

## NORTH WALSHAM TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Town Council  
Held in the Council Chamber  
On Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> June, 2012.

### PRESENT

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

### 10436 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllrs. E. Seward and Mrs. V. Uprichard declared an interest in all District Council matters.

Cllr. T. Cornwall declared an interest in Min.No. 10439 relating to the resignation of Mrs. Cornwall.

### 10437 APOLOGY

An apology for absence was submitted from Mr. C. Peck.

### 10438 POLICE

The Town Mayor welcomed Sgt. Pete Magee to the meeting who stated that he had taken over from Sgt. Brooks until further notice. He had been in North Walsham for 15 months and was working closely with P.C, Paul Quinn on local issues. P.C. Quinn introduced PC Jeffrey who submitted the monthly figures. It was noted that the total crimes was considerably lower than for the same period last year. The community issues involved, theft of plants and money from stalls outside residential properties in Bacton; ASB youths throwing items and banging on windows of the bungalows occupied by elderly people and speeding vehicles through White Horse Common and Happisburgh Road. The SNT priorities remained the same as the last report.

Mrs. Uprichard referred to the community patrols raised about 12 months ago and PC Quinn made a note to investigate this and report back.

Mr. Seward referred to the copse at Acorn Road but it was stated both by Mr. Cornwall and PC Quinn that no ASB reports had been received.

The officers were thanked for attending the meeting.

### 10439 RESIGNATION

A letter of resignation as town councillor was submitted and the contents read out to members. It was reported that the District Council would be informed. It was **RESOLVED**

**That the letter be received and the resignation accepted.**

### 10440 ANNUAL MEETING

The minutes of the Annual meeting of the Town Council held on 29<sup>th</sup> May, 2012 were approved as a true record and signed by the Town Mayor.

10441 **MINUTES**

The minutes of the monthly meeting of the Town Council held on 29<sup>th</sup> May, 2012 were approved as a true record and signed by the Town Mayor.

10442 **MATTERS ARISING – FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

(a) Laundry Loke (10419)

It was reported that the letter had been acknowledged by the District Council.

(b) Council offices (10421)

It was reported that the letter had been acknowledged by the District Council.

10443 **CAR PARKS (10435)**

It was reported that a reply had been received and members agreed that in view of the urgency of this matter that an additional item be added to the agenda and considered at the end of the meeting before Part 2 Business.

10444 **DISTRICT/COUNTY COUNCILLORS**

A written report was submitted from Mr. Lloyd giving information about the Melbourne House meeting between the proprietors and representatives from the Police, NNDC Licensing and Environmental Departments; the Environmental Health Officers had made recommendation to the agents of 121 Mundesley Road to reduce the vegetation heaps to eliminate rodent habitats. North Walsham Community Sports Association were aware that recommendations had been made to the District Council Cabinet by senior executive officers to transfer the management of the sports centre over to the Atrium. Members agreed that this matter should be placed on the July agenda.

A written report was submitted from Ms. Gay giving information about the North Walsham Sports Centre; the Waitrose application and Laundry Loke derelict site – a reply from the District Council had stated that the site had been securely fenced and that fly tipping had been cleared. However, there was still material from the original demolition on site and the quality of some of the fencing appeared doubtful. “No Fly Tipping” posters will be put up at the site.

The Town Mayor submitted a list of diary of events he had attended since his election in May.

A written report was submitted from Mr. Morse giving details of the next grass cut and that there would be 3 more cuts after this second one. The total cost of the North Walsham urban cuts is £8,879 and to remove the grass cuttings would roughly double the cost. Work to the excessive standing water problem in Spenser Avenue should be carried out this financial year. The Federation of the two Manor Road Schools was legally formed on 1<sup>st</sup> June. Clare Fletcher has been appointed Head of both Schools. Further information was given about the proposed management of the Sports Centre. The Weavers Way sign at Thirlby Road/Yarmouth Road junction has been put back in place. Mr. Morse would be walking from North Walsham to Walcott to raise money for Kickz and Walcott Flood Wardens.

10445 **LEADERSHIP OF PLACE (10417)**

Mr. Seward apologised to local members for the time of the recent Liaison Group meeting and stated that the September meeting would be held at 4.00 p.m. It was reported that the Waitrose planning application would be considered on 29<sup>th</sup> June; road markings to include the third taxi rank in Market Street would be carried out shortly; the District Council was in discussion with

the Crown Estate regarding the purchase of the ground space in the St. Nicholas Court Precinct. The District Council is currently emptying the bins in that area. The District Council is talking to the owner of 4 Market Street and information regarding a transfer of land agreement was submitted. SPA, the retail consultant engaged to look at the retail trading in the town had started their study; Property consultants Aspinall Verdi who were looking to see what could be done to various properties in the town and get some movement i.e. the Connexions building, St. Nicholas Precinct. A report should be received in August. It was confirmed that there was no progress on the Connexions building.

A report of a meeting with Charles Sanders regarding the congestion of buses in the town was submitted.

10446 **LAND – CROMER ROAD**

Information was submitted regarding the former Crane Fruehauf site at Cromer Road. The main issue was the inadequate surface water drainage infrastructure and several meetings had been held with Mr. Wagstaff, nearby landowner, a representative of the Homes and Communities Agency and Citygate Developments. The District Council would be seeking a meeting with the bodies concerned to see whether progress had been made. In the meantime, Mr. Davenport was investigating the possibility of whether any surface water generated through his development could be held on site through a Sustainable Urban Drainage Solution (SUDS) arrangement through an attenuation tank.

The information was received.

10447 **LITTER SCHEDULE**

A schedule of the barrow beat for North Walsham was submitted in response to a matter raised during public participation at the last meeting. It was reported that the issue of dirty shop doorways had been raised with the Chamber of Trade who would take this forward to their members.

10448 **GATE – YARMOUTH ROAD**

Concern was expressed at the last meeting that a pedestrian gate had appeared outside the hospital on the A149 Yarmouth Road. It was reported that the gate is a fire exit which would be padlocked on the outside and the key kept by the Fire Service. It was not access to the public footpath. It was also confirmed that no problems had been encountered with staff/visitor car parking.

10449 **CODE OF CONDUCT**

It was reported that the Localism Act 2011 contains new provisions to replace the current standards framework, which, in the future, will regulate parish councillors' conduct, disclosure of interests and how complaints about their conduct will be handled. Not all of the relevant provisions in the 2011 Act are in force yet and relevant secondary legislation has not yet been made. It is anticipated that these changes will take effect on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2012 but this date may well slip. A letter had been received from Norfolk Public Law enclosing a copy of the NNDC's Code of Conduct. A parish council may adopt the same code as that adopted by its district council although it is not obliged to do so. Norfolk ALC advises that this is the easiest option. It has the advantage that all local authorities in the county will have a similar code and

the local monitoring officer and independent person will be familiar with the code.

It was **RESOLVED**

**That the Personnel Committee considers the two Codes for recommendation and report to the July meeting.**

10450 **PAYMENTS AND RECEIPTS**

A statement giving details of the payments and receipts to 26<sup>th</sup> June, 2012 amounting to £21,899.47 and £8,731.34 respectively was submitted and approved. A comparison of actual income and expenditure against estimates was also submitted and received.

10451 **BAD DEBTS**

It was reported that there are 2 small amounts outstanding in respect of Market tolls. One for £17 relating to a trader who only attended for one week and the other for £20 which was owing for the last week that he attended the market. Both these sums relate to last year and, despite letters and telephone calls, remain owing. Members were asked to consider writing these amounts off. A bad debt provision was made in the 2011/12 accounts.

It was **RESOLVED**

**That the two outstanding amounts be written off.**

10452 **TRAVEL EXPENSES**

It was reported that the Council currently pays travel expenses for cars to Members and officers at the rate of 40p per mile. The rate was agreed some years ago and was the HM Revenue and Customs approved mileage rate. This rate was recently increased to 45p per mile and Members were asked to consider increasing the Council's mileage rate to that figure.

It was **RESOLVED**

**That the rate of mileage for travel expenses be increased to 45p per mile.**

10453 **CHRISTMAS LIGHTS**

The minutes of the Christmas Lights Working Group meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> June, 2012 were submitted and approved. (App. A)

10454 **FUNDAY**

The minutes of the Funday Working Group meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> June, 2012 were submitted and approved. (App. B) Thanks were recorded to the Group members for their hard work.

10455 **PLANNING COMMITTEE**

The minutes of the meetings of the Planning Committee held on 29<sup>th</sup> May, 2012 and 12<sup>th</sup> June, 2012 were received. (App. C)

10456 **DIAMOND JUBILEE**

The minutes of the meeting of the Diamond Jubilee Working Group held on 19<sup>th</sup> June, 2012 were submitted and approved. (App. D) Thanks were recorded to the Group members for their hard work.

10457 **INFORMATION OFFICE**

The minutes of the Information Steering Committee meetings held on 8<sup>th</sup> May and 19<sup>th</sup> June, 2012 were submitted and approved. (App. E)

10458 **CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Letter and booklet from Animal Aid – Alternatives to Culling.
2. NCC have written to confirm that the proposed No Cold Calling Zone for Royston Green and William Paston Road has been approved. Signs will be placed on lamp post 1 Royston Green and lamp post 1 William Paston Road and to the railings to a walkway from Melbourne Road.
3. Information from Norfolk Police Authority re: Local Policing Plan for Norfolk; Custody Visiting and Policing Survey.

10459 **MEDIA TRAINING**

It was reported that media training would take place on Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup> July, 2012 immediately following the Planning Committee. Mr. Manthorpe would be undertaking the training. His fee would be in the region of £75. This was agreed.

10460 **ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA**

1. Sports Centre
2. August Recess

10461 **CAR PARKS (10435)**

A reply letter was submitted from the Chief Executive Officer, NNDC in response to the Town Council's request for a confidential meeting. The letter stated that the proposal offered to the Town Council was based on earlier discussions with officers and councillors. Mr. Seward stated that he had reflected the Council's discussions with Cllrs. T. Ivory and W. Northam. It was confirmed that at present the car parks would be for season ticket holders only if the Town Council did not take on the responsibility. It was suggested that the Council seeks an urgent meeting with Cllrs. Ivory, Northam and Johnson to express disappointment at the apparent lack of understanding of localism and the Town Council's offer which would be in the District Council's favour. The local District Councillors were unable to do any more and it was suggested that the Town Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Mr. Sims (as representative on the Chamber of Trade) meet with the District Council and that they be given delegated powers to resolve the matter.

It was **RESOLVED**

**That the Town Council's requests a final meeting with the District Council and that delegated powers be given to Cllrs. Robertson, Belson and Sims to finalise the matter.**

10462 **TOILETS**

It was stated that the pallet fencing would be coming down and more suitable "modesty" fencing would be erected. No date was known for the official opening and members would be kept informed.

10463 **EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

It was **RESOLVED**

**That in view of the confidential nature of the business to be discussed regarding Poppies Day Nursery that the public and press be excluded from the meeting.**

10464 **POPPIES DAY NURSERY**

The notes of the site visit by the Parks and Cemetery Committee regarding the proposed extension of the Poppies Day Nursery garden was submitted.  
It was **RESOLVED**

**That the recommendations of the Parks & Cemetery Committee be approved and that the rent be increased to £350 per month.**

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

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