

THRAPSTON TOWN COUNCIL

Mayor: Cllr. Val Carter

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100-012/013

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting

23 October 2012

Present: Cllr. V Carter, Cllr. P Baden, Cllr. K Draycott, Cllr. K Fouhy, Cllr. P Goss, Cllr. S Haynes, Cllr. R Jakeman, Cllr. H McCormack, Cllr. P Pike, Cllr. D Read, Cllr. E Sewell, Cllr. C Thorp and Cllr. A Winter

In Attendance: District Cllr. W Brackenbury, Jeanne Pike, Clerk and Sara Crawley

01 Apologies for Absence:

District Cllr. M Finch sent his apologies which were accepted.

02 Declaration of interest in items on the Agenda:

None

03 Public Participation:

There were no members of the public present

04 Police and Road Safety:

The Police were unable to attend so the Clerk read the Parish Crime report for September which showed crime down to 15 from the previous month when there were 20 crimes reported. Main ones for September were 3 each of violence offences and theft from motor vehicles and 2 each of criminal damage, burglary dwelling and theft/handling. The rest were one of deception, sexual offence and theft from motor vehicles.

05 Minutes of the last meeting:

Resolution: To approve the minutes of the Full Council meeting dated 25 September 2012 proposed by Cllr. P Baden and seconded by Cllr. P Pike with **all in favour R496/100**

06 Personnel Committee:

Cllr. A Winter proposed that the minutes of the Personnel Committee dated 25 September 2012 be approved seconded by Cllr. K Fouhy with **all in favour**.

07 Cemetery Sub-Committee:

Cllr. E Sewell proposed that the minutes of the Cemetery Sub-Committee dated 26 September 2012 be approved, seconded by Cllr. R Jakeman with **all in favour**.

08 Planning, Leisure and Amenities Committee Report:

Cllr. D Read proposed that the PLA report dated 02 October 2012 be approved, seconded by Cllr. K Draycott with **all in favour**.

09 Finance and Strategy Statement:

Cllr. P Baden proposed that the Finance report dated 09 October 2012 be accepted, seconded by Cllr. R Jakeman with **all in favour**.

Resolution: To accept the Finance Statement for the month of September 2012 and approve the required payments; proposed by Cllr. S Haynes and seconded by Cllr. A Winter with **all in favour**. **R497/101**

10 General Power of Competence:

The Clerk outlined the criteria and benefits of the General Power of Competence.

Resolution: That Thrapston Town Council has met the criteria necessary and will adopt the General Power of Competence. **R498/101**

proposed by Cllr. E Sewell and seconded by Cllr. K Draycott with **all in favour**.

11 Standing Orders 2012:

The Standing Orders have been reviewed and the Finance and Strategy Committee recommended that the Standing orders be adopted with the changes as issued to all councillors. The Clerk listed the changes for councillors to note.

Resolution: That Thrapston Town Council adopts the new Standing Orders dated October 2012 and recommended by the Finance and Strategy Committee; proposed by Cllr. S Haynes and seconded by Cllr. P Pike with **all in favour**. **R 499/101**

12 Christmas 2012:

Cllr. Carter asked members for suggestions to enhance the entertainment offer at the Christmas lights switch-on. Although it is possibly a little late for this year it was agreed that permission should be sought to have stalls where the Tuesday Market stands selling Christmas goods. Clerk to obtain permission and Cllr. Carter to investigate potential stall holders. **Action Cllr. Carter and Clerk**

The switch on is arranged with the primary school children and Father Christmas. The Town Band has been asked but not yet responded and a TENS license has been obtained. Blachere have been contacted for installation details and will respond to the Clerk in due course when a request will be made for a further motif to be placed on the Bread Basket if permission is received. **Action Clerk**

The Chairman will investigate some suggested possible 'celebrities' to switch on the lights. Members agreed to leave the final choice to Cllr. Carter's discretion.

Action Cllr. Carter

Christmas opening hours for the public were agreed to be: last working day Friday 21 December with a surgery on Saturday 22 December. The office will then be closed for Christmas and New Year opening on 02 January 2013.

13 Firework Display:

All councillors to wear identification and to bring their own buckets with labels that will be issued with the Town Crest. The money will be secured by Cllr. Carter at the end of the display.

The Police and St. John will be in attendance at 6.30 pm for 7 pm start. It is anticipated that the proceedings will be concluded by 7.30 pm.

The Sports Association will provide the sale of food and drink and the flood lights.

