

THRAPSTON TOWN COUNCIL

Mayor: Cllr. Val Carter

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116-012/013

PLANNING, LEISURE AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Minutes of meeting Tuesday 06 November 2012

Present: Cllr. E Sewell, Cllr. V Carter ex officio, Cllr. P Goss, Cllr. D Read,
Cllr. H McCormack and Cllr. C Thorp
In attendance: Cllr. A Winter, Jeanne Pike Clerk, Sara Crawley, Deputy Clerk

01 Apologies for Absence:

Cllr. K Draycott tendered her apologies which were accepted.

02 Declaration of interest in items on the Agenda:

Cllr. A Winter declared an interest in item 4 EN/12/0136. **Noted**

03 Issues from members of the public:

Cllr. Winter attended the meeting as a 'member of the public' to give members more information on the plans for extending his place of work (EN/12 01360)
He re-assured members that the re-submission contained plans to have the reversing beepers on the vehicles silenced at certain times to ensure that the residents nearby would have no intrusion into their peace in the evenings/nights.
DSV have a policy to do everything they can to eliminate noise levels.

04 Planning Applications:

EN12/01360/FUL – Warehouse and offices with service yard, car parking, cycle shelter, new access and external works to link to adjacent site (B1 B2 and B8) at Plot 2 Haldens Parkway. **No objection**

EN/12/01469/FUL – Change of flat roof on existing porches to pitched roof (21 and 23 Roman Way) at 21-23 Roman Way. **No objection**

EN/12/01584/FUL – Conversion of outbuilding to a private gym to include an increase in ridge height at 11 Hortons Lane. **No objection**

EN/12/01626/FUL – Demolition of existing porch and carport. Erection of two front/side extension on footprint of existing porch and carport to provide third bedroom and study at first floor and increased living space at ground floor. Parking for three cars to front garden at 6 Hillcrest Close; **no objection**

EN/12/01681/TPO – Proposal - **T1** Beech; Crown lift to 4.0 metres over the road and footpath and remove deadwood

T2 Twin-stemmed Ash; Remove low laterals on the limb overhanging the shrub bed

T3 Ash; Remove storm damaged collapsed co-dominant stem and advise on further works as necessary.

T4 Yew; Reduce in height by approximately 3.5 metres and re-profile remaining canopy to balance.

T5 Oak at front of property; Crown lift to 3.5 metres

T6 Lime; Crown lift to 1.5 metres above ridge tile on garages and crown clean removing dead, diseased, dying, crossing, rubbing and duplicate branches.

T7 Dead Pear; Section fell to ground level and grind out stump to a depth of approximately 30 centimetres. Reinstated with topsoil. Reason: All works specified are to be carried out in the interests of sound arboriculture practices, management and Health & Safety at 38 Huntingdon Road **No objection**
Two further plans had been received on this day and the response would be sent under delegated powers.

EN/12/01559/HAZ – Application of hazardous substances consent: Liquefied petroleum gas storage at Primark, Haldens Parkway. **No objection**

EN/12/01742/FUL – Construction of earthen bund at OP0001 TL0078 A14 Bypass Thrapston. **No objection**

05 Planning Decisions (for noting):

Approvals:

EN/12/01536/FUL – Elevation alteration at Nene Community Centre **Approved**

06 Ground Maintenance Audit:

Required actions noted:

Area 1 – Weeds in Plaza car park and replacement of broken boards by fire exit. Developer to be informed of other problems at Foundry Walk and Nine Arches Way sites

Area 2 – Loose stones around town sign to be cemented and the sign cleaned.

Area 3 - Unsightly vegetation on entrance to Huntingdon Road (right-hand side).

Area 4 – Missing bar on swing to be replaced, surface around spring rocker repaired, graffiti removed from play equipment at Conway Drive and rubbish removed from Warwick Gardens Spinney.

Area 5 – Wire fencing to be replaced at Castle Playing Fields, bins to be replaced at BMX track, fence repaired and rubbish removed and at Meadow Lane a tree with fungus needs inspecting and rail repaired on the bridge. Trees need cutting back on the railway line area.

Area 6 – Clover Drive gate closure and fencing to be repaired, slats on seat in cemetery to be replaced, ivy to be removed from two graves near building, window in building to be repaired, dead yews to be replaced and debris near gate removed. Gate and graffiti at Charles Street play area to be reported to Spire Homes.

