

Thorpe St Andrew Town Council
Minutes of the Extraordinary Town Council meeting
held on 17 June 2019 at 7:30pm

31 Present:

Mr J Fisher	(Town Mayor)		
Mr P Berry	Mr F Bowe	Mrs J Fisher	Mr T Fordham
Mr T Garner	Miss S Lawn	Mr I Mackie	Mrs T Mancini Boyle
Mr L Reeves	Mr S Snelling	Mr J Ward	

Apologies:

Mr J Emsell Mr N Shaw

In attendance:

Mrs F Bass (Deputy Clerk) Mrs D Matthews (Committee Officer)

The Town Clerk, the Parks and Estates Manager and 8 members of the public were in attendance for the non-confidential part of the meeting. They left the meeting for the confidential item (minute 34)

The Town Council congratulated Mr Emsell on the recent birth of his daughter.

32 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None made.

33 PUBLIC SESSION (limited to 3 minutes per speaker)

It was proposed and duly seconded that the meeting be suspended to allow members of the public to address the meeting.

Members of the Public:

A number of residents and a representative of the Yare Boat Club spoke in relation to the purchase of land at Thorpe Island.

Local residents living opposite the land raised questions about the intentions for use of the land by the Town Council and the Boat Clubs. They currently benefitted from quiet and peaceful outlook over the land on the opposite side of the river and were keen to see the land protected. The land was currently well screened by mature hedging which it was hoped would be retained and was a haven for wildlife They were aware that another local resident was willing to consider purchasing the land to ensure its future protection. The issue of parking was also raised.

A representative of the Yare Boat Club stated that they hoped the Town Council would be interested in purchasing the land and that future use of the land by the boat club(s) could be secured. They were very aware of the environmental importance of the land and there was no intention to remove any hedges. Any future enhancement of the site to accommodate boat club activity would be sympathetic and in keeping with the current status of the land. There might be a need for an additional boathouse but there was no need for any additional pontoon.

The Town Mayor stated that a letter had been sent to local residents explaining that the Town Council was considering the matter of land for sale at Thorpe Island. He had met with a resident who currently owned land adjoining the land for sale to explain the Council's interest. All parties were keen to see the land protected. The Town Council was also keen to support use of the land by the local boat club(s) whilst protecting the environmental significance of the land. There was a need for consideration of the parking issues and to look for a way to alleviate any car parking concerns. All present viewed a video recording taken from within the land following which the Town Clerk, the Parks and Estates Manager and members of the public then left the meeting.

MOTION TO CLOSE THE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED to close the meeting to the public and press under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 due to the disclosure of confidential information.

34 LAND AT THORPE ISLAND

The Town Council considered the confidential report regarding the land for sale at Thorpe Island and it was

RESOLVED that the Town Council seek to acquire the land at Thorpe Island for sale at auction up to the maximum amount agreed (not to be disclosed) with the intention that if it is successful the land be sold to the Boat Club. The Boat Club be invited to support the Town Council's bid to purchase the land and to confirm this prior to the auction.

The meeting closed at 9:30pm

Signed:

Dated: