Council

Mr C Gould
Chairman of the Council

Mr D Goldson
Vice-Chairman of the Council

Agenda

Date
Monday 23 September 2013

Time
7.30 pm

Place
Council Chamber
South Norfolk House
Swan Lane
Long Stratton Norwich
NR15 2XE

Contact
Claire White    tel (01508) 533669
South Norfolk District Council
Swan Lane
Long Stratton Norwich
NR15 2XE

Email: democracy@s-norfolk.gov.uk
Website: www.south-norfolk.gov.uk

If you have any special requirements in order to attend this meeting, please let us know in advance
Large print version can be made available

23 September 2013
AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence;

2. Urgent Items

Any items of business which the Chairman decides should be considered as matters of urgency pursuant to Section 100 B (4) (b) of the Local Government Act, 1972; [Urgent business may only be taken if, "by reason of special circumstances" (which will be recorded in the minutes), the Chairman of the meeting is of the opinion that the item should be considered as a matter of urgency.]

3. To Receive Declarations of Interest from Members;

(Please see guidance form and flow chart attached – page 7)

4. To confirm the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on Monday 8 July 2013 ;

(attached – page 9 )

5. Chairman’s Announcements;

(engagements attached – page 18)

6. To consider any petitions received under Section I of the “Rights of the Public at Meetings”
7. Notice of Motions:

(a) Cllr T East, Seconder Cllr M Gray

The Secretary of State for Transportation recently highlighted the importance of the Norwich Northern Distributor Road and confirmed it as a nationally significant infrastructure project. His designation of this route as one of national importance would more than validate its current TEN-T status. (TENS = Trans European Network Status)

Millions of pounds of public money has already been approved and granted to Norfolk County Council for the construction of the NDR from Postwick to Taverham and we believe that this planned road will bring enormous economic benefits to Norfolk.

The long-term ambition for the road must be to construct a distributor road joining the A47 to the west of the city with the A47 to the east.

A full and complete NDR would be of enormous benefit becoming a northern bypass for both the city and the county, linking the eastern and western sections of the A47 Southern Bypass either side of the City and it would create a complete east west link to the Midlands from Gt. Yarmouth for those living in the north west of the City and the County.

A full and complete NDR, crossing the Wensum by building a viaduct from escarpment to escarpment to minimise the environmental impact on the SSSIs (River bed and banks only) and the constraints imposed by the European Special Area of Conservation designation (SAC), is the only sensible way forward and it could be funded through the introduction of shadow tolling* and from CIL and LEP contributions.

A full NDR would be of enormous benefit to the western parishes generally and particularly the settlements of Costessey, Easton, and Bawburgh in South Norfolk as it would eliminate the need to rat-run through these villages to access the A11, the Norwich Research Park, Costessey Employment area, the Showground and the Norfolk and the Norwich University Hospital from the North West of the City and the County.

The proposed ¾ NDR which presently terminates at the Fakenham Road in the Taverham area will only exacerbate this long standing rat-run problem which these South Norfolk villages have experienced historically over the last 45 years.

Effectively it would be a northern bypass for both the City and the County, stretching from Postwick to Easton.

Therefore, SN Council RESOLVES to:

- Support further studies into the feasibility of a full NDR by completing the missing link across the Wensum Valley to the A47 Southern Bypass from the A1067 Fakenham Road, Taverham, and inform Norfolk County Council accordingly.
Addendum to Motion with an explanation of the concept of Shadow Tolling

* A **shadow toll** is a contractual payment made by a government per driver using a road to a private company that operates a road built or maintained using private finance initiative funding.

Payments are based, at least in part, on the number of vehicles using a section of road, often over a 20-30 year period. The shadow tolls or per vehicle fees are paid directly to the company without intervention or direct payment from the users.

On more recent UK schemes shadow toll payments reduce as the number of vehicles increase to encourage availability of the road rather than the number of vehicles carried.

