

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF HUNSTANTON
HELD IN HUNSTANTON COUNCIL CHAMBER ON
FRIDAY 16th December 2016 AT 6.30PM**

Present: Cllrs: J Johnson (Chairman), Murray, Large, Dunbar, Knight,
Bridger, Bosworth, Ellis, Wilby, Earnshaw, Croucher (p/t).

Also present:

BCllr Bird and BCllr Beal
L Powell - Clerk
J Roomes - Deputy Clerk
Acting Inspector John Bane
Public x 11

Prayers:

The Mayor Cllr Johnson led the Council in Prayers.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Jones and Cllr Winnington who were unwell, Cllr Smith, Cllr Bishopp and Cllr Harrington who had prior engagements and Cllr Dunbar who was working.

Apologies were also received from BCllr Bower who had a prior engagement.

2. Public Question Time

A resident from Seagate Road asked why the council is now backing the plans for the development of the Amusement Arcade behind their homes?

Cllr large declared a pecuniary interest in this matter and left the room for discussions to proceed.

Residents commented that the Strata report has raised more questions than answers and they also had concerns with parking and privacy. Residents voiced concerns of the design of the building not fitting in with the Victorian Town image and damage to their properties with this heavy work being carried out.

Cllr Earnshaw explained that Hunstanton Town Council is a statutory consultee and has responded to the application. Councillor Bower has 'called it in' and the matter has now gone to the Borough Council Planning Committee to make the final decision. A meeting is to be held at King's Court on Monday 19th December 2016.

Cllr Bird advised residents that he would be happy to represent and accompany them to meetings to put forward an argument within the constraints of the planning control.

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4. Police Liaison Officer

Acting Inspector John Bane gave the following report:

From 17th November to 16th December 2016, 9 offences had been recorded.

This was 6 offences less than the same time last year.

Burglary other than dwelling 1 crime.

Violent Crimes x1 crimes.

Theft x 5 Crimes.

Common Assault x 1 crime.

Criminal Damage x 1 crime.

5. Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk

Cllr Beal gave the following report on behalf of himself and BCllr Bower.

The Borough Council has attempted to fix lights in the Esplanade Gardens. Unfortunately they are not accessible therefore the work will be passed to the Coastal Community Team. A new Activities Co-Ordinator has been employed for 3 years with the Coastal Community Team. She will be in contact with individuals and groups to start planning activities.

The lights in Central Car Park have been upgraded following complaints from people that they could not see to operate the machines in the dark.

Currently the Payback Team are doing painting work at the Recreation Ground, the Oasis as well as the railings and litter bins along seafront.

Congratulations to the winners of the Christmas Tree Festival.

BCllr Beale gave best wishes for Christmas and the New Year to all present.

BCllr Beal asked for questions:

Cllr Bridger asked for an update on the Skate Park?

BCllr Beal advised it should be in operation by Easter.

BCllr Bird spoke about the One Public Estate with his main concern being the former infant school.

6. Norfolk County Council

BCllr Bird gave the following report:

Devolution is now virtually dead in Norfolk.

Toby Coke (UKIP) has put forward a motion requesting that Councillors consider different methods of reducing the levels of Governance in Norfolk.

7. Mayor's Remarks

The Mayor (Cllr Johnson) gave the following report:

This last month has been rather quiet, but we have been to the Borough Mayor's at Home Reception which was very nice. We had the pleasure of attending the Christmas Tree Festival right here in our Town Hall and I had the great honour of opening it and greeting our Guest of Honour Lisa Powell (our Town Clerk). My thanks also go to her, Jan and Elaine Clutton for all their hard work in organizing it. It was wonderful. We also attended the Stroke Carers and Support Group carol service and Christmas lunch which was excellent. I am pleased with the progress we are making with the Syrian Refugee project and thank Cllr Bridger for all her hard work and research into this as we must get it right and welcome them into our town as visitors and taste our way of life. Finally, may I take this opportunity of wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

8. Minutes – confirmation of

Consideration was given to the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on 18th November 2016.

