

**Thorpe St Andrew Town Council  
Minutes of the Town Council meeting  
held on 5 August 2024 at 7:30pm**

**1 Present:**

Mr F Bowe (Town Mayor)	Mrs L Skinner
Mr S Snelling (Deputy Town Mayor)	Mr D Wiseman
Mr J Ward	Ms J Bailey
Mr P Berry	Mr J Emsell
Mr S Court	Ms L Barrett

**Apologies:** Mr T Garner, Mr D Buck, Mrs M Friend, Mr J Fisher and Ms C Ferris

**In attendance:** Mrs R McCarthy (RFO and OM), Mrs D Wheatley (Administrative and Communication Officer), Mr J Calver (Parks and Estates Manager), Mrs L Weston (Administration and Committee Officer) and six members of the public.

**2 Declarations of interest in items on the agenda – None declared.**

**3 To confirm the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 1 July 2024.**

The minutes of the meeting held on 1 July 2024 were signed and approved as a true record.

**4 Announcements**

**4.1** The Town Mayor attended the Midsummer Music event on 13<sup>th</sup> July and gave his thanks to all staff for the effort put in to make it a successful event.

**4.2** Town Clerk – No announcements.

**5 Public Participation – To consider a motion to suspend the meeting to allow members of the public the opportunity to address the meeting limited to 3 mins each.**

**5.1 Norfolk Constabulary – No report**

**5.2 County and District Councillors – Report from Cllr Ward noted.** Cllr Berry informed members that the Thorpe Neighbourhood Plan was formerly adopted during the July meeting of BDC and thanks given to all those that worked on the plan.

**5.3 Members of the public**

A member of the public raised the issue of the smells from the Anglian Water treatment works at Whitlingham, in South Avenue, and wider Thorpe St Andrew. Contact has been made with the Anglian Water Sewage Manager, who has been very supportive, but he would appreciate support from the Town Council. There was widespread support to support matters going forward.

A member of the public wished to know what practical value the Veterans Covenant has to the Town Council. The Town Mayor outlined the benefits of the employer recognition scheme to veterans and outlined other initiatives the Town Council supports (e.g. Model for Heroes)

A member of the public, advised that he had received confirmation from Network Rail that there had been an inspection of the footbridge and repairs will take place. Information on painting

of the footbridge will be sought through another asset. The news will be relayed to the Rail Disaster group.

**Agenda item 11 .1** was raised by a member of the public, outlining the correspondence the Council received and the request for a 'No Through Road' sign at the bottom of South Avenue. Cllrs had read the correspondence; therefore agenda item 11 was brought forward for discussion. It was **RESOLVED**, by a unanimous show of hands, to support the RFO in taking this forward and to pursue the 'No Through Road' signs with County Council for South Avenue and Bishops Close.

## **6 Town Maps Update – for consideration**

The RFO asked members for clarity on the need and benefit for having a paper map and how it would it be paid for as there are no dedicated producers due to lack of demand, and it fell beyond the office's capabilities to design. Mrs Wheatley advised members that the CEO was looking at this in conjunction with the new Business Forum, for businesses to sponsor the map. Cllr Emsell also thought the school might have media students that could treat it as a design project.

It was proposed by Cllr Emsell, seconded by Cllr Ward with a unanimous show of hands **RESOLVED** for the CEO to take this forward and approach the school.

## **7 Request from a member of the public for the sewage works to be a regular agenda item until completion – for consideration**

Shaun Barker, Sewage Plant Operation Manager at Anglian Water, addressed members concerning the offensive smells and odour issues experienced by residents, and asked if the Town Council meetings, would be a suitable platform for engagement.

Cllr Emsell offered his thanks to Shaun for being proactive and suggested that attending some of the council events would be a positive way to interact with residents.

The RFO suggested a dialogue between Anglian Water and the council continues, and to add items to the agenda when there is something to report. It was **RESOLVED** with a unanimous show of hands for Cllr Snelling to be the sewage representative for the council.

## **8 Finance**

8.1 Payments List VR's 269-366 - noted.

8.2 Bank Reconciliation Statement – Cllr Snelling raised the question of investments and if this had been pursued. The RFO advised that the CEO had been tasked with writing an investment policy as the necessary first step. The statement was approved and signed as a true record.

8.3 Quarter 1 Budget Report – Report noted.

8.4 Quarter 1 Dementia Accounts – Report noted.

## **9 Events**

9.1 Grays Funfair Proposal – for consideration

It was proposed by Cllr Ward, seconded by Cllr Emsell, with a unanimous show of hands **RESOLVED** to accept the proposal presented.

## **10 Morse Project Update – for consideration**

The RFO and Parks and Estates Manager gave an update on the project, which included drawings/plans and the benefits it would offer the community.

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the proposal, with a caveat to the acceptance of a quote, with 9 in agreement and 1 abstention.

**11 Correspondence:**

11.1 Yarmouth Road – See agenda item 5.3.

**12 Update on Ocubis presentation**

Cllr Snelling gave an update on the presentation for any councillors that were unable to attend. Cllr Berry voiced his disappointment over the lack of provision for affordable housing. Cllr Emsell agreed and is interested to see what the outcome will be at BDC, without the affordable housing in the plans.

**13 Exclusion of Press and Public**

To consider a motion to exclude press and public under the public bodies Admission to meetings Act 1960.

**14 Commercial sensitive information relating to the River Green Project – for consideration and resolution.**

The document presented was considered by the councillors and the following decisions made:

Point 1 – will be carried over to another meeting.

Point 2 – 6 – it was **RESOLVED** to accept points 2 – 6, with 8 in agreement and 2 abstentions.

Point 7 – to be carried over to another meeting as further explanation is required.

**Meeting Closed at 9.25pm**

Chairman \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_