

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF HUNSTANTON  
HELD IN HUNSTANTON COUNCIL CHAMBER ON  
FRIDAY 17<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2014 AT 6:30 PM

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

Town Councillors: R Bird C Earnshaw J Maiden G Smith D Harrington S Ellis  
G Gooderson L Brister A Murray B Devlin N Godfrey-Cole

Also present:-

2x members of the Public

Press x 1

BCllrs E Watson & P Beal

Town Clerk & Deputy Town Clerk

In the absence of Fthr Bloomfield the Mayor led the Council in prayers.

1. Apologies For Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs J Smith, R Davies & J Johnson

2. Residents Question Time

**Mr A Boardman** reported that a grit bin had been installed in Princess Drive but it had not yet been filled.

**Mr P Richardson** thanked the Town Council for the extension to the Orchard.

**Mrs E Bird** reported that since July it was possible to have a 2.5 page article about Hunstanton area in the Friday edition of the Lynn News. She also invited members and partners to a celebration, in the Town Hall, of the 100<sup>th</sup> edition of the Town & Around Magazine on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2014.

3. Police Liaison Officer

The Town Clerk read out a report from Sgt. R Curl gave the following report:-

7 Crimes have been reported in the town since your last meeting. In the same period last year we recorded 25. Our Hunstanton & Burnham Market neighbourhood as a whole is still recording just over 12% less crime year to date, which translates to almost 70 less victims of crime in the area.

36% of the crimes that have taken place on our neighbourhood have been detected so far this year.

An attempted burglary has been investigated at a home in Melton Drive. This property is a second home and a rear window was targeted with a tool between 22<sup>nd</sup> December and 2<sup>nd</sup> January. No entry was gained. A burglary also took place at a shop premises in Westgate. Once again a tool was used, this time to force a door open. A charity box containing about £6 was stolen and this is still under investigation.

In the Waveney Road area a car had the hub caps taken, and a metal garden gate was stolen from a house in Victoria Avenue. In addition, a shoplifting offence at Londis in the High Street resulted in the arrest of a local man who was charged. The two remaining offences were damage.

Windows were broken on a van in Chatsworth Road in early hours and on New Year's eve some damage was done to an exterior gas meter box.

Safer Neighbourhood Team priorities agreed at the last SNAP meeting:

Anti-Social Behaviour, minor crime and street drinking in the Waveney Road/Cemetery area.

This will include some issues nearby in the vicinity of the sorting office in Melton Drive.

Parking and driving issues relating to the new road layout in Westgate.

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

**BCllr E Watson** reported that she was chairing a Markets Working Party examining both Kings Lynn & Hunstanton markets and would meet every week until the end of March. Thanks were due to all of the emergency services who had responded so well during the flood crisis and a reception for those involved would be held the following week. Questions had been raised about the reinstatement of the air raid sirens to warn sightseers of the dangers of the waves.

The Holocaust memorial service would take place in King's Lynn Town Hall next Sunday and she had attended a farewell function for the retirement of the Norfolk Green General Manager, Mr B Coulson.

Cllr Maiden asked if there were any plans for improving the sea defences in front of the Oasis Centre and BCllr Bird offered to respond under his NCC report. Cllr Murray reported on the poor policy that none of the sirens throughout Norfolk & Suffolk were operative.

**BCllr P Beal** reported that permission had been granted for a large skip/container to be placed under the pier building for removal of flood debris. The SNAP meetings were very useful and dog fouling enforcement had been given to the PCSOs who could issue on-the-spot fines of £75.00. The new litter bin would be installed outside Driftwood. Night charges for the BCKLWN Car Parks would be lifted for the foreseeable future but this would require installation of new signs and the BCKLWN would be undertaking a review of all of its Hunstanton car parks in the near future.

The Town Clerk referred to the SNAP meetings and asked that drinking problems inside the Community Centre grounds be investigated and Cllr Bird suggested that the same was occurring at the old Kit Kat site.

**BCllr Bird** reported that BCKLWN had issued a press release warning about a Council Tax scam email purporting to give offers of a refund. These were entirely fictitious. Various Energy Saving sessions were being organised throughout the county but there was not one at Hunstanton. There was a debate on-going about whether tables and chairs outside cafes and A-Boards were an obstruction and whether they should be licensed. Cllr Murray asked if more work was to be done on Hunstanton High Street but BCllr Bird thought that what had been done was as much as was going to be done other than a deep clean of the pavement. Cllr Bower reported that the Regeneration Group were being asked to consider three projects, one being what appeared to be the work that had already been done on the High Street and this was very confusing.

Cllr Maiden thought that all the newly planted trees as well as those on the Lower Green needed better stake supports.

5. Norfolk County Council

**NClr R Bird** gave a lengthy report covering the Regional Flood Committee and the Environment Agency wanted a 2.7% increase in contributions which had been opposed by Norfolk & Suffolk but out-voted. There were no proposed works between Hunstanton Cliffs and the Burnhams. NCC would be reverting to a Committee system at the AGM in May but it was proving difficult to achieve. There would be a partial amalgamation of the Police and Crime Commissioners roles but the real challenge was that crime types were changing. Traditional crime such as burglary was on the decline whilst new crime such as hate & harassment was on the increase. With regard to civil parking enforcement, on-street parking charges would be coming for Kings Lynn. A new car park at Burnham Market for 190 cars would result in no parking on the High Street. Road-side advertising banners and posters would receive far more attention with a move to only permit AA Signs. The Incinerator debate still raged on with the Secretary of State delaying a decision for another two months whilst penalty charges continued to rise. Meanwhile the BCKLWN's

Digestion Plant was going ahead and hopefully this would persuade more NCC councillors to vote against the incinerator.

The Town Clerk asked if minutes of meetings of the Cabinet/Committee Working Party were available and NCC Bird agreed to provide the same.

6. Mayor's Remarks

The Mayor congratulated the Town Clerk on obtaining the Power of Competence and Cllr Bower for a successful Carol Concert. The Pantomime had also been a great success. The planting of the "Hunstanton Mighty Oak" with the Mayor of Kings Lynn had been enjoyable and had taken place on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2013. A letter of condolence had been sent to RAF Lakenheath as a result of the helicopter crash near Salthouse. Members were reminded about the election for a Town Councillor which would take place on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2014, voting in the Town Hall.

7. Minutes – Confirmation of

The minutes of the Meeting of the Full Council held on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2013, a copy of which had been distributed to councillors prior to the meeting, were considered.

**RESOLVED** (unanimous) the minutes of the Full Council Meeting of 13<sup>th</sup> December 2013 be approved.

8. Minutes – Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

9. Questions

No questions had been submitted.

10. Committee Recommendations

The recommendations made at the General Purpose, Finance, Quality Council and Town Hall Management Committee meetings held on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2014, copies of the minutes, which had been distributed to councillors prior to the meeting, were considered.

**RESOLVED** (unanimous) the recommendations made at the meeting of the General Purpose Committee held on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2014 be adopted.

**RESOLVED** (unanimous) the recommendations made at the meeting of the Finance Committee held on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2014 be adopted.

**RESOLVED** (unanimous) the recommendations made at the meeting of the Quality Council Committee held on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2014 be adopted.

**RESOLVED** (unanimous) the recommendation made at the meeting of the Town Hall Management Committee held on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2014 be adopted.

11. Correspondence

1. **BCKLWN** House numbering 12A & 12B Waveney Rd., and 9 Melton Drive.
2. **BCKLWN** December Tidal Surge & Flooding advice leaflets.
3. **Norfolk Green** letter dated 17<sup>th</sup> December 2013 re:- sale of Norfolk Green- previously circulated to councillors.
4. **Kate Dunbar** un-dated letter re: thanks for support for Hunstanton Community Orchard.
5. **Mr R Melton** letter dated 31<sup>st</sup> December 2013 re: rubbish bins, beach cleaning, Tesco lights etc.

#4 At the request of Cllr Bower the Deputy Clerk read out the letter.

#5 At the request of Cllr Murray the Deputy Clerk read out the letter.

#2 Cllr Bird noted that there would be an even bigger tide on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2014 and that this was one of the few areas where sandbags were not provided.

Cllr Clutton, who resides in Seagate, stated that there were ample warnings about the impending tidal surge in December 2013 with door knocking and leaflet distribution so how people could say they weren't warned was difficult to equate.

12. Additional Residents Question Time

There were no questions relating to matters that had arisen during the meeting.

Meeting closed at 7.33 pm.