

COUNCIL MEETING – 7 AUGUST 2013

At the meeting of the Sprowston Town Council held at Sprowston Diamond Centre, School Lane, Sprowston on Wednesday 7 August 2013, the following Members were present:-

Mr K Lashley – Chairman

Mr J W Bracey	-	Ms M Ho
Mr W F Couzens	-	Mr R J Knowles
Mr R B Dyball	-	Mrs B J Lashley
Mrs S A A Dyball	-	Mr J H Mallen
Mr R A Fowkes	-	Mr C L Noble

Mrs M R Roberts

In attendance

Mrs J Hunt	-	Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer
Mrs E Elliot	-	Committee Officer
Mrs J Leggett	-	County Councillor Old Catton and Sprowston West
Mr J Ward	-	County Councillor Sprowston Central and South East
Mr J Menezes	-	Bidwells Partner Building Consultancy
Mr O Goodson	-	Bidwells

2 Members of the public

13/190. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY AND OTHER INTERESTS

No declarations of disclosable pecuniary and other interests were received.

13/191. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Written apologies for absence were received from Mrs A Harper, Ms C T Rumsby and Mrs H Tovell.

Members noted that Mrs A Harper would be unable to attend Council meetings for some foreseeable future due to health issues.

13/192. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Council's meeting held on 17 July 2013, having previously been circulated to all Members, were confirmed subject to the following amendment

Minute 13/177, **delete** Sheila Lack and **insert** Sheila Lock

and signed by the Chairman of the Council.

13/193. POLICE LIAISON OFFICER'S REPORT

The Chairman welcomed to the meeting PCSO Kane Casburn who elaborated on some of the incidences recorded in the crime statistics for Sprowston since the last meeting.

13/194. BARKERS LANE PLAYING FIELD

Further to Minute 13/174, the Town Clerk reported that Broadland District Council would not accept a reduction in cost for the clean-up operation at Barkers Lane Playing Field.

13/195. SPROWSTON DIAMOND CENTRE CAR PARK

Further to Minute 13/176, Members were advised that the Chairman and Town Clerk had submitted an offer of £70,000 where Norfolk County Council retains the ability to claw back 100% of the Net development value at any time within a period of 79 years. The decision of Norfolk County Council is now awaited.

13/196. CIL/BEYOND GREEN DEVELOPMENTS DISCUSSION

Referring to Minute 13/180 5.3, Members were advised that a meeting had been requested by Broadland District Council on 15 August 2013 to discuss the CIL and the Beyond Green planning application 2012/1516.

13/197. RESIDENT'S QUESTIONS

On the motion of Mrs M R Roberts, seconded by Mrs S A A Dyball it was **RESOLVED**, that the meeting be adjourned to receive residents' questions on matters concerning the town. Residents were reminded that their questions should be addressed to the Chairman who would, assisted by the Town Clerk, reply.

Mrs Howes enquired as to how many replies there had been in response to the Sprowston Neighbourhood Plan consultation, what the main concerns had been and the cost of producing the booklets and CD's.

The Town Clerk advised that the main concerns of residents were not within the scope of the Neighbourhood Plan but were related to the Joint Core Strategy, parts of which were remitted back to the pre-submission stage and future development in and around Sprowston. The cost of producing the booklets and CD's had been covered by grant aid.

Mrs Leggett reported:

- there was still time to comment on the RAF Coltishall consultation
- a formal consultation outlining particular cuts would commence 19 September 2013 as part of Norfolk County Council's need to save £182 m.
- there are more announcements about Norfolk homes and businesses having access to high speed fibre broadband
- the Youth and Support Programme (YISP) has seen a drop of nearly 50% in offending levels among those people it supports - down from 10% in 2011/12 to 5.3% in 2012/13.

Mr Ward reported

- that the results of the first Ofstead monitoring inspection of Sprowston Community High since the School was assessed as requiring improvement were disappointing with areas for improvement identified in the last inspection not being tackled. A further visit would be carried in the autumn term.
- that work will begin on Monday 19 August to resurface Roundtree Way junction with A1042 Mousehold Lane. The works on Mousehold Lane will extend from War Memorial Cottages through to the east side of the junction. Works on Roundtree Way will extend to just beyond the entrance to

13/197. RESIDENT'S QUESTIONS (CONTINUED)

Homebase. The work will be carried out overnight and should be completed on Wednesday 28 August.

Mr Tingle commented that he had attended a recent exhibition of the Northern Distributor Route (NDR), and was surprised at the number of areas proposed for development, as a result of the NDR, that had not previously been highlighted.

The meeting was reconvened.

13/198. SPROWSTON DIAMOND CENTRE RE-DEVELOPMENT PHASE 2

Jason Menezes of Bidwells gave a detailed presentation on the design and tender process for phase 2 of the re-development of Sprowston Diamond Centre. Members carefully considered three unnamed tenders and it was

RESOLVED

- (a) to accept the tender from Contractor 2 (T Gill & Son Ltd) and for Bidwells to work with the Town Clerk to facilitate the build.
- (b) to thank Jason Menezes for his comprehensive and valued work.

