

# West Northamptonshire

## SHADOW AUTHORITY



**Meeting:** West Northamptonshire Shadow Authority

**Date:** 15 September 2020

**Time:** 7:00 pm

**Venue:** Virtual meeting via Zoom

Members of the West Northamptonshire Shadow Authority are summoned to attend a meeting to consider the items of business listed on the agenda below:

The meeting will be available for the public to view here:

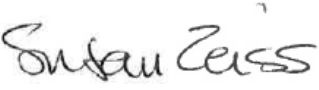
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCujrRO-y6RzkN6zPQ-xNAtA>

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Contact: [democraticservices@westnorthants.gov.uk](mailto:democraticservices@westnorthants.gov.uk)

Item		Page no.
01	To receive apologies for non-attendance	-
02	To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 18 <sup>th</sup> August 2020	7-13
03	To receive declarations of interest	-
04	To receive announcements from the Chair	-
05	To receive statements from members of the public This item is limited to 30 minutes.	-
06	Question submitted by councillors and members of the public Questions of which prior notice have been given may be asked of the Chair, Leader, Portfolio Holder or the Chair of a Committee. This item is limited to 30 minutes.	-
07	To receive the Record of Decisions of the Shadow Executive Committee and the minutes of other committees: a) Shadow Executive Committee – 25 <sup>th</sup> August 2020 b) Shadow Overview & Scrutiny Committee – 17 <sup>th</sup> August 2020 (draft)	15-23
08	Appointment of the Statutory Officers and other Senior Officers Report by the Interim Head of Paid Service	25-30

09	<p><b>West Northamptonshire Unitary Council Draft Blueprint</b></p> <p>Report by the Shadow Executive</p>	31-66
10	<p><b>Updates to the Shadow Authority's Constitution</b></p> <p>Report by the Governance Task and Finish Group</p>	67-70
11	<p><b>Motion on notice</b></p> <p><b>11 a) Motion submitted by Councillor Martin Johns</b></p> <p>This Shadow Authority notes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The publication by Government of the White Paper, 'Planning for the Future' on 6 August 2020, which sets out proposals on reforms to the planning process for the future. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That the vast majority of planning applications are given the go ahead by local authority planning committees, with permission granted to around 9 out of 10 applications.</li> <li>• That research by the Local Government Association has said that there are existing planning permissions for more than one million homes that have not yet been started.</li> </ul> </li> </ol> <p>This Shadow Authority is concerned that the proposals seek to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Reduce or remove the right of residents to object to applications near them.</li> <li>2. Grant automatic rights for developers to build on land identified as 'for growth'.</li> <li>3. Remove section 106 payments for infrastructure and their replacement with a national levy.</li> </ol> <p>This Shadow Authority Further Notes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Royal Institute for British Architects called the proposals 'shameful and which will do almost nothing to guarantee delivery of affordable, well-designed and sustainable homes'. RIBA also said that proposals could lead to the next generation of slum housing.</li> <li>2. The reforms are opposed by the all-party Local Government Association, currently led by Conservative Councillors.</li> </ol> <p>This (shadow) Council Believes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That existing planning procedures through our Sovereign Councils allow for local democratic engagement over future development and give local people a say in planning proposals that affect them.</li> <li>2. That proposals for automatic rights to build in 'growth' areas, and increased permitted development rights, risk unregulated growth and unsustainable communities.</li> <li>3. That local communities must be in the driving seat on shaping the future of their communities, and local determination of the planning framework and planning applications play an important part in this process.</li> </ol>	-

	<p>This (shadow) Council resolves to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Take part in the consultation in the planning proposals, and to make representations against the proposals as outlined in this motion.</li> <li>2. Write to and lobby all of our local Members of Parliament, urging them to oppose these proposals and to circulate their replies to members.</li> <li>3. Publish its consultation response through the Future Northants webpages.</li> </ol> <p><b>11 b) Motion submitted by Councillor Enam Haque</b></p> <p>With the proposed de regulation of planning, giving developers ever increasing control over our environments, it is more important than ever to think local and act local. The Localism Act 2011 made provision for Neighbourhood Forums to undertake Neighbourhood Planning. We have examples of excellent Neighbourhood Plans in West Northants. All our communities deserve the same opportunity.</p> <p>Neighbourhood planning gives communities direct power to develop a shared vision for their neighbourhood and shape the development and growth of their local area. They are able to choose where they want new homes, shops and offices to be built, have their say on what those new buildings should look like and what infrastructure should be provided, and grant planning permission for the new buildings they want to see go ahead. Neighbourhood planning provides a powerful set of tools for local people to plan for the types of development to meet their community's needs and where the ambition of the neighbourhood is aligned with the strategic needs and priorities of the wider local area.</p> <p>We therefore call on the West Northants Shadow Authority to build into the requirement for aggregation and transformation, the capacity to assist in the development of Neighbourhood Forums across our area.</p>	
<p><b>12</b></p>	<p><b>Urgent Items</b></p> <p>To consider any items of business of which notice has been given to the Proper Officer prior to the first meeting of the Shadow Authority and the Chairman considers to be urgent pursuant to the LGA 1972.</p>	
	 <p><b>Susan Zeiss, Proper Officer</b> <b>7th September 2020</b></p>	

### What is the Shadow Authority?

In accordance with Government legislation, a West Northamptonshire Shadow Authority has been established in order to oversee preparations for the establishment of a new local authority for West Northamptonshire by April 2021. It is responsible for certain major decisions, including setting the budget for the new authority.

