, which provide more local services; and county councils, which generally provide more strategic functions and services that cover the whole county, such as adult and children's social care, household waste sites, transport, environment, economic development, skills, registrars and trading standards.

Local authorities have three main sources of income: council tax, business rates, and direct funding from the Government. In some cases, although councils may be responsible for delivering the services, the Government still makes some of the decisions about how and where funding is spent locally, e.g. in areas such as adult education, transport and the environment.

A devolution deal is an agreement whereby the Government passes control of decisions over some of this funding and areas of policy to local councils. This has already happened in some other areas, including Greater London, Liverpool, West Midlands and Greater Manchester.

## A DEVOLUTION DEAL FOR SUFFOLK

If the proposed deal is finalised, Suffolk would receive new decision-making powers and greater local control of funding in areas including adult education, regeneration and transport, as well as control of a new investment fund worth £480 million over the next thirty years. This could help us to create new jobs, offer local business support and invest in infrastructure.

The proposed deal would also mean that, for the first time, the leader of Suffolk County Council would be directly elected by the people of Suffolk. Once every four years, residents would be given two votes and empowered to elect their local county councillor AND the leader of the county council. The first election would take place on 1 May 2025.

This consultation is an important part of the process. This document contains information about the proposed deal to help you complete the consultation. The results of the survey will be analysed and presented to county councillors and the Secretary of State when they come to make a final decision on how to proceed. This is your opportunity to have your say.

## WHAT IS THE ALTERNATIVE TO A DEAL?

Suffolk's proposed, in principle, devolution deal was agreed following months of discussions between Suffolk County Council and the Government. The agreement reached was for a 'Level 3' devolution deal, which involves the maximum possible devolution of powers and funding currently available as defined in the Levelling Up white paper. There is currently no other offer on the table, so the alternative is to reject the proposed deal. If we wanted a different deal, we would have to restart discussions, and there is no guarantee this would be possible.

# What are the key points from Suffolk's proposed devolution deal?

## £480M INVESTMENT FUND

**Under this deal, Suffolk County Council would be given control over an investment fund worth £16 million per year over thirty years - a total of £480 million.**

This is money we would not otherwise receive. It would be for Suffolk County Council, working with local partners, to decide how best to invest this money but, by way of example, other areas with a devolution deal have used their investment funds on:

- local business support
- regeneration, e.g. by clearing up brownfield sites to make them available for development
- housing infrastructure (for example, providing funding for supported housing for people with learning disabilities and mental health conditions)
- helping young people access free bus travel
- supporting victims of domestic violence
- investing in transport infrastructure.

It would also be possible to borrow larger sums of money and use this funding to pay the interest on it. This could mean that larger infrastructure projects could be developed and started, secure in the knowledge that we have the money to pay for them. This is very common in local government.

The fund is not 'index-linked', which means that its value would decline over time if inflation went up. This is the same for all devolution deals. Government funding arrangements over longer periods of time are usually not index-linked.

**In addition to the investment fund, the deal would transfer budgets and decision-making in key areas which will be explored in the following pages.**



## ADULT EDUCATION BUDGET

The 'Adult Education Budget' funds learning and training courses for adults over the age of 19 and is managed at a national level by the Education and Skills Funding Agency. In simple terms, the agency decides what types of courses should be made available and allocates funding to provide them based on a set financial formula.

Suffolk receives a percentage of the national pot of money available for adult education. Most of this funding is allocated directly to training providers (including our main Further Education colleges) who are restricted on how they can use this by the national formula. There is no direct link between any local skills strategy and the allocation of money to education providers. This means there can be a mismatch between what is needed and what is on offer locally.

**Under the proposed deal, Suffolk County Council would become responsible for commissioning adult education in Suffolk and would work with local businesses and adult education providers to understand the skills needed for Suffolk people and deliver the necessary courses.**

The county council would be given the money that the Government currently allocates to the county – so that it can invest in skills training more closely aligned with local employment and community needs. Based on the current arrangement, this would be **£9.4 million in 2025/26**. This amount could change over time based on the Government's approach to funding adult education. The funding is not index-linked.

Regardless of the amount, this money would be coming to Suffolk anyway. But under the deal, local partners in Suffolk would have control over how it is spent.

