

NORTH WALSHAM TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the monthly meeting of the
Town Council held in the Council Chamber
On 30th July, 2013.

PRESENT

Mrs. J.R. Belson (Town Mayor)
Mr. G. Bull Mr. E. Seward
Mr. F. Choudhury Mr. R. Sims
Mr. B. Hester Mr. D. Spencer
Mr. C. Peck Mr. A. Thirtle
Mr. D. Robertson Mr. D. Turner
Mrs. R.A. Rose Mrs. B. West
Mr. B. Wexler

10742 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Mr. Seward declared an interest in District Council matters.

10743 APOLOGIES

Apologies were submitted from Mr. T. Morland and Mrs. V. Uprichard.

10744 MINUTES

The minutes of the monthly meeting of the Town Council held on 25th June, 2013 were approved and signed by the Town Mayor.

10745 MATTERS ARISING – FOR INFORMATION ONLY

(a) Defibrillators (10734)

It was reported that North Walsham & Dis. Round Table had agreed to donate £500 towards a second defibrillator and North Walsham Rotary Club had also donated £500 with the promise of making up any shortfall. It was reported that two defibrillators would now be ordered.

(b) Car Parks (10735)

It was reported that weed spraying at Midland Road would be undertaken late July and it would be necessary to close the car park for one day. The District Council would post notices to this effect.

10746 POLICE

Sgt. Magee submitted the crime figures for the month and it was noted that there were 3 more crimes than for the same period in 2012. The next priority setting meeting would be held on Wednesday, 11th September at the Atrium. The current SNT priorities were anti social behaviour in North Walsham, and speeding in Acorn Road, Bacton Road, Thirlby Road, North Walsham.

Sgt. Magee was thanked for attending the meeting.

10747 DISTRICT/COUNTY COUNCILLORS

A written report was submitted from Mr. Seward giving details of the materials recycling facility new contract and community bottle banks. He reported that there had been delays in refuse collection due mainly to vehicle breakdown. Ward councillors had robustly taken up the issue and the District Council waste officers had expressed strong concerns to the waste collector Kier. The HL Foods planning

application had recently been submitted. Changes to Planning Housing Policies and charges to developers had been discussed and the District Council had suspended the introduction of the Community Infrastructure Levy and would continue to rely on Section 106 monies for new developments. The reason was that evidence showed that CIL would not be commercially viable in the District whereas Section 106 agreements continue to be viable.

A written report was submitted from Mrs. Moore stating that a Local Authority Building Control award had been made to the Atrium for best commercial building. Mrs. Moore also reported on the Community Infrastructure Levy, Materials recycling facility and reported on housing incentives.

Mr. Lloyd verbally reported that he had been invited to meet with the CAB in August for an update on their proposals.

Mr. Foss verbally reported that the Coltishall Liaison Reference Group now included North Walsham County Councillors. There was a public consultation taking place.

A written report was submitted from the Town Mayor giving details of visits made since the last meeting.

10748 RECYCLING - GLASS BANKS

A letter was submitted from the District Council stating that the recycling credits generated from the collection of glass from bottle banks in north Norfolk, will no longer be awarded from the 2014-15 financial year. From 1st April the District Council will be collecting a wider variety of recyclables from their kerbside collection services, including mixed rigid plastics, tetrapaks and waxed cartons, glass bottles and jars. Details were submitted of the income received from recycling credits in previous years. It was suggested that the Town Council could consider Norfolk County Council's recycling credits scheme run by their Waste Reduction Team. It would be the Town Council's responsibility to set up agreements with an approved recycling merchant; recycling credits would then have to be claimed from the County Council. It was reported that the District Council would stand to gain £55,000 income from the new service leaving parish and town councils out of pocket.

It was **RESOLVED**

- (a) **That a letter of objection be sent to the District Council**
- (b) **That further investigations be made to set up an agreement with an approved recycling merchant for report to the September meeting.**

10749 CAR PARK – MUNDESLEY ROAD

A motion was submitted proposed Dave Robertson seconded by Eric Seward – 'Whilst the Town Council continues to believe that it is in the best interests of the town that Mundesley Road car park should remain free to users it recognises that North Norfolk District Council wishes to introduce charges for this car park. It therefore asks the District Council:

- To have free car parking in the evening after 6.00 p.m.
- To have short stay car parking that is either free or where there is a nominal charge.

The Town Council believes that these proposals will help to protect and support shops and businesses in the town centre and in particular the four restaurants/takeaway outlets within 75 metres of this car park, many of whose

customers use Mundesley Road to park when visiting these establishments in an evening'.

It was **RESOLVED**

That the motion proposed by Mr. Robertson and seconded by Mr. Seward be approved.

10750 CONDITION OF PROPERTIES (10646)

A reply was submitted from the District Council regarding the Town Council's concerns on the condition of properties in the conservation area, in particular the newsagents shop in Church Street, which had since been repaired and decorated. The letter outlined the range of powers available to the District Council in respect of unsightly and neglected properties or land and specifically Listed Buildings. The Conservation Manager had stated that the overall condition of the building stock in North Walsham was certainly a matter of real concern, but it was recognised that the economic health of the town centre had a direct bearing on the condition of the property in it. Should the Town Council be able to identify the specific buildings which were of most concern to it, the Conservation Design and Landscape Service would be happy to undertake a general assessment and suggest future remedial actions, possibly using the powers available to them.