13/199. SPROWSTON DIAMOND CENTRE RE-DEVELOPMENT PHASE 1

Mr Menezes presented the Phase 1 final account breakdown detailing overspends and savings. Having answered a number of questions it was

RESOLVED

to accept the presentation and authorise the final account to Pentaco of £159,500, which has been brought in within the 10% contingency of £9,509.78, details attached to the minutes.

13/200. YOUTH AMBASSADORS

Having circulated a written report Mr W F Couzen's advised that following his discussions with various people, in particular the Parish Clerk at Acle, he felt this was a project driven by schools. Rachel Humber, Sprowston Community High School had expressed an interest but the School was now closed for the Summer Holidays. Mr Couzens advised that he would like to pursue this matter in the autumn term.

Mr C L Noble commented that there are various models not just schools and sited Rackheath Youth Council as an example.

Members still felt the purpose of the role needed to be decided.

13/201. NORTHERN DISTRIBUTOR CONSULTATION

As a prescribed consultee the Council considered the letter from Norfolk County Council with regard to the proposed Northern distributor Road and it was

RESOLVED that in view of the Council's previous responses to thank Norfolk County Council for this opportunity but not make any further comment at this time, except to say that the Council is looking forward to work commencing on this scheme.

13/202. REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

ALLOTMENTS PARKS AND OPEN SPACES

1.1 Sprowston Diamond Centre - School Lane Pre-School

RESOLVED

to welcome School Lane Pre-Schools endeavours to raise funds for wetpour and a soft play area and give permission for the proposed scheme as presented.

CEMETERY

2.1 No matters were reported.

STREET LIGHTING

3.1 No matters were reported.

CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION AND PERSONNEL

4.1 Resignation of Park Supervisor

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk recruit an additional supervisor, at the appropriate time, to fill the vacant post.

4.2 2013/14 Salaries

Members noted the revised 2013/14 salary scales for Council employees, following the NJC agreed 1% increase.

4.3 Sprowston Neighbourhood Plan

Members noted the successful application for £3,000 grant aid, funded by the DCLG, for supporting communities in neighbourhood planning.

PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION

5.1 No matters were reported.

13/203. MEETING ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Mr R B Dyball, seconded by Mrs S A A Dyball it was

RESOLVED to adjourn the meeting for a short break.

The meeting was reconvened.

13/204. PLANNING

The Town Clerk reported that observations had been requested by the District Council's Head of Development Management & Conservation on planning applications received since the last meeting.

Having considered each application and the accompanying plans the Council

RESOLVED

13/204. PLANNING (CONTINUED)

- (a) to raise no observations or objection to the granting of the following applications:

13/0921 - retention of 8 hoarding signs at Chartwell Road

13/0940 - installation of solar panels on garage roof - retrospective at 20, Neville Road

- (b) to authorise the Town Clerk to address Broadland District Council's Planning Committee on 14 August 2013 with regard to the Council's objection to planning applications 2013/0696 - reserved matters application for the erection

of 140 residential units pursuant to the outline planning permission 2008/0367 and 2013/0699 - reserved matters application for the erection of 139 residential units pursuant to the outline planning permission 2008/0367 at Blue Boar Lane on the grounds that:

- there is no provision of changing facilities in the amenity areas
- the street scene is not indicative of Sprowston
- the withdrawal of the community building renders the planning application void
- the infrastructure should be in place prior to dwellings being built
- there is insufficient mix of house types
- there is a lack of sufficient parking adjacent to housing
- permeable hard surfacing should be included
- public transport should be available as dwellings become occupied
- social effects due to high density
- a Doctors Surgery should be incorporated
- there should be an adequate site size for a School
- the bus route should incorporate Salhouse Road and serve the Greenborough Road area
- there should be a cycle lane to the Park and Ride site
- all aspects of drainage should be considered
- there should be traffic management at the lights on the junction of Salhouse Road and Blue Boar Lane
- there is a lack of footways on Blue Boar Lane
- the properties should include rain water reuse

13/205. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

The Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer presented the schedule of accounts to 7 August 2013 totalling £95,442.55 and answered Members' questions arising therefrom.

On the motion of Mr R J Knowles, seconded by Mr J H Mallen it was

RESOLVED that payment of the accounts to 7 August 2013 totalling £95,442.55 be approved and the schedule authorising payment signed by Ms M Ho and Mr R J Knowles.

13/206. SCHEDULE OF CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS

The schedule of credit card payments totalling £111.17 was approved and noted.

13/207. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL'S WORKING GROUPS

No written reports were received.

13/208. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Written reports were received from Mr W F Couzens, District Councillor and Mr J Ward, County Councillor.

Mr W F Couzens also confirmed that the next meeting of the Sprowston, Spixworth and Old Catton Safer Neighbourhood Team would be held 10 September 2013 in Spixworth.

13/209. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS REPRESENTING THE COUNCIL ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS

No written reports were received.

13/210. QUESTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDER NO. 8

No questions under Standing Order 8 were received.

There being no other necessary business the Chairman of the Council thanked Members for their attendance and declared the meeting closed.

28 August 2013

CHAIRMAN