

Minutes of the meeting of WATTON TOWN COUNCIL held on

Tuesday April 9th 2019 at 7.00pm

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

Councillors Present: Tina Kiddell – Chairman, Beryl Bunning, Peter Bishop, Tina Cruz, Jane Fountain, Colin Hay, Keith Gilbert, Stan Hebborn, Sue Hebborn, Alysha Houlder-Moat, Kathryn Stallard, Pat Warwick

Officers Present: Jane Scarrott Town Clerk

Also present: 3 members the public.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE RECEIVED AND ACCEPTED FROM

Daniel Fishlock and Margaret Holmes

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS MADE

Stan and Sue Hebborn declared an interest in matters relating to planning.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES 26.03.19

Agreed slight typing errors will be amended before the minutes of the meeting held on March 26th 2019 are signed by the Chairman as a true record of the meeting. Minutes to be signed 10.04.19.

4. REPORTS

4.1 Chairman's Report

Verbal report given. Copy available.

4.2 Vice-Chairman's Report

The Vice-Chairman attended a 'Meet and Greet' evening to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the Wayland Players, at Queens Hall on Thursday 4th April 2019.

4.3 Clerk's Report.

Written report submitted in agenda pack.

Verbal update given:

- Notice and Business Plan received relating to Community Right to Bid – Asset of Community Value: The Hare and Barrel, Brandon Road, Watton
- Notification received of extension to public consultation on Main Modifications of Breckland Local Plan
- Daisy Programme Newsletter
- Norfolk County Council is to undertake an inspection of the weekly market on 10.04.19 as commissioned by the Town Council

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Members of the public were present to update the Council on their application to list the Hare & Barrel as an Asset of Community Value (ACV) and to ask for support from Councillors.

It will be an agenda item at the next Town Council meeting to consider how the Council might support the plan.

6. DEVELOPMENT AT WATTON GREEN – presentation by developers

Abel Homes gave a presentation regarding the Section 106 Agreement relating to land at Town Green Road, Watton.



Open Space Land of approx. 5424 square metres is to be provided together with one Local Area of Play (LEAP) with a financial contribution towards maintenance of the open spaces.

The Town Council is listed as a possible "Nominated Body" to receive the Open Space Land. The Council asked for re-assurance that any attenuation tank located on the open space would not become the responsibility of the Town Council to maintain and was informed that the attenuation tank on the site, together with sewers, would be adopted by Anglia Water under a s104 agreement.

The developers offered to replace trees which have died at Shire Horse Way. This will be undertaken in autumn 2019.

7. s106 CONTRIBUTION - WATTON GREEN DEVELOPMENT

It was resolved that the Town Council would be minded to accept open space land as outlined in the s106 agreement relating to planning permission 3PL/2015/1191/O.

8. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN (NP)

The Council has been advised that the formal group referred to as WWTG has been formally disbanded. The requirement to facilitate the group no longer applies. It is noted however that some independent groups may continue to function. The Council would wish to support these group where appropriate.

It was resolved that the Town Council would advise these groups of its willingness to support their work on a case by case basis and encourage approaches to the Town Council for formal support if considered appropriate. If any groups consider that information obtained by the NP would be useful, the Council will share data as far as legislation permits. The Council would also encourage any group to share information gained through its work to provide a formal route for the group to feed its findings into the Neighbourhood Plan process to influence its direction and allow a formal avenue for its findings to be directed to other relevant authorities. Members of groups are also invited to consider working with the NP group to maximise the skills and enthusiasm available.

9. RECEIPT OF DOCUMENTATION RELATING TO CHURCH WALK

It was resolved to collect documents relating to Church Walk from the solicitor who holds them. Once signed minutes are available the Clerk/Deputy Clerk and a Councillor will obtain the documents.

10. TREES AT SHIRE HORSE WAY

Refer to item 6.

11. NOTICE BOARD FOR CEMETERY

It was resolved to commission the Town Council preferred grounds maintenance contractor to supply and erect, at Watton Cemetery, a two door notice board at a cost of £900 plus VAT. Money will be taken from grounds maintenance contingency or, if funds are insufficient, from the Community Improvement Fund.

12. VE DAY CELEBRATIONS

It was resolved to register the Town Crier for the VE Day 75 (8th – 10th May 2020) Celebrations.

13. COMMUNITY FRIDGE

It has been brought to the attention of the Council that the Community Fridge may be re-located at a future date. The Town Council would not want the Community Fridge facility lost from Watton and therefore talks will continue with Breckland District Council to hopefully maintain its presence. **It was resolved that** the Town Council will advise Breckland District Council that it is in favour of keeping the Community Fridge in Watton and that it will look at possibilities for future management.

14. COMMUNITY SHED

It was suggested the Community Shed on offer from Breckland District Council, which will house litter picking equipment, could be located in the north eastern corner of the Thetford Road allotments.

It will be an agenda item at the next Town Council meeting to consider clearing the north eastern edge of the allotments.

15. PLANNING: To consider consultation response to planning applications received since the last Full Council meeting

15.1 3PL/2019/0292/HOU – Demolition of rear conservatory to erect single storey rear kitchen extension and front garage extension. 48 Thetford Road, WATTON

No objections

15.2 3PL/2019/0131/F – Change of use of first floor from B & B/holiday lets to two residential units and alterations to existing ground floor flats with single storey kitchen extension – Key House 79 Norwich road, WATTON – Amendment

No objections

15.3 3PL/2019/0263/HOU - Re-position existing 1.8m high boundary fence to edge of highway - 1 Farrier Road Watton IP25 6YE

Recommend approval

15.4 3PL/2019/0279/D – Reserved matters for the erection of 9 dwellings following outline approval (Ref 3PL/2016/O allowed on appeal 10th November 2017 WATTON -Development site, south of Griston Road Watton IP25 6DN

No objections

15.5 3PL/2019/0175/HOU - Drop curb for direct access to our property - 28 Swaffham Road Watton IP25 6LA

No objections

15.6 3PL/2017/1087/F – Erection of 9 dwellings and ancillary works – Rear of 121A Brandon Road, Watton – Referred to Planning Committee 08/04/19

Noted that the Town Council has submitted comments to the effect that it would support the views of Watton Drainage Group.

15.7 3PL/2018/1504/F – Change of use from vacant ground floor office/retail units to 3 x 2 bedroom flats – Dawson House 18 to 22 Thetford Road, Watton – Amendment

No objections



16. Resolution to exclude the public and press to consider confidential matters relating to Watton Cemetery

16.1 A complaint has been received appertaining to recent supposed damage sustained to a headstone in Watton Cemetery. The headstone has apparently been found loose and unstable with pieces of cement shard scattered around on the grass. Reportedly the stone was secure and tidy in February 2019 with the damage being found after works have taken place within the Cemetery. It has been quoted at £336.00 to secure the headstone.

It was resolved to write to the owner of the memorial to say that unless there is evidence that the Town Council has any responsibility for the reported damage that no contribution will be made to the cost of repair.

Chairman's Report 9th April

27th March - Chaired the AGM of the Twinning Association

5th April – attended Mayor of Thetford's Charity Ball

8th April – attended Mayor of Attleborough's Civic Reception

All occasions I thoroughly enjoyed and as ever was privileged to represent our town.

It would seem that our administration and steering of our council has become slightly confusing in that anything we wish to do does not seem to be achievable without first consulting the Neighbourhood Plan and then it is getting incredibly confused.

Basically, we need clear and concise direction as to how Council want to progress with things, i.e. the skate park and the YAB.

Before we embarked on the Plan, the Office would do the finding out and organising of the meetings and then bring it to Council to decide as to whether we wanted to continue on that path. Now, Jane and I are unsure how to proceed on things. The danger of this is that nothing gets done, not even a new bin!

Regarding the YAB, we really do need some direction, as to what Council would like to do regarding the skate park and youth provision. We have been asked by the YAB to apply for planning permission for the playing field for the skate park, apparently this is something that as a Council we should be doing. What are your thoughts on this?

Tina Kiddell

Chairman

Watton Town Council

Item 4.3

Clerk's Report 03.04.19

Correspondence forwarded by e-mail:

(Please note some e-mails/newsletters are not received in a format that can be easily printed and thus they have not been included in agenda packs. Should you wish more information on anything not copied please contact the Office)

1. Community Action Newsletter Funding News 15.03.19
2. Police scams awareness 15.03.19 and 29.03.19
3. Norfolk ALC Seminar follow-up 19.03.19
(To note that the invoice for the cost of attendance has been reduced following complaint by Pat Warwick)
4. Community Action Norfolk (CAN) Newsletter 19.03.19
5. Breckland Dragons invest in local businesses 19.03.19
6. Great British Spring Clean 20.03.19
7. Norfolk ALC Newsletter 21.03.19 and 29.03.19
8. Wayland Chamber of Commerce Update 22.03.19
9. George Freeman Offshore Wind Farm 28.03.19
10. Silver Social Newsletter 01.04.19
11. Norfolk Constabulary Rural Community Newsletter 01.04.19
12. Breckland market Towns Prepare for Easter and Leading Artist to provide free workshops 02.04.19
13. To note (not copied): Norfolk County Council Parish Partnership Scheme has been formally accepted for 20mph Wig Wag signs by Westfield School. No contribution is being made by the Town Council.

The Town Council has received a petition signed by approx. 300 residents asking that consideration be given for the current Mayor to be re-elected as Mayor. Hard copy will be available to view at the meeting.

Sports Centre Play Area

From my report of 06.03.19:

"As the Council has 2 new bins already stored, other ideas as to how to spend the remaining DC11 grant money held for equipment at the Sports Centre Play Area have been considered. If the grant administrator accepts the suggestion, would the Council consider using the money to replace the front fence at the Sports Centre Play Area? The amount of money left in the pot could also provide a new community use notice board to be fitted to the fence which may encourage the grant funders to support such use of the grant."

03.04.19 The grant provider has confirmed it would accept the money being used for a fence and notice board, but if it is not spent very quickly the money will need to be returned. Fencing has been ordered.

Can the Council please confirm whether it is happy that the fence is replaced?

Open Spaces

It is suggested that the new Council, when in place, should arrange a time to conduct an inspection of the open spaces under the Councils management;

- Consideration needs to be given to replacement of the small children's fenced play area at Bridle Road. The Town Operative has concerns regarding the state of the safety surface matting in the area and the equipment is generally in a distressed condition. There has been debate about whether the

hedge at Bridle Road Play Area should be removed and this perhaps needs further thought once again.

- Vehicles continue to be parked on the grass at Bridle Road Play Area.
- A complaint has been received regarding the overgrowth and rubbish around the edges of the Thetford Road allotments. This will be monitored but again some thought regarding future management may be needed. Locating the Community Shed at the Allotments could help!

Dates to note:

Thursday April 11th 10.30am – HR Com. Meeting

Friday April 12th 11.00am - Finance Com. Meeting

Tuesday April 16th - from 6.00pm Annual Town Meeting to be held at the Queens Hall

Thursday April 25th – 10.30am Watton & Swaffham Partnership Meeting at Swaffham

Friday April 26th – Civic Reception

Friday July 12th - Norfolk SLCC Summer Conference at Carrow Road

Please be aware of the dates for the meetings of the Town Council in May –

May 14th - first meeting of “new” Town Council (Declaration of Acceptance of Office Forms to be signed by all Councillors)

May 28th - Town Council meeting