Mr. Seward reported on the land at the rear/adjacent to the Black Swan Public House following a site meeting by the District Council. The Clerk confirmed that an acknowledgement of the Town Council's letter had been received.

10751 PLAY EQUIPMENT (10587)

A letter was submitted from the District Council following the Town Council's application for grant funding for play equipment on Acorn Road green stating that the application was unsuccessful. The Panel noted that the NNDC owns the land on which the play equipment would be located and that discussions had taken place regarding the District Council taking on responsibility for the maintenance of any additional equipment located at Acorn Road. The District Council have since allocated additional capital funding for play equipment and the Panel considered it would be more appropriate for play equipment that is on land owned by the Council to be funded from this budget rather than from the Big Society Fund. It was reported that a meeting would be held with Mr. Ingham to discuss the play equipment, a report of the meeting would be submitted in due course.

The letter was received.

10752 MEETING

Members were reminded that when Sheila Oxtoby, Chief Executive of the District Council met with the Town Council last year she stated that she would repeat this if it was useful and there was a wish to do this again. It was reported that both Sheila Oxtoby and Tom Fitzpatrick (Leader of the District Council) would be happy to attend a future meeting of the Town Council and had suggested a monthly Council meeting. Previously a meeting had been held following a Planning Committee meeting. It was agreed that it would not be convenient to meet on a full Council meeting date.

It was **RESOLVED**

That Ms. Oxtoby and Mr. Fitzpatrick be informed that due to the amount of correspondence dealt with at monthly Council meetings there

would be insufficient time to discuss any District Council matters and would suggest the 12th November immediately following a Planning Committee meeting.

10753 **LEADERSHIP OF PLACE**

Mr. Seward reported that once clarity had been received on the Marrick Ropes site a meeting would be held to discuss the way forward for this group.

10754 **TOWN TEAM**

Mr. Sims reported that the Pop Up shop initiative would be going ahead; signage was being sorted out. It was noted that the Mary Portas money had been spent but further funding options were being considered.

10755 **AUGUST RECESS**

Members were reminded of the August Recess in accordance with Standing Orders. It was **RESOLVED**

That during the August Recess delegated powers be given to the Town Clerk in consultation with the Town Mayor and Deputy Mayor to deal with matters relating to the Town Council.

10756 **PAYMENTS AND RECEIPTS**

A detailed statement showing the payments and receipts amounting to £14,255.23 and £7,546.38 was submitted and approved.

10757 **PAY AWARD 2013/14**

It was reported that the National Joint Council for Local Government Services had confirmed that the Local Government Employers and trade unions had agreed the pay scales for 2013/2014. A pay increase of 1% had been agreed with the effect from 1st April, 2013. It was also reported that Spinal Column Point 4 had been deleted and therefore employees on SCP 4 would progress to SCP5. The Clerk reported that none of the Town Council's employees were on this scale and that provision had been made in the budget for the pay award. It was **RESOLVED**

That the pay award be approved and the increase back dated to 1st April, 2013.

10758 **PLANNING**

The minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 25th June, 2013 and 9th July, 2013 were received. (App. A)

10759 **FUNDAY**

The minutes of the Funday Working Group held on 23rd July 2013 were submitted and approved. (App. B) It was reported that the afternoon had been very successful and thanks were given to the organising Committee. It was noted that the date for 2014 was Sunday, 29th June.

10760 **CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Email from Office of the PCC for Norfolk re: promotion for Tackling Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence.

2. Copy letter from NCC to Mr. Lamb re: speeding issues – Skeyton New Road, North Walsham.
3. Invitation to attend North Norfolk Community Transport AGM on 19th August 2013 at St. Benet's Hall at 7.00 p.m. Mr. Robertson to attend.
4. Notification of Temporary Traffic Order affecting Hall Lane from Church Street eastwards for a distance of 100m due to BT underground services on 5th August 2013 for the duration of the works, expected to be 1 day.
5. Email from NNDC re: England's first marine plans go out to consultation from today.
6. Copy of NNDC Full Council minutes for 24th July, 2013.
7. Invitation to attend Community Resilience information day at Sheringham on 26th September.
8. Notification of Village Games Get into Golf Sessions event in September.
9. Notification of Have your say on the future of water consultation.
10. Notification of Sadler's Wood Fair to be held on 18th August, 2013.
11. Notification and copy of the Section 119 of the Highways Act 1980 North Walsham Footpath No. 2 (part) Diversion Order 2013.
12. Letter from North Walsham in Bloom re: utility companies digging up roads and flowerbeds without notice, which had been passed to the County Council.

10761 **BUS SHELTERS**

It was reported that the bus shelters in Park Lane and Yarmouth Road had received make-overs by members of the National Citizens Service project team.

10762 **CLEANSING**

It was reported that a representative from a chewing gum removal company had contacted the Council regarding a demonstration in the town centre. The Clerk was asked to set up a date for a demonstration.

10763 **NEXT AGENDA**

1. Victory Housing Trust – properties. (Mr. Robertson) It was agreed that preliminary investigations be made as to why the Trust was selling so many properties, for submission to the September meeting.
2. Glass Recycling Banks.