United Kingdom schemes

- **M1** Lofthouse to Bramham link road
- **M40** Denham to Warwick
- **M80** Stepps to Haggs (Under Construction)
- **A1** Darrington to Dishforth
- **A1(M)** A1 Conbury to Peterborough
- **A13** Limehouse to Wennington (Greater London)
- **A19** Dishforth to Tyne Tunnel
- **A249** Stockbury (M2) to Sheerness
- **A30** Exeter to Bere Regis
- **A417** Gloucester to Cirencester
- **A419** Swindon to Cirencester
- **A50** Stoke to Derby link
- **A55** Llanfairpwll to Holyhead
- **A69** Carlisle to Newcastle

(b) **Cllrs J C Fuller and M J Wilby**

"This Council, acknowledging the important role which the Public House can serve as a focus for our communities:

[1] welcomes the continuing success of the Council's "Community Pub of the Year" Award (now in its fifth year); and

[2] supports the continued effective, but sympathetic administration of the business rates discounts available to Public Houses in the District."
8. Recommendations from the Cabinet;

PLEASE BRING YOUR CABINET PAPERS FOR THE MEETINGS HELD ON 22 JULY AND 23 SEPTEMBER 2013

(a) Treasury Management Report – Quarter 1 2013/14;
   *(page 32 of the Cabinet agenda 22 July 2013)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RESOLVED:</th>
<th>TO RECOMMEND THAT COUNCIL:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>a) Approves the 2013/14 prudential indicators for the quarter;</td>
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<td>b) Notes the treasury activity in Quarter 1 and that it complies with the agreed strategy;</td>
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(b) South Norfolk Council Local Plan: Site Specific Policies and Allocations Document: Pre-Submission Version;
   *(page 18 of the Cabinet 23 September 2013)*

The recommendation from Cabinet will be tabled at the Council meeting.

(c) South Norfolk Council Local Plan: Wymondham Area Action Plan: Pre-Submission Version;
   *(page 28 of the Cabinet 23 September 2013)*

The recommendation from Cabinet will be tabled at the Council meeting.

(d) South Norfolk Council Local Plan: Development Management Policies Document: Pre-Submission version;
   *(page 38 of the Cabinet 23 September 2013)*

The recommendation from Cabinet will be tabled at the Council meeting.

9. Monitoring Officer Report;
   *(report attached – page 20)*

10. Chairmen’s Reports;

   To receive/hear reports and to take questions from Councillors and the public.

   Note: [Time allocated to be at the discretion of the Chairman. No notice is required of questions, however it may be necessary for written answers to be provided where an immediate response cannot be supplied]. If members choose to submit questions in writing in advance, they will be circulated before the meeting.
(report attached – page 25)

Questions to the Leader and other Cabinet members as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Role</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Martin Wilby</td>
<td>Deputy Leader, Communities and Localism</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yvonne Bendle</td>
<td>Housing and Public Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Bills</td>
<td>Innovation and Efficiency</td>
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<tr>
<td>Keith Kiddie</td>
<td>Environment and Regulation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garry Wheatley</td>
<td>Finance and Resources</td>
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b. Scrutiny Committee - -questions to the Chairman

Note: There is no Chairman’s report as the Scrutiny Committee has not met since the last meeting of the Council.

c. Licensing, Appeals and Complaints Committee/ Licensing and Gambling Acts Committee – Report of the Chairman - questions to the Chairman  
(report attached – page 27)

d. Development Management Committee – Report of the Chairman - questions to the Chairman  
(report attached – page 28)

11. Representatives on Strategic Outside Bodies;

To receive feedback from representatives as set out below:

(report on the Police and Crime Panel for Norfolk attached – page 29)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Role</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cllr Gould</td>
<td>Broads Authority</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cllr Fuller</td>
<td>LGA General Assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cllr J Savage</td>
<td>LGA Rural Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cllr Legg</td>
<td>Norfolk Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cllr C Kemp</td>
<td>Norfolk Police and Crime Panel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cllr Kiddie</td>
<td>Norfolk Waste Partnership</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cllr Wilby</td>
<td>South Norfolk Alliance</td>
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<td>Cllr Palmer and Overton</td>
<td>Saffron Housing Trust</td>
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## Agenda item 5

### CIVIC ENGAGEMENTS

**9th July 2013 to 23rd September 2013**

**CHAIRMAN – Cllr COLIN GOULD**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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| 12th July | Summer Reception  
Norwich Castle Museum  
Chairman of Norfolk County Council |
| 14th July | South Norfolk on Show  
South Norfolk Council  
South Norfolk Council |
| 18th July | Wymondham High School Event  
Wymondham High School  
Wymondham High School |
| 24th July | Annual Civic Service  
Great Yarmouth Minister  
Mayor of Great Yarmouth |
| 27th July | Civic Reception  
Town Hall, Attleborough  
Mayor of Attleborough |
| 3rd August | BBQ for all new Mayors and Chairmen  
RAF Mildenhall  
RAF Mildenhall |
| 15th September | Civic Service to commemorate the anniversary of the Battle of Britain Week  
Norwich Cathedral  
Mayor of Norwich |
| 16th September | Pub of the Year Awards  
South Norfolk Council  
South Norfolk Council |
| 20th September | South Norfolk Council’s Civic Reception  
Langley School  
South Norfolk Council |

**Vice Chairman – Cllr David Goldson**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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| 14th July | Civic Service  
St Marys Church, Diss  
Mayor of Diss |
| 25th August | Civic Service  
Stowmarket  
Chairman of Mid Suffolk Council |
| 9th September | Opening of Battle of Britain Week  
City Hall  
Lord Mayor of Norwich |
| 9th September | Battle of Britain Reception  
Cromer Pier  
Chairman of Norfolk County Council |
| 12<sup>th</sup> September | Civic Reception  
Bayfield Hall, Holt  
Chairman of North Norfolk Council |
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<tr>
<td>COUNCILLOR – CLLR ROBERT SAVAGE</td>
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</table>
| 15<sup>th</sup> September | Civic Service  
Wymondham Abbey  
Mayor of Wymondham |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
Monitoring Officer Report

Compliance and Risk Manager

This report proposes a recommended course of action arising from the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013, seeks approval for the formation of a Polling Places Task Group, and informs Council of the Local Government Boundary Commission proposals for an Electoral Review of the District.

Cabinet member(s): John Fuller
Ward(s) affected: All

Contact Officer, telephone number, and e-mail: Leah Mickleborough 01508 533954 lmickleborough@s-norfolk.gov.uk

1. Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013

1.1. The Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013 is a key part of the Government’s response to the increase in thefts of scrap metal across the Country. From 1 October 2013, the Council is authorised to licence scrap metal dealers under the act, and has enhanced powers to be able to refuse, revoke and vary scrap metal licences. Scrap Metal Dealers who have failed to register appropriately with the Council by 1 December 2013 may be subject to enforcement action.

1.2. There is a present lack of clarity as to whether the functions given by the act are “executive” (i.e. Cabinet to delegate) or “non-executive” (i.e. Council functions), and therefore we are seeking Council approval to provide assurance that the arrangements are compliant. However, unlike the Licensing Act 2003, the Act does not specify that Committees have to be formed to make licensing decisions means we have a greater flexibility in how we administer the Act. It is likely that between 1 October and 1 December the Council will be evaluating approximately 60 “site licence” applications for businesses based within the District, and we will also have to consider “collectors licence” applications from those organisations based outside the District who wish to collect scrap metal within South Norfolk. It is unclear how many operators may wish to apply for a collectors licence.

1.3. In order to assess and process applications in an expedient manner, it is proposed that:

- The Director for Environment and Housing be delegated to establish the fees and charges for Scrap Metal Licences, bearing in mind any guidance issued by the Secretary of State;
• From 1 October 2013, the Environmental Protection Manager, or any officer nominated by them, be authorised to undertake all other functions on behalf of the authority under the Scrap Metal Dealers Act except to consider representations by applicants or licensees to refuse, revoke or vary their licence.

• Any representations by applicants under Schedule 1, section 7 of the Scrap Metal Dealers Act against the Authority’s decision to refuse, revoke or vary their licence will be considered by the Licensing, Appeals and Complaints Committee.

1.4. This will effectively operate in a similar manner to the majority of the Council’s licensing functions. Officers will undertake the majority of day-to-day decision making, and have the power to enter and inspect premises to ensure legislation is being complied with. However, should an applicant be dissatisfied with the Council’s decision to refuse, revoke or vary their licence, then the member-led Licensing, Appeals and Complaints Committee will consider their case and make the final decision.

1.5. Members of the Licensing and Standards Pool may wish to bear in mind that there is the potential of additional hearings being held during the initial phase of applications. All members of the Pool are encouraged to attend the member training event being organised.

