

Minutes of the meeting of WATTON TOWN COUNCIL held on

Tuesday 2nd February 2016 at 7.00 pm

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

Councillors Present: Ken Birch Chairman, Kevin Abbott, Peter Bishop, Richard Crabtree, Jennie Fishlock, Keith Gilbert, Margaret Holmes, John Rogers.

Officers Present: Jane Scarrott Town Clerk

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies from Beryl Bunning, Stan Hebborn, Sue Hebborn and Maureen Roy were accepted.

2. NO DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS MADE

3. BRECKLAND LOCAL PLAN CONSULTATION

Breckland Council is in the process of producing a new Local Plan with consultation running until February 22nd 2016.

The Town Council decided not to respond to the whole of the Part 1 Preferred Directions document but to focus on section 7.

It is hoped other bodies within the Town may respond to other sections which are of particular interest to the specific group.

Councillors went through each policy within section 7 with responses to be forwarded to Breckland Council as follows:

Q14 - Agreement in principal (2 abstentions) with preferred policy ENV 01; replacement provision should be made for any loss of green space.

Q15 – Agreement in principal (1abstention) to preferred policy ENV02; there was expectation voiced however that the document should be more explicit and clarification is needed as to what constitutes ‘appropriate’ mitigating circumstances.

Q16 - More definition was felt to be needed before Q16 could be answered. The Council would like to see a map of ‘The Brecks’ area.

Q17 - Agreement in principal with preferred policy ENV 04; strong concern voiced that any s106 agreements made should be adhered to. Developers appear to have been allowed to renege on agreements in the past and it was felt agreements made with developers must be tight.

Q18 – Designation of open space at land surrounding Trenchard Close is given a ‘No’ in table 7.4. The Town Council wants it to be clarified that there is land at this

location still to be reserved as local green space. In the current Local Plan documents an area of 10.5 acres in the centre of Trenchard Close was allocated as recreational land to compensate for no land being allocated as such on the Radar Site development. No alternative area of the equivalent size is available local to the site.

Q19 - Agreement in principal with preferred policy ENV 05. Map needed to define area of 'The Brecks'.

Q20 - Agreement in principal with preferred policy ENV 06. Agreed however that a stipulation should be made in accepted protocol arrangements that notification should be given to the District Councillor and Town/Parish Council prior to any Tree Preservation Orders being appealed or removed.

Q21 - Agreement in principal with preferred policy ENV 07. Town Council would support advice given by Historic England.

Q22 - Agreement by all with preferred policy ENV 08.

Q23 – Watton Town Council is not in agreement with preferred policy ENV 09 as it is not specific and there is no provision for how surface water should enter the foul water system.

Q24 - Agreement by all with preferred policy ENV 10.