The minutes of this meeting had been distributed to members prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED (unanimous) the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 18th November 2016 be signed as a true record.

Consideration was given to the minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on 1st December 2016.

The minutes of this meeting had been distributed to members prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED (10 for, 1 abstention) the minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on 1st December 2016 be signed as a true record.

9. Minutes, Matters Arising
Quality Council Committee Meeting 9th November 2016 – Item 10 Local Governance Finance Settlement Consultation.
In response to Hunstanton Town Council’s letter to Sir Henry Bellingham MP the Deputy Clerk read two replies received.
10. Questions
There had been no questions submitted.
11. Accounts for Payment
Consideration was given to payment of Schedules of Accounts No 17/09 for the Town Council, No T17/09 for the Tourist Information Centre and No C17/09 for the Community Centre. Copies of these schedules were distributed to members prior to the meeting.
RESOLVED (unanimous) Accounts No 17/09 for the Town Council, No T17/09 for the TIC and No C17/09 for the Community Centre be approved for payment.
12. Financial Statement & Profit & Loss Report
Consideration was given to the Financial Statement 1st November – 30th November 2016 and copies of the bank statements. Copies of Statement were distributed to members prior to the meeting.
RESOLVED (unanimous) the Financial Statement 1st November – 30th November 2016 be approved.
Consideration was given to the Profit & Loss Report compiled in accordance with the requisite of the Profit & Loss Working Party. Copies of Report were distributed to members prior to the meeting.
RESOLVED (unanimous) the Profit & Loss Report be approved.
13. Estimates 2017/18 Version C
Consideration was given to version C of the estimates. Copy of version C was distributed to members prior to the meeting.
Cllr Earnshaw voiced concerns at an incorrect salary figure.
RESOLVED (7 for, 3 against 1 abstention) version C of the estimates be approved.
14. Precept 2017/18
Consideration was given to the precept figure for 2017/18.
RESOLVED (7 for 2 against 2 abstentions) the precept figure for 2017/18 be approved at £135,000.
15. Chamber of Trade
The Deputy Clerk read the reports from the Chamber of Trade meetings 17th November 2016 and 13th December 2016.
16. Clean Up Order – Witley’s
At the request of Cllr Bird, as no action has been taken in response to HTC’s letter requesting that Witley’s clean up their sites, to ask the BCKLWN to issue a clean-up notice.
RESOLVED (8 for, 2 against, 1 abstention) HTC to ask the BCKLWN to issue a clean-up notice to Witley’s two sites.
17. Staff Handbook
Consideration was given to the Staff Handbook as prepared by HTC’s Employment Solicitors and as amended by the Employment Working Party. Copies of Handbook were distributed to members prior to the meeting.

Two members had not received the full script so it was noted and will be placed on a future agenda.

18. IT Support

Consideration was given to the two quotations for IT support. Copies of report were distributed to members prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED (unanimous) the quotation from ECS, Option 2 be accepted.

19. Committee Working Parties

Consideration was given to the Working Parties meeting notes and recommendations, as appropriate from Working Parties. Copies of notes were distributed prior to the meeting.

19.1 Neighbourhood Plan WP held on 8th November 2016

No recommendations

19.2 Neighbourhood Plan WP held on 22nd November 2016

No recommendations

19.3 Profit & Loss WP held on 16th November 2016

No recommendations

19.4 Special Expenses WP held on 30th November 2016

One recommendation

RESOLVED (unanimous) recommendation 19.4, this being to request a January meeting with Lorraine Gore be approved.

20. Call for Sites and Policy Suggestions

Consideration was given to the draft response as prepared by Cllr Murray to the review of the Local Plan by BCKLWN. Copies of draft response were distributed prior to meeting.

RESOLVED (10 for, 1 against) draft response be approved.

21. Planning Applications

Cllr Earnshaw reported that there was one outstanding planning application awaiting a response from Hunstanton Town Council, planning application No. 16/02022F.