1.6. To clarify, there are no further impacts on existing enforcement policies as a result of the Act.

2. **Polling Districts and Polling Places Review**

2.1. In accordance with the provisions of the Representation of the People Act 1983 and Section 16 of the Electoral Administration Act 2006 the Council must undertake a review of the polling districts and polling places within its area every four years. Section 17 of the Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013 provides that the next such review must take place in the period of 16 months from 1 October 2013. Further reviews must take place in the period of 16 months beginning with the 1 October of every fifth year after that.

2.2. Although the last review was undertaken in September 2011, it is now an opportune moment to undertake a subsequent review ahead of the District elections in 2015.

2.3. In line with previous practice, it is intended to appoint a Task Group that would include 5 members, balanced 3:1:1, who are delegated to assess and subsequently approve the review outcomes.

3. **Boundary Commission Review**

3.1. The Boundary Commission have indicated to the Council that they intend to undertake an electoral review of South Norfolk District Wards in 2014- 2015, which will then apply from the 2019 elections onwards. This review would assess:

• The total number of members to be elected to the Council;
• The number and boundaries of electoral wards;
• The number of Councillors for any electoral ward of the Council;
• The name of any electoral ward.

3.2. In principle, the Boundary Commission seek to ensure that the ratio of electors to councillors in each District ward is, as nearly as possible, the same. This is balanced with the need to reflect local community identities and interests, and provide for effective and convenient local government and the desirability of aligning ward boundaries.

3.3. The exact timing, nature and process of the review is unclear at present. Usually, such reviews will commence with a preliminary period when the Commission will meet with the authority and other interested parties to explain the review process and enable us to prepare for the review.

3.4. In order to support moving forwards with the review, it is proposed that the Polling Districts and Polling Places Task Group will work with officers in preparing for the review, through obtaining updates on the progression of the Boundary Commission Proposals, engaging with the Commission where appropriate, and assessing any documentary evidence. This will enable member input to the process in a quick, effective and flexible manner. Once the exact nature of the Boundary Commission proposals become clearer in due course, the role of the group and the most effective form of member involvement can be assessed and clarified to Council.

3.5. Reflecting the nature of work being performed by the Task Group, it is intended to title the Group the “Electoral Arrangements Task Group”. The Group will report back to Council in due course on its activities.

4. Filming Council Meetings

4.1. The Department for Communities and Local Government has recently issued guidance encouraging authorities to allow people to film Cabinet meetings. In practice, there is often public interest in other meetings such as the Development Management Committee which needs to be taken into account.

4.2. The Council’s present standing orders allow the Chairman of a Committee to exercise discretion as to whether or not to allow people to film the meeting. It is important to appreciate that due to developments in modern media, it is often difficult to know if someone is using a mobile device to film the meeting.

4.3. In light of the recent guidance, it is proposed to provide a clearer framework for filming Council meetings. In general, we will allow people to film public meetings, however the Council may reserve the right to film meetings instead and make footage available to members of the public who wish to receive this. This will provide a flexible approach, and in those rare circumstances where there may be such public interest in an item many people wish to film or see the meeting, the Council will have greater control over the management of this process.
4.4. To mitigate any potential concerns, we will also provide a guide of recommended practice to anyone who wishes to film (this will be available via the internet and available at meetings to anyone who wishes to film). This will encourage people to:

- Let the Council know if they wish to film in advance
- Make the Chairman aware at the start of the meeting it is being filmed; the Chairman will notify the meeting, and any members of the public present at the meeting who wish to speak can request not to be recorded. When they speak, the recording person will be asked to stop their recording.
- Be discrete, and not disrupt the meeting;
- Not to film any private sessions of the meeting;
- Use footage in a responsible manner, and not use footage out of context

5. **Outside Body Appointments**

5.1. The Council has been requested to provide a substitute member to the Health and Wellbeing Board. The Leader of the Council has proposed that the Deputy Cabinet member, Councillor Lisa Neal, undertakes this role. Similarly, the Council has also been requested to provide a Supporting People Champion and Deputy; it is proposed that the Cabinet Portfolio Holder and Deputy Cabinet member, Councillors Yvonne Bendle and Councillor Lisa Neal, fulfil these roles.

