

COUNCIL MEETING – 19 FEBRUARY 2020

At the meeting of the Sprowston Town Council held at the Council Chamber, Recreation Ground Road, Sprowston on Wednesday 19 February 2020, the following Members were present: -

Mr J M Ward – Town Mayor

Mr A J Barton - Mr W F Couzens
Mr M G Callam - Mr J F Fisher
Ms D Coleman - Mrs J Leggett
Mrs B Cook - Mr S C Walker

Ms C T Rumsby

In attendance

Mr G Ranaweera - Town Clerk and Responsible
Financial Officer
Mrs E Elliot - Committee Officer

2 members of the public were present

20/038. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY AND OTHER INTERESTS

Member	Minute No. and Heading	Nature of Interest
Mr M G Callam	Minute 20/046 1.2	Trustee Sprowston Methodist Church
Mrs J Leggett	Minute 20/041 (1)	Trustee - Sprowston Youth Engagement Project
Ms C T Rumsby	Minute 20/041 (1)	Sprowston Youth Engagement Project

20/039. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Written apologies for absence were received and accepted by the Council from Mr R J Knowles, Mrs B J Lashley, Mr I J Mackie and Mr J H Mallen and verbal apologies from Mr N Shaw.

20/040. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Council's meeting held on 29 January 2020, having previously been circulated to all Members were, subject to the following amendment

Minute 20/028, **delete** Blue Boar Lane and Woodland Drive in Old Catton and **insert** White Woman Lane and Wroxham Road

confirmed and signed by the Town Mayor of the Council.

20/041. ACTIONS FROM MINUTES

(1) Option to approve £10,000 funding for a Sprowston Youth Engagement Project (SYEP) Community Outreach Worker

Further to Minute 20/022, presentation by Clare Lincoln, Reverend Cannon Simon Stokes and Paul Wheeler on behalf of SYEP

Mr J M Ward proposed, seconded by Mr A J Barton to approve a request for an additional grant of £10,000 (as provisionally included in 2020-21 budget) to majority-fund a Youth Community Outreach Worker.

RESOLVED that a donation of £10,000.00 be made to Sprowston Youth Engagement Project to majority-fund a Youth Community Outreach Worker based primarily in Sprowston in accordance with its powers under section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972, to be paid in four instalments commencing April 2020.

(2) St Mary and St Margaret's Church - Emergency Path Repair

Further to Minute 20/023, the Town Clerk reported having, with the Head Groundsman, examined the footpath it was his opinion a potential health and safety hazard to visitors; particularly to wheelchair users or those with mobility difficulties. He had obtained a second quote for the repair, and in view of the risk to the public and to protect the Town Council from possible liability, he had authorised the cheaper quote of £1,700 plus VAT from Council's emergency funds to commence this repair as soon as possible.

(3) Option to agree revised Section 38 streetlighting scheme for Land to the South of Salhouse Road, Barrett David Wilson Homes Development (BDWH)

Further to Minute 20/031 3.2, Council considered a revised streetlighting scheme from BDWH which took into account the County Ecologist's concerns about the effect of light pollution on wildlife and habitats in the retained hedgerows and wooded areas.

It was Council's opinion that the adoptable road adjacent woodland should be lit for the safety of residents. If this was felt to be ecologically unsound, they questioned the layout of the development suggesting that rear gardens should face the woodland.

Mr M G Callam proposed, seconded by Mr A J Barton not to accept the proposed lighting scheme. On being put to the vote the motion was CARRIED.

19/042. POLICE LIAISON OFFICER'S REPORT

Council noted the incidents recorded in the crime statistics for Sprowston from 1 January 2020 to 18 February 2020 circulated at the meeting and high number of reported criminal damage.

Mr W F Couzens commented that having attended the drop-in Police Engagement Session at Sprowston Library, and following discussion with PC Graham Gill it was obvious that many incidences of anti-social behaviour were not being reported.

19/043. CORRESPONDENCE

- (1) Flood Risk Supplementary Planning Document for the Broads

Council noted the Flood Risk Supplementary Planning Document for the Broads.

- (2) Amenity Land at Blithewood Gardens, Sprowston

Council noted Broadland District Council's intention to plant seven trees on amenity land owned by them at Blithewood Gardens.

- (3) Norwich Western Link Update

The update on the Norwich Western Link was noted by Council.

19/044. RESIDENTS' QUESTIONS

On the motion of Mr J M Ward, 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 Town Mayor who would, assisted by the Town Clerk, reply.

