



**West  
Northamptonshire  
Council**

**Council**

Minutes of a meeting of the Council held at Great Hall, The Guildhall, St Giles Street, Northampton, NN1 1DE on Thursday 21 April 2022 at 6.00 pm.

Present            Councillor Ann Addison (Chair)  
                      Councillor Andre Gonzalez De Savage (Vice-Chair)  
                      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 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 Paul Dyball  
                      Councillor Alison Eastwood  
                      Councillor Rupert Frost  
                      Councillor Jo Gilford  
                      Councillor Terry Gilford  
                      Councillor Matt Golby  
                      Councillor Andrew Grant  
                      Councillor Mike Hallam  
                      Councillor Enam Haque  
                      Councillor Jonathan Harris  
                      Councillor Rosie Herring  
                      Councillor Stephen Hibbert  
                      Councillor James Hill  
                      Councillor Nigel Hinch  
                      Councillor Keith Holland-Delamere  
                      Councillor Mark Hughes  
                      Councillor Rosie Humphreys

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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 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 Lisa Samiotis  
Councillor Brian Sargeant  
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

Apologies  
for  
Absence:

Councillor Rufia Ashraf  
Councillor Pinder Chauhan  
Councillor Julie Davenport  
Councillor Janice Duffy  
Councillor Gareth Eales  
Councillor Terrie Eales  
Councillor Penelope Flavell  
Councillor Louisa Fowler  
Councillor Cheryl Hawes  
Councillor Charles Manners  
Councillor Peter Matten  
Councillor Ian McCord

Councillor Cathrine Russell  
Councillor Sue Sharps  
Councillor John Shephard

12. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ashraf, Chauhan, Davenport, Duffy, G Eales, T Eales, Flavell, Fowler, Harrington-Carter, Hawes, Manners, Matten, McCord, Russell, Sharps, and Shephard.

13. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest by Members.

14. **Minutes of Council**

The minutes of Council held on 21<sup>st</sup> February and 24<sup>th</sup> February 2022 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

15. **Chairman's Announcements**

The Chairman reminded Members that her Charity Dinner would be taking place at the Park Inn Hotel in Northampton on Friday 13th May at 7:00pm. Ticket sales would support the Chairman's chosen charity, Cynthia Spencer Hospice. Members were asked to approach the Assistant Chief Executive regarding tickets. The Chairman also announced that a comfort break would be taking place for 15 minutes at the conclusion of Item 7.

16. **Public Participation**

- (1) There were no requests to submit petitions from Local Government Electors for the District.
- (2) The Chairman advised of 6 requests to address Council.

Robert Mellor, on behalf of Climate Action West Northamptonshire, addressed Council in relation to Item 6 and stated that in terms of carbon emissions, households and road traffic were the worst offenders. He advised that air quality monitors had been installed in several towns which were beginning to show that from time to time, there were problems with poor air quality. Mr Mellor urged the Council to improve air quality monitoring in order to see the true extent of West Northamptonshire's air quality issue.

John Crick addressed Council in relation to Item 6 and stated that personal vehicle use was a significant factor in terms of carbon generation, with 40% of urban car journeys less than 2 miles. More accessible infrastructure was needed to encourage people to switch to active travel and Mr Mellor further stated that the DfT (Department for Transport) were reducing general highways funding for local authorities that were not putting active travel at the heart of their transport strategies.

Anjona Roy addressed Council in relation to Item 11, Motion 1, and stated that many Fairtrade farmers were already facing the worst effects of climate change, whilst contributing the least to the climate crisis. Ms Roy stated that by becoming a Fairtrade Authority, West Northamptonshire Council would demonstrate the leadership that communities needed to promote fairness and entrepreneurial action.

Zachary Pilkington addressed Council in relation to Item 11, Motion 2, and expressed disappointment at the lack of services for young people in Northampton. He noted that there were several parks in the town, but one, for instance, had ping-pong tables but no equipment; he advised that not everyone could afford their own sports equipment and suggested that a central base, where young people could borrow equipment (through their school or youth association), would provide young people with safe activities that would keep them out of trouble.

