

**NORTH WALSHAM TOWN COUNCIL**

Minutes of a meeting of the Town Council  
Held in the Council Chamber  
On 28<sup>th</sup> January, 2014.

**PRESENT**

Mrs. J.R. Belson (Town Mayor)  
Mr. F. Choudhury      Mr. E. Seward  
Mr. B. Hester          Mr. R. Sim  
Mr. T. Morland        Mr. D. Spencer  
Mr. C. Peck            Mr. D. Turner  
Mr. D. Robertson     Mrs. V. Uprichard  
Mrs. R.A. Rose         Mrs. B. West

10874 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest received.

10875 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were submitted from Mr. G. Bull, Mr. A. Thirtle and Mr. B. Wexler.

10876 **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> December, 2013 were approved and signed by the Town Mayor.

10877 **MATTERS ARISING – FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

(a) Aviation –(10870)

It was reported that Mr. Ritchie had asked for this item to be removed from the agenda as he had received information from another source.

10878 **ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING**

It was **RESOLVED**

**That the meeting be adjourned to allow time for public participation.**

10879 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

See memorandum

10880 **RECONVENING OF MEETING**

It was **RESOLVED**

**That the meeting be reconvened.**

10881 **POLICE**

PCSO D. Fathalla submitted the monthly crime figures which showed a considerable decrease for the same period last year. The next priority setting meeting will be held on 26<sup>th</sup> March at 1900 hours at the Atrium. The current North Walsham priorities are: Speeding on Yarmouth Road, Cromer Road, New Road, Happisburgh Road, Pound Road, Thirlby Road, Bacton Road and Manor Road. ASB in North Walsham skate park re:

youths throwing items at vehicles and cannabis being smoked in the park area. Littering/dog fouling in North Walsham town centre and St. Nicholas Churchyard.

Current issues included regular patrols around Vicarage Street and New Road toilets due to criminal damage. Figures were submitted on the speed checks carried out along Happisburgh Road between 21<sup>st</sup> November and 14<sup>th</sup> January, 2014. 29 vehicles were stopped.

10882 **TOILETS**

It was reported that the disabled toilet in Vicarage Street had been vandalised and the District Council had closed toilet for repairs. The District Council was suggesting that access to the toilet should be by radar key which would then prevent access to the baby changing facility. Town Council was asked for their comments. Members queried if the CCTV camera could pick up any persons causing damage. It was suggested that a nearby shop could hold radar keys for access and that the toilet should be left open during the day and locked late afternoon/early evening. Mr. Seward agreed to take these suggestions back to the District Council for consideration.

10883 **PUB WATCH**

A written report was submitted by Mr. Hester of a meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> January, 2014. The report was received.

10884 **DISTRICT/COUNTY COUNCILLORS**

A written report was submitted from Mr. E. Seward stating that the County's Northern Area Children's Services team is moving from the Northfield Road site into the District Council Offices in Cromer in the near future. The Northfield Road site is owned by the NHS Properties and the County Council will be terminating their lease on this building. Highways and traffic calming issues, including associated flooding had been dealt with. Details were given of the site meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> January to look at revised bus stop location at the junction of New Road/Yarmouth Road. The play equipment for the Acorn Road toddler area had been ordered and a site identified. Issues relating to the football pitch would hopefully be resolved shortly. The County and District Council budgets and Council tax precept 2014/15 would be determined in mid to late February.

A verbal report was submitted from Mr. N. Lloyd stating that the progress on the redevelopment of 4 Market Street would now be the subject of scrutiny by the District Council Enforcement Board. The North Walsham & Dilham Canal Trust had opened a dialogue with the EA again over progressing the works but negotiations were at an early stage. The Town Mayor submitted a list of meetings she had attended during the month.

10885 **HIGHWAYS PARTNERSHIP WORKING (10861)**

The Town Clerk reported that a bid had been made to the County Council for a height reactive sign for the Cromer Road at a cost of £7,000 and a speed warning sign at a cost of £5,500. It was agreed to wait to see if the application was approved before discussing with the County Highways Engineer where the speed sign (temporary or permanent) should be placed.

10886 **GRITTING – ACORN ROAD (10847)**

It was reported that Acorn Road is not currently on the gritting routes and the Highways Engineer had stated that there is a grit bin on Acorn Road, near to it's junction with Wool Drive. He states that there is considerable pressure on the budgets for winter maintenance and it is very unlikely that this would be able to be considered for inclusion on the gritting schedules.

10887 ACORN ROAD – PLAY AREA

Members were reminded that the District Council is providing some toddler play equipment on the land at Acorn Road. A litter bin is required and Mr. Seward suggested that it would be a community gesture if the Town Council would consider providing the bin.

It was **RESOLVED**

- (a) That the Town Council provides a litter bin for the toddler play area**
- (b) That the future maintenance and emptying of the bin be the responsibility of the District Council.**

10888 LICENSING POLICY – SEX ESTABLISHMENTS (10860)

Members considered the draft policy relating to applications for licences under the Licensing Policy for Sex Establishments. The draft was received without further comment.

10889 NORFOLK CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU ( 10860)

It was reported that the District Council had written stating that following the meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> January, a meeting is currently being organised with the Chief Executive of Norfolk CAB.; the District Council and representatives of North Walsham and Fakenham Town Councils. It was agreed that the future of the CAB in North Walsham must be secure and that the long term use of the building should be clarified. Members were asked to approve the release of the £2,000 grant as agreed at the meeting in November.

