

Motions recorded at Council – South Northants Council

2020/21 **None**

2020/2019

24.07.2019

The Chairman advised Council that two motions had been submitted and were published with the agenda. The motions would be dealt with in the order submitted.

Climate Change

It was proposed by Councillor Lofts and seconded by Councillor Johns that the following motion be adopted:

“South Northamptonshire Council has a good record of tackling environmental issues and as the new Unitary Council approaches, it is important that we continue to champion our approach. There have been several national and local expressions of the strength of public opinion in London and Northamptonshire on the issue of climate change and the need to address carbon reduction to protect the health and wellbeing of future generations. It should be noted that in response to these concerns, the UK parliament has declared a Climate Emergency.

Action on Climate Change must be shared across all levels of government and we have a duty to limit the impacts of Climate Breakdown. It is proposed, therefore:

- *That this Council confirms the national Climate Emergency as it applies in West Northamptonshire and commits to a target of making West Northamptonshire carbon neutral by 2030.*
- *This Council further commits to work with partners to deliver that goal. Where appropriate, this Council will place climate change on the agenda of meetings with partners and will encourage joint working across all sectors of local governance.*
- *Council also calls upon its successor West Northamptonshire Unitary Council to continue this work once it comes into existence.*
- *This Council requests a report to be submitted to a meeting of full council before the end of March 2020 detailing the actions that have been taken to address this motion.*
- *Council also requests an updated report to a meeting of full council not more than 12 months thereafter setting out the further actions that have been taken and detailing how progressing this target has been communicated to and integrated within the start up plans of its successor council.*

Members should note that Daventry, Northampton and Northamptonshire Councils have all supported a similar approach.”

Councillor Bambridge proposed the following amendment to insert the underlined text and delete the crossed through text, which was seconded by Councillor Bignell.

“South Northamptonshire Council has a good record of tackling environmental issues and as the new Unitary Council approaches, it is important that we continue to champion our approach. There have been several national and local expressions of the strength of public opinion in London and Northamptonshire on the issue of climate change and the need to address carbon reduction to protect the health and wellbeing of future generations. It should be noted that in response to these concerns, the UK parliament has declared a Climate Emergency—and set a new target in law to be net carbon zero by 2050.

Action on Climate Change must be shared across all levels of government and we have a duty to limit the impacts of Climate Breakdown. It is proposed, therefore:

- ~~That this Council confirms the national Climate Emergency as it applies in West Northamptonshire and commits to a target of making West Northamptonshire carbon neutral by 2030.~~*
- ~~This Council further commits to work with partners to deliver that goal. Where appropriate, this Council will place climate change on the agenda of meetings with partners and will encourage joint working across all sectors of local governance.~~*
- This Council notes that the impacts of climate change are already causing serious damage around the world*
- This Council will establish a Working Group under the auspices of the Scrutiny Committee to assess the existing carbon footprint of the district and review potential actions and associated cost estimates this Council could take to limit the effects of Climate Change in South Northamptonshire*
 - The Working Group (of up to 10 members) will be cross party, not politically balanced and not limited to current members of the Scrutiny Committee*
 - A budget of £25,000 will be made available from reserves for any expenses related to the investigation*
- This Council requests the Scrutiny Committee to report back to Council before the end of December 2019, with their findings along with recommendations for actions and budgets.*
- Council also calls upon its successor West Northamptonshire Unitary Council to continue this work once it comes into existence.*
- ~~This Council requests a report to be submitted to a meeting of full council before the end of March 2020 detailing the actions that have been taken to address this motion.~~*
- ~~Council also requests an updated report to a meeting of full council not more than 12 months thereafter setting out the further actions that have been taken and detailing how progressing this target has been communicated to and integrated within the start up plans of its successor council.”~~*

On being put to the vote, the amendment was approved. The motion as amended was debated and on being put to the vote, was supported.

