

Minutes of the meeting of WATTON TOWN COUNCIL held on
Tuesday August 9th 2022 at 7.00pm in the Council Chamber at
Wayland Hall, Middle Street, Watton IP25 6AG

Councillors Present:, Peter Bishop – Vice-Chairman, Tobi Amadasun, Beryl Bunning, Jane Fountain, Don Saunders, Kathryn Stallard, Pat Warwick, James Wooler.

Officer present: Jane Scarrott Clerk

2 members of the public also present

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE RECEIVED

Tina Cruz, Keith Gilbert, Charlotte Greenough, Sue Hebborn, Stan Hebborn, Tina Kiddell, Keith Prince

2. NO DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST MADE

3. MINUTES

3.1 Minutes of the meeting held on July 26th 2022 were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

3.2 A report updating on items from the meeting on 26.07.22 was included within the agenda pack:

- Portable flag pole ordered.
- Zoom meeting about Officers Mess Site held with solicitor 02.08.22 (agenda item for meeting 09.08.22).
- Don Saunders informed the meeting that a date has been set for Councillors to visit the Charles Burrell Centre Community Shop on August 17th at midday.

4. REPORTS

4.1 Chairman's Report

- 27th July the Chairman attended the meeting to start planning for the 2022 Remembrance Parade
- 29th, 30th and 31st the Mayor judged the Watton in Bloom short list of front gardens. It was difficult to compare the lovely gardens but a winner was chosen who will be presented with a plaque.
- 2nd August the Chairman took part in the Zoom meeting with the Council's solicitor regarding the transfer of the Alternative Community Land at the former Officers' Mess Site to Watton Town Council.

4.2 Vice-Chairman's Report

The Vice-Chairman had been away so had nothing to report.

4.3 Clerk's Report

Refurbishment of public toilets

To date only one quote to refurbish the toilets has been received but a notice has now been published on .gov Find a Tender seeking companies interested in undertaking the work. This has already provided a few contacts including a local firm from Dereham who are to undertake a site visit 10.08.22.

The one quote received to date, for like for like refurbishment, is for just over £100,000. Noted that extra service to empty the nappy bins at the toilets has been added to the PHS contract to empty the sanitary bins.

Lamp posts

The Town Council will ask that the County Councillor Claire Bowes looks into the promised painting of the lamp posts in Watton High Street.

As District Councillor she will also be asked why Breckland District Council feels it appropriate to withhold information relating to the release of information following an Environmental Freedom of Information Request.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Request from a resident to approach the parking enforcement team regarding parking on the pavement and to check whether the Thetford Road crossing points beep when it is safe to cross.

An allotment holder was also present to provide information on item 7 of the agenda.

6. BRECKWORLD APP

Breckland District Council is re-launching the BreckWorld app and it was suggested that a meeting should be arranged with the creator of the app to discuss what can be achieved for Watton. A date will be set for a meeting with the Heritage Working Group.

7. WATER AT THETFORD ROAD ALLOTMENTS

It was resolved to accept the quote for £700 plus VAT to provide a water trough at the Thetford Road allotment site.

It was resolved that the current allotment tenancy agreements will be extended to run until September 1st 2023 to allow time to review the tenancy agreement.

Don Saunders offered to be the Lead Councillor for the allotments.

8. MEMORIAL GARDEN

It was resolved that investigation should be undertaken regarding removal of the workings of the old water fountain at Memorial Garden with a report to be brought back to the Council of costs to undertake the work, clean the feature and re-paint the plaque.

9. WAYLAND SHOW

Councillors will man the Town Council promotional stall at the Wayland Show on September 4th 2022.

10. TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT POLICY

It was resolved to accept the review of Training and Development Policy with minor amendments as presented.

11. VOLUNTEER AGREEMENT

It was resolved to accept the review of the Volunteer Agreement with minor amendment as presented.

12. PLANNING

- 12.1 3PN/2022/0021/PNE - Notification of intention to erect a single storey rear extension (conservatory) projecting from the original rear wall by 5.26m deep, with a maximum height of 3.70m and eaves height of 2.35m - 42 Pingo Road IP25 6ZB WATTON
No comments

13. Resolution passed to Exclude the Press and Public to consider legal matters:

13.1 Officers Mess Site

Solicitors report following a Zoom meeting held on 02.08.22 presented to Councillors

It was resolved to instruct the solicitor to include within the land transfer documents provisions to undertake the following works:

- Grass to be cut
- Rubbish to be removed
- Redundant lamp post to be removed
- Concrete, including steps to be broken up and removed and re-instated with top-soil and grass seed
- Land to be levelled with no steep banks or inclines