As there were no resident's questions the meeting was reconvened.

19/045. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

A written report was received from Mr J M Ward.

Mr J M Ward also verbally reported:

Norfolk County Council

- (1) Storm Clara on the night of 8 February 2020 brought more than 350 incidents for Norfolk's Highways Teams who were in action from 4.40am dealing with 160 tree related issues, debris from buildings in the highway, floods and failed lights.

Norfolk Fire and Rescue were called to an additional 100 incidents.

- (2) Beryl bicycles will shortly be available, launch date 17 March 2020, to hire at locations across Norwich and one in Broadland, Yarmouth Road near South Avenue. The bicycles will be in fixed bays, similar to the way Boris's bicycles operate in London.

580 bikes will be available including some electronically assisted ones.

- (3) Plans for a £2.75m recycling centre off the junction of the A140/Broadland Northway are progressing and a planning application will be open for comment later this week. This replaces the Mile Cross site which will close 2021. Plans are also currently available for the £1.9m recycling centre at Harford.

- (4) Norfolk County Councils budget for 2020/21 was passed by full Council on 17 February 2020. The recommendations from cabinet are unchanged from what I

19/045. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS (CONTINUED)

reported to you on 19 January 2020. The budget passed unchanged despite there being 10 amendments from Labour, one from the Liberal Democrats and two from the Independents. All amendments failed.

Referring to Mr Ward's verbal report, Mr W F Couzens commented that there were no bike bays located in Sprowston yet the push the pedal ways route came through the parish.

He also reiterated a resident's concern that there were no suitable safe crossings over the Broadland Northway.

Mr J F Fisher advised that pathways did run adjacent the Broadland Northway which were hidden from the roadway by the bund. A map was available.

Mr M G Callam asked if storm Clara had caused any flooding in Sprowston.

Mr J M Ward responded that he was not aware of any but many places across the county had flooded due to the extreme weather conditions.

Mr A J Barton enquired about the Food Enterprise Zone in Honingham mentioned in Mr Wards written report.

Mr Ward explained that a large percentage of food produced in Norfolk was processed in other counties. The centre at Honingham will become a central cluster of food related businesses to encourage food production and processing in the county.

Mrs B Cook verbally reported on the screening of the Lion King at Sprowston Diamond Centre advising that it was well attended and comments from parents and children had been very positive.

Mr J F Fisher reported that a letter had been sent to parents and grand-parents of children attending Falcon Road School explaining what work had already been carried out to resolve flooding issues. Despite testing and remedial work, the underlying problem still remained a mystery.

If the situation continued Norfolk County Council would look at providing mobile classrooms so that some pupils could return to the school.

19/046. REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

COMMUNITY BUILDINGS, ALLOTMENTS, PARKS AND OPEN SPACES

1.1 Barkers Lane - Proposal for New Dog Waste Bin

Council considered the report of the Town Clerk and it was

RESOLVED that Ms D Coleman monitor the two dog bins located at the entrance to Barkers Lane open space, opposite Church View Close, and on the bend opposite St Margaret's Drive and bring a report to the next meeting of the Council.

19/046. REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK (CONTINUED)

1.2 Praise in the Park

RESOLVED to grant use of Sprowston Recreation Ground and Pavilion, at no cost, for the Praise in the Park worship event to be held Sunday 19 July 2020.

CEMETERY

2.1 No matters were reported

STREET LIGHTING

3.1 HOME FARM (TAYLOR WIMPEY) PHASES 3 AND 4 SECTION 38 STREET LIGHTS

The Town Clerk presented the Section 38 Street Lighting scheme for Home Farm (Taylor Wimpey) Phases 3 and 4.

RESOLVED to adopt footway lighting on Pheasant Loke, Waxwing Way, Tern Drive and Oystercatcher Close.

CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION AND PERSONNEL

4.1 Name That Tractor!

Council noted the Town Clerk's intention, as a way of increasing the reach of Council's Facebook posts, to run a light hearted public Facebook competition and poll to name the Council's new mini-tractor.

PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION

5.1 Installation of Posts to Address Dangerous Parking on the Grass Verge Outside Falcon Road Junior School

Council carefully considered the report of the Town Clerk with regard to the purchase of additional posts to be erected on the corner of the junction of Falcon Road and Blithewood Gardens to prevent dangerous driving and parking.

The Town Clerk explained that Norfolk County Council had installed five wooden posts and whilst this had improved visibility to vehicles using the junction it did not prevent drivers accessing the main stretch of grass and parking was still occurring.

