

THORPE ST ANDREW TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD ON 2nd JUNE 2008

<u>PRESENT:</u>	Mr R. S. James (Town Mayor)	Mr S. Freeman-Pannett
	Mr J. M. Ward (Deputy Town Mayor)	Mrs E. C. Laming
	Mr A. J. Barber	Mr E. A. Newberry
	Mrs O. M. Campbell	Mr G. Rowe
	Mr D. E. Eley	Mr N. Shaw
	Mr J. F. Fisher	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 J. Emsell, Mr I. J. Mackie and Miss S. P. Lawn.

2. Declarations of interest in items on the agenda.

Mr J. M. Ward declared a non prejudicial interest in the Pinebanks agenda item as a neighbour to the site. Mr R. S. James declared a prejudicial interest on agenda item 18 as Lay Chairman of the Parochial Church Council and left the room when the item was discussed. Mr R. S. James and Mr J. F. Fisher declared a prejudicial interest in Agenda Item 26 as friends of the individual concerned.

3. To confirm the minutes of the meetings held on the 19th May 2008

The minutes of the meetings held on the 19th May 2008, previously circulated to members were approved and signed. Mr A. J. Barber raised issues regarding draft minutes of committee meetings and in future it would be clearly indicated where draft and actual minutes were put forward for the Town Council's attention together with any amendments that had been recorded.

The draft minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 19th May were incorrect in stating that the Finance and Staffing Committee had approved the Audit Commission Annual Return at the meeting held on the 28th April. It had been submitted and approved by the Town Council on the 19th May who had then **RESOLVED** to approve the financial statement for the year 2007/08. The amended minutes of the Town Council meeting were then approved and signed.

4. Announcements (For information only).

None.

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 M. Grayley of Norfolk County Association of Parish and Town Councils presented the case for the Town Council to achieve "Quality Status".

Mr N. Shaw reported that he would be representing the County Council on a trip to Estonia to meet European Union Commissioners as part of a bid to obtain £3,000,000 of funding for green issues.

A resident of Laundry Lane raised concerns regarding the removal of some lime trees at Laundry Lane Recreation Ground that had been approved by the District Council.

A number of residents of boats on Thorpe Island raised their concerns with regard to increased parking restrictions on Yarmouth Road that were being considered. They had not been consulted and wished for more parking provision to be considered.

They suggested that the green verges could be converted for parking use; the Town Mayor, Mr R. S. James said that the suggestion should be put in writing to the County Council.

Mr P. Rope said that he understood tenants of the Yarmouth Road allotment site had been given notice to quit by the 31st March 2009. He was concerned that the site could be used for development purposes and considered that the Town Council should take a stand on the possible loss of an area of green space as had happened with Pinebanks.

Mrs Sercombe was in attendance to show her support for the Council's involvement in Thorpe Marshes nature reserve.

District Council

Mr J. F. Fisher said that they continued to oppose plans for the closure of the NHS Walk In Centre and that a public meeting was being held on the following Wednesday as part of the consultation. Mr J. Ward commented that the Annual Meeting was being held on the following night.

6. Pine banks

Mr J. F. Fisher said that bids for the purchase of Pinebanks had to be received by 12 noon on Friday 6 June. It was **AGREED** that the Town Council was not in a position to make a bid for purchasing the entire site; however the agents would inform of the Council's interest in doing all it could to maintain the green field sports and leisure facilities.

7. Payment of Accounts:

Cheque numbers 002968 – 002995 totalling £30,336.51p, voucher numbers 167 – 240 on the 2008/09 payments list were approved and signed.

8. Draft minutes of meetings.

Annual Public Meeting

The draft minutes of the Annual Public Meeting held on 20th May 2008 were noted for information.

KBC Asset Management – Brook Farm proposals 21st May 2008

The minutes of the meeting held with the agents for the proposed housing development attended by some members of the Town Council and Gt and Little Plumstead Parish Council were noted for information.

Draft minutes of committee meetings

Events committee

The draft minutes of the Events committee held on 27th May 2008 were noted.

9. Town Tree Warden's report

The contents of the report were noted. Mr P. Rope, Town Tree Warden, would be attending the Tree Wardens meeting at Catton Park on 4th June. Mr Rope would make contact with the resident who was concerned about the removal of lime trees at the Recreation Ground.

10. Norfolk County Council

(i) Prohibition of waiting order – Yarmouth Road and Roxley Close

The contents of the order were noted.

(ii) Thorpe Avenue footway reconstruction

Information regarding the works that would commence on 7th July and be carried out over a period of seven weeks was noted.

(iii) Bus stop infrastructure improvements – Woodside Road

Information on works that would be carried out to meet the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act was noted.

