

## Thorpe St Andrew Town Council Meeting

### Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2009

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

**1. Apologies:** - Mr J. F. Fisher, Mr I. J. Mackie,  
Mr N. Shaw, Mr D. R. C. Spooner

**In Attendance:** Mr S. J. Ford (Town Clerk)

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** Mr R. S. James, Miss S. P. Lawn, Mr J. M. Ward and Mr A. J. Barber declared a prejudicial interest in Agenda Item 19 Dussindale Park Community Trust as trustees of the charity and would leave the room when the item was discussed. Mr G. Allison declared a personal interest in Item 7 Tree Warden's Report as the owner of a tree mentioned in the report. Mrs E. C. Laming declared a personal interest in Item 12 Thorpe Marshes. As a member of the County Council Mr J. M. Ward declared a personal interest in matters relating to Norfolk County Council and in particular the Norwich Fringe Project and also to Item 9 Casual Vacancy as he knew one of the applicants. Mr S. Freeman-Pannett declared a personal interest in Item 17 LED zebra crossing lights. Miss S. P. Lawn declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Item 9 casual vacancy as one of the applicants was well known to her.

**3. To confirm the minutes of the meetings held on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2009**  
The minutes of the meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2009, previously circulated to members were approved and signed with the following amendment to paragraph 11 Update on St Andrews roundabout. "Olive's Garden – an update would be requested each month." was added to the minute

#### **4. Announcements**

The Town Mayor announced that he had taken part in the Open Garden event and that it had been a great success with the charabanc transport around the gardens taking part being much appreciated. The Events Committee had helped with the organisation of the event that had raised £522.56 on the day. A further donation of £371.00 had been received by the organiser from the Friends of Hillside School.

The Clerk, Mr S. J. Ford requested that members complete their Declarations of Interest as soon as possible and return them to him for submission to the District Council. The Clerk informed the meeting that an application for a £1,515.00p grant from the District Council for production of the Town plan had been successful.

#### **5. Public Participation**

The Town Mayor then suspended the meeting to enable members of the public to speak.

A resident of Hillside Avenue was concerned about the speed of vehicles using the Meadow Lane bridleway and the poor vision that existed for drivers exiting onto Hillside Avenue. The resident said that he bring to the Town Council office a letter from the County Council stating that a mirror would be installed for drivers to ensure pedestrians were not about to step out in the vehicle's path. The letter would then be followed up to action installation of the mirror.

A resident of Yarmouth Road drew attention to the escalation of light commercial vehicles and trailers that were using the lay by near the cemetery for long term overnight parking. In the absence of any waiting restrictions the Police Officers that were in attendance said that they would be unable to take any action over the parking.

Mr P. Rope said that he had attended the Finance and General Purposes committee meeting on 22 June and drew attention to Item 17 on the agenda – Flag flying on the allotments. As an allotment holder and neighbour to one of the allotment sites he considered the detail of the decision needed clarifying such as the height and size of the flag. He considered that flags were visually intrusive and that certain flags such as ensigns should not be flown.

### **Police**

P.C. Mat Boyles and P.C. Chris Welfare were in attendance and were part of the local S.N.A.P. team that had been working hard in the past few weeks to reduce the anti social behaviour problems that had been escalating. They reminded the meeting that complaints should be directed to Wymondham on 0845 4564567 as it was Wymondham that deployed the local officers that were on duty.

### **District Councillors**

Mr J. M. Ward said that the Local Government Review was in the hands of the Secretary of State and that there was the opportunity for anyone to submit representation to the Secretary of State until 18 September on any of the unitary proposals that had been put forward. Any new unitary council could be established by 1 April 2011.

In a recent survey of District Council Broadland did very well and was judged third out of 354 councils as a good place to live. Under a new scheme operated by Broadland Council Training Services 14 young volunteers could be available for community projects, further information could be obtained from Ms S. Alden at B.C.T.S.

The Town Mayor then closed the public session and reconvened the meeting.

#### **6. Payment of Accounts**

Cheque numbers 003527 – 003564 totalling £28,394.89p, on the 2008/09 payments list were approved and signed.

#### **7. Tree Wardens' Report**

Mr P. Rope submitted his monthly report and provided information on works being carried out on trees that were subject to preservation orders. Three walks had been organised during June but unfortunately they had not been well supported. Mrs M. Amos would take the walks next year. The tree wardens had spent a total of 21 hours attending committees in June.

#### **8. Draft Minutes of Committee Meetings.**

##### **Plans committee**

The draft minutes of the meetings held on the 8<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> June were noted.