Becky Whiting addressed Council in relation to Item 11, Motion 2, and stated that all young people in West Northamptonshire deserved a statutory protected, wide-ranging and universal youth service, with ringfenced funding from central and local government and delivered by local authorities, youth voluntary organisations and schools working in partnership. The provision of such a youth service would constitute value for money since it would lead to many young people not having to access higher tiered and more costly interventions later in life.

Jane Wood, on behalf of Climate Action West Northamptonshire, addressed Council in respect of Item 11, Motion 3, and stated that the Climate and ecological Emergency Bill would provide a mechanism for joined up actions across the UK to address climate change and ecological breakdown and provide local authorities with legislative framework for delivery of changes needed to improve human health and wellbeing and support nature recovery.

## 17. **Priority Opposition Motion**

Councillor Purser proposed and Councillor Holland-Delamere seconded:

“This Council notes:

1. In West Northamptonshire Council footprint air pollution needs to be reduced.
2. In many parts of West Northamptonshire, especially near our busy roads and in the town centre, air pollutants exceed legal and safe limits.
3. Air pollution impacts on the health of people in our towns and villages, especially the most vulnerable. It can cause permanent lung damage in babies and young children and exacerbates lung and heart disease in older people.
4. Action will improve the quality of life and well-being of children and vulnerable adults and take pressure off services.
5. Clean air around residential areas, schools, and hospitals will have an immediate beneficial impact for residents and go some way in helping us meet our Net Zero targets.

This Council resolves:

To immediately take all steps needed to reduce deaths and illness linked to polluted air, with desperately needed action to also enable us to meet our climate emergency commitments.

This should include, but not be limited to:

- a. Exploring and implementing clean air zones in all major urban areas, towns and villages;
- b. Cleaning up the bus fleet, working with the areas major bus providers;
- c. Supporting taxis to meet clean emission standards;
- d. Promoting and incentivising the use of electric vehicles and car clubs, and ensuring that Council vehicles are electric where possible;
- e. Create an Air Quality Action Plan; including consideration of becoming a signatory to the Oxford Clean Air Charter calling on the government for further action;
- f. Initiate an educational campaign to highlight to the general public the impact of air pollution on public health and the economy;
- g. Include a no- idling cars, education, and enforcement scheme;
- h. Identify a lead officer to ensure the resolution is implemented;
- i. Provide an annual report to full Council linked to the Climate Action Plan on progress.

Upon a vote, the motion fell.

## 18. **Cabinet Reports and Record of Decisions Taken by the Cabinet**

Councillor Nunn presented his report as Leader of the Council and highlighted the salient points. In response to questions, it was explained that the Leader had not had contact with NTFC for a year prior to the decision being taken at Cabinet in March and none with Cildara for the entire negotiation process.

Councillor Brown presented his report as Deputy Leader and highlighted the salient points. In response to questions, Members heard that care leavers going into supported housing were looked at on a case-by-case basis and asked Members to contact him if they knew of any cases where care leavers were not given appropriate support. The Council had multiple housing providers across all areas of West Northamptonshire which were reviewed regularly to ensure their adequacy and appropriateness. Regarding the Cultural Compact, funding for the Chair had been awarded for an initial 12 months. The Council would have to apply for further funding moving forwards. With regard to archives, it was noted that a large portion of them had been moved to a specialist facility within North Northamptonshire, however the facility was designed to allow for greater accessibility to academics and other interested parties. A number of non-archaeological artefacts were still kept within West Northamptonshire. With regard to rough sleepers, it was explained that SWEP had been extended and enhanced and the Housing team were still working to the principle "everyone in", following their work during the pandemic. Members were informed that works on the Social Housing Decarbonisation had begun, following government funding, however due to the nature of the works, there was no end date, but the Deputy Leader would contact NPH for an update.

