

Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting of Poringland Parish Council

Wednesday 1st March 2023 at 7pm

Meeting held at Poringland Community Centre

Attendance: Ken Aldridge, Tim Boucher (Chair), Sean Curtis, John Henson, David Hewer, John Joyce, Lisa Neal, Carl Pitelen, Chris Walker.

Also, in attendance: Charlotte Hummel (Clerk), Lisa Callow (Assistant Clerk). Four members of the public were present.

1. Apologies for Absence

John Overton, Vic Thompson (NCC) and Trevor Spruce (SNDC) gave their apologies. These were **ACCEPTED**.

2. Declarations of Interest

L Neal Item 6 - as a SNC Development Management (Planning) Committee and a Cabinet Member.

S Curtis and C Pitelen Item 11 – Non-pecuniary interest as employees of Ben Burgess.

3. Minutes of the Meeting of 1st February 2023

The minutes of the last meeting held on 1st February 2023 were **AGREED**. Proposed C Walker, seconded D Hewer.

4. Matters Arising including Clerk's Report

The clerk reported on the following matters:

Handover of Play Equipment at Clements Gate. The amount confirmed by SNC for the transfer of the play equipment but not including the fencing has been confirmed as £31,506.58. This will now be invoiced by the CIL/S106 Officer at SNC. Transfer is now in the hands of the solicitors.

Emergency Plan. David and the clerk have been working to complete the emergency plan for Poringland. David has a few contacts to correspond with prior to full council approval. This will be brought to the April meeting

Community Centre Breakout Office. Work has commenced on the new office and the widening of the events door. Most work has been completed. The builders are waiting for new window and door to be made. Completion should be within two weeks.

Community Centre Roof. The caretaker has got a contractor to inspect the roof and awaiting a report back of their findings which will be presented to the Community Centre Advisory Group prior to given to full council.

Community Centre Bookings. The bookings within the centre are increasing and the updates to the terms and conditions have been implemented. The office and Chair have received a complaint of which is currently being reviewed and a response will be made.

Mulberry Park Playground Consultation. The designers at Proludic have presented the clerk a design and costings for the park based on the results of the consultation. This will be presented to the Amenities Group before being presented to full council.

Community Engagement. The clerk attended a community engagement reception on 21st February at Framingham Earl High School. This meeting was well attended by PC Andy Sneddon, Framingham Earl PC Dave Todd as well as representatives from the Crown Point Estate and Kelly Lindsay from Friends in deed. Number of items were discussed, including the Joint Coronation Event and Summer Fair., an idea for Five Ways Roundabout. A meeting with the School Council and Tim Boucher and Jerene Irwin with regard to Community Land. Notes of the meeting have been circulated to councillors.

Memorial Bench The memorial bench for Stephen Warminger has now been put in place. I will be contacting Stephens family to invite them to the unveiling, councillors will be informed of the date.

Dog Poo Bin Signs The dog poo bin signs designed by the Primary School Children have now been erected around the village.

First Aid & Fire Training: C Hummel, L Gooderham and A Merrikin have all undertaken and passed their first aid at work, this is valid for 3 years. The community centre staff will shortly be undertaking fire Training.

Five Ways Roundabout Discussions were had at the High School about projects that Highways may find acceptable for the roundabout. There is still some S106 money left to use, and it has been advised that the group previously formulated hold a meeting as soon as possible.

Iris Staffology and Payroll Following the last council meeting the clerk arranged for the ultimate package software and pay roll for £6.00 per employee. The clerk has given the confirmation to go ahead and is now undertaking training to use the software.

EACH Visit – The Chair, Vice Chair, Clerk and Bookings Officer have been invited to visit the Nook as part of their open day on 27th March. This has been confirmed.

Banking Security There have been various issues with Barclays and the transfer of money from the Charity Account. The clerk has filled in forms for a new account. The councils various accounts are asking for various security questions, this has been addressed and some accounts have also been updated to reflect the new staffing structure. Some accounts will still require updating.

