Minutes of the Full Council Business Meeting held on Tuesday 15 January 2013 at 7.00 pm in the former Luncheon Club Dining area, Wayland Hall, Middle Street, Watton, Norfolk IP25 6AG.

Councillors Present: K Birch R Ivory

P Blackmore A Osborn
B Bunning J Rogers
P Cooper – Chairman R Turner
R Crabtree M Wassell

K Gilbert

Officers Present: J Seal - Town Clerk

Others Present: Chris Edwards – Chairman Town Team and Mr Ian Robertson

137 APOLOGIES

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillors Holmes, L McCarthy, J P McCarthy and Rosa McMahon – Reporter, Eastern Daily Press

138 INTERESTS

Item 141 and 142 – Councillors Bunning and Crabtree declared Personal Interest as Members of the Town Team Committee.

Item 146 – Councillors Blackmore and Turner declared Personal Interests in planning application 3PL/2012/1307/F as they are neighbours of the applicant.

139 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

It was agreed by Members that the Minutes of Tuesday 27 November 2013 be signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record with amendment to Item 123 to read:

Item 135 – Councillor Cooper declared a personal interest as the past Chairman of Loch Neaton.

Item 130 – Councillor JP McCarthy declared a personal interest as Chairman of the Sports Centre.

Item 127.1 – Councillor Holmes declared a personal interest in the letter from Councillor L McCarthy as the person bringing it to the attention of the Council.

Item 134.3 – All members present declared a disclosable pecuniary interest as the planning application concerned the fire escape which was owned by the Council. The Clerk had agreed Dispensation for all Members as per the new Localism Bill requirement.

140 PRESENTATION MR ROBERTSON

Mr Robertson informed the Council that the field to the rear of the Wayland Academy had been sold to Hopkins Homes. The land forms part of the LDF with a provision of 100 houses and 6 acres to be given to the Wayland Academy High School.

He stated that he would give his full support to the Council and the school in any future planning applications to retain the 6 Acres for the Academy.

141 HIGH STREET – ROAD CLOSE

Mr Edwards gave an overview of the forthcoming events that the Town Team would be arranging over the forthcoming year, including a Premier Classic Car Rally, Wedding Weekend, Wayland Book week and many others.

The Town Team requested the help of the Town Clerk in applying for the road closures.

It was agreed that the Town Clerk assist in applying for the road closures and that the Council cover the costs which were approximately £35.00.

142 REMOVAL OF CENTRE BRICKWORK – CHASTON PLACE

The Town Team had identified that Chaston Place was the focal point in the town and felt that if the centre brick planter was removed, this would allow it to be used to erect a Marquee which could be used by other organisations for various events in the Town.

Permission was being sought from the land owner and shops. Contractors were being sought for the removal of the planter and companies for cost of the Marquee.

Members agreed with Mr Edwards that if both planters were removed, and a new hole for the Christmas tree could be found, seats could be put in the area.

RESOLVED

Voting: - 8 for with 3 against

That the Council support the removal of the planters and that any planning permission and costs needed could be applied for by the Council.

Mr Edwards thanked the Council for their support.

143 CAR PARKING – BRIDLE ROAD

Members discussed the request from residents of a part of Bridle Road for car parking to the front of their houses. The area requested, would encroach onto part of the playground and decrease the distance of the start of the play equipment.

Councillor Gilbert raised concerns that it had for many years suffered from flooding problems and had been found by Breckland Council (Previous Owners) that the parking of cars on the area had contributed to the drains being broken.

The Clerk was asked to check whether there were any restrictions in the transfer of the land.

It was felt by Members that there was adequate parking for the houses to the side and rear of the properties.

It was proposed by Councillor Gilbert and seconded by Councillor Crabtree and unanimously agreed that a letter be sent to the residents explaining that the Council rejects the request to turn part of the playground into a car park and ask that residents refrain from parking their cars on the play area.

