

## COUNCIL MEETING – 4 APRIL 2018

At the meeting of the Sprowston Town Council held at Sprowston Diamond Centre, School Lane, Sprowston on Wednesday 4 April 2018, the following Members were present:-

Mr I Moncur – Chairman

Mr W F Couzens	-	Mrs J Leggett
Mrs S L England	-	Mr J H Mallen
Mr R A Fowkes	-	Mr B Osborne
Mr R J Knowles	-	Ms C T Rumsby
Mrs B J Lashley	-	Mr N Shaw
Mr K Lashley	-	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  
Mrs K Vincent Broadland District and Norfolk County  
Councillor

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### **18/067. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY AND OTHER INTERESTS**

No declarations of disclosable pecuniary and other interests were received.

### **18/068. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Written apologies for absence were received and accepted by the Council from Ms G Landamore and verbal apologies from Mr T Landamore.

### **18/069. MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Council meeting held on 14 March 2018, having previously been circulated to all Members were confirmed and signed by the Chairman of the Council.

### **18/070. POLICE LIAISON OFFICER'S REPORT**

The Police Newsletter for April was unavailable

No response had been received by the Town Clerk with regard to the increase in residential burglaries in Sprowston.

### **18/071. CORRESPONDENCE**

- (1) Power Networks Councillor Newsletter Spring 2018
- (2) Sprowston Senior Citizens Club Newsletter
- (3) Invitation to the celebration to mark the completion of the A1270 Norwich Northern Distributor on Wednesday 11 April 2018, from 12 noon to 2.15pm.
- (4) Consultation on the draft Norfolk Access Improvement Plan

## **18/072. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

Referring to Minute 18/055, and in response to Councillors questions Mrs J Leggett advised that Broadland District Council had a funding of £160,000 for 22 new homes of which 36% were affordable, a mixture of rented, discount purchase or shared equity and the income generated returned to the District Council. Developers made a 20% profit on an open book basis, if they built less than the required amount of affordable housing there was a claw back facility when work was completed.

Mrs Lashley thanked Mrs Leggett for the information and responding to Councillors questions.

A written report was received from District and County Councillor Mr J M Ward.

Mr Couzens remarked that tickets for Cliff Jordan's roadshow had sold out.

Mr Ward advised that he was not aware of this but stated there was a limited supply.

Mr Couzens commented that it seemed a very long distance from where the wind turbine power cables came ashore to the proposed substation at Swardeston.

Mr Ward agreed advising that details were available on the website.

Mr Ward also verbally reported:

20 extra Retained Firefighters are reporting for duty this week following a recruitment drive. There are still 41 vacancies across rural Norfolk. Retained Firefighters must live or work within 5 minutes of a fire station they are paid per call out. On average they earn £7,000 per year. Full details are available on the Norfolk County Council website.

The 5 year land supply calculated using the Joint Core Strategy is 92.2% i.e. 4.61 years. The Government now allow us to use the Strategic Houses Market assessment as a calculator and that gives us 6.82 years. All the recent planning applications which took into account our lack of a 5 year land supply and were approved but have not yet been determined have to be brought before the planning committee again. 5 such applications were brought before the committee on 28 March 2018 with 4 of those being approved.

The Norwich Northern Distributor Route now renamed Broadland Northway officially opens on 11 April 2018.

Mr R A Fowkes questioned whether retained firefighters in rural areas was practical as people tended to work away from home and suggested more fire stations in West Norfolk would be preferable.

Mr Ward agreed in an ideal situation but the Council had to manage within budget adding that the retained fire fighters had never missed a call, if one could not cover another one does.

Mrs B J Lashley suggested contacting the Norfolk Association of Local Councils to advertise these positions as they had a lot of contact with local parish councils.

Mr N Shaw advised that he had received a letter from a resident regarding Lorries driving on the verges and churning them up. It appears to happening more often all over the place and something should be done about it.

## **18/072. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS (CONTINUED)**

Mrs Leggett reported that:

- (1) the next Safer Neighbourhood Action Panel meetings would be held on 16 April 2018 at Old Catton and that PC Nick Roberts would be back.
- (2) the launch of the Repton Season went well and Broadland District Council was hoping to increase business.
- (3) White Woman Lane School Ofstead inspection result was good however a two day inspection had been recommended to prove the school is outstanding. There is a need to stretch potential mathematicians and additional reading with vulnerable children.

Mrs B J Lashley suggested contacting the charity Schoolreaders who improve childhood literacy by providing volunteers to give one-to-one reading practice to children in primary Schools.

## **18/073. RESIDENT'S QUESTIONS**

On the motion of Mr K Lashley, seconded by Mr I Moncur 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.

Mrs K Vincent reported that she had received complaints regarding Heavy Goods Vehicles mounting the verge at Chartwell Road roundabout and concern that there was insufficient room for them to turn the corner safely. She had flagged this to Norwich City Council and Norfolk County Council Highways who agreed to carry out a survey.

She had also received a number of concerns about cars driving into the Norwich Northern Distributor Route roundabouts. The Highways authority had advised that appropriate signage was in place but they would monitor the situation.

## **18/074. REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK**

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

#### **1.1 White House Farm Development**

The Town Clerk presented a map of the White House Farm development showing the open space allocation, areas which the Council had indicated to adopt from the developer, areas to be allocated to a management company for maintenance and Norfolk County Council under a Section 38.

