

COUNCIL MEETING – 3 APRIL 2019

At the meeting of the Sprowston Town Council held at the Council Chamber, Recreation Ground Road, Sprowston on Wednesday 3 April 2019, the following Members were present:-

Mr I Moncur – Vice Chairman

Mr W F Couzens	-	Mrs J Leggett
Mr R A Fowkes	-	Mr B Osborne
Mr R J Knowles	-	Mr J H Mallen
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
Mr Guy Ranaweera	-	Town Clerk Designate
Mrs E Elliot	-	Committee Officer
Mr J Fisher	-	Norfolk County Councillor Sprowston North East and Thorpe St. Andrew North West

15 members of the public were present

19/070. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY AND OTHER INTERESTS

No declarations of disclosable pecuniary and other interests were received.

19/071. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Written apologies for absence were received and accepted by the Council from, Ms G Landamore and Ms C T Rumsby and verbal apologies from Mrs S L England and Mr T Landamore.

19/072. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Council's meeting held on 13 March 2019, having previously been circulated to all Members, were confirmed and signed by the Chairman of the Council.

19/073. POLICE LIAISON OFFICER'S REPORT

Members noted the March Newsletter.

Answering a question regarding a stabbing that took place on Mountbatten Drive Mr R A Fowkes advised that the Police had held two surgeries and an arrest had been made.

Mr N Shaw joined the meeting.

19/074. CORRESPONDENCE

(1) Broadland District Council Licensing

19/074. CORRESPONDENCE (CONTINUED)

Further to Minute 19/062 5.1, the Town Clerk reported that the East of England Co-Operative at 57, Cannerby Lane had withdrawn their application to vary the premise licence for alcohol.

(2) Blue Boar Lane Cycle Path

The Town Clerk reported that the Planning Officer for the Sprowston area had confirmed that he cannot give a definitive update at present on the Blue Boar Lane cycle path but he is soon to meet with the developers, highways and the bus companies to agree what is happening with the provision of the bus gate. He expects that it will be agreed that it isn't needed, but until we have the report this is not definite. If the bus gate does not happen then the land will be used for a public footway and the ownership/ maintenance of it would have to be discussed. The cycleway is also currently been discussed, but has not yet been fully agreed.

If a piece of land is identified for highways but not used for highways it is offered to the parish and this will be monitored by the Town Clerk under Local Government Act 1972.

Mrs B J Lashley asked if the land was offered to the Town Council would it be subject to a commuted sum for maintenance.

The Town Clerk replied that it could attract a commuted sum for maintenance as the area was subject to Section 106 community land.

Mr R A Fowkes asked if there was any indication of how the busses would be routed.

The Town Clerk replied that this was part of ongoing discussions.

(3) Planning Application 20181956

Further to Minute 18/312 (d), the Town Clerk reported that planning application 2018/1956 variation of planning permission to allow retention of the marquee at Sprowston Manor for a period of 3 years had been granted permission by Broadland Council planning officer.

(4) Planning application 2019/0253

The Town Clerk reported that planning application 2019/0253 - 57, Falcon Road West for a Single Storey Front and Rear Extensions had been granted permission by Broadland Council planning officer.

Mr R J Knowles joined the meeting.

19/075. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

A written report was received from Mr J M Ward.

Mr Ward also verbally reported that:

- (1) Transport for Norwich has been awarded £6.1m by the Department for Transport. This will be mostly spent in the Prince of Wales Road/Rose Lane area.

19/075. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS (CONTINUED)

- (2) there will be an announcement of the preferred route for the western link Summer 2019. A business case will be presented early 2020. Construction will start 2020 with completion around 2024.
- (3) Phil Courtier has been appointed Director of Place overseeing Assistant Directors of Economic Growth, Regulatory and Planning.
- (4) Broadland District Council appointed Assistant Directors from 1 April 2019 as follows:

Hamish Melville - Economic Growth
Emma Hodds - Governance & Business Support
Mike Pursemouse - Individuals & Families
Hannah Ralph - Chief of Staff
Stephen Fennell - Consultancy Team

The Assistant Directors for Regulatory, Planning, Finance and Community were still to be filled.

19/076. RESIDENTS' QUESTIONS

On the motion of Mr K Lashley, seconded by Mrs J Leggett 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.

County Councillor J Fisher reported that:

- (1) the school at the White Farm development was on target to open in September.
- (2) Salhouse Road residents had queried why traffic numbers had not decreased as suggested in the modelling for the Northern Distributor (NDR). The modelling had actually envisaged an increase in traffic on Salhouse Road nearest the NDR and a decrease on Salhouse Road nearest the city.

Mr Calver complained that the collection times had changed to 9.00am at the post box on the corner of Glenburn Avenue and Neville Road.

The Town Clerk advised that this was a commercial decision by Royal Mail. The Town Clerk was requested to contact Royal Mail with the resident's concerns.

