

MEETING OF SPROWSTON TOWN COUNCILLORS – 27 APRIL 2022

At the meeting of the Sprowston Town Council held at the School Room, Sprowston Diamond Centre, School Lane, Sprowston on Wednesday 27 April 2022, the following Councillors were present: -

Mr J M Ward – Town Mayor

Mr A J Barton - Mrs J Leggett
Mr M G Callam - Mr J H Mallen
Mrs B Cook - Mr C T Rumsby
Mrs K Vincent

In attendance

Mr G Ranaweera - Town Clerk and Responsible
Financial Officer
Mrs E Elliot - Committee Officer
Mr B Jervis - Broadland Tree Warden

5 members of the public were present

22/108. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY AND OTHER INTERESTS

No declarations of disclosable pecuniary and other interests were received.

22/109. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Written apologies for absence were received and accepted by the Council from Mr W F Couzens, Mr J F Fisher and Mrs B J Lashley and verbal apologies from Ms D Coleman, Mr R J Knowles, Mr N Shaw and Mr G S Tingle.

22/110. 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 Chairman who would, assisted by the Town Clerk, reply.

As there were no residents questions the Chairman moved to the next item of business and the meeting was reconvened.

The meeting was reconvened.

22/111. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Council's meeting held on 6 April 2022, having previously been circulated to all Councillors were confirmed subject to the following amendments

22/094 (2), **delete** "there was a report on the NCC website" and **insert** "they could be reported on the NCC website"

22/111. MINUTES (CONTINUED)

22/095 **delete** “Alake” and **insert** “Aslake”

22/097 (6), **delete** “process” and **insert** “prices”

22/097, After Mrs B J Lashley suggested **delete** “that unless access improvements were made to dual the carriageway the Acle Straight to make Great Yarmouth viable it was a pointless exercise” and **insert** that providing a third river crossing was pointless unless access improvements to make Great Yarmouth viable were made, such as the provision of a dual carriageway on the Acle Straight.

22/097, **delete** “Mr W F Fisher” and **insert** “Mr J F Fisher”

22/098 3.1, **delete** “complete a new report” and **insert** “receive the report and do the work necessary before winter”

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

22/112 ACTION FROM MINUTES

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

Council noted correspondence from Emma Goddard advising that a review of the hearing to list Sprowston Sports and Social Club as an Asset of Community Value had been extended to 6 May 2022.

22/113. PRESENTATION - BROADLAND TREE WARDENS

Ben Jervis gave a detailed presentation on his responsibilities as a Broadland Tree Warden which included commenting on applications for tree works, assisting with schemes such as hedge planting, and monitoring protected trees.

He explained Tree Wardens could assist with a wider range of arboriculture related matters and invited Council to make more use of them.

Mr Jervis was asked to liaise with the Town Clerk with regard to planting trees in verges.

Mrs J Leggett said she was interested in if he had identified other places suitable for planting appropriate trees.

Mr Jervis’s response was that he had mapped the area however, if Council wanted to assign specific locations, he could assess them for suitability.

Mr J H Mallen enquired about engagement with residents i.e., if tree work was required.

Mr Jervis replied that there was little awareness of Tree Wardens and their role.

It was suggested an article be included in a future issue of Sprowston Matters.

The Town Mayor thanked Mr Jervis for his attendance and presentation.

22/114. TO RECEIVE CORRESPONDENCE

(1) Norfolk County Council Inspection Visit

It was agreed Councillors contact the Town Clerk with any identified highway maintenance works.

(2) Nutrient Neutrality advice from Natural England

Council noted the Nutrient Neutrality advice from Natural England and implication for the consideration of planning applications.

(3) Police and Crime Commissioner Safety Plan 2022 – 2024

Council noted the launch of the Police and Crime Commissioners Crime and Safety Plan 2022 - 24.

22/115. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

A written report was received from Mr J M Ward.

Mr J M Ward also verbally reported:

- (1) The CIL figures referred to in his written report were incorrect. Amended details of CIL receipts was circulated.
- (2) Work started last week on the annual surface dressing of our roads. This year 301 miles of roads will get a new seal to extend the life of the road, prevent potholes opening up and provide a new skid-resistant surface.
- (3) Broadlands Jubilee Party in the Park at Blickling Hall on Saturday 4 June 2022 has been sold out. The free tickets were available from 20 April 2022 and all went on the first day.
- (4) The Town Clerk and I met this morning with Polly Cobb, the new Environmental Project Assistant at Broadland District Council to view the Mini Forest and the Diamond Field hedge and we discussed future possible grant applications.
- (5) Broadland District Council is proud to be one of the first authorities to host a GRIDSERVE (electric charges) at Postwick. It is the largest in the country and one of the only two, so far, delivered. I visited at the weekend. It is a Mini Motorway Service Area and they have some new electric cars and an electric motorbike on display.
- (6) The Princes Trust Team Project starts again on 16 May 2022 for 12 weeks. Applicants aged 16 - 25 who are not in work, education or training are invited to apply. To enrol or for more information email fireyouthdev@norfolk.gov.uk

Mrs J Leggett verbally reported:

- (1) Following reports on social media of anti-social behaviour in the area she had contacted PC Graham Gill who confirmed 17 incidences had been reported in 12 months, none of which were repeat occurrences.