Councillor Larratt presented his report as Cabinet Member for Environment, Transport, Highways and Waste and highlighted the salient points. In response to

questions, Members were informed that a meeting between the new highways contractors and Members would be taking place in the near future where it was suggested that any specific issues that Members were dealing with could be raised. Regarding Active Travel, it was important that the schemes being developed fit in with what was already in place. It was disappointing that funding for Bus Back Better was unsuccessful; feedback had been requested from DfT and would be shared with Members. An Active Travel Strategy for West Northamptonshire was being worked on, as well as local strategies for active travel – work was well underway regarding an active travel link between Brackley and Silverstone. It was stated that 61,224 residents had subscribed to the Council's garden waste collection service up to 11th April and the number was continuing to rise. Councillor Larratt confirmed that he was not aware of Veolia operating within Russia and stated that he would look to see what could be done in respect of this. Councillor Larratt also confirmed that the Council's 3 climate strategies would go to Cabinet in due course. With regard to fly-tipping in Northampton town centre, contractors would be asked to ensure that they were delivering the service as specified in the contract. Councillor Larratt confirmed that he was aware of the situation with the dilapidated bus station in Daventry; he would be travelling to Daventry with officers in the near future to assess the situation and find a solution.

Councillor Longley presented his report as Cabinet Member for Finance and highlighted the salient points. In response to questions, it was explained that the administration was aware of pressures (energy prices, inflation, etc.) but was not unduly concerned with the upcoming year due to the good financial position that the Council was currently in. Regarding the GMB/Veolia claim, Councillor Longley stated that this was a matter between the two parties; the Council could influence but would not seek to direct. With regard to assets and community hubs, this was work that was very much anticipated and officers were ready to begin work as individual programmes came through. Councillor Longley assured Members that an arrangement in relation to improving conditions at the Westbridge depot had been agreed; he would share specific details with Members upon request. He agreed that it was imperative that first aiders were always onsite with workers returning to offices. He also stated that he had received several communications in relation to the Daventry Sports & Social Club car park and would be following up with officers.

Due to the time limit applicable to this item, the remaining reports were noted.

**RESOLVED:**

Council noted the Cabinet Member Reports and the decision records from 7th December 2021, 21st December 2021, 18th January 2022, 15th February 2022, 28th February 2022, and 8th March 2022.

19. **SACRE Annual Report**

Councillor Lister presented a report to Council to report on the work of SACRE. Local Authorities have a duty to establish a permanent body known as the Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education ("SACRE") in accordance with the Education Act 1996. The broad role of the SACRE is to support the effective

provision of Religious Education (RE) and collective worship in schools and to enrich the experience of RE and collective worship for all pupils.

Councillor Baker seconded the report.

**RESOLVED:**

Council received and noted the SACRE annual report.

20. **Chief Officer Appointment**

Councillor Hallam presented a report which sought approval for a proposed remuneration package in excess of £100,000 following recruitment in March 2022 to a Non-Statutory Chief Officer role.

Councillor Patel seconded the report.

**RESOLVED:**

Council approved the proposed remuneration.

21. **Northamptonshire Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report**

Councillor Golby presented a report to Council which outlined Board and statutory partner achievements during the year.

Councillor Cooper seconded the report.

Members made comments as follows:

- Concern was raised over rising energy bills and it was questioned what the Council could do to help vulnerable residents.
- The Board is experienced and open when wrong which is commendable.
- Voluntary carers' mental wellbeing should not be overlooked.
- Historically, some issues had "fallen through the gaps" and the learning that had taken place so far was in relation to these types of issues.

**RESOLVED:**

Council received the Annual Report of Northamptonshire Safeguarding Adults Board 2020 – 2021 and noted the findings.

22. **Motions**

Motion 1

Councillor Roberts proposed and Councillor Strachan seconded:

"This Council welcomes the work of the Fair-Trade Foundation to encourage the use of Fair Trade goods, and notes that the Council, as an important consumer and

opinion leader, should research, develop and support a strategy to facilitate fair trade where appropriate as part of its commitment to work in pursuit of a sustainable West Northamptonshire.

It, therefore, resolves:-

1. to promote awareness of fair trade issues and the opportunities for supporting fair trade in the area;
2. to make publicity and educational information available to local people concerning the worldwide impact of unfair trade and the opportunities that fair trade provides for sustainable development;
3. to make the Council's employees, the public and local businesses aware of the Council's resolution on fair trade;
4. to encourage the use of fair trade goods, for example, products carrying Fair Trade mark and products in vending machines/shops within council buildings;
5. to request the Council's venues to stock fair trade products in addition to other brands;
6. to integrate fair trade considerations into the Council's Environment Plan in support of the Council's corporate objective to improve the environment;
7. For West Northamptonshire Communities to seek to become Fair Trade Communities by applying for Fair Trade Status;
8. to nominate an officer to work on implementing the resolution; and
9. to report annually on progress made with implementing this resolution."