##### **Events committee**

The draft minutes of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> June were noted. Mr A. J. Barber would be added to the list of those who had attended.

### **Publications and media committee**

The draft minutes of the meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> June were noted. The recommendations arising would be considered later in the meeting.

### **Finance and General Purposes committee**

The draft minutes of the meeting held on 22 June were noted. Re-surfacing of Laundry Lane recreation ground car park would be put into the 2010/2011 budget. A list of s106 projects had been prepared and a number of improvement and recreational projects had been set out including updating the village hall heating and energy saving measures in the Fitzmaurice Pavilion. New doors were needed to the Morse Pavilion club room and the roof lights were leaking badly.

The District Council would be contacted and asked if they would consider transferring ownership of the River Green toilets to the Town Council with a suitable commuted sum for their future maintenance. The committee had been made aware that an allotment holder was flying a St George's flag and it was recommended that this should be placed on the agenda for the next Town Council meeting for consideration of any restrictions that should be put in place with regard to the flying of flags on the allotment sites.

### **Friends of River Green**

The draft minutes of the meeting were noted. Mr G. Allison said that a great deal of money would be spent on the proposed improvements and comments from members of the public should be encouraged at this stage. Mr J. Emsell suggested that the plans were displayed at the August event on River Green.

### **9. Casual vacancy.**

Two applications for the vacancy had been received. Mr J. M. Ward proposed, seconded by Mr J. Emsell, that Mr R. Robson should be co-opted to the Town Council to fill the casual vacancy. On a show of hands Mr R. Robson was unanimously elected. Mr R. Robson signed the Acceptance of Office document and was welcomed to the meeting.

### **10. Update on St Andrews roundabout and Olive's garden**

The planting had been carried out to form the St Andrews flag at the raised flower bed in front of the town sign at the roundabout.

### **11. River Green bird scarer**

An electronic bird scarer was considered but it was **AGREED** to take no further action at present.

### **12. Thorpe marshes**

A meeting had been held on 29 June with Crown Point Estates land agent Mr R. Beazley, Ed Stocker, ecologist Norfolk County Council and Lafarge Aggregates, Mr G. Allison and the Clerk, Mr S. J. Ford. The position of the bird hides was agreed and further restoration and drainage improvements that would be carried out during the summer were explained.

### **13. Media and Publications committee recommendations**

Recommendations put forward in paragraph 6 of the draft minutes of the committee meeting held on 16 June 2009 were considered. Under paragraph 6 Presentation (i). It was **AGREED** to "retain format of 12 page tabloid newspaper" and to delete the last two lines of Finance paragraph (iii). Following those changes it was **RESOLVED** to adopt the recommendations.

**14. Armed Forces Day 27<sup>th</sup> June**

Mr R. S. James, Town Mayor, gave details of the ceremony that had been held to raise the new commemorative flag at the parish church on Monday 22 June in celebration of Armed Forces Day.

**15. Norwich Fringe Project – Request for donation**

It was **RESOLVED** to make a donation of £100 under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 to the Norwich Fringe Project.

**16. Declarations of Interest**

The Clerk, Mr S.J. Ford, requested members to complete and return their declarations of interest to him as soon as possible for submission to the District Council.

**17. LED Zebra crossing lights**

It was **RESOLVED** to contact the highways department and request information on the cost of the upgrade and when it would be carried out.

**18. National Playing Fields Association**

Information regarding the date and location of the Annual General Meeting of the Association was noted/

**19. Town Council office rent**

A draft agreement for the rent terms for the Town Council office had been put forward by the Town Mayor, Mr R. S. James. It was **AGREED** that the terms of the office rent should not be discussed until the annual report from the management trustees had been received.

**20. Request for internet access**

It was **AGREED** that a request for an internet connection at the Village Hall would be turned down. It was considered that anyone wishing for a connection would be told to use a mobile broadband dongle.

**21. Fuel Allotment Charity.**

Information and accounts of the Thorpe St Andrew Fuel Allotment charity were noted.

**22. Citizens Advice Bureau**

Acknowledgement of the £100 donation that had been made was noted.

**23. Light Pollution from Morse Pavilion**

A complaint of light pollution from the Morse Pavilion had been investigated by the District Council and it was found that it did not amount to a statutory nuisance.

**24. Future agenda items.**

Mr J. Ward requested that sending papers out four clear days before a meeting and a five minute limit on public speaking be placed on the agenda for the next meeting. Notice of the Homewatch Certificate of Commendation would be brought to the next meeting.

Date of next meeting: 6<sup>th</sup> July 2009 at the Dussindale Centre 7.30pm.