

**NORTH WALSHAM TOWN COUNCIL**

Minutes of the monthly meeting of the Town Council  
Held in the Council Chamber  
On 26<sup>th</sup> February, 2013

**PRESENT**

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

10605 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Mr. E. Seward declared an interest in the item relating to Leadership of Place.  
Mrs. V. Uprichard declared an interest in the item relating to Town Team.

10606 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were submitted from Mr. G. Bull, Mr. F. Choudhury, Mrs. B. West

10607 **MINUTES**

The minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> January, 2013 were approved and signed by the Town Mayor.

10608 **MATTERS ARISING – FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

(a) **Play Equipment (10587)**

It was reported that the District Council had agreed to include the additional pieces of play equipment on their maintenance and insurance schedules. Information was being sought from the same provider as the District Council and Mrs. Jackman had been notified.

(b) **Resurfacing (10589)**

A letter was submitted from the County Council stating that the work was scheduled to commence on 28<sup>th</sup> May 2013 for a period of 4 days during the May school half term holiday at the earliest to maximise daylight hours.

(c) **Naming and Numbering (10591)**

It was reported that Victory Housing had accepted the name of Howard Court.

(d) **Norfolk Citizens Advice Bureau (10597)**

It was reported that no reply had been received.

(e) **Defibrillator (10598)**

It was reported that a private business had offered to purchase one defibrillator and it was hoped to purchase a second with funding from other sources. A full report would be submitted to the March meeting.

10609 **ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING**

It was **RESOLVED**

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

10610 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

See memorandum

10611 **RECONVENING OF MEETING**

It was **RESOLVED**

**That the meeting be reconvened.**

10612 **POLICE**

PCSO Lucy Collyer submitted the monthly crime figures and it was noted that there were 35 crimes against 29 for the same period last year. The next priority setting meeting would be held on 24<sup>th</sup> April at the Atrium at 7.00 p.m. It was reported that the Police are still experiencing anti social behaviour around the town, especially around Sainsbury's, the Community Centre and Park Court. Anti social behaviour in North Walsham had been adopted as a local priority and the Police were in the process of working with the Youth Advisory Board and Benjamin Foundation to try and get some activities for young people to attend in the evening. Police will be patrolling with Young Commissioners (young people in the role of a youth worker) in the coming weeks to research what the local young people would like in the area. It was noted that the Police supported Mr. Fryatt's concerns. The current SNT priorities for the North Walsham area are 1. Anti Social behaviour in and around North Walsham. 2 Monitor and reduce vehicles being used anti socially and littering on Midland Road and 3. Speeding on Yarmouth Road and Thirlby Road.

It was reported that children were "chicken running" at Marshgate/Bluebell Road.

PCSO Collyer was asked to let the Town Clerk have a report on any anti social behaviour where the street lights have been turned off for consideration at the next meeting.

10613 **COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

A written report was submitted from Mr. Morse giving details of the on-going problems in Lime Tree Road and discussions with the Highways Department regarding permit parking, which has to be self-financing, as part of a "whole settlement review of parking provision". It was noted that the District Council did not nominate North Walsham as an area for attention and therefore the County Council is unable to consider Lime Tree Road. Before considering a one way or other system the County would need to undertake a traffic feasibility study looking at the likely impact of any changes. Funding for such schemes is very tight and there is no guarantee when funds would be available. Mr. Morse suggested that it was important that the Town Council also puts pressure on the County Council.

It was agreed to put this on the agenda for the next meeting but in the meantime the County Council be informed that the Town Council supports an investigation of the traffic problems for Lime Tree Road.

It was also reported that there will be a proposal in the Traffic Regulation Order for the town centre works to extend the double yellow lines slightly at the Hall Lane/Lime Tree Road junction to improve visibility and give motorists somewhere to wait. Talks regarding the Sports Centre had been held between the Governors of the High School and the District Council. Mr. Morse was investigating whether there would be sufficient school places available if the Hopkin's Home application was approved. The County Council had installed some of the dropped kerbs previously referred to. Work to reinstate the roadside ditch in Manor Road, Spa Common is still outstanding.

