

COUNCIL MEETING – 22 FEBRUARY 2017

At the meeting of the Sprowston Town Council held at Sprowston Diamond Centre, School Lane, Sprowston on Wednesday 22 February 2017, the following Members were present:-

Mr I Moncur – Chairman

Mr W F Couzens	-	Mr T Landamore
Mrs S L England	-	Mrs B J Lashley
Mr R A Fowkes	-	Mr K Lashley
Mr R J Knowles	-	Mrs J Leggett
Ms G Landamore	-	Mr J H Mallen

Mr J M Ward

In attendance

Mrs J Hunt	-	Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer
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17/036. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY AND OTHER INTERESTS

No declarations of disclosable pecuniary and other interests were received.

17/037. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Verbal apologies for absence were received and accepted by the Council from Mr C L Noble and Mr N Shaw.

17/038. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Council meeting held on 1 February 2017, having previously been circulated to all Members were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

17/039. CORRESPONDENCE

The Chairman would place an item on the agenda of the meeting to be held on 15 March 2017 to discuss the Full Council meetings commencing at 7pm instead of 7.30pm as advertised.

17/040. PERSONNEL

Further to Minute 16/225, it was **RESOLVED** to authorise the Town Clerk to appoint Mr Kurt Massen to the post of Caretaker / Cleaner 37 hours commencing on 9 February 2017 on NJC Scales spinal column point 16.

17/041. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

A written report was received from Mr J M Ward.

Mr Ward also verbally reported that:

- (1) at the County Council budget meeting on Monday 20 February, a 4.8% increase in Council Tax was agreed, this equates to a £57 increased on Band D property. 3% of this increase, £25m is earmarked for adult social care.
- (2) Norfolk County Council no longer adopts new street lighting and Broadland District Council will vote at full council on 23 February on whether to take on that responsibility or pass it down to the parish.

17/041. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS (CONTINUED)

Mrs J Leggett verbally reported that:

- (1) she had spoken on Radio Norfolk last week about an extra £11m for the Broadland (BBfN) initiative; details can be found on www.betterbroadbandnorfolk.co.uk and via information sheets updated every three months; £11m of new funding in the BBfN programme has allowed us to further extend the reach of the programme. This had been made possible by the five Norfolk District Councils, Central Government and a rebate from British Telecom for this money. In addition, around £10m of underspend from the first contract will be re-invested into this phase of the broadband roll-out and as a result it is expected high-speed broadband will be available to more than 95% of Norfolk homes and businesses by Spring 2020. To put this in context, in December 2012 only 42% of Norfolk's premises could get high-speed broadband and currently 87% can buy a high-speed broadband service. BBfN continues to reach more remote parts of Norfolk which poses more difficulties to BT's engineers, where there are fewer premises in the radius of the new cabinets. There is a need for users to request higher speed from ISP providers.
- (2) work begins on 6 March 2017 on the Felbrigg roundabout at a cost of £600,000 brought about by partners pooling funds.

17/042. REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

COMMUNITY BUILDINGS, ALLOTMENTS, PARKS AND OPEN SPACES

1.1 Building Services Report Recreation ground and Sparhawk Park

The Council considered the report of Ingleton Wood together with the circulated email setting out costs to produce outline tender documentation; tender management fee and inspection of contractors' works.

RESOLVED: to instruct the Town Clerk to accept the quotation at a cost of £3,262.50 plus Vat and act accordingly within the recommendations of the report from Ingleton Wood.

CEMETERY

2.1 No matters were reported

STREET LIGHTING

3.1 No matters were reported

CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION AND PERSONNEL

4.1 Norfolk Constabulary Report

An email from PC Nick Roberts was circulated to Members regarding Police Crime Statistics. Discussion took place to explore the possibilities of the new reporting newsletter containing crime statistics and the best way to keep Councillors informed of the reported incidences in the area. It was confirmed to the Council that domestic incidences reported are analysed to aid police practices but the Council did not feel these were separated enough to be informative within the analysis presented in the newsletter. There was a concern that Sprowston and Old Catton statistics were being shown together

17/042. REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK (CONTINUED)

and violent crime previously reported on last month's statistics did not show within the newsletter figures.

PC Nick Roberts expanded upon the role of the Engagement Officer and the role of MASH (Norfolk Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub) whose contribution was invaluable in assisting police activities.

The Council's agenda would continue to reflect Police reporting.