22/115. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS (CONTINUED)

- (2) Significant amounts of small electrical equipment, batteries and textiles were collected by Veolia in the first week of their new contract.

Referring to a newspaper article questioning the sustainability of the HVO powering collection vehicles, she assured councillors it was from sustainable sources.

- (3) Each Broadland District Councillor has an annual budget of £500.00 to spend on projects within their wards.

22/116. REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

COMMUNITY BUILDINGS, ALLOTMENTS, PARKS AND OPEN SPACES

1.1 'Viking' Centre

Council noted the delay in Bidwells LLP preparing the "Viking" Centre planning application and deferral of its presentation until 18 May 2022.

1.2 Legionella Risk Assessments

It was noted that legionella risk assessments had been carried out at all Council buildings and items identified for remedial works would be scheduled for completion.

The recommendation to remove cold-water storage tanks in the Pavilion roof would require larger capacity connection from the water main on Recreation Ground Road and Anglian Water had been instructed to investigate potential options. The potential costs were liable to be significant.

CEMETERY

2.1 No matters were reported

STREET LIGHTING

3.1 No matters were reported

CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION AND PERSONNEL

4.1 Work Experience for City College 'Project Search' Students

Responding to a question from Mr J H Mallen the Town Clerk confirmed the summer work placement student from City College would supplement the recruitment of an additional grounds team member.

PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION

5.1 Request for Road Safety Measures at Junction of Moore Avenue and Burma Road

22/116. REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK (CONTINUED)

Council was pleased to note lining refresh works had been programmed for Moore Avenue and Burma Road.

Mrs K Vincent reported that "SLOW" signage had been obscured due to potholes and she hoped work to rectify this would be completed at the same time as refresh lining.

5.2 Request for a New 20mph Speed Restriction on the St Mary and Margaret's Estate and the Section of Church Lane Between the Mini-roundabout and the Vehicle Gate

Council expressed disappointment at Norfolk County Council's response to its request for a 20mph speed restriction.

Mrs K Vincent proposed, seconded by Mr J H Mallen to place the Council's speed indicator device (SAM2) in a suitable location on the St. Mary and St Margarets estate to collect data on the level of speeding before responding to Norfolk County Council. On being put to the vote the motion was CARRIED.

5.3 Request for Road Safety Measures in the Vicinity of Chopyngs Dole Close Play Area and the Blue Boar Lane Roundabout

Following discussion on Norfolk County Council's response to install a traffic light controlled pedestrian crossing between Wroxham Road roundabout and Blue Boar Lane roundabout Mr J H Mallen proposed, seconded by Mr M G Callam to request Norfolk County Council's Network Safety Team to carry out a pedestrian crossing assessment / feasibility study at a cost of £4,000. On being put to the vote the motion was CARRIED.

ATTACHMENTS

- 6.1 NCC Highway's Email Response to Town Council's Request for Road Safety Measures at Junction of Moore Avenue and Burma Road
- 6.2 NCC Highway's Email Response to Town Council's Request for a New 20mph Speed Restriction on the St Mary and St Margarets Estate and the Section of Church Lane Between the Mini-roundabout and the Vehicle Gate
- 6.3 NCC Highway's Email Response to Town Council's Request for A Pedestrian Crossing on Blue Boar Lane

22/117. MEETING ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Mr J H Mallen, seconded by Mrs J Leggett it was **RESOLVED** to adjourn the meeting for a short break.

The meeting was reconvened.

22/118. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL'S COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS

Mrs J Leggett verbally reported on matters discussed at the Recreational Facilities Working Group held on 12 April 2022 as follows:

- (1) The rewilding trial was progressing and would be monitored for a year before consideration was given to expanding the scheme into other roads in Sprowston.
- (2) Sprowston Youth Engagement Project's urban garden application is still being considered by the planning authority.
- (3) The "Viking" Centre planning application has been discussed under minute 22/116 1.1.
- (4) Developers continued to cause ongoing delays with provision of the skate park. However, the Town Clerk was meeting with representatives from Persimmon Homes when he hoped revised plans would be available.
- (5) A running track has been mown at Barkers Lane open space.
- (6) A majority of the work to host the Platinum Jubilee has been completed.
- (7) An update on stalls and activities already organised for Sprowston Fete will be listed in the Recreational Facilities Working Group minutes to be circulated to Councillors with the agenda for Council meeting to be held 18 May 2022.
- (8) It has been established that planning permission is not required for provision of a pop-up café at Sprowston Recreation Ground and this item could now be progressed.

