

**THORPE ST ANDREW TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON 14th May 2007**

PRESENT:

Mr R. S. James (Town Mayor)	Mrs S. P. Lawn
Mr J. M. Ward (Deputy Town Mayor)	Mr I. J. Mackie
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
Mrs E. Laming	Mrs Y. Utting

1.) APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

None.

2.) DECLARATIONS OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

Those members present completed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

3.) ELECTION OF TOWN MAYOR

Mr R. S. James was proposed by Mr I. J. Mackie and seconded by Mr N. Shaw. There being no other candidates Mr R. S. James was elected Town Mayor. Mr E. A. Newberry requested that his vote against the election of a Town Mayor was recorded.

4.) ELECTION OF DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR

Mr J. M. Ward was proposed by Mr I. J. Mackie and seconded by Mr N. Shaw. There being no other candidates Mr J. M. Ward was elected Deputy Town Mayor.

5.) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Mr J. F. Fisher declared a personal interest in the planning application for 92 Yarmouth Road as a neighbour. Mr A. J. Barber also declared a prejudicial interest in the same application as a friend of the applicant.

6.) MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 2nd April 2007 were approved and signed.

7.) ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman: The Chairman, Mr R. S. James welcomed two new members that had been elected to the Council and congratulated the members who had been re-elected on their success. Mr James asked members if they would in future raise their hand if they wished to speak and reminded members of the rules of debate.

Having received an unopposed mandate for the next four years from the electorate Mr James considered there was an obligation to repay the trust the electors have shown and placed in the Council. A wide consultation with the public would be carried out to establish a town plan for the next four years to make Thorpe St Andrew an even better place to live.

Clerk: Town Clerk, Mr S. J. Ford, informed the meeting that the visit to Norfolk Police call centre had been arranged for the 22nd May at 7.30pm. Mr J. M. Ward was added to the list of attendees.

8.) PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Members of the public were in attendance to raise their objections regarding planning application 20070612 2 Charles Avenue & 14 Thorpe Avenue. A resident of Laundry

Lane asked if the Town Council had been pressing for lower speed limits and traffic calming measures around schools in the town. He was assured that was the case and County Councillor Shaw supplied additional information on measures that were currently under consideration by Norfolk County Council.

Mr P. Rope, Parish tree Warden, would start his regular public tree walks at the end of the month. He went on to raise concerns that three of the voting booths at the Village Hall did not display information on voting procedures and as a result he considered that there could have been more spoilt papers as a result of voters putting a tick rather than a cross on the ballot paper for example.

County Councillors

Mr N. Shaw informed the meeting that he had attended a strategic meeting regarding night flying at Norwich Airport; efforts were being made to close loopholes that had allowed some flights to take place after the official closure time of 11pm. There were concerns that the Government White Paper would set noise limits and not flight limits. The County Council had hosted the annual three day meeting of Civitas Smile project at which 90 delegates discussed matters such as sustainable transport issues. Mr I. J. Mackie and Mr N. Shaw had attended a pre-opening meeting at the new Dussindale School and met the new head teacher Mrs J. Websdell.

District Councillors

Mr I. J. Mackie said that the District Council was taking forward the Unitary Authority issue and had re-affirmed its opposition to the bid for Unitary Status by Norwich City Council.

9.) Planning Applications

20060517 26 Spinney Road Pitched roof over rear extension and new conservatory. Pitched roof to garage. First floor extension incorporating side dormers.

No objections.

20060548 92 Yarmouth Road External alterations to 2 approved dwellings

No objections other than the concerns previously expressed regarding traffic. It would have been better if the plans for number 90 and 92 had been presented together.

**20060612 Land to rear of Erection of dwelling
2 Charles Avenue
and 14 Thorpe Avenue**

Objections. This would be gross over-development of the plot. It is a back garden development that is out of keeping with neighbouring properties and contrary to Policy HOU 10.

10.) COMMITTEES

Members indicated the Committees on which they would like to serve. The Clerk would review the membership of the new Committees and where appropriate contact members if the structure of the committee needed adjusting.

11.) PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Cheques numbered 0024089 – 0024065 totalling £39,894.46p, vouchers 17 – 134 on the 2007/08 payments list were approved and signed.