Cllr. Fouhy proposed that the Council contribute £80 to the cost of this years use, seconded by Cllr. R Jakeman with **all in favour**.

The BMX track will be 'policed' during the operation of the fireworks by Cllr. Carter and Sara Crawley and the following morning as many members as possible will meet to ensure the area is cleared of all spent fireworks.

14 CCTV:

Cllr. Sewell reported on a visit made to Gloucestershire where Force 3 Security had installed a CCTV system some time ago. (See appendix one)

There is a workshop on 25th October at 2 pm at ENC

15 Charter Fair 2013:

The Charter Fair in 2013 will be held on Saturday 29 June and the theme for this will be 'Holidays'. Lindsey Burch has informed the Council that that would like to create a beach outside the Library with sand, Punch and Judy etc. and would like to hold sand castle competitions. They have promised that a full Health and Safety assessment will be carried out and ask the Councils permission to proceed with the arrangements.

Members felt the idea to be a good one and agreed with the concept providing the sand is kept secure on the tarpaulin. The Clerk will write to confirm the agreement and to remind the Charter Fair Committee members of the need to obtain permission from the land owners concerned.

16 Civic Regalia:

The Mayoral Chain of Office has been refurbished at a local jeweller and then sent to Vaughtons, a well-known supplier of civic regalia for a collar to be added.

However the collar is not as expected and it was felt the workmanship to be poor with the links sewn tightly and unevenly across the collar making the whole piece much smaller and unsightly. Vaughtons say the blame lies with the jeweller who put in uneven links and that to remedy the situation would cost a large amount of money over and above that already spent. Members felt this to be totally unacceptable and an impasse has been reached. It is suggested that other town councils should be contacted to see if they will supply the Council with details of the person/company used to care for their chains. If suitable a quote to then be requested to remedy the present problem and put the chain back to a reasonable state that will enhance it. **Agreed**

Action Cllr. Carter and Clerk

17 Training Courses:

- 3 councillors visited Coleford for a look at the CCTV system – appendix one
- All councillors attended a general training session by NCALC – appendix two
- Cllr. V Carter attended a Health and Safety course – appendix three
- Five delegates attended NCALC AGM - appendix four

Cllr. Carter had attended Civic Services during the past month at Rushden and Higham Ferrers as well as a Fish and Chip Supper with Dr. Busker.

18 Clerk's Report:

- 1) Information regarding a professional decision by planners who considered plans submitted for new houses at Collyweston; issued to all councillors.
- 2) HMRC has rejected the application for the public conveniences to become a charitable organisation for tax purposes as it lacks the full administrative powers required for a charity.
- 3) Jane Stanhope from ENC has reminded the Council that the contract for services provided by Kier for the cleansing of the public conveniences ends on 31 December 2012. She would like to know if the Council wish to continue with the services with Kier for 2013. The Clerk will make further investigation into options before a decision is reached.
- 4) The Remembrance Day parade will commence at **2.30 pm outside the Plaza, Cosy Nook on 11 November 2012** and parade to St. James for a 3 pm service. After the service the parade will march back to Cosy Nook through the High Street. All Councillors are invited to attend and to march.

19 District Councillors Report:

Cllr. W Brackenbury reported that the Rushden Lakes proposal had been given planning permission and this would have favourable implications for Thrapston although there are still some objections from Kettering and Northampton councils.

Cllr. D Read reported that:

- 1) The Boundary Commission plans to reduce County Councillors from 9 to 7 and this may result in a review of the whole area next spring. If this does happen it will be an ideal opportunity to ask for a revision on the number of wards in Thrapston.
- 2) A trial on the collection of textiles has been implemented in various roads in Thrapston, if successful it will be extended to the whole area.
- 3) Car parking in Thrapston is still a very large problem and the car park area purchased by ENC at the back of the industrial area in Cosy Nook is planned to be sold off. Cllr. Read would like to make representation to keep this land for its original planned use.

20 Chairman's Comments:

Cllr. Carter reported that the Youth Band night held on Friday 12 October was a success and apart from a few minor problems seemed to be enjoyed by all.

Cllr. Carter thanked members for anticipated help and support at the Firework Display. Reminded them of the Community Plan Open Day at the Plaza on

Saturday 27 October from 11 am to 3 pm and Remembrance Day Service on **Sunday 11 November, 2.30 pm** at the Plaza then to St. James.

21 Items for Future Agendas:

- To discuss land original purchased by ENC for car parking – **November PLA**
- CCTV update – **November PLA**
- TERG information – **November PLA**

There being no other relevant business the meeting closed at 8.57 pm.