

MEETING OF SPROWSTON TOWN COUNCILLORS – 15 DECEMBER 2021

At the meeting of the Sprowston Town Council held at the School Room, Sprowston Diamond Centre, School Lane, Sprowston on Wednesday 15 December 2021, the following Councillors were present: -

Mr J M Ward – Town Mayor

Mr A J Barton	-	Mrs B J Lashley
Mrs B Cook	-	Mrs J Leggett
Mr M G Callam	-	Mr J H Mallen
Mr W F Couzens	-	Mrs K Vincent

In attendance

Mr G Ranaweera	-	Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer
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2 members of the public were present

21/317. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY AND OTHER INTERESTS

No declarations of disclosable pecuniary and other interests were received.

21/318. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Written apologies for absence were received and accepted by the Council from Mr J F Fisher, Mr R J Knowles, Ms C T Rumsby and Mr N Shaw and verbal apologies from Ms D Coleman and Mr G S Tingle.

21/319. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Council's meetings held on 17 November and 1 December 2021, having previously been circulated to all Councillors were subject to the following

Minute 21/299 5.1, after "pleased the" ~~delete~~ "kissing gate at the entrance to footpath 3, off Wroxham Road, was being removed as it had been a problem for many years and previous requests to remove it had been unsuccessful"

and ~~insert~~ "kissing gates at the St Mary and St Margaret's Church end of footpath 2 and at the Wroxham Road end of footpath 3 were being removed as they had been a problem for many years and previous requests to remove them had been unsuccessful".

confirmed and signed by the Chairman / Town Mayor of the Council.

21/320. ACTION FROM MINUTES

(1) Asset of Community Nomination - Sprowston Sports and Social Club

Further to Minute 21/022, it was **RESOLVED** the Recreational Facilities Working Group correspond with Broadland District Council on behalf of the Council in support of the Asset of Community Value Nomination.

21/320. ACTION FROM MINUTES (CONTINUED)

(2) School Lane Planning Enforcement - Burdens Civils Site

Further to Minute 21/270 (3), Mrs B J Lashley welcomed the requirement of a retrospective planning application for the storage racks and towers erected at Burdens Civils site however, questioned the site being lawful by the passage of time. She requested District Councillors call in the application when submitted so it could be determined by the Planning committee.

(3) Halsbury Homes development, proposals for street Names

Further to Minute 21/296, Council noted the request from Halsbury Homes Ltd to change the proposed street names for their development from a Butterfly theme to one that represented their brand.

Given these names had no local or historical connection to Sprowston it was

RESOLVED to retain the Butterfly theme or alternatively surnames of Sprowston farmers, growers and blacksmiths.

(4) Land Adjacent 120 North Walsham Road - New Road Name

Further to Minute 21/296 (2), Council noted the name Andrews Close had been agreed with Broadland District Council's Street Naming and Numbering Team for land adjacent 120, North Walsham Road.

21/321. TO RECEIVE THE POLICE LIAISON OFFICERS REPORT

(1) Old Catton & Sprowston West Ward (Sprowston SNT) November

(2) Sprowston Central & East Ward (Sprowston SNT) November

Mrs J Leggett reported that attendees at the Sprowston Safer Neighbourhood (SNAP) priority setting meeting held 14 December 2021 consisted of 2 policemen, Cllr. W F Couzens and herself however, 500 suggestions had been received via Facebook and Next Door. In view of these suggestions the same priorities were agreed for the following three months.

The next SNAP meeting will be held via TEAMS on 30 March 2022, subject to Covid restrictions. The following meeting will be held in person.

It was felt better communication was required to get more public involvement at SNAP meetings.

Referring to speeding on Atlantic Avenue Mr J M Ward advised it could be several years before this roadway was adopted by Norfolk County Council as there were a number of issues to be resolved with developers.

Council welcomed PC Gill's comments regarding a reduction in anti-social behaviour since SYEP had increased their presence at Sprowston Recreation Ground and Sparhawk Park noting it did not apply to the area around Barkers Lane and Church Lane.

21/321. TO RECEIVE THE POLICE LIAISON OFFICERS REPORT (CONTINUED)

Council also noted StreetSafe a pilot service for anyone to anonymously tell Police about public places where they have felt or feel unsafe, because of environmental issues such as street lighting, abandoned buildings or vandalism and/or because of some behaviours.

Mrs B J Lashley asked if complaints made to the Council office regarding anti-social behaviour were logged.

