

THORPE ST ANDREW TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 7th APRIL 2008

PRESENT: Mr R. S. James (Town Mayor) Mrs E. C. Laming
Mrs O. M. Campbell Miss S. P. Lawn
Mr J. Emsell Mr E. A. Newberry
Mr S. Freeman-Pannett Mr D. R. C. Spooner

1. Attendance book and apologies for absence.

The attendance book was circulated and signed by those present. Apologies were received from Mr A. J. Barber, Mr D. E. Eley, Mr J. F. Fisher Mr I. J. Mackie, Mr N. Shaw, Mrs Y. Utting and Mr J. M. Ward (Deputy Town Mayor).

2. Declarations of interest in items on the agenda.

None.

3. To confirm the minutes of the meetings held on the 3rd March 2008

The minutes of the meetings held on the 3rd March 2008, previously circulated to members, were approved and signed.

4. Announcements (For information only).

The Clerk, Mr S. J. Ford announced that the annual St Andrews Football Club Youth Tournament would take place on Sunday 8th June 2008.

5. Public participation – It was unanimously resolved by a motion to suspend the meeting to allow members of the public, County and District Councillors the opportunity to address the meeting.

Mr P. Rope requested that Members record of attendance at full Town Council meetings be made available at the Annual Public meeting. Mr Rope considered that reports on the agenda for consideration should bear the name of the author.

Mr P. Fenn asked on behalf of a number of local residents if there was any news to report regarding the closure and future thereafter of the Pinebanks sports and leisure club. Mr J. Ward, Deputy Town Mayor and District Councillor replied that it was understood that the Chairman of Norwich Union, Mr S. Wood, would make a statement at the end of the month. The Town Mayor, Mr R. S James said that the Town Council had registered an interest that the council would be interested in taking up any of the facilities that might be available with Norwich Union, Savills who were advising the landowner on options for the future, and Broadland District Council.

District Council

Mr J. Ward advised that the Town Annual Public Meeting clashed with the District Council's annual meeting and that might prevent some District Councillors from attending the Town Meeting. Mr Ward drew attention to the District Council's Green Award and said he hoped that there might be a project within the town that could be put forward for the scheme.

6. Closure of Pine banks

Following a lively debate it was **RESOLVED** to register with the landowners, Morley Asset Management, the Town Council's interest managing and/or taking over the whole of the Norwich Union Pinebanks sports and leisure site. A number of different options for management of the site were suggested by members that could be investigated further when the future intentions of the site owners were known.

7. Payment of Accounts:

Cheque numbers 002869 – 002914 totalling £34,020.04p, voucher numbers 1440 – 1531 on the 2007/08 payments list were approved and signed.

8. Draft minutes of committee meetings.

Plans committee

The draft minutes of the Plans committee held on 10th March 2008 were noted.

Events committee

The draft minutes of the Events committee held on 12th March 2008 were noted.

9. Town Tree Warden's report

The contents of the report were noted. Mr P. Rope, Town Tree Warden, would be leading a series of tree walks around the town in May, June and July. He had planted some trees in the tree belt on the southern section of Dussindale Park, Pound Lane. Mr Rope suggested that residents be asked if they would be interested in sponsoring the planting that would be carried out later in the year behind the recently erected fences at Laundry Lane and the Tree Plantation.

Mr Rope had concerns regarding the multiple tree protection orders at 43 Beechwood Drive and was considering attending the District Council planning committee meeting to speak when a planning application that would be affected by the orders would be considered.

10. Norfolk County Council

(i) Northern Distributor Road Newsletter

The contents of the Issue 3 April 2008 Newsletter were noted.

(ii) Local bus service variation

The new timetable for Anglian Bus routes A47 and X47 Norwich – Gorleston was noted.

11. Broadland District Council

(i) Section 106 payment

A sum of £26,534.60p had been received from the developers of 117 Yarmouth Road that could only be used towards the provision of new open space or towards the improvement and maintenance of existing open space.

(ii) East of England Regional Assembly - Gypsy and Traveller Sites

Information that responses to the draft policy were required by 16 May 2008 was noted.

12. Norfolk County Association of Parish & Town Councils

It was **RESOLVED** to renew the subscription for a further year at a cost of £990.74p.

13 The Local Channel

Website services available for local councils from the organisation were noted.

14. Norfolk Playing Fields Association

It was **RESOLVED** to renew the subscription for a further year at a cost of £40.

15. River Green toilets

It was **AGREED** to enter into discussions with Broadland District Council and the Broads Authority with regard to the future development of the toilets and the possible provision of an information centre.

16. Boundary Committee

Information on the review of the structure of local government in Norfolk and Suffolk was noted.

17. Civic Award

It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the contents of the revised documents put forward. The document would be redesigned for use in a folded one third page format.

18. Town Plan

It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to follow the actions required to produce a town plan.

19. Play Equipment – Progress report

Whilst some setbacks had been encountered in the grant applications offers had been received from a number of parties that would enable the applications to proceed for slightly more than the initial sum that had been put forward. Further information was required from the District Council to finalise matters.

20. Possible Section 106 projects

It was unanimously **AGREED** that the main priorities for using the s106 funds that had been received from developers were River Green, Thorpe Marshes and Pinebanks.

21. Landscape design at River Green

A quotation from a suitable qualified landscape architect was considered and it was **AGREED** that a further quotation should be obtained.

22. Rutted highway verges

A number of residents had complained of deeply rutted highway verges. It was **AGREED** that a reinforced matting system could be employed as an experiment adjacent to the letter box near The Gordon P.H. in Gordon Avenue.

23. Laundry Lane fencing

A resident had raised their concerns regarding the fencing that had recently been erected at the Recreation Ground. A letter of explanation would be sent explaining the reasons for the work and the plantings that would in due course be carried out to soften the impact of the fence.

24. Norwich Fringe Project

It was **RESOLVED** to make a donation of £100 to the project in recognition of the work carried out in the town.

25. Future agenda items

None.

Date of next meeting Annual Council Meeting 19th May 2008 at 7.30p.m.
At the Dussindale Community Centre.