

Minutes of the meeting of WATTON TOWN COUNCIL held on  
Tuesday June 14th 2022 at 7.00pm in the Council Chamber at  
Wayland Hall, Middle Street, Watton IP25 6AG

Councillors Present: Sue Hebborn - Chairman, Peter Bishop, Jane Fountain, Keith Gilbert, Stan Hebborn, Keith Prince, Don Saunders, Kathryn Stallard, Pat Warwick.

Officer present: Jane Scarrott Clerk

Also present

## **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE RECEIVED**

Tobi Amadasun, Tina Cruz, Beryl Bunning, Charlotte Greenough, Tina Kiddell and James Wooler

### **1. NO DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST MADE**

### **2. MINUTES**

3.1 Minutes of the meeting held on May 24th 2022 were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

3.2 A report updating on items from the meeting on 24.05.22 was included within the agenda pack with updated verbal report given at the meeting:

The County Councillor was asked for information regarding the verge grass cutting in the parish and whether Norfolk County Council is to provide meal vouchers for children during school holiday periods

Response received 27.05.22:

“NCC are providing meal vouchers Please find attached link to information

<https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/what-we-do-and-how-we-work/campaigns/help-with-living-costs/cost-of-living-vouchers>

and the County does two cuts a year and the first one began last week.

Re other grassed areas - NCC's contractor will be cutting NCC owned grassed areas and Serco Breckland owned grassed areas.

Flagpoles have been installed in the High Street by BDC”

### **3. REPORTS**

#### **4.1 Chairman's Report**

The Chairman has attended :

- Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May the Jubilee Party of the U3A. This was well attended and a lot of thought had gone into decorating the WCCC and the commemorative hats that they made.
- Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May the Mayor of Thetford's Civic Reception.
- Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> May the Mayor of Thetford's Civic Service.

Jubilee Long weekend.

- Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June at 2pm The Town Crier Mike Wabe started it off with the proclamation by the Clock Tower. This was followed at 9.30pm with the lighting of the Beacon at Loch Neaton.
- Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June attended the Queens Jubilee church service held at St Marys Church Haverhill.

- Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June after the Town Crier had delivered his cry the Mayor started off the 100<sup>th</sup> Park run at Watton Sports Centre. Then from midday onwards the Mayor was present at the platinum picnic at the Charlotte Harvey Centre. Thanks to Sue Dent, other Council staff and all the Councillors who worked so hard to make sure that everything went off without a hitch.
- Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> June attended the reopening of the Dragonfly Centre.

#### 4.2 Vice-Chairman's Report

The Vice-Chairman has attended:

- 26<sup>th</sup> May HR Committee meeting
- 2<sup>nd</sup> June Town Cry
- 4<sup>th</sup> June Jubilee Picnic
- 9<sup>th</sup> June Private blessing at Loch Neaton (Standing in for the Mayor)
- 11<sup>th</sup> June re-opening of the Dragonfly Galler

#### 4.3 Clerk's Report

Written report issued with the agenda pack:

##### **Toilet cleaning**

New contractor began cleaning the toilets on June 1st.

##### **Legionella RA – Wayland Hall**

Undertaken June 7<sup>th</sup> – report will need consideration once received. Verbal recommendation was that the water tanks in the loft should be made obsolete which could easily be done if the current hot water system is removed and replaced by individual water heaters for the sinks.

##### **Staffing update**

The Charlotte Harvey Trust cleaner has decided to take early retirement and will be leaving in August.

##### **Registration of Loch Neaton**

Birketts have let us know that they have received an acknowledgement through from the Land Registry for the first registration application for the land at Loch Neaton. This means that the application is now in the queue for processing.

Unfortunately, first registration applications are notoriously slow to be processed, and can take several months.

### 5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No matters raised.

### 6. HR MINUTES

The minutes from the HR meeting held on May 26<sup>th</sup> 2022 were received.

### 7. FINANCE

**7.1 It was resolved to** give a donation of £5000 to the Wayland Partnership Development Trust as applied for.

**7.2 It was resolved to** grant £500 to Watton Loch Neaton Bowls Club as applied for.

**7.3 It was resolved to** accept the additional payments relating to the Platinum Picnic event as presented plus a further additional payment (as agreed at the Events meeting) towards face painting and £50 to Loch Neaton for hosting the lighting of the beacon.