Upon a vote, the motion fell.

### Motion 2

An amendment to the motion was accepted by Councillor Z Smith.

Amended motion to read:

"We want the Council to support the work that we are undertaking currently, as well as, working through the process of setting up two more youth forums, one in South Northants and one in Daventry. These will add to the youth forum in Northampton. These three Forums will elect members to a Youth Parliament to attend West Northants Council meetings and feed into our work. We have also started working on expanding youth activities across the District.

Previously, our young people had been badly impacted by a historic lack of youth service provision, the activity of county lines, the disruption to schooling caused by the pandemic.

WNC is committed to working with our youth and listening to the youth voice.

We will continue to engage with young people across all West Northants Council areas, and work with them to develop a strategy for youth."

Upon a vote, the amended motion was carried.

### Motion 3



Councillor Humphreys accepted an amendment to the motion.

Amended motion to read:

“Humans have already caused irreversible climate change, the impacts of which are being felt in the UK and around the world. The global temperature has already increased by 1.2°C above pre-industrial levels and the natural world has reached crisis point, with 28% of plants and animals currently threatened with extinction.

Unless we drastically change course, the world is set to exceed the Paris Agreement’s safe 1.5°C limit. Pledges such as the Paris Agreement and updated emissions targets are not legally-binding. The gap between pledges and policy leaves the world on course for catastrophic warming of near 3%.

As the 2018 report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) makes clear, every half a degree makes a world of difference: severe climate impacts with 1.5°C of warming—such as extreme weather patterns causing flooding and heat waves—get significantly worse at 2°C. According to the IPCC, limiting heating to 1.5°C may still be possible with ambitious action from national and sub-national authorities, civil society, the private sector and local communities.

In the latest IPCC report spells out in the strongest terms to date that the climate crisis is inseparable from the biodiversity crisis and the poverty and inequality suffered by billions of people. The report has been described as ‘brutal’ by Laurence Tubiana one of the architects of the Paris Agreement, and he went on to say ‘there can be no more excuses’ [for inaction].

The UK is one of the most nature-depleted countries in the world and more than one in seven of our plants and animals face extinction—and more than 40% are in decline. We have lost 95% of our hedgehogs. The UK needs a legally-enforceable nature target so that, by 2030, nature is visibly and measurably on the path of recovery, in line with the Global Goal for Nature and the Leaders’ Pledge for Nature.

West Northamptonshire Council notes that:

1. Many local authorities are already playing an important role in the UK taking action to achieve net zero carbon emissions—and to protect and revitalise local wildlife and natural habitats.
2. The UK Parliament, in May 2019, declared an Environment and Climate Emergency and this council declared a climate emergency in July 2021.
3. There is a Bill before the UK Parliament—the Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill (published as the Climate and Ecology Bill)—which, if it becomes law, would require the UK Government to develop a UK-wide strategy to address the emergency that would ensure that:
  - the ecological crisis is tackled shoulder to shoulder with the climate crisis via a joined-up approach;
  - the Paris Agreement is enshrined into law to ensure that the UK does its real, fair share to limit global temperature rise to 1.5°C;

- the Leaders' Pledge for Nature is enshrined into law to ensure that the UK's ecosystems are protected and restored with a focus on biodiversity, soils and natural carbon sinks;
  - the UK takes full responsibility for our entire greenhouse gas footprint—i.e. consumption emissions plus shipping, aviation and land-based transport—by accounting for all of the emissions that take place overseas to manufacture, transport and dispose of the goods and services that we import and consume;
  - the UK takes full responsibility for our ecological footprint so that we protect the health and resilience of ecosystems along both domestic and our global supply chains; and
  - an independent, temporary Climate and Nature Assembly is set-up—representative of the UK nations' populations—to engage with the UK Parliament and UK Government to help develop the emergency strategy.
4. That this Council can lead the way in implementing change and has a duty to do so.

The latest IPCC report is also crystal clear in stating that adapting to the climate crisis is as much a social problem as a scientific one. In an accompanying document the report's authors say 'targeting a climate resilient, sustainable world involves fundamental changes to how society functions, including changes to underlying values, world-views, ideologies, social structures, political and economic systems and power relationships. This may feel overwhelming at first, but the world is changing anyway – climate resilient development offers us ways to drive change to improve wellbeing for all.'

The end of this century is less than a lifetime away. A child born today would be 78 years old in 2100. So actions taken today will have a profound effect on the quality of our children's lives.

Supporting this motion fully aligns to this council's sustainability pathway and underpins the UN's Sustainable Development Goals and will therefore aid progress.

West Northamptonshire Council therefore resolves to:

1. Declare an ecological emergency.
2. Support the Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill (CEE Bill);
3. Inform local press and media of this decision;
4. Write an open letter to all local MPs (Chris Heaton-Harris, Andrea Leadsom, Michael Ellis, Andrew Lewer), shared with our residents through local and social media, urging them to sign up to support the CEE Bill.
5. Write to Zero Hour (the CEE Bill Alliance) the organisers of the all-party campaign for the CEE Bill, expressing its support (joinus@ceebill.uk).
6. That all of the above are detailed as commitments as part of the Sustainability Strategy/Pathway.
7. That a report on the completion of actions forms part of the annual report to Council on progress or sooner if appropriate.

Upon a vote, the amended motion fell.

Motion 4

An amendment was accepted by Councillor Beardsworth.

Amended motion to read:

“The invasion of Ukraine is an act of aggression by Putin, not by residents with Russian heritage living and working within West Northamptonshire.

In addition to the situation the Afghan refugees are facing, we are now faced with a further refugee crisis as a result of Russia’s illegal invasion of Ukraine.

Russia’s illegal invasion of Ukraine means that the refugee support in West Northamptonshire must be scaled up both in support of Ukrainian people, the refugees already here from Afghanistan but also those who are not currently part of any government scheme, where need is identified. West Northamptonshire Council previously passed a motion to support becoming a place of sanctuary.

In order to ensure focus, this motion asks for you to consider the support we provide to the Ukrainian refugees who are fleeing war and all its horrors. It does not downplay or ignore the challenges we must address for all those fleeing conflict, oppression or disaster.

This council notes:

1. That over 4 million Ukrainians have been forced to leave the country fleeing the conflict, and that those people who have remained in the country are facing a humanitarian crisis.
2. that we stand in solidarity with Ukraine and the Ukrainian people against Putin’s illegal invasion, we stand with their friends and relatives here in West Northamptonshire, as well as Russian citizens who are bravely protesting against the war despite the serious risk to their own lives and safety.
3. a vote of thanks to West Northamptonshire residents and organisations who have already made generous donations to support Ukrainian refugees, offered refuge as part of the Homes for Ukraine scheme or volunteered to help in any way that they can.
4. a wholehearted condemnation of the barbaric and illegal invasion of Ukraine by Russian forces. As a democratic chamber, we are appalled by what we have seen unfold over recent weeks and we support the Ukrainian people in their fight to maintain democracy and self-determination as a nation.

This council resolves to:

1. Continue to make a full commitment to supporting Ukrainian Evacuees. At this point, the Government funding provided appears to be adequate, but this is an emerging situation which we realise may in time require council funding, to support both Evacuees and Hosts. WNC will not be found wanting should this become the case. There will be the need for a great deal of support to be provided, including out-reach support in their locality, and so the council makes a firm commitment to establishing localized hubs for Ukrainians, working with community and faith groups, enabling Evacuees to meet and to

- be supported by council, community and other support, including developing English language skills.
2. Continue to Support Ukrainian refugees, working in collaboration with the local voluntary and community sector for those fleeing conflict, and encourage people to come forward and complete our volunteer register
  3. There are always opportunities for employment within WNC, and applications from qualifying Ukrainians Evacuees will of course be most welcomed.
  4. Continue dialogue with our MPs (Chris Heaton-Harris, Andrea Leadsom, Michael Ellis and Andrew Lewer) and The Home Secretary to implore them to make changes to the visa requirement for the Homes For Ukraine system, which is embroiled in red tape, cumbersome and unjust for Ukrainian babies and children, and totally impractical.
  5. We are confident that the needs of Afghan Re-settlers are being met and are actively working on the support that Ukrainian evacuees need, as those needs become more clearly known. Council resolved to ensure that all such support needs are continually reviewed.

