

COUNCIL MEETING – 16 MARCH 2016

At the meeting of the Sprowston Town Council held at Sprowston Diamond Centre, School Lane, Sprowston on Wednesday 16 March 2016, the following Members were present:-

Mr I Moncur – Chairman

Mr W F Couzens	-	Mr K Lashley
Mr R A Fowkes	-	Mrs J Leggett
Ms G A Landamore	-	Mrs J Poynter
Mrs B J Lashley	-	Mr N Shaw

In attendance

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

3 members of the public were present

16/054. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY AND OTHER INTERESTS

No declarations of disclosable pecuniary and other interests were received.

16/055. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Written apologies for absence were received and accepted by the Council from Mr R J Knowles, Mr J H Mallen, Mr C L Noble, Mr J M Ward, and verbal apologies from Mr J W Bracey and Mr T Landamore.

16/056. APPOINTMENT-VICE CHAIRMAN

On the motion of Mr I Moncur, seconded by Mr N Shaw it was

RESOLVED that Mr K Lashley be elected Vice-Chairman of the Council for the remaining of the municipal year.

16/057. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Council's meeting held on 24 February 2016, having previously been circulated to all Members were, subject to the following amendment

Minute 16/041 **delete** Kasburn and **insert** Casburn

confirmed and signed by the Chairman of the Council.

16/058. 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.

16/059. BIDWELLS

Mr Jason Menzes gave a presentation on a revised design for the proposed development at Sprowston Diamond Centre at a budgeted cost of £1,443,541.00 including professional and planning fees.

16/059. BIDWELLS (CONTINUED)

Parking spaces were discussed and Mr Menzes advised that once marked out there would be more than adequate provision to service the centre including disabled and drop off.

Mrs B J Lashley asked if there was scope to improve access to a kitchen from the main hall and if the external rear sports hall wall could include more detailing.

Mr J Poynter suggested a disabled drop off point in the car park.

It was **RESOLVED** that

- (a) Councillors consider the revised plans and bring forward their suggestions at the next meeting of the Council.
- (b) the Finance Working Group meet prior to the next Council meeting to explore funding of the revised proposal.

16/060. SPARHAWK PARK DEED OF EASEMENT

RESOLVED to accept the quotation from Birketts LLP Norwich to act on behalf of the Town Council with regard to the Sparhawk Park Deed of Easement at a cost of £800 plus VAT plus disbursements and that the Town Council accept the onus of repairs.

16/061. SPROWSTON WANDERERS

Members were pleased to note the comments made by Sprowston Wanderers F.C. in their recent correspondence with regards to the improved facilities at Sprowston Pavilion.

16/062. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

A written report was received from Mr J M Ward.

Mr N Shaw verbally reported

- (a) that he had met with the Transport Minister to discuss regional airports particularly the problem with helicopter noise at Norwich airport, commenting that the number of helicopter flights had trebled since training facilities had moved from Gloucester.
- (b) the DFT, despite being previously advised, were unaware of noise issues at Norwich Airport, but now having been informed in the presence of the Transport Minister hopefully there will be some representation from them in the future.
- (c) that EU regulations were changing to allow greater noise levels, this would be more applicable to fixed wing aircraft.

Mrs Leggett verbally reported:

- (a) that 6,000 trees were being removed as a result of the implementation of the Northern Distributor Route but 30,000 were being planted.
- (b) Norfolk County Council was to look at the possibility of covering the 30mph signage on arterial roads where no work was being carried out on the NDR.

16/062. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS (CONTINUED)

- (c) that the Highway Agency have announced improvements to the A47 to commence in 2020 including Blofield to North Burlingham duelling, North Tuddenham to Easton duelling, Wansford to Sutton duelling and the Thickthorn junction.
- (d) that Devolution proposals were not completely clear but she would try answer any questions from Members.
- (e) concerns regarding reductions in the budget for school crossing patrols and the Children's Services Committee looking at re-focussing the Youth Advisory Board

Mrs B J Lashley commented on the poor state of the road surface at the Postwick junction and a large hoarding advertising a music event placed in such a manner that it obscured some of the road directions.

