



**West
Northamptonshire
Council**

Council

A meeting of the Council will be held at the One Angel Square, Angel Street, Northampton, NN1 1ED on Thursday 23 September 2021 at 6.00 pm

Agenda

1.	Apologies for Absence
2.	Declarations of Interest Members are asked to declare any interest and the nature of that interest which they may have in any of the items under consideration at this meeting.
3.	Minutes of Council (Pages 11 - 30) To confirm the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 15 th July 2021.
4.	Chairman's Announcements To receive communications from the Chairman of the Council.
5.	Public Participation (1) Receipt of Petitions (if any) from Local Government Electors for the District (2) Questions (if any) from the Public
6.	Written Questions To receive any written questions and answers which have been submitted with advance notice in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11.2. Questions of which prior notice have been given may be asked of the Chair, Leader, Portfolio Holder or the Chair of a Committee.

7.	<p>Announcements by the Leader of the Council</p> <p>To receive communications from the Leader of the Council</p>
8.	<p>Cabinet Member Reports and Record of Decisions Taken by the Cabinet (Pages 31 - 80)</p>
<p>Items of Business</p>	
9.	<p>Youth Justice Plan (Pages 81 - 126)</p>
10.	<p>Planning policy, conservation areas, local lists and Article 4 Directions - suggested approach for decision making (Pages 127 - 132)</p>
11.	<p>Changes to Committee Places (Pages 133 - 136)</p>
12.	<p>Afghan Refugee Update (Pages 137 - 144)</p>
13.	<p>Motions</p> <p>To debate any motions which have been submitted with advance notice, in accordance with the Council's Procedure Rules.</p> <p><u>Motion 1</u></p> <p>Proposed by Cllr. Rufia Ashraf Seconded by Cllr. Bob Purser</p> <p>This Council notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That analysis of the 2019 Local Election results by the Fawcett Society found that only 35% of councillors in England are women, up 1% since 2018. Of the seats that were up for election in 2018, 38% went to women, up just 3 percentage points on 2014 when these seats were last contested; • As of October 2020, 27 councils have passed the LGA Labour Group's Parental Leave policy, and an additional 9 councils have their own parental leave policy in place; • That the role of a councillor should be open to all, regardless of their background, and that introducing a parental leave policy is a step towards encouraging a wider range of people to become councillors, and is also a step to encourage existing councillors who may want to start a family to remain as councillors; • That parental leave must apply to parents regardless of their gender, and that it should also cover adoption leave to support those parents who choose to adopt. <p>This Council resolves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To adopt the parental leave policy drafted by the LGA Labour Group's Women's Taskforce to give all councillors an entitlement to parental leave after giving birth

or adopting;

- To ensure that councillors with children and other caring commitments are supported as appropriate;
- To notify the LGA that this council has passed a motion at full council to adopt the parental leave policy.

Motion 2

Proposed by: Cllr Julie Davenport
Seconded by: Cllr Dennis Meredith

This council understands the huge negative impact that the coronavirus pandemic has had on local businesses and in particular the Town Centre retail and hospitality sectors.

West Northamptonshire Council aims to support its local businesses. Our residents and council ask the executive to investigate the options, including free car parking, for car parking in all council owned car parks and to continue looking at other initiatives to improve and stimulate our town centres.”

Motion 3

Proposer: Cllr. Stone
Secunder: Cllr. Alwahabi

The Authority recognises the many challenges faced by care leavers. We have shown our commitment to them by taking away the burden of council tax for all care leavers until they reach the age of 25 years. We now commit to the provision of one year's free broadband for all young people leaving care, for the first 12 months.

Motion 4

Proposer: Cllr. Alwahabi
Secunder: Cllr. Haque

WNC is a new authority and committed to change and transformation where it will benefit our most vulnerable residents. The Pandemic has highlighted the need for more IT resources for children living in disadvantaged circumstances. WNC commits to recycling all unwanted IT devices and handing them over to a local charity for refurbishment and redistribution for West Northants children, young people, and care leavers.

Motion 5

Proposed by: Cllr Gareth Eales
Seconded by: Cllr Janice Duffy

West Northants Council believes planning works best when developers and the local community work together to shape local areas and deliver necessary new homes; and therefore calls on the Government to protect the right of communities to object to individual planning application.

Motion 6

Proposed by: Cllr Bob Purser
Seconded by: Cllr Cathrine Russell

In the light of continuing concern by local residents on the growth of HiMOs, and their impact on local communities, West Northants Council will set up a review of the criteria for approval and report back by April 2022.

Motion 7

Proposed by: Cllr Jonathan Harris
Seconded by: Cllr Sally Beardsworth

The White Ribbon campaign is at the forefront of campaigning to both end domestic violence and change attitudes to ensure that not only the act but any and all attitudes that condone domestic violence are eradicated.

This Council Meeting notes that

- ONS figures show that almost one in three women aged 16-59 will experience domestic abuse in their lifetime; that two women a week in England and Wales are killed by a current or former partner; that over half a million women are raped or sexually assaulted each year and that a YouGov poll shows that a third of girls have experienced sexual harassment in schools.
- the global pandemic has led to more women and girls being vulnerable to domestic abuse and, according to a BBC news report last July, the initial three months of the first national lockdown saw an 80% increase in calls to the National Domestic Abuse Hotline.
- that, according to crime-survey and other government data, victims disproportionately come from those groups which already experience inequality and additional challenges in our society, including those who are mixed-race, have disabilities, or are transgender.
- and, as we reflect on the end of the delayed UEFA Euro 2020 tournament, previous research by Lancaster University showed that reported domestic abuse incidents increase whenever any of the home nations play in a major tournament, and the effect is particularly large on the days when those teams lose.

This Council Meeting further notes that

- White Ribbon UK is the leading charity with a mission to end male violence against women and part of the global White Ribbon movement which arose from a campaign started by men in Canada in 2004
- White Ribbon Day is marked annually on 25th November, the International Day for the Eradication of Violence Against Women, by encouraging men and boys to pledge never to take part in, condone or stay silent about violence against women and to make this public by wearing a white ribbon on the day and a week or two afterwards
- White Ribbon UK operate a system of female Champions, male Ambassadors and Youth Advocates, as well as having specific materials to support primary and secondary schools, all with the aim of encouraging men to take the pledge and help to eradicate male violence against women.

This Council Meeting believes male violence against women can never be condoned and West Northamptonshire Council should do everything in its power to ensure

women are safe. As part of this, the council should facilitate and encourage participation by councillors, staff and schools in the White Ribbon Campaign.

This West Northamptonshire Council therefore resolves to

- encourage all male Councillors to take the White Ribbon pledge, never to take part in, condone or stay silent about violence against women.
- undertake as soon as practicable the steps necessary to achieve White Ribbon accreditation, joining the large number of public sector bodies which have already done so and as part of this, appoint a male Councillor as an Ambassador;
- mark White Ribbon Day on 25th November each year with a fundraising event; and encourage participation among council staff and local primary and secondary schools.
- liaise with the Police and Crime Commissioners office to understand better the issues that exist in West Northamptonshire and if necessary, establish a cross-party working group to develop a strategy to build awareness of the International Day for the Eradication of Violence Against Women.

Motion 8

Proposed by: Cllr Dennis Meredith

Seconded by: Cllr Sally Beardsworth

Fraser Park is an area that is cherished by local residents who say it is one of the few safe outdoor spaces they have. This area has also recently been identified as one of the five 'left behind' areas in Northamptonshire. According to these findings, these communities are likely to experience a range of adverse outcomes, according to evidence presented to the APPG. This includes lower levels of educational attainment, reduced employment opportunities and a higher rate of ill health.

'Left behind' neighbourhoods are also noted as having lower levels of community spaces, cultural, educational, leisure and green assets than other deprived areas. It would seem entirely illogical to even consider allowing development on such an open space given these factors.

The proposal to build 125 affordable homes on the site put forward by Northamptonshire Partnership Homes (NPH) comes at a time when the importance of such open spaces for residents, especially those in urban areas, has grown in its relevance and significance as a result of our experience during the COVID pandemic. Whilst this proposal was included as part of the Northampton Borough Council local plan, which was supported Pre-COVID, circumstances have changed and the significance of maintaining these types of spaces for both leisure and environmental reasons has grown significantly.

The Conservative manifesto for the West Northants election clearly states "Parks and other green spaces are much valued by residents as a vitally important amenity. We will continue to maintain them to a high standard....." and the West Northants Corporate plan states that the council will "Maintain our parks and green spaces to a high standard and make them an amenity for all". Building on this green space breaks these promises.

This council notes that, whilst there is no doubt a need for additional social housing, it is equally important to protect and preserve green spaces for residents especially in urban settings.

West Northamptonshire council therefore resolves to:

- Review the decision to build on Fraser Park.
- Actively explore alternative brown field locations for the 125 proposed homes.
- Form a task and finish group to include all elected West Northamptonshire council members representing the area, local community groups, members of Northampton Town Council, actively supported by council officers to develop a local business plan with the community to identify and implement an action plan.
- Develop a four-year investment plan for the area.

Motion 9

Proposed by: Cllr Emma Roberts

Seconded by: Cllr Wendy Randall

This Council is committed to an anti-poverty strategy by understanding impacts and taking real action to lift people out of poverty. It also believes that the Government should stop the planned cut in Universal Credit and Working Tax Credit. Over 19,000 people receive Universal Credit in Northampton alone - in nearly 24% of all families in the area. This is the eighth highest number in the whole of the East Midlands.

This Council notes figures from the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, which show that 6.2 million families across the UK will feel a £1,040 hit to their yearly incomes almost overnight and 500,000 people – among whom 200,000 are children – are at real risk of falling into poverty and deprivation.

This Council therefore RESOLVES to join charities, local support groups and residents in writing to the Government expressing its deep concern and calling for Government to make the £20 uplift to Universal Credit permanent and extend it to legacy benefits, in light of the overwhelming evidence of the negative impact this will otherwise have on many within the authority's area

14. Urgent Business (previously agreed with the Chairman)

The Chairman to advise whether they have agreed to any items of urgent business being admitted to the agenda.

15. Exclusion of Press and Public

Should Members decide not to make a decision in public, they are recommended to resolve as follows:

“That under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item(s) of business on the grounds that, if the public and press were present, it would be likely that exempt information falling under the provisions of Schedule 12A, Part I, Paragraph(s) XXXXX would be disclosed to them, and that in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.”

Catherine Whitehead
Proper Officer
15 September 2021

Council Members:

Councillor Ann Addison (Chair)

Councillor Andre Gonzalez De Savage (Vice-Chair)

Councillor Rufia Ashraf

Councillor Jamal Alwahabi

Councillor Azizur Rahman

Councillor Anthony S. Bagot-Webb

Councillor Fiona Baker

Councillor Dermot Bambridge

Councillor Harry Barrett

Councillor William Barter

Councillor Sally Beardsworth

Councillor Phil Bignell

Councillor Lizzy Bowen

Councillor Rebecca Breese

Councillor Adam Brown

Councillor Michael Brown

Councillor Muna Cali

Councillor Alan Chantler

Councillor Pinder Chauhan

Councillor Nazim Choudary

Councillor Imran Ahmed Chowdhury BEM

Councillor Paul Clark

Councillor Stephen Clarke

Councillor Maggie Clubley

Councillor Fiona Cole

Councillor Raymond Connolly

Councillor Karen Cooper

Councillor Daniel Cribbin

Councillor Julie Davenport

Councillor Janice Duffy

Councillor Paul Dyball

Councillor Gareth Eales

Councillor Terrie Eales

Councillor Alison Eastwood

Councillor Penelope Flavell

Councillor Louisa Fowler

Councillor Rupert Frost

Councillor Jo Gilford

Councillor Terry Gilford

Councillor Matt Golby

Councillor Andrew Grant

Councillor Mike Hallam

Councillor Enam Haque

Councillor Lauryn Harrington-Carter

Councillor Jonathan Harris

Councillor Cheryl Hawes

Councillor Rosie Herring

Councillor Stephen Hibbert

Councillor James Hill

Councillor Nigel Hinch

Councillor Keith Holland-Delamere

Councillor Mark Hughes

Councillor Rosie Humphreys

Councillor Cecile Irving-Swift

Councillor David James

Councillor Koulla Jolley

Councillor Paul Joyce

Councillor Andrew Kilbride

Councillor Anna King

Councillor Jamie Lane

Councillor Phil Larratt

Councillor Daniel Lister

Councillor Malcolm Longley

Councillor Greg Lunn

Councillor Charles Manners

Councillor Peter Matten

Councillor Ian McCord	Councillor Dennis Meredith
Councillor Colin Morgan	Councillor Charles Morton
Councillor Jonathan Nunn	Councillor Kevin Parker
Councillor Suresh Patel	Councillor Ken Pritchard
Councillor Bob Purser	Councillor Wendy Randall
Councillor Emma Roberts	Councillor Jake Roberts
Councillor Sam Rumens	Councillor Cathrine Russell
Councillor Lisa Samiotis	Councillor Brian Sargeant
Councillor Sue Sharps	Councillor John Shephard
Councillor David Smith	Councillor Zoe Smith
Councillor Richard Solesbury-Timms	Councillor Laura Stevenson
Councillor Danielle Stone	Councillor Winston Strachan
Councillor Nick Sturges-Alex	Councillor Walter Tarasiewicz
Councillor Mike Warren	

Information about this Agenda

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence and the appointment of substitute Members should be notified to democraticservices@westnorthants.gov.uk prior to the start of the meeting.

Declarations of Interest

Members are asked to declare interests at item 2 on the agenda or if arriving after the start of the meeting, at the start of the relevant agenda item

Local Government and Finance Act 1992 – Budget Setting, Contracts & Supplementary Estimates

Members are reminded that any member who is two months in arrears with Council Tax must declare that fact and may speak but not vote on any decision which involves budget setting, extending or agreeing contracts or incurring expenditure not provided for in the agreed budget for a given year and could affect calculations on the level of Council Tax.

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Queries Regarding this Agenda

If you have any queries about this agenda, please contact Democratic Services via the following:

Email: democraticservices@westnorthants.gov.uk

Or by writing to:

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