The Town Clerk advised all issues were forwarded to PC Gill.

21/322. TO RECEIVE CORRESPONDENCE

(1) Offshore Transmission Network

Council made a number of comments on the Offshore Windfarms Update: November 2021 including:

- The document was complex and the terminology made it difficult reading
- The Government had given approval for one scheme and seemed to be riding rough shot over Town and Parish Councils.
- There should be a single pipeline across the County.
- Council should continue supporting the Norfolk Parish Movement for an OTN group.

(2) Norfolk County Council Budget Consultation for 2022/2023

RESOLVED that Councillors respond on an individual basis to Norfolk County Council's Budget Consultation for 2022/23.

(3) Request for Double Yellow Lines on Falcon Road

Mrs J Leggett reported double yellow lines on Falcon Road had been discussed at the SNAP held on 14 December 2021 where she had suggested painting H lines to create spaces to overtake or pull in.

There had been noticeable improvements following the implementation of H lines on White Woman Lane and they could be instigated quickly.

Mr W F Couzens proposed, seconded by Mrs J Leggett to explore the idea of H lines in association with PC Gill and Norfolk Highways.

21/323. VIKING CENTRE - CAR PARK AND PEDESTRIAN ROUTE

Having considered the Town Clerk's report:

- (1) Mr J M Ward proposed, seconded by Mr M G Callam Recommendation 1a; To

21/323. VIKING CENTRE - CAR PARK AND PEDESTRIAN ROUTE (CONTINUED)

deposit a Highways statement and lodge a Highways Declaration, both under section 31(6) of the Highways Act 1980, to prevent creation of a public right of way across the "Viking Centre" car park.

On being put to the vote the motion was CARRIED.

- (2) Following discussion on the potential for Council to purchase some or all of the verge, likelihood of Norfolk County Council constructing a pathway through the verge to join the existing path or possibility of the Town Council being requested to provide a path as part of the Planning permission it was agreed the Town Clerk to liaise with Norfolk Highways to negotiate the best option.

Mrs K Vincent suggested this highway improvement could be submitted to the Parish Partnership scheme for partial funding.

21/324. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

A written report was received from Mr J M Ward.

Mr J M Ward also verbally reported:

- (a) Tots2teens is running this Christmas from 20 - 23 and 29 - 30 December 2021. Check Broadland District Council's website or details.
- (b) Norfolk County Council are to run courses on an introduction to the Construction industry. These are six-week courses that lay the foundations for a construction career. The courses start 10 January 2022. Details at www.norfolk.gov.uk/construction
- (c) There will be traffic signal improvements and carriageway resurfacing on the Sprowston section of Constitution Hill starting 31 January 2022 for 28 days.
- (d) Norse has generated revenue of £354m in the last year compared to £338m in the previous year. £2.2m was returned to Norfolk County Council compared to £1.7m the previous year.

Mrs J Leggett verbally reported that following an approach to the relevant Portfolio Holder at Broadland District Council improvements had been made in the timeliness of planning enforcements.

Mrs K Vincent verbally reported:

- (a) she had called in Planning Application 20211882 The Garages, Tills Road however, it had since been withdrawn with no reason and will be resubmitted.
- (b) repairs to the traffic lights at George Hill will be completed by 16 December 2021.
- (c) her County Council Highways allowance was available for electric charging points at the Viking Centre or footpath if required.

21/325. RESIDENTS QUESTIONS

On the motion of Mr J M Ward seconded by Mr J H Mallen 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.

Mr K Lashley commented that the white H lines on Recreation Ground Road were habitually parked on and were purely advisory.

He had again not received a copy of Sprowston Matters and questioned if other residents of Neville Road had received theirs.

Mr M Moore queried if building works adjacent Lushers Loke had affected the only street light in the vicinity.

He also raised concern about a slippery leaf patch on the pavement close to the bus stop opposite Pioneer Road on North Walsham Road.

The meeting was reconvened.

21/326. REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

COMMUNITY BUILDINGS, ALLOTMENTS, PARKS AND OPEN SPACES

1.1 Sprowston Diamond Centre

Further to his written report and having spoken to Council's architect the Town Clerk confirmed that a timeline was in place for submission of a planning application in February 2022 for the Viking Centre attracting fees of £18,500. He hoped to have the detailed design and access statement prepared in time for the consultation to be held on 18 and 19 January 2022.

Structural, acoustic and traffic surveys were likely to be required.

