

COUNCIL MEETING – 29 JUNE 2016

At the meeting of the Sprowston Town Council held at Sprowston Diamond Centre, School Lane, Sprowston on Wednesday 29 June 2016, the following Members were present:-

Mr K Lashley – Chairman

Mr J W Bracey	-	Mr J H Mallen
Mr W F Couzens	-	Mr C L Noble
Mr R A Fowkes	-	Mrs J Poynter
Mrs B J Lashley	-	Mr N Shaw
Mrs J Leggett	-	Mr J M Ward

In attendance

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

No members of the public were present

16/167. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY AND OTHER INTERESTS

No declarations of disclosable pecuniary and other interests were received.

16/168. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Verbal apologies for absence were received and accepted by the Council from Mr R J Knowles, Ms G Landamore and Mr T Landamore and Mr I Moncur.

16/169. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Council meeting held on 8 June 2016, having previously been circulated to all Members were, subject to the following amendments

Minute 2016/157 delete (N. D. Willan) and insert N. D. Willan

confirmed and signed by the Chairman of the Council.

16/170. POLICE LIAISON OFFICER'S REPORT

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

16/171. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

A written report was received from Mr J M Ward.

Mr Ward also reported that:

- (1) Members of Norfolk County Council voted on 27 June 2016, 34 votes to 28, to begin a public consultation on a devolution deal for Norfolk and Suffolk.
- (2) Broadland District Council also voted on the devolution deal at their meeting on 28 June 2016 and it was passed by a large majority.

16/171. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS (CONTINUED)

- (3) Blenheim Road will close except for access from its junction with Blenheim Crescent to Blenheim Close from 21 July 2016 to 30 September 2016 for drainage works.
- (4) Norfolk County Council is taking part in a National Highways and Transport Survey. 33,000 Norfolk residents will receive a questionnaire over the next few weeks and the results will be published in October 2016.
- (5) Learning Services, which were recently rated as "Good" by Ofsted, have set out plans to improve to "Outstanding" by July 2018.
- (6) the self-service access pilot at Acle Library has been a success. Early morning self-service access to the Millennium Library started a month ago and early indications are very encouraging.
- (7) that during recent storms and flooding Norfolk and Hertfordshire fire crews had supported each other as the storm moved across the counties. The voluntary sector was praised for the invaluable assistance on the night of the storm.

Recruitment of sufficient numbers of retained firefighters remained a challenge and any help in advertising these vacancies would be appreciated.

A number of questions were raised with regard to devolution and Members were advised that the life time of the deal was 30 years, the Mayors salary was expected to be in the region of £58k but there were no details regarding support staff. However, a leaflet was to be distributed giving more information.

Mrs B J Lashley asked if Broadland District Council had determined where the profits from the sale Carrow Breck development would be allocated.

Mr J Ward advised that profits were to be allocated to the General Fund.

Having asked if there was any affordable housing in the Carrow Breck development, Mr W F Couzens was advised that there was not.

Mrs J Leggett reported:

- (1) that the Children's Services Committee were considering setting up a separate company to provide services to schools.
- (2) that there was confusion as to whether it was mandatory for Local authorities to accommodate unaccompanied asylum-seeking children.
- (3) on the outcomes of the recent consultation on the development of a new youth support model for Norfolk.
- (4) that the next meeting of the Safer Neighbourhood Team was to be held on 6 July 2016 at Sprowston Diamond Centre and agendas were available.
- (5) on her attendance at the Beeston Park Programme Board which had focussed on development in Old Catton.

Mr R A Fowkes asked how Norfolk County Council would fund a private organisation.

16/171. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS (CONTINUED)

Mrs Leggett advised that the company had a good business plan and would run on a similar basis to current practice.

Mr N Shaw reported that Norfolk County Council was taking IT security very seriously following the hacking of a number of high profile sites in the public sector.

16/172. RESIDENT'S QUESTIONS

As there were no residents present the Chairman moved to the next item of business.

16/173. REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

1.1 Allotments

Members considered the report of the Town Clerk regarding short term use of land at St. Mary and St. Margaret's for the benefit of the community. It was felt that the land was unsuitable for allotments given the time required to bring it into a state of cultivation, lack of accessible water and overhanging mature trees.

RESOLVED to suggest that the Parochial Church Council land at Church Lane be developed into a quiet area of public open space with no dogs or ball games and maintained by the Council at an agreed price.

1.2 Allotments Rodent Control

RESOLVED to change contractors and accept a quotation from CGM Group for allotment rodent control at the Council's Church Lane allotments.

1.3 Council Property at the Recreation Ground

Members carefully considered the report of the Town Clerk and it was

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk be authorised to

- (i) engage Birketts LLP to prepare a suitable lease
- (ii) offer the new lease to CfBT
- (iii) discuss arrangements with CfBT for the provision of a disabled toilet within the existing girls toilets.

1.4 Fire Detection in the Workshop Building

RESOLVED to accept the quotation from Flameskill for the provision of fire detection and emergency lighting to the workshop building at a cost of £1700 plus VAT.

CEMETERY

2.1 No Matters were reported

STREET LIGHTING

3.1 No matters were reported

CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION

16/173. REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK (CONTINUED)

4.1 Grant Aid

4.1.1 Magpas Helimedix

RESOLVED not to make a donation to Magpas Helimedix on this occasion.

4.1.2 Norfolk Citizens Advice Bureau

RESOLVED that a donation of £100 be made to Norfolk Citizens Advice Bureau.

4.2 Personnel

RESOLVED to authorise the Town Clerk to fill the vacancy of full-time Groundsperson.

4.3 Norfolk ALC Area Meeting

Members noted the Norfolk ALC Area Meeting to be held at Broadland District Council offices on Thursday 14 July 2016, 6.30pm - 8.45pm.

PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION

5.1 Norwich City Council - Consultation on revised draft Statement of Community Involvement

Members noted the Norwich City Council - Consultation on revised draft Statement of Community Involvement.

5.2 Greater Norwich Local - Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

Members noted the Greater Norwich Local - Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

ENCLOSURES

- 6.1**
- (i) Sprowston Senior Citizens Club Newsletter Summer 2016 Issue 5
 - (ii) Sprowston Matters Issue 45 Summer 2016
 - (iii) Norfolk ALC Area Meeting notification - newsletter 21 June 2016

16/174. MEETING ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Mr R A Fowkes, seconded by Mr W F Couzens it was **RESOLVED** to adjourn the meeting for a short break.

The meeting was reconvened.

16/175. 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:

16/175. PLANNING (CONTINUED)

2016/1010 - erection of single storey orangery to rear of 21, Thornham Road

2016/1018 - proposed development of up to 425 dwellings and open space - screening option at land south of Salhouse Road

2016/1054 - change of use from guest house to residential dwelling at 32, Wroxham Road

2016/1077 - side and rear first floor extension at 26, School Lane

- (b) to oppose the granting of planning application 2016/ 1058 - variation of Conditions of Outline Planning Permission 20121516 (The Development of Land North of Sprowston and Old Catton to Provide Up To 3,520 Dwellings; Up to 16,800 Square Metres of Employment Space; Up To 8,800 Square Metres of Space of Shops, Services, Cafes, Restaurants and Drinking Establishments; Up to 1,000 Square Metres of Hotel Accommodation; Two Primary Schools; Up to 2,000 Square Metres of Community Space Including a Health Centre, Library and Community Halls; An Energy Centre; Cycle and Vehicle Parking for Residents, Visitors and Staff; Landscaping and Public Open Space for Amenity, Recreation and Food-Growing; Ecological Mitigation and Enhancement; Utilities and Sustainable Urban Drainage Infrastructure; And Pedestrian, Cycle and Vehicular Accesses) at land to the north of Sprowston and Old Catton between Wroxham Road and St Faiths Road and make an interim response as follows, and request additional time to consider the plan in detail:

2,000 square metres seems insufficient for a community space which will include a Health Centre, Library and Community Halls.

Doctors in Old Catton have no spare capacity for additional patients and already have a waiting list. The application states that Coltishall has capacity and suggests this is 1.8 miles from the site, which of course it is not.

Public transport, via bus, does not commence until the occupation of 50 houses and only runs until 6.00pm. This does not encourage residents to use public transport. There should also be a more holistic approach to connect public services i.e. there is not a bus service in the area that goes to the train station.

The variation in conditions are contrary to all the promises made to create a Town centre with businesses and local jobs for the new community first, and now prioritises on housing on the periphery of the development with little infrastructure or amenities.

16/176. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL'S COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS

No written reports were received.

16/177. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS REPRESENTING THE COUNCIL ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS

No written reports were received.

16/178. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

The Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer presented the schedule of accounts to 29 June 2016 totalling £29,494.65 and answered Members' questions arising therefrom.

On the motion of Mr N Shaw, seconded by Mr W F Couzens it was

RESOLVED that payment of the accounts to 29 June 2016 totalling £29,494.65 be approved and the schedule authorising payment signed by Mr R A Fowkes and Mrs B J Lashley.

The Town Clerk tabled a report on Barclay s Bank PLC charges which will be applied to the Town Council's bank accounts with effect from 13 August 2016.

Having carefully considered the report and recommendation to reduce the number of accounts held it was

RESOLVED to authorise the Town Clerk to discuss her recommended changes with the Council's Auditors and implement as appropriate.

16/179. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER 1Y

On the motion of Mr W F Couzens, seconded by Mr N Shaw it was **RESOLVED** to suspend Standing Order 1Y to complete the business of the evening.

16/180. SCHEDULE OF CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS

The schedule of credit card payments totalling £246.42 was approved and noted.

16/181. SCHEDULE OF DIRECT DEBITS

The schedule of direct debit payments totalling £3,464.58 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.

20 July 2016

CHAIRMAN