The Town Mayor submitted a list of diary dates he had attended since the last meeting.

Mr. Spencer left the meeting at this point.

10614 **HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENTS (10588)**

Further details were submitted from the County Council giving information of schemes delivered in 2012/13. The majority of the schemes were trods (a low-cost footpath) and Vehicle Activated Signs. The letter was received with no further action to be taken.

10615 **BUS SHELTER – BACTON ROAD**

A letter was submitted from a resident in Acorn Road requesting the Town Council to consider installing some form of bus shelter on the grass area on Bacton Road between Walsham Grange and the entrance to Acorn Road. Members were reminded that the County Council proposed to provide two new bus stops in this vicinity. Due to significant reductions in funding the County Council no longer offers the same level of financial support to these projects but they are still very interested in the introduction of bus stop infrastructure design that offers easier access and usage to the disabled bus traveller. As before: the degree of financial support to any project would be assessed with each case being considered and agreed on its merit. The first step would be for the Town Council to consider the request and location.

It was **RESOLVED**

**That the request be approved in principle but that further information be sought as to the design and cost of providing a bus shelter.**

10616 **MARKET PLACE (10591)**

The Town Mayor gave a verbal report on a meeting held with the Senior Highways Inspector and the Area Highway Engineer on 21<sup>st</sup> February, 2013. It was also reported that the Area Highways Engineer had written stating that he had arranged to meet the contractors on site where, as agreed, they will look to them to consider some remedial works in particular to the edges near to the kerbs. Following this meeting he would update the Council on a date when the agreed works would be carried out.

10617 **STREET NAMING AND NUMBERING**

A letter was submitted from Youngs Homes to name the new development which comprises 36 dwellings off Wood View. It was reported that the street names in the immediate vicinity appeared to have been named after local surrounding parishes or relevant local history. It was suggested that because the new development is not a separate street but carries on the name of Wood View should continue into the new development.

It was **RESOLVED**

**That the name Wood View continues into the new development.**

10618 **CAR PARKS (10596)**

A letter was submitted from the District Council following Mr. Oliver's meeting with Mr. Robertson on 24<sup>th</sup> January giving the reason for withdrawing the lease offer in relation to the Midland Road and Mundesley Road car parks in North Walsham. Members noted that the District Council was blaming the Town Council for unnecessary delays and had misinterpreted comments made at a meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2012. Further details under the Freedom of Information Act were still awaited. Mr. Seward reported that the local District Council members were unable to find out any information regarding decisions which had been taken behind "closed doors" and were never minuted. It was agreed that in the interests of the town and transparency of local government it was important to get to the bottom of the matter. Members agreed to the Town Mayor responding to the letter in consultation with the Town Clerk.

10619 **LITTER BINS (10594)**

The Clerk reported that the former St. Nicholas Court Precinct Association looked after the bins and paid someone to collect the rubbish which the District Council then removed. Due to the lack of businesses in the Precinct the Association was no longer running and it was down to individual businesses to take out an indemnity against any accidents if they wished. Mrs. Bullimore had confirmed that the bin at the bottom of the steps leading from Bier Loke was no longer required and should be removed and the shop owners along the top area would be prepared to look after their frontages. The District Council had suggested removing the 5 existing bins and replacing them with 2 or 3 new bins of a rust proof material. It was suggested that the Town Council, Chamber for Business, Town Team could assist financially to purchase the bins. Concern was expressed that because this was a private area the Town Council could be seemed to be responsible for any accidents arising from material placed in the bins.

It was **RESOLVED**

**That, in the first instance, clarification is sought as to the Council's liability to provide a bin on private land.**

10620 **CAR PARKS – GRITTING**

It was reported that the District Council did not grit any of the car parks and had not done so for a number of years. It was felt that the cost and complexity of ensuring gritting is effective and the legal implications which would stem from gritting car parks made such a policy difficult to implement. Grit bins had been provided on all car parks for drivers to use. It was reported that during the heavy snow tickets had been issued even though it was impossible to see any parking bays and drivers were struggling because of the icy conditions. It was not included in the Kier contract to release a person to help clear the snow off the ground. It was suggested that the Council open discussions with Kier about clearing snow when their operative could not do the normal sweeping as a gesture of goodwill towards the Council tax people of North Walsham. It was reported that the disabled ramps to the public toilets had been extremely dangerous due to the icy conditions.

It was **RESOLVED**

**That an approach be made to Kier to discuss a way forward.**

10621 **PIGEONS (10546)**

An email from Mr. Wilson, District Council Environmental Protection Team Leader was submitted stating that the District Council was still dealing with a couple of properties in terms of trying to get them to proof their building adequately, they continue to monitor the population and will undertake the necessary actions to ensure they are not causing a nuisance within the town centre.

As before this will be primarily through working with the businesses to minimise roosting and breeding locations but may involve the use of other strategies if necessary.

The report was received.

10622 **AMBULANCE SERVICE**

A written report was submitted on a visit to the Ambulance Control at Hellesdon on 1<sup>st</sup> February by Councillors Robertson, Bull and Mrs. Uprichard. The report was received.

10623 **SPORTS CENTRE (10581)**

Mr. Seward gave an update on the current position on the Sports Centre and the notes relating to the Centre in the report from Mr. Morse were also noted.

10624 **LEADERSHIP OF PLACE (10599)**

Mr. Seward reported on the progress with the Davenport Magic Kingdom and 4 Market Street. The Leadership of Place group were looking at where the town is going and how to increase the footfall in the town and to consider the Town Council's role to play. Concern was expressed that £17,000 from the Leadership of Place money had been spent on the Mundesley Road car park.

10625 **TOWN TEAM**

Mrs. Uprichard reported that the Town Team had made their first grant to the Chamber for Business for the Netteffects online website. The Chamber had invited all businesses who wish to join the scheme to a meeting. Mrs. Uprichard confirmed that the grant had been £2,000 but that £1500 would be repaid when 50 businesses had signed up to the scheme.

10626 **PAYMENTS AND RECEIPTS**

A detailed statement showing the payments and receipts amounting to £14,816.39 and £9,483.29 respectively was submitted together with a comparison of actual payments and receipts with estimates as at 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> February. Both reports were approved.

10627 **GRANTS COMMITTEE**

The minutes of the Grants Committee meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> February, 2013 were submitted and approved. (App. A)

10628 **CHRISTMAS LIGHTS**

The minutes of the Christmas Lights meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> February, 2013 were submitted and approved. (App. B)

10629 **FUNDAY**

The minutes of the Funday Working Committee meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> February, 2013 were submitted and approved. (App. C)

10630 **PLANNING COMMITTEE**

The minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 24<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> January and 12<sup>th</sup> February, 2013 were received. (App. D)

10631 **CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Copy of Full Council minutes for meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> February, 2013.
2. Victory Housing Newsletter Winter 2013
3. Norfolk Link – February 2013
4. Notification of street works at the junction of Aylsham Road/Park Lane to Mundesley Road/Cromer Road/Market Street junction for the duration of 1 day on 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2013.

10632 **MEMORIAL PARK**

A request was submitted from the U3A North Walsham to play croquet on the Memorial Park on a Monday/Tuesday afternoon from 2.00 p.m. – 4.00 p.m. starting 2<sup>nd</sup> April through to September. The area required would be 14m x 40m for two pitches. The group had confirmed public liability insurance and if approved would be happy to make a donation to the Memorial Park. It was suggested that the area in front of the Pavilion would be the best area for this use.

It was **RESOLVED**

**That the request be approved and that members of the Parks & Cemetery Committee meet with members of the U3A to confirm the area required.**

10633 **ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA**

1. Part-night light street lighting
2. Speeding – Yarmouth Road
3. Empty properties – King's Arms Street
4. Litter Bins
5. Grit Bins

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