

Minutes of the meeting of WATTON TOWN COUNCIL held on

Tuesday 10th November 2015 at 7.00 pm

at Wayland Hall, Middle Street, Watton, Norfolk IP25 6AG in the Council Chamber

Councillors Present: Ken Birch Chairman, Beryl Bunning – Vice-Chairman, Kevin Abbott, Peter Bishop, Richard Crabtree, Keith Gilbert, Margaret Holmes, John Rogers.

Officers Present: Jane Scarrott Town Clerk

1 member of the public was in attendance.

**1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies received and accepted from Jennie Fishlock, Stan Hebborn and Sue Hebborn.

No apologies received specifically for this meeting from Janet Brown or Emma Parker.

**2. INTERESTS**

No Declaration of Interests made.

**3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES 27.10.15**

The minutes of the Council Meeting held on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2015 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**4. REPORTS**

**4.1 Chairman's Report**

The Chairman has met with the Rehabilitation Group on several occasions since the last meeting and attended the Remembrance Service in Watton.

The Chairman gave an update on the work the Rehabilitation Group is doing both at the Youth & Community Centre and at Wayland Hall. The Group is also to undertake some litter picking and clearing of overgrowth at Bridle Road Play Area.

The Council has received an invitation from Wayland Academy for Councillors to attend the Achievement Evening at the School together with a request for sponsorship of the prizes. **It was agreed by all to donate £30 towards a prize.**

**4.2 Vice-Chairman's Report**

The Vice-Chairman has also attended the Remembrance Service in the Town. Plans for the Festive Market continue and Councillors were asked to confirm their attendance on the day. All Councillors present offered their assistance and a programme for the day will be made available by the next Full Council meeting.

## **5. MUSEUM FOR WATTON GRANT APPLICATION**

After some debate it was agreed this matter would be deferred to the meeting on the 24<sup>th</sup> November when clarification will be given as to the reason why the grant was not given initially.

A letter has been received from the Museum for Watton group asking whether the Council would consider part of Wayland Hall being leased to the group for a peppercorn rent. Before any decision is reached research will be undertaken to ascertain what effect such use might have on the cost of insurance and the rates for the premises. Both matters will be an agenda item again at the next meeting.

*It was agreed by all the public participation would be moved to this point in the meeting:*

## **8. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

*A member of the public was in attendance at the meeting to request that consideration be given to a road in Watton being named after his father. This request will be passed to Breckland in the hope that the name can be confirmed on the original list which was submitted to Breckland in 2011.*

## **6. TREE SURVEY**

Three quotes having been received and reviewed **it was agreed by all to engage Country Grounds Maintenance to undertake a tree survey of the trees the Council is responsible for.**

## **7. LIGHTING IN PUBLIC TOILETS**

**It was agreed by all that the electrician who has previously undertaken work at the public toilets should continue as the preferred contractor and that a quote submitted to replace the present lighting with LED lighting should be accepted as presented.**

## **9. WEBSITE HOUSING**

**It was agreed by all to move the current hosting of the Town Council website so both emails and website are hosted by Anglia IT.**

## **10. COMMUNITY ACTION NORFOLK**

**It was agreed by all that the Council would join Community Action Norfolk at a cost of £20 p.a. for Bronze level membership.**

## **11. PRECEPT 16/17**

Councillors were requested to consider future plans and suggest funding to be incorporated into the budget for 16/17 with a view to setting the precept request to be submitted to Breckland by January 31<sup>st</sup>. This matter will be an agenda item again for the meeting on November 24<sup>th</sup>.

## **12. PLANNING – consultations for consideration**

12.1 3PL/2015/1251/F Single storey side extension for Hall Farm, Griston.  
No comment made as outside Watton

**13.** It was **resolved** that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted that the press and public be excluded from the meeting.

### **13.1 CREDIT APPLICATION FOR JEWSONS**

**It was agreed by all that an account would be established with Jewsons to alleviate the need to make cash purchases.**

### **13.2 USE OF TOWN AMBULANCE**

**It was agreed by all that there would be no charge made for use of the ambulance on December 5<sup>th</sup> as an acknowledgement of parking arrangements for the vehicle during the year.**

### **13.3 USE OF CEMETERY SKIP**

A request has been received from St. Mary's Church to use the skip in the Cemetery to dispose of garden waste from the Churchyard. As the Churchyard is believed to be closed then the Town Council does have responsibility for its maintenance and therefore it was agreed the request should be permitted. Research will be undertaken however to ascertain responsibility.

It was suggested use of the skip should be incorporated within the new rules for the Cemetery.

### **13.4 CEMETERY RULES**

New draft rules for the Cemetery have been presented to Councillors and will be considered for adoption by the Council at the next meeting.