Cllr Earnshaw requested that **all** members of the E Planning Committee give their response to applications at their earliest convenience.

22. Civic Society

Cllr Murray gave the following report:

It was the Civic Society AGM on Wednesday 14th December. Terry Ashworth was voted Chairman. The AGM was followed by a quiz and light buffet. Mary Ash (Chairman of Norwich Society) was guest speaker and gave a talk on Civic Voice and the success of the Norwich Society in identifying important buildings that were at risk. The first new committee meeting will be held on Tuesday 20th November at Valentine Road meeting room.

Terry Ashworth gave a talk on the Heritage Centre.

Next meeting – Wednesday 18th January Charlotte Patton will be guest speaker on rural villages in Victorian times.

23. Anglia in Bloom

The Anglia in Bloom committee met November 29th. 2016, Cllr Earnshaw gave the following report:

The 2016 results were again applauded with Hunstanton winning Gold in our category and as winner was invited to enter Britain in Bloom 2017. The Golden Lion was awarded Silver and Redgate roundabout received a nomination certificate. The winning

trophy will be displayed in the TIC after Christmas along with copies of the certificates in the Town Notice Board. The fact that the Esplanade gardens will be in the process of renovation during the judging period in 2017 this will not be a problem as judges will be looking at the VISION. The theme for 2017 is 'involvement of younger children'. If any organisations have ideas please feed them back to Chris Durham at BCKLWN by the end of January 2017 as he is heavily involved in the Heritage Lottery Fund project.

Chris Durham gave a resume of the work currently being undertaken in the Town, including the work carried out by the Pay-Back team. He advised that Mick Shaw is absent on long term sickness. Chris Durham's depot will be moving from Heacham to an area behind Valentine Rd and the Recreation Ground. There are many items that need to be removed from the Heacham depot and is willing to donate items to local organisations / groups who could find a use e.g. Sand, planters, decorative granite, cobbles etc.

24. Hunstanton Prosperity

Cllr Earnshaw gave the following report:

The last meeting was on the 19th October with Gemma Curtis in attendance having returned from maternity leave.

Tendering for the construction work on the Heritage Gardens project was due to be issued on 24th October, with work due to be start in Feb 2017.

The visitors survey had a closing date of October 31st, results will be available by the next meeting in early 2017.

Latest draft of Hunstanton Prospectus was agreed with careful consideration being given to the Ageing Positively theme, public services required to support residents of all ages, health, education, care provision, library etc.

25. Town Hall & Community Centre Reports

Copies of Town Hall & Community Centre Reports were distributed to members prior to meeting. These reports were noted.

26. Surgery

Cllr Croucher held the surgery for December and gave the following report:

I. A resident commented on the lack of Christmas Lights from the Green to the Pizza Parlour.

II. A resident had a complaint regarding the bus times to and from Hunstanton to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital.

III. Cllr Croucher was able to re-unite a visitor to the area with family.

Cllr Earnshaw gave apologies for not attending the surgery.

27. Grant Applications

There were no grant applications to consider.

28. Committees/Working Parties

Consideration was given to Cllr Bosworth to join the Employment Working Party, the TIC Management Working Party, the Special Expenses Working Party & the Profit & Loss Working Party and Cllr Earnshaw to join the Neighbourhood Plan Working Party. **RESOLVED** (unanimously) Cllr Bosworth to join the Employment Working Party, the TIC Management Working Party, the Special Expenses Working Party & the Profit & Loss Working Party and Cllr Earnshaw to join the Neighbourhood Plan Working Party.

29. Correspondence

Copies of Miscellaneous Correspondence was on the table for members to consider. In addition, the Deputy Clerk read a Christmas card addressed to 'The Caretaker' thanking him for his assistance outside the Town Hall with a flat tyre.

30. Public Question Time

A younger member of the public present suggested that Hunstanton could do with a 'little fair' for younger children, this would encourage young families to the town.

Meeting closed at 8.10pm