

COUNCIL MEETING – 29 JANUARY 2014

At the meeting of the Sprowston Town Council held at Sprowston Diamond Centre, School Lane, Sprowston on Wednesday 29 January 2014, the following Members were present:-

Mr K Lashley – Chairman

Mr J W Bracey	-	Mr R J Knowles
Mr W F Couzens	-	Mrs B J Lashley
Mr R B Dyball	-	Mr J H Mallen
Mrs S A A Dyball	-	Mr C L Noble
Mr R A Fowkes	-	Mrs M R Roberts
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
Mr J Ward	-	County Councillor Sprowston Central and South East

6 Members of the public

14/019. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY AND OTHER INTERESTS

Member	Minute No & Heading	Nature of Interest
Mr R J Knowles	Planning - Minute 14/031	District Councillor serving on the Planning Committee
Mr J W Bracey	Planning - Minute 14/031	District Councillor serving on the Planning Committee

14/020. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

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

14/021. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Council's meeting held on 8 January 2014, having previously been circulated to all Members, were confirmed subject to the following amendments

Insert Mr R J Knowles in Members present

Insert Mr N Shaw in attendance

Minute 14/003, delete 2014 and insert 2013

Minute 14/029, insert new paragraph Mr R J Knowles left the meeting on conclusion of this item

14/021. MINUTES (CONTINUED)

and signed by the Chairman of the Council.

14/022. POLICE LIAISON OFFICER'S REPORT

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

Concern was expressed with regard to the intent of some cold callers on upon residences.

PC Lambert thanked the Town Clerk for unlocking Sprowston Recreation Ground out of hours to facilitate the Air Ambulance attending an emergency call.

14/023. CPRE NORFOLK ALLIANCE

Having considered the letter from CPRE Norfolk Alliance and in view of the Council's support of the Norwich Northern Distributor Road it was

RESOLVED not to support this request.

14/024. RESIGNATION OF GROUNDSMAN

The Town Clerk reported the resignation of Lee Kittle who had given one month's notice prior to taking up a position on a farm.

14/025. RESIDENT'S QUESTIONS

On the motion of Mrs S A A Dyball, 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.

In view of concerns previously expressed with regard to cold callers Mr Wright commented, that in his experience, some were very genuine and fulfilled an important role.

Mr Ward reported the start of the "Great Local Shop of the Year Competition" in which Norwich North Constituents can nominate and vote online for their favourite retailer. The competition will run from February 1 to April 30 2014 and whoever receives the most votes will become north Norwich's Great Local Shop of the Year and will receive a brand new website for their business. By voting in the competition, residents will be taking the opportunity to say "thank you" to a local retailer and stand a chance of winning an iPad.

Mrs Leggett reported

- (i) Norfolk County Council has taken responsibility for social care for adults with mental health issues
- (ii) Norfolk Library and Information Service are launching a new book collection to help and support people in the county looking for employment. The collection of books aims to support people with job seeking, and during times of unemployment and change. The collection of books includes titles on writing CVs, interview skills, job searching and confidence building.

14/025. RESIDENT'S QUESTIONS (CONTINUED)

- (iii) Church Street, Old Catton to close 17 - 19 February 2014
- (iv) Norwich Bus Station to close between 8pm and 6am Monday 3 and Tuesday 4 February 2014 for annual maintenance.
- (v) advance notice of Proctor Road subsidence to be treated.
- (vi) a delay in the introduction of changes to post 16 transport

Mr Walker advised that he had recently witnessed two incidences involving high school pupils, parked cars and oncoming traffic. He commented that parking was causing massive disruption around schools with access to properties blocked and perpetrators abusive and threatening. He appreciated there was no immediate solution but felt everyone had a responsibility to help educate these parents

The Chairman responded that this was a problem experienced by all schools despite the Police visiting at the start of each new term, providing cones to prevent parking, carrying out regular patrols and recently involved in a poster campaign.

The meeting was reconvened.

14/026. REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING PLACES

Further to Minute 14/008 4.1, the Town Clerk reported that following the review of polling districts and polling places Broadland District Council had decided to cease use of Falcon Middle and White Woman Lane Schools and designate Gage Road Chapel, Gage Road and the Cricket Pavilion, Barkers Lane.

14/027. SPROWSTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Further to Minute 13/237 4.5, the Town Clerk reported that the Sprowston Neighbourhood Plan referendum would take place Thursday 20 March 2014 between 7:00am to 10.00pm

14/028. DRAFT REVENUE AND CAPITAL EXPENDITURE PROGRAMME FOR 2014/15

Having considered the draft budget, and following a lengthy discussion it was

RESOLVED

1. to reduce the budget provision for
 - (a) staff by £10,000 by employing a fulltime groundsman on a temporary summer contract to fill the vacant post
 - (b) election expenses by £2,000
 - (c) new machinery by £5,000
 - (d) machinery renewal fund by £2,000.
 - (e) play equipment by £2,000
 - (f) office equipment by £200
 - (g) rabbit fencing by £2,000

14/028. DRAFT REVENUE AND CAPITAL EXPENDITURE PROGRAMME FOR 2014/15
(CONTINUED)

(h) paths, seats and signs by £3,000

(i) refurbishment of cemetery building by £10,000

2. to take £16,250 from reserves

3. to thank all staff involved in preparing the budget

14/029. PRECEPT

RESOLVED that a precept of £532,969, be levied on Broadland District Council to meet the Council's funding requirement for 2014/15. The precept request includes a Government grant in respect of Council Tax benefit claimants.

14/030. MEETING ADJOURNMENT

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

RESOLVED to adjourn the meeting for a short break.

The meeting was reconvened.

14/031. 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

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

2014/0082 - change of use from cart sheds to farm shop/café to replace the existing farm shop at White House Farm, Salhouse Road

(b) to oppose the granting of planning application 2014/0087 sub-division of residential curtilage and erection of 2 No. detached dwellings and garages at 53A, Cromwell Road on the grounds that it was an over development of the site, unneighbourly, there was insufficient amenity space particularly plot 2 and access would be via a sharp, narrow bend where there was considerable on street parking and reduced visibility.

14/032. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

The Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer presented the schedule of accounts to 29 January 2014 totalling £11,226.10 and answered Members' questions arising therefrom.

On the motion of Mr R J Knowles, seconded by Mr W F Couzens it was

RESOLVED that payment of the accounts to 29 January 2014 totalling £11,226.10 be approved and the schedule authorising payment signed by Ms M Ho and Mrs B J Lashley.

14/033. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL'S WORKING GROUPS

No written reports were received.

14/034. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

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

14/035. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS REPRESENTING THE COUNCIL ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS

A written report was circulated at the meeting from Mrs B J Lashley with regard to the Department of Transport reviewing the guidelines for airport consultative committees and consulting on their proposals. It was agreed that Councillors should make their comments to Mrs B J Lashley by Monday 10 February 2014 for her to compile a response on behalf of the Council.

Mrs B J Lashley reported that the Norfolk Association of Local Councils would be holding a Café Cluster event on Tuesday 18 February 2014 at Coltishall.

14/036. 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.

19 February 2014

CHAIRMAN