

**NORTH WALSHAM TOWN COUNCIL**

Minutes of a Special Meeting of the Town Council  
Held in the Council Chamber  
On 17<sup>th</sup> July, 2012

**PRESENT**

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

10465 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were submitted from Mr. C. Peck and Mr. R. Sims

10466 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

As District Councillors Mr. E. Seward and Mrs. V. Uprichard declared an interest in the item to be considered.

10467 **CAR PARKS**

The Town Mayor reported that Mrs. Stockdale, Chair of the Chamber of Trade was unable to be present and asked members if they would agree to accept a telephone call putting forward the Chamber's comments. This was agreed.

A letter from the District Council, dated 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2012 had previously been circulated to members. It was pointed out that the resolution on delegated powers could not go forward as the District Council had refused to meet with the Town Council and during this time Mr. Sims had gone on holiday and therefore it had been necessary to call a special meeting to consider the letter.

Mr. Robertson reported that he had spoken to both Cllr. Keith Johnson and Cllr. Wyndham Northam on the subject and explained again that the car parks in question were not straightforward and therefore should not be considered the same as Fakenham. The Midland Road car park was in three ownerships and Mundesley Road had a 2 hour enforcement. Mr. Northam had commented that the Town Council could enter into a lease just on the District Council land at Midland Road.

Mrs. Stockdale telephoned with the Chamber's comments – the Chamber had understood that the Town Council would take on the car parks at a peppercorn rent and that this had been agreed. Neighbouring District Councils seem to be more forward thinking with car park charges; the recommendations in the Mary Portas report are still not being followed; why would people pay to shop in North Walsham when they could go to Aylsham for free; Waitrose wants a thriving town and they may as well put a sign up to shop at Aylsham. The Chamber would be prepared to help financially and was behind the Council 100%. Mrs. Stockdale also suggested talking to the MP.

