

Minutes of the meeting of WATTON TOWN COUNCIL held on

Tuesday 11th October 2016 at 7.00 pm

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

Councillors Present: Beryl Bunning –Chairman, Stan Hebborn – Vice-Chairman, Patrick Alzetto, Peter Bishop, Gavin Bulmer, Janet Carr, Daniel Fishlock, Jane Fountain, Keith Gilbert, Sue Hebborn, Margaret Holmes, Tina Kiddell, Maureen Roy, Patricia Warwick.

3 members of the public.

Officers Present: Jane Scarrott Town Clerk, Michelle Craigie Admin. Assistant.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Jennie Fishlock

2. NO DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS MADE

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES 27.09.16

The minutes of the meeting held on September 27th 2016 were unanimously agreed as a true record of the meeting and were signed by the Chairman.

4. REPORTS

4.1 Chairman's Report

The Chairman has attended the following:

30th September Village Florist Art Exhibition

30th September Macmillan Coffee Morning

4th October Radio Brecks Interview

6th October Opening of new wing at Lancaster House

4.2 Vice-Chairman's Report

- The Vice-Chairman also attended the Dragonfly Art Exhibition on October 1st.
- The Vice-Chairman and Clerk met with a representative from Zurich Insurance to confirm details for the Fireworks Display and to update the Council's insurance schedule.
- E-mail accounts have been established for all members of the Council. The Vice-Chairman will proceed to issue e-mail addresses and passwords once Councillors confirm preferred names.

4.3 Clerk's Report

Report submitted to Councillors prior to meeting is filed.

Verbal update given:

- Emergency Planning

Town and Parish councils are being encouraged to develop local community plans to complement the broad-brush framework of the District and County planning. This is becoming more important as successive cuts are made to budgets as austerity bites.

Norfolk fire and rescue service may be withdrawing all their response to assisting with flooding after February 2017.

A very successful Community awareness event about flooding has recently been held at Acle. It is hoped this can be repeated as a "roadshow" across various market towns in Norfolk over coming months and given the issues experienced locally in June it is suggested that holding one in Watton would be worthwhile. The event would include a number of presentations and demonstrations together with advice and guidance available to householders and businesses on prevention and dealing with flooding and other severe weather events.

It was proposed and **agreed by all to proceed to hold the roadshow in Watton.**

Queen's Hall will be booked as the venue if possible with an expected cost of between £60 and £100.

- Loch Neaton Meeting

At the present time the plans to organise a public meeting to consider the future of Loch Neaton are on hold awaiting an update from the Loch Neaton Committee.

- Insurance

It was agreed by all to accept the update to the Council insurance policy including insurance to cover the Firework Evening on October 29th **at a total cost of £383.25.**

Report from Tina Kiddell as Town Council Rep. at Sports Centre Meeting

The Sports Centre is reported to be struggling financially and money is badly needed to repair and continually maintain the sports facilities.

It was agreed by all that consideration will be given to how the Town Council might financially support Watton Sports Centre when the Town Council budget for 2017 is considered at the Town Council meeting on October 25th. Before any decision is made however, representatives from the Sports Centre will be asked to attend a meeting prior to the Council meeting on November 8th to state the case for a £10000 donation to be given to the Sports Centre as has been requested.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Members of the public present were representing the Museum4Watton group and were invited to comment on item. 6 on the agenda.

6. MUSEUM4WATTON

Members of the Museum4Watton have visited the US Air Force exhibition which it was planned to bring to Watton. They came to the conclusion that they did want their name associated with the exhibition and have said that they will not host it. Therefore space at Wayland Hall is not wanted for the exhibition. However, the lease for the Museum4Watton to use part of Wayland Hall as a museum has still to be progressed. Quite different quotes to compile a suitable lease have been obtained but it was decided a third legal firm would be approached before any decision is made.

Chris Hutchings was thanked by the Council for all he is doing to bring the history of Watton back to the town.

7. TRAINING

It was agreed that if possible a whole council training session will be organised for a Saturday morning in January 2017.

It was also agreed Daniel Fishlock and Pat Warwick will attend Health & Safety Training at a cost of £25.00 each.

8. GRANT APPLICATION FROM LOCH NEATON COMMITTEE

Two grant applications received from the Loch Neaton Committee were considered. **It was agreed to offer £500 as requested to enable the repair of the wooden bridge at the Loch.**

9. IT UPDATE

It was agreed by all to accept the addition to the Council IT contract of an anti-spam package for the office e-mails at a monthly cost of £7.00.

10. PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR COMMENT

10.1 No applications for comment received

10.2 It was agreed to respond to the CPRE Norfolk pledge at the next meeting of the Town Council.

10.3 It was agreed to respond to the Breckland Council Local Plan interim consultation at the next meeting of the Town Council.

11. A resolution was passed to exclude the Press and Public in the view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted:

11.1 An historic administrative error relating to the Cemetery has been identified.

Delegation was passed to the Clerk to investigate what can be undertaken to rectify the issue but matters arising from this may need procedural decisions to be clarified by the Council.