As is the case with other areas with devolved control of adult education, Suffolk County Council will need to use a small percentage of the funding to administer the programme. In other areas, this is between 4% and 5%.

Suffolk County Council will look to build on national good practice and ensure that key stakeholders are actively engaged in deciding what training is most needed in Suffolk. Meeting the needs of local businesses and local people would be the key to success.



## REGENERATION

There are currently more than 200 brownfield sites across Suffolk which could be appropriate for development. This includes many derelict industrial sites standing empty. These sites have been identified in partnership with Suffolk's five district and borough councils. Sometimes, all it takes is for a brownfield site to be cleared up and prepared for development in order for it to become financially-viable for potential developers. This includes confirming ownership, demolition and decontamination. As it stands, Suffolk County Council or district and borough councils must bid for funding from the Government to clean up brownfield land.

Instead of bidding for funding on a case-by-case basis, under devolution Suffolk County Council would get a one-off lump sum. In 2024/25, this would be **£5.8 million** which could help unlock the building of new homes on some of that otherwise redundant brownfield land.

**Under devolution, Suffolk County Council would work with local council partners, through their Local Plans, to decide which sites are supported for development. Making more brownfield sites available for development can mean that less development is proposed on greenfield sites.**

This would help create the right locations to increase affordable housing. Decisions would be made in consultation with district and borough councils, as they are responsible for planning decisions and housing.

The deal would also mean that the county council, working closely with district and borough councils and other relevant partners, would get new powers to buy land to support development, regeneration and infrastructure projects that are in the public interest. These compulsory purchase powers would be transferred from the Government's housing and regeneration agency 'Homes England' to Suffolk County Council. With the consent of the local planning authority, Suffolk County Council could also create 'Development Corporations' - legal bodies that support the regeneration of a defined area by using a wide range of powers to acquire, hold, dispose of and develop land and property and develop infrastructure.

## TRANSPORT

As the Local Transport Authority, Suffolk County Council already has transport planning and delivery powers. Suffolk Highways is responsible for Suffolk's roads, and Suffolk's 'Enhanced Partnership' (which also represents local bus operators) makes decisions about how to deliver and improve local bus services. This would continue under devolution. Currently, the Government offers transport funding to Suffolk County Council on an annual basis. This funds a variety of services including pothole repairs and drain clearing. There is also sometimes one-off funding offered on a case-by-case basis, but this is not guaranteed.

**Under devolution, Suffolk County Council would begin to receive multi-year transport funding from Government, which would provide greater certainty for longer-term planning.**

It is not yet clear how much money would be available as part of the multi-year funding. However, this guaranteed investment could help us to

- better plan road improvement schemes
- reduce congestion and carbon emissions by making public transport more attractive
- introduce Oyster card-style smart ticketing
- improve the bus offer in rural areas.

In addition to the multi-year funding, the county council would receive **£250,000** each year for two years to support the development of Suffolk's Local Transport Plan, which sets the strategy for the management, maintenance and development of the county's transport system. This funding could be used to pay for research, consultation and developing business cases.

Finally, evidence from other devolved areas suggests that they are more successful in securing Government financial support for locally important projects. One of the reasons for this may be because devolved areas seem to have a higher profile with Government and are therefore in a stronger position to start negotiations.

## LOCAL DECISION-MAKING

If the proposed devolution deal is approved, Suffolk County Council's governance structure would change.

Currently, all elected county councillors vote on who should be the leader of the council. The leader is usually from the party with the most elected members. The leader then appoints other councillors to the Cabinet and together they make key decisions within the policy framework set by the Full Council. The leader and cabinet members are held accountable by the rest of the elected councillors via the county council's various committees, which scrutinise the cabinet's decisions and make recommendations. This is how it works in most parts of the country.

**Under devolution, the leader of Suffolk County Council would be directly elected by the people of Suffolk. Once every four years, residents would be given two votes and empowered to elect their local county councillor AND the leader of the county council.**

The first election would take place in May 2025, under a 'first past the post' system, meaning that whoever receives the highest number of votes wins.

There would be no new layer of local government or additional offices – the directly elected leader would remain part of Suffolk County Council, and they would not be able to set their own council tax demand. Any extra costs would mainly be around running the election once every four years – alongside the election of county councillors that is already taking place.

This change would create the possibility of new dynamics surrounding the council's leadership. For example, it could be the case that a leader is elected from a different political party than the majority of councillors on the council, or from no political party at all. As now, the directly elected leader would be free to choose any elected members to serve in their cabinet, whether from the majority party, a minority party, or no party.

The Government has a clear preference for directly elected council leaders, and evidence from places like Manchester and the West Midlands suggests that people in similar roles have a higher profile and greater influence with the Government and have been able to negotiate additional devolution for their areas. For example, in March 2024 the Government announced £160 million of funding to create a new Tees Valley Investment Zone to increase productivity and create jobs in that region's digital and creative industries. This investment was secured by the directly-elected Mayor of Tees Valley, the Tees Valley Combined Authority and Teesside University.

In reality, the current decision-making arrangements would continue under a directly-elected leader model. The main difference in Suffolk's case would be how the leader is elected.

## ACCOUNTABILITY AND COOPERATION

Councillors work to reflect the views of their local communities. Residents can contact their local representative in writing, by phone or by email to make their voice heard.

To make important decisions about how public services are delivered and money is used, Suffolk County Council consults and engages with residents, service users, businesses, partners and staff. This would continue under devolution.

Whilst the powers and funding would be devolved to the county council specifically, Suffolk's strong history of collaboration is already written into the text of the proposed deal. The deal's implementation would therefore be a collaborative endeavour with local partners, including the district and borough councils, town and parish councils, business, education partners and others. For example, the county council would work with the district and borough councils, as the local planning authorities, to decide which brownfield sites to clear up; with local transport operators to identify and develop opportunities for new transport projects; and with business partners to develop a local skills strategy.

# Directly Elected and Indirectly Elected Council Leader: Key Differences and Similarities

## HOW IT WORKS NOW

Appointed by  
Full Council

---

Represents a particular  
electoral division

---

## WHAT WOULD STAY THE SAME

Responsible for  
executive functions

---

Appoints a cabinet of between  
2 and 9 other councillors

---

Decides and allocates cabinet  
portfolios; delegates executive  
functions to cabinet members

---

Appoints deputy leader

---

Recommends the strategic  
and budgetary framework  
to Full Council for approval

---

Subject to the council's  
scrutiny arrangements

---

Subject to the Elected Member  
Code of Conduct

---

Receives an allowance  
in accordance with  
the Elected Member Scheme  
of Allowances

---

## THE PROPOSED CHANGES

Directly elected by Suffolk voters

---

Does not represent a particular  
electoral division

---

## NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUFFOLK

Devolution is a journey, not a one-off event. Evidence from other areas shows that devolution opens the door to greater powers and funding over time. For example, Greater Manchester has now negotiated seven devolution deals, covering areas such as planning, transport, and health and social care. The West Midlands has recently agreed a Deeper Devolution Deal with a budget windfall in excess of £1.5 billion to level up the region.

The Government has already announced a fourth level of devolution which would grant even more powers and funding around skills, transport, housing, net zero and other policy areas.

This first deal would pave the way for deeper devolution in the future.

## SUFFOLK'S PROPOSED DEVOLUTION DEAL TEXT IN FULL

The full text of Suffolk's proposed devolution deal with Government can be found at [www.suffolk.gov.uk/devolution](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/devolution)

This in-principle deal was signed by Suffolk County Council and the Government on 8 December 2022 at the home of Claas UK in Little Saxham, near Bury St Edmunds. This proposed deal is now being consulted on publicly.

## The deal in numbers

### **£480 MILLION INVESTMENT FUND**

New Investment Fund worth £16 million per year for 30 years (£480 million in total)

### **£9.4 MILLION\* ADULT EDUCATION BUDGET**

Local control of the Adult Education Budget each year

\*This is the expected allocation for 2024/25

### **£5.8 MILLION REGENERATION FUND**

One-off funding to prepare brownfield sites for use

### **MULTI-YEAR TRANSPORT FUNDING**

£500,000 over two year to develop proposals for the Local Transport Plan



## MORE INFORMATION

More information about Suffolk's proposed devolution deal, including answers to frequently asked questions and a three-minute video explaining the deal, is available at [www.suffolk.gov.uk/devolution](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/devolution)

Equalities Impact Assessment screenings have been completed for this consultation and the impacts of the deal itself. Both are available on our devolution webpage.