(iv) Copy of letter to a resident

A resident had written to the County Council requesting that Yarmouth Road be closed to through traffic. The highways engineer had replied suggesting that the matter be raised with the Town Council but as it was designated a principle road in the route hierarchy it was considered that the proposal was a non-starter. It was **RESOLVED** that the Planning and Transportation be requested to review the whole aspect of traffic movement on Yarmouth Road and to consider a priority flow scheme.

(v) Gas governor site Laundry Lane

Information that the sale of the site for a total of £2,093.75p had been completed was noted.

11. Broadland District Council

(i) Annual Parish and Town meeting

The meeting would be held on 16 July at the Ramada Jarvis Hotel, Norwich. Eleven members indicated they would like to attend the meeting where it would be possible discuss and exchange information on the Boundary Committee's review of local government in Norfolk and Suffolk.

(ii) Funding offer

The District Council had offered a Community Capital Grant of £5,634.00p towards the cost of new play equipment at Laundry Lane Recreation Ground.

(iii) Section 106 funding application

The District Council had been asked if the s106 money that was held for the provision of new open space or towards the improvement and maintenance of existing open space. A location plan and drawings detailing the proposed works complete with specifications was required before the application could be determined.

12. Broadland Home Watch

The contents of the Spring newsletter were noted. Miss S. P. Lawn would attend the A. G. M. on the 23rd June 2008.

13 Corporate Homicide and Corporate Manslaughter Act 2007

Enhanced insurance cover would be provided by Zurich Municipal in the light of the Act that came into force on 6th April 2007

14. Norfolk Police Authority

The content of the Policing Plan 2008 / 2009 was noted.

15. Local Government Review

Information setting out the views of Kings Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council on the review of local government in Norfolk and Suffolk was noted.

16. Rotary Club of Norwich

The Rotary Club had prepared the artwork for a new sign that they would provide at the Tree Plantation detailing the position and variety of the trees within. The Club was thanked for their help. Once proof read and corrected a small scale copy would be requested when it had been updated.

17. C.P.R.E. Annual General Meeting

Mr E. A. Newberry would attend the meeting that would be held at Dragon Hall, Norwich on 10th July 2008.

18. Birds at River Green

Considerable damage was being caused to the Parish Church the large number of pigeons and doves that roosted on the church roof. Humane measures were being taken to try and prevent the roosting. The Rector had asked if notices could be erected at River Green to discourage large amounts of bread being brought down by some individuals on a regular basis. The Broads Authority and the R. S. P. B. would be contacted for advice on feeding wild birds and information would be placed in the notice board. The N.C.A.P.T.C. would be asked if they could raise the problem in their newsletter to see how other councils had dealt with the problem.

19. Casual Vacancy

A letter of resignation had been received from Mrs Y. Utting giving her resignation as Town Councillor. A casual vacancy had arisen as a result and District Council would be informed of this. Notice of the vacancy would be posted on the Town notice boards. A letter of thanks would be sent to Mrs Utting for all the work she had undertaken during her period of office.

20. Flood alleviation scheme at Horsewater

Information on works being undertaken to ascertain the viability of a pumping station to alleviate foul water drainage problems that were affecting part of Yarmouth Road was noted.

21. Anglian Water Services

Information on a total lack of customer service that had been given by the company in connecting a water supply to the Dussindale allotments was noted.

22. EDP Pride in Norfolk Awards

Thorpe St Andrew was one of four finalists in the competition and would be visited by the judging team later in the month. The judges wanted to be speaking to representative of the community and would be taken on a tour by the Town Mayor and the Clerk.

23. Brook Farm housing development

Information on a proposal for building 600 homes to the north of the Business Park at Brook Farm was noted.

24. River Green toilets

A letter had been received from the Broads Authority explaining that they would be unable to take responsibility for the toilets if it was offered to them.

25. Thorpe Marshes

Crown Point Estate had prepared Heads of Terms for a five year lease of the Thorpe Marshes nature reserve, An endowment of five thousand pounds was offered and a rent free lease of ten years initially was proposed. It was **RESOLVED** that a trust should be formed to take on the Marshes and that the Town Council would be prepared to be part of such a trust. The Town Council would in principle be prepared to help manage the site provided it was financially reimbursed.

26. Personal injury

Correspondence regarding a personal injury that had taken place on 21 February 2006 had been passed to the Council's insurers. Any further correspondence would be dealt with in the same way.

27. Future agenda items

Mr D. E. Eley suggested that inviting the Horticultural Society and the Rotary Club should be put on the agenda for the July meeting to discuss the Mrs Campbell's idea for a leisure garden.

Date of next Town Council Meeting 7th July 2008 at 7.30p.m.
At the Dussindale Community Centre.