

Minutes of the meeting of Watton Town Council held on

Tuesday February 10th 2026 at 7.00pm in the Council Chamber at Wayland Hall

Councillors Present: Gillian Tarrant – Chairman, Stan Hebborn, Sue Hebborn, Keith Gilbert, Tomos Hutchings, Tina Kiddell, Graham Martin, Keith Prince, Don Saunders, Jack White

Officer present: Jane Scarrott Clerk

2 members of the public

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE RECEIVED from:

Sarah Humphries [Tina Cruz – e-mail received].

2. NO DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST MADE

Re. item 10.1 - Noted that the Council is the Sole Trustee of the Charlotte Harvey Trust and Councillors have dispensation to consider matters relating to the Trust.

3. MINUTES

3.1 The Minutes of the meeting held on January 27th 2026 were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

3.2 Update from the meeting held on January 27th not agenda items for this meeting:

- Noted that no election requests have been received to fill the third casual vacancy on the Town Council and the Council will now proceed to fill the vacancies through co-option. Interviews will be scheduled for 24.02.26.
- The suggested Community Champions Policy is being compiled by the Office.
- The next Digitalisation Working Group meeting will be held on 12.02.26 at midday. Membership of the group is still to be confirmed and all Councillors are invited to attend.

4. REPORTS

4.1 Chairman's Report

The Chairman has:

Attended the Policing Safer Neighbourhoods Team Meeting at Wayland Hall on 28th of January.

Also attending were Councillor Hutchings, and Reps from Breckland Council and Saham Toney plus 2 members of the public and 2 Police officers.

The Chairman was unable to attend the online outcome meeting and to date has not received any minutes from the meeting.

8th of February attended as Reviewing Officer the RAF Cadets 864 (Watton) Squadron 85th anniversary celebration of the formation of the ATC.

The Chairman noted that, as always, that it was an honour and a pleasure to be invited.

4.2 Vice-Chairman's Report

Following request the Vice-Chairman has received information regarding the Breckland Council controlled CCTV in the town. The e-mail will be shared with Councillors.

It was noted that Cllr Stan Hebborn and the Clerk have met with officers from Breckland Council regarding the management of CCTV in the towns car parks.

It was agreed CCTV should be an agenda item for the Full Council Meeting on March 24th once more information may have been received.

4.3 Clerks Report

Written report presented in Councillors Agenda Pack:

Thetford Road Development

Endurance Estates who are looking to develop land off Thetford Road are to hold a meeting to be held at Wayland Hall on 11.02.25 at 1.00pm. Town Councillors and the Watton & Saham Flood Action Group.

Staff training

Deputy Clerk (DC) attending ACAS Support Neurodiversity Webinar on 17.02.26.

DC and Events & Marketing Officer (EMO) attending Suicide Prevention Course on 19.02.26.

Town Clerk (TC) has attended Asset Management Webinar 21.01.26 and Locality Webinar on Community Asset Transfer on 04.02.26.

TC to attend Norfolk County Council Market Towns Conference on 19.02.26.

EMO has now registered for training to obtain the Certificate in Local Council Administration (CiLCA). Introduction is on 16.02.26.

Thetford Road Allotments

The east boundary of the Thetford Road Allotments has been cleared as planned.

Former Mayors Chain

The Former Mayors Chain of Office is now up to date with engravings ready to be displayed in the museum.

HMP Wayland

DC and EMO attended a Community Matters meeting at HMP Wayland on 04.02.26.

As part of the Hare Trail one of two large fibreglass hares will be painted by the peer led art class in the prison. It is also hoped that the carpentry department in the prison will make some wooden hares to include in the Town Hare Trail.

4.4 Lead Councillors Reports

Cllr Gilbert reported that he had attended the recent Twinning Association Committee Meeting and that the Mayor will receive an invitation to the annual Twinning Association Meal.

Cllr Kiddell reported that a date has been set for a meeting of the Market Working Group.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No matters raised.

6. DEVOLUTION AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION (LGR) –

See information on <https://www.breckland.gov.uk/LGR>

7. WEEZE

7.1 Gift for Weeze.

It was resolved that an A2 framed copy of the Watton Heritage Map will be purchased as a gift to be taken to Weeze to celebrate the 800th anniversary of the town in 2026. Councillors will all be asked to sign the map.

The Twinning Association celebrates its 40th year in 2027 and it was also **resolved** that the Council will further research the purchase of a wooden sculpture to present to Weeze to recognise the date. It was suggested a carved wooden hare and barrel could be commissioned as a joint gift from the Council and the Twinning Association.

8. OPEN SPACES LAND

It was confirmed that as previously resolved the Town Council will accept all open space land which has been recently offered by Breckland Council.

9. CEMETERY

It was resolved to accept the quotes as received from the preferred contractor for works to extend the ashes area at Watton Cemetery and to remove excess soil from the Cemetery compound.

10. PLANNING

10.1 PL/2026/0069/FMIN Installation of metal shipping container for general storage at Watton Youth & Community Centre, Harvey Street, Watton.

No comments