

COUNCIL MEETING – 22 APRIL 2015

At the meeting of the Sprowston Town Council held at Sprowston Diamond Centre, School Lane, Sprowston on Wednesday 22 April 2015, the following Members were present:-

Mr K Lashley – Chairman

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
Ms M Ho	-	Mrs M R Roberts

Mrs H Tovell

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

4 Members of the public

15/087. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY AND OTHER INTERESTS

No declarations of disclosable pecuniary and other interests were received.

15/088. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Written apologies for absence were accepted by the Council from Mrs A Harper and verbal apologies from Mr J W Bracey and Ms C T Rumsby.

15/089. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Council's meeting held on 1 April 2015, having previously been circulated to all Members were confirmed and signed by the Chairman of the Council

15/090. POLICE LIAISON OFFICER'S REPORT

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

The Town Clerk reported that vandalism had occurred at Sprowston Diamond Centre during the weekend.

15/091. VACANCY FOR GROUNDSPERSON

Referring to Minute 14/075 4.3, the Town Clerk requested permission from the Council to appoint Mr Richard Reynolds to the post of seasonal groundsman. Council recalled that this position was an annual appointment identified in the Council's grounds staff budget for 2015/16.

15/091. VACANCY FOR GROUNDSPERSON (CONTINUED)

On the motion of Mr R J Knowles, seconded by Mrs S A A Dyball it was **RESOLVED** to authorise the Town Clerk to appoint Mr Richard Reynolds to the post of seasonal groundsman commencing 1 May 2015, for a period of 6 months.

15/092. CARETAKER / CLEANER

Further to Minute 15/067, the Town Clerk reported that Mr M Durrant had been appointed to the 37 hour post of Caretaker/Cleaner commencing 20 April 2015 and Mr A Colk had increased his hours from 17 and been appointed to the 22 hour post of Caretaker/Cleaner. Mrs Carolyn Wright and Mr Mark Phillippo had signed a settlement agreement and their employment with the Council would terminate on 30 April 2015.

15/093. 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.

The County Councillor representing Sprowston Central and South East reported:

- Norfolk County Council's road surface dressing programme for 2015 started 15 April 2015. The process involves laying a thin layer of bitumen and chippings on to the road stopping water penetration and reducing the numbers of potholes caused by frost. This year's planned programme is worth £9.2 million.
- the first phase of the solar farm at Scottow Enterprise Park is now up and running and generating 32 megawatts of energy which is enough to power 10,000 homes.
- a scheme that last year saw 7,000 children and their parents taught road safety from the comfort of their own homes is set to return this year. Funded by money from the Safety Cameras, DVD packs will be available through the post for parents to use with their children, details at <http://www.childrenstrafficclub.com>.
- Paolo and Ben, Norfolk's Fire and Rescue dogs had a busy year attending 19 incidents since last July. A new recruit, Jackson, a one year old black Labrador has started his formal training as a Fire Investigation dog.

The County Councillor representing Old Catton and Sprowston West reported:

- Norfolk's strategy to support school improvement is to be celebrated this week at a special event in Norwich. Norfolk to Good and Great has supported more than 200 schools since it was launched in 2013. The improvements mean that 18,629 more children in the county now attend a school that has been judged by Ofsted to be good or better. A new version Norfolk Better and Best starts in September 2015.
- Postwick Park & Ride will be closed during all weekend A47 closures at the eastern end of the Norwich Sothorn Bypass.
- a new contract, to commence September 2015, will facilitate the toilets at the Park and Ride sites being re-opened.

15/093. RESIDENT'S QUESTIONS (CONTINUED)

- a new exhibition looking at eight centuries of political wheeling and dealing in Norfolk opened in April. The Norfolk Records Office has teamed up with the Houses of Parliament's Parliamentary Archives to put on the exhibition, Ballots and Bills: Exploring Norfolk's Parliamentary Past.

The meeting was reconvened.

15/094. REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

COMMUNITY BUILDINGS, ALLOTMENTS, PARKS AND OPEN SPACES

1.1 No matters were reported

CEMETERY

2.1 No matters were reported

STREET LIGHTING

3.1 No matters were reported

CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION AND PERSONNEL

4.1 No matters were reported

PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION

5.1 Phase 4, Blue Boar Lane, Public Open Space Provision

Having considered the developers proposal to provide a fenced /surfaced ball games area adjacent to the already approved play area on Phase 4, Blue Boar Lane Members

RESOLVED to welcome the proposal but wanted to enter into discussion to clarify in detail what was being suggested and to make further recommendations to the scheme.

5.2 50/50 Parish Partnership Scheme / Norfolk County Council - temporary speed awareness messaging

RESOLVED to note the report of the Town Clerk and take no further action at this point in time.

15/095. MEETING ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Mrs M R Roberts, seconded by Mrs S A A Dyball it was

RESOLVED to adjourn the meeting for a short break.

The meeting was reconvened.

15/096. 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 objection to the following applications:

2015/0432 - replacement illuminated and non-illuminated building mounted and free-standing signs at Roundtree Way

2015/0469 - single storey and first floor rear extensions at 20, Windsor Park Gardens

2015/0456 - erection of timber fence at 40, Russell Avenue

(b) to oppose the granting of planning application 2015/0474 - extension and new pitched roof to rear conservatory, formation of basement below garden and hip to gable on north elevation at 7, Rushmore Road on the grounds that is an over development of the site, unneighbourly and concerns with regard to surface drainage.

15/097. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

The Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer presented the schedule of accounts to 22 April 2015 totalling £85,897.24 and answered Members' questions arising therefrom.

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

RESOLVED that payment of the accounts to 22 April 2015 totalling £85,897.24 be approved and the schedule authorising payment signed by Ms M Ho and Mr R J Knowles.

15/098. SCHEDULE OF CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS

The schedule of credit card payments totalling £197.56 was approved and noted.

15/099. SCHEDULE OF DIRECT DEBITS

The schedule of direct debit payments totalling £230.40 was approved and noted

15/100. SCHEDULE OF LOANS

The schedule of loans was approved and noted.

15/101. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL'S WORKING GROUPS

No written reports were received.

15/102. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

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

15/103. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS REPRESENTING THE COUNCIL ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS

No written reports were received.

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

20 May 2015

CHAIRMAN