It was **RESOLVED**

- (a) that the £2,000 (part grant) be released to Norfolk CAB**
- (b) that the District Council be asked to expedite the meeting as soon as possible.**

10890 CCTV (10833)

The minutes of the Special meeting of the Town Council held on 7<sup>th</sup> January, 2014 were submitted and signed by the Town Mayor. Mr. Robertson gave a verbal report on a meeting held earlier in the day with the Group and officers/councillors of the District Council, which he and the Town Clerk had attended. Cabinet would discuss the groups request and the outcome should be known following the meeting. Mr. Robertson also reported that the three Town Council's were working well together and had met all the target dates set by the District Council.

10891 LEADERSHIP OF PLACE

Mr. Seward reported that following the refusal of the Marricks Ropes planning application members of the group would decide the way forward.

10892 TOWN TEAM

Mrs. Uprichard reported that the Easter Bunny project had been postponed for the time being either until Easter 2015 or an idea around Christmas. There had been insufficient interest due to the floods at Walcott.

The Town Clerk gave a verbal report on the meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> January, 2014.

10893 **PAYMENTS AND RECEIPTS**

A detailed statement showing the payments and receipts amounting to £20,504.72 and £6,183.44 respectively was submitted and approved.

10894 **PRECEPT 2014/15**

Papers were submitted of the Revised estimates 2013/14 and Estimates 2014/15 as at 26<sup>th</sup> November, 2013 and 28<sup>th</sup> January, 2014 together with additional items of expenditure amounting to £39,160. Included in this figure was a £10,000 for highways – speed signs; £10,000 for CCTV, £10,000 town centre improvements and additional window cleaning costs for the ground floor of £60.00 which members were asked to consider and approve. A table showing the affect of changes in Precept with or without the grant from the District Council was submitted. Members were asked to agree whether to accept the grant or decline it.

It was **RESOLVED**

**(a) That the additional expenditure as outlined be approved.**

**(b) That the grant from the District Council be accepted and that the Precept for the financial year 2014/15 be set at £163,323.00.**

10895 **TOWN CRIER**

It was reported that Roger Hopkinson, our Town Crier has been contacted by the Norfolk Hospice Tapping House to assist with the Hospice Hold Up event to take place on Thursday, 6<sup>th</sup> March, held in Norwich from 8.30 a.m. to finish by 2.00 p.m. Basically around 20 business people agree to be arrested for charity and they are asked to raise £500 bail for their release. The Norfolk Police perform the charity arrests and local Town Criers then ‘cry’ to make sure everyone is aware that the arrest is in the name of charity. Three buses collect prisoners on the day with two Police Officers and one Town Crier per bus. Unfortunately one of the regular Town Criers was unable to attend and Mr. Hopkinson had been asked to step in, subject to Council’s approval. The Town Council approved the request.

10896 **PLANNING COMMITTEE**

The minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 17<sup>th</sup> December, 2013 and 7<sup>th</sup> January, 2014 were received. (App. A)

10897 **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

The minutes of the meeting of the Personnel Committee meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2013 were received. (App. B)

10898 **CHRISTMAS LIGHTS**

The minutes of the meeting of the Christmas Lights Working Group held on 14<sup>th</sup> January, 2014 were submitted and approved. (App. C)

10899 **FUNDAY**

The minutes of the Fun Day Working Group held on 14<sup>th</sup> January, 2014 were submitted and approved. (App. D)

10900 **CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Email received from Norfolk Trails, part of Norfolk County Council giving information on work being carried out to the Weavers Way and recruitment of volunteers.

2. Email received from Norfolk RCC who was recently successful in a bid to develop Mental Health support. The project will seek to develop meaningful conversations between people with experience of mental health problems and those who have not experienced them as part of the national Time to Change initiative. They are hoping to deliver a small music/arts event as part of this activity and will follow up the work with a wellbeing Charter to ensure that a legacy remains, working in Cromer and North Walsham areas during the coming year and would very much like the opportunity to discuss the plans with a Council representative, or to present to the Council to explain the project.
3. Letter from NNDC thanking the Council for the helpful discussions on a range of issues at the Town Council meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> January, 2014.

10901 **GIRLGUIDING**

A letter was submitted from the North Walsham Girlguiding group seeking the Council permission and support to a treasure chest trail around North Walsham to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Brownie Guides during the school holidays.

It was **RESOLVED**

**That the Town Council approves the request.**

10902 **ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF NORTH WALSHAM**

A letter was submitted from St. Nicholas Church giving details of an event to mark 100 year celebrations from 7 – 9 June, 2014 for all those who live and work in our parish and inviting the Town Council to play a part by providing a display.

Mrs. West and Mrs. Rose agreed to submit a display on behalf of the Town Council.

10903 **BITTERN LINE**

A letter was submitted from Greater Anglia in response to the Town Council's support for the late night trains on the Bittern Line to depart 20 minutes later.

Mr. Seward reported that the Bittern Line Partnership was extremely disappointed and would be writing to the railway company.

It was **RESOLVED**

**That a letter be written to the Chief Executive expressing great disappointment and stating that the rail service should be operated in a way the people of this town require and not what the rail company wants.**

**Copy letter to Mr. N. Lamb, MP**

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