Upon a vote, the amended motion was carried.

At 21:45 the Chairman drew Council's attention to Rule 10 of the Council Procedure Rules:

**10. Extension of the meeting**

- 10.1 *If the business of a Council meeting has not been concluded by 9.45 pm, the Chair will draw the attention of the meeting to the time and to this Rule.*
- 10.2 *In the case of any motions or recommendations on the agenda that have not been dealt with by 9.45 pm the Chair will decide whether to end the meeting or to deal with the outstanding matters provided that those matters can reasonably be dealt with by 10.00pm.*
- 10.3 *Where the outstanding matters cannot be dealt with by that time each item will be put to the vote without further debate and a vote will be taken on whether the item should be accepted, rejected, referred, deferred or withdrawn.*

The following motions were put to the vote without debate.

**Motion 5**

Councillor Baker proposed and Councillor Lister seconded:

“Children and young people with Cerebral Palsy face a fractured system of provision that does not always meet the standards and timelines of care needed to make a real difference to their lives.

Cerebral Palsy is a lifelong neurodisability affecting each person living with it differently. Early identification of the condition in childhood is essential to putting those with it in touch with the specific support they need. However, there is often a postcode lottery of services, meaning that tens of thousands, including potentially children in West Northants, do not have access to timely assistance in education and healthcare.

- The current UK incidence rate is around 1 in 400 births.
- Approximately 1,800 children are diagnosed with cerebral palsy every year.
- There are an estimated 30,000 children with cerebral palsy in the UK.
- There are more boys born with cerebral palsy than girls. For every 100 girls with cerebral palsy, there are 135 boys with cerebral palsy.
- Just under half of children with cerebral palsy were born prematurely (before 37 weeks gestation).

Over half of the parents who responded to a national survey conducted by Action Cerebral Palsy felt that education and therapy services were not working together in supporting their child. Meanwhile, almost 60% said that the Health, Education and Care Plan process was unsatisfactory for their child's needs. Only 15% felt the process was 'good' or 'outstanding'.

We recognise that the complex and varied needs of the Cerebral Palsy community require close working across several widely differing areas. There are many in the system who are striving to do their best for children and young people with Cerebral Palsy, but often lack contact with others involved in the process or an understanding of how Cerebral Palsy affects those they are care for.

West Northamptonshire Council notes that March was Cerebral Palsy Awareness Month and that we have an established relationship with Cerebral Palsy Northamptonshire however we recognise that many people living with Cerebral Palsy across England, including in West Northants, do not enjoy a common standard of access to services because of a postcode lottery.

West Northamptonshire Council notes that access to vital support services for children living Cerebral Palsy and their families is imperative to transforming their life chances.

The Council notes the recommendations of the Commons Education Select Committee's report on SEND for including Cerebral Palsy specifically within that framework and commits to working with relevant bodies, including Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission to furthering this aim in West Northamptonshire.

The Council understands the important role it can play in improving the lives of children, young people and adults with Cerebral Palsy and therefore resolves to:

1. Promote the work of Action Cerebral Palsy, Cerebral Palsy Northamptonshire and third sector and independent providers delivering Cerebral Palsy support services in West Northamptonshire on the Council's website, social media and all other appropriate publications.
2. Complete a local needs assessment to better understand the support requirements of children, Young People and Adults with Cerebral Palsy, so to contribute to the West Northamptonshire Health and Wellbeing strategy
3. Commits to offering the Councils and Northamptonshire Children's Trust staff training on Cerebral Palsy awareness.
4. Encourage health and education and social care workers in West Northants to take up training in this area.

5. Write to the Councils MP's asking them to raise the issue of provision of support services for children living Cerebral Palsy.

Upon a vote, the motion was carried.

23. **Urgent Business (previously agreed with the Chairman)**

There was no urgent business on this occasion.

The meeting closed at 9.53 pm

Chair: \_\_\_\_\_

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