

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on Tuesday 27 November 2012 at 7.00 pm at Wayland Hall, former Luncheon Club Dining Room, Wayland Hall, Middle Street, Watton, Norfolk IP25 6AG

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

Officers Present: J Seal - Town Clerk

Members of the Public Present: One (1)

122 APOLOGIES

Apologies for Absence were received from PCSO Tissington – Norfolk Police

123 INTERESTS

Item 130 – 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 – 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.

125 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

It was agreed by Members that the Minutes be signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record with the amendment to the resolution to read voting: 9 for with 1 abstention.

126 COMMUNITY REPORTS

126.1 Police

Crime reports previously circulated.

It was agreed that a letter be written to the police requesting that they attend the meeting.

126.2 District Councillors

Councillor Gilbert stated that he had been contacted by residents of Lovell Gardens who were suffering from anti social parking problems. He would bring this matter to the attention of the police.

126.3 Councillor Wassell

Councillor Wassell explained that Enterprise Norfolk in Breckland is a joint Norfolk County Council and Breckland programme aimed at achieving a greater number of new business starts throughout the district. Norfolk historically performs below par when it comes to business start-ups. It includes Training on things such as writing a business plan, self-assessments, financing, marketing etc, One-to-one mentoring from business coaches and mentors, Advice and guidance from business start-up professionals, Awareness raising events; and much more, free of charge. The aim is to support over 100 individuals and to create 30 business start ups in the first year

He represented Breckland at the A47 Gateway to Growth event at the Showground, a county council led event to try and gain momentum within the national government to improve the A47 along its entire length.

Winter Warm Packs are now available from the Council office. Further funding is being sought for additional packs.

He is currently involved in setting Breckland's budget for 2013-2014.

The Boundary Commission working group has had a number of meetings, the groups recommendation will go to full council in January 2013, and if approved to the Boundary Commission for the 1st Feb 2013. The formal process and the working group will then start to look at the new ward boundaries.

126.4 County Councillors

Councillor Rogers had attended the Wayland Academy "Year 11 Awards" evening and had been very impressed with the results. The school was in the top 10% in the country, he hoped that the innovation Centre would raise the skills rate.

He felt that the Northern Distribution road at Norwich would encourage more business in the town.

The Council had a good supply of salt for forthcoming winter weather.

Work was in-going for the sustains Cycleway and would be open in February.

126.5 Members of the Public

A member of the public suggested that Councillor Gilbert advise the residents at Lovell Gardens to attend the SNAP meeting.

127 URGENT BUSINESS

127.1 Sewage Problems

Councillor Holmes was not happy with a letter received from Councillor L McCarthy relating to sewage problems in Watton and asked that any problems should come before the Council and not be dealt with by an individual Councillor.

Members agreed that all problems would be passed to the clerk.

127.2 Clock

The Chairman reported that the clock in the Clock Tower had been inspected by a Clock Specialist, who had given a report (previously Circulated).

The Clock had been kept going over many years by volunteers, Councillor Osborn, Councillor Ivory and Martin Anscome of which the Council was very grateful, but the clock now needed a major overhaul.

Members felt that the Clock was an historical part of Watton History and that the work was needed.

It was proposed by Councillor Crabtree and seconded by Councillor Wassell and unanimously agreed that the quotation from S Michlmayr and Co Limited of £9240 be accepted.

127.3 Playgrounds

The Chairman reported that Bridle Road playground was now complete and that Lovell Garden playground would be completed by the end of November.

It was agreed that the official opening would take place during the school half term in February.

Members agreed that the notice should not allow dogs on the playground.

128 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- 7 November - visited Total Health to help them promote for men to ask the pharmacist for help on medical matters.
- 10 November - Laying of Poppy Crosses at the War Graves
- 11 November - Remembrance Service
- 22 November - Wayland Academy Achievement Evening 2012. He was disappointed that some of the students didn't receive their certificates on stage. Watton Town Council was listed as a sponsor.

The Chairman reminded Councillors not to use their position as a Town Councillor to help influence a personal problem.

129 VICE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- 11 November - Remembrance Service
- 22 November - Wayland Academy Achievement Evening 2012.

130 CLERKS REPORT

The Clerk informed Members that the new play equipment including the fence and ground surfaces had been added to the Councils Insurance.

Many of the winter warm packs had been given out.

The Watton Table Tennis club had thanked the Council for their Grant.

131 PAYMENTS

Members queried the parking fines which the Town Handyman had been given.

The Clerk informed Members that she had written to the parking company to explain the difficulties of parking at Wayland Hall which the town handyman had whilst carrying out his duties and asked that they come back with a suggestion for the way forward.

It was agreed that a reserved parking bay be requested.

It was agreed that payments for November be approved with 12 for and 2 abstentions.

132 BUDGET 2013-2014

It was proposed by Councillor Wassell, seconded by Councillor Birch

in accordance with Standing Order No 66 and

RESOLVED

That in view of the confidential nature of the business 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

Members discussed the budget and agreed unanimously to add £225 per annum for servicing of the Clock and £3500 to be added to the budget.

Members discussed the Christmas Lights quotation from Mark Brown and unanimously agreed that £20,000 be added to the budget for the year 2013 – 2014.

It was also agreed that the lights would be hired rather than purchased giving the option of changing the lights each year.

The Clerk would submit the revised budget to council at the next meeting.

133 CODE OF CONDUCT

It was proposed by Councillor Turner and seconded by Councillor Crabtree and unanimously agreed that the Council formally adopt the Breckland Code of Conduct as their standard Code.

134 NEW PLANNING APPLICATIONS

134.1 3PL/2012/0767/F – Mr & Mrs Hassan - New single storey dwelling, adjacent to 70 Norwich Road, Watton IP25 6DW

It was proposed by Councillor Gilbert and seconded by Councillor Osborn and agreed with 13 for and 1 Abstention that the Council recommend refusal as it is an over development of the site and too close proximity to the neighbouring property.

134.2 3PL/2012/0992 – Mr T Abel – Abel Properties - Changing use of existing bungalow, from redundant canteen back to a domestic property. Neaton Gate, Norwich Road, Watton, Norfolk IP25 6JB

No Objection. It was noted that work had already started on the property.

134.3 3PL/2012/1109 – Watton Town Council - To replace fire escape, Kings Arms Public House, Middle Street, Watton, Norfolk IP25 6AG

No Objection

134.4 3PL/2012/1174/F – Mr & Mrs P Tooms – Rear & side single storey extension, 16 Edinburgh close, Watton

No Objection

134.2 Planning Application 3PL/2012/1109 – Watton Town Council

To replace fire escape, Kings Arms Public House, Middle Street, Watton, Norfolk IP25 6AG

No Comment was made.

134 PLANNING RESULTS

3PL/2012/1037/F – Mr & Mrs W D Abram

Proposed single storey front extension, 32 Wayland Avenue, Watton

Breckland District Council permission granted with no objection from Watton Town Council.

135 GRANT APPLICATION

Loch Neaton had applied for a grant for dog waste bins.

It was proposed by Councillor Holmes and seconded by Councillor Gilbert and unanimously agreed that a grant of £358.00 be given to Loch Neaton.

136 OUTSTANDING/ON-GOING ITEMS

The Clerk reported that she had received confirmation from Flagship that the hedge, to the entrance of Church Walk adjacent to Kittle Close was not theirs and confirmed, that it had been inspected by both her and the Town Handyman, and that there was no impingement of the footpath as had been reported.

Councillor Osborn reported that the hedge at the Church end of Church walk was overgrown and that it could be used as a hiding place.

It was pointed out that this was private property and not the Councils responsibility.

The Clerk needed to investigate further the hedge responsibility on Norwich road which was thought to be owned by Bennett Holmes.

The Meeting ended 9:46 pmJS