

NORTH WALSHAM TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Town Council Meeting
Held in the Council Chamber
On 26th July, 2011.

PRESENT

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

10174 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Declarations of interest were submitted from Mr. E. Seward and Mrs. V. Uprichard regarding all District Council matters.

10175 **APOLOGIES**

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

10176 **MINUTES**

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on 28th June, 2011 were approved as a true record and signed by the Town Mayor subject to the deletion of Mr. Seward's name in minute no. 10157..

10177 **MATTERS ARISING – FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

(a) Melbourne House (10159)

It was reported that the Planning Officer had visited the site and subsequently met the applicant who had been advised regarding further planning applications. This matter was ongoing and the Council would be kept informed.

(b) Recreation Road (10160)

It was reported that Mrs. West had requested that this item be removed from the agenda due to the lack of response from the residents concerned.

(c) Victory Housing Trust (10162)

It was reported that a meeting would be held on 2nd August, 2011 with Mr. J. Archibald.

10178 **ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING**

It was **RESOLVED**

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

10179 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

See memorandum.

M

10180 **RECONVENING OF MEETING**

It was **RESOLVED**

That the meeting be reconvened.

10181 **POLICE**

PC Tony Peretta attended the meeting and submitted the monthly crime figures and gave a breakdown of the 22 crimes, 16 less than the same period last year. The SNT team would be supported by the Special Constabulary at the Worstead Festival. Information was submitted regarding a racially aggravated incident. Extra officers had been deployed for public order on Friday and Saturday nights to combat any rise in violence type offences. The SNT priorities remained the same as last month. The next SNAP Street briefing would be held on 27th July and the SNAP panel on 17th August 2011. Following a question on the anti-social behaviour at Bird's Road it was reported that the Police had been in contact with the residents and the Clerk had sent a letter to the District Council enclosing the correspondence from Mr. Minton. The District Council had been asked to reposition the play equipment elsewhere. Mrs. Belson also gave a short report.

10182 **COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

A written report was submitted from County Cllr. Morse stating that following the recent heavy storms his continuing concerns were for Marshgate, bottom of Bluebell Road, the Lyngate Road culvert. He had received a complaint about the 'permissive path' from White Horse Common being impassable. The County Council is no longer cutting these paths but a local resident is prepared to take on keeping the path clear. Concern was expressed as to whether volunteers would be covered by insurance. It was stated that it was likely they would be covered under the County Council insurance. Due to the overgrown state, the County Council had been asked to carry out one last cut. With regard to public rights of way the County Council is also hoping that volunteers/and or parish councils will take some on. The Kickz project for young people will end in February 2012 when the money runs out. Members of the Steering Group were exploring alternative sources of funding for this very successful project. Mr. Seward reported that Mr. Lloyd had been working on this project and suggested that the Town Council should look at supporting this project at budget time. Mr. Morse was continuing to work with the local Access Group for the Disabled who had drawn up a priority list for new drop down kerbs. An increasing amount of time had been spent on school issues and it was important that all the schools worked closely together. Mrs. Clarke reported that she had met with the Highways Engineer and a local resident regarding the changes designed to improve safety on Aylsham Road. Both County Councillors had submitted responses regarding the proposed part-night lighting scheme.

A written report was submitted from District Cllr. Mrs. Gay stating that the new ruling group were working on a new corporate strategy for the District. Mr. Seward continued to be the local member representative on the Leadership of Place project; Mr. Trevor Ivory was also involved. The North Walsham members had written formally to the District Council expressing concerns about the apparent lack of progress on 4 Market Street. Reference was made

to the Woodview planning application. Cllr. Keith Johnson is the new Cabinet member for planning.

Mrs. West gave further information to Mrs. Gay regarding the lagoon problem relating to the two planning applications submitted for the former Crane Fruehauf site. Mrs. Gay agreed to contact Mr. Wagstaff, who had object to the applications on the grounds of surface water drainage.

Mr. Seward and Mr. Lloyd submitted a joint written report stating that they had been involved in the matter of squatters in a derelict house. Reference was made to the Licensing application from Melbourne House which had been heard at the Committee on 22nd July. Mr. Robertson reported that the application had been approved subject to a number of conditions being adhered to. The Environmental Services Officers had made their first monitoring report to the Scrutiny Committee on 21st July on the performance by the new contractors for the waste, cleansing and grounds maintenance contract. A new permanent member of staff had been employed to deal with street cleaning and any problems should be reported to the District Council. Following the briefing on the Leadership of Place project last week the District Council Cabinet had fully embraced the report and action plan as well as continued to commit a £200k capital fund and £50k of revenue to the project. Mr. Seward would continue to chair the Stakeholder Board in its current format. It was reported that the damaged litter bin in Acorn Road would be replaced.

10183 **DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS**

Members were asked if they wished to organise any celebrations for the Diamond Jubilee. The Town Mayor felt that the Town Council should be discussing ways to encourage traders and new traders to come into the town and one way would be ensure that there are lots of things going on in the town to promote footfall and a well-being atmosphere. It was suggested that a street party be held in the Market Place, inviting organisations and residents to bring their own tables/chairs food and guests similar to that held in 1897 for the Diamond Jubilee. It was also suggested that if the Town Council supported this proposal that the Leadership of Place Board be asked to undertake this proposal.

It was agreed that the Leadership of Place Board be asked to consider joining the Town Council in a street party celebration for the Diamond Jubilee. The event to be held on Sunday, 3rd June.

10184 **SERVICE CHARGE AGREEMENT (10164)**

A letter was submitted from the District Council confirming the service charge agreement outlined in their previous letter and including the control of the small interview room. The entire ground floor with the exception of the communal areas would become the responsibility of the Town Council. Members were asked to consider approving donation costs to cover heating and lighting for the use of the Council Chamber.

It was **RESOLVED**

That £10 per session, towards the heating/lighting costs be requested.

10185 **LEADERSHIP OF PLACE**

The Clerk reported that she had visited Priory Community Development Trust at Great Yarmouth with the Griffon Partnership Manager, to gain more information on how the Trust was set up and why. It was reported that the Griffon Area Partnership funding was under threat and the Partnership might consider changing to a Trust. It was suggested that together with the Area Partnership the Town Council could form a Board with other partners to make sure that the action plan was progressed. The Partnership sought the Council's comments. Members expressed concern that the £200,000 earmarked for the various projects would be swallowed up by administration. It was **RESOLVED**

That the Town Council explores the possibility of working in partnership with Griffon to progress the Leadership of Place action plan..

10186 **HOSPITAL MEALS**

A letter was submitted from the NHS Norfolk in reply to the Town Council's request that meals for the hospital be supplied locally and not imported in to the town. Members considered the comments made by Mr. Cook during public participation and agreed that the letter did not answer the points raised. It was interesting to note that when the contract is being re-tendered as per NHS policy, they would happily consider any bid from any supplier who is able to meet the standards set in the tender document. It was agreed that details of the NHS policy and tender specification should be received together with the start and end date of the current contract. It was important that jobs be retained for local people and that action should be taken now before the kitchen in Rose Meadow was altered. The Clerk was asked to find out what the ISO 9001 and 14001 entailed as mentioned in the letter. It was **RESOLVED**

That the NHS be informed that the Council was unimpressed with the reply received and still stood by their original letter in that local food should be purchased and produced in conjunction with Rose Meadow. A request for the start and end date of the current contract, and receipt of details of the NHS policy and tender specification to be submitted.

10187 **TOWN MAYOR'S REPORT**

The Town Mayor stated that since the Annual meeting she had carried out a number of engagements ranging from attending the funeral of former Clerk, Mr. R. Nash to the launch of Walsham Grange and a number of other meetings. She also announced her major fundraising event for the Friends of North Walsham Hospital which was a Dutch Auction in the Black Swan Rooms on 28th October. Support was requested from members of the Town Council.

10188 **PAYMENTS AND RECEIPTS**

A statement giving details of the payments and receipts to 26th July, 2011 amounting to £14,784.16 and £3,344.55 respectively was submitted and approved.

10189 **GATE OPERATOR**

It was reported that the seasonal gate operator had handed in his notice due to moving to a property on the coast. In consultation with the Personnel Committee, it was reported that a replacement operator had been employed and would start his duties on Monday, 1st August, 2011.

10190 **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

The minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting held on 28th June, 2011 were received and approved. (App. A)

10191 **FUNDAY COMMITTEE**

The minutes of the Funday Committee held on 5th July, 2011 were received and approved. (App. B)

10192 **PLANNING COMMITTEE**

The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 12th July, 2011 were received. The Clerk reported that a reply had been received from the County Council regarding part-night lighting. Stakeholders had been consulted in the first instance and consultation with residents will be in approximately 6 to 8 week's time.

10193 **CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Letter from High School confirming that the performance by the students in the Market Place would take place on 15th September at 11.00 a.m.
2. Letter from Norfolk ALC stating that Mrs. Uprichard had been elected onto the Executive Committee.
3. Letter from Centre for Empowering Practice re: Human Library at North Walsham Library on 23rd July.
4. Minutes of North Walsham in Bloom meeting held on 5th July 2011.
5. Copy of Norfolk RCC Signpost newsletter
6. Copy of North Norfolk Voluntary Sector News July
7. Letter from County Council re: King's Lynn power and recycling plant.

10194 **ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA**

Mr. Robertson requested that Sainsbury's Planning Application regarding the exit onto Mundesley Road. It was agreed that this item be placed on the Planning Committee agenda for 16th August, 2011.

10195 **AUGUST RECESS**

Members were reminded of the August Recess in accordance with Standing Order No.9.2 and the delegated powers given to the Clerk in consultation with the Town Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

V Uprichard