

NORTH WALSHAM TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the monthly meeting of the Town Council
Held in the Council Chamber
On 18th December, 2012.

PRESENT

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

The Town Mayor welcomed Mr. Terry Morland to his first Council meeting following his co-option at the last meeting.

10562 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Mr. E. Seward declared an interest in the Leadership of Place item.

10563 APOLOGY

An apology for absence was submitted from Mr. G. Bull.

10564 MINUTES

The minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 27th November, 2012 were approved and signed by the Town Mayor.

10565 MATTERS ARISING – FOR INFORMATION

(a) Car Parks (10549)

It was reported that a letter had been received from the District Council late in the afternoon and it was agreed that this would be considered at the January meeting.

(b) Christmas Lights (10557)

Thanks were recorded to the Christmas Lights Committee for working under the most inclement weather on 1st December, 2012.

10566 POLICE

PCSO Lucy Collyer submitted the monthly crime figures and it was noted that there were 58 crimes since the last meeting compared to 69 crimes for the same period in 2011. 28 non-crime domestic incidents had been logged. The current SNT priorities for the North Walsham area are 1. Criminal damage and violence relating to the night time economy around the festive season. 2. Monitor and reduce vehicles being used anti socially and littering on Midland Road. 3. Reduce Anti Social Behaviour in and around Bainbridge Close, North Walsham.

It was noted that there were concerns regarding speeding in Acorn Road.

Members noted that there had been a burglary in the Cemetery store which had been reported to the Police.

10567 COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

A report was submitted from Mr. Morse stating that the traffic problems in Lime Tree Road continue and had been increased with the closure of the unmade land as car park in Hall Lane. He was currently exploring Permit Parking. The flooding

problem at Spa Common was still ongoing. Work to the pavements in Spenser Avenue should be undertaken in 2013/14 which should help with the surface water drainage.

Mr. Lloyd gave a verbal report on the current situation at the Sports Centre and the proposed talks with Stalham and Cromer. With regard to 121 Mundesley Road, North Walsham it was hoped to hold discussions to find a way forward. Sainsbury's had been asked to landscape the patch of grassland which had become a "dog toilet".

The Town Mayor submitted a written report of the events he had attended since the last meeting.

Mrs. Uprichard confirmed she was still waiting a reply regarding Kitale.

10568 HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENTS

A letter was submitted from the County Council stating that they would be repeating the partnership working with parish/town councils to deliver improvements that are a priority for local communities. A further £100,000 County Council fund will be available.

It was agreed to defer further consideration of the letter to the January meeting when it was hoped that further information would be available regarding previously approved schemes elsewhere in the County.

10569 LEADERSHIP OF PLACE

Mr. Seward reported that there will be major issues that the Board and Town Council will have to discuss in January/February together with finding a way forward with car parking in the town. It was also reported that the North Walsham Retail Study would be considered by Cabinet in December; the District Council was waiting for property advice on site appraisals and feasibility studies; a planning application for 4 Market Street was imminent and agreement with the landowner expected to be reached soon; funding from NNDC had been agreed by Cabinet for the town centre enhancement scheme.

10570 TOWN TEAM

Mrs. Uprichard reported that the Town Team had spent the first chunk of money and a press announcement would be made shortly.

10571 SPORTS CENTRE (10526)

It was agreed to defer this item to the January meeting until further information was available.

10572 COUNCIL TAX BASE

It was reported that when the draft estimates were submitted to the meeting on 6th November attention was drawn to the effect that proposals contained in the Local Government Finance Bill could have on the Council Tax bases for parish and town councils and the consequent effect on the amount of Council Tax for parish/town purposes. A report was submitted updating members of the situation.

It is anticipated that the District Council will be in a position to notify the parishes of the grant payments after they have received their provisional grant settlement details, which are due on 19th December. The Council would then be able to set the substitute precept at the January meeting.

A letter was submitted from the National Association of Local Councils advising that the Chairman had written to the Secretary of State expressing disappointment at the outcome of the recent consultations and asking local parish and town councils to

write to the Secretary of State reiterating local councils position and to set out local concerns and circumstances.

It was **RESOLVED**

That a letter be written to the Secretary of State as requested by the Chairman of the National Association.

10573 **PAYMENT AND RECEIPTS**

A detailed statement showing the payments and receipts amounting to £5,674.36 and £4,282.06 respectively was submitted and approved.

10574 **STAFF VACANCY**

It was reported that the post of Assistant to the Town Clerk (Finance) had been made to an applicant and it was hoped that if accepted, the employee would commence employment on 2nd January, 2013. It was confirmed that Mr. Buck would remain to help the new employee.

10575 **PLANNING COMMITTEE**

The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 27th November, 2012 were received. (App. A)

10576 **CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Date for the Diary – Consultation by Police and Crime Commissioner for Norfolk on his 2013/14 Precept proposal – Thursday, 17th January, 2013 6.30 p.m. – 8.30 p.m. at Wymondham Police Headquarters.
2. Letter from the office of the PCC re: Independent Custody Visiting Scheme.
3. Letter from County Council re: Norfolk Scams Awareness 2013 Campaign launch on 1st February, 2013.
4. Copy of County Council Norfolk Gritting Routes Leaflet.
5. County Council Chairman's Christmas Message.
6. Information re: Planning Emergencies Day at Sea Palling on 28th January, 2013.
7. Information re: Sheringham Parkrun and Parkrun Christmas Fun Run on 22nd December, 2012.
8. Copy of the B & B/Self Catering Guide 2013.
9. Information re: Fit Norfolk Road show.
10. Copy of Norfolk Link and notification that there are two vacancies for the North Norfolk District on the Norfolk ALC's Executive Committee.

10577 **ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA**

1. To consider acquiring a defibrillator for the Council Offices (Mrs. Belson)
2. Toddlers play equipment – Acorn Road play area (Mr. Seward)
3. Litter bins (Mr. Seward)
4. Night time car park charges – agreed to include this in the Car Park item.
5. Pigeon update – agreed to defer to February.