4.2 DCK Beavers Ltd Accounting Solutions VAT Report

Members discussed the content of the report submitted by DCK Beavers Ltd Accounting Solutions confirming the VAT applied to the Council's services, and in particular the VAT to be refunded as part of the development of Sprowston Diamond Centre.

RESOLVED: to instruct the Town Clerk to implement the suggested changes to VAT from 1 April 2017.

4.3 Broadland District Council Environmental Health Hygiene Rating

Members were pleased to receive the 5 health hygiene rating for Sprowston Diamond Centre.

4.4 Broadland District Council Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Work Programme Survey

Members noted the email from Broadland District Council requesting work to be identified to be considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee; and

RESOLVED: any future projects would be forwarded by this Council as and when they arise.

PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION

5.1 No matters were reported

ENCLOSURES

6.1 National Association of Local Councils - Message from Chairman Councillor Janet Holdom

17/043. MEETING ADJOURNMENT

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

Mr W F Couzens left the meeting.

The meeting was reconvened.

17/044. 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 application:

2017/0072 - erection of garage and new roof to neighbours existing attached garage at 23, Bracey Avenue.

2017/0107 - single storey front, side and rear extension at 55, Corbet Avenue.

2017/0199 - single storey flat roof rear extension at 29, Blenheim Crescent.

2017/0197 - temporary planning permission for a period of 1 year to allow up to 8 assembly and leisure events (Use Class D2) to take place alongside existing B1 and D1 uses permitted by planning permission 2012/1331 at The Space, Roundtree Way.

- (b) to oppose the granting of planning permission 2017/0104 - outline planning application for the erection of up to 380 residential dwellings (inc. affordable housing) with new vehicular, cycle and pedestrian access from Salhouse Road and new pedestrian and cycle access from Plumstead Road incorporating an emergency vehicular access, the provision of open space, sustainable urban drainage systems, associated landscaping, infrastructure and earthworks at land south of Salhouse Road on the grounds that the application cannot be considered in isolation of details being available on the east / west link road infrastructure. Further, that the indicative 4.5 heights of properties on the street scene are out of keeping with the location of the development.
- (c) to oppose the granting of planning permission 2017/0038 (amended plan) - change east facing hipped end over side extension by reducing the width and height of the ridge; extend flat roof to cover the portion uncovered by the reduced hipped end; alteration to original east facing hipped end by adding a gable end to allow for the retention of the rear facing dormer with a portion of the original hipped end retained to the eaves point below at 12, Greenborough Road on the grounds that the application is an overdevelopment of the site, unneighbourly, not subservient to the original dwelling and there would be insufficient off road parking for the size of the property.
- (d) to oppose the granting of planning permission 2017/0201 - erection of 1.76m fence to front boundaries (retrospective) at 96, Cozens Hardy Road on the grounds that the existing fence is intimidating in the front garden compromising the corner plot and street scene which is both unneighbourly and unsightly against the previous general open aspect of neighbouring properties boundaries.

17/045. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL'S COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS

No written reports were received.

17/046. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS REPRESENTING THE COUNCIL ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS

The Council received the report and verbal update by Mrs B J Lashley, of the meeting of Sprowston Grow Your Community meeting. There had been two areas of success as a result of this Council's participation in Grow Your Community the use and development of Sprowston Hub greenhouses, with involvement from Sprowston Youth Engagement Project, and the Dementia Café held on the third Thursday of each month.

Broadland District Council was embarking on bringing together a local Dementia Action Alliance to improve the lives of people with dementia in their area.

Sprowston had two champions in its area who would be instrumental in developing a dementia friendly community.

RESOLVED to support Sprowston Dementia Friendly Community and Councillors to initially participate in a dementia friend's session to better understand what is involved. With the aim to produce an action plan for what the Council will do as an organisation, alongside promoting our own community premises to be dementia friendly.

17/047. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

The Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer presented the schedule of accounts to 22 February 2017 totalling £14,433.77 and answered Members' questions arising therefrom.

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

RESOLVED that payment of the accounts to 22 February 2017 totalling £14,433.77 be approved and the schedule authorising payment signed by Mr R J Knowles and Mrs B J Lashley.

17/048. SCHEDULE OF DIRECT DEBITS

The schedule of Direct Debit payments totalling £8,412.82 was approved and noted.

17/049. SCHEDULE OF CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS

The schedule of credit card payments totalling £645.77 was approved and noted.

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

15 March 2017

CHAIRMAN