

Minutes of the meeting of WATTON TOWN COUNCIL held on

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2016 at 7.00 pm

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

Councillors Present: Ken Birch Chairman, Beryl Bunning – Vice-Chairman, Peter Bishop, Richard Crabtree, Jennie Fishlock, Keith Gilbert, Stan Hebborn, Sue Hebborn, Margaret Holmes, John Rogers, Maureen Roy.

Officers Present: Jane Scarrott Town Clerk

**1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies received from Daniel Fishlock.

**2. NO DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS MADE**

**3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES 22.03.16**

The minutes of the meeting held on March 22<sup>nd</sup> 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:

23<sup>rd</sup> March – Twinning AGM

31<sup>st</sup> March – Took ambulance to be checked for prospective purchaser

10<sup>th</sup> April – Norfolk County Council Civic Service – Great Yarmouth

**4.2 Vice-Chairman's Report**

The Vice-Chairman has been busy preparing for the Queen's Birthday celebration event to be held on April 24<sup>th</sup>. The Museum 4 Watton Group has offered to provide a display and members of the WI have offered to assist in the kitchen.

Councillors offering to help on the day were asked to arrive at 1.30pm

**4.3 Clerk's Report**

A copy of the written report presented is filed.

Verbal update given:

- Meeting scheduled for April 21<sup>st</sup> at 9.30am at the Town Council office with Cassie Mant, Breckland Council Business Growth Officer.
- It was noted payments will need to be made for the Mayor's Civic reception on the evening of the event. Money is allocated within the budget and amounts paid will be noted at the Town Council meeting on the 26<sup>th</sup> April.
- Watton Twinning Association would like the Councillors to meet with representatives from Watton's twin town of Weeze at the Town Council Offices on May 14<sup>th</sup> at 10.00am. The Town Council would like to offer hospitality and this matter will be an agenda item for the meeting on April 26<sup>th</sup>.

- No requests have been made to hold an election to fill the casual vacancy on the Council. Adverts will now be posted in an attempt to co-opt a new member.

## **5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

No members of the public were present.

## **6. REFURBISHMENT OF FLOWER CONTAINERS**

So far no response has been received from the Community Rehabilitation Team who it was hoped would submit a price for refurbishment of the Town Council flower tubs. It was thus proposed, and agreed with three abstentions, that the Handyman be asked if he could undertake this work

## **7. GRANT APPLICATION FOR PHOENIX PIPES AND DRUMS**

Interest declared at this point by Stan Hebborn, Sue Hebborn and Jennie Fishlock (not present for item 2) who all left the meeting for this item.

**5 in favour, with 3 abstentions to grant £500 to Phoenix Pipes and Drums as requested.**

## **8. SEATS FOR JUBILEE GARDEN**

It was felt that as a decision had previously been made regarding seats for Jubilee Garden this matter should not be discussed further.

## **9. HEALTH & SAFETY POLICY**

With the addition of Jubilee Garden to the list of specific policies the **Health & Safety Policy was accepted** by all other than Ken Birch who abstained from the decision. The Chairman had concern that items 4.1 and 4.2 may involve the need for staff training.

## **10. WAYLAND PARTNERSHIP LUNCHTIME DEBATE**

It was agreed with 3 abstentions payment would be made for Councillors and the Clerk should they wish to attend the debate on May 6<sup>th</sup>.

## **11. SMOKE FREE AREAS**

Breckland Council is promoting the introduction of smoke-free areas in the vicinity of play areas, school gates etc. The Town Council has been asked to support this initiative.

6 Councillors were in favour of support with others abstaining.

## **12. RING FENCED MONEY**

To ascertain what money has been spent on the toilets it was agreed to contract a report into the expenditure of the ring fenced money since the transfer of the public toilets from Breckland Council. Of the three quotes received to undertake this work it was agreed by all, with Ken Birch and John Rogers abstaining, to pay £20 per hour plus travel expenses for a report to be compiled.

### **13. PLANNING NOTIFICATIONS**

#### **13.1 Application for consideration:**

3PL/2016/0256/F External recladding to existing buildings at abattoir, Brandon Road  
No objections raised

**14. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC – In view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, concerning staff and contracts, a resolution was passed to exclude the Public and Press at this point.**

#### **14.1 Matters relating to Watton Cemetery**

Councillors were in agreement that historic (issue prior to May 2016) Exclusive Rights for graves could be given free of charge if proof cannot be found that Exclusive Rights were purchased but evidence suggests otherwise.