

Minutes of the Full Council Business Meeting held on Tuesday 13 December 2011 at 7.00 pm in the Luncheon Club Area of Wayland Hall, Watton

Councillors Present: P Blackmore J P McCarthy
B Bunning L McCarthy
P Cooper – Vice Chairman A Osborn
R Crabtree R Rudling
M Holmes M Wassell - Chairman
R Ivory

Officers Present: J Seal - Town Clerk

Others Present: PC Oram – Norfolk Constabulary

144 APOLOGIES

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillors Turner, Gilbert and Rogers.

145 INTERESTS

Item 151 Councillor Wassell declared a prejudicial interest as a Member of Breckland Council.

146 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

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

147 URGENT BUSINESS

147.1 Police Report

PC Oram presented the crime figures and informed Council that in the New Year the new policing policy would commence. The team would consist of eleven PC's plus two Sergeants. Watton would have four officers under the new scheme.

The next SNAP meeting would be held on 11 January 2011.

147.2 Christmas Tree

The Chairman explained that on Thursday 8 December, due to the high winds, and adverse weather conditions, the Christmas tree in the town had become so unsafe, a decision had been taken to take it down. The contractor had been able to save the majority of the tree which was put back in place. The Chamber who had paid for the tree and its erection had been informed.

Concerns were raised to the ownership and liability of the tree.

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

RESOLVED

Voting: 7 for with 4 against

That the Council pay the contractors invoice for the work and that the invoice be presented to the Chamber of Commerce for payment.

148 CLERKS REPORT

148.1 Application for three VAS signs, has been put forward for approval and awaits the result. Should the Council not be successful there is a match funding scheme which we can also apply for.

148.2 The Festive Christmas Market took £313 on the Tombola stall, with the £430 that was taken in 2010, the total to be presented to the Royal British Legion, is £743.

149 BUDGET 2012/2013

Some Members were sorry that the Precept would be increased which was due to the increase in funding for future staff costs.

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

RESOLVED

Voting: 9 for with 1 abstention

That the budget for the year 2012/2013 be approved

150 PRECEPT CLAIM

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

RESOLVED

That the Clerk claim the Precept of £161,161.00 from Breckland District Council.

151 REPORT ON LOVELL GARDEN FENCE AND TRANSFER OF PLAY AREAS

The Chairman Councillor Wassell declared a prejudicial interest and left the meeting.

Councillor Cooper took the Chair.

Councillor Cooper reported that the brambles on the Norwich Road side of the play area had been removed and posts had been erected.

The Clerk reported that Breckland had confirmed that they were carrying out the fencing work this week.

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

RESOLVED

That subject to the fencing to the satisfaction of the Clerk, Councillors Cooper and Osborn before the next meeting, that the Council accept the transfer of both Lovell Garden and Bridle Road Play areas.

152 OUTSTANDING/ON-GOING ITEMS

Item 23, 31 May 2011 – One Councillor was surprised that there had still been no response from the Chamber of Commerce regarding their continued support of payment for the electricity usage by the shops for the Christmas Lights.

153 CARPET TENDERS

It was Proposed by Councillor Holmes, seconded by Councillor L McCarthy
in accordance with Standing Order No 66 and

RESOLVED

That in view of the confidential nature of the business relating to Tenders, 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

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

RESOLVED

That Mr Reads Carpets be awarded the contract to fit carpeting to the staging in Wayland Hall.

The Meeting ended 7.50pm

JS