

**Thorpe St Andrew Town Council
Minutes of the Town Council meeting
held on 5 August 2019 at 7:30pm**

35 Present:

Mr J Fisher	(Town Mayor)		
Mr P Berry	Mr F Bowe	Mrs J Fisher	Mr J Emsell
Mr T Garner	Mr M Lake	Miss S Lawn	Mr I Mackie
Mrs T Mancini Boyle	Mr L Reeves	Mr S Snelling	Mr N Shaw

Apologies: Mr T Fordham

In attendance:

Dr T Foreman (Town Clerk) Mrs D Matthews (Committee Officer)

Three members of the public were in attendance.

36 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Member/Officer	Item
Dr T Foreman	Minute no 47 – Update from Yare Boat Club – member of the Club

37 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 3 June 2019 and the extraordinary meeting held on 17 June 2019 were agreed and signed as a true record.

38 ANNOUNCEMENTS

- (i) The Town Mayor referred to the recent deaths of Mr Dennis Ely, former member of the Town Council for 39 years, and Cannon Pearson. He paid tribute to the work of Mr Ely and his commitment to many projects in the Town. Members stood for a minute's silence in remembrance. The Mayor reported on his attendance at the County Chairman's reception in Kings Lynn and that he had been honoured to open the Thorpe St Andrew Church fete. He congratulated Malcom Martins on his golden wedding.

- (ii) The Town Clerk reported on the following: meetings regarding moorings at River Green, attendance at the "cuppa with a copper" event on 25 June, the Canada day video call with St Andrews Council in Canada, meetings with Broadland District Council and the Broads Authority regarding the Neighbourhood Plan and meeting with the High School Team 6 (Sixth Form Committee).

39 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.

- (i) Norfolk Constabulary – no police representative was in attendance. A concern was raised about noisy/speeding vehicles using the area around Macro. The Clerk commented that the Police were aware of the issues and residents' concerns and that they were monitoring the situation. Contact had also been made with the District Council. It was noted that a SNAP meeting was being held in the Town on 10 October and residents should continue to use the 101 telephone service to report the issue.
- (ii) Members noted the report from Cllr Ward. (Reference to grants of £100 - £500 was corrected to £50 - £500.)
- (iii) Cllr I Mackie reported on the positive audit of the County Council's accounts for 2018/19. An examination of use of reserves had also had a satisfactory conclusion. An issue relating to the retention of business rates for hospitals/health trusts was currently being examined through the courts. Dussindale Primary School had received a good Ofsted report – improving on its previous position. The children's reading challenge had commenced over the summer months and a car safety check was being held at Tesco in Sprowston on 22 August. The County Council was currently undergoing a Boundary Commission review to look at boundaries and councillor representation.
- (iv) Cllr Shaw reported on his reappointment as Vice-Chairman of the Strategic Aviation Special Interest Group who were celebrating their 20th anniversary. Noise was an issue still being looked at. New types of aircraft were being developed for use in the next 20 years including electric aeroplanes.
- (v) Cllr Mancini-Boyle reported that Broadland District Council accounts had been successfully signed off with no issues.
- (vi) Cllr John Fisher reported that a consultation regarding modifications to the Thunder Lane junction would commence in September with works expected to start in January 2020. The mini roundabout on Thunder Lane was also scheduled for maintenance work during the summer. With regard to Children's Services, now called Early Childhood and Family Services, 13 centres were being retained but use of the other centres would discontinue. Work previously undertaken by Health Visitors together with some funding would now be incorporated into this service and some new technology innovations were being developed which would be accessible by users from their phones.
- (vii) A member of the public asked if the Town Council had been successful in its bid to purchase land at River Green and was advised that it had not. A concern was raised by members of the public about the number of dinghies moored along River Green which, together with the launch vehicle used to unload refuse from The Island, were preventing visitors from mooring at River Green. The Town Clerk had raised concerns with the Broads Authority about these matters and on the continued delays in enabling the Town Council to progress the management scheme for River Green but was still awaiting a response.

40 FINANCE

- (i) Payments List – voucher numbers 239 to 473 totalling £61,546.52 were approved and signed.
- (ii) Bank Reconciliation Statement as at 30 June 2019 was approved and signed.

41 DRAFT MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- (i) Plans Committees – 10 June and 8 July 2019 – noted.
- (ii) Finance and Staff Committee held on 17 June 2019 – noted. Members were advised that a demonstration of the magic table had been received at the dementia café and possible options for funding the purchase of a table were being explored including working with Sainsburys.
- (iii) Events and Media Committees – 24 June and 22 July 2019 – noted. It was noted that the Christmas Lights event would be on 24 November 2019.

42 PLANS COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

Members considered the report of the Clerk on proposed changes to the terms of reference of the Plans Committee to include environmental matters to reflect the Town's leading role in the community in championing environmental causes. Members welcomed the proposal and it was

RESOLVED to change the Plans Committee to the Plans and Environment Committee and approve the terms of reference set out in the report.

43 YOUTH COUNCIL

Members considered the report of the Clerk on progress on establishing a Youth Council and received a detailed presentation on the questions raised by "Team Six" (the High School Sixth Form Committee) and best practice guidance. Members welcomed the progress made and were keen to keep the momentum going forward in developing the Youth Council. They noted some of the key issues coming forward including avoiding "teen events", more music/food festival type events, utilising the common goal of supporting environmental causes, ensuring opportunities for involvement in the Youth Council were open to all. It was agreed that initially it might be helpful to invite a core group to come forward with a view to ultimately staging "elections" to the Youth Council. It was noted that it would be possible for the Town Council to co-opt youths onto committees such as the Planning and Environment Committee and the Events and Media Committee. It would be useful to engage the students with revamping the St George's day event. The Mayor had been invited to address the school on the work of the Town Council and local government particularly on environmental issues which was to be welcomed as it was felt that there was too little understanding of the work being undertaken in local government on environmental issues.

RESOLVED to agree that the Town Clerk and the Town Mayor continue to work with the High School to progress the setting up of a Youth Council and report back to the Town Council.

44 COMMERCIAL MOORING AT RIVER GREEN

Members considered a request from a local boat company to work with the Town Council to offer a traditional canoe hire service from River Green, utilising a commercial mooring space. Members viewed images of the handmade canoes and the location of the potential mooring. The canoes would ideally be moored at the stern and would be there during the day, returning to Thorpe Island at night. It was hoped there would not be any issue with the canoes being moored at the stern, as this was the best way to display them. Ideally, other users of this part of the river needed to comply with mooring requirements and avoiding triple mooring. The arrangement would be similar in nature to the commercial mooring arrangement used for the Bishy Barnaby boat hire service and was seen to compliment this service. Members welcomed the proposal and the opportunity to develop another complimentary service to encourage use of River Green. They agreed that a similar arrangement to that

which existed with the Bishy Barnaby boat hire service would be appropriate to help support the new business to get established.

RESOLVED to authorise the Clerk to proceed with a commercial mooring agreement with the boat owner.

45 FORMER TENNIS COURT REFURBISHMENT

Members considered the report of the Clerk regarding quotations for the surfacing of the former tennis courts at the Fitzmaurice Park. Members discussed the likely possible use of the area and the options for resurfacing. They did not feel there was any merit in providing an asphalt or concrete surface mindful of the costs involved which would be in the region of £30k and £20 respectively. They did however feel it would be prudent to lay reinforcement tiles under any grass to provide a surface which could withstand heavy vehicles and provide more flexibility for potential uses such as the funfair, bandstand, staging or a marquee etc.

RESOLVED to authorise the Clerk to seek quotations for the cost of installing reinforcement tiles and grass to the former tennis court area at the Fitzmaurice Park and to proceed to place the order for the work up to a maximum cost of £10,000.

46 PUBLIC TOILET AT FITZMAURICE PARK

Members considered the report of the Clerk on a proposal to create a publicly accessible toilet at the Town Hall by installing a partition wall in the foyer area allowing public access to the existing toilet during the day. Members noted the costs as estimated by a current contractor would be in the region of £3,000 plus an allowance of approximately £500 for the installation of a suspended ceiling over the toilet. Members supported the proposal and it was

RESOLVED to authorise the Town Clerk and the Parks and Estates Manager to finalise the proposals and place the order for the work up to a maximum total cost of £3500.

47 UPDATE FROM YARE BOAT CLUB

The Clerk confirmed that the Town Council had been unsuccessful in its bid to purchase land at Thorpe Island for future collaboration with the Yare Boat Club and the Club had thanked the Town Council for its efforts. Work would continue with the Boat Club to explore with the Broads Authority other options to enhance use of their existing site.

48 UPDATE ON SAINSBURYS RECYCLING CENTRE

The Clerk reported on a positive response from Sainsburys regarding the state of their recycling area and that the District Council would now be monitoring the area to ensure the current condition was maintained.

Future Agenda Items

- Civic Awards
- Donation of trees from a resident

The meeting closed at 9:20pm

Signed:

Dated: