



NORTH WALSHAM TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting

held on Tuesday 27 February 2024, at 18 Kings Arms Street, North Walsham

Present:

Town Councillors: Cllr Wright (Chair) Cllr Spall
Cllr Beach Cllr Dibben
Cllr Gray Cllr Heinrich
Cllr Covell Cllr Eastwick
Cllr Shires
Cllr Hester

District Councillors: Cllr Heinrich Cllr Shires

County Councillors: Cllr Shires Cllr Penfold

Town Clerk: Wendy Murphy

RFO: Cherrie Woods

Members of Public: 6

The meeting opened at 18.30.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None Received

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - (Standing Orders: 13b-pecuniary interest; 13c-personal interest if the code of conduct requires; Councillors will leave the meeting for the item, unless a dispensation is granted)

Personal interests: Cllr Shires 9.2, 9.3, 9.4 and 9.6 Cllr Shires will not be taking in the voting of these items

Pecuniary interests: None

3. TO APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS - (Standing Order: 3t vii-approve resolutions made as an accurate record; Standing Order: 12a-emailed with agenda, taken as read)

As proposed by Cllr Shires and seconded by Cllr Hester and all in agreement it was **RESOLVED that the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 30th January 2024 were confirmed as an accurate record.**

4. TO CO-OPT 5 COUNCILOR POSITIONS

4 of the applicants were at the Full Council Meeting, a secret ballot was undertaken and all 4 co-opties had majority votes. It was proposed by Cllr Wright and seconded by Cllr Hester, and all agreed to welcome the following people to become councillors.

Paul Brand

Eric Seward

Toby Bunton

Tracey Ginbey

The Declaration of acceptance was signed, and the councillors joined the rest of the meeting.

Signed:

Date:



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5. UPDATE ON MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES – Decision/Action Log

No updates

6. PUBLIC FORUM - (Standing Orders: 3e-Items on this agenda; 3f-Total duration max 15mins; 3g-Max 3mins per person; 3h-Questions do not require a response at this meeting)

No comments

7. FINANCE

6.1 As proposed by Cllr Wright and seconded by Cllr Dibben and all agreed it was **RESOLVED** to approve income since January meeting.

6.2 As proposed by Cllr Wright and seconded by Cllr Shires and all agreed it was **RESOLVED** to approve the expenditure since December meeting. Cllr Shires asked for the Electricity charges be added to the next Development& Amenities Agenda so these could be reviewed.

8. TO RECEIVE MONTHLY REPORTS

7.1 District Councillors – Cllr Shires confirmed that the budget had been agreed and there would be a 10p per week increase for Band D Householders. She confirmed that there is a deficit, and the council will try not to cut services but will look at officer cuts instead. Cllr Shires confirmed that the sustainable community fund will be cut. She confirmed the council would be in a better position for 25/26 as NNDC will be receiving extra funds from 2nd homeowners. Cllr Shires confirmed that she will make sure Hopkins Homes keep to their legal obligations. Cllr Heinrich confirmed there was a licence in place from natural England to protect the badger sets that have been found at the Norwich Road housing development and these should be relocated. Cllr Heinrich confirmed that the S106 needs to be signed off and the final planning permission needs to be signed before any building work can take place. He confirmed that the resurfacing of Bank Loke will take place in the middle of March. Cllr Heinrich confirmed that Norfolk Rail's perspective is to increase frequency and after Wymondham, North Walsham is their next priority to look at disabled access.

7.2 County Councillors – Cllr Penfold confirmed that the budget setting had taken place and services were being stretched and under pressure. There will be a 4.99% Council Tax increase. He confirmed that the Grammer School roundabout works will take place soon, but he has no update yet on the improvements to Kings Arms Street. Cllr Shires confirmed that there is a concern that social care and services spending will be cut. Cllr Shires made the council aware that flooding is an issue in surrounding villages especially Happisburgh.

9. MATTERS ARISING FOR DECISION/DISCUSSION BY THE TOWN COUNCIL

8.1 **Neighbourhood Plan** Cllr Gray confirmed that a meeting was arranged with District Council to discuss funding available and design codes. He made the Council aware that the plan could take more than 4 years to create so the officers would need to be involved and help with producing the plan

9.2 **To consider a report on CCTV cameras.** It was proposed by Cllr Gray and seconded by Cllr Heinrich and with a majority vote it was **RESOLVED** to install a new camera at Bank Loke and change the camera that



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looks over Chubby Panda and Market Street. It was also agreed that the CCTV should go to the police station if possible. The clerk is looking into this.

9.3 To consider a report and on street lighting. As proposed by Cllr Wright and Seconded by Cllr May and all agreed it was RESOLVED to send a response to Norfolk County Council to confirm the council felt it would be dangerous to turn streetlights off before 12pm at the Waitrose junction.

9.4 To consider quotes for Solicitor Charges for The Cedars Lease. As proposed by Cllr Wright and Seconded by Cllr Gray with a majority vote and Cllr Shires abstaining it was RESOLVED to appoint Hansels Solicitors to carry out the legal work for the lease at Cedar House.

9.5 To consider new charges for nonstandard Burials – As proposed by Cllr Wright and seconded by Cllr Gray it and all agreed it was RESOLVED to look at this in more depth and agree charges on application.

9.6 To consider a report on Parish Partnership 24/25 Trod Yarmouth Road – As this had already been proposed and agreed at a previous meeting it was RESOLVED to carry this over to 2024 /2025

9.7 New Dog Bins at Hornbeam Estate. As proposed by Cllr Shires and seconded by Cllr Wright and all agreed it was RESOLVED for North Walsham Town Council to fund 1 dog bin.

9.8 To consider a report on D Day arrangements. Cllr Hester confirmed that he would arrange a working party and invite all councillors to attend a meeting with the Royal British Legion to discuss their ideas and how the Town Council can help with this.

10. CORRESPONDENCE AND ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

10.1 Correspondence

None received.

10.2 Clerk's decisions - (by either Financial Regulation 4.1-In conjunction with Council Chair or Vice Chair, or Committee Chair within budget under £1,000; OR 4.5-Urgent, essential, health & safety or if the Clerk deems necessary)

No decisions made.

11. TO RECEIVE UPDATES

Nothing to report

12. TO RECEIVE MINUTES FROM COMMITTEES AND GROUPS

Finance 29.01.24

Markets 13.02.24

M & I 13.02.24

Personnel 20.02.24

It was proposed by Cllr Wright and seconded by Cllr Hester and all **AGREED** that the policies which had previously been updated and circulated to councillors be adopted.

Signed:

Date:



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13. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA/LATE ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION ONLY - (Standing Orders: 9b-Agenda items to be received at least 7 clear days before the meeting; 9f-The Proper Officers decision whether to include the items on the agenda shall be final.

4-year plan

Dog Bin

Phoenix Group

14. DATES OF FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

D & A 12.03.24

Finance tbc

Full Council 26.03.24

Annual Town meeting 4.04.24

Markets 09.04.24

M & I 09.04.24

Personnel tbc

15. TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC AND PRESS, UNDER THE PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960 for confidential matters

Staffing Matters – The Clerk confirmed that the Finance Administrator will be starting with the Council on 4th March 2024.

As proposed by Cllr Gray and seconded by Cllr Wright and all agreed it was **RESOLVED** that another person should be employed 12 hours per week as Assistant to the Clerk. The Clerk will advertise this position.

The meeting closed at 19.42