

COUNCIL MEETING – 6 APRIL 2016

At the meeting of the Sprowston Town Council held at Sprowston Diamond Centre, School Lane, Sprowston on Wednesday 6 April 2016, the following Members were present:-

Mr I Moncur – Chairman

Mr J W Bracey	-	Mr T Landamore
Mr W F Couzens	-	Mrs J Leggett
Mr R A Fowkes	-	Mr J H Mallen
Mrs B J Lashley	-	Mrs J Poynter
Mr K Lashley	-	Mr J M Ward

In attendance

Mrs J Hunt	-	Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer
Mrs E Elliot	-	Committee Officer

2 members of the public were present

16/074. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY AND OTHER INTERESTS

No declarations of disclosable pecuniary and other interests were received.

16/075. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Written apologies for absence were received and accepted by the Council from Mr R J Knowles, Ms G Landamore, Mr N Shaw and verbal apologies from Mr C L Noble.

16/076. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Council's meeting held on 16 March 2016, having previously been circulated to all Members were, subject to the following amendment

Minute 16/059 **delete** Mr J Pointer and **insert** Mrs J Poynter

confirmed and signed by the Chairman of the Council.

16/078. 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.

PCSO Casburn reported that there had been a substantial reduction in calls regarding anti-social behaviour this month. He also advised that Smiley Sid, a speed and traffic monitoring system, was available in the area and invited Members to recommend roads where future monitoring should take place. Parana and Gage Road and Falcon Road West were suggested.

16/079. NORWICH NORTHERN DISTRIBUTOR ROUTE (NDR)

Referring to Minute 16/062 (b), of Mrs J Leggett's report, Mr W F Couzens asked if there had been any decision regarding the covering of 30mph signage on arterial roads when no work was being carried out on the Norwich Northern Distributor Route.

16/079. NORWICH NORTHERN DISTRIBUTOR ROUTE (NDR) (CONTINUED)

Mrs Leggett advised that there was no progress on this issue at the moment but she would continue to pursue.

16/080. ALLOCATION OF PLACES IN FUTURE ACADEMIES

Referring to Minute 16/062, Mr Couzens asked if Mrs Leggett had any further information regarding who would be responsible for ensuring sufficient availability of places and their allocation when Schools became Academies.

Mrs Leggett confirmed that Local Authorities were responsible for ensuring every child had a school place and that a White Paper had been issued by the National Government Association, however there were still a lot of unknowns.

16/081. POSTWICK HUB

Further to Minute 16/062, regarding concerns about advertising hoardings obscuring road directions and general concerns about the Postwick Hub, Mrs Leggett advised that she was looking into how these issues should be reported.

16/082. LOCAL COUNCIL AWARD SCHEME

The Town Clerk reported that having entered the Local Council Award Scheme on 23 September 2015 she was pleased to announce that Sprowston Town Council was the first Council in Norfolk to be awarded Quality Gold, a great achievement for all Councillors and staff.

16/083. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

A written report was received from Mr J M Ward.

Mr Ward also verbally reported:

- (a) £9.7m road dressing programme started in April. This involves a thin layer of bitumen with chippings on top. Work will start in the east and work across the County.
- (b) last month the winter gritting lorries came out 12 times compared to 5 the previous year but overall it has been a mild winter and there is a £350K underspend.
- (c) from 1 April to 30 September 2016 all recycling centres, except Mile Cross, will open 9am - 5.00pm and from 1 April 2016 the price of disposing of tyres rises to £4.00 per tyre.
- (d) that the Time and Tide Museum at Great Yarmouth had launched a new exhibition " Halfway to Paradise" a series of fine photographs from the Rock and Roll era on loan from the Victoria and Albert together with some local memorabilia.

Mrs J Leggett reported:

- (a) the meeting of the Safer Neighbourhood Action Panel would be held on 20 April 2016 at The Pavilion, Old Catton
- (b) that Norfolk County Council had launched a new user friendly website but as testing had not yet been completed some of the links did not work.

16/084. RESIDENT'S QUESTIONS

On the motion of Mr K Lashley, seconded by Mr W F Couzens 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.

No questions were received and the meeting was reconvened.

16/085. REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

COMMUNITY BUILDINGS, ALLOTMENTS, PARKS AND OPEN SPACES

1.1 Millennium Woodland

Having considered the report of the Town Clerk it was

RESOLVED to purchase 500 Hazel whips per annum for the next three years, to be planted in the undeveloped area of the cemetery extension to coppice and chip and create a sustainable surfacing material for the Council's woodland pathways.

CEMETERY

2.1 Cemetery Development Services

Members noted the claim of infringement of copyright from Cemetery Development Services and it was

RESOLVED to support the Town Clerk's actions to accept a quotation from Birketts Solicitors to represent the Council at an initial cost of £500.