It was agreed that No Parking signs be put up on the play area.

144 URGENT ITEMS

144.1 FIRE ESCAPE

The chairman informed Members that the purchase of the land for the fire escape had now been completed.

The Chairman proposed and was agreed that the fire escape now be removed to allow work to commence on new fire escape once planning permission had been agreed.

114.2 MARKET CHARTER PLAQUE

The Watton Society requested that they be allowed to mount a plaque to the front of Wayland Hall for the Market Charter.

It was proposed by Councillor Wassell and seconded by Councillor Ivory and unanimously agreed, that permission be given to the Watton Society to mount a plaque for the Market Charter on Wayland Hall.

145 DOCTORS SURGERY ACCESS

The Chairman stated that due to the absence of Councillor Holmes through illness that the item be deferred.

It was agreed that Councillor Holmes research the options and report to Council at a later date.

146 NEW PLANNING APPLICATIONS

3PL/2012/1307/F, Mr & Mrs Neaves, Rear single storey extension to create utility room and WC,

No Objection.

3PL/2010/1318 and 3PL/2010/131, T R Scott Properties, application for removal of variation of a condition following grant of planning permission

Members listened to the objections of the residents of Saxon House to the new amendments, and agreed to support their concerns.

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

RESOLVED

Voting: - 8 for with 3 Abstentions

that refusal be recommended, that the plans be looked at by committee, that the Council support the views of the residents of Saxon House, that the windows in the roof be of obscure glass and the two maisonettes as a planning condition cannot be sub-divided into four.

It was proposed by Councillor Gilbert and seconded by Councillor Bunning and agreed that the Developer go back to the original plan of ½ stories.

3PL/2010/1317/F. Mr I Tregay, Demolish existing conservatory and erect rear single storey extension to provide ancillary accommodation for elderly parent

No Objection

147 HEDGE – CHURCH ROAD

Councillor Osborn reported that part of the hedge on Church Road had been trimmed. It was pointed out that this was not a part of the hedge in question as was privately owned.

It was proposed by Councillor Cooper and seconded by Councillor Wassell and

RESOLVED

Voting: - 9 for with 1 Against and 1 Abstention

That the hedge and brambles bordering Kittle Close be removed.

148 DELIVERING LOCAL HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT PARTNERSHIP

It was proposed by Councillor Rogers and seconded by Councillor Turner and unanimously agreed that the Council did not wish to enter into the Local Highway Improvement Partnership.

149 PLAYGROUNDS OFFICIAL OPENING AGENDA

It was agreed that the official opening of the Playgrounds at Lovell Garden and Bridle Road on Friday 22 February 2013, would be opened by the Chairman at 9.00am Lovell Gardens and 9.30am Bridle Road.

150 NOTICE BOARD – CLOCK TOWER

The Tourist Information notice board on the Clock Tower had been vandalised and removed.

Members agreed not to apply for planning permission to replace it as; it was no longer in use by the Tourist Information.

151 BUDGET 2013–2014

It was proposed by Councillor Crabtree and seconded by Councillor Blackmore and unanimously agreed that the budget for 2013–2014 be approved.

It was proposed by Councillor Wassell and seconded by Councillor Blackmore and

RESOLVED

Voting: 10 for with 1 Abstention

That Staffing costs and commercially sensitive items be redacted on the published budget.

152 PRECEPT CLAIM

It was proposed by Councillor Ivory and seconded by Councillor Rogers and unanimously agreed that the Clerk claim the Precept from Breckland Council.

It was proposed by Councillor Cooper seconded by Councillor Wassell in accordance with Standing Order No 66 and

RESOLVED

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

153 DAMP REPORT – WAYLAND HALL

It was proposed by Councillor Osborn and seconded by Councillor Turner and unanimously agreed that the report and cost to treat the damp problem in the former Luncheon Club dining room be accepted.

The Meeting ended 8.55pm JS