

Minutes of the meeting of WATTON TOWN COUNCIL held on
Tuesday November 9th 2021 at 7.00pm in the Council Chamber at
Wayland Hall, Middle Street, Watton IP25 6AG

Councillors Present: Jane Fountain - Chairman, Peter Bishop, Beryl Bunning, Tine Cruz, Sue Hebborn, Tina Kiddell, Keith Prince, Kathryn Stallard, Pat Warwick, James Wooler

Norfolk County Councillor/District Councillor Claire Bowes also present

Officer present: Jane Scarrott Clerk

1 member of the public

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE RECEIVED FROM

Keith Gilbert, Stan Hebborn and Don Saunders

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST MADE:

As a Trustee, Kathryn Stallard declared an interest in anything relating to the Museum4Watton (item 9).

3. MINUTES

3.1 Minutes of the meeting held on October 26th 2021 were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

It was noted that a request had been made at the last meeting to include the fact that the agreed expenditure of £2819.85 for radiators for the Chamber refurbishment is part of the initial allocation of £25000 to help fund the project.

3.2 Report updating on items from the meeting on 26.10.21 was included within the agenda pack with updated verbal report given at the meeting:

- One builder has quoted to undertake work to the Fire Exit door frame in the Council Chamber but the Museum4Watton is looking for another contractor. The thought is to repair the surface cracks and monitor.
- November 24th at 2.00pm has been set for a virtual meeting with Norse consultant Alan Wright to hear suggestions for a re-vamp of the area around the town sign.
- Further clarification, as drafted by the Chairman, has been requested to the responses received from the Leader of Breckland Council to questions put to him by the Council and members of the public. A date is still trying to be arranged when the Leader can attend a Town Council meeting.
- Neighbouring parishes have been contacted requesting a contribution towards the annual Fireworks Event in the town.

4. CO-OPTION

Charlotte Greenough was co-opted to fill the one casual vacancy on the Town Council.

5. REPORTS

5.1 Chairman's Report

The Chairman has attended:

30th October Fireworks Event

31st October Celebration of 100 years of the Royal British Legion

1st November- met with the Manager of the Watton Factory Shop to consult re. use of Chaston Place.

2nd November – Neighbourhood Plan meeting and Remembrance Event meeting
Noted that Roy Brame, Chairman of Breckland Council, is planning to meet with the Mayors of the five Breckland Towns on 12th November in Watton.

5.2 Vice-Chairman’s Report – no report given

5.3 Clerk’s/Deputy Clerk’s Report

Written report issued with the agenda pack.

Verbal report given:

Civilian Committee

Kristian Crittenden, Pilot Officer (RAFAC), Officer Commanding, 864 (Watton) Squadron has sent through information about the Civilian Committee. Flyer passed to Councillors.

Kris would like to encourage a Cllr to be a ‘rep’ on the Air Cadets committee – This will be an agenda item for the next TC meeting and Kris be invited to attend.

Church Walk

No meeting date has yet been set for the Church Walk Working Group as it is suggested background information is sought before proceeding further.

The aim is to try to ascertain the ownership, status and rights for Church Walk.

Documents held in the Office refer to “permissive rights for pedestrian movement across the land as a public right of way, with private access for motorized vehicles to and from the care home at Linden Court”. Church Walk is also part of the National Cycle Network.

NCC Rights of Way officer has been helpful and a report will be compiled in preparation for a future Working Group meeting.

Breckland District Council (BDC) Enforcement

A response has been received from BDC to the list of properties of concern in Watton High Street which has been submitted to BDC Planning Enforcement.

Further explanation of the response received has been requested.

Update on s106 Officer’s Mess site

Correspondence has been received to suggest that the developer is looking to conclude the agreement to transfer the open space land at the Officers Mess site before Christmas 2021.

Watton Sports Centre

The Manager of Watton Sports Centre has confirmed that Watton Sports Association has settled all of its aged debt and currently is trading with a surplus. Watton Hockey Club is currently fundraising and has a number of events planned in the next 12 months to raise both awareness and funds towards the cost of resurfacing of the Astro turf.

6. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The Watton Neighbourhood Plan Update was received as presented with **a resolution made** that the Vision Statement as presented would be shared with Future Breckland

consultants Hatch. Tina Kiddell requested that it be noted that she did not agree with submission of the Vision Statement.

The draft Neighbourhood Plan (NP) has been submitted to Susan Heinrich the Breckland District Council Neighbourhood Plan Officer for comment, with the Plan to be presented to the Town Council for approval at the Town Council meeting on December 14th.

The Neighbourhood Plan Officer has offered to attend a meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan Group to discuss comments she has made and **it was resolved** that Susan Heinrich should be invited to a Neighbourhood Plan Working Group meeting to discuss points she has raised. It was noted Councillors would be welcome to attend any Neighbourhood Plan meeting and that Councillors can see the draft NP document at the Town Council Office.

6.1 The Watton & Saham Flood Action Group Report dated 01.11.21 was received.

7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No matters raised.

8. WAYLAND ACADEMY ACHIEVEMENT EVENING

It was resolved to make a donation of £50 towards prizes at Wayland Academy Evening 2021.

9. DISPLAY CABINETS FOR THE CHAMBER

It was agreed to authorise expenditure of £3990 plus VAT to purchase display cabinets as part of the Chamber refurbishment. Funding to be taken from the initial of £25000 allocated to help finance the project.

10. PARISH PARTNERSHIP

It was resolved that the Town Council will make an application to the Norfolk Parish Partnership Scheme for a trod for the Norwich Road at an estimated cost of £14,200. The trod to be finished with Beedon gravel.

It was agreed not to proceed with installation of solar lighting for the High Street bus shelters but felt this could be a possible project for a future year. Purchase of a second SAM2 mobile vehicle activated sign could also be a future project through the Parish Partnership Scheme.

11. PLANNING

11.1 3PL/2021/1411/HOU - Proposed single storey flat roof rear extension and proposed single garage. - WATTON: 44 Dereham Road

No comment

11.2 3PL/2021/1411/HOU- Proposed single storey flat roof rear extension and proposed single garage. - 44 Dereham Road - AMENDMENT: change garage roof from pitched to hipped, Rooflight to front elevation

No comment

11.3 3PL/2021/1432/HOU - New roof to create first floor accommodation including dormer & velux windows. Rear flat roof extension replacing existing & new garage and store.- WATTON: 11 Monkams Drive

No comment