

COUNCIL MEETING – 5 APRIL 2017

At the meeting of the Sprowston Town Council held at Sprowston Diamond Centre, School Lane, Sprowston on Wednesday 5 April 2017, the following Members were present:-

Mr I Moncur – Chairman

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

In attendance

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

No Members of the public were present

The Chairman of the Council reported the death of Mr C L Noble and Members stood for two minutes silence out of respect.

Mr I Moncur proposed, seconded by Mr R J Knowles that family of Members who died whilst serving on the Council should have the option of a future Sprowston road named after them.

17/072. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY AND OTHER INTERESTS

No declarations of disclosable pecuniary and other interests were received.

17/073. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

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

17/074. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Council meeting held on 15 March 2017, having previously been circulated to all Members were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

17/075. POLICE LIAISON OFFICER'S REPORT

No Police Liaison Officer's report was received.

Mr W F Couzens expressed his disappointment that the report detailing crime statistics in Sprowston was no longer produced.

The Town Clerk advised that Norfolk Constabulary intended to produce a News Letter and that Mrs J Leggett had already expressed her displeasure to the Police Commissioner.

Mrs J Leggett reported that St. Mary and Margarets Church will be featured on future Newsletters and that the next meeting of the Safer Neighbourhood Action Panel was to be held on Tuesday 11 April 2017 at the Pavilion, Old Catton Recreation Ground commencing 7.00pm.

17/075. POLICE LIASON OFFICER'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk write to the Police Commissioner to convey the Town Council's dissatisfaction with this change.

17/076. CORRESPONDENCE

No items of correspondence were received.

17/077. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

A written report was received from Mr J M Ward.

Mrs J Leggett verbally reported:

- (1) that following a recent visit by Ofsted, Norfolk County Council had received a letter stating that the Council had taken decisive action to speed up improvements in Children's Services including support for foster carers and for those leaving care.
- (2) on the A47 consultation.
- (3) on her attendance at the Casualty Reduction Partnership meeting stating that there was a continuing rise in the number of older driver and pedal cycle related casualties.

17/078. RESIDENT'S QUESTIONS

As there were no residents present it was **RESOLVED** to move to the next item of business.

17/079. MEETING ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting was reconvened.

17/080. REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

COMMUNITY BUILDINGS, ALLOTMENTS, PARKS AND OPEN SPACES

1.1 Wilks Farm Drive Open Space

Members considered a request to place gravel boards at the bottom and overlay feather edged fencing slats above to the newly replaced post and rail fence abutting the open space at Wilks Farm Drive and raised a number of concerns including:

- (1) a solid surface would catch the wind and weaken the posts.
- (2) the proposed feather boarding would be unsightly and remove the open aspect of the area.
- (3) the post and rail fence was in keeping with the setting and gave a rural feel.

17/080. REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK (CONTINUED)

RESOLVED to decline this request and authorise the Town Clerk to remove such structures should any be attached to the post and rail fence at Wilks Farm Drive.

1.2 Sprowston Infant School Use of Recreation Ground

In view of Sprowston Infant School no longer requiring the hire of Sprowston Recreation Ground to deliver their curriculum it was **RESOLVED**

- (1) to invoice Sprowston Junior School £710.50 for their 2017/18 hire of Sprowston Recreation Ground
- (2) to divide the annual hire fee by number of uses and calculate labour costs to establish a per use fee for future reference should the Infant School require sessional hire of the Sprowston Recreation Ground.

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 Norfolk County Council Highways Maintenance

Members noted the letter from Norfolk County Council giving details of the reorganisation of the Highways Maintenance Teams covering the Sprowston area.

5.2 Federation of the Governing Boards of White Woman Lane Junior School

It was agreed that Councillors respond individually to the consultation for the Federation of the Governing Boards of White Woman Lane Junior School.

ENCLOSURES

6.1 Sprowston Senior Citizens Club Newsletter Issue 8 Spring 2017

17/081. 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

17/081. PLANNING (CONTINUED)

RESOLVED

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

2017/0359 - installation of new HVAC condensers to rear of existing retail unit at 6, Sprowston Retail Park, Salhouse Road

2017/0401 - consent to display 4 signs to front of building at Wren Kitchens, Sprowston Retail Park, Salhouse Road

2017/0372 - rear extension including rooms in roof and front dormer at 5, Sparhawk Avenue

2017/0384 - single storey side & rear extensions & hip to part gable south-east facing end at 4, Cuthbert Close

2017/0407 - first floor rear extension at 4, Tills Road

2017/0394 - change of use from A1 (retail) to Tattoo Studio (Sui Generis) at Cannerby Lane

2017/0430 - single storey rear extension at 35, Windsor Park Gardens

- (b) to make no comment on planning application 2017/0375 - part demolition & erection of replacement extension & alterations to Sprowston Diamond Centre. Provision of temporary 40 space car park off Neville Road for staff & visitors during construction period at Sprowston Diamond Centre, School Lane.
- (c) to strongly oppose the granting of planning application 2017/0379 - change of use of unit 5 from approved retail use (use class A1) to dance studio (use class D2) on the grounds that this would create significant grouped traffic movement over a condensed period of time and any increase in traffic at the junction with Blue Boar Lane would be dangerous.
- (d) to oppose the granting of planning application 2017/0397 - sub-division of plot and erection of chalet bungalow at 58, Russell Avenue on the grounds that it was a cramped form of development with lack of amenity space and out of keeping with the surrounding area.

17/082. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL'S COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS

Further to Minute 17/063, Mr I Moncur reported that Mr K Lashley, Mr W F Couzens, Mrs J Leggett and himself had met with Chris Mayes, Norfolk County Council's Highways Officer to discuss what options and funding was available to improve highway verges in Sprowston.

At this meeting they were advised that:

- verges were purely cosmetic and their duty was to ensure the safety of the highway.
- the cost of planting a sapling was approximately £300.
- the 50/50 programme could be applied for and schemes considered on their merit, however, Norfolk County Council did not have funding for the rectification of grass verges.

17/082. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL'S COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS - (CONTINUED)

- erection of posts in the verge would not be countenanced as it would prevent proper use of the highway and the verge was part of the highway. However posts to protect pedestrians particularly at junctions were acceptable subject to Norfolk County Council approval.
- verges were useful for drainage and should not be concreted over.
- verges could not be replaced by parking spaces but could become passing spaces with possibly a 2 hour parking restriction but the surface would have to be permeable.
- there should be no planting of shrubs in the verges.

RESOLVED

that previously designated Councillors meet to discuss and agree a scheme or schemes and location or locations for consideration by full Council to be presented to Mr Mayes.

17/083. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS REPRESENTING THE COUNCIL ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS

No written reports were received.

17/084. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

The Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer presented the schedule of accounts to 5 April 2017 totalling £6,627.06 and answered Members' questions arising therefrom.

On the motion Mr I Moncur, seconded by Mr K Lashley it was

RESOLVED that payment of the accounts to 5 April 2017 totalling £6,627.06 be approved and the schedule authorising payment signed by Mr R A Fowkes and Mr J H Mallen.

17/085. SCHEDULE OF CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS

The schedule of credit card payments totalling £915.02 was approved and noted.

17/086. SCHEDULE OF DIRECT DEBITS

The schedule of Direct Debit payments totalling £3,686.01 was approved and noted.

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

26 April 2017

CHAIRMAN