

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF HUNSTANTON  
HELD IN HUNSTANTON COUNCIL CHAMBER ON  
FRIDAY 20<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2015 AT 6.30PM

Present: Mayor Cllr A Murray

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

Also present:-

Members of the Public x 3

Fthr. J Bloomfield (p/t)

Town Clerk Lisa Powell

Assistant to Clerk Jan Roomes

Prayers Fthr. John Bloomfield led prayers, those wishing to do so left the room.

1. Apologies for Absence  
Apologies were received from Cllr G Wilby who was away, Cllr S Bower who was on vacation and Cllr J Johnson who was on vacation.  
BCllrs P Beal and C Bower had also sent their apologies.
2. Public Question Time  
Mr John Smith reminded Councillors of his exhibition at the Le Strange Hotel function room.  
Mr John Maiden read out a reply from BCKLWN regarding the Civic Society's application to register the Pier Entertainment Centre as a Value of Community Asset. He requested that Councillors considered the questions being asked and email him with their response. The Clerk advised that she had emailed all Councillors with Mr Maiden's request.
3. Declarations of Interest  
There were no declarations of interest.
4. Police Liaison Officer  
Sgt. Bane was unable to be present but had sent the following report:  
From 24<sup>th</sup> October to 15<sup>th</sup> November 20 offences have been recorded, this being the same amount as last year.  
1 Burglary non dwelling  
2 violent crimes  
2 thefts  
10 theft from motor vehicles  
4 vehicle interference
5. Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk  
**BCllr Bird** reported that the Borough Council are sponsoring a special play about domestic violence, it is currently being shown in King's Lynn but will hopefully

come to Hunstanton. He also advised that the BC are reviewing the Councillors' personal allowances, they have not increased for more than five years. He also noted that a new running course for ladies would commence in April 2016. Cllr Bird invited questions.

Cllr Smith advised that a Mrs. Mulligan had offered to make a head of St Edmund if her name plaque can be placed with it. Cllr Bird asked for details to be emailed to him.

6. Norfolk County Council

**BCllr R Bird** reported that there had been two NCC by-elections with a poor turnout of 20-21%. The 84 seats now consist of 41 Conservatives with the remaining 43 being the Rainbow Alliance holding on to the governance. He advised that the road gritting routes remain the same as in previous years but with the new school in mind it may be beneficial to obtain a quote for the gritting of this road. He reported that the Spinney traffic restriction orders have been partly worked on, the Portfolio Holder has advised that all the works will be completed by December. Cllr Bird invited questions.

Cllr Smith asked if the yellow zig zag lines will be removed from outside the former infant school. Cllr Bird said he would investigate.

7. Mayor's Remarks

The Mayor advised that he was in Bristol at the Annual Conference of the Civic Voice which is why he could not be in attendance at the last Full Council meeting. On 19<sup>th</sup> November he attended the final session of the Hearings in Public about the Site Allocations and Development Management Policies during which Alan Gomm of BC and the Inspector David Hogger gave their closing statements. The Mayor advised that he was looking forward to Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November when the Christmas Cracker and Lights Switch On will take place.

8. Minutes – confirmation of

An Ordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2015. 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 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2015 be signed as a true record.

9. Minutes, Matters Arising

Full Council 23 October Item 16 – Bus Shelters

The Clerk read out a letter from Chris Bamfield advising that Chris Durham is investigating the cost and suitability of installing the bus shelter at the Recreation Ground. The letter asked if HTC would fund the installation costs. It was agreed that no decision would be made on this until the costs were obtained.

Cllr Winnington reported that he had met with Sally Bettinson of NCC Highways, she had advised that NCC do not own the area where HTC was proposing to place a bus shelter. Cllr Winnington had contacted the BCKLWN who advised that they own the land. They agreed to look into the logistics and report back to HTC.