Mrs Leggett advised that Contractors had accepted there was a problem with the materials used on the surfacing at the Postwick Hub and would be replacing it at no cost to Norfolk County Council. She also agreed to investigate the location of the hoarding.

In view of a recent Government announcement that all Schools in England would become Academies by 2020 Mr K Lashley asked who would be responsible for ensuring sufficient availability of places and their allocation, particularly for children with special needs and excluded students.

In response Mrs Leggett said she would endeavour to find out.

16/063. RESIDENT'S QUESTIONS

On the motion of Mr K Lashley, seconded by Mr I Moncur 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.

Lauren Mallett of Wroxham Road asked as a home owner did she have any rights to have vehicular access to her property as her driveway was visually impeded on a regular basis by a large taxi which was parked in such a manner to cause difficulty getting in and out of her driveway in a safe manner.

She had contacted the Police who had spoken to the driver of the vehicle but with little response as the Police had no powers to resolve this issue.

The Town Clerk advised that the Council responsible for issuing Hackney Carriage Licences had a duty of care and requested Mrs Mallett to send details of the licence plate so that she could contact the relevant authority, to investigate any redress.

The meeting was reconvened.

16/064. SPROWSTON HUB

Mrs B J Lashley proposed, seconded by Mrs J Leggett that the Council formally apply to Broadland District Council for the Sprowston Hub to be added to the Asset Register for Sprowston.

16/065. MEETING ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting was reconvened.

16/066. REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

COMMUNITY BUILDINGS, ALLOTMENTS, PARKS AND OPEN SPACES

1.1 Legionella L8 Testing and associated works

Having considered the report of the Town Clerk and responses from the Council's insurers Zurich Insurance PLC and Elcons Employment Law Consultancy it was

RESOLVED to continue the current contract with Taurus Monitoring but request the Town Clerk to obtain quotations from other companies for legionella testing for comparison.

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 Appeal against Broadland District Council decision

Members noted the appeal under reference APP/K2610/D/16/3144953 made to the Secretary of State against the decision of Broadland District Council to refuse permission for 3 x non-illuminated signs at 1-1A, Caston Industrial Estate, Salhouse Road, Sprowston, NR7 9AQ for Gorgeous Medi Spa.

5.2 Norwich Northern District Local Forum

Members noted the invitation to the Norwich Northern District Local Forum to be held on Thursday 17 March 2016 commencing 6.00pm at County Hall, Martineau Lane.

5.3 Norfolk County Council Highway Projects Team - Sprowston Phase 1

An email with attached press release from Norfolk County Council's Highway's projects team advising of Phase 1 drainage improvements was noted.

16/067. 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.

16/067. PLANNING (CONTINUED)

Having considered each application and the accompanying plans the Council

RESOLVED

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

2016/0266 - demolition of existing rear extension & garage, existing main roof raised in height and new extension to rear & associated works at 24, Breck Road.

2016/0283 - variation of condition 2 of planning permission 20151583 - alterations to building façade & associated walkways/entrance extension & sub-division of units 7 & 8 construction of mezzanine floor in units 7A & 7B additional mezzanine floor in unit 8

2016/0329 - loft conversion including construction of south-west facing dorma; erection of single storey rear extension; erection of single storey side extension and alteration of flat roof over existing detached garage to pitched roof at 48, Linacre Close

16/068. SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

On the motion of Mr I Moncur, seconded by Mr K Lashley it was **RESOLVED** to accept the proposed schedule of meeting dates for the municipal year 2016/17.

16/069. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL'S WORKING GROUPS

No written reports were received.

16/070. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS REPRESENTING THE COUNCIL ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS

No written reports were received.

16/071. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

The Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer presented the schedule of accounts to 16 March 2016 totalling £27,495.57 and answered Members' questions arising therefrom.

On the motion of Mr K Lashley, seconded by Mr N Shaw it was

RESOLVED that payment of the accounts to 16 March 2016 totalling £27,495.57 be approved and the schedule authorising payment signed by Mr R A Fowkes and Mrs B J Lashley.

16/072. SCHEDULE OF CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS

The schedule of credit card payments totalling £372.92 was approved and noted.

16/073. SCHEDULE OF DIRECT DEBITS

The schedule of direct debit payments totalling £6,044.42 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.

6 April 2016

CHAIRMAN