### 8. FLAG POLE LOCATION

Noted that the Highway Engineer would not permit a flag pole to be located in close proximity to the highway. With this in mind **it was resolved** to investigate the possibility and cost of a portable flagpole.

## **9. ALLOTMENT FOR USE BY WATTON CADETS**

Cllr Prince will continue to liaise with the cadets regarding provision of an allotment area. The Town Council offered use of an area at the Thetford Road allotment site and will arrange for the area to be rotivated if the cadets wish to use it.

## **10. ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING POINTS**

**It was resolved** to accept that Watton will be included within the Norfolk County Council bid into the Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Fund to pay for a number of new electric vehicle charging points across the county.

## **11. PLATINUM JUBILEE LAMPOST PLAQUES**

**It was resolved** to offer a Platinum Jubilee plaque to each school in Watton, Watton Cadets, The Museum4Watton, the Charlotte Harvey Trust and the the Queens Hall with others to be raffled at the 2022 Festive Market.

## **12. PLANNING**

Noted that as a member of Breckland District Planning Committee Keith Gilbert took no part in the discussion.

12.1 3DC/2022/0138/DOC - WATTON Former Officers Mess Portal Avenue Discharge of Condition No's 12, 17 & 19 on 3PL/2019/0487/VAR

The Council will support any comments made by the Watton and Saham Toney Flood Action Group.

12.2 3PN/2022/0013/UC - WATTON 110 High Street IP25 6AH Prior approval for change of use of shop (Class E) to dwelling (Class C3) Schedule 2 Part 3 Class MA of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015

While the Town Council would normally raise objection to the loss of a commercial unit in the High Street in this instance the property is well divorced from the run of retail outlets by intervening residential properties. The Town Council does not therefore object to the proposal but does not necessarily support it. There are concerns about possible parking issues and bin storage and consequently the Town Council will ask the case officer to seek to address these issues, possibly by the imposition of appropriate conditions.

12.3 3PL/2022/0408/LU - WATTON 2 Kingfisher Way IP25 6SR - Removal of existing conservatory and replacement with single storey rear extension to form a new garden room.

No comment.

12.4 3PL/2022/0398/F- Proposed siting of 6 mobile homes on the land for occupation by members of staff for a temporary period- Land to the rear of Dorrington House, 73 Norwich Road - AMENDMENT: Elevations of mobile homes received

The Council would re-iterate objections raised at the time of the original application. The Town Council can see nothing in the amended plan that provides any new information to the original application and therefore wishes to reiterate its previous comments:

The Town Council feels this is overdevelopment of the site with a cramped layout.

There is no clarity of the size of the mobile homes and no indication as to the number of residents who may be on site or of associated vehicular movement onto the main road, nor is there any clarification as to what temporary means. If BDC is minded to grant permission it is hoped conditions can be included to restrict the number of residents and vehicles. If permission is granted it should be for a stated time with a condition that the homes should then be removed and the land re-instated.

12.5 3PL/2022/0454/HOU- Single storey front extension to allow for a porch area, store cupboard and WC - 37a Akrotiri Square- AMENDMENT: Amended plans

No comments

12.6 3DC/2022/0144/DOC - Discharge of Conditions 4,5,6,7& 8 on 3PL/2021/1529/F - 62 Dereham Road IP25 6EZ WATTON

No comments

12.7 3PL/2022/0636/HOU - Construction of garage block in rear garden for storage of private car collection - WATTON: 4 St Marys Close

The Town Council would suggest a condition be included to restrict the vehicles to those owned by the resident of the dwelling.

12.8 3DC/2022/0152/DOC - Discharge of Condition No13 on 3PL/2021/0032/F - Land North of Norwich Road WATTON

No comments

### **13. Resolution passed to Exclude the Press and Public to consider Market matters:**

13.1 **It was resolved to** accept the quote received from Sunbelt for the management of the Wednesday Market road closure. The contract to run until December 2022 with review in November.