

Minutes of the meeting of WATTON TOWN COUNCIL held on

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2016 at 7.30 pm

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

Councillors Present: Stan Hebborn – Vice-Chairman, Peter Bishop, Janet Carr, Jane Fountain, Keith Gilbert, Margaret Holmes, Tina Kiddell, Patricia Warwick.

Officers Present: Jane Scarrott Town Clerk

2 Members of the public.

Eastern Daily Press reporter also in attendance.

**1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies received from Beryl Bunning, Sue Hebborn, Daniel Fishlock and Jennie Fishlock.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS MADE**

No Declarations of Interest made.

**3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES 12.07.16**

The minutes of the meeting held on July 12<sup>th</sup> 2016 were unanimously agreed as a true record of the meeting and were signed by the Chairman.

**4. CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLORS TO FILL TWO VACANCIES**

Further interviews are to take place before any decision will be made regarding co-option.

**5. REPORTS**

**5.1 Chairman's Report**

As Beryl Bunning was not at the meeting a copy of her written report presented to Councillors is filed.

**5.2 Vice-Chairman's Report**

- The Vice-Chairman attended the Wayland Partnership meeting on 27.07.16. A leaflet advertising forthcoming events was passed to Councillors who were asked to publicise the Wayland Show to be held on August 7<sup>th</sup>. Emergency Planning was raised at the Partnership Meeting and it is the intention of the Town Council to adopt the Breckland Council Emergency Planning Template.
- Having received three quotes, Councillors were in agreement in principle to engage the pyrotechnic firm Titanium to provide the fireworks for the planned event on October 29<sup>th</sup> at a cost of £3500. Expenditure to be confirmed at the meeting to be held on September 13<sup>th</sup>.

### 5.3 Police Report

No Police present. Apologies received. It was noted that the next Safer Neighbourhood Action Panel (SNAP) Meeting is to take place on July 27<sup>th</sup>.

Councillors Margaret Holmes, Peter Bishop and Pat Warwick volunteered to attend the meeting.

### 5.4 County Councillor Report

Apologies received from County Councillor Claire Bowes for non-attendance at the meeting as she was attending a Wayland Show planning meeting. Thanks were expressed that Cllr. Bowes had supported the Town Council in its objection to Norfolk County Council's plans to de-illuminate part of the Brandon Road. These plans have now been withdrawn.

### 5.5 District Councillor Report

- District Councillor Keith Gilbert reported that along with Cllr. Pat Warwick and the Clerk he had attended the Police Accountability Forum held on 21.07.16.

*The Police & Crime Commissioner for Norfolk is currently conducting a public consultation which can be undertaken: <http://www.norfolk-pcc.gov.uk/>*

- Cllr. Gilbert and others also attended the Local Plan Working Group meeting held on 19.06.16. It was noted that the intention is not to include any further preferred options sites for Watton in the latest edition of the Breckland Local Plan.
- Cllr. Gilbert has volunteered to be part of the task and finish groups which have been established at Breckland Council to look at performance and the transformation of services within the district council.
- Cllr. Gilbert has met with residents of Lovell Gardens with a view to formation of a group which will look at a general community tidy up.
- Concern was raised regarding the wares displayed on the pavement in the High Street. This will be passed both to Norfolk County Council Highways and Breckland District Council.

### 5.6 Clerk's Report

A copy of the written report presented is filed.

Verbal update given:

- A request has been made by Carbrooke Parish Council to borrow the SAM2 vehicle activated sign. This will be a future agenda item.
- A complaint has been received regarding overgrowth along Church Walk. The grounds maintenance contractor will deal with this as appropriate.
- A date for a meeting with the area Police Inspector has been set. Names of Councillors available for the meeting will be passed to Norfolk Constabulary.

## **6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The member of the public present voiced concerns regarding the management and attendance for a planned meeting with representatives from Anglianwater to consider recent flooding within the area. It was strongly suggested that the meeting should be a

formal public meeting with the MP for the area and the others in attendance to be held accountable for the flooding. The Council would not want the terms of the meeting changed at this stage as this would be disingenuous to those who have agreed to be present at a meeting of councillors and other town representatives.

## **7. ACCOUNTS**

### **7.1 Payments for July and August**

All agreed approval of payments for July as presented.

Payments expected for August were also presented and approved for payment.

### **7.2 Internal Auditors Report**

The Internal Auditor has compiled an Action Plan for consideration by the Council. **The Council agreed** a response to points raised in the plan.

### **7.3 All agreed** to close the NS&I account.

### **7.4 Provision of recording and display equipment for the Council Chamber**

Only one quote has so far been received to fit a microphone system in the Council Chamber. This was deemed to be too expensive and thus further quotes will be researched and a report will be provided at the October meeting of the Council.

## **8. DC11 APPLICATION**

**All agreed** to apply for funding to install equipment as the HAGS quote. Equipment all to be site at the Lovell Gardens Play Area.

## **9. USE OF QUEEN'S HALL**

The Town Council, together with What Watton Wants, is to facilitate a meeting with representatives from Anglianwater to consider flooding within the area.

Original thoughts were for a possible public meeting to be called in Queen's Hall but plans are currently that a meeting will be held on August 15<sup>th</sup> with invited parties undertaking a site visit. It is possible a second meeting will then be organised later in the year. Time and location for the meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup> are still to be finalised.

## **10. MAYOR'S CHARITY COFFEE MORNING**

All were in favour of a coffee morning being held at Wayland Hall on September 14<sup>th</sup> 2016 in aid of the Mayor's Charities.

## **11. STAFF PENSIONS**

**The following resolution was agreed by all:**

**"The Council resolves under Regulation 3(1) of the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 that all members of Watton Town Council paid staff should be designated as being eligible for membership of the LGPS with effect from November 1st 2016".**

## **12. PLANNING NOTIFICATIONS**

Application for consideration:

12.1 3PL/2016/0834/F Partial C/U from B1 to residential of Units 3-6 including external works & the provision of parking and amenity space, Ventura House, Norwich Road

*No objections raised.*

12.2 3PL/2016/0701 Application for variation of a condition following grant of planning permission (appeal ref: APP/F2605/W/15/3006158), at Redhill Park, Town Green, Watton

*Due to lack of clarity within the application the Town Council felt refusal should be recommended.*

Planning applications received for comment during August will be forwarded to Councillors who can comment individually should they wish, but any Town Council response would be agreed and sent by the Clerk if an overwhelming opinion from members of the Council was received. If any development plans received during August are considered contentious a meeting of the Town Council to consider the plans will be called if a decision cannot wait until September 13<sup>th</sup> (date of the next scheduled Town Council meeting).