

# THRAPSTON TOWN COUNCIL

Mayor: Cllr. E Sewell

The Thrapston Centre, 77 High Street,  
Thrapston, Northamptonshire NN14 4JJ

Tel: (01832) 734673  
Fax: (01832) 731 928  
Email: thrapstoncouncil@btconnect.com



318-011/012

## Minutes of the Full Council Meeting

24 April 2012

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

**In Attendance:** Jeanne Pike, Clerk

**01 Apologies for Absence:**

Sara Crawley and PCSO Dave Bryan tendered their 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 but the Clerk reported that crime in Thrapston for the month of March totalled 23. The main ones being eight of criminal damage and four each of violent offences, and theft/handling. A letter from the Police reported that the crime figures has surpassed last years performance (which was good) and now shows the lowest level of crime recorded since modern crime recording standards were introduced around a decade ago.

Incidents reported as seen by the CCTV in the town are: January 1, February 4 and March 5, there were no arrests from any of these incidents.

Cllr. Sewell reported two individual incidents that took place in the town during last month. He also informed members of an Open Day to be held at Police Headquarters, Wootton Hall on Saturday 12 May 2012 from 11 am to 4 pm.

It was noted that the youths who gather in the Church grounds for various activities have spread to both the Baptist and Methodist Church grounds. Members agreed all incidents should be reported to the Police as anti-social behaviour would not be tolerated.

- 05 Minutes of the last meeting:**  
**Resolution:** To approve the minutes of the Full Council dated 27 March 2012 proposed by Cllr. P Baden and seconded by Cllr. R Jakeman with **all in favour**  
**R481/319**
- 06 Meeting with Persimmon:**  
Cllr. S Haynes proposed that the notes of a meeting with Persimmon personnel dated 28 March 2012 be approved seconded by Cllr. P Goss with **all in favour**.
- 07 Community Youth Sub-Committee:**  
The minutes of the Community Youth Sub-Committee dated 28 March 2012 have not yet been approved so this item was deferred to the next Full Council meeting.  
**Pass to May FTC**
- 08 Planning, Leisure and Amenities Committee Report:**  
Cllr. P Goss proposed that the PLA report dated 03 April be approved, seconded by Cllr. H McCormack with **all in favour**.
- 09 Finance and Strategy Statement:**  
Cllr. R Jakeman proposed that the Finance report dated 11 April 2012 be accepted, seconded by Cllr. K Fouhy with **all in favour**.  
**Resolution:** To accept the Finance Statement for the month of March 2012 and approve the required payments; proposed by Cllr. