

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on Tuesday 28 June 2011 at 7.00 pm in the Council Chamber, Wayland Hall, Watton

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

Officers Present: J Seal - Town Clerk

Others Present: Julian Horn – Editor, Wayland News, Sergeant Lance Ogbourne-Norfolk Police and Neil Davis and Louise Golding – Tesco Ltd

Members of the Public Present: (26) Twenty Six

18 APOLOGIES

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillor Blackmore and District Councillor Claire Bowes

19 INTERESTS

Councillor Wassell declared a personal interest in Item 21 as a Member of the Licensing Committee at Breckland Council and as a resident of Charles Avenue.

Councillor Rogers declared a personal interest in Item 21 as a Member of the Licensing Committee at Breckland Council.

Councillor Rudling declared a personal interest in Item 21 as a resident of Charles Avenue.

20 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

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

21 TESCO REPORT

The Chairman explained that the application by Tesco for a twenty four hour licence to sell alcohol had been withdrawn. The existing licence is 6am to 12 midnight.

The Manager of Tesco Mr Neil Davis confirmed that the views of the people of Watton had been taken into consideration when withdrawing the twenty four hour extension. He explained that it was normal practice when extending an existing store or building a new one to apply for a twenty four hour license.

Members of the Public expressed their concerns that if the licensing hours were extended, it would lead to an increase in Anti Social Behaviour in the area, problems which could occur when the store is closed, the opening of a pharmacy, when there were already two in the town. They also made reference to the Community Safety Vehicle which the Council had supported suggesting that there was a drink problem in the town, and had little faith in the police to solve the problems.

The Chairman asked Sergeant Ogbourne to comment on the public concerns.

He stated that when the Community Safety Vehicle had been in place the press had misrepresented the situation and confirmed that Anti Social Behaviour had decreased by 30%.

It was proposed by Councillor Rudling and seconded by Councillor Holmes and

RESOLVED

Voting: 11 for with 1 against and 2 abstentions

That a letter be sent to Breckland Council licensing department to recommend that the licensing hours for the sale of alcohol be changed to 7am to 10pm.

Councillor Gilbert was asked to inform the Council when the Licensing Committee would hear the application.

Many of the problems relating to Anti Social Behaviour which had been voiced by the public were police matters and the Chairman suggested that when incidents happened, the police be contacted. He also suggested that residents attend the regular police meetings at the fire station to put forward their complaints. The next one being held was Wednesday 13 July 2011.

22 COMMUNITY REPORTS

22.1 Police

Crime statistics previously circulated.

Sergeant Ogbourne said he was disappointed with the public's attitude to the policing in Watton. The Watton Safer Neighbourhood Team had recently been voted the best out of fifty teams in Norfolk.

He stated that the Team was having to work with reduced resources and budget cuts in the present climate and that the Force was having to re-organise again.

One Member felt that the reduction in the crime figure and the increase in the population meant the Team was doing a good job. Members congratulated Sergeant Ogbourne on the award.

22.2 District Councillors

22.2.1 Councillor Gilbert thanked Julian Horn, editor of the Wayland News for allowing the District Councillors a monthly News Article.

22.2.2 Councillor Wassell reported that he was a member of the licensing committee, the Appeals committee and the Audit committee at Breckland Council. He had also been appointed as the Breckland Council representative to WREN (Waste Recycling Environmental Limited), being a not-for-profit business that helps benefit the lives of people who live close to landfill sites by awarding grants for community, conservation and heritage projects. He is currently unsure of whether any potential projects within Watton or Wayland fall within the WREN eligibility, but would be attending a meeting with the WREN grant manager on 6th July.

He had attended a meeting along with Councillors Gilbert, Bowes and Rudling for the public enquiry on the 91 houses in Saham Road. The final outcome is still unsure.

On the 4th June he had attended the Breckland District Council One stop bus in Chaston place.

He had worked with some Watton residents on some neighbourhood Anti Social Behaviour issues in conjunction with the ASB team and the environmental health team at Breckland District Council.

He is speaking to Breckland District Council on a number of issues regarding funding, which hopefully will yield results.

22.3 County Councillors

County Councillor Rogers reported that the work on the roundabout on the Norwich Road, was due to be completed by the beginning of July. He said that it was proving to be very complicated, to control the traffic whilst the work was in progress, due to all the side roads converging onto Norwich Road.

23 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- 4th June 100th Birthday celebration at Dorrington House
- 10th June Royal British Legion lunch to celebrate their 90th anniversary, Wayland Partnership reception for Peggy Spencer
- 12th June Carnival Day
- 16th June Wayland healthy living forum
- 19th June Mayor of Thetford Civic Service
- 20th June Armed Forces Day Flag raising the flag, we received a thank you letter from the RBL for the provision of refreshments after the ceremony
- 23rd June Meeting with the Watton United Football club who were concerned as to why they did not receive their grant
- 24th June Portuguese Family Saints Day celebrations with Councillors JP and Lorraine McCarthy
- 25th June Mayor of Thetford Civic Reception
ATC summer Ball

24 CLERKS REPORT

- 24.1 Application for dispensation in respect of the Charlotte Harvey Trust had been applied for and been granted. All Members would receive letters from the Standards Officer shortly.
- 24.2 Both Bluebell Close and Mill Road residents had applied for a 'No Cold Calling Zones'.

The clerk was in the process of obtaining this in consultation with the residents and Norfolk County Council.

24.3 The Local policing plan summary 2011/12 is in the office for Members perusal.

25 PAYMENTS

Previously circulated.

It was agreed that a letter be sent to the Dutch Flower Florist thanking her for the lovely display that she did on behalf of the Council for the Methodist Church Flower Festival.

It was agreed that payments for June be approved

26 PAYMENTS NEW SPREADSHEET

Tabled.

It was proposed by Councillor L McCarthy and seconded by Councillor Turner and

RESOLVED

That the new spreadsheet for the accounts be approved.

27 AUDITED ACCOUNTS 2010-2011

Previously circulated.

It was proposed by Councillor Ivory and seconded by Councillor Crabtree and

RESOLVED

That the Audited Accounts be approved

Councillor Rudling asked for an explanation of the increased cost from the Internal Auditor.

28 INTERNAL AUDITORS REPORT

Previously circulated.

It was proposed by Councillor Gilbert and seconded by Councillor Ivory and

RESOLVED

That the Internal Auditors report be approved

29 ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Previously circulated.

It was proposed by Councillor Gilbert and seconded by Councillor Ivory and

RESOLVED

That the Annual Governance Statement be approved

30 COUNCIL CHAMBER REFURBISHMENT COSTS

The Chairman gave an approximate cost for the re-decoration of Wayland Hall for the move of the Council Chamber, and would contact Breckland to see if any funding was available, and also the Local Government Minister.

It was proposed by Councillor J P McCarthy and seconded by Councillor Ivory and

RESOLVED

That three quotes be sought for the various items and brought back to Council.

31 BRITISH LEGION 90 ANNIVERSARY SUPPORT

The Clerk asked the Council if the Town Ambulance could be used to transport the elderly to a Charity Cream Tea to raise money for the Royal British Legion.

It was proposed by Councillor Harvey and seconded by Councillor Ivory and

RESOLVED

That the Town Ambulance be used, free of charge, to transport the elderly to a Charity Cream Tea in aid of the Royal British Legion.

32 AMBULANCE DRIVER AGE LIMIT REVIEW

The Clerk reported that this did not have to be reviewed until 2012.

33 OUTSTANDING/ON-GOING ITEMS

The Chairman asked Members to inform the Clerk if they knew of any outstanding issues.

The Meeting ended 8.46pm
JS