6. **Recommendations**

6.1. To authorise the Director for Environment and Housing to establish the fees and charges for Scrap Metal Licences;

6.2. To authorise the Environmental Protection Manager, or any officer nominated by them, to undertake all authority functions given by the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013, except to consider representations to refuse, revoke or vary such licences;

6.3. To authorise the Licensing, Appeals and Complaints Committee to consider all representations to refuse, revoke or vary Scrap Metal Dealer Licences;

6.4. To appoint an Electoral Arrangements Task Group, consisting of 5 members in the ratio of 3:1:1, to assess and approve the outcomes of the Polling Districts and Polling Places review;

6.5. To appoint Councillor Christopher Kemp as Chairman of the Electoral Arrangements Task Group;

6.6. To nominate the Electoral Arrangements Task Group to support officers in the preparation of the Boundary Commission review, through receiving updates on the progress of the review, engaging with the Boundary Commission where
required to do so, and assess any documentary evidence prepared by either the Boundary Commission or Officers.

6.7. To authorise the Monitoring Officer to amend the Constitution to allow the filming of Council meetings in accordance with section 4 above;

6.8. To note the appointments of the Health and Wellbeing Board Substitute member and Supporting People Member Champions.
Report of the Leader of the Council

This report covers the items discussed at the 22 July 2013 Cabinet meeting. A verbal update will be given on the Cabinet meeting held on 23 September 2013.

Cabinet member(s): Ward(s) affected:
Cllr John Fuller All

Contact Officer, telephone number, and e-mail:
Sandra Dinneen 01508 533603
sdinneen@s-norfolk.gov.uk

CABINET – 22 July 2013

1. Performance and Risk Report Quarter 1

1.1. We considered the end of year report detailing delivery against performance targets, financial performance and management of risks. We welcomed the overall performance which confirms we have delivered services to our residents with consistently high performance, ensuring value for money and quality services.

2. Revenue Report April to June 2013

2.1. We considered the revenue budget performance which, so far, shows a positive variance for the first quarter, owing to effective management of both the pay and non pay budgets. Income has exceeded forecasts, which has also contributed to the positive variance.

3. Capital Report Quarter 1

3.1. The Capital Report quarter 1 detailed the expenditure so far on capital projects. The main items of expenditure were the Cleansing Vehicle Replacement, Disabled Facilities Grant and new IT projects.
4. **Treasury Management Report Quarter 1**

4.1. We agreed the Treasury Management report which reported activity and achievement against the Strategy. We approved the 2013/14 prudential indicators and also noted the activity in quarter 1 and the fact it complied with the agreed strategy. We welcomed the higher than expected return on property investments.

5. **Medium Term Plan and the Comprehensive Spending Review**

5.1. The most significant announcement in the Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR) related to the estimated 35% reduction in New Homes Bonus from 2015/16 onwards. The proposal is that this money should be pooled and then local LEPs will have a key role in deciding how best to use the money to drive growth and housing. Although a balanced budget is expected for 2014/15, further work will need to be done to close the anticipated gap in the following years.

6. **Development of new Internal Services Contract**

6.1. The contract for the externally delivered element of Audit is due to expire in September next year. We approved the launch of the procurement exercise to replace the current arrangements, accepting that the Council will contribute £5,000 to procurement costs through to determination of a successful contractor and provide the Commissioning Manager at no additional cost.

7. **HR and Payroll System**

7.1. The current separate HR and Payroll systems have served the Council well since the 1980s, but are in urgent need of replacement. We approved the business case for the procurement and implementation of an integrated HR and Payroll System using funding from the IT capital budget FY 2013/14.

8. **Materials Recycling Facility**

8.1. We considered the exempt report detailing the next stages for the materials recycling facility procurement, and agreed to award to Norse Commercial Services Ltd a ten-year contract for the recycling of dry recyclable material, which is the enhanced contract with glass on the basis that such contract be entered into between the District Councils of the Norfolk Waste Partnership and the Joint Venture Company.
1. **Licensing Appeals and Complaints Committee**

1.1. A sub-committee had been convened for Thursday 8 August 2013 to consider an application for a Private Hire Vehicle Licence. However, the appellant withdrew his application and the hearing was cancelled.

