

THORPE ST ANDREW TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 4th June 2007

PRESENT: Mr R. S. James (Town Mayor)
Mr J. M. Ward (Deputy Town Mayor) Mrs S. P. Lawn
Mr A. J. Barber Mr E. A. Newberry
Mr D. E. Eley Mr B. R. Simpson
Mr J F Fisher Mr D. R. C. Spooner
Mrs E. C. Laming Mrs Y. Utting

1.) APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Mrs O. M. Campbell, Mr I. J. Mackie,
Mr G. Rowe, Mr N. Shaw

2.) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Mrs Y. E. Utting declared a prejudicial interest in Agenda Item: 12 provision of bird bath and drinking bowl. Mrs S. P. Lawn declared a prejudicial interest in Item 13 Broadland Homewatch as she was a local co-ordinator for the organisation.

3.) COUNCIL

The minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 14th May 2007, previously circulated to members, were approved and signed as a true record.

4.) Announcements

Chairman:

- (i) The Chairman Mr R. S. James reported that the Spring Fair at River Green held on 28th May 2006 had not been a success. Due to heavy rain the event was abandoned at 2pm however a number of residents had visited the Town Council stall with some questions that members were able to answer.
- (ii) Thorpe Branch Royal British Legion would be holding an open day at their H.Q. on Sunday 17th June; Council members and the public would be warmly welcomed at the event.
- (iii) The Clerk was delegated authority to comment on the Notice of Closure of Green Lane for re-surfacing works that would be carried out week commencing 25th June 2007.

5.) PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Parish Constables:

The Parish Constables informed the meeting that there had been a reduction in vehicle crime in the past month but there had been an increase in criminal damage. An action plan had been prepared to reduce criminal damage.

The PCSO's had a very effective presence and were using cycles to cover a large area effectively and to provide a fast response to incidents in progress if required. The Police base at the school was proving very useful and the communications link it provided was saving a great deal of officer time.

Members of the public

Mr and Mrs Beech were present to provide additional information regarding their proposal for a bird bath on River Green which was Item 12 on the agenda of the meeting.

Mr P. Rope, Town Tree Warden did not have anyone turn up at his recent tree walk but was hoping for a better turn out at his next walk later in the week. He expressed his thanks to the Council for the recent Annual Parish Meeting. Mr Rope drew attention to the lack of cycle racks in the town and asked if this could be born in mind particularly at Planning Committee meetings. Mr Rope asked for information on the next Thorpe Marshes meeting however no date had been set at present.

Items Raised by District and County Councillors:

Mr J. Ward drew attention to the concerns expressed by the District Council regarding the Norwich City Council bid for unitary status; comments were required to be submitted by 22 June 2007. Mr Ward drew attention to the Broadland District Council Enhancement Awards which was open for buildings that had been completed by 31st May 2007.

6.) COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The content of the list of Committee members was noted.

7.) PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS;

(i) Cheques numbered 002466 to 002498 totalling £33,741.91p on the 2007/08 payments list were approved and signed.

8.) ANNUAL RETURN

The contents of the Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2007 were considered and it was **RESOLVED** that the contents were approved for submission.

9.) ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 29th May 2007 were presented by the Chairman, Mr R. S. James, and **AGREED**.

10.) NORFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL

(i) Smeeth Lane and Low Road 40mph Limit

The proposed speed limits and any comments by Gt Plumstead Parish Council would be supported.

(ii) Farming and Public Rights of Way

The content of the information booklet were noted.

(iii) Minerals and Waste Framework

The information was noted. Mr J. F. Fisher would respond to the questionnaire.

11.) BROADLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL

(i) Play Partnership

It was **RESOLVED** to adopt and support the Play Partnership proposals and the Recreation and Amenities Committee were delegated powers to progress the work with the Play Partnership.

12.) RIVER GREEN – Request for bird bath and drinking bowl

It was **AGREED** that a proper assessment of wild life on River Green be carried out in consultation with bodies such as the R. S. P. B. and any other interested parties such as the church before making a decision on the provision of a water feature or drinking bowls.

13.) BROADLAND HOMEWATCH – Request for use of meeting room

Mr J. F. Fisher seconded by Mr D. R. C. Spooner proposed that Broadland Homewatch should be given use of the Morse Pavilion for their meetings at no charge. On a show of hands it was **RESOLVED** to support the motion.

14.) ARQVA TRANSMITTING STATION – Additional dishes for Airwave Safety Communications

Mr J. F. Fisher proposed, seconded by Mr J. Ward, that no objections be raised to the proposal for two additional dishes to provide a National Fall Back Service on behalf of the government. On a show of hands it was **RESOLVED** to support the motion.

15.) NHS WALK IN CENTRE – Discussion Paper

Information on the uncertain future of the NHS Walk In Centre was noted. Letters would be sent to local surgeries asking for their support in opposing the possible closure of the Centre.

16.) NORFOLK RURAL COMMUNITY COUNCIL - Newsletter

The content of the newsletter was noted.

17.) NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS – Model contract of employment

Revisions to the Model Contract of Employment taking into account such things as statutory changes and new case law decisions and anomalies in the 2004 Agreement were formally noted and would be issued to the Clerk.

18.) NORFOLK ASSOCIATION OF PARISH & TOWN COUNCILS

(i) Mrs E. C. Laming would attend the next meeting of the Larger Councils at Wymondham where one of the topics would be Funding and Managing Projects.

(ii) The nomination form for the Election of members of the NCAPTC Executive Committee was noted.

(iii) It was noted that the next Association Area Meeting would be held at 7pm at Old Catton.

(iv) Information on a one day conference supported by the Standards Board for England was noted.

19.) SMOKE FREE POLICY

It was **RESOLVED** to support a motion proposed by Mr J. F. Fisher and seconded by Mrs E. C. Laming to adopt the Smoke Free Policy that had been prepared by the Deputy Clerk Mrs J. Fenn.

20.) NORWICH FRINGE PROJECT

An acknowledgement of the donation of £100.00p to the project was noted.

21.) TOWN PLAN

It was **AGREED** to progress proposals for the preparation of a Town Plan and Mrs E. C. Laming agreed to head the working group that would draw up the framework for the plan.

22.) FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Mr D. E. Eley proposed that Norfolk County Council be asked to carry out a traffic survey at the Broadland Business Park taking into account the current proposed developments and the movements generated by Meridian Business Park to address concerns the Town Council have expressed regarding the large volume of traffic that will access the Old Chapel Way roundabout in the near future.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: - Parish Council on 2nd July 2007 at the Meeting Room, Dussindale Centre.