A consultation on a previous devolution proposal for Norfolk and Suffolk was held in 2016. This deal was not progressed. An analysis of responses to that consultation has however informed the current consultation.

## GETTING SUFFOLK READY FOR THIS CONSULTATION

Throughout February and early March 2024, Suffolk County Council spoke to more than 1,500 people to tell them about the proposed deal and that the consultation will be launched on 18 March 2024.

This included sharing information and holding online and face to face meetings with representatives from a wide range of organisations and sectors, including:

- Businesses and business federations
- Community organisations and other public bodies
- Town and parish council elected members and staff
- District and borough council elected members and staff
- Suffolk County Council elected members and staff
- Suffolk's MPs.

Feedback from the discussions have further informed the design of the consultation. Key points included the need to:

- Not assume knowledge and explain clearly how things work now and would work under a deal
- Explain that the investment fund is not index-linked and so it could decrease in value over time if inflation rises
- Explain the possibility that a directly elected leader could be from a different political party to the majority of elected councillors, or no political party at all
- Explain the important role that working with partners would play in delivering the deal
- Confirm that the governance changes would not require any new layer of local government and nor would the directly elected leader be able to set their own council tax demand
- Explain that this type of county-level devolution deal is new and that Suffolk one of the first to explore it.

Suffolk County Council also published information about the proposed deal on its website and made available a three-minute video explaining the deal and the consultation. At the time of going to consultation, more than 43,000 people had viewed the video for 15 seconds or more and more than 800 people had accessed the webpage [www.suffolk.gov.uk/devolution](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/devolution)

## IMPARTIAL CONSULTATION PROCESS

Holding an impartial and independent consultation is very important, so we have enlisted the help of the Consultation Institute and Ipsos. We are following the Consultation Institute's rigorous Quality Assurance programme which ultimately determines whether our consultation approach meets their high standards.

**The Institute has confirmed that it is content that the council's approach to the planning of this consultation and its documentation is consistent with industry good practice standards.**

We have also commissioned Ipsos to conduct an independent sample survey of 1,000 Suffolk residents and three focus groups. The work to complete this survey and focus groups will take place during the 10-week consultation period. This survey will complement our wider public survey.

The results of all parts of the consultation will be analysed by Suffolk County Council staff and presented as part of a report on the consultation. Suffolk county councillors and Government ministers will consider the consultation responses as part of the decision-making process on whether or not to proceed with Suffolk's devolution deal.

## HOW TO RESPOND

The consultation will run from 18 March to 26 May (10 weeks) and is open to anyone who lives or works in Suffolk. You can either complete the survey online, via [www.suffolk.gov.uk/devolution](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/devolution), or in hard copy. Copies of the consultation are available in all Suffolk library buildings or can be requested by contacting Suffolk County Council's customer services team. If you need assistance completing the survey, please phone our customer services team.

You can also send comments via letter and email, and these will be analysed for the final report. Although we will be using the media and social media to promote awareness of the consultation, comments received via these channels will not be considered as consultation responses. We will be running online drop-in sessions during the consultation where you can ask further questions. Details are available on our website, on social media or by contacting Suffolk County Council.

This consultation document is available in other languages and formats and these are available on request.



# What happens next?

## 18 MARCH 2024

Consultation opens

## 26 MAY 2024

Consultation closes

## JULY 2024

Suffolk County Council Cabinet considers the outcome of the public consultation. Full Council considers whether to change Suffolk County Council's governance structure and submit consultation result to the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities

## 1 MAY 2025

Election of Leader of Suffolk County Council (if approved) and all County Councillors (guaranteed)

# How to contact Suffolk County Council

Phone: **0345 603 1842**.

Lines are open Monday to Friday, 8:30am to 5:30pm (excluding Bank Holidays).

0345 numbers are charged at the same rate as standard landline numbers that start with 01 or 02. If your phone tariff offers inclusive calls to landlines, calls to 0345 numbers will also be included on the same basis.

Email: **[devolution@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:devolution@suffolk.gov.uk)**

Post: Consultation Team, Suffolk County Council, Endeavour House, 8 Russell Road, Ipswich, IP1 2BX