

ATTLEBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the above Council held in Attleborough Town Hall, Queens Square, Attleborough, Norfolk, on Monday 7 September 2009 at 7pm.

PRESENT

Cllrs V Dale (Chair), G Farrow, B Waters, N Keach, S Schucroft, A Sturt, K Pettitt, G Firman, S Taylor, A Marchant, R Reynolds; District Cllrs K Martin & A Byrne; H Elias (Town Clerk); members of the public.

1 TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were accepted from Cllrs Mrs D Francis (unwell), S Middlebrook (previous commitment)

2 TO AGREE A RESOLUTION THAT THE MEETING BE ADJOURNED TO ALLOW A PERIOD OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (maximum 10 minutes in duration – NB: a second period of public participation will be allowed at the end of the meeting)

It was proposed by Cllr Schucroft and carried by Council that the meeting be adjourned to allow the public to speak.

Items raised were: Respect Zone at Connaught Hall, proposed BMX track, Council representation at Police Safer Neighbourhood Team meeting, the Council representatives for Police and Youth, community questionnaire.

The meeting was reconvened.

3 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS BELOW

Cllr S Taylor declared a prejudicial interest in Item 11 and took no part in the vote as Mr J Taylor is her father and business partner.

4 TO RECEIVE THE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT (refer to diary list)

The Mayor had had a quieter month, and had been away on holiday. She had attended Breckland Council Chairman's Reception, and had a fun evening at Holly Court.

5 TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING (previously circulated – factual discrepancies only)

The minutes were agreed and signed.

6 TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING (previously circulated – factual discrepancies only)

The minutes of the extraordinary meeting were agreed and signed.

7 TO RECEIVE A BRIEF UPDATE ON ANY ITEMS NOT LISTED BELOW (NB Information only – no resolutions may be passed)

i) August - Item 6: 21 ii): Request for extension of footway near Victory Park: Norfolk CC rejected requests for a path on London Road from Keeling Way to Victory Park due to lack of infrastructure and location away from town centre. The path being constructed at Victory Park is part of a S106 agreement with Breckland Planning Dept.

ii) July - Item 21 x): Lomond Road / Lochs estate: Norfolk CC is unable to adopt the roads until it receives a certificate of completion from the Anglian Water Authority. However, there appears to be a problem with the sewerage system, so Anglian Water will not sign off the certificate for the developers.

iii) July - 21 xii): HGV count: There has been no HGV count on Exchange Street. A traffic survey was conducted in 2006 along Norwich Road. Signage directing heavy traffic to the new junctions on Queens Road away from the town centre is in the current financial year's budget.

iv) Signs re elderly people crossing: Norfolk CC will investigate re-positioning the signs.

v) Town Hall: Flooring has been replaced in the corridor and stairwell.

vi) Recreation Ground slide: This will be dealt with by the Open Spaces Committee

ix) Public Toilets: Evergreen builders are making repairs to the UPVC cladding & will clean the water stain in the service area.

vii) Street Light Funding: full Council minutes of 06/11/2000 state that Objective 2 funding (part of the European Development Fund) was available in Breckland for infrastructure projects. This funding ceased in 2006. European funding is now only available in East Anglia for their Regional Competitiveness and Employment Objectives.

8 TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE COMMITTEE MINUTES (refer to enclosed documents)

i) Planning x 2: the retrospective planning applications for signs and shutters at the Quick Stop in Church Street had been refused.

9 TO RECEIVE REPRESENTATIVES' REPORTS

Old Buckenham Airfield: Their June event had had over 8,000 people. Money from the programmes would be donated to the local hospices. There had only been five complaints in six months, several unsubstantiated. Mostly complaints are made directly to the airfield and the relevant pilot dealt with. The next meeting is in 2010. It is probable that the group will be disbanded.

10 TO RECEIVE DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

i) Parking in market towns: Breckland Councillors are making a series of site visits to car parks in the market towns for a survey. Attleborough has been put forward for a pilot scheme as it has raised the matter with Breckland.

11 TO RECEIVE DETAILS OF AUGUST'S FINANCIAL STATEMENT (refer to enclosed documents)

No queries were raised about the statement. The Council is within budget.

12 TO AUTHORISE PAYMENT OF BILLS AND CHEQUES (refer to list)

A query was raised as to the light bulbs bought for the Town Hall and the legal fees.
It was proposed by Cllr Keach and carried by Council that the payment of the cheques be authorised. ACTION: Town Clerk

13 TO AGREE TO DISTRIBUTE THE NEWSLETTER & ANNUAL REPORT TO HOUSES IN ATTLEBOROUGH

Quotes had been sought to deliver the newsletter and quarterly magazine with questionnaire to homes throughout the Parish. The Post Office had been approached twice, but not responded. Archant required the newsletters to be taken / sent to either Gt Yarmouth or Ipswich.

Quality People had quoted to deliver to approx 4,500 homes	£416 + VAT
Spider Solutions quoted 10p per leaflet and calculated 5,220 homes	£522

It was proposed by Cllr Keach and carried by Council that Quality People be used to deliver the leaflets. ACTION: Town Clerk

14 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE PROPOSED TOWN MAP

Codair have sold all the advertising and have received enough to produce a larger folded map.