12.) Revised Code of Conduct

Mr J. F. Fisher seconded by Mr N. Shaw proposed that the Revised Code of Conduct that had been submitted by the District Council be adopted. On a show of hands it was unanimously agreed to adopt the Code.

13.) Standing Orders

It was unanimously **RESOLVED** on a show of hands that the model Standing Orders including Paragraph 12 (2) should be adopted with the deletion of paragraph 29(j).

14.) Committees

Plans Committee

The minutes of Plans Committee meeting held on 16th and the draft minutes of the 20th April 2007 meeting were presented by Mr J. F. Fisher and noted. An amendment was made to the draft minutes of the 30th April regarding application 20070525. The last line should read "An overall review of traffic flows in the area should be carried out to accurately forecast the impact of traffic using the roundabout."

15.) Norfolk County Council

(i) Government consultation on Norwich City Unitary bid

It was **AGREED** to re-affirm opposition to the proposals put forward by Norwich City Council for Unitary Authority status. Copies would be sent to the County and District Council.

(ii) Broadland Business Park – waiting restrictions

Information on waiting restrictions that would be put in place following consultation with stakeholders was noted.

(iii) South Hill Road – dropped kerbs

The area Highway Engineer had advised there were no plans for any footway works in South Hill Road. It was noted that "bumping up" the kerb i.e. gaining access by driving over a full height kerb was not allowed.

(iv) Laundry Lane Gas Convenor

Information on the terms of the sale of the property was noted and it was unanimously **RESOLVED** to complete the sale as soon as possible.

(v) Dussindale Drive – Footway conversion to cycleway/footway

Information on the conversion of the footway to a combined cycleway/footpath was noted. It was considered because of its proximity to the new primary school that its use should be segregated.

(vi) Dussindale Drive – Safer and Healthier journeys to school

Information on the proposed road humps, 20mph speed limit and toucan crossing was noted.

16.) Broadland District Council

(i) Unitary bid by Norwich City Council

Further information on the bid from the Chairman of the council was noted.

(ii) Conservation Area Extension

Details of the public consultation that would take place at Dussindale Centre on 18th June from 2 – 7pm were noted.

(iii) Election procedural problems

It was **AGREED** that a formal complaint would be made to the District Council regarding a number of issues. Postal votes had been sent out very late; other councils had got them out in good time. Residents had complained that polling booths at the village hall did not all contain information on the correct way to fill out ballot papers. Ballot paper notices should be on the front of box not just the top.

Facilities had been partly dismantled before the count had been completed. Wrong figures were given out which led to one candidate believing they had not been elected and they were referred to the website as the information had already been taken to Thorpe Lodge. The Town is listed in 2006/07 as having the largest population in Broadland and as such it should be treated equally with other parishes with full facilities being provided until the count had been fully completed.

17.) N. C. A. P. T. C. – Annual subscription

The amount of the subscription was noted.

18.) Zurich Insurance Health and Safety Seminar

The seminar was open to members and officers; the most important topic would be the implications of Corporate Manslaughter offence on Town and Parish Councils, Clerks and Members. The Clerk and Amenities officer would attend.

19.) Norfolk Constabulary – Safer Neighbourhoods

Information on the new policing initiative was noted.

20.) East Norfolk Scout District

It was **AGREED** to give permission to the Scouts for a Sunrise Ceremony at the Recreation Ground on the 1st August at 7am. There would be no charge for the use of the Morse Pavilion. The Scouts could also light the beacon if they wished.

21.) Norfolk Autistic Society

It was **AGREED** not to make a donation at this time but to offer the group free publicity in The Beacon.

22.) St Williams Way transmitting mast – RF Survey

At the request of the Town Council Arqiva, the owners of the mast had carried out a survey of Radio Frequency emissions at 12 locations selected by the Council. All measurements were extremely low, the highest being 0.093% of the public safety guidelines, some 1075 times less than the maximum exposure allowed.

23.) South Norfolk District Council – Gypsy and Traveller Consultation

Information on the consultation meeting at Broome was noted.

24.) Broads Authority – Local access forum

The next public meeting of the forum would be held at County Hall at 2.00pm on 19th June.

22.) Future Agenda Items

None

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: - 4th June 2007 at the Meeting Room, Dussindale Centre.