STREET LIGHTING

3.1 No matters were reported.

CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION AND PERSONNEL

4.1 Grant Aid - East Anglia's Children's Hospices (EACH)

Mrs B J Lashley proposed, seconded by Mrs J Leggett that a grant of £100 be made to East Anglia's Children's Hospice. On being put to the vote the motion was **CARRIED**.

Grant Aid - Sprowston Wanderers Football Club

Mrs B J Lashley proposed, seconded by Mr R A Fowkes a grant of £100 be made to Sprowston Wanderers. On being put to the vote the motion was **LOST**.

4.2 Norfolk Association of Local Councils Annual Subscription 2016/17

RESOLVED to accept the annual subscription demand of £1,215.54 to continue membership with the Norfolk Association of Local Councils.

4.3 School Lane Pre-School

Members were pleased to note that School Lane Pre-School had received a £6,000 grant from the Geoffrey Watling Fund and would soon receive a

16/085. REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK (CONTINUED)

£,3,000 grant from Broadland District Council to assist with the nursery extension.

PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION

5.1 Broadland District Council - Reg.165 Publication of Old Catton Neighbourhood Plan decision

Members noted the proposed Old Catton Neighbourhood Plan and as it did not impinge on Sprowston's boundaries made no comment.

6.1 ENCLOSURES

Sprowston Senior Citizens Club Newsletter Issue 4 Spring 2016.

16/086. MEETING ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Mr K Lashley, seconded by Mr W F Couzens it was **RESOLVED** to move this agenda item and adjourn the meeting for a short break.

The meeting was reconvened.

16/087. SPROWSTON DIAMOND CENTRE PHASE 3

Members carefully considered a report from the Town Clerk and Finance Working Group and M K Lashley gave a detailed explanation of the financial plan.

Following a lengthy discussion Mrs B J Lashley proposed, seconded by Mr J Ward to:

- (a) instruct the Town Clerk to seek the Secretary of States approval for the proposed borrowing of a £1.5m, 50 year annuity loan from the Public Loans Board
- (b) await the decision of the Greater Norwich Growth Board
- (c) instruct Bidwells to proceed with the development of Sprowston Diamond Centre in accordance with the agreed plan submitted to Council at their previous meeting.

On being put to the vote the motion was **CARRIED**.

16/088. PLANNING

The Town Clerk reported that observations had been requested by the District Council's Head of Planning on 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:

2016/0373 - first floor side extension & conversion of garage at 129, Wilks Farm Drive

2016/0391 - erection of mezzanine floor at Sprowston Retail Park, Salhouse Road

2016/0392 - external alterations to facilitate sub-division of the unit at Unit 3, Sprowton Retail Park. Salhouse Road

16/088. PLANNING (CONTINUED)

2016/0408 - single storey rear extension at 102, Windsor Park Gardens
2016/0435 - single storey rear extension at 3, Thornham Close
Y/5/2016/5005 - provision of a permanent stand-a-lone 2no. classbase building and removal of two existing modular buildings. External works include new hard play area and associated works at Sparhawk Infant and Nursery School, Sparhawk Avenue
2016/0457 - application for variation of condition 2 of planning permission at land Adj. 19, Church Lane

- (b) were not opposed to planning application 2016/0517 - erection of 11, No. lighting columns at Woodland Place, Pinetrees Road subject to the lights adjacent to the woodlands be fitted with cowls.

16/089. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER 1Y

On the motion of Mr K Lashley, seconded by Mr I Moncur it was **RESOLVED** to suspend Standing Order 1Y to complete the business of the evening.

16/090. PLANNING CHANGES CONSULTATION

Members noted the Planning Changes Consultation and Mrs B J Lashley urged Members who were also District Councillors to include Parish and Town Councils when discussing policies.

16/091. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL'S COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS

No written reports were received.

16/092. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS REPRESENTING THE COUNCIL ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS

No written reports were received.

16/093. STAFF SALARIES

The schedule of staff salaries was noted.

16/094. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

The Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer presented the schedule and supplementary schedule of accounts to 6 April 2016 totalling £69,597.59 and £4,672.75 and answered Members' questions arising therefrom.

On the motion of Mr J H Mallen, seconded by Mr T Landamore it was

RESOLVED that payment of the accounts to 6 April 2016 totalling £69,597.59 and £4,672.75 be approved and the schedules authorising payment signed by Mr J H Mallen and Mrs B J Lashley.

16/095. SCHEDULE OF CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS

The schedule of credit card and supplementary credit card payments totalling £9.55 and £30.14 was approved and noted.

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

27 April 2016

CHAIRMAN