5. Adjournment for Public Participation, County and District Council Reports, and Councillors with any Pecuniary Interests

- a) District Councillor L Neal gave her report. Appendix 1
- b) County Councillor V Thomson gave his apologies but supplied a report. Appendix 2
- c) A resident had a number of questions prepared however confirmed that District Councillor J Overton was dealing with them. Their final question related to the ditches in the parish which was covered as part of District Cllr L Neal's update.

Representatives from Time Childcare requested feedback from the community land public consultation following their suggestion to provide an area for them to occupy. The Clerk confirmed that she would provide them with the feedback as requested. The Chair confirmed that he had spoken on the matter with Reverend Robert Parsonage regarding the plans for the new All Saints Centre which has space set aside for Time Childcare.

- d) Police Update – PC Andy Sneddon gave his apologies, and provided the Clerk with the following dates that he will be undertaking community engagement events:

Street Surgery - Saturday 11th March, 1.30-2.30pm at Poringland Community Centre; and

Community Engagement Session – Monday 13th March, 2-3pm at Poringland Community Centre.

He will also be attending Poringland Primary School on Thursday 9th March to have a chat with the children about the role of the police, and to discuss what the children are concerned about.

There is a Priority Setting Meeting via Teams being held on Thursday 23rd March, 7-8pm.

PC Sneddon's main focus continues to be on traffic and speeding.

L Neal withdrew from the meeting

6. Planning

- a) To Consider Applications Received
 - i. 2023/0355 - Proposal: Internal alterations and two storey rear extension
Location: 12 Old Mill Road, Poringland, NR14 7JW
J Joyce presented the application. Following discussions, **NO OBJECTION** was given to the application.
J Joyce proposed, Seconded J Henson. Unanimous.
- b) To Note Planning Decisions
 - i. 2022/2423 - Proposal: Rebuild residential properties
Location: 11 & 12 West View, Poringland, NR14 7LW
Decision: Approval with Conditions

L Neal re-joined the meeting

7. Finance

- a) To Receive Receipts, Payments and Bank Reconciliation up to 31st January 2023
- b) Accounts for Payment
 - i. The accounts for payment were **AGREED** Proposed C Walker, seconded J Joyce.
 - ii. The accounts for payment with pecuniary Interests were **NONE**
 - iii. The additional payment list provided was **AGREED** Proposed C Walker, seconded J Joyce.
 - iv. J Henson **CONFIRMED** he would approve payments for February 2023 and payroll for March 2023.

Payee	Code	Description	Total (Gross)	VAT
Feb '23 Staff costs, PAYE, Pension Contributions & Expenses			£14,304.78	
R King Building & Property	Community Centre	Second Office	£2,800.00	
Richard Morris Associates	Community Land	Arboricultural Survey	£1,950.00	£325.00
Garden Guardian	M.Green/P.Field	Grounds Maintenance	£1,633.70	£272.28
Microshade	General Admin	IT Hosting	£444.30	£74.05
Yare Shipping	Community Centre	Café Consumables	£740.72	£11.22
Amazon For Business	C.Centre/G.Admin	Café/Office Equip/Water filter	£306.59	£51.11
The Print Bar	General Admin	T-shirts	£21.50	
1st Class Fire Protection Ltd	General Admin	Fire Marshall Training	£558.00	£93.00
Officeflow	General Admin	Printing	£57.54	£9.59
Bartlett Signs	Outside Spaces	Sign Brackets	£47.64	£7.94
TCV	Outside Spaces	Memorial Pond Maintenance	£360.00	£60.00
R. King Building & Property	Community Centre	Second Office	£1,567.00	
Spire Cleaning Services Ltd	Community Centre	Cleaning	£86.40	£14.40
Hugh Crane	Community Centre	Cleaning Consumables	£85.33	£14.22
Spruce Landscapes	B.Ground/M.Garden	Grounds & Waste Managemt	£1,676.00	£279.34
Rialtas	General Admin	Year-end Training	£276.00	£46.00
N&G Heating Ltd	Pavilion	Callout - heating & hot water	£70.00	£11.67
NPTS	General Admin	Subscription	£535.00	
Octogon	Section 137	Donation	£375.00	
Small Ecology Ltd	Community Land	Ecology Assessment	£834.13	
Hirer	Community Centre	Refund - Cancellation	£280.00	
Canham Consulting	Community Land	Flood Risk Assessment	£960.00	£160.00
Total Energies	Pavilion	Gas	£2.13	
BT	General Admin	Landline / Broadland	£116.40	£19.40
Veolia	C.Centre/B.Ground	Waste Removal	£78.62	£13.10
South Norfolk	C Centre	Premises License Annual Fee	£180.00	
ESPO	C Centre	Gas (Oct 22 – Jan 23)	£1,378.52	£219.17
Total Energies	Pavilion	Electricity	£239.46	£11.40
Total Energies	C Centre	Electricity	£2,064.84	£344.14
Unity Multi Card	C Centre/Admin/Misc	Café Cons/Web Hosting/etc	£1,712.43	£70.86
Iris Software Ltd	General Admin	IT - HR/Payroll (Feb 23)	£76.80	£12.80
Iris Software Ltd	General Admin	IT - HR/Payroll (March 23)	£76.80	£12.80
Total Energies	Community Centre	Electricity	£1,717.22	£286.21
Worldpay	Community Centre	Card Machine	£106.24	£8.59
Sum Up	Community Centre	Transaction Fees	£2.68	
TOTAL			£37,721.77	£2,2428.29

