

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF HUNSTANTON
HELD IN HUNSTANTON COUNCIL CHAMBER ON
FRIDAY 18th March 2016 AT 6.30PM

Present: Mayor Cllr A Murray

Town Councillors: K Dunbar D Jones E Clutton G Smith
 BClr R Bird A Winnington T Bishopp D Harrington
 C Earnshaw S Tong M Large

Also present: -

Deputy Clerk Jan Roomes

Members of the Public x 2

Prayers: The Mayor Cllr Murray took the prayers.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies received from Deputy Mayor Cllr Johnson & Cllr Ellis who were working, Cllr Bower, Cllr Croucher and Cllr Wilby who were on vacation, Apologies received from BClr Bealle.

At the request from Cllr Bird who had another meeting to attend, Item 5 was brought forward.

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

BClr Bird gave the following report.

- i) Fibre Optic Broadband is progressing in Hunstanton and 4G Telephone cover expected within the next 12 months giving about 99% coverage.
- ii) The next section due to be opened of the walking route around England will be between Hunstanton and Sutton Bridge via King's Lynn. There is a possibility this could include a cycling route. There will be a presentation on the 7th April (TBC) where English Heritage and Natural England will be in attendance to answer questions.
- iii) John Dobson at BCKLWN is making progress with regards to the local Bus Services which have previously been somewhat controversial. Hopefully a full revised programme from both bus companies will be available in the near future.
- iv) On Street Parking. Cllr Bird reported his disappointment that on street parking charges had again become an issue. According to a recent poll approximately two thirds of residents are not in favour of on street parking charges. Two Boroughs KLWN and GT Yarmouth have been supporting the cost of the warden programme for some time, it was thought more revenue could be generated by putting in on street parking. Cromer & Sheringham have opted out, leaving Hunstanton as the only coastal town that is not a Borough with on street parking charges. Raised at KLWNBC BClr Pope quoted 'people of Hunstanton *wanted* it' in last month's Borough Council minutes. Cllr Bird questioned the validity of this claim.
- v) CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy). The rates have been set. There are 3 main areas, Hunstanton and North East £60 per m², South West £40 per m² and King's Lynn Central £10 per m². If Neighbourhood Plan proceeds

about 25% of the levy will be available to spend locally. Cllr Bird invited Councillors to consider this issue.

- vi) The Eel population is down by 99% due in large part to flood prevention measures in recent times. This has restricted their route to spawning grounds. If this issue is not addressed by incorporating some form of access for their return they will become extinct very quickly.
- vii) River Burn Protection Scheme are looking to raise £700,000 quickly to get their protection in place.
- viii) Central Government has decided to freeze and in some cases reduce the thresholds of commercial rates leaving Borough Councils with a shortfall in revenue.
- ix) Devolution. This looks quite likely to proceed. 22 of the District, Borough and City Councils have in principal agreed to Devolution. This still has to go to a vote and will require a positive majority to proceed. Cambridge City Council have opted to pull out of Devolution. Cllr Bird offered his congratulations to Nick Daubney on a well-executed meeting.

Questions: Is there any possibility of preventing on street parking charges being implemented?

Is there any way we can correct the assumption that Hunstanton is in favour of on street car parking charges?

Reply: It seems unlikely that we can prevent implementation of parking charges. Our best form of attack would be to offer proposals as to where and how we would like these charges to be applied. Cllr Bird reported that he had made a deposition in County Hall regarding the views of HTC and residents of Hunstanton in this matter. Our position has been made clear but in reality this could happen in 2017/18.

2. Public Question Time

A member of the public requested Hunstanton Town Council supports a ban the release of balloons and Sky Lanterns. These items represent a real danger to wildlife and have caused deaths and injury to many sea and land animals, they are also a fire hazard and cause litter in the environment. Many Councils, some in this area, have already implemented such a ban. The RSPCA, Marine Conservation Society and Farmers Union are all in favour of a ban. Cllr Clutton advised that this matter was an Agenda Item 9th March 2016 and that it was a recommendation to be considered by Full Council at this meeting.

3. Declarations of Interest

There were the following declarations:

Cllr Clutton - Finance Committee 9th March 2016 Item 10

Cllr Dunbar - General Purposes Committee 9th March 2016 Item 4.

4. Police Liaison Officer

Sgt. Bane was unable to attend. A Police Report from him had been emailed to the Clerk and was circulated to Members of Council prior to meeting. Copies of this Report were available on the table for members of the public.

From 15th February to 15th March 2016 10 offences had been recorded.

11 less than this time last year.

5 violent crimes.

3 thefts.

1 criminal damage.

1 miscellaneous crime.

6. Norfolk County Council

Cllr Beale was unable to attend. A report was sent and read out by The Mayor Cllr Murray at the meeting.

- i) McCarthy & Stone are putting a main sewer drain in the road which will mean traffic lights in the terrace for 12 weeks starting straight after Easter. Cllr Beale requested this matter be discussed at the next Highways & Byways working party 23rd March 16.
- ii) The bunds are going ahead in the Recreation Ground to serve protection to all the grassed areas.
- iii) The canopy on the Spinney is back in time for the Lions Easter Hunt.
- iv) The garland lighting on the Promenade from Oasis to the speed boat club house has been repaired and working. Work on the remaining other areas that bulbs require replacing will be completed before Easter.
- v) Internal repair on the Promenade Skate Ramp has been completed and is safe to use again for Easter.
- vi) Pay by Phone car parking charges have been introduced in King's Lynn and will be expanded to the rest of the Borough before the summer.
- vii) The Town amenities (Crazy Golf etc.) will be open every day from the 25th March until 30th Sept 2016.
- viii) Burnham Market car park will be open on April 1st 2016.
- ix) All touch up painting to Bollards etc. will start after Easter.

