

Thorpe St Andrew Town Council Meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 2nd March 2009

Present:

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

Apologies: - Mr N. Shaw, Mr D. R. C. Spooner

In Attendance: Mr S. J. Ford (Town Clerk), Mr G. B. Walker

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: Mr A. J. Barber declared a personal and prejudicial interest in agenda item 18 Dussindale Park Recreation Ground and would leave the room when the matter was discussed. Mr I. J. Mackie declared a personal interest in agenda item 18 as he knew the occupier and item 11, Yarmouth Road waiting restrictions as a member of the County Council and item 15 Norwich Fringe group. Mr J. M. Ward declared a personal interest as a member of the District Council in item 12 Broadland District Council and item 15 Norwich Fringe Project. Mrs E. C. Laming declared a personal and prejudicial interest in item 14 Thorpe Marshes and would leave the room when the matter was discussed. Mr G. Allison declared a personal interest in item 11 Yarmouth Road waiting restrictions.

3. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held 2nd February 2009

The minutes of the meeting held on 2 February 2009, previously circulated to members were approved and signed.

4. Announcements

The Town Mayor, Mr R. S. James, announced that he had attended the official opening by the Chairman of Broadland District of a new footpath that had been constructed at Thorpe House School. The footpath made pedestrian access much safer. After the opening ceremony the Broadland Chairman and the Town Mayor were each presented with a souvenir book.

The Clerk announced that he had received a letter of thanks for the card that had been sent on behalf of the Council to Mr P. Rope, Tree Warden, following his recent illness. Mr D. E. Eley thanked members for their good wishes and support following his recent operations.

5. Public Participation

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

A resident of Laundry Lane expressed concern at the anti social behaviour that was arising from the large gatherings of youths that met on Friday nights in particular and caused problems at the High School, Recreation Ground and Fitzmaurice Pavilion. A neighbour had their window broken by an airgun pellet.

Mr A. J. Barber provided additional information regarding agenda item 18 – Dussindale Park/11 Commonwealth Way.

Police

The police were not in attendance; the crime figures for the previous month were circulated that showed a low level of incidents.

County Councillors

Mr I. J. Mackie said that the County Council budget had been set with an increase of 2.95%, the lowest increase for ten years. The unitary debate continued but legal action might delay matters significantly. An OFSTED inspection had been made at Hillside School that had judged the work of the school in various areas as either excellent or very good. The NHS Walk In Centre was scheduled to close in July but pressure to retain the Centre was being maintained.

District Councillors

Mr J. F. Fisher said that budget increase at the District Council would be 1.93%. A number of new recession beating initiatives were under way to insulate homes as well as grants for community buildings to reduce their energy consumption.

Mr J. M. Ward said that a consultation on planning policy up until the year 2026 was under way. Exhibitions to explain the proposals were being held across the District with the first being held at Thorpe End on 16 March.

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

6. Payment of Accounts

Cheque numbers 003341 – 003375 totalling £22,837.11p, on the 2008/09 payments list were approved and signed.

7. Tree Wardens' Report

From his hospital bed Mr P. Rope submitted his monthly report and provided information on works being carried out on trees that were subject to preservation orders.

8. Draft Minutes of Committee Meetings

Plans Committee

The draft minutes of the meeting held on the 9th February 2009 were noted.

Events Committee

The draft minutes of the meeting held on the 16th February 2009 were noted. The committee recommended that the Town Council purchase a marquee for use at events. It was **RESOLVED** to go ahead with the purchase at an estimated cost of £500.

9. Broadland Community Bank

Mr David Williams, Vice President of Norfolk Credit Union Ltd, was present to present information on the services offered by its subsidiary the Broadland Community Bank. It was **RESOLVED** to offer the use of the committee room at the Village Hall and to advertise for volunteer staff to set up a branch.

10. Use of proceeds from sale of Recreation Ground Gas Convenor site

Mrs E. C. Laming proposed, seconded by Mr D. E. Eley that the £2050 realised from the sale of the site should put towards the cost of play equipment at the Recreation Ground. On a show of hands the motion was lost; the funds would pass into capital reserves.

