

At the meeting of the Sprowston Town Council held at Sprowston Diamond Centre, School Lane, Sprowston on Wednesday 21 September 2016, the following Members were present:-

Mr I Moncur – Chairman

Mr W F Couzens	-	Mr K Lashley
Mr R A Fowkes	-	Mrs J Poynter
Mr R J Knowles	-	Mrs J Leggett
Mrs B J Lashley	-	Mr N Shaw
Mr J M Ward		

In attendance

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

41 members of the public were present

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**16/219. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY AND OTHER INTERESTS**

No declarations of disclosable pecuniary and other interests were received.

**16/220. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Written apologies for absence were received and accepted by the Council from Mr J H Mallen and Mr C L Noble and verbal apologies from Mr T Landamore.

**16/221. MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Council meeting held on 31 August 2016, having previously been circulated to all Members were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

**16/222. 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, which were previously circulated.

PCSO Casburn also reported that Norfolk Constabulary were implementing a more proactive approach to inappropriate parking outside schools. Letters would be sent to drivers causing an obstruction, a second letter if necessary and finally a traffic offence order to persistent offenders.

**16/223. MR J W BRACEY**

Mr K Lashley paid tribute to Mr J W Bracey who was a Member of the Town Council and had previously served on the District Council. He commented on Mr Bracey's hard work to improve the lives of older people in Sprowston and on him being an active member of Broadlands Older Peoples Partnership and a trustee of Sprowston Senior Citizens Club.

Mr J M Ward read out an extract from his contribution to the service of celebration to be held at Norwich Cathedral in honour of Mr Bracey.

**16/224. ELECTION**

The Town Clerk reported that an election had been called for the casual vacancy in Sprowston South East Ward, which would be held in November.

**16/225. STAFFING**

The Town Clerk reported Mr M Durrant's absence from work since 22 August 2016 due to ill health, which was likely to be long term. She also advised that she was having difficulty filling the part time posts and requested the Council to authorise the creation of a third full-time, 37 hour, position.

On the motion of Mr I Moncur, seconded by Mrs B J Lashley it was

**RESOLVED** that a third full time, 37 hour, Caretaker/Cleaner post be created.

**16/226. CCTV**

The Town Clerk reported that she had contacted Thorpe St. Andrew Town Council for information on their CCTV arrangements, as requested, and been advised that their existing system had undergone an upgrade.

She then referred Councillors to a quotation from the Alarm Company, an existing contractor to the Council, at a cost of £2,120.40.

A number of issues were raised including insufficient cameras particularly if the vehicle store was to be surveyed, the monitor could be reduced in size to lower costs and there was no indication of fees for the electrical work that would be required as part of the installation.

**RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk discuss a revised plan with the Alarm Company to include the vehicle storage area and full coverage of the Pavilion and to obtain two additional quotations including electrical installation fees.

**16/227. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

A written report was received from Mr J M Ward.

Mr Ward also verbally reported that:

- (1) drainage work is to take place at Blithemeadow Drive from the junction with Plantation Drive for 260 metres and the road will be closed 6 - 20 October 2016 and Colindeep Lane from Edwards Road to Allens Lane from 26 September 2016 and will be closed for 5 weeks.
- (2) the £178.95m Norwich Northern Distributor Road is on schedule for completion Christmas 2017, which is 3 months ahead of the original projection. There is extensive work being undertaken to protect the environment and wildlife including great crested newts and bats along the entire route.

A significant 4000 year old Bronze Age settlement has been found on the route at Horsford and some artefacts were on display including pottery and a flint arrowhead.

Some remains of a USAF Merlin aircraft have also been found and the history of that aircraft has been researched.



## **16/227. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS (CONTINUED)**

- (3) Norfolk County Council has been awarded £609,773 from the European Regional Development Fund on behalf of the new Anglia L.E.P Board to support the development initiative Start East: Building Cultural Economy to support new cultural business development.

A written report was received from Mrs J Leggett

Mrs Leggett also verbally reported that:

- (1) Reach 2 has been awarded the contract for the provision of the free school at Blue Boar Lane.

Mr N Shaw verbally reported that

- (1) he had visited Norwich Airport's engine testing facility commenting that residents would benefit from the noise reduction this facility will provide.
- (2) following his attendance at a SASIG meeting there was a rumour that the Government was to relax noise control which could result in a reduction in night flying restrictions. He was attending a further meeting in October and intended to raise this issue.

## **16/228. RESIDENT'S QUESTIONS**

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

Mr Greiller spoke on behalf of the residents of Manor Reach citing reasons why the location at Blue Boar Lane was unsuitable for a skate park including:

- no on-site facilities
- lack of off road parking
- access
- anti-social behaviour
- close proximity to residential properties
- noise
- safety of users, being adjacent to a busy road
- security
- need, as there was already several established parks within a four mile radius

Claire Lincoln from Sprowston Youth Engagement Project (SYEP) spoke in support of the skate park stating that 387 Sprowston youth had signed an online petition in favour of a skate park. Ms Lincoln introduced two other members of SYEP who also spoke in support of a skate park in this location.