- c) C Walker presented the Q3 budget monitoring information. The report was **NOTED**, and it was **AGREED** to follow the recommendations of the Finance and Governance Advisory Group to move £3,000 of expenditure relating to the café kitchen upgrade to ear-marked reserves.
- d) The Clerk presented the asset register. It was **AGREED** that only assets worth over £250 should be recorded on the register, any items currently recorded below that value are to be removed. A discussion was had about the accuracy of insurance values which are currently appreciated by 3% per annum. The asset register was

ACCEPTED subject to the agreed changes being made, and a review to be undertaken to ensure the accuracy of the insurance values, proposed T Boucher, seconded J Joyce.

8. Review and Agree the Risk Register

The clerk presented the risk register. J Joyce questioned whether the Clerk should consider a risk for commuted sums, the inevitability of these sums running out and how the council will look to achieve continual maintenance of open spaces. The clerk advised that this has already been raised at the Amenities Advisory Group, and that an item could be added to show the Council have some level of understanding on this matter. The Risk Register was **ACCEPTED** subject to consideration given to the commuted sums risk identified, proposed C Walker, seconded D Hewer. **AP** Clerk to update risk register with this and a proposal to be presented to the Amenities Advisory Group.

9. Agree the Grounds Maintenance Contracts Due for Renewal

Four grounds maintenance companies were approached to tender for the two-year contracts, of which two responded. It was **AGREED** to award the grounds maintenance contracts for the parish verges, Mulberry Green, and the Playing Field to Garden Guardian. Proposed J Henson, seconded C Walker.

10. Agree Contractor to Carry a Tree Survey

Three arboricultural companies were approached and responded to the tender for the tree survey contract. It was **AGREED** to award the contract to Ravencroft Tree Services. Proposed J Henson, seconded L Neal.

11. Consider a Request from Ben Burgess Relating to Staff Training

Ben Burgess have made a request to use the community land for a staff training exercise at the end of March / beginning of April. As part of the training the grass will receive the first cut of the year free of charge. It was **AGREED** to allow the training exercise to go ahead, it will be undertaken mid-week, and the public will be notified via social media and with notices on the gates to the land. Proposed J Henson, seconded L Neal.

12. Consider Options Regarding Damaged Defibrillator as a Result of a Car Accident at the Railway Tavern

The Clerk has provided the police with a quote for the replacement of the damaged defibrillator in order to obtain a reference number, and make a claim with the insurance company. **AP** Clerk to speak to the Land Lady of the Railway Tavern regarding changing the location of the defibrillator to the other end of the building.

13. Transfer of Open Space Land (Phase 3) Rosebury Park

It was **AGREED** to sign the terms of engagement to proceed with the transfer of the play area. The commuted sum of £16,049.21 is to be transferred to Poringland Parish Council. Proposed J Henson, seconded D Hewer.