2. **Licensing and Gambling Acts Committee**

2.1. This Committee has not met since the last meeting of the Council.

3. **Training**

3.1. A Homelessness training session has been arranged for Friday 11 October 2013 in the Council Chamber. Nigel Brims of nplaw will be providing the session and it is very important that members of the Licensing Committee attend this training to ensure that they are accredited to sit on homelessness appeals, although all members are welcome to attend.

3.2. From 1 October 2013, it will become a requirement for scrap metal dealers to become licenced under The Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013. The Licensing, Appeals and Complaints Committee will consider any applications where applicants are dissatisfied with the Council’s decision to refuse, revoke or vary their licence. A date for training is being arranged and members will be notified of this in due course. For further information, please see the Monitoring Officer’s Report to this meeting of Council.

_Sue Thomson_

_Chairman_
In the last quarter, Development Management Committee has continued to deal with a number of major applications such as 50 houses at Stoke Holy Cross and 100 houses at Poringland. These resolutions to approve new homes at these and other locations in South Norfolk will make a significant contribution towards the Council meeting its 5 year land supply requirements under the National Planning Policy Framework.

The debates at committee meetings continue to be good and are now more focused on policy matters and on material planning considerations. A recent discussion on design issues for a major application and how they are assessed has highlighted the need to organise further member/officer training on this important issue and training session will be set up in the near future.

In order to keep the items for Development Management Committee to a reasonable number I would urge Members to discuss planning reasons for referring an application with the case officer so as to be certain that its referral to Committee is essential. We will be reviewing the scheme of delegation with a report going to cabinet on the 23 October 2013.

Finally, Tony Pierce who acted as the interim Head of Development Management and latterly was our Special Projects Manager, left the Council at the end of August.

Dates for your diary:

Design awards will be presented on Monday 21 October at the Forum, in Norwich
Quality tour scheduled for Wednesday 30 October.

Cllr Joe Mooney, Chairman, DM10
11. Police and Crime Panel for Norfolk

“All Politics is Local”

1. The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2012 describes the Police and Crime Commissioner for each county as its “local elected police body” (my emphasis). The Commissioner’s accountability to the electorate of the county in question is the key to the new governance arrangements and, other than the ballot box every fourth year, the Police and Crime Panel is the statutory mechanism for that accountability.

2. This essential point was brought home at a Conference I attended in Gloucester on 18th July. The wide variety of arrangements that are evolving to accommodate local factors were the subject-matter of a series of useful and informative seminars and workshops. It became clear, for example, that Norfolk had been well advanced in its training of Panel members but that this advantage has slipped somewhat as in Norfolk the Panel has tended to confine itself to its statutory functions.

3. This approach is in part because of the, in my view, somewhat narrow interpretation on the Panel’s remit which the County Council officers responsible for supporting the Panel have consistently sought to urge on us. However, I am pleased to say that the Panel has decided that in future a broader approach will be appropriate. For example, in addition to our statutory functions, question-and-answer sessions will be held within Panel meetings.

4. This innovation will enable the Panel to explore the dynamics of the statutory arrangement whereby the Commissioner holds the Chief Constable to account but the Panel holds the Commissioner to account. I have received representations from some local members that the limits of the “operational discretion” of the Chief Constable (behind which the Commissioner can seek to shelter) ought to be probed.

5. Additionally, the Police and Crime Plan may be very relevant in this context. This Plan is reviewed annually by the Panel. This is an opportunity not only to hold the Commissioner to account for his delivery of the Plan and its objectives and policies but for his holding of the Chief Constable to account for the latter’s delivery thereon.

6. On 31st August 2013 the Panel endorsed the Commissioner’s appointment of Mr Mark Stokes as the replacement for Mr Chris Harding as his Chief Executive. Mr Stokes is a career local government officer, presently Deputy Chief Executive of Breckland DC (jointly with South Holland DC) having spent the whole of his career with Breckland. Unlike Mr Harding, Mr Stokes is not a lawyer, but the Commissioner assured me, in response to my question, that other staff savings will enable him to buy in specialist legal advice without any adverse impact on frontline services.

7. On 25th October 2013 (provisional date) the Panel will be holding a confirmation hearing for the new Chief Constable to replace Mr Phil Gormley who has been promoted to be Deputy Director of the National Crime Agency.

C J Kemp,
07/IX/2013