



**NORWICH**  
City Council

**NORWICH CITY COUNCIL**

**Tuesday, 30 September 2008**

**7.30 p.m.**

**AGENDA**

**1. Lord Mayor's Announcements**

**2. Declarations of Interest**

**3. Questions from the Public**

**4. Petitions**

**5. Minutes**

To agree the accuracy of the minutes of the Council meeting held on 22 July 2008.

**6. Questions to Executive Members/Committee Chairs**

(A printed copy of the questions and replies will be available at the meeting)

**7. Motion – Dualling of A11**

Councillor Antony Little to move:-

'That Council notes:

- Norwich is now the largest city not connected to London by a dual carriageway;
- as the A11 is classified as a trunk road, improvements to it are wholly funded by central Government;
- this road has been given the highest regional priority by the East of England Regional Assembly and now funding is dependent upon the Secretary of State for Transport releasing the funds for the Highways Agency to proceed with the upgrade.

This Council believes that:

- Norwich and Norfolk needs this vital piece of infrastructure to help future economic growth;
- dualling the A11 would improve safety on the major road to Norwich.

This Council resolves:

- (1) to fully supports the completion of the dualling of the A11;
- (2) that the name of Norwich City Council be added to the Norfolk County Council A11 petition.
- (3) to ask the Chief Executive to write to the Secretary of State for Transport, Charles Clarke MP, Dr Ian Gibson MP and the Leaders of Norfolk & Suffolk County Councils to outline our support for dualling and the content of this motion.'

## **8. Motion – Decent Work Day**

Councillor Jeraj to move:-

'That Council notes:

That 7 October 2008 is the World Day for Decent Work, a Trade Union led campaign to highlight the work being done to tackle issues of Decent Work around the world. These issues include:

- migration; discrimination; equality; forced labour; human trafficking; child labour; informal economy; climate issues (green jobs); health and safety; social protection; poverty and food crisis.
- half of the world's workforce earns less than 2 US \$ (£1) a day . 12.3 million women and men work in slavery. 200 million children under the age of 15 work instead of going to school. 2.2 million people die due to work-related accidents and diseases every year. People in developed and developing countries work more for less money, and more and more people - overwhelmingly women - are forced to make their living without social protection or rights and in precarious jobs, often in parts of the so-called informal economy.

This Council believes that:

- 'Decent Work' is vital to both tackling poverty and building communities;
- discrimination and low wage exploitation are wrong and lead to poverty, crime and social tension.

This Council resolves to ask the Executive to put plans and time into:

- (1) continuing the good work the Council has already done to address issues of Decent Work including:-

- (a) supporting free English lessons for migrants and their families;
  - (b) committing itself to a 'living wage' policy;
  - (c) tackling deprivation and poverty in Norwich;
  - (d) supporting the victims of exploitation and discrimination by providing services which are both accessible and available to all.
- (2) ensuring that the Decent Work agenda is included in the Council's work to tackle poverty and deprivation in Norwich;
- (3) working towards a living wage policy for the whole of the City.'

## **9. Motion – Local Advice Services**

Councillor Watkins to move:-

'That Council notes:

- the growing economic crisis and the impact it is having on individuals in the city;
- the increasing number of people struggling with mortgage repayments and the record levels of personal debt;
- the increasing demand for local debt advice demonstrated by Norwich Citizens Advice Bureau, reporting a rise of 36% in debt related cases last year and the fact that local residents may wait up to 5 weeks for an appointment with free, independent debt advisers in the city;
- that planned changes in funding for advice services nationally may see the CAB service forced to bid against major national organisations to secure funding from 2011, and potentially stripped of funding.

Council resolves to:

- (1) write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer to:
- (a) request that the Government reviews the adequacy of the current provision of free, impartial debt advice services in the City;
  - (b) seek clarification that any new government 'one stop centres' or Community Legal Advice Centres (CLACs) should not take funding away from the Norwich CAB and any new services should complement the City's existing services.
- (2) ask the Scrutiny Committee to work with relevant local public and voluntary sector bodies to undertake a review of current debt advisory service provision in Norwich.
- (3) ask the Executive to review the support that the City Council offers the CAB and similar services and consider whether this support could be extended.'

## **10. Motion – Transition Towns**

Councillor Ramsay to move:-

'This Council notes the growth of the Transition Towns movement around the UK.

This Council welcomes the establishment of a Transition Norwich initiative and endorses its aim to address the twin problems of peak oil and climate change by tackling our society's dependency on oil..

This Council resolves to:

- (1) encourage its councillors to attend the launch meeting of Transition Norwich on Wednesday, 1 October 2008 (7:30 p.m. at St. Andrew's Hall);
- (2) ask group leaders -
  - (a) to discuss, at their next meeting, how the Council can incorporate the aims of Transition Norwich into its work and how the Council can help Transition Towns succeed.
  - (b) make recommendations on these points to the Executive.'

Andy Emms                      Democratic Services Manager

Tel. No: 01603 212459

E-mail: [andyemms@norwich.gov.uk](mailto:andyemms@norwich.gov.uk)  
Legal and Democratic Services,  
City Hall, Norwich, NR2 1NH

22 September 2008