22/119. REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS REPRESENTING THE COUNCIL ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS

Mr A J Barton reported on his attendance at Sprowston Senior Citizens first Annual General meeting since 2019, also attended by Cllr. W F Couzens.

It was a positive meeting with two new members elected to the Welfare Committee and the club's many activities resuming.

22/120. 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:

20220307 - proposed two storey side extension and internal alterations (revised plans) at 94, Cromwell Road, Sprowston.

22/120. PLANNING (CONTINUED)

20220358 - erect a temporary (for 24 months) building (workshop) on far end of property at AEW Engineering, Pinetrees Road, Sprowston

20220365 - rear extension and loft conversion with front and rear dormers (revised plans) at 11, Bracey Avenue, Sprowston.

20220475 - proposed side extension and alterations including first floor and front porch at 54, Russell Avenue, Sprowston.

20220511 - single storey rear extension at 1, Rosemary Road, Sprowston

20220568 - single storey rear extension at 3, Linton Crescent, Sprowston.

20220571 - two storey chalet extension to rear and single storey front extension. Erection of porch at 2, Greenborough Close, Sprowston

- (b) to oppose the granting of planning application 20220525 - proposed new access. Single storey rear extension. New dormer to rear and extension to garage (revised plans) at 78 Barkers Lane, Sprowston on the grounds that the proposed new access is too close to the junction with Church View Close and incorporates part of the highway verge into the driveway and access.
- (c) to strongly oppose the granting of planning application 20220639 - 20m monopole mast with headframe accommodating 6No antennas, 2No dish (1No 300mm; 1No 600mm), 4No cabinets and all ancillary development at WS Lusher and Son Ltd, Lushers Loke, Sprowston on the following grounds:
- The proposed monopole mast with headframe and associated antennas and dishes would be an unneighbourly form of development. At 20m in height it would be an unsightly blot on the landscape affecting the visual amenities of properties in both the immediate vicinity and wider area.
 - Noise from the 4 cabinets could also cause disturbance to neighbouring residents.
 - The proposal contradicts the Sprowston Neighbourhood Plan and installation of a mast of this size would blight the site and may preclude it from future residential use.
- (d) whilst having no objection to planning application Norwich City 21/01847/F - Retirement living development comprising 45 flats for social rent at Former 28, Mousehold Lane, Norwich (Revision to site plan) it was still felt consideration should be given to reducing the speed limit from 40mph to 30mph on Mousehold Lane in view of the likely increase in traffic movements entering and exiting the premises of this, other and proposed developments in close proximity.

22/121. PLANNING DECISIONS

Council noted planning decisions for week ending 1 April 2022, 8 April 2022 and 15 April 2022.

22/122. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS 27 APRIL 2022

The Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer presented the schedule of accounts and supplementary schedule of accounts to 27 April 2022 totalling £15,399.50 and £4,227.00.

In response to Councillors' questions the Town Clerk explained:

Invoice 1503130 AC Leigh 6 x Galvanised padlocks, 6 x Abloy padlocks, 6 x passing padlocks 2 x keys - the bulk of this cost was for the purchase of pre-coded Abloy padlocks used on all perimeter gates at Councils properties.

Invoice 1027 Anglian Tree Contractors Tree works at the old Viking - was for the removal of Leylandii trees on the property boundary in advance of the planning application being submitted and following complaints from neighbours.

Invoice 146803 Ernest Doe Verti-drain hire 1 week - was an item of machinery attached to the tractor used to aerate the Recreation Ground.

Invoice 236410 and 236409 Flameskill Site inspection Sprowston Diamond Centre and Sprowston Town Council - was for bi-annual emergency lights and fire alarm checks.

On the motion of Mr J M Ward, seconded by Mr A J Barton it was **RESOLVED** that payment of the accounts and supplementary payment of accounts to 27 April 2022 totalling £15,399.50 and £4,227.00 be approved and the schedule authorising payment signed by Mr J M Ward and Mrs J Leggett.

22/123. SCHEDULE OF DIRECT DEBIT PAYMENTS

The schedule of direct debit payments to 27 April 2022 totalling £67,049.92 was approved and noted.

22/124. SCHEDULE OF CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS & BARCLAY VISA DEBIT TO 27 APRIL 2022

In response to a question from Mr M G Callam the Town Clerk advised he would clarify why there was two invoices:

Invoices 4340428095 and 2022021 Utilita Electricity Viking Centre.

The schedule of credit card and Barclay Visa Debit payments to 27 April 2022 totalling £1,498.61 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 8.34pm.

18 May 2022

Town Mayor