

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on Tuesday 24 April 2012 at 7.00 pm at the Council Chamber, Wayland Hall, Middle Street, Watton, Norfolk IP25 6AG

Councillors Present: K Birch R Ivory
P Blackmore J P McCarthy
B Bunning L McCarthy
P Cooper – Vice Chairman A Osborn
R Crabtree J Rogers
K Gilbert R Turner
M Holmes M Wassell - Chairman

Officers Present: J Seal - Town Clerk
M Craigie – Administration Assistance

Others Present: PC Marie Reavey - Norfolk Police

Members of the Public Present: one (1)

227 APOLOGIES

Apologies for Absence were received from District Councillor Claire Bowes

228 INTERESTS

Councillors JP and L McCarthy declared prejudicial interests in item 231.3 as directors of Weeco Engineering.

All members present declared a personal interest in item 231.4 as Trustees of the Charlotte Harvey Trust.

Councillors JP and L McCarthy, Holmes, Crabtree and Gilbert declared prejudicial interest in item 231.5 as members of the Twinning Association.

229 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

It was agreed by Members that the Minutes be signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

230 COMMUNITY REPORTS

230.1 Police

Crime report previously circulated.

PC Reavey reported that a scanning device which had been used at the Tesco cash point, but no money had been taken.

One member asked if crime detection rates could also be provided along with the Crime figures.

230.2 District Councillors

Councillor Gilbert reported that he had, had a quiet month.

Councillor Wassell reported that he had been elected as deputy leader of both the group and the council, and that he was executive member of Finance and Democratic services.

He reminded members of the forthcoming Tandem cycle ride by, Councillor Nigel Wilkin and Councillor William Nunn on Saturday 5th May 2012.

230.3 County Councillors

County Councillor Rogers reported that the inspection on the traffic lights had still not taken place.

Two roads in Carbrooke would be closed for short periods of time, which could affect the Norwich Road.

From the 8th May for nine days, Summer Lane to Cuckoo Lane and for three days the Carbrooke to Shipdham Road would be closed.

230.4 Members of the Public

A member of the public asked what was happening to the town Muriel, and was informed that it was being dealt with by Watton Rotary.

231 URGENT BUSINESS

231.1 TOWN TEAM

Councillor Bunning reported that 15 stalls had been booked for the forthcoming Entrepreneurs Market. Bunting was to be put up covering the carnival, the Entrepreneurs market and the Queens Jubilee.

She requested and was agreed that the Council give permission to hang a banner from the Council offices.

231.2 CARNIVAL

Councillor Crabtree asked that the council support the carnival as in previous years, members agreed that a grant be applied for retrospectively.

231.3 FIRE ESCAPE

It was proposed by Councillor Ivory and seconded by Councillor Blackmore and unanimously agreed that Weeco Engineering be awarded the contract to replace the excising fire escape with a new one.

231.4 WATTON RADIO STATION

It was proposed by Councillor Birch and seconded by Councillor Holmes and unanimously agreed that the Watton Radio Station could be situated at the Youth and Community Centre, in the two upstairs offices.

It was proposed by Councillor Wassell and seconded by Councillor Gilbert and unanimously agreed that Watton Radio be given use of the two upstairs offices at the Youth and Community Centre rent free for one year.

231.5 TWINNING

Councillor L McCarthy explained that the offer from Tesco to fund the buffet for the Weeze 25th anniversary celebration was £50.00 plus nibbles, which would not be enough to cover the 100 plus people attending.

It was proposed by Councillor Bunning and seconded by Councillor Rogers and agreed that the balance of the gift grant of £500.00, be donated to the Twinning Association towards the buffet.

231.6 STAFFING

It was proposed by Councillor Holmes and seconded by Councillor Birch and unanimously agreed that the Clerk seek independent H R advice on staffing matters.

232 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman attended the following:

- ≡ Chairman of Norfolk County Council's Civic service at County Hall
- ≡ His Civic reception at the Sports centre. He then thanked the Clerk and her staff for all the work they put in, and to the Clerk for the flower arrangements.
- ≡ The opening of the art gallery at Top to Toe
- ≡ Change of command at USAF Lakenheath, which was a great occasion
- ≡ Memorial Service for Noel Abel
- ≡ Preview of event at the Dragonfly Gallery
- ≡ Charity Ball for the Mayor of Diss
- ≡ Re-dedication of St Mary's Church
- ≡ Sadly, Councillor Roy Rudling's funeral.

Members agreed that the balance of the Chairman's Civic Fund could be donated to St Mary's Church to aid with the restoration. After discussion with Rev Geoff Garrett the money has been used to pay for the pulpit and some new chairs.

233 VICE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

On behalf of the himself and the Members the Vice Chairman congratulated Councillor Wassell on his appointment as Deputy Leader of Breckland District Council.

234 CLERKS REPORT

On the behalf of herself and her staff, the Clerk congratulated Councillor Wassell on his appointment as Deputy Leader of Group, and Breckland Council, and said it was well deserved for all the work that he had put it.

235 PAYMENTS

It was agreed that payments for April be approved

236 MEETING STRUCTURE

The Chairman asked each Member for their view on the Council meeting structure.

All members with the expectation of one, agreed to continue with the present meeting structure of two Full Council meetings per month, one being the business meeting, as they felt that the trial period had worked well and was more efficient.

It was agreed that standing orders will be changed to reflect more accurately the running of the Council.

Discussion took place relating to changing the Full Council business meeting from a Tuesday to a Wednesday.

It was proposed by Councillor Rodgers and seconded by Councillor Birch and

RESOLVED

VOTING: 4 for with 9 against

That the full council business meeting be changed to a Wednesday.

It was proposed by Councillor Rogers, seconded by Councillor Holmes.

In accordance with Standing Order No 66 and

RESOLVED

That in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded and they are instructed to withdraw

237 SURGE UPDATE REPORT

It was agreed that the Chairman, vice chairman and the Clerk meet with Project Rainbow and Iceni.

The Meeting ended 9.05pm

JS