11. Norfolk County Council

(i) Hillside Road No Cold Calling Zone

Residents of the northern section of Hillside Road had requested that the area be designated a No Cold calling Zone. It was **RESOLVED** to support the residents' request although there were concerns regarding the size of the signage.

(ii) **Yarmouth Road – Proposed waiting restrictions**

A revised proposal for waiting restrictions that would extend from 53 to 87 Yarmouth on both sides of the road was considered. It was **RESOLVED** to support the proposals and request that on the north side the restrictions would terminate outside number 85 and that the two lay bys had 30 minute waiting restrictions.

12. Broadland District Council dog and litter bin emptying service

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the terms and conditions of the dog and litter bin service offered. The cost of emptying the bins would be £3.15p each.

13. Pumping station – Horsewater, Yarmouth Road

The District Valuer had negotiated compensation of £1000 plus costs from Anglian Water for the installation of a pumping station at Horsewater. In total a payment of £1701.50p had been received; the compensation would pass into capital reserves.

14. Roundabout sponsorship, River Green improvements, community garden updates

(i) Quotations for planting and maintaining the St Andrews Park and Meridian Way roundabouts were being obtained from a contractor that met the County Council's requirements. There were a number of potential sponsors that would be required to pay all the costs that would be involved.

(ii) Mrs E. C. Laming proposed, seconded by Miss S. P. Lawn that Suzanne Chisnell be employed to take forward the proposals for improvements that she had submitted for River Green. It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to instruct Ms Chisnell to carry out workstages F – J on her quotation at a cost of £2088. That would be production drawings, from which the design could be constructed and would include detailed drawings, schedule of works and specification required.

(iii) The site of the proposed community garden was expected to be cleared by the end of March. Mr D. E. Eley would set up a working committee/steering group comprising of Mr J. Emsell, Miss S. P. Lawn and Mrs E. C. Laming who would work with the horticultural society and Rotary Club on the project.

(iv) An update on works that had been carried out at Thorpe Marshes suggested that reinstatement work was unlikely to be completed before the autumn and that a management plan would need to be in place on completion. A management plan and costings would be provided by the agents for the landowners as a starting point for negotiations regarding the site's future management.

15. Donations

It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to make a donation of £100 each to Norwich Citizens Advice Bureau and Macmillan Nurses.

16. East of England Empowerment partnership

Information on a consultation meeting to establish if there was a need to provide joint training to support community leaders and officers within public bodies was noted.

17. Norfolk Playing Fields Association

It was **RESOLVED** to renew membership of the Association for a further year.

18. Dussindale Park Recreation Ground/11 Commonwealth Way

Information from Norfolk County Council Legal Department on how the incursion could be resolved was noted. The developers who had transferred the park would be informed of the problem and their agreement to the sale of the land for £1000 plus costs including staff time would be requested. The developers would be asked to meet a deadline for their agreement to be given.

19. N.A.L.C. Gold and Green Summits

Information on the two meetings was noted.

20. Campaign for Protection of Rural England

An invitation to visit Christine Dunnett's stables at Hingham was noted.

21. Norfolk Community Interest Company – Car Club project

Information that the car club project was hoping to expand to more areas was noted.

22. Whitlingham Lane picnic area

Information that Norwich Union Life and Pensions Ltd had sold the land that included the picnic area at Whitlingham Lane was noted.

23. Nicholas Hancox – Legal advice for Parish and Town Councils

Information on services the firm of solicitors could offer was noted.

24. S.N.A.P. meeting

Information on the Safer Neighbourhoods panel meeting that the Town Mayor, Mr R. S. James had attended in February was noted.

25. Dussindale Park tree belt

A letter of thanks from a resident of Naseby Way regarding the felling of trees behind their property was noted.'

26. Norfolk Association of Local Councils

A summary of the Policing and Crime Bill that was going through parliament was noted together with a summary of information on the Guide to Governance and Accountability for Local Councils.

27. Young people and alcohol

Information on a government consultation about young people and alcohol and how to respond to the consultation that ended on 23 April 2009 was noted.

28. Heraldic symbol for Thorpe St Andrew Town Council

It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the heraldic symbol incorporating the Latin words Oppidium Prope Fluvium meaning Town by the River as a logo.

29. Future agenda items

None.

Date of next meeting 6th April 2009 at the Dussindale Centre 7.30pm.