14. Receive Updates and Consider Recommendations from Advisory Groups

An update was provided on the upcoming events being planned:

- Sunday 7th May – The Big Village Picnic, which will be held on Mulberry Green.
- Monday 8th May – The Big Help Out, this is a day dedicated to doing something for your community. Details are to be confirmed but could include a community litter pick.
- Saturday 17th June – Summer Fete, to be held on Mulberry Green. The Lee Vasey band have been confirmed to play at the fete, and a number of food and drinks stall have been booked.

All the events are being organised jointly with Framingham Earl Parish Council - **NOTED**

15. Receive an Update from the Welcome Home and Memorial Playing Field Trust Charity and how the Charity Conducts itself Moving Forward

Poringland Parish Council is the Trustee to the Welcome Home and Memorial Playing Field Trust Charity, as such all Parish Councillors can attend the meeting, which are not open to the public. The meetings will be minuted accordingly and will be made available to the public – **NOTED**

16. Proposal to close the meeting for items 17 and 18 under section 1 para 2 of the Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960 as it refers to HR and sensitive information including GDPR and Commercially Sensitive Information

Proposed T Boucher, seconded C Walker **AGREED**

17. HR Update

- Advertisements for the two Café Assistant posts have gone live. The two positions will cover the whole week with some overlap, therefore working the same number of hours together as the previous Café Supervisor and Assistant, but allowing the café to offer extended opening hours - **NOTED**
- Further update was given relating to an employee - **NOTED**

18. Request Relating to the Community Land

The Council noted the request and **AGREED** they were not in a position to offer what was required, however they are happy to facilitate in assisting them further.

19. Date and Time of Next Parish Council Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting will take place on Wednesday 5th April at 6pm this will be immediately followed by a Parish Council meeting at 7pm at Poringland Community Centre unless otherwise advised.

Meeting closed at 9.06pm

CHAIRMAN

Appendix 1

Lisa Neal District Councillor Report – March 2023

Domain Migration

It has been 19 months since our joint website went live and we are now approaching the final stages of the migration project to switch off the old domains. So, this means:

- All emails that go to our old email name @s-norfolk.gov.uk will stop forwarding and will not be received and senders will get a generic email to say they have not been delivered.
- The old websites will also stop re-directing.

Modern slavery

Modern slavery and human trafficking are crimes in which people are exploited for other people's personal gain. It takes place all over the world, including Norfolk.

The types of exploitation can include, but are not limited to:

- Sexual exploitation: sex work, escort work, pornography, massage parlours, brothels.
- Organ harvesting: removal of organs for black market sale, transplantation.
- Domestic servitude: nannies, cleaners, housemaids.
- Forced begging: forced labour, street begging, pickpocketing/stealing.
- Labour exploitation: construction, farming, textiles, car washes, nail bars, cannabis production

In Norfolk in 2021:

143 National Referral Mechanisms (NRM) were completed. The NRM is a framework for identifying and referring potential victims of modern slavery and ensuring they receive the appropriate support.

71% of reported modern slavery cases involved women and girls. Female victims made up most sexual exploitation cases with more than 50% being minors.

55% of confirmed victims of forced labour exploitation, were children.

The signs of exploitation are visible in plain sight, providing you know what to look for, and once you notice something, there is often anxiety about what to do next.

If you would like to know more please explore the Norfolk Anti-Slavery Network website: www.norfolkantislaverynetwork.com.

Active NoW

Active Norfolk and Waveney (NoW) is a co-ordination centre for physical activity referrals from the NHS. Commissioned by Norfolk and Waveney Integrated Care System, Active NoW will be a single point of triage for all physical activity opportunities across the county.

Clinicians can refer patients who would benefit from increased levels of activity who will then be contacted by Active NoW staff who will discuss the patient's goals, capabilities and wider support needs before directing them to the most appropriate form of activity. This could be formal exercise referral programmes such as Broadly Active, or independent, general exercise options such as health walks, parkrun or community-based exercise classes, etc.

The Active NoW team will maintain contact with the patients to judge their progress over 12 weeks and plan a suitable exit route before reporting back to the referring clinician. Residents living in Broadland or South Norfolk and in need of wider support will be assisted by the appropriate service through the Help Hub.

South Norfolk and Broadland Councils have successfully been contracted to deliver this service across the county on a 12-month recurrent contract. The coordination centre started formally receiving referrals from 23/1/23. Both councils will continue to deliver the Broadly Active exercise referral programme to eligible residents within both districts, alongside a small amount of commissioned delivery in Norwich.

The Councils have also received funding through the Better Care Fund to test referrals to the programme from non-traditional sources such as Adult Social Care and Social prescribers.

Yours Creatively

Starting this month, we are running a project named Yours Creatively, which is included in residents' Yours Sincerely newsletters. Yours Sincerely is posted to community groups and individual residents throughout South Norfolk who have registered to receive the free newsletter. It contains information regarding the Help Hub services available, engaging chat, recipes, wellbeing advice and information about other community events taking place. The aim of the newsletter is to reach out to those more socially isolated in communities so they can feel engaged and are aware of what help is available from the council.

Yours Creatively is an addition to this newsletter with the aim of promoting good mental health and wellbeing through a creative outlet. Working with local artists, five different art projects have been created that can be done at home/in a community group and recipients will also receive a small pack of art materials to enable them to take part. Each project has a theme to explore and includes different written exercises as well as a wide variety of different art techniques to learn and put into practice.

Residents have the option of sending back their work to us in a freepost envelope with a view to creating a public exhibition in the community this Summer.

If you're aware of any community groups that would benefit from receiving the Yours Sincerely/Yours Creatively newsletter, please let them know about it, they can email communities@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk with their group name and address to be added to the mailing list. If you're aware of any individuals, please get their consent before sending these details over to us.

Mindful Towns and Villages

We want to make South Norfolk a 'Mindful District' by offering community groups and small businesses two types of free mental health training and support from our Help Hub, we will support towns and villages to achieve 'Mindful Town' or 'Mindful Village' status, with the tools to develop a community-led network of Wellbeing Champions.

To be recognised as a 'Mindful Town or Village', several representatives from the local community need to commit to becoming Wellbeing Champions. These could be members from sports clubs, pubs, small local businesses, community organisations, the Town/Parish Council, or any other local community pillars.

These representatives will be offered free training, which will enable them to recognise mental health issues and provide low-level support to individuals in the community. Wellbeing Champions will also be given knowledge on the Councils' Help Hub, local services and how to refer people to a specialist mental health support worker should a resident need further assistance.

When the required number of individuals have completed the training in the area, the Town/ Village will receive window stickers to make residents aware where they can seek support. These can be displayed to show that the place is a safe place to talk and has a Wellbeing Champion for support.

New Member of staff

I'm pleased that we have hired a new Flood & Water Management Officer.

Nathan Harris - Flood & Water Management Officer

01508 505254

07401 191197

nathan.harris@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk

District members were keen for Officers to look after the needs of our local communities and felt the Council is perfectly placed to deliver a strong programme supporting local resilience and identifying actions to reduce flooding likelihood and impacts and they will actively encourage others to do the same.

Another role that I'm really pleased about is a Surface Water Drainage Officer 'Ditch walker'.

New 12 months post

Practical role focussing on 'walking ditches' to inspect, investigate and resolve issues of land drainage, including advising landowners on their responsibilities to maintain water courses.

Emergency incident scheme which means a council representative can be on site in a flooding event, providing support as required

What they will be looking at:

- Riparian issues
- Blocked/Overgrown water courses
- Fly tipping within water courses
- External flooding to property
- Provide general flood prevention advice
- Provide advice on planning

What is the best way to get this information out to your residents and businesses?

If you have parish magazines or well used social media groups please let us know and we can make sure we reach as many people as possible.

Greater Norwich Infrastructure Plan

Norwich City Council, Broadland District Council and South Norfolk Council are the three authorities who make up the Greater Norwich area, and they pool a significant proportion of their CIL income to form a joint Infrastructure Investment Fund.

Each Council bids for funding for projects in the next five years and SNC were successful with a number of projects:

- £153,000 – access and car park improvements at the Caistor Roman Camp
- £133,000 – Queens Hill Community Park
- £468,000 – Cringleford Country Park
- £500,000 – Easton Community Centre
- £5M – Hethel Technology Park – roundabout and access road

Levelling-up and Regeneration Bill: reforms to national planning policy consultation

We had our first joint SN and Broadland Council Policy Committee on Monday to look at the proposed response to the Levelling-up and Regeneration Bill: reforms to national planning policy consultation.

