

NORTH WALSHAM TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the monthly meeting of the Town Council
Held in the Council Chamber
On 28th May, 2013.

PRESENT

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

10695 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr. E. Seward declared an interest in the item relating to Leadership of Place.

10696 APOLOGY

An apology for absence was submitted from Mr. F. Choudhury.

10697 MINUTES

The minutes of the monthly meeting of the Town Council held on 30th April, 2013 were approved and signed by the Town Mayor.

10698 MATTERS ARISING – FOR INFORMATION ONLY

(a) Defibrillator (10660)

It was reported that £250 had been received from North Walsham & District Lions Club and that the North Walsham Rotary Club had pledged a donation. An update would be given at the June meeting.

(b) Speeding – Acorn Road (10681)

It was reported that the County Council had agreed to erect children's warning signs and possible Think! Sign in Acorn Road to try and combat the speeding problem. The SNAP team would be asked to consider this at the next meeting.

10699 POLICE

PC Lucy Campbell and PC Stuart Doe submitted the monthly crime figures and it was noted that the figures were considerably less than the same period in 2012. The SNT priorities for the North Walsham area were anti social behaviour in and around North Walsham and around Sainsbury's and Vicarage Street car park and the Community Centre. The next SNAP public meeting would be held on 3rd July 2013 at the Atrium.

10700 COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

A written report was submitted and received from Mr. E. Foss.

A written report was submitted from Mr. Seward and Mr. Lloyd giving information about a meeting with Norfolk CAB. It was noted that a dog bin had been provided at Wharton Close and that information had been requested from the District Council regarding the impact of price increases effective April 1st on the Sports Centres. The District Council continues to urge the owner to develop 48-50 Bacton Road site; an inspection did not indicate the presence of any vermin.

Mr. Seward submitted a written report updating members on Marrick Ropes Supermarket application and mitigation and also St. Nicholas Court. The planning applications relating to 4 Market Street and Davenports Magic Kingdom would be submitted to the Planning Committee meeting on 30th May, 2013. The District Council is carrying out a review of car park charges and had advised that letters will be sent to parish and town councils asking for their views.

Ms. Gay submitted a written report updating members about the Laundry Loke site ; it was noted that the fencing had been repaired.

Mr. Robertson submitted his final report as Town Mayor and it was noted that he had attended 55 events and meetings during his year of office.

10701 **YARMOUTH ROAD – SPEEDING (10642)**

A letter was submitted from the County Council stating that they would not currently support a 20 mph limit along Yarmouth Road without physical engineering work to engender good compliance over either a short or a longer length, as apart from the prohibitive cost it could send a message to drivers that they could speed up in the more busy part of Yarmouth Road near the zebra crossing. The County Council is currently undertaking a review of the Speed Management Policy and a request has been registered to consider a 20 mph limit outside the school. A 20s plenty scheme outside the school has also been put forward for consideration which would be part time and advisory in operation.

The letter was received.

10702 **LIME TREE ROAD**

A letter was submitted from the County Council in reply to the Council's request for a feasibility study to be undertaken in this part of the town. It had been suggested that a one way system and residents parking scheme would be helpful but in order to change the flows and implement a one way system or other measures evidence would be required to make sure that any proposal would not simply transfer the problem elsewhere, as it would be inevitable that traffic flows around the town would change. The County Council has recently taken on a civil parking enforcement role and asked district councils to nominate their priority areas for attention. Unfortunately North Walsham was not nominated as a priority for a whole settlement study and the County would not consider parking permits for Lime Tree Road area in isolation. The County Council is aware of the issues and concerns in Lime Tree Road but has already given consideration to what may be possible in the area but unfortunately no straightforward, affordable solutions have been identified.

The letter was received.

10703 **ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING**

It was **RESOLVED**

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

10704 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

See memorandum.

10705 **RECONVENING OF MEETING**

It was **RESOLVED**

That the meeting be reconvened.