15 TO CO-OPT NEW COUNCILLORS

Cllr S Taylor declared a prejudicial interest as Mr John Taylor is her father and business partner and took no part in the voting. Cllr Pettitt declared a personal interest as Mr McBride is her neighbour. It was agreed by Councillors that they would take a written vote.

i) Queens Ward: Four people had put themselves forward; Mr Lee Webster, Mrs Jay Lilley, Mr John Taylor and Mr John McBride. Mr McBride received 8 votes, Mr Webster 1 vote and Mr Taylor 1 vote.

Mr McBride was duly co-opted as a member for Queens Ward.

ii) Burgh / Haverscroft Ward: Two people had put themselves forward: Mrs Jay Lilley and Mr John Taylor. Mr Taylor received 8 votes and Mrs Lilley 2 votes.

Mr Taylor was duly co-opted as member for Burgh / Haverscroft Ward.

16 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE HANDOVER OF THE PLAYPARKS

The documents are with Breckland's legal team at Norfolk CC. Queries were raised as to the remaining financial package that would accompany the handover. District Councillors were asked to push the matter through. A query was raised as to where Breckland Council would stand on the matter if the Town Council reversed its earlier decision to accept the play parks.

ACTION: Town Clerk

17 TO RATIFY THE CURRENT CLEANING CONTRACT FOR THE TOWN HALL

It was explained that a member of the public had complained that the cleaning contract for the Town Hall had not been voted on in the correct manner.

It was proposed by Cllr Waters and carried by Council that the cleaning contract to Karen Maran Cleaning Services be ratified.

18 TO DISCUSS AND ACT UPON CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED (refer to enclosed summary of correspondence received since last meeting)

i) Boxing Clubs: letter clarifying the history and background of the two Boxing Clubs

ii) Kerry Butcher Accountancy: letter of thanks

iii) PPS Group: request for a meeting with Councillors re Sainsbury's presence in Attleborough and planning related issues. Monday 28 September was suggested. **ACTION: Town Clerk**

iv) Bidwell's: request to attend Council meeting after LDF Inspector's examination report is published. The November full Council meeting was suggested. **ACTION: Town Clerk**

v) Norfolk ALC AGM: Saturday 12 September, 10.30am, Hevingham Village Hall. Barnham Broom Parish Council's Chair had requested that Attleborough Town Council second their motion at the AGM "to actively promote sustainable policies in all aspects of local council matters and recognise the best practice of Reepham Town Council in working towards carbon neutral status". Reepham's key project is a community car which runs on electricity which residents can rent by the hour. The Town Council is not attending the AGM and seconding the motion was deemed inappropriate.

vi) BDC's International Food Event: Friday 16th October 11am-2pm, Queens Hall, Watton. Anyone interested in taking part should contact Cat Lang at Breckland.

vii) BDC Town & Parish Council Forum & Open evening: Thursday 29 October 6pm, EcoTech Centre, Swaffham

The following were received after the agenda was published. No resolutions may be passed.

viii) Connaught Hall: Request for donation towards replacement chairs. To be discussed by the Finance Committee.

19 TO RECEIVE INFORMATION ON TOWN AFFAIRS (NB information only – No resolutions may be passed)

- i) Footway on Buckenham Road: Residents will shortly receive a letter consulting them on the proposed footway.
- ii) Parking on Football Club Drive. It was suggested that this could be controlled by parking meters.
- iii) Blackthorn Road: Mini motorbikes have been using the green areas. This is a matter for the Police.
- iv) Market: There had been two successful children's activities on the market over the summer holidays
- v) Art Extravaganza: This would take place at the Town Hall over the weekend of the 12 & 13 September
- vi) Public Toilets: a paving slab had broken and needed replacing.
- vii) Thieves Lane: there was a raised manhole cover near the junction with Paddock Gardens.
- viii) Lomond Road Estate: Hedgerows need cutting back. (This estate has not yet been adopted by Norfolk CC).
- ix) Gaymer's Meadow: Tents have been pitched overnight and anti-social behaviour is taking place.
- x) Community Boxing Club, Leys Lane: the equipment is still in place.
- xi) Parking: Thanks were expressed to the Clerk for her letter to the District Council raising the profile of the issue.
- xii) Car Boot Sales: Thanks were expressed to Cllr Middlebrook for his considerable efforts and hard work in organising the car boot sales, raising funds for Attleborough In Bloom and the Mayor's Youth fund.
- xiii) Congratulations: Mrs Blyth has passed the Intermediate stage of the AAT course.
- xiv) Connaught Road Trees: These need cutting back at the Mulberry Tree end of the road near the obelisk, and also along Station Road on the opposite side from Connaught Hall.

20 TO RECEIVE ITEMS FOR NEXT MONTH'S AGENDA

- i) Sainsbury's Plans ii) Playparks iii) Questions for Inspector Cross

21 TO AGREE A RESOLUTION THAT THE MEETING BE ADJOURNED TO ALLOW A PERIOD OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (NB: 10 minutes maximum)

It was proposed by Cllr Keach and carried by Council that the meeting be adjourned to allow the public to speak.

Items raised were: Dwindling monies due to lower interest rates. Play areas & funding for their improvement.

The meeting was reconvened

22 THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING WAS CONFIRMED as Monday 5 October 2009 at 7pm

The meeting closed at 8.12pm

Chair: