

**Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on Tuesday 27 March 2012 at 7.00 pm at the Council Chamber, Wayland Hall, Middle Street, Watton, Norfolk IP25 6AG**

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

Officers Present: J Seal - Town Clerk

Others Present: PC Marie Reavey - Norfolk Police, District Councillor Claire Bowes and Mary Osborn – Practice manager Watton Medical Practice.

Members of the Public Present: 100 plus

**205 INTERESTS**

Councillor Wassell declared a prejudicial interest in item 216 as the representative for Breckland District council on the committee.

Councillor Holmes declared a personal interest in item 208 as a member of the patients liaison committee.

Councillor Bunning and Councillor Crabtree declared prejudicial interests in item 216 as a member of the committee.

Councillor Cooper and Councillor Blackmore declared personal interests in item 216 as they have business dealings with Watton Team Member.

**206 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

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

**207 COMMUNITY REPORTS**

**207.1 Police**

Crime figures previously circulated. PC Reavey reported that the new system was working well.

**207.2 District Councillors**

Councillor Bowes reported that a hosepipe ban would be implemented on 5<sup>th</sup> April, further information could be found on Anglia Waters website.

Breckland was looking to implement their own code of conduct policy, which would come into effect on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2012. Each council could either set up their own policy or adopt the District council's policy.

Councillor Gilbert stated that he felt that the localism bill was vague. He had attended a scrutiny committee where cost saving measures had been discussed, one being, not supplying wheelie bins to new developers.

Councillor Wassell reported that In last week's Budget Speech it had been announced that the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) would be published today Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2012. This would allow Breckland District Council to commence work on the review of their adopted Core Strategy and Development Control Policies. Breckland may have to apply to the Secretary of State for a certificate of conformity to confirm the validity of our current Local Development Framework (LDF) documents and we will then be given a period (2 or 3 years) to morph our current documents into the NPPF "Local Plan". The procedure, I understand, will mirror the process we went through to produce the current LDF documents; consultation and examination by an independent inspector. The evidence base for our conclusions will need to be as robust as previously. Breckland is one of only 30% or so of Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) that has an adopted Local Development Framework.

He also informed members that on the 5<sup>th</sup> May, both the Breckland Chairman Councillor Nigel Wilkins and the Leader Councillor William Nunn would be undertaking a tandem cycle ride in aid of the Chairman Charity, arriving in Watton at noon.

### **207.3 County Councillors**

Councillor Rogers reported that pipe cleaning work would be carried out on 2<sup>nd</sup> April from 7am – 5pm at Watton Green.

Remedial re – surfacing work had been done on East road/St Giles road and that the spring "Your Norfolk" was now available.

Norse which was owned by NCC also carries out work for seventeen other councils, with a value of 4 – 5 million pounds per year.

### **208 CHANGES TO WATTON MEDICAL PRACTICE**

The Chairman welcomed Mary Osborne and invited her to explain the new system at the Watton Practice.

Mrs Osborne explained that the Watton Practice was not a part of the NHS but run as a private business and that it was difficult to compare one practice to another.

The new system was aimed to improve the efficiency and appointment system. Patients would be able to call the surgery, give a brief description of their illness, and would be put onto a list which would be passed to the doctor, who would then call the patient and decide whether advice could be given over the phone, or would need to make an appointment which the doctor would do him/herself.

It was hoped that by using this method, which had been tried and tested at many surgeries throughout the country, that this would eliminate the many missed appointments and sometimes unnecessary minor ailments which could be treated without seeing a doctor, therefore freeing up doctors valuable time for those patients who needed longer than a ten minute appointment.

Many members of the public attended the meeting to ask questions, of which Mrs Osborn answered. She was however unable to comment on the many personal points put forward.

She reminded everyone that the new system was due to start on Monday 2 April, and asked that members of the public to give the system a chance, to see how it worked.

## **209 URGENT BUSINESS**

Councillor Gilbert reported that there was a large notice outside the Watton Junior School stating that Ofsted had removed the school from its special measures and had been judged good for its quality of teaching. The behaviour and safety of pupils and its leadership and management.

Councillor Gilbert proposed and was seconded by Councillor Blackmore and unanimously agreed that a letter of congratulations be sent to the school.

## **210 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

The Chairman report that he had attended the following events:-

The Mayor of Attleborough's Civic service

Presented the Watton No Parking Charges to the leader of Breckland District Council.

Watton SNAP meeting

Health Focus meeting

Meeting regarding Blenheim Grange (Beaufort Park), where a great deal of progress was being made, all credit being given, to Carbrooke Parish Council, housing associations, and developers.

Honoured to chair the Annual General Meeting of the Twinning Association, many arrangements were in place for the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations, over the weekend of the 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> May.

## **211 VICE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Councillor Cooper reported that he had attended with the clerk the public meeting for the Wayland Luncheon Club. He felt that the Council needed to discuss it further, and suggested and was agreed, that it be put on the next Full Council agenda.

## **212 CLERKS REPORT**

The Clerk informed Council that the Jubilee Committee had received £250 from the applied £500 from Norfolk County Council, leaving them with a £250 shortfall.

It was proposed by Councillor J P McCarthy, seconded by Councillor Crabtree and unanimously agreed that £250 grant be given to the Jubilee Committee.

## **213 PAYMENTS**

Councillor Rudling questioned why the Luncheon Club and Community Car telephone bills were more expensive than the Town Council office. He asked that it be looked into.

It was agreed that payments for March be approved

## **214 COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **214.1 Planning and Forward Development**

It was agreed that the minutes of Tuesday 6 March 2012 be adopted

## **215 METHODIST CHURCH FLOWER FESTIVAL**

It was proposed by Councillor Crabtree and seconded by Councillor Birch and unanimously agreed that the Dutch Florist be asked to do the arrangement on behalf of the Council for the Methodist Church flower festival in June 2012 to the value of £50.00.

## **216 GRANTS**

Councillor Bunning explained that the Town Team were looking at becoming a registered charity which was the reason for applying for the grant.

Their aim was to attract people to the town, suggesting a market aimed at people who wanted to start a business, public motorcycle rally, display of military vehicles, busking etc.

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

**RESOLVED**

Voting: 6 for with 5 abstentions

that £500.00 grant be given.

The Meeting ended 9:15pm

JS