On 22 December 2022, the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities published this consultation which seeks views on Government's proposed approach to updating to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).

This was a forty-two-page document which asked about a number of proposals but the main ones I hope will be agreed with are:

- No longer having to demonstrate a five-year land supply (as long as you have an up to date local plan).
- Getting rid of the 10% buffer that you have to have on top of the five-year land supply.
- Increasing the protection given to Neighbourhood Plans.
- Considering applications which have not been built out by developers.
- Encourage the delivery of more homes for the elderly.
- Taking applicant's past behaviour into account when decision making.

Police

We had Paul Sanford, Chief Constable come and give us a presentation last week which was very interesting.

He told us how policing has had to change so much in recent years, he understands that the public like to see Police more visually and he encourages Officers to "Park, Walk and Talk" but most crime now has Officers working behind closed doors as they are dealing with more fraud, which is often online from individuals who operate from abroad and the other crime which is still unfortunately the highest in the County is domestic abuse.

Speeding which he knows is what most people think is very high is actually not as bad as people think, it's the usual thing that the minority spoil it for the majority who are safe drivers.

Norfolk is still one of the safest County's in Britain and he is determined to keep it that way,

Office furniture

As you know, South Norfolk House is up for sale, and so the remaining contents that we are unable to use at Horizon needs to be found a home.

We have been able to reuse some furniture for the Horizon building and that furniture has already been moved from the House. However, there will be a significant number of desks, pedestals, cupboards, and chairs in mixed conditions that are not suitable for Horizon.

We are therefore looking to ensure as much of the furniture can be re-used as possible and so are planning an Open Day, for our parish and town councils, charities, voluntary sector and partner organisations to take away furniture for free.

The date of that Open Day is **Friday, 17 March 2023**, and will be collection only an invite will be issued shortly.

King's Coronation

South Norfolk Council has established a new grant to support Town and Parish Council's across the district to organise a celebratory event during the King's Coronation Bank Holiday weekend of 6th to 8th May 2023.

The grant will be available to help towards the costs that may occur when organising King's Coronation events for the community.

Town and Parish Councils are eligible to apply for the grant and must demonstrate the funds are to support the provision of an event for residents.

Parish Council's/Meeting's will be able to apply for a £200 grant and Town Council's £300 to cover costs.

The Town or Parish Council may not wish to hold an event themselves. However, they can still apply for funding which can be passed onto a local group or organisation who are organising an event on the King's Coronation Weekend.

Please visit our website for further information <https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/community-funding-3/kings-coronation-grant/1>

Appendix 2

County Councillor Vic Thomson Report 1st March 2023

The Budget

Norfolk County Council has set its latest budget, which tackles spending pressures and protects key services.

The budget approved today includes:

- A net spending increase of £29.6 million to meet rising costs.
- A Council Tax increase in line with the Government's cap of 4.99 per cent – 2.99 per cent for general Council Tax and two per cent for the adult social care precept. This would increase the county council's share of band D bills from £1,516.95 to £1,592.64.
- A "significant proportion" of the £59.7 million savings coming from "doing things better for less", including £17 million from the first phase of a strategic review of the council.

County council leader Councillor Andrew Proctor said the council had to contend with underfunding, high inflation and other pressures – but he was "confident that we have the finances of the council under control and that the budget before you today is balanced, robust and forward looking.

"It's essential we use public money in the best and most efficient ways we can and that's what this budget clearly demonstrates."

Councillor Andrew Jamieson, cabinet member for finance, said: "Our priorities are stable finances, well delivered public services, economic growth and protecting and enhancing Norfolk's heritage and environment.

"We are protecting vital services; investing to tackle flooding; and we have made provision for the aftershocks from Covid and the pump priming the local economy needs to recover."