### Who are the members of the Shadow Authority?

The shadow authority is composed of all of the existing borough, district and county councillors in the West Northamptonshire area:

<b>Daventry District Council</b>	<b>Northampton Borough Council</b>	<b>Northamptonshire County Council</b>	<b>South Northamptonshire Council</b>
Number of Wards: 16	Number of Wards: 33	Number of Divisions: 31	Number of Wards: 27
Number of Councillors: 36	Number of Councillors 44 (one vacancy)	Number of Councillors: 30 (one vacancy)	Number of Councillors: 41 (one vacancy)
Johnnie Amos Richard Auger Adam Brown Nick Bunting Alan Chantler Daniel Cribbin Stephen Dabbs Deanna Eddon Rupert Frost Jo Gilford Liz Griffin Lauryn Harrington-Carter Jonathan Harris Alan Hills Amy Howard Wayne Howard Cécile Irving-Swift David James Catherine Lomax Malcolm Longley Peter Matten Richard Micklewright Chris Millar Colin Morgan Stephen Osborne Kevin Parker Sarah Peck	Tony Ansell Rufia Ashraf Mohammed Azizur-Rahman Sally Beardsworth Jane Birch Alan Bottwood Muna Cali Nazim Choudary Clement Chunga Julie Davenport Janice Duffy Gareth Eales Terrie Eales Brandon Eldred Penelope Flavell Matthew Golby Luke Graystone Tim Hadland Mike Hallam Anamul Haque Stephen Hibbert James Hill Paul Joyce Andrew Kilbride Samuel Kilby-Shaw Anna King Jamie Lane	Richard Auger* Fiona Baker* Jane Birch* Lizzy Bowen Rebecca Breese* Adam Brown* Robin Brown Pinder Chauhan Michael Clarke Julie Davenport* Gareth Eales* Matthew Golby* André Gonzalez de Savage Mike Hallam* Amy Howard* Cécile Irving-Swift* Andrew Kilbride* Stephen Legg Malcolm Longley* Arthur McCutcheon* Dennis Meredith* Ian Morris Stephen Osborne* Suresh Patel* Anjona Roy Sam Rumens Judy Shephard	Ann Addison Mark Allen Robert Atkinson Anthony Bagot-Webb Fiona Baker Dermot Bambridge Sandra Barnes MBE Phil Bignell Caryl Billingham MBE Rebecca Breese John Budden Carole Clarke Roger Clarke Stephen Clarke Karen Cooper Richard Dallyn Hywel Davies Peter Davies Valerie Furniss Andrew Grant David Harries BEM Rosie Herring Steven Hollowell Gregor Hopkins Martin Johns Chris Lofts Dennis Loveland Charles Manners

Jason Pritchard Wendy Randall Ken Ritchie Ian Robertson John Shephard David Smith Mike Warren Mark Wesley Lesley Woolnough	Phil Larratt Christopher Malpas Brian Markham Mary Markham Les Marriott Arthur McCutcheon Dennis Meredith Jonathan Nunn Brian Oldham Nilesh Ramesh- Parekh Suresh Patel Emma Roberts Catherine Russell Brian Sargeant Zoe Smith Danielle Stone Graham Walker	Danielle Stone* Winston Strachan Allen Walker*	Ian McCord Abigail Medina Alice Kim Ord Ken Prichard Peter Rawlinson Lisa Samiotis Mary-Anne Sergison- Brooke Sandi Smallman Catherine Tarbun John Townsend Allen Walker Elaine Wiltshire Paul Wiltshire
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#### **When does the Shadow Authority meet?**

The Shadow Authority meets in accordance with the schedule below, but it may meet more frequently if required. Meetings take place on Tuesdays at 7pm

- Tuesday 18 August 2020
- Tuesday 15 September 2020
- Tuesday 16 February 2021

The venue will be confirmed when the papers for a particular meeting are published, but at the moment meetings are taking place virtually. Members of the public who wish to view the meeting can do so via the West Northamptonshire Democratic Services YouTube Channel here:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCujrRO-y6RzkN6zPQ-xNAAtA>

#### **How do I find out about what is being discussed at future meetings?**

The agenda and reports for all meetings are published 5 working days in advance and can be downloaded here:

<https://cmis.northamptonshire.gov.uk/cm5live/WestNorthamptonshireShadowAuthority.aspx>

#### **Can I participate in meetings?**

Shadow Authority meetings are normally held in public. At present, members of the public may watch the proceedings via YouTube (see link above) in place of attending meetings in person. Members of the public who live or work in the area of the Shadow Authority may request to make a statement on any item on the public part of the agenda. Any person who wishes to make such a statement must submit their statement to the Monitoring Officer, via Democratic Services, at least 24 hours before the start of the meeting.

## **Declarations of Interest**

Shadow Councillors are reminded that the Code of Conduct contains provisions relating to the declaration of interests. Please refer to the Code of Conduct for a fuller description of what constitutes an interest. Shadow Councillors are reminded of the seriousness of failing to declare an interest. Shadow Councillors are reminded that if they have a Discloseable Pecuniary Interest or a significant Non-Statutory Discloseable Interest in a matter to be discussed, whether registered or not, they must not take part in the debate or vote on that matter and should remove themselves from the meeting room irrespective of whether they are a member of the committee.

Members are reminded that under the Code of Conduct, they need only declare the existence of an interest if that interest is not already listed in their register of interests. When declaring an interest at a meeting, councillors are asked to state:

- The item number in which they have an interest;
- The nature of the interest; and
- Whether the interest is a Discloseable Pecuniary Interest or Non-statutory Discloseable Interest.

It is the responsibility of individual Shadow Councillors to decide whether any of these provisions apply in particular circumstances, but Shadow Councillors may wish to seek the advice of the Interim Monitoring Officer before the meeting.