Norfolk County Council had confirmed they were agreeable to the Town Council installing further posts but at the Town Council's expense.

Responding to a question the Town Clerk advised that Council would have liability for the posts which was covered by their insurance.

Mr J M Ward proposed, seconded by Mr M G Callam Option 1 in the Town Clerk's report at a total cost of £1,700.00. On being put to the vote the motion was carried.

19/046. REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK (CONTINUED)

5.2 Land South of Salhouse Road (Kier Living Eastern) - Street Naming Scheme - Additional Road Name

RESOLVED to agree the proposed additional street name of Corsican Way for Land South of Salhouse Road (Kier Living Eastern).

ATTACHMENTS

6.1 Options for verge posts, with photos of the verge area

20/047. MEETING ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting was reconvened.

20/048. 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:

2020/0153 - demolition of existing conservatory and erection of single storey rear extension at 119, Proctor Road

2020/0230 - erection of storage shed at communal area at Woodland Place, Pinetrees Road

2020/0282 - proposed demolition of conservatory and garage and construction of single storey rear extension at 31, Lambert Road

(b) to oppose the granting of planning application 2020/0215 - two storey side extension and new front driveway with dropped kerb at 214, Salhouse Road on the grounds that the proposed extension is not subservient to the original dwelling and should be set back.

(c) to oppose the granting of planning application 2020/0273 - hip to gable conversion, front and rear dormers and front porch (revised proposal) at 153, Moore Avenue on the grounds that it is out of keeping and detrimental to the street scene given all other properties in this area have a hipped roof and this application proposes a gable end roof.

20/049. GREATER NORWICH LOCAL PLAN CONSULTATION

Council noted the following anomalies in the Draft GNLP Sites, Sprowston Site Assessment Booklet - Residential Settlement Hierarchy as follows:

- Sprowston has three wards not two as stated
- there is not a designated district centre
- housing allocations were included in the Sprowston Neighbourhood Plan - Policy 18.

Having considered site reference:

(1) GNLP0132 Land off Blue Boar Lane/Salhouse Road, Council commented that:

- developments should include suitable access for public transport vehicles
- all forms of public transport should be catered for
- Drs surgeries / health centres are already oversubscribed and further provision should be made for an increasing population. This development would be a good location given the access from Atlantic Avenue.
- as the highest population growth is currently the over 60's focus should be on delivering better public transport
- there is no provision for civic buildings or other community activities
- infrastructure for electric vehicles should be available on private driveways and also included in communal parking areas
- if the open space is to be allocated for the siting of a new High School there will be no space left for civic/community buildings or recreational facilities
- the Park and Ride should remain the preferred site for a new school
- if the Park and Ride is not to be the location for a new school it should be allocated for civic use

Concern was expressed regarding the wider issue of additional hospital provision and mental health care.

(2) GNLP0042 Land at Rear of Hill Farm House, Wroxham Road, Council agreed with the assessment that this site was not suitable for allocation.

(3) GNLP2178 Lushers Loke - Council strongly opposed the suggestion that this was an unreasonable site for residential development and supported its inclusion as a preferred site.

As to Non-Residential, Council noted there was no industrial or employment land provision.

20/050. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL'S COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS

No written reports were received.

20/051. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS REPRESENTING THE COUNCIL ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS

No written reports were received.

20/052. SCHEDULE OF MEETING DATES 2020/21

RESOLVED to accept the schedule of meeting dates for 2020/21.

20/053. NORFOLK PENSION FUND EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTION RATES

Council acknowledged receipt of the Norfolk Pension Fund new employer contribution rates.

20/054. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

The Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer presented the schedule and supplementary schedule of accounts to 19 February 2020 totalling £10,853.07 and £2,040.00.

On the motion of Mr J M Ward, seconded by Mr M G Callam it was **RESOLVED** that payment of the accounts and supplementary accounts to 19 February 2020 totalling £10,853.07 and £2,040.00 be approved. The schedule authorising payment was signed by Mr J M Ward and Mr R J Knowles.

20/055. SCHEDULE OF CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS & BARCLAYS VISA DEBIT

The schedule of credit card payments totalling £558.58 was approved and noted.

20/056. SCHEDULE OF DIRECT DEBIT PAYMENTS

The schedule of direct debit payments totalling £6,605.02 was approved and noted.

There being no other necessary business the Town Mayor of the Council thanked Councillors for their attendance and declared the meeting closed.

11 March 2020

Town Mayor