07 Community Plan:

Cllr. Carter reported that Ancer Spa were pleased with the results of the Band Night held recently where 51 questionnaires were completed by the young people. Ancer Spa reported that 60 visitors attended their open day mostly in the over 60 age range. Cllr. Carter expressed some concern over the way the priorities were listed. The main ones being: car parking, allotments, public transport and secondary schools. The next were selection of retail outlets, replacement of Manor House facility, market, community events and accommodation for the elderly. The Town Council will have to consider which projects to take forward.

08 Water's Edge:

The Town Council met with Carl Webb, Estates Manager, from Persimmon prior to this meeting and heard that Persimmon had considered selling a strip of amenity land at Water's Edge to three residents. However Carl informed members that Persimmon would be willing to gift the land to the Town Council if the Town Council are happy to enter into negotiations with Persimmon to reduce the amount of Section 106 monies outstanding on other developments in the town.

Cllr. P Goss proposed that the Council re-think the idea of the sale of the land to the homeowners and the Council should visit the site concerned to enable them to make an informed decision. A map of the site to be produced; **Action Deputy Clerk**

A detailed document to be produced on the outstanding monies; **Action Clerk**

The Clerk will contact Carl Webb to arrange to meet him on Wednesday 14th or Tuesday 20th November at 10 am. **Action Clerk**

09 CCTV Update:

In spite of a recent workshop held at ENC the issue of change of CCTV in the town is no further forward. No details are available of any other companies other Force 3 Security where councillors visited Coleford in Gloucestershire to inspect the system in operation there.

Mike Greenway has said it may be possible to reduce costs and monitoring of the present system but there are no details as yet.

The feeling of the members was that Force 3 Security sounded to be the best system for Thrapston but having had a ball-park figure quoted for installation and running costs the Council will now wait for the next CCTV workshop when there may be results from other companies/councils.

10 Proposed Plans for Play Equipment:

The Youth Committee has recommended that new play equipment for age group 10+ should be sited on the area of the wooden hippo and spring mobiles which is presently greatly underused and in need of refurbishment if this is not acceptable then Cllr Winter proposes the new equipment be placed adjacent to the existing area. Members agreed that the present equipment was underused and suggested Howard Bosworth be asked to quote to clear the equipment and surface.

Clerk to speak to Mr Bosworth. **Action Clerk**

11 Car Parking in Thrapston:

Cllr. D Read informed members that no additional car parking had been introduced to Thrapston since 1974. Some years ago ENC purchased land in Cosy Nook for the express purpose of turning it into a car parking area but this has never happened and it is now on the District Council's list of assets for possible disposal.

It may be possible to take advantage of the New Homes Bonus money to turn the site into a bespoke car park and this would involve bidding for a sum of money making a business case for the social and economic reasons for such a project.

Cllr. Read pointed out that mechanisms would need to be in place to ensure that the car park was used correctly in the best interest of the town and its visitors.

Cllr. P Goss proposed that the Council formally approve that Cllr. Read proceeds with the process, seconded by Cllr. C Thorp with **all in favour**.

Pass to Full Council for ratification

12 T.E.R.G

Cllr. E Sewell felt that the T.E.R.G concept needed to be re-visited to ensure that all the details held at present are current. The two facilitators should then meet twice a year for any updating.

An 'emergency exercise' would be beneficial for councillors. **Action Cllr. E Sewell
Cllr. E Sewell and S Crawley to meet to arrange details**

13 Clerks Report:

1) The electoral review of the Local Government Boundary Commission's report setting out recommendations for Northamptonshire County Council has now been published and is available on the website: www.lgbce.org.uk

A survey can be completed on the document at:

www.lgbce.org.uk/about-us/satisfaction-surveys/opinion-survey

2) An email from Charlotte Tomkins at ENC regarding the TUPE arrangements in place for employees of Kier who have the toilet cleaning contract informs the Council that these arrangements would still stand if all the four councils wished to change their contacts. Charlotte suggests that the changeover, if required, should be staged over a period of time then the TUPE conditions would be avoided.

14 Items for Future Agendas:

- Action plan for events – **PLA December**

There being no other relevant business the meeting was closed at 9.20 pm.