

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF HUNSTANTON
HELD IN HUNSTANTON COUNCIL CHAMBER ON
FRIDAY 23rd OCTOBER 2015 AT 6.30PM

Present: Deputy Mayor: Cllr J Johnson

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

Also present:-

Members of the Public x 1

BCllrs R Bird & C Bower

Sgt Banes (p/t)

Town Clerk Lisa Powell

Assistant to Clerk Jan Roomes

Prayers The Deputy Mayor led prayers, those wishing to do so left the room.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs W Croucher who was unwell and Cllr Murray who was on vacation. BCllr Beal had also sent his apologies.

2. Public Question Time

Mr Ruston pointed out that he had been misquoted in "Your Local Paper". He had actually said that the Mayor had done a U-turn not HTC, when referring to possible lights on the Spinney.

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4. Police Liaison Officer

Sgt. Bane gave the following report:

From 17th September to 23rd October 19 offences have been recorded.

1 Burglary non dwelling

5 violent crimes

1 criminal damage

8 thefts

3 possession of drugs

1 possession of indecent images

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

BCllr Bower reported on behalf of Cllr Beal that the Footgolf had been extremely successful with usage up by 25%. Work is progressing on the West Norfolk Tourism publicity with work continuing on a visitor app. The first consultation meeting on the Heritage Gardens was well attended with the main meeting on

Saturday 24th October in the Golden Lion, an online survey is available as are hard copies.

BCllr Bower reported that the main thing being discussed is devolution. Norfolk would go in with Suffolk thus sharing expenditure and services and hence reducing overall costs so giving good potential for the East of England. Cllr Bower advised that the BC had received lots of letters from upset people about the Docking waste tip closing and the reduction in hours at Heacham.

BCllr Bird reported that there was a review in licensing of caravan parks, the first since the 1960's. The first operators have been introduced to meet Pidgeon Developments to see if they can work with the project. Purfleet Trust is in financial difficulties, it feeds and provides shower facilities to about 80 people a day, they require £50k to continue, the BCKLWN gave them £20k in July. Cllr Bird advised that the playground on Elizabeth Close is closed because it has been vandalized. It is owned by Freebridge, they would like to hand it over to the BCKLWN but then it will go on Special Expenses.

Cllr Bird also advised that the proposed new housing estate to the South of Hunstanton was to have parkland, a sinking fund had been mentioned but also the possibility of the site having its own special expense was discussed, this must not be forgotten if the plan is agreed.

Finally Cllr Bird reported that the Town & Around is now a contributor to BBC online news.

6. Norfolk County Council

BCllr R Bird reported that in the last 7 days he had attended 3 major meetings about coastal flooding. The CIC is now established with 9 major caravan parks approached, all of which are in favour of putting in a £50 levy, this however would not be enough funds. Cllr Bird asked Councillors to get back to him they thought that town dwellers should be asked for a contribution. Somerset plan to put a levy on every household.

Cllr Bird advised that the major issue at county hall was that of saving between 15 – 25%. HTC will be consulted. The two groups this will majorly effect are the children and the elderly. There are currently 1,048 children in care in Norfolk. Those that are marginal will be sent back to their homes.

Questions were put to Cllr Bird:

Will contributions to the CIC be done through the precept? No contributions are voluntary. Cllr S Bower advised that it is voluntary for councils not individuals. Where is Norfolk on the national scale of children in care? Suffolk has less than half of Norfolk and Cambridge less than a quarter.

Has any research been carried out as to why Norfolk has such a problem? It's historic and once a child has been taken from a house it is difficult to return them.

7. Mayor's Remarks

The Deputy Mayor reported that he had been very busy deputizing for the Mayor. He had the privilege and honour of representing the council at the WI 100th

- Birthday Party on Old Hunstanton beach. There was a sandcastle competition of which he was judge. He said he had attended the 100th Birthday of a lady in Docking House and presented her with a bouquet and card from the council, he read to her a card from The Queen and a telegram from Ian Duncan-Smith. Linda and he had attended the 75th Battle of Britain ceremony in Norwich Castle and he attended the Justices Service in Norwich Cathedral. Cllr Johnson said it had been a great honour to represent the Town and Council at so many events.
8. Minutes – confirmation of
An Ordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on 18th September 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 18th September 2015 be signed as a true record.
9. Minutes, Matters Arising
Election 26th November 2015
The Clerk asked if Councillors would require polling cards to be sent out in the event of an election, they would cost minimum of 18p each. (£800+).
RESOLVED (12 for, 2 against) no polling cards.
Mrs. Lesley Richardson
The Clerk advised that she had contacted Mr. Pat Richardson to ask after the health of his wife, Lesley. She then read out his reply.
Cllr Earnshaw asked if Read only on SAGE had been set up. The Clerk advised her that it had and the Internal Audit Group had been supplied with log on details.
Cllr Earnshaw asked if a letter had been received yet requesting a Councillor to sit on the Standards Committee, the Clerk advised that it had not.
10. Questions
No Questions had been submitted.
11. Committee Recommendations
Consideration was given to the adoption of recommendations made at the meetings of Finance, Quality Council and Town Hall Management Committees held on 9th September 2015. Copies of the minutes of these meetings had been distributed to members prior to the meeting.
RESOLVED (13 for, 1 abstention) the recommendations made at the meeting of the Finance Committee held on 14th October 2015 be adopted.
RESOLVED (unanimous) the recommendation of the Quality Council Committee meeting held on 14th October 2015 be adopted.
RESOLVED (unanimous) the recommendation of the Town Hall Management Committee meeting held on 14th October 2015 be adopted.
12. Accounts for Payment
Consideration was given to payment of Schedules of Accounts No16/07a for the Town Council, and No T16/07a Tourist Information Centre. Copies of these schedules were distributed to members prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED: (unanimous) Accounts 16/07a HTC and 16/07a TIC, be approved for payment

The Clerk advised that she had requested to attend the NALC Autumn Conference but it was the day after Committee meetings when she had the minutes and Full Council paperwork to take care of so she would be unable to attend. It was agreed that Cllr Croucher be given the opportunity.

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. No alterations at this time.

15. Christmas Closing

Consideration was given to closing the office between Christmas and New Year as per last year. Staff to use annual leave entitlement.

RESOLVED (unanimous) the office to be closed between Christmas and New Year.

16. Bus Shelters

As deferred from the Quality Council Committee meeting, consideration was given as to where to place the large bus shelter acquired from the King's Lynn Bus Station and what further action to take regarding a bus shelter on Princess Drive. Cllr Winnington explained that a suitable site on Princess Drive at the end of Tudor Crescent had been established with no objection from neighbours. However the shelter obtained is too large.

RESOLVED (unanimous) obtain quotations for smaller bus shelter and prepare necessary paperwork with a view to putting in a Parish Partnership Bid.

RESOLVED (unanimous) write to the BCKLWN asking them to fund the siting of the large bus shelter at the Recreation Ground next to the football pitch.

17. McCarthy & Stone Funding

As deferred from the General Purpose Committee meeting, consideration was given as to what the £14k from the McCarthy & Stone car parking funding could be spent on now that HTC has declined Christmas Lights, if it is still available. A lengthy discussion took place as to the background of this item. Cllr Earnshaw thought it should have been discussed sooner. A letter was read out from Mr T Jewel. The Clerk gave the background as to her involvement. Cllr Bird gave his backing to the Mayor.

RESOLVED (10 for, 2 against, 2 abstentions) Request that the BCKLWN put any sums of money remaining from McCarthy & Stone to one side so HTC could have a better idea on the amount that was available and decide how it should be spent.

18. Correspondence

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

1. **BCKLWN** Notification of Re-Numbering Numbering Flats, Hamon Court.
2. **BCKLWN** Notification of New House Name, Sandy Toes, 58 Seagate Rd.
3. **BCKLWN** Notification of New Property Addresses, The Hideaways, South Beach Rd
4. **Phil McIntosh** Cornerstone Project, email dated 13th Oct 2015, safety issue on footpath Westgate to Le Strange Terrace
5. **Dick Melton** Letter dated 02/10/15 requesting Cllr Kate Dunbar look at parcel of land in Willow Road with a view to planting fruit trees.
6. **Mrs Flynn** Email received dated 05/10/15 expressing disgust of condition of Hunstanton due to dog mess and litter.
7. **CA** Community Action Norfolk Magazine.
8. **FFT** Friends of Fields in Trust Newsletter.
9. **BCKLWN** Flood Warning Information 2015-16 booklet **extra copies available.

5 At the request of Cllr Dunbar, the Assistant to the Clerk read out this item in full. Cllr Bird advised that this was Freebridge land so permission would need to be sought before any planting took place. Cllrs Dunbar and Winnington agreed to look at the land.

4 At the request of Cllr Winnington, the Assistant to the Clerk read out this item in full.

19. Public Question Time

Cllr Bower advised that she had also attended the flood meeting, one option was to gather the funding locally or county wide but another was for it to be attacked nationwide as the nation contributes to motorways and dual carriageways, something that is not in our area.

Mr Ruston was concerned that the voting on whether to have poll cards may not be legal as it was not an agenda item.

It was agreed that the Urgent Matters Committee should meet Monday morning to decide on the matter of poll cards.

20. Deputy Clerk

In accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to meetings) Act 1960, members of the public were requested to leave due to the nature of business to be discussed. The Assistant to the Clerk was also requested to leave the meeting at this point.

Copy of notes from the Employment Working Party meeting held on 5th October 2015 were distributed to members prior to the meeting. There were two recommendations on these notes. The Clerk reported on further advice obtained from Employment Solicitors.

RESOLVED (unanimous) to use the services of Cathy Norton for up to one day.

RESOLVED (unanimous) to adopt the recommendations with an amendment to recommendation number one.

Meeting Closed 8.45pm