10706 MARKET STREET/KING'S ARMS STREET

Mr. Robertson expressed concern about heavy good vehicles using Market Street and King's Arms Street following the recent incident with a lorry and the jewellers shop in Market Street. He asked why such vehicles used these two streets when they do not deliver to the town centre. King's Arms Street itself is very narrow with only one small pavement making it very dangerous for pedestrians when large vehicles are in transit. It is understood that buses use Market Street and King's Arms Street and there is no suggestion that this should either stop or be restricted. As a town council we asked for and achieved a similar scheme for Church Street and the top of Market Place although it is disappointing that whilst this is not a recognised bus route some buses use Church Street as a short cut. To stand on the corner by Martins whilst a bus is negotiating that turn is another unpleasant experience. Unlike the bottom of town there is no need for buses to use Church Street.

On the proposition of Mr. Robertson seconded by Mrs. Uprichard

It was **RESOLVED**

- 1. That this Town Council asks the County Council to carry out a traffic survey and/or investigate why these large vehicles use Market Street & King's Arms Street that do not deliver to any of the premises in either street and to consider introducing a weight and size restriction for non delivery vehicles.**
- 2. To ask the County Council to contact the bus company and instruct them not to use Church Street unless advised to do so because of diversion.**

10707 DOG FOULING

Mr. Robertson reported that he had cause to contact the District Council Environmental Department because of the number of used Dog bags deposited in a nearby street and in an alley. He was advised that there is a Publicity campaign going on and that there had been no complaints from North Walsham

Members were reminded of the conversation at last month's Town Council Meeting when this was discussed he felt the Town Council should advise members of the public, through the media, that the only way to get improvements is for members of the public to write in and complain. It was stated that when a member of the public comes into the office with a complaint it is recorded before contacting the District Council. The Town Council can do nothing except hopefully raise the profile of the disgusting habit of dumping bags in the street or throwing bags into trees or over fences. Hopefully the enforcement officers will not issue warnings but prosecute and name people. It was pointed out that people were unaware that dog bags could be deposited into normal rubbish bins and not just dog bins. It was agreed to advertise this through the local media and ask the members of the public to complain to the Environment Health Department.

It was also agreed that a letter be written to the Environmental Health Department asking them to make contact with Mr. Robertson to ask when the removal of the bags is likely to happen.

10708 NORFOLK CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU (10659A)

Members were reminded of the report submitted by Mr. Lloyd of his meeting with the Norfolk Citizens Advice Bureau. Members agreed that they had still not answered the Council's question of whether the money would be used for North

Walsham residents. Mr. Seward suggested that in light of the meeting that Nigel Lloyd had had the Town Council should inform the Norfolk CAB that they had discussed his report and agreed that the central point of whether the money from the Town Council would be ring fenced for North Walsham had not been answered. It must be understood that the grant came from Council tax money and must be spent locally. If they cannot guarantee this point the Norfolk CAB be informed that the Town Council regrets it is not in a position to make a grant and will withdraw the offer. It was also pointed out that sight of a business plan from such a public body should be available on request.

It was **RESOLVED**

That a letter be written to Norfolk CAB asking for confirmation that the money will be ring-fenced for North Walsham, or the grant money will unfortunately, be withdrawn and requesting a copy of the Business Plan.

10709 STREET NUMBERING

Members were reminded that planning permission was given to erect a single dwelling on a corner plot at the junction of Skeyton Road/Buxton Road. It was reported that the new build and an existing bungalow exit onto Buxton Road although the existing bungalow has previously been numbered incorrectly as 13 Skeyton Road, giving problems to emergency services trying to locate the property. Both resident and owner were happy to rectify the error and it was suggested that the properties be numbered 2a and 2b. Information was given on the suggestions put forward by the developer.

It was **RESOLVED**

That No. 13 Skeyton Road be numbered 2a Buxton Road and the new build numbered 2b Buxton Road.

10710 EMPTY PROPERTIES (10659a)

A letter was submitted from the District Council giving details of the meeting of the Enforcement Board held on 9th May, 2013 relating to 3 buildings which contain empty properties in King's Arms Street according to the Council Tax records as follows.

Members were asked to let the Town Clerk know of any further properties that are long term empty, in King's Arms Street or elsewhere in North Walsham, so that the District Council could be informed. Information was also submitted on 121 Mundesley Road and 48/50 Bacton Road.

Mr. Seward suggested that the District Council be asked to formally look at the land at the rear of Black Swan Loke which had been in a dilapidated state for several years. It was agreed that the District Council should look at empty shops and commercial buildings. It was noted that social housing was not part of the Enforcement Board's jurisdiction.