Members raised a number of issues including:

- (1) what was the intended use of W1, W2 and W3
- (2) L8 should be in good repair if the Council is to take on responsibility
- (3) L18 is this the pipework to the water pump and access for vehicles going to the water pumping station.
- (4) L18 does a ditch (waterway) run through or from this area
- (5) why would a management company maintain the boundary of W4 but not W2 and W3
- (6) L6 and L7 the tennis courts should all be located in one place

## **18/074. REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK (CONTINUED)**

- (7) shared use of L5 with the proposed primary school
- (8) the standard of maintenance could be different between Council and Management Company maintained areas which would cause confusion for residents
- (9) if residents pay a maintenance company and Council Tax is this not a form of double taxation
- (10) as residents will automatically contact the Council regarding issues relating to verges and open spaces is it likely the developers will ask the Town Council to be the Management Company

### **CEMETERY**

#### **2.1 St Cuthbert War Memorial, St Cuthbert's Church Wroxham Road reported**

Having considered the consultation letter inviting the Council to comment on whether Sprowston St Cuthbert War Memorial, St Cuthbert's Church, Wroxham Road is of special architectural or historic interest Members

**RESOLVED** to support the St. Cuthbert War Memorial being considered as a building of special architectural or historic interest as it is a very visible memorial located on the entrance into Sprowston from Norwich on a major arterial road and can be clearly seen whether travelling on foot or by vehicle.

### **STREET LIGHTING**

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

### **CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION AND PERSONNEL**

#### **4.1 Appointment of Ground Maintenance Person**

**RESOLVED** to authorise the Town Clerk to appoint Mr Matthew Green to the post of Grounds Maintenance Person on (NJC scale SCP 21-25) at spinal point 22 commencing 16 April 2018.

### **PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION**

#### **5.1 Norfolk County Council - Consultation on the draft Norfolk Access Improvement Plan**

Members were invited to comment on the Consultation of the draft Norfolk Access Improvement Plan, a flyer with the link to be emailed to Councillors.

### **ENCLOSURES**

#### **6.1 UK Power Networks Spring 2018 Newsletter Sprowston Senior Citizens Club Newsletter Issue 12 Spring 2018**

## **18/075. SPROWSTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN DRAFT MONITORING REPORT**

Members reviewed the Sprowston Neighbourhood Plan Draft Monitoring Report and it was

**RESOLVED** to adopt the plan.

## **18/076. 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.

## **18/077. 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**

(1) to raise no objection to the following planning applications:

2018/0386 - internal alterations to rear of the property to include partial demolition of internal wall to create an opening, removal of internal door and blocking up and installation of double doors to existing opening at Asia, 19, War Memorial Bungalows, Mousehold Lane.

2018/0412 - details for condition 21 of planning permission 201601058 - site wide design and sustainability code at Beeston Park land north of Sprowston and Old Catton

2018/0416 - front extension at 80, Blithemeadow Drive

2018/0447 - proposed side extension at 163, Wilks Farm Drive

(2) to make the following comments on planning application Y/5/2018/5004 - new build two storey 420 place (2FE) primary school including car parking for staff and visitors, external hard and soft formal and informal play areas at Land to the South of Mallard Way, White House Farm. There are insufficient parking spaces and a drive through drop off/pick up facility would be beneficial to avoid the inevitable and constant issues of parking around schools. A suggestion was made to contact Tesco Stores to ascertain if they would be willing to participate in Park and Stride with parents parking at their store and accessing the school through the residential development. Concern was expressed regarding the toilet directly located off the kitchen. It was also felt that there were limited small and large group rooms available for non-class room based activities, meetings and one to one teaching.

(3) to oppose the granting of planning application 2018/0443 - application for approval of reserved matters (appearance, scale, landscaping and layout) for 225 dwellings including details reserved by conditions 20 (site investigation) 26 (archaeology), 29 (landscaping), 30 (landscaping), 34 (ecology) and 36 (surface water drainage) following outline application 20141725 on the grounds that there is very limited open space, two of the main green areas are effectively soakaways and the play area is between soakaways, a potentially dangerous location considering the likely hood of lagoons forming and flooding of the area particularly as this is a clay site and the report states drainage is poor to moderate. The site is on the Norwich Airport flight path and it is this Council's understanding that there should be no open water to avoid conflict with wildlife. Regarding the access over the cycle path it was felt that the proposed link (spine) road should be built prior to the development which would offer more suitable and safer access. It was noted that Broadland District Council's affordable housing target is 33% yet this development only offers

**18/077. PLANNING (CONTINUED)**

20% and there are no details as to why the developer cannot provide the full requirement of affordable housing. There is no mention of any social housing.

**18/078. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL'S COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS**

No written reports were received.

**18/079. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS REPRESENTING THE COUNCIL ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS**

Members noted the minutes of the WWI Centenary Meeting and made a number of suggestions to commemorate this event. Following a lengthy debate it was **RESOLVED**

- (a) to appoint Mr K Lashley to represent the Council at the WWI Centenary Meetings.
- (b) that a line of native trees at Wilks Farm Drive, to include existing mature trees, be created. The planting of these trees to represent the 84 Sprowston residents who died in WW1.

**18/080. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

The Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer presented the schedule of accounts to 4 April 2018 totalling £7,952.53 and answered Members' questions arising therefrom.

On the motion of Mrs K Leggett, seconded Mr J H Mallen it was

**RESOLVED** that payment of the accounts to 4 April 2018 totalling £7,952.53 be approved and the schedule authorising payment signed by Mrs B J Lashley and Mr J H Mallen.

**18/081. SCHEDULE OF CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS**

The schedule of credit card payments totalling £3.99 was approved and noted.

**18/082. SCHEDULE OF DIRECT DEBIT PAYMENTS**

The schedule of direct debit payments totalling £9,090.81 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.

**18/083. STAFF SALARIES**

The schedule of staff salaries as of 1 April 2018 was noted.

25 April 2018

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CHAIRMAN