CEMETERY

3.1 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 Update on electric vehicle charging points, funded through the Town Mayor's Norfolk County Council Highways Member's fund

21/326. REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK (CONTINUED)

In response to a Councillors question the Town clerk advised payment for using Council's future electric vehicle charging points would be contactless.

5.2 Highway inspection Parish Visit week commencing 24/01/2022

The Town Clerk asked Councillors to report any issues, including leaves in the road to the Council office for forwarding to Highways Inspectors.

21/327. MEETING ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting was reconvened.

21/328. 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:

20122198 - single storey side and rear extension at 43, Hornbeam Close, Sprowston

(b) to support Thorpe St. Andrew Town Council's reservations with regard to planning application 20212075 - approval of matters reserved for layout, scale, appearance and landscaping following outline planning permission 20161896 for the erection of 223 new homes, and the approval of matters reserves for layout and landscaping of at Racecourse Plantation, Plumstead Road East, Thorpe St. Andrew and raise the following concerns:

1. It appears that some roadways and paths have been included as part of the allocation for public open space.
2. Play areas, particularly for younger children, should be overlooked by residential properties and not located in more remote areas surrounded by woodland.
3. Insufficient provision of allotment space given the size of the development, smaller gardens and popularity of this activity.
4. Inadequate depth of the woodland fringe in some areas.
5. Have bat routes been taken into account when designing the road layout and potential location of any lighting?

21/328. PLANNING (CONTINUED)

- (c) to oppose the granting of planning application 20212140 - redevelopment of Coach House and outbuildings to form 5 dwellings at Sprowston Lodge, the Coach House, Wroxham Road, Sprowston on the grounds that:
1. Beeston Lane, a single-track roadway is classified access only and is unsuitable for high volumes of traffic which this scale of development would generate.
 2. Whilst the application suggests the development would attract 12 vehicles this does not take into consideration visitors, service vehicles, deliveries and likelihood of more than two cars per household. This would produce an unacceptable increase in vehicles along this narrow rural highway.
 3. Any increase in vehicular movements at the busy junctions of Beeston Lane and the A1151 Wroxham Road or B1150 North Walsham Road would be dangerous.

21/329. PLANNING DECISIONS

- (a) Gamble Plant (Norfolk) Ltd Salhouse

Council noted planning consent had been refused.

- (b) Tills Road - The Garage Sites NR6 7QZ

Council noted planning application 20211882 had been withdrawn by the applicant.

21/330. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL'S COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS

No written or verbal reports were received.

21/331. REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS REPRESENTING THE COUNCIL ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS

Referring to the impact Planning application FUL/2021/0037 side extension to Sprowston Library would have on the sensory garden Mr W F Couzens verbally reported that two meetings had been held with Norfolk County Council officers and the Cabinet Member contacted. Discussions were ongoing.

21/332. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS 15 DECEMBER 2021

The Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer presented the schedule of accounts to 15 December 2021 totalling £8,496.38.

In response to questions from Mr J H Mallen the Town Clerk explained:

Invoice No. 6225 Couzens was electrical work at the Viking centre to make safe the building in preparation of the public consultation.

Invoice No. 957542 Huws Grays were materials for bases at the cemetery on which benches were placed.

Invoice No. 723456 Intouch was to move Sage to Cloud based software.

21/332. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS 15 DECEMBER 2021 (CONTINUED)

On the motion of Mr J M Ward, seconded by Mrs J Leggett it was **RESOLVED** that payment of the accounts to 15 December 2021 totalling £8,496.38 be approved and the schedule authorising payment signed by Mr J M Ward and Mrs B J Lashley.

21/333. SCHEDULE OF DIRECT DEBIT PAYMENTS

In response to a question from Mrs B J Lashley the Town Clerk advised that he was not aware of an agreement in place for R S Whiting to clear pavements in the event of heavy snowfall.

The schedule of direct debit payments to 15 December 2021 totalling £37,369.68 was approved and noted.

21/334. SCHEDULE OF CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS & BARCLAY VISA DEBIT TO 15 DECEMBER 2021

In response to Councillors questions the Town Clerk explained:

Invoice Nos. 100888826, 100893746, 115952849 and 115991913 business rates were half yearly.

The schedule of credit card and Barclay Visa Debit payments to 15 December 2021 totalling £1,230.43 was approved and noted.

There being no other necessary business the Chairman / Town Mayor of the Council thanked Councillors for their participation and declared the meeting closed at 9.15pm.

12 January 2021

Town Mayor