10711 CAR PARKS (10670)

A report on a meeting held on 7th May, 2013 with the District Council was submitted together with replies to questions asked at that meeting. Mr. Robertson reported that the sub-group had met prior to the Council meeting to discuss the amended draft Heads of Terms for Midland Road and recommended that the Town Council approves the terms as contained therein.

It was suggested that two members should monitor the Midland Road car park on a regular basis. Mr. Sims and Mr. Thirtle volunteered.

With regard to Mundesley Road car park it was recommended that because of time constraints and other issues the Town Council does not enter into a lease with the District Council at the present time. It was reported that the District Council intended to continue with the Season ticket only on Mundesley Road but if this did not progress it was suggested that members should consider how they would like to see this site developed. Members were reminded that the Town Council had included in the mitigation conditions in respect of the Marrick Ropes site were agreed it would give 2 hours free car parking in the town.

It was **RESOLVED**

- (a) That the Town Council enters into a lease with the District Council for Midland Road car park**
- (b) That the Town Council does not enter into a lease for the Mundesley Road car park.**

10712 **LEADERSHIP OF PLACE**

Mr. Seward stated that in response to Mr. White's comments about buses in the Market Place that no official discussions had taken place regarding removing buses from the Market Place. He also reported that in due course it would be necessary to explore the options open to the Leadership of Place in relation to the Town Team.

10713 **PAYMENTS AND RECEIPTS**

A detailed statement showing the payments and receipts as amended amounting to £19,642.09 and £88,380.52 was submitted and approved.

10714 **INTERNAL AUDITOR'S REPORT**

The Internal Auditor's Report for the year ended 31st March 2013 was submitted for consideration.

It was **RESOLVED**

That the report be received.

10715 **ACCOUNTS 2012/13**

The Accounts and Supporting Statements for the year ended 31st March, 2013 together with the Risk Assessment Arrangements were submitted for approval. The Annual Return 2012/13 Section – Accounting Statements and Section 2 – Annual Governance Statement were also submitted for approval.

It was **RESOLVED**

- (a) That the Accounts and Supporting Statements for the year ended 31st March, 2013 be approved.**
- (b) That the Risk Assessment Arrangements, as submitted, be approved.**
- (c) That Section 1, Accounting Statements of the Annual Return for 2012/13 be approved.**
- (d) That all the statements contained in Section 2, Annual Governance Statement, of the Annual Return for 2012/13 be answered in the affirmative**
- (e) That the Town Mayor and Town Clerk be authorised to sign all the documents.**

10716 **WAR MEMORIAL PARK**

It was noted that the Council being Trustees of the War Memorial Park had special dispensation to approve the accounts.

The War Memorial Park accounts for the year ended 31st March, 2013 were submitted for approval. It was reported that the accounts would be independently examined by Mr. L. Millward, as in previous years.
It was **RESOLVED**

That the War Memorial Park accounts for the year ended 31st March 2013 be approved and signed by the Town Mayor, subject to examination.

10717 **PLANNING COMMITTEE**

The minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 30th April, 2013 and 14th May, 2013 were received. (App. A)

10718 **FUNDAY**

The minutes of the meeting of the Funday Working Committee held on 7th May, 2013 were submitted and approved. (App. B)

10719 **PARKS/CEMETERY COMMITTEE**

The minutes of the Parks and Cemetery Committee meeting held on 14th May, 2013 were submitted and approved. (App. C) It was reported that the DMK planning application and 4 Market Street planning application would be considered on 30th May, 2013. It was agreed that Mr. Robertson represents the Town Council.

10720 **CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Date for Diary – Civic Service, Sunday 9th June, 2013 at 3.00 p.m. St. Nicholas Parish Church.
2. Invitation to attend a meeting with Police Commissioner, Stephen Bett on Tuesday, 2nd July 2013 at Town Hall, Aylsham. Mr. Bull, Mr. Robertson, Mr. Spencer to attend.
3. Following an enquiry from the District Council re: the Council's Energy Box Scheme I have agreed that the Information Office will host one of the Energy Boxes.

10721 **ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA**

1. Defibrillator
2. Car park
3. Market Cross

