



NORWICH
City Council

NORWICH CITY COUNCIL

Tuesday, 26 January 2010

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 Special Council and the Council meetings held on 24 November 2009.

- 6. Questions to Executive Members/Committee Chairs**
(A printed copy of the questions and replies will be available at the meeting.)
- 7. Calculation of the Council Tax Base 2010/2011**
(Report of the Head of Finance)

Purpose - To ask the Council to approve the calculation of the council tax base for 2010/2011.
- 8. City Council Priorities for the 2010-2012 Period**
(Report of the Chief Executive)

Purpose - To consider possible aims and priorities for the City Council during the 2010-2012 period.

9. Motion – County Council Street Light Proposal

Councillor Morphew to move:-

“Council resolves to:-

- (1) confirm:-
 - (a) that the peace of mind of residents of Norwich is the prime concern of the City Council and the priority in the current difficult times is for people to feel safe in their homes and on their streets;
 - (b) its belief that street lighting plays a crucial role in tackling people's fear of crime and anti social behaviour and contributes to measures to combat and prevent anti social behaviour in residential areas in the city, especially but not exclusively those with recent histories of problems;
- (2) oppose any reduction in street lighting:-
 - (a) without the consent of those likely to be affected;
 - (b) in any area with any history within the past five years of anti social behaviour or crime against homes, cars or on the street;
 - (c) unless there is an explicit means of reversing the turn off where a need arises or there is a demand from local residents;
 - (d) in areas where there are existing crime and anti social behaviour prevention measures that may be compromised e.g. CCTV, Crime Reduction and Disorder Partnership (CRDP) and Safer Neighbourhood Area Panel (SNAP) priority areas;
- (3) support the development of a fully inclusive method for consulting on proposals to reduce street lighting that will involve residents in areas affected, Safer Neighbourhood Area Panel meetings, Neighbourhood Watch and Business Watch groups, all public protection agencies expressing their views publically;
- (4) call upon the County Council to abandon any proposals to reduce the street lighting on the city unless and until the terms outlined in this motion are met;
- (5) ask the Executive to continue the joint work being undertaken with the County Council to save money through shared actions and services and reduce carbon emissions through the county wide carbon reduction policy adopted in 2009.”

10. Motion - Lord Mayor Nominations

Councillor Morpew to move:-

“Council resolves to:-

- (1) amend the constitution with immediate effect such that:-
 - (a) the election of Lord Mayor shall be based on a system of nomination according to the accumulation of points determined by the number of seats held by each political party group on the Council starting with the base year of 2004 when ward boundaries were last changed; a party loses 39 points for each time one of its members has already been Lord Mayor and in future when nominating the Lord Mayor;
 - (b) unless agreed otherwise by Council, the party having the largest cumulative total of points on the day following the Annual General Meeting of the Council will have the right and obligation to nominate a member of its party to serve as the Lord Mayor for the following Civic year;
- (2) ask the Head of Legal, Regulatory and Democratic Services to amend the constitution accordingly;
- (3) ask the Leader of the Council in consultation with Leaders of other party groups to initiate a review of the role and functions of the Lord Mayor and report back to Council by March 2010. The review to take account of:-
 - (a) the importance of preserving and developing the traditions and political impartiality of the Lord Mayor;
 - (b) the need to assure the role is relevant to the city in modern times;
 - (c) the lifestyle and commitments of councillors who may be potentially taking on the role;
 - (d) the experience, preparation and support required for a Lord Mayor to fulfil the revised role;
 - (e) actual and potential funding to support the Lord Mayor's activities.”

11. Motion – Alcohol Promotions

Councillor Lubbock to move:

“Like many other cities, Norwich experiences alcohol-related disorder. Alcohol promotions driven by price may lead to increased competition between alcohol providers and supermarkets in Norwich.

A report to the Parliamentary Health Select Committee this month, backed by MPs, called for a minimum pricing of alcohol. Oldham Council through the Licensing Act has taken action to tackle irresponsible drinks promotions.

Council resolves to:-

- (1) write to the Secretary of State for Health to endorse proposals for a minimum price for alcohol sold in Norwich.
- (2) ask the Licensing Committee to consider, in conjunction with Norfolk Trading Standards, developing a strategy in Norwich for dealing with irresponsible drinks promotions by licensed premises and shops selling alcohol (including supermarkets), taking account of the measures introduced by Oldham Council.”

12. Motion – Gritting

Councillor Stephenson to move:

“During the recent cold weather, main roads were gritted by the City Council, while certain pavements and cycle routes were not cleared and remained dangerously icy. Icy surfaces can cause accidents.

Council resolves to:

- (1) write to Norfolk County Council, requesting increased funding for the installation of additional grit boxes so residents can make city pavements safer;
- (2) ask The Head of Transportation and Landscape to :-
 - a) create an accurate database showing the location of grit boxes throughout Norwich;
 - b) publicise the purpose of grit boxes, letting members of the public know they that are allowed to use the grit themselves;
 - c) consider ways of involving more residents in making pathways safe in bad weather.”

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