Mr McGrotty expressed concerns regarding planning application 2019/0392 use of approved pool and pool building for private hire at 25, Chenery Drive including:

- the location of the proposal being at the turning point in the cul de sac as any additional parked cars would cause further obstruction.
- the applicants stated 4 parking spaces were available when there were 2.
- an increase in traffic by users of the pool would create more problems to residents.
- 31 of the 33 residents of Chenery Drive had signed a petition against this application.
- the application was vague with regard to disabled parking given there is a disabled changing room.

19/076. RESIDENTS' QUESTIONS (CONTINUED)

- impact on the sewerage system given there were already ongoing issues resulting in Anglian Water carrying out a site survey.
- details of the plant room did not indicate the type of boiler or heating system to be used or emissions, noise and pollution levels.

Mr Newman also raised concerns regarding planning application 2019/0392 commenting that:

- there was a covenant on all past deeds barring the running of a business from residential properties on Chenery Drive
- residents found this a stressful situation and it was affecting their health.
- it is illegal to mount a raised kerb and run over the footpath.

Mrs Cane commenting on the same application said:

- the location was not suitable for this type of facility
- if the application was approved the pool could be rented 6 days a week and up to 6 hours a day, there would be little respite for residents with a possible additional 72 cars a week
- smart technology could not monitor activity off premises
- there were sufficient facilities for swimming in the area.

Mrs Sayer, referring to planning application 2019/0392 felt that:

- the applicants showed a lack of respect and disregard for neighbours.
- the petition should not be ignored.
- there were safety issues given the property was vacant most weekdays and she was concerned as to what would happen in an emergency

Mr Williamson asked if there was any help the Council could offer parents and staff regarding re-opening School Lane Pre-School.

The Town Clerk referred to the resolution from the previous council meeting where this item was discussed advising that the outcome of that action would be discussed under the next item of business.

Mr Lacey - said that having spoken with various organisations there had been a lack of communication.

19/077. SCHOOL LANE PRE-SCHOOL

The Town Clerk reported that Councillors K Lashley and Judy Leggett had met with County Council Officers for Improvement and Development Workers for Education and Achievement Service. The information gathered at this meeting was that the Play School Committee had decided to close the setting and indeed the play group had been de-registered with Ofsted. Members explored the past and current situation and recommended that this Council explore a tender process to secure a new hirer using the County Council's format to achieve this, making the premises available from next September as identified in the Council's previous statement.

A resident commented on whether the County Council had plans on how to support parents with future placements.

Mrs Laskey asked about quickly reopening the pre-school for those children of parents who wanted to continue using this facility.

19/077. SCHOOL LANE PRE-SCHOOL (CONTINUED)

The Town Clerk responded that the Council had been approached by two interested parties and having explained the terms, conditions and hire fees they had not taken their enquiry any further. She advised that the premises were being refurbished and the Council was open to offers of hire, reiterating the recommendation from Councillors K Lashley and J Leggett.

A resident asked if the Town Council could help the parents get set-up in the Pre-School.

The Town Clerk replied that it was not within the Council's expertise or remit and that any future group should fit the criteria of the expression of interest which the Council would be advertising.

The meeting was reconvened.

Following a lengthy debate, it was **RESOLVED**

that the Council explore a selection format of expression of interest to secure a new hirer using the County Council's procedure to achieve this, making the premises available no later than September 2019 as identified in the Council's previous statement.

19/078. FUTURE OF SPROWSTON DIAMOND FIELD

Mrs B J Lashley proposed that the Council explore the cost of removing the matting and wooden sleepers and returning Sprowston Diamond field to grass.

The proposal was not seconded.

In answer to a number of questions the Town Clerk explained that matting and wooden sleepers had been placed over an area of grass for parking during re-development and left there as overflow parking for occasional large events. There was sufficient space to hold events with the matting and sleepers in situ. In the event of the area becoming a permanent car park an application would be made to the planning authority for a change of use.

Mr Ward felt it would be foolish to spend money on removing the matting and sleepers and returning the field to grass until the Council had a clear idea of what it wanted to use the land for.

Mr W F Couzens proposed, seconded by Mr R J Knowles that the Town Clerk explore suitable uses of the open space with costings and bring a report to a future meeting of the Council and on being put to the vote the motion was **CARRIED**.

19/079. REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

COMMUNITY BUILDINGS, ALLOTMENTS, PARKS AND OPEN SPACES

1.1 NEW Housing Development South of Salhouse Road

Members discussed the request from Keir Living to consider the adoption of the LEAP play area and/or the open space at the new housing development south of Salhouse Road

19/079. REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK (CONTINUED)

Mr W F Couzens proposed, seconded by Mr N Shaw not to adopt the LEAP play area or open space as it stands on the development south of Salhouse Road and on the being put to the vote the motion was CARRIED.

1.2 Emergency Rest Centre Plan - Broadland District Council

Members noted that Sprowston Diamond Centre had been allocated as a rest centre in the event of a large-scale emergency in the near area.

CEMETERY

2.1 No matters were reported

STREET LIGHTING

3.1 No matters were reported

CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION AND PERSONNEL

4.1 Norfolk Pension Fund - Pay Strain Schedule of Results

Members noted the Norfolk Pension Fund Pay Strain calculations of £21,000 undertaken by the Fund Actuary for 2017-18 scheme year.

PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION

5.1 APP/K2610/D/19/3222953 - Appeal against Broadland District Council decision

Members noted the appeal made to the Secretary of State against the decision of Broadland District Council to refuse planning permission for erection of new front wall (retrospective) and erection of freestanding garden room in rear garden at 126, Wroxham Road.

6.1 ENCLOSURES

6.1.1 Sprowston Senior Citizens Club Newsletter Issue 16 Spring 2019 **6.1.2 SAM Statistics Salhouse Road north and southbound**

Mr W F Couzens reported that he had attended a Police surgery where some residents had commented on inadequate street lighting at Mountbatten Drive. He asked if the Town Clerk had received any enquiries to which she responded there had been none.

Mr Couzens said he had written to the Beat Manager to identify if there was a requirement for additional lighting in this area.

Mr R J Knowles left the meeting.

19/080. 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.

19/081. 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

RESOLVED

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

2019/0377 - erection of No. 4 detached dwellings with garages (outline - revised proposal) at Foxly Wood, Buxton Road

2019/0320 - replacement of garden room including infill extension at 16, Blenheim Crescent

2019/0419 - single storey front extension at 34, Blithemeadow Drive

2019/425 - single storey front extension at Former Royal Observer Corps' Chartwell Road

2019/0462 - variation of condition 2 of planning permission 20180650 - change to roof design from hipped to lean-to at Gryphon Place, 36, Wroxham Road

2019/0471 - two storey side and rear extension at 132, Wroxham Road

(b) to oppose the granting of planning application 2019/0392 - use of approved pool building (under planning permission 20181670) for private use at 25, Chenery drive on the grounds that it is an unneighbourly form of development, detrimental to residential amenities and highway issues given the additional traffic this proposal will attract in a narrow cul de sac.

(c) to oppose the granting of planning application 2019/0485 - reserved matter application for details of appearance, layout, landscaping and scale of 366 dwellings following outline planning permission 20170104 including details reserved by conditions 6 (construction parking), 7 (construction traffic management plan), 9 (wheel cleaning), 14 (interim travel plan), 22 (surface water drainage), 24 (materials management plan - minerals) and 29 (contamination) (EIA application) at Land South of Salhouse Road on the grounds

- that the whole infrastructure of the development is fragmented.
- there is only one access into the development until the southern area scheme is completed and provision should be made for an emergency access.
- the link road should be in place before any development commences.

19/081. PLANNING (CONTINUED)

- public transport, walking and cycling should be encouraged yet bus stops are located on Plumstead Road accessed via fields until the southern development is completed and Woodside Road which is a long distance. There are no pavements for pedestrians to get to these bus stops or any other amenities.
- public open space should be usable areas for residents, this application appears to include any scrap of land and lagoons as open space.
- the only schools mentioned are Dussindale and Heartsease which are not easily accessible given that there will only be one route into the development
- until the southern area is complete there are no pavements. The nearest school would be in the White Farm development which will need walkable infrastructure in place planned at Blue Boar Lane.

19/082. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER 3X

On the motion of Mr K Lashley seconded by Mrs J Leggett it was **RESOLVED** to suspend Standing Order 3X to complete the business of the evening.

19/083. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL'S COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS

No written reports were received.

19/084 REPORTS FROM MEMBERS REPRESENTING THE COUNCIL ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS

Mrs B J Lashley advised that she would be submitting a written report on her attendance at the Norfolk Association of Local Councils Conference.

19/085. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

The Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer presented the schedule and supplementary schedule of accounts to 3 April 2019 totalling £62,454.55 and £24,097.25 and answered Members' questions arising therefrom.

On the motion of Mr K Lashley, seconded by Mrs J Leggett it was **RESOLVED** that payment of the accounts and supplementary accounts to 3 April 2019 totalling £62,454.55 and £24,097.25 be approved and the schedules authorising payment signed by Mr R A Fowkes and Mrs B J Lashley.

19/086. SCHEDULE OF CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS

The schedule of credit card payments totalling £237.23 was approved and noted.

19/087. SCHEDULE OF DIRECT DEBIT PAYMENTS

The schedule of direct debit payments totalling £12,455.54 was approved and noted.

Mr Moncur thanked:

Councillors for their support over the last 4 years of his chairmanship, the Town Clerk and staff for their hard work and Mr Lashley as Vice-Chairman.

On behalf of Mrs Hunt, the Chairman thanked the Council for their support and both wished those standing for election well in the future.

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

17 April 2019

CHAIRMAN