‘Refill’

It was proposed by Councillor Tarbun and seconded by Councillor Lofts that the following motion be adopted:

“South Northamptonshire Council has a good record on environmental issues including recycling and as we move forward into our new Unitary Council, it is important we continue this approach.

In the UK we have some of the highest quality drinking water in the world – from our taps. Despite this the consumption of bottled water has doubled over the last 15 years, an estimated 7 billion plastic water bottles are used in the UK each year. Millions of bottles are estimated to be littered, landfilled or incinerated every day producing dangerous levels of CO2 emissions every year. Once plastics enter our oceans they break into micro-plastics, and these are found throughout our oceans and the impact on our wildlife has become catastrophic.

So how can our council help in reducing this?

By Introducing ‘Refill’ - a free tap water initiative. It is designed to reduce plastic pollution, making refilling your water bottle easy, attractive and rewarding. If all the refill stations are used just TWICE a week we would save more than 14 million bottles a year, making carrying a refillable bottle a social norm. 340 million plastic bottles would be saved every year if just one in 10 Brits refilled every week.

I propose that our council head a campaign in our towns of Brackley and Towcester to encourage local businesses to register as a refill station, they will also have a sticker in the window to alert passers by that they are welcome to go in and fill up their bottle for FREE.”

Councillor Bambridge proposed the following amendment to insert the underlined text and delete the crossed through text, which was seconded by Councillor Bignell:

“South Northamptonshire Council has a good record on environmental issues including recycling and as we move forward into our new Unitary Council, it is important we continue this approach.

In the UK we have some of the highest quality drinking water in the world – from our taps. Despite this the consumption of bottled water has doubled over the last 15 years, an estimated 7 billion plastic water bottles are used in the UK each year. Millions of bottles are estimated to be littered, landfilled or incinerated every day producing dangerous levels of CO2 emissions every year. Once plastics enter our oceans they break into micro-plastics, and these are found throughout our oceans and the impact on our wildlife has become catastrophic. ~~So how can our council help in reducing this?~~

~~By Introducing ‘Refill’ — a free tap water initiative. It is designed to reduce plastic pollution, making refilling your water bottle easy, attractive and rewarding. If all the refill stations are used just TWICE a week we would save more than 14 million bottles a year, making carrying a refillable bottle a social norm. 340 million plastic bottles would be saved every year if just one in 10 Brits refilled every week. I propose that our council head a campaign in our towns of Brackley and Towcester to encourage local businesses to register as a refill station, they will also have a sticker in the window to alert passers by that they are welcome to go in and fill up their bottle for FREE.~~

This council pledges to continue playing a leading role in participating in and promoting the Refill Scheme in the district by supplying free tap water to visitors to the Forum building and being actively involved in encouraging local businesses to participate in the scheme including advertising the fact. This will be achieved through visits by its Environmental Health team and by talking to business groups and publicity. Refill estimates that if all the Refill stations are used twice a week more than 14 million plastic bottles a year can be saved and if one in 10 people in Britain refilled every week 340 million bottles could be saved."

On being put to the vote, the amendment was approved. The motion as amended was debated and on being put to the vote, was supported.

Resolved

(1) That the following motion, as amended, be adopted:

South Northamptonshire Council has a good record of tackling environmental issues and as the new Unitary Council approaches, it is important that we continue to champion our approach. There have been several national and local expressions of the strength of public opinion in London and Northamptonshire on the issue of climate change and the need to address carbon reduction to protect the health and wellbeing of future generations. It should be noted that in response to these concerns, the UK parliament has declared a Climate Emergency and set a new target in law to be net carbon zero by 2050.

Action on Climate Change must be shared across all levels of government and we have a duty to limit the impacts of Climate Breakdown. It is proposed, therefore:

- This Council notes that the impacts of climate change are already causing serious damage around the world
- This Council will establish a Working Group under the auspices of the Scrutiny Committee to assess the existing carbon footprint of the district and review potential actions and associated cost estimates this Council could take to limit the effects of Climate Change in South Northamptonshire
 - The Working Group (of up to 10 members) will be cross party, not politically balanced and not limited to current members of the Scrutiny Committee
 - A budget of £25,000 will be made available from reserves for any expenses related to the investigation
- This Council requests the Scrutiny Committee to report back to Council before the end of December 2019, with their findings along with recommendations for actions and budgets.
- Council also calls upon its successor West Northamptonshire Unitary Council to continue this work once it comes into existence.

(2) That the following motion, as amended, be adopted:

South Northamptonshire Council has a good record on environmental issues including recycling and as we move forward into our new Unitary Council, it is important we continue this approach.

In the UK we have some of the highest quality drinking water in the world – from our taps. Despite this the consumption of bottled water has doubled over the last 15 years, an estimated 7 billion plastic water bottles are used in the UK each year. Millions of bottles are estimated to be littered, landfilled or incinerated every day producing dangerous levels of CO2 emissions every year. Once plastics enter our oceans they break into micro-plastics, and these are found throughout our oceans and the impact on our wildlife has become catastrophic.

This council pledges to continue playing a leading role in participating in and promoting the Refill Scheme in the district by supplying free tap water to visitors to the Forum building and being actively involved in encouraging local businesses to participate in the scheme including advertising the fact. This will be achieved through visits by its Environmental Health team and by talking to business groups and publicity. Refill estimates that if all the Refill stations are used twice a week more than 14 million plastic bottles a year can be saved and if one in 10 people in Britain refilled every week 340 million bottles could be saved.

2018/2019

27.02.2019

It was proposed by Councillor Johns and seconded by Councillor Samiotis that the following motion be adopted:

Towcester ‘relief road’

“Council recognises the efforts of officers, members and others to bring forward the completion date for the Towcester ‘relief road’, well in advance of 1,016 houses being occupied. However, council also now recognises unless the specification for the ‘relief road’ meets the requirements for adoption by Highways England and is adopted, the ‘relief road’ will not take HGVs out of Towcester town centre or improve air quality. Such a ‘relief road’ would thereby have no effect on improving air quality, acting simply as an estate access road.

Council therefore resolves to renew and increase its effort to ensure planning permission for the ‘relief road’ meets Highways England’s standard for adoption and lobby’s government to ensure Towcester gets an adopted bypass, with the A5 de-trunked through the town.”

Councillor Roger Clarke proposed the following amendment to add in italics and delete words, which was duly seconded by Councillor McCord.

“Council recognises the efforts of officers, members and others to bring forward the completion date for the Towcester ‘relief road’, well in advance of 1,016 houses being occupied.

~~However, council also now recognises unless the specification for the 'relief road' meets the requirements for adoption by Highways England and is adopted, the 'relief road' will not take HGVs out of Towcester town centre or improve air quality. Such a 'relief road' would thereby have no effect on improving air quality, acting simply as an estate access road.~~

~~Council therefore resolves to *continue renew and increase* its effort to ensure *planning permission for the 'relief road' meets Highways England's standard for adoption and lobby's government to ensure* Towcester gets an adopted bypass, *and lobby government to have with* the A5 detrunked through the town *at the earliest possible date.*"~~

On being put to the vote, the amendment was approved. The motion as amended was debated and on being put to the vote, was supported.

Resolved

(1) That the following motion, as amended, be adopted:

"Council recognises the efforts of officers, members and others to bring forward the completion date for the Towcester 'relief road', well in advance of 1,016 houses being occupied.

However, council also now recognises unless the specification for the 'relief road' meets the requirements for adoption by Highways England and is adopted, the 'relief road' will not take HGVs out of Towcester town centre or improve air quality. Such a 'relief road' would thereby have no effect on improving air quality, acting simply as an estate access road.

Council therefore resolves to continue renew and increase its effort to ensure planning permission for the 'relief road' meets Highways England's standard for adoption and lobby's government to ensure Towcester gets an adopted bypass, and lobby government to have with the A5 detrunked through the town at the earliest possible date."

31.10.2018

HS2

It was proposed by Councillor Riley and seconded by Councillor Bignell that the following motion be adopted:

"This council notes that the latest costs for the construction of HS2 is now £60.7 billion.

Given the impact this project will have on the South Northamptonshire District, this council reaffirms its opposition to HS2 and asks the Interim Chief Executive and Leader to write to the Secretary of State for Transport, Rt Hon Chris Grayling, MP, requesting that he conducts an urgent cost review of HS2 to assess if this remains both financially viable and value for money."

Resolved

(1) That the following motion be adopted:

“This council notes that the latest costs for the construction of HS2 is now £60.7 billion.

Given the impact this project will have on the South Northamptonshire District, this council reaffirms its opposition to HS2 and asks the Interim Chief Executive and Leader to write to the Secretary of State for Transport, Rt Hon Chris Grayling, MP, requesting that he conducts an urgent cost review of HS2 to assess if this remains both financially viable and value for money.”

18.07.2018

Change to Constitution

It was proposed by Councillor Lofts and seconded by Councillor Billingham that the following motion be adopted:

“Proposals for a change or changes to the Council’s adopted Constitution must be considered by Full Council following receipt of a written report published five clear days in advance of the relevant meeting. If urgent changes are required these should be dealt with under the Council’s adopted emergency procedures and reported with justification of the urgency, to the next scheduled Full Council meeting.”

Councillor McCord proposed the following amendment to insert the text at the end of the submitted motion, which was duly seconded by Councillor Bignell.

“And that in Part 10, Section 6 of the constitution delete the words ‘Six to nine members – not politically balanced’ and insert the words ‘ Number of members determined by the Leader and notified to Council up to the legally permitted maximum – not politically balanced’

And that the Monitoring Officer be asked to amend the Constitution appropriately to reflect this amendment.

On being put to the vote, the amendment was approved. The motion as amended was debated and on being put to the vote, was supported.

Tree Top Walk at Salcey Forest

It was proposed by Councillor Budden and seconded by Councillor Cooper that the following motion be adopted.

“This council notes that the Tree Top Walk at Salcey Forrest has been closed to the public because of the neglect and inaction of the Forestry Commission.

This council recognises the many benefits that Salcey Forest brings, educational, wellbeing and economic and calls upon the Forestry Commission to undertake, without delay the necessary repairs, to bring this walk back into service.

This council requests that the Chief Executive contact the Chief Executive at the Forestry Commission, Simon Hodgson, and the Leader contacts Thérèse Coffey MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, who has responsibility for forestry, to advise them of the dissatisfaction of the council and inform them that the council has a grants programme and providing details as to how they could apply for grant help toward the necessary repairs.”

The motion was debated and on being put to the vote, was supported.

Resolved

(1) That the following motion, as amended, be adopted:

Proposals for a change or changes to the Council’s adopted Constitution must be considered by Full Council following receipt of a written report published five clear days in advance of the relevant meeting. If urgent changes are required these should be dealt with under the Council’s adopted emergency procedures and reported with justification of the urgency, to the next scheduled Full Council meeting.

And that in Part 10, Section 6 of the constitution delete the words ‘Six to nine members – not politically balanced’ and insert the words ‘ Number of members determined by the Leader and notified to Council up to the legally permitted maximum – not politically balanced’

And that the Monitoring Officer be asked to amend the Constitution appropriately to reflect this amendment.

(2) That the following motion be adopted:

This council notes that the Tree Top Walk at Salcey Forest has been closed to the public because of the neglect and inaction of the Forestry Commission.

This council recognises the many benefits that Salcey Forest brings, educational, wellbeing and economic and calls upon the Forestry Commission to undertake, without delay the necessary repairs, to bring this walk back into service.

This council requests that the Chief Executive contact the Chief Executive at the Forestry Commission, Simon Hodgson, and the Leader contacts Thérèse Coffey MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, who has responsibility for forestry, to advise them of the dissatisfaction of the council and inform them that the council has a grants programme and providing details as to how they could apply for grant help toward the necessary repairs.