Mrs Harper referred to the suggestion in the resident's presentation slides that the BMX track on the Recreation Ground was abandoned and could be used as a regeneration opportunity. She commented that as a neighbour to the Recreation Ground she could assure residents that the BMX track was popular with both children and parents and used daily.

## **16/228. RESIDENT'S QUESTIONS (CONTINUED)**

PCSO Kane Casburn stated that any project attracting a gathering of people had the potential for anti-social behaviour and that the more activities available to young people created fewer problems generally.

The meeting was reconvened.

## **16/229. REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK**

### **COMMUNITY BUILDINGS, ALLOTMENTS, PARKS AND OPEN SPACES**

#### **1.1 Phase 4 Blue Boar Lane Skate Park Proposal**

Members carefully considered the report of the Town Clerk and there was mixed opinion on the provision of a skate park at Phase 4 Blue Boar Lane and following a lengthy debate it was

**RESOLVED** to continue with the Unilateral Undertaking legal agreement dated 28 October 2015 to provide a skate park at phase 4 Blue Boar Lane to the value (design and build) of up to £100,000 with Norfolk Homes and continue discussions towards the adoption of this land.

### **CEMETERY**

#### **2.1 No Matters were reported**

### **STREET LIGHTING**

#### **3.1 No matters were reported**

### **CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION**

#### **4.1 No matters were reported**

### **PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION**

#### **5.1 Campaign to Protect Rural England**

Members noted the letters from the Campaign to Protect Rural England on Norfolk Greater Norwich Local Plan, Norfolk and Suffolk Devolution Consultation and New Housing Targets.

### **ENCLOSURES**

- 6.1.1** Suffolk and Norfolk Association of Local Councils response to the Consultation on Devolution for the two counties
- 6.1.2** Broadland District Council Parish Pages September 2016 - Issue 69
- 6.1.3** Letter of condolence on the death of Cllr John Bracey from Chloe Smith
- 6.1.4** Letter from Gavin Barwell MP Minister for Housing and Planning, DCLG
- 6.1.5** Cornerstone Planning Limited - Letter re: Phase 4 Blue Boar Lane Skate Park proposal
- 6.1.6** Sprowston Senior Citizens Club Newsletter
- 6.1.7** Youth Engagement Networking event poster
- 6.1.8** 2017/18 Local Government Finance Settlement Consultation
- 6.1.9** Racecourse Plantations Public Exhibition Dates



#### **16/230. MEETING ADJOURNMENT**

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

The meeting was reconvened.

#### **16/231. 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 oppose the granting of planning application 2016/1465 - single storey side and rear extension at 29, Rosemary Road on the grounds that it is an unneighbourly form of development and being a three storey building is in contradiction to the Sprowston Neighbourhood Plan.
- (b) to oppose the granting of planning application 2016/1478 - rear extension and rooms in the roof with front porch (revised proposal) on the grounds that the first floor rear balcony is an unneighbourly form of development
- (c) to oppose the granting of planning application 2016/1501 - proposed residential development consisting of 2 semi-detached houses with associated garaging at 52, Blackwell Avenue on the grounds that it is undesirable back land development, cramped with a lack of amenity space.

#### **16/232. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL'S COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS**

Members considered the recommendation to take a £1.5m loan from the public works loan board on an annuity basis over 20 years and to consider the precept in line with the loan charges and it was

**RESOLVED** to

- (a) take a £1.5m loan from the public works loan board on an annuity basis over 20 years
- (b) consider the precept in line with loan charges
- (c) authorise the Town Clerk to obtain the best interest percentage rate available given the current fluctuating rates.

#### **16/233. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER 3W**

On the motion of Mr K Lashley, seconded by Mr W F Couzens it was **RESOLVED** to suspend Standing Order 3W to complete the business of the evening.

#### **16/234. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS REPRESENTING THE COUNCIL ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS**

Mr K Lashley requested that an item be placed on the agenda at the next Council meeting to discuss if the Sprowston Sports and Social Club should be added to the Community Asset Register held by Broadland District Council.

No written reports were received.



**16/235. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

The Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer presented the schedule of accounts to 21 September 2016 totalling £30,037.03 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 21 September 2016 totalling £30,037.03 be approved and the schedule authorising payment signed by Mr R A Fowkes and Mrs B J Lashley.

**16/236. SCHEDULE OF CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS**

The schedule of credit card payments totalling £553.89 was approved and noted.

**16/237. SCHEDULE OF DIRECT DEBITS**

The schedule and supplementary schedule of direct debit payments totalling £3,331.55 was approved and noted.

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

**12 October 2016**

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**CHAIRMAN**