The spending agreed for each department is:

- Adult social services, £249.5 million
- Children's services, £232.6 million
- Community and environmental services, £177.1 million
- Strategy and transformation, £12.8 million
- Finance and commercial services, £35.8 million

The same meeting approved the council's £956.9 million capital investment in buildings and equipment, funded by grants and property sales. In addition to a range of existing schemes, like the Great Yarmouth Third River Crossing and investment in special education needs (SEND) schools, there are new investments totalling £35 million:

- County Farms refurbishment and carbon reduction schemes (£9.4m)
- The rolling Technology Improvement programme (£8.2m)
- Scottow Enterprise Park refurbishment (£8.6m),
- Estate Buildings Decarbonisation initiatives (£4m)
- Highways improvements (£2.5m)
- Fire and Rescue services equipment and site improvements (£1.2m)
- Expansion of waste recycling sites and services (£0.51m)
- One Million Trees for Norfolk (£0.5m)

The budget reports are available

at <https://norfolkcc.cmis.uk.com/norfolkcc/CalendarofMeetings/tabid/128/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/496/Meeting/1949/Committee/2/SelectedTab/Documents/Default.aspx> .

A County Deal for Norfolk

There is a drop in at Forum on 21st February. 10 to noon and 4-6pm

"The aim is for decisions and funding previously controlled in Westminster to be agreed in Norfolk, for Norfolk. Devolution.

"Striking a deal will help us to boost our economy through jobs, training, housing and development, to improve our transport network and to support our environment.

"I'm delighted that Norfolk is well positioned to gain additional powers and money to improve people's lives, thanks to the County Deal we have agreed in principle with the Government.

"Getting to this point shows that the Government sees Norfolk as a can-do county. I'm confident that we can make a success of this and that more powers and funding would follow."

Have your say

Give us your views on A County Deal for Norfolk by taking part in our consultation.

We're holding a series of Community Drop-in events around Norfolk for you to find out more about the County Deal.

Norfolk County Council and the Government have agreed, in principle, a new County Deal for Norfolk, to transfer funding and powers to this area – a process known as devolution.

Subject to reaching final agreement, it will enable us to invest in areas such as better transport, skills, job opportunities, housing and regeneration, tailored to the specific needs of local people.

Agreeing a County Deal for Norfolk would mean that, from 2024 onwards, we can:

- Have a Council Leader who is directly elected by the public, with the first election in May 2024
- Target funding and resources to Norfolk's own priorities
- Attract and retain new and key businesses and sectors
- Invest in the skills we know we need
- Unlock housing and employment sites
- Raise our profile nationally, enabling our voice to be heard by Government and help shape future policies

The Deal makes it clear that the County Council and Government are "minded" to agree a deal and that further steps will be taken before a final decision.

More money for Norfolk

Under a Deal, Norfolk would receive a £20 million investment fund, every year for 30 years. There would also be specific funding for integrated transport, brownfield development (£7 million), adult education, and infrastructure (£5.9 million for housing, regeneration and development, during this Spending Review period).

Experience from other areas such as Greater Manchester, that secured devolution deals a few years ago, show that initial deals can open the door to receiving further powers and money and influence.

No extra costs

An elected County Council Leader would be supported by the County Council's existing departments and officers. This contrasts with mayoral combined authorities in cities, which have their own staff and running costs, separate from the local council and creating another layer of local government.

No changes to Norfolk's councils

The Government is clear that County Deals are not about local government reorganisation and so the County Council will continue to work closely with Norfolk's district, town and parish councils.

Working with our partners

The County Council is committed to working closely with key partners such as district councils, businesses and other bodies, to make the most of any new powers and funding that come into Norfolk as a result of a deal.

It's a wrap!

Working with our contractors, Biffa, we've wrapped the side of this new bin lorry to remind everyone not to bin their batteries.

- Batteries can cause fires, so please don't put them in your rubbish or recycling bin
- Pop them out in a separate small carrier bag next to your bin on collection day and, space allowing, our crews will pick them up
- Or take them to the battery recycling point at your nearest supermarket

£2 capped single bus fare extended from the end of March to 30th June

Parish Partnership and Members Highways Grant

These will both continue next financial year. Start looking around your Parish!

Norfolk County Council has made continued progress in improving SEND services after feedback by OFSTED Brilliant news for Norfolk