10. Questions  
No Questions had been submitted.
11. Committee Recommendations  
Consideration was given to the adoption of recommendations made at the meetings of General Purpose, Finance and Quality Council Committees held on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2015. Copies of the minutes of these meetings had been distributed to members prior to the meeting.  
**RESOLVED** (unanimous) the recommendation of the General Purpose Committee meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2015 be adopted  
**RESOLVED** (unanimous) the recommendations made at the meeting of the Finance Committee held on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2015 be adopted.  
**RESOLVED** (unanimous) the recommendations of the Quality Council Committee meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2015 be adopted.
12. Accounts for Payment  
Consideration was given to payment of Schedules of Accounts No16/08a for the Town Council, No T16/08a Tourist Information Centre and No C16/08a for the Community Centre. Copies of these schedules were distributed to members prior to the meeting.  
**RESOLVED:** (unanimous) Accounts 16/08a HTC, T16/08a TIC and C16/08a Community Centre be approved for payment  
Cllr Bishopp asked if the work behind Jack's Barbers had been done to a satisfactory standard. The Clerk explained that there is a ledge of concrete which makes it look as though there is still a build up of rubbish there.
13. Grant Applications  
Consideration was given to any available grants for which to apply and for what project. It was agreed to place two items onto the Highways & Byways Working Party for consideration. One being a moveable speeding sign at a cost of £2,800 and the other the play area on Elizabeth Close.
14. Committees/Working Parties  
Consideration was given to any members that wish to join or leave any committee or working party.  
**RESOLVED** (unanimous) Cllr Winnington to leave the Pier Working Party. Cllrs Dunbar, Croucher, Smith and Tong to join the newly formed Town Hall Management and Community Centre Committee.
15. HDFA Request  
Consideration was given to a request from the Hunstanton & District Festival of Arts for a reduction in the hire charge for the Christmas Tree Festival. Current charge £300 for 4 days. This is a community event, no groups entering a tree are charged and the event is run totally by volunteers. There was some concern that this could set a precedence as there has not been special hire charges previously. It was suggested that a request for a donation may be looked upon favourably.  
**RESOLVED** (13 for, 2 abstentions) no reduction in hire charges be given.

16. External Auditor's Report

Consideration was given to the External Audit Report from Mazars and the matters drawn to the attention of the council. Copy of report had been distributed to members prior to the meeting. The Clerk reported that although the audit had been approved, she had been very unhappy with how Mazars had carried it out. They had lost paperwork and put a trainee on it when the original auditor had left. **RESOLVED** (unanimous) the External Auditor's report be accepted.

17. Correspondence

A summary of miscellaneous correspondence received since the last meeting was available for members at the meeting.

1. **BCKLWN** Notification of New House Name, Southwold House, 68 Northgate. This item previously been emailed to Councillors.
2. **Dick Melton** Letter dated 9<sup>th</sup> November 2015 requesting if Cllr Earnshaw or any other members of the council would once again look in to the Car Parking issue in Willow Road and Chiltern Crescent.

#2 At the request of Cllr Earnshaw this letter was read out in full.  
Cllr Earnshaw provided the background information.  
It was agreed to defer this to the Highways & Byways Working Party.

18. Public Question Time

Mr. Maiden wondered if, now the Terms of Reference for the Pier Working Party had been agreed, they would meet before mid December? He also asked to see in more detail what had been said at the Committee meeting seeing as the vote had been 12 – 2. He also reported that he had spoken to NCC Highways regarding the land to the South of Hunstanton, they had advised that the planned new Lidl store had also been told they would need to put a roundabout in. Two roundabouts would cause a major traffic disruption so NCC agreed to investigate.

Mr. Ruston reported that he had recently spoken to John Hussey and Chris Durham of BCKLWN regarding the play area on Elizabeth Close. It would appear that Freebridge want to hand it over to BCKLWN but they are dragging their feet somewhat. Cllr. Clutton asked Cllr Bird to clarify the situation. Cllr Bird agreed with what Mr Ruston had said but advised that the BCKLWN wanted the play area returned to its original state before taking it over. He agreed to follow this up.

19. Employment Working Party

In accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to meetings) Act 1960, members of the public and Mrs. J Roomes were requested to leave the meeting due to the nature of business to be discussed.

Cllr Murray wanted to replace the entire Employment Working Party due to a breach of confidentiality. It was generally felt that there had not been a breach in confidentiality and Cllr Murray withdrew his proposal.

Meeting Closed 7.40pm