

THORPE ST ANDREW TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 7th JULY 2008

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

1. Attendance book and apologies for absence.

The attendance book was circulated and signed by those present. Apologies were received from Mr J. F. Fisher, Mr I. J. Mackie, Mr N. Shaw and Mr D. R. C. Spooner.

2. Declarations of interest in items on the agenda.

Mr S. Freeman-Pannett declared a non prejudicial interest in the Payment of Accounts agenda item as an employee of Ben Burgess Ltd.

3. To confirm the minutes of the meetings held on the 2nd June 2008

The minutes of the meetings held on the 23rd June 2008, previously circulated to members were approved and signed following the addition of Miss S. P. Lawn to those present and the addition of Mrs E. C. Laming to those who had offered their apologies for the meeting on 2nd June 2008.

4. Announcements (For information only).

Mr R. S. James reported that he had attended meetings of the Broadland Community Partnership and a SNAP meeting at Hellesdon that was held with other SNAP groups to compare workings and identify any shortcomings. It was considered that publicity for the meetings could be better and that administration of the schemes needed tightening up. Both of those issues would be looked at.

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.

A number of residents of St Williams Way were in attendance to raise their concerns regarding the removal of the temporary VAS sign that had been in place for four weeks and the speed of traffic on the road. The Town Council had been pressing for speed activated signs and other measures to deal with speeding traffic for many years but the highways department had said that there were roads with a higher priority for such measures due to their poor accident record.

6. Pine banks

A letter had been received from Mr P. Kirby, Strategic Director and Chief Planner of Broadland District Council setting out how development could be carried out at the site and meet with the requirements of the Local Plan. Mr Kirby had stated that there was a surplus of adult sport facilities however as many of the Town Council's facilities were at capacity it was not accepted that that a "surplus" of adult facilities could exist within the framework that had been applied to support this view. This would be further exacerbated if the housing development proposals that had recently been put forward for the Town went ahead. The facilities at Pinebanks were stated to serve a wide area however there was no evidence to show that this was any different to Town Council facilities used by clubs. Their members also come from a wide area as well as from within the town.

7. Payment of Accounts:

Cheque numbers 002996 – 003037 totalling £24,886.07p, voucher numbers 271 – 368 on the 2008/09 payments list were approved and signed.

8. Draft minutes of meetings.

Plans Committee Meeting

The draft minutes of the Plans Committee Meetings held on 9th and 30th June 2008 were noted for information.

Events committee

The draft minutes of the Events committee held on 18th June 2008 were noted. Mr J. Emsell said since the meeting had been held a good number of stalls had been booked, additional catering facilities would be provided and bands would play until early evening.

Finance and Staffing Committee Meeting

The draft minutes of the Finance and Staffing Committee Meetings held on 23rd June 2008 were noted for information.

9. Town Tree Warden's report

The contents of the report were noted. Mr P. Rope and Mrs M. Amos, Town Tree Wardens, had held two walks during June. They had attended the Tree Wardens' visit to Catton Park. Information on tree works within the report was noted.

10. Election of Tree Wardens

Mr Peter Rope and Mrs Marion Amos were nominated to continue to carry out their roles for a further year. On a show of hands they were unanimously re-elected to the role of Town Tree Wardens. On behalf of the council Town Mayor Mr R. S. James expressed thanks for all the work they voluntarily undertook regarding trees.

11. Norfolk County Council

(i) Spinney Road/Thunder Lane No Waiting At Any Time Restrictions

The yellow lines would extend from 1 Spinney Road on both sides and around the corners into Thunder Lane. It was **AGREED** to comment that it was considered the northern waiting restrictions should terminate at the oak tree that bounded the Post Office car park.

(ii) Invitation to Local Transport Plan Delivery Seminar

Information on seminar that would take place on 15th July at Mattishall was noted.

(iii) Childcare Sufficiency Assessment Executive Summary.

The information was noted.

(iv) Public consultation on extension to waiting restrictions on Yarmouth Road

The highways engineer had asked if initial proposals on waiting restrictions could not be made available to the public. It was considered that was the duty of the Town Council to represent the area and take on board the views of the public when they were put forward whatever the stage of the proposals.

12. Broadland District Council

An evaluation of Parish & Town Plans in Broadland 2008

The contents of the information booklet were noted and passed to Mrs E. C. Laming who had carried out a great deal of work on the Town Plan questionnaire that was currently in circulation.

13 Jute bags with Town Council logo printed on.

There were concerns that take up might be limited on the promotional bags that could be sold at Town Council events. It was **AGREED** to request a sample and request a mock up of the presentation.

14. Internal Auditors Report

The contents of the Internal Auditor's report and response to points arising were noted.

15. Pension Policy

The policy last put forward was not acceptable. Mr T. Bradstreet, Pensions Technical Officer, had submitted two alternatives that would be acceptable. It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to accept the version that would not accept late applications for Membership Aggregations or Transfer of Pension Rights,

16. Broadland District Council Annual Parish and Town Council Meeting

Nine members had said that they would attend the meeting on 16th July.

17. Speeding – St Williams Way

Further efforts would be made to tackle the problem of speeding traffic. The Highways department would be made aware of the strength of support that had been shown for measures to be taken.

18. Garden of contemplation

It was **RESOLVED** to move forward with the proposed community garden and Mr D. E. Eley agreed to contact the Rotary Club and Horticultural Society to see if they would assist in planning and constructing a garden of contemplation in the Tree Plantation.

19. Norfolk Rural Community Council

Information on the Annual general Meeting was noted.

20. Norfolk County Association of Parish and Town Councils and Society of Local Council Clerks Joint Conference

Information on the conference that would be held on 22 July at Norwich City F.C. was noted.

21. Declarations of Interest

Outstanding Declarations of Interest for 2008/09 were brought to the attention of members by the Clerk.

22. Casual Vacancy

No applications had been received to date for the casual vacancy that would be filled by co-option.

23. Future agenda items

Mrs E. C. Laming would prepare a report on various aspects of improvements that could be carried out at River Green for consideration at the next meeting. Mr R. S. James, Town Mayor, said that Standing Orders were due for review. This would be reported at the next meeting and dealt with at the September meeting.

Date of next Town Council Meeting 4th August 2008 at 7.30p.m.
At the Dussindale Community Centre.