11.04.2018

It was moved by Councillor Billingham, and seconded by Councillor Baker, that the following motion be adopted:

Brackley Town Football Club

That this council congratulates Brackley Town Football Club on the wonderful achievement of reaching the final of the FA Trophy to be played at Wembley on 20 May

Resolved

(1) That the following motion be adopted:

That this council congratulates Brackley Town Football Club on the wonderful achievement of reaching the final of the FA Trophy to be played at Wembley on 20 May.

2017/2018

18.10.2017

It was moved by Councillor McCord, and seconded by Councillor Johns, that the following motion be adopted:

Working Definition of Anti-Semitism

That the letter from the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government advising that in December 2016 the Government formally adopted the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance the following working definition of anti-Semitism be noted and that South Northamptonshire Council also adopt the working definition:

“Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities.”

The motion was debated and subsequently agreed.

Resolved

(2) That the following motion be adopted:

Working Definition of Anti-Semitism

That the letter from the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government advising that in December 2016 the Government formally adopted the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance the following working definition of anti-Semitism be noted and that South Northamptonshire Council also adopt the working definition:

“Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities.”

2016/2017

19.10.2016

Funding to Community Pharmacies

It was moved by Councillor Lofts and seconded by Councillor Johns that the following motion be adopted:

“That this Council writes to the Secretary of State for Health and our local MP urging that when the Government reviews funding to community pharmacies, the number of these pharmacies across South Northamptonshire should be retained in full, as they provide a vital service to rural communities, which would be disproportionately penalised by any reduction.”

The motion was debated and on being put to the vote, the motion was supported.

Middleton Cheney GP Surgery

It was moved by Councillor Herring and seconded by Councillor Furniss that the following motion be adopted:

“I move that this council urges the NHS and the Oxfordshire CCG to negotiate a delay in any disposal of the property and to include this as part of the new partnership arrangement to reinstate the Middleton Cheney surgery. I also move that this council offers its support, if required, in securing the property as a Middleton Cheney GP surgery.”

On the advice of the Head of Law and Governance, Councillor Herring agreed that the motion be considered as two motions as follows:

Middleton Cheney GP Surgery Motion One

“I move that this council urges the NHS and the Oxfordshire CCG to negotiate a delay in any disposal of the property and to include this as part of the new partnership arrangement to reinstate the Middleton Cheney surgery.”

Middleton Cheney GP Surgery Motion Two

“I move that this council offers its support, if required, in securing the property as a Middleton Cheney GP surgery.”

The first motion was debated and on being put to the vote, the motion was supported.

In the course of the debate on the second motion, Councillor Billingham proposed the following amendment to the motion, which was duly seconded by Councillor Dallyn.

“That officers be requested to look into options regarding Middleton Cheney GP Surgery and report back at the earliest opportunity.”

The motion as amended was debated and on being put to the vote, was supported.

Resolved

- (1) That the following motion be adopted:

Funding to Community Pharmacies

That this Council writes to the Secretary of State for Health and our local MP urging that when the Government reviews funding to community pharmacies, the number of these pharmacies across South Northamptonshire should be retained in full, as they provide a vital service to rural communities, which would be disproportionately penalised by any reduction.

- (2) That the following motion be adopted:

Middleton Cheney GP Surgery

That this council urges the NHS and the Oxfordshire CCG to negotiate a delay in any disposal of the property and to include this as part of the new partnership arrangement to reinstate the Middleton Cheney surgery.

- (3) That the following motion, as amended, be adopted:

Middleton Cheney GP Surgery

That officers be requested to look into options regarding Middleton Cheney GP Surgery and report back at the earliest opportunity.

13.04.2016

a) Rail Central

It was moved by Councillor Addison, and seconded by Councillor Hywel Davies, that the following motion be adopted:

“This Council notes the proposal for Rail Central, and believes that such a proposal could cause harm to the environment, blight the lives of residents and damage the quality of life in the area.

This Council notes that it already has strong employment site proposals and renews its commitment to these major employment sites identified within the Joint Core Strategy, being Junction 16 M1, Silverstone Business Park, and smaller allocations within the Sustainable Urban Extensions at Towcester and Brackley.

This Council pledges itself to protect the interests of residents and communities with regard to Rail Central, and allocates a sum of £100, 000 from unallocated reserves to be used for the preparation of reports, technical assessments, expert evidence, legal and professional fees to support the Council's position in safeguarding our residents and communities.

This Council calls upon the developer to urgently establish a fund to provide blight compensation for those residents affected by this proposal now, along similar lines to that which has been established and agreed for HS2.”

Councillor Addison requested that a recorded vote on the motion be taken. The motion was debated and a recorded voted duly taken. Members voted as follows:

Councillor Addison	For
Councillor Atkinson	For
Councillor Bagot-Webb	For
Councillor Baker	For
Councillor Bambridge	For
Councillor Barnes	Abstain
Councillor Baxter	For
Councillor Bignell	For
Councillor Billingham	For
Councillor Bowen	For
Councillor Breese	For
Councillor Budden	For
Councillor Carole Clarke	For
Councillor Roger Clarke	For
Councillor Clifford	For
Councillor Cooper	For
Councillor Dallyn	Abstain
Councillor Hywel Davies	For
Councillor Peter Davies	For
Councillor Furniss	Abstain
Councillor Harries	For
Councillor Herring	For
Councillor Hollowell	Abstain
Councillor Johns	Against
Councillor Lofts	Against
Councillor Loveland	For
Councillor Manners	For
Councillor Marinker	For
Councillor McCord	For
Councillor Mold	For
Councillor Morris	For
Councillor Ord	For
Councillor Rawlinson	Abstain
Councillor Walker	For
Councillor Wiltshire	For

Resolved

(1) That the following motion be adopted:

This Council notes the proposal for Rail Central, and believes that such a proposal could cause harm to the environment, blight the lives of residents and damage the quality of life in the area.

This Council notes that it already has strong employment site proposals and renews its commitment to these major employment sites identified within the Joint Core Strategy, being Junction 16 M1, Silverstone Business Park, and smaller allocations within the Sustainable Urban Extensions at Towcester and Brackley.

This Council pledges itself to protect the interests of residents and communities with regard to Rail Central, and allocates a sum of £100,000 from unallocated reserves to be used for the preparation of reports, technical assessments, expert evidence, legal and professional fees to support the Council's position in safeguarding our residents and communities.

This Council calls upon the developer to urgently establish a fund to provide blight compensation for those residents affected by this proposal now, along similar lines to that which has been established and agreed for HS2.

2015/2016

22.07.2015

a) Towcester Relief Road

It was moved by Councillor Johns and seconded by Councillor Lofts that the following motion be adopted:

“Council resolves to open discussions immediately with Northamptonshire County Council and developers, with the intention of providing funding to enable bringing forward an early start and completion of a relief road for Towcester. This would follow a similar financial model agreed between Daventry District Council, Northamptonshire County Council and developers that will deliver an A45 bypass for the villages of Flore and Weedon.”

In the course of the debate, Councillor McCord proposed the following amendments to the motion, which were duly seconded by Councillor Johns.

- Replace words “resolves to open”, with “notes the”
- Replace word “immediately” with “that have taken place to date and resolves to continue dialogue with”
- Insert words “Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs), national government bodies” after words “Northamptonshire County Council”
- Delete all words in the sentence commencing “ This would follow a similar financial model...”

Resolved

(1) That the following motion be adopted:

Towcester Relief Road

Council notes the discussions that have taken place to date and resolves to continue dialogue with Northamptonshire County Council, Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs), national government bodies and developers, with the intention of providing funding to enable bringing forward an early start and completion of a relief road for Towcester.