

COUNCIL MEETING – 8 JANUARY 2014

At the meeting of the Sprowston Town Council held at Sprowston Diamond Centre, School Lane, Sprowston on Wednesday 8 January 2014, the following Members were present:-

Mr K Lashley – Chairman

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

In attendance

Mrs J Hunt	-	Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer
Mrs M Cook	-	Senior Financial Officer and Assistant Clerk
Mrs E Elliot	-	Committee Officer
Mrs J Leggett	-	County Councillor Old Catton and Sprowston West

44 Members of the public

14/001. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY AND OTHER INTERESTS

Member	Minute No & Heading	Nature of Interest
Mr R A Fowkes	14/008 4.1 - Broadland District Council Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places	Non-pecuniary interest trustee and Hon. Treasurer of 44 th Norwich (1 st Old Catton) Scout Group

14/002. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Written apologies for absence were received from Mrs A Harper.

14/003. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Council's meeting held on 11 December 2014, having previously been circulated to all Members, were confirmed and signed by the Chairman of the Council.

14/004. POLICE LIAISON OFFICER'S REPORT

The Chairman welcomed to the meeting, PC Keith Lambert who elaborated on some of the incidences recorded in the crime statistics for Sprowston since the last meeting.

14/005. RESIDENT'S QUESTIONS

On the motion of Mrs M R Roberts, seconded by Mr R J Knowles 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.

14/005. RESIDENT'S QUESTIONS (CONTINUED)

Mr London expressed concern with regard to grass verges being destroyed by parents collecting children from local schools, commenting that parents were not only parking on the verges but on both sides of the road causing traffic congestion.

The Town Clerk advised that there is no regulation to stop people parking on the verges unless waiting restrictions are present or where parking is causing an obstruction.

Mr London commented that in other areas signage had been erected to prevent parking on verges and would like to see this in Sprowston.

Mr Durrant expressed his sadness and anger that the Beehive Public House, another community facility, would be closed for good as he felt sure it would be turned into a Co-op. He remarked that whilst the community right to bid was a well-meaning document he felt that it should include a requirement for the owners of such premises as the Beehive Public House to inform the Council that they are at risk to give the community and the Council more time to act.

Mr Durrant was of the opinion, in view of the level of community support, that there was still an option to explore turning the building into a community centre. He felt that a co-op, at this site, would cause many problems which would have a detrimental effect on the community such as increased parking at school times, undercutting prices of local businesses, expansion every time a local business failed, large delivery lorries, noise levels, outside lighting, social impact and longer opening hours.

Mr Durrant's unfinished speech was circulated to Members.

Mr Pare asked the Council to help him save his small business advising that he had recently spent £40,000 on his shop and should the Beehive Public House be turned into a Co-op it would put him out of business. Mr Pare stated that trading was already difficult with Aldi opening on the Sprowston Road and many other large supermarkets nearby.

Mr Walker said he was angry and disappointed that the Co-op was considering putting a large shop in a residential area. He did not want to see it in the middle of the community, stating that it would undermine property values, have an adverse effect on nearby businesses and blight the landscape. He commented that Sprowston already had a number of businesses which served the community well.

Mr London commented that should the proposal go ahead it was likely to have noisy air conditioning units humming all night and powerful lights, which will destroy the nature of the area. He was also annoyed that there had been no notification of a change of use. He would like the Council to look at infrastructure as he did not feel that local roads could cope with large delivery lorries.

Mr Moncur, Newsagent Proprietor Cannerby Lane advised that he would be out of business within six months should the Beehive Public House be turned into a Co-op.

Mr Fincham expressed concern as additional traffic would be hazardous particularly in an area frequented by lots of children as it was close to local schools.

Mrs Leggett reported:

- slip road orders for the Postwick Hub had been approved
- the date for the next Safer Neighbourhood Action Panel was 14 January 2014

14/005. RESIDENT'S QUESTIONS (CONTINUED)

- that an on-line survey was being carried out to gain people's views on Catton Park
- traffic lights at the junction of North Walsham Road and Barkers Lane will be replaced and work scheduled to commence 3 February lasting 3 - 5 weeks
- 15,500 comments had been received from approximately 4,400 people and organisations during Norfolk County Council's 12-week consultation on proposed budget savings over the next three years

Mr R A Fowkes welcomed the move away from White Woman Lane School as a polling station commenting that it had been a concern for residents.

The meeting was reconvened.

14/006. DRAFT REVENUE AND CAPITAL EXPENDITURE PROGRAMME FOR 2014/15

Following a lengthy discussion it was

RESOLVED

- (a) to allocate £260,000 in the 2014/15 budget, funded by a 50 year Public Works Loan, to commence development of the cemetery.
- (b) to remove £20,000 from the draft budget allocated to a feasibility study of Sprowston Pavilion.
- (c) to allocate monies in the 2014/15 budget for Phase 3 of Sprowston Diamond Centre.

14/007. PRECEPT

RESOLVED to set the precept for 2014/15 at the next meeting of the Council.

14/008. REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

ALLOTMENTS, PARKS AND OPEN SPACES

1.1 Norfolk Homes Site Blue Boar Lane

Having considered the report of the Town Clerk it was

RESOLVED

- (a) to adopt Phase 3 open space at the Norfolk Homes Site Blue Boar Lane giving a commuted sum of £1,687.32.
- (b) not to adopt the water culvert.

CEMETERY

2.1 No matters were reported

STREET LIGHTING

3.1 No matters were reported

CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION AND PERSONNEL

14/008. REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK (CONTINUED)

4.1 Broadland District Council Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places

Members felt that the Cricket Pavilion on Bakers Lane would be the most suitable venue for the West Ward polling station as it is situated within the parish of Sprowston, within walking distance for residents and did not have access difficulties associated with Lavare Park. The area around the Cricket Pavilion is popular with walkers from both Old Catton and Sprowston who could be encouraged to vote whilst out. Bakers Lane is en route to shopping facilities and residential homes and it would be beneficial for residents to vote on their way to/from work or shopping.

RESOLVED that the preferred location for the West Ward polling station is the Cricket Pavilion on Bakers Lane

4.2 Consultation by Police and Crime Commissioner for Norfolk - 2014/15 Precept (Council Tax) proposal

Members noted the meeting taking place on Thursday 9 January 2014 at the Council Chamber Norfolk County Council to discuss the policing budget 2014/15.

4.3 Paving Stone in Honour of WW1 Hero

Members noted that Broadland District Council would be receiving a memorial paving stone in honour of First World War Victoria Cross recipient Harry Cator buried at Sprowston Cemetery, to be placed outside his Drayton birth place.

The Town Clerk advised that she had asked for a copy of the integrated electronic reader, which can be scanned for further information about the individual, to be placed at the visitors centre, Sprowston Cemetery

PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION

5.1 No matters were reported

ENCLOSURES

6. Norfolk Association of Local Councils December 2013 Issue 193

14/009. MEETING ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Mr K Lashley, seconded by Mr R B Dyball it was

RESOLVED to adjourn the meeting for a short break.

The meeting was reconvened.

14/010. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER 1Y

On the motion of Mrs H Tovell, seconded by Mrs S A A Dyball it was **RESOLVED** to suspend Standing Order 1Y to complete the business of the evening.

14/011. 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.

14/011. PLANNING (CONTINUED)

Having considered each application and the accompanying plans the Council

RESOLVED

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

2013/1713 - external alterations including removal of shop front windows & canopy to new entrance revised floor plans to approved doctors surgery and raise height of flat roof to side and rear at 84, Blenheim Road.

2013/1714 - erection of office building at U C P Plc Zeller Plastik, Salhouse Road

2013/1754 - two storey side extension at 84, Wroxham Road

2013/1784 - single storey side extension at 30, Cromwell Road

2013/1796 - alterations and extension to side with new roof over, new detached garage at 206, Salhouse Road

(b) to raise no objection to the granting of planning application 2013/1787 - application for approval of details reserved by conditions 3 (siting, design and external appearance of 89 No. dwellings and road layout) and 6 (landscaping details) of planning permission 920758 as amended by condition 2 of planning permission 000898 and by planning permission 20111884 at Phase 5, Blue Boar Lane and welcome the level of parking spaces provided across this Phase of development and refreshing change of design rationale.

14/012. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

The Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer presented the schedule of accounts to 8 January 2014 totalling £33,423.16 and answered Members' questions arising therefrom.

On the motion of Mrs H Tovell, seconded by Mr R B Dyball it was

RESOLVED that payment of the accounts to 8 January 2014 totalling £33,423.16 be approved and the schedule authorising payment signed by Ms M Ho and Mr J H Mallen.

14/013. SCHEDULE OF CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS

The schedule of credit card payments totalling £189.37 was approved and noted.

14/014. SCHEDULE OF MEETING DATES MUNICIPAL YEAR 2014/15

RESOLVED to accept the proposed schedule of Council meetings dates for the Municipal year 2014/15.

14/015. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL'S WORKING GROUPS

No written reports were received.

14/016. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

A written report was received from Mr W F Couzens, District Councillor and Mr J Ward and Mrs J Leggett, County Councillors.

14/017. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS REPRESENTING THE COUNCIL ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS

No written reports were received.

14/018. 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.

29 January 2014

CHAIRMAN