7. Mayor's Remarks

The Mayor reported that he had attended St Winnolds Parade at Downham Market and was very successful and enjoyable event.

The Neighbourhood Plan has been printed, copies were presented for perusal.

8. Minutes – confirmation of

An Ordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on 18th March 2016.

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

RESOLVED (unanimous) the minutes of the Full Town Council Meeting held on 18th March be signed as a true record.

9. Minutes, Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

10. Questions

To answer any questions put by Members in accordance with Standard Orders.

No questions were asked.

11. Committee Recommendations

Consideration was given to the adoption of recommendations made at the meetings of General Purpose, Finance, Quality Council and Town Hall Management Committee held on 9th March 2016. Copies of the minutes of these meetings had been distributed to members prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED (10 for, 1 abstention) the recommendations of the General Purpose Committee meeting held 9th March 2016 Item 4 be adopted.

RESOLVED (unanimous) the recommendations of the General Purpose Committee meeting held 9th March 2016 Item 12 be adopted.

RESOLVED (unanimous) the recommendations of the General Purpose Committee meeting held 9th March 2016 Item 13 be adopted

RESOLVED (unanimous) the recommendations of the General Purpose Committee meeting held 9th March 2016 Item 14.1/14.2/14.3 be adopted

RESOLVED (unanimous) the recommendations of the Finance Committee meeting held 9th March 2016 Item 5 be adopted

RESOLVED (unanimous) the recommendations of the Finance Committee meeting held 9th March 2016 Item 6 be adopted.

RESOLVED (unanimous) the recommendations of the Finance Committee meeting held 9th March 2016 Item 7 be adopted.

RESOLVED (unanimous) the recommendations of the Finance Committee meeting held 9th March 2016 Item 9.2 (4 recommendations) and Item 9.3 be adopted.

RESOLVED (9 for, 2 abstentions) the recommendations of the Finance Committee meeting held 9th March 2016 Item 10 be adopted.

RESOLVED (unanimous) the recommendations of the Finance Committee meeting held 9th March 2016 Item 11 be adopted.

RESOLVED (9 for, 1 against, 1 abstention) the recommendations of the Finance Committee meeting held 9th March 2016 Item 12 be adopted.

RESOLVED (unanimous) the recommendations of the Quality Council Committee meeting held 9th March 2016 Item 5.1 be adopted.

RESOLVED (10 for, 1 abstention) the recommendations of the Quality Council Committee meeting held 9th March 2016 Item 5.3 (4 recommendations) be adopted.

RESOLVED (10 for, 1 abstention) the recommendations of the Quality Council Committee meeting held 9th March 2016 Item 6 be adopted.

RESOLVED (10 for, 1 abstention) the recommendations of the Quality Council Committee meeting held 9th March 2016 Item 7 be adopted.

RESOLVED (unanimous) the recommendations of the Town Hall & Community Centre Management Committee meeting held 9th March 2016 be adopted.

12. Accounts for Payment

Consideration was given to payment of Schedules of Accounts No 16/12a for the Town Council and No T16/12a for the Tourist Information Centre. Copies of these schedules were distributed to members prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED (unanimous) Accounts 16/12a for the Town Council and T16/12a for the TIC be approved for payment

13. Grant Applications

Consideration was given to any available grants for which to apply and for what project. No projects required funding at this time.

14. Committees/Working Parties

Consideration was given to any members that wish to join or leave any committee or working party.

RESOLVED (unanimous) Cllr Bishopp to leave the Internal Audit Working Party. Cllr Smith reported that the newly formed Profit & Loss Management Working Party held a first meeting to discuss 2016/17 Accounts. Councillors were

reminded that all are invited to join working party meetings and their input would be welcome.

15. Cllr Clutton Proposed changing the time of the Councillors Surgery from 10am-11am to 11am -12noon. Cllr Bishopp seconded. **RESOLVED** (unanimous) Councillors Surgery time be changed to 11am – 12noon from May 2016. Cllr Tong recommended advertising and promoting the surgery as it is under-utilized presently.
16. Green Management Committee – report from Cllr Croucher was noted.
17. Correspondence
A letter dated 12th March from Dick Melton regarding the Annual Recycling of Sand & Shingle was distributed to Councillors prior to the meeting. Extra copies were available on the table for members of the public.
No Member of Council requested this to be read out when asked.
Cllr Smith advised that David Folkes will be doing a sponsored fund raising event on behalf of the RBL on the 11th June with a walk around the town, donations sought from members of the public.
18. Public Question Time
Mr Richardson thanked the Councillors for producing an easily understood Neighbourhood Plan. He asked where they are available from and where the completed forms can be deposited. Cllr Murray advised that the form will be going out in the Town & Around. 18 boxes for the completed forms have been cited in 12 places (TIC, Sainsbury, Tesco, Barclays Bank etc.).

Meeting Closed 7.46pm