

MINUTES OF A EXTRA-ORDINARY MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF HUNSTANTON  
HELD IN HUNSTANTON COUNCIL CHAMBER ON  
FRIDAY 7<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2013 AT 6:30 PM

Present: Mayor: Cllr E Clutton Deputy Mayor: Cllr C Bower

Town Councillors: R Bird C Earnshaw J Maiden G Smith L Brister  
R Davies J Smith A Murray G Gooderson  
S Ellis D Harrington

Also present:-

6 x members of the Public  
2 x members of the Press  
BCllrs E Watson and P Beal  
Town Clerk & Deputy Town Clerk

The Mayor led the council in prayers.

1. Apologies For Absence  
Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs B Devlin, N Godfrey-Cole and J Johnson
2. Residents Question Time  
Mr A Jewel referred to the planning application for the former garage site and asked that members indicate their support or otherwise.
3. Paul Searle Presentation  
Consideration was given to supporting, in principle, the Searles Leisure Group's proposal for development of the land to the south of Hunstanton Site Ref 997.  
Mr P Searle gave a brief introduction to his company's history over the last 100 years and the impact it had on the town and its residents. The Company had 208 permanent and 50 seasonal workers and provided facilities for over 70,000 visitors per year.  
Mr I Jamie from Hipkin Homes then outlined the changes that had been made to the scheme's proposals since they had last met HTC. Those changes reflected the comments made by HTC chiefly; access to the site would now be from Hunstanton Road and not the A149, a distinct division between Heacham and Hunstanton would be maintained by open spaces and wild meadows and the landscape impact when entering Hunstanton from the south would be enhanced. A through route connecting Hunstanton Road through the new estate to Harrys Way would now be included. Only 163 units would now be built with 20% of the homes being Affordable Homes and a mix of 2-3 bedroom homes, with 50% being apartments and bungalows. Having researched the utilities, highways and geological issues the proposed site was deliverable and sustainable. Members queried the long-term maintenance of the green open spaces, whether the through route would become just a short-cut for traffic avoiding the A149 and the lack of a small play area in the middle of the houses and were given assurances that long-term maintenance would be addressed by the company, a likely short-cut through route was not thought to be problematic and a small infants play area within the housing complex would be addressed.  
In summary all of HTC previous concerns had been addressed.

Cllr Maiden asked for a recorded vote.

**RESOLVED** (Cllrs Clutton, Bower, Earnshaw, Brister, Ellis, Bird, J Smith, D Harrington, G Gooderson, G Smith, R Davies voted for and Cllrs Maiden and Murray voted against) that HTC would support, in principle, the proposed development of the Seales Leisure Group site.

4. Preferred Options for a detailed Policies and Sites Plan

Consideration was given to the preferred Options for a detailed Policies and Sites Plan, a copy of that part of the document relating to Hunstanton having been circulated to members prior to the meeting.

**RESOLVED** (11 for 2 against) HTC withdraws its objection to the development of Sites 603, 759, 834, 997 and 845 which it now wishes they be included in the sites approved for development.

Cllr Murray outlined the reasons for his objection and that there was an error in the numbering of site 1021. Cllr Bird suggested that the sites east of the A149 could still be developed.

Cllr Earnshaw sought clarification of Section 6.2.18 Point 8 in the Site Allocation and the meaning of the wording of "Provision of affordable housing in line with current standards".

Similarly in 6.2.24 Point 7 an explanation of the wording, "...or an equivalent financial contribution, to meet current standards". BCllr Watson said the money would be allocated to Hunstanton.

Cllr Murray had grave concerns with issues in the whole document relating to West Winch, King's Lynn and South Wootton and how they might affect Hunstanton.

**AGREED** the issues raised in Cllr Murray's email to all members, dated 1<sup>st</sup> August 2013, relating to the whole Site Specific document been placed on the agenda for the next General Purpose Committee meeting.

**RESOLVED** (unanimous) the detailed Policies and Sites Plan document, so far as it relates to Hunstanton, be accepted though clarification of the wording of Sections 6.2.18 Point 8 and 6.2.24 Point 7 was needed.

5. Planning Application 13/00850/FM – McCarthy & Stone

Consideration was given to the planning application 13/00850/FM – erection of 'Later Living' retirement housing for the elderly (category II accommodation), including communal facilities, landscaping and car parking at St. Edmund's Terrace. A covering letter from McCarthy & Stone and site elevations had been distributed to members prior to the meeting with the full application being available on the BCKLWN's website.

The Clerk read out a letter from Mr P Beal that had been circulated, via the internet, to members that morning.

Cllr Maiden objected to the proposal which he thought was entirely out of keeping with the area and was seconded by Cllr Murray. Cllr Murray also reported that a lot of Civic Society members were unhappy with the proposal and that three stories high might be more acceptable.

Cllr Earnshaw thought it was in the perfect place, central and close to amenities. She was minded to not support the application but would do so if it were to be three stories high. The proposal was not seconded.

Several other members voiced differing views.

Cllr Maiden asked for a recorded vote.

**RESOLVED** (Cllr Maiden, Murray, Clutton, Brister, Ellis, J Smith, D Harrington, G Gooderson R Davies voted for, Cllrs Bird, Earnshaw and Bower voted against and Cllr G Smith abstained) HTC objects to planning application 13/00850/FM – McCarthy & Stone using the content of Mr P Beal's letter as its objection criteria.

6. Hunstanton Rotary Kite Fair Donation Request

Consideration was given to a request from Hunstanton Rotary Club for financial assistance toward the Kite Fair and Car Rally. A copy of the request had been circulated to members prior to the meeting.

**RESOLVED** (unanimous) a donation of £50 from Section 137 Contingency Budget be granted to Hunstanton Rotary Club for the Kite Fair and Car Rally.

7. Additional Residents Question Time

Mr Jewel expressed annoyance that 3 councillors had sought to support the McCarthy & Stone planning application. Cllr Earnshaw responded that occasionally councillors had to make difficult decisions that might be unpopular.

Meeting closed at 7:38 pm.