

COUNCIL MEETING – 12 OCTOBER 2016

At the meeting of the Sprowston Town Council held at Sprowston Diamond Centre, School Lane, Sprowston on Wednesday 12 October 2016, the following Members were present:-

Mr I Moncur – Chairman

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

In attendance

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

1 member of the public was present

16/238. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY AND OTHER INTERESTS

No declarations of disclosable pecuniary and other interests were received.

16/239. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Verbal apologies for absence were received and accepted by the Council from Mr R J Knowles, Ms G A Landamore and Mrs J Poynter.

16/240. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Council meeting held on 21 September 2016, having previously been circulated to all Members were subject to the following amendment

Minutes 2016/231 (b), after (revised proposal) **insert** at 5, Russell Avenue

confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

16/241. POLICE LIAISON OFFICER'S REPORT

Members noted the instances recorded in the crime statistics for Sprowston since the last meeting.

16/242. PHASE 4 BLUE BOAR LANE SKATE PARK PROPOSAL

Referring to Minute 16/229 1.1, Mr R A Fowkes stated his concerns with regard to adoption of land and provision of a skate park at phase 4 Blue Boar Lane by the Council. Following a site visit he noted there was no vehicular access to the open space and suggested the formation of a working group to look at potential issues relating to this area and skate park.

The Chairman advised Mr Fowkes that a resolution had already been made by Council to adopt the land and pursue the provision of a skate park.

16/243. CCTV

Further to Minute 16/226, the Town Clerk presented 6 quotations for the provision of CCTV at Sprowston Recreation Ground and following debate

Mr J M Ward proposed, seconded by Mr I Moncur to accept the quotation from Vincent Security.

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

Mr T Landamore proposed, seconded by Mrs B J Lashley to engage a consultant from Bidwells to prepare a specification for tender

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

Mr I Moncur proposed, seconded by Mr N Shaw to accept the quotation from Broadland Security Alarms at a cost of £1,928.29 plus VAT and associated maintenance agreement at a cost of £95.00 plus VAT per annum.

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

16/244. COMMUNITY ASSET REGISTER

Further to Minute 16/233, the Town Clerk reported that Sprowston Sports and Social Club was already listed on the Community Asset Register held by Broadland District Council.

16/245. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

A written report was received from Mr J M Ward.

Mr Ward also verbally reported that:

- (1) Blithewood Gardens would be closed for 50m from the junction with Blithemeadow Drive between 21 and 25 October 2016 for drainage works.
- (2) contractors hope to be clear from the green at Foxburrow Road by the end of October, the green will then be levelled and reseeded.
- (3) all roads that have been dug up for drainage works will be surfaced dressed in the spring
- (4) the Local Authority Governor vacancy at Sparhawk Park Infant and Nursery had been filled by Samantha England.

A written report was received from Mrs J Leggett

Mrs Leggett also verbally reported that:

- (1) the next Safer Neighbourhood Team Action Panel meeting was to be held on 26 October 2016 at Spixworth Village Hall.

Mr C L Noble asked if the Working Group, referred to in an article on the Norwich Western Link Project in Mrs Leggett's report, was a properly constituted group and expressed concern that there were already doubts in completing the NDR in the North West quadrant before the scheme was complete.

16/245. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS (CONTINUED)

Mrs Leggett advised that the group was properly constituted and that public expectation was for the NDR to join the Southern Bypass. This was now being looked at more seriously.

Mr N Shaw verbally reported that:

- (1) he had attended a Strategic Aviation Special Interest Group (SASIG) meeting where night flying and noise was discussed. It appeared that the Government had put noise on the back shelf which might mean that night flying restrictions could be relaxed.
- (2) he had attended a Norfolk County Council meeting where devolution was discussed.

16/246. RESIDENT'S QUESTIONS

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

16/247. REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

COMMUNITY BUILDINGS, ALLOTMENTS, PARKS AND OPEN SPACES

1.1 Broadland District Council Heritage Rangers

Members noted that Broadland District Council was advertising for Heritage Rangers in the same way as Tree Wardens. Mrs B J Lashley expressed an interest in progressing this further.

In view of the recent death of Mr J W Bracey, the Council's Tree Warden, it was agreed to advertise the position of Tree Warden.

1.2 Sprowston Diamond Centre Boiler

Members noted the actions of the Town Clerk and Bidwells report to procure a heating system from Stimpson Heating to replace the existing unit identified at Sprowston Diamond Centre which was beyond repair.

RESOLVED to authorise the Town Clerk to engage a consultant from Ingletonwood to survey all Council properties with regard to utilities and testing.

CEMETERY

2.1 No Matters were reported

STREET LIGHTING

3.1 No matters were reported

CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION

4.1 Precept Consultation

16/247. REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK (CONTINUED)

Mr K Lashley commented that he did not feel that Government Ministers fully understood the precept. It was difficult to know how to assess a band D

property as the District Council did not advise Town and Parish Councils of the base housing figures prior to January of each year. Furthermore, local councils do not receive Council Tax Support funding from the District Council which is possibly why there has been an increase in precept.

The Town Clerk advised of a significant cost that could arise from referendums which in certain circumstance could be triggered by changes outside of the Council's control such as increases in business rates or national insurance.

Mrs B J Lashley proposed, seconded by Mr C L Noble that the Council support the Society of Local Councils in their response and add the above comments.

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

4.2 Christmas Holidays

Having considered the report of the Town Clerk it was

RESOLVED

that the Council office and grounds maintenance close at the end of the day on Friday 23 December 2016 returning to work on Wednesday 28 December 2016 and close New Year's Day, Sunday 1 January 2017 and bank holiday Monday, 2 January 2017 returning on Tuesday 3 January 2017.

The parks, to close Christmas Day (Sunday 25 December 2016), Boxing Day (Monday 26 December 2016) and New Year's Day (1 January 2017).

4.3 Grant Aid - Royal British Legion

RESOLVED that a donation of £300 be made to the Royal British Legion.

4.4 Personnel

RESOLVED to authorise the Town Clerk to appoint Mr Radoslaw Jakubczyk to the post of Caretaker/Cleaner 37 hours commencing 18 October 2016 on spinal column point 16.

PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION

5.1 Mind Out For Each Other

Members noted Norfolk County Council's campaign urging drivers and cyclists to look out for each other.

5.2 Hornsea Project Three Information Leaflet

Members noted that Danish Company DONG was considering running cables to connect the Hornsea Project Three scheme to the Nation Grid through parts of North Norfolk.

16/247. REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK (CONTINUED)

ENCLOSURES

6.1.1 Norfolk County Council press release "Road users reminded to look out for each other in safety campaign"

6.1.2 Broadland YAB September 2016 newsletter

6.1.3 October Newsletter Mrs Judy Leggett, NCC Member and Town Councillor

16/248. MEETING ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Mr T Landamore, seconded by Mr J M Ward it was **RESOLVED** to adjourn the meeting for a short break.

The meeting was reconvened.

16/249. 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

to raise no objection to the following applications:

2016/1442 - single storey rear extension at 107, St Mary's Grove

Y/5/2016/5017 - construction of a log cabin to accommodate a multi-use classroom at White Woman Lane Junior School, White Woman Lane

2016/1660 - single storey rear extension at 52, Russell Avenue

16/250. APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO SERVE ON THE THE SENIOR CITIZENS WELFARE COMMITTEE

RESOLVED to appoint Mr W F Couzens to serve on the Senior Citizens Welfare Committee.

16/251. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL'S COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS

No written reports were received.

16/252. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS REPRESENTING THE COUNCIL ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS

Mr I Moncur reported on his attendance at the Youth Advisory Board Meeting (YAB) commenting that two representatives from Rackheath Parish Council had spoken about youth engagement and how their Youth Council had run the village festival with guidance from the council. There was also a representative from the YMCA who advised the meeting that the cost of running a youth club was approximately £5,000 per annum.

Mr C L Noble stated that he had been in favour of a Youth Council for many years and felt this was the way forward.

16/252. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS REPRESENTING THE COUNCIL ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS (CONTINUED)

Mrs J Leggett commented that there were other less formal methods of engaging with the youth and suggested building on what was already in place.

Mr T Landamore felt that this was a subject which should be pursued in the future as other projects came forward.

Mr I Moncur reported on his attendance at the Beeston Park meeting advising that the main changes to the planning application was the re-phasing of the original proposal.

16/253. CAPITAL PROJECTS

The following capital projects were suggested for inclusion in the 2017/18 budget:

- (i) Play Equipment at Wilks Farm Drive - £53k
- (ii) BMX Track at Harrisons Woodland - £50k
- (iii) Trim Track - £20k
- (iv) Groundsmens Toilet at Sprowston Recreation Ground - £8k
- (v) Resurfacing of footpath at Windsor Park Gardens Play Area - 11k
- (vi) A shelter on Sprowston Recreation Ground - £3k

16/254. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

The Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer presented the schedule of accounts to 12 October 2016 totalling £46,079.82 and answered Members' questions arising therefrom.

On the motion of Mr K Lashley, seconded by Mr J M Ward it was

RESOLVED that payment of the accounts to 12 October 2016 totalling £46,079.82 be approved and the schedule authorising payment signed by Mrs B J Lashley and Mr J H Mallen.

16/255. SCHEDULE OF CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS

The schedule of credit card payments totalling £137.05 was approved and noted.

16/256. SCHEDULE OF DIRECT DEBITS

The schedule and supplementary schedule of direct debit payments totalling £2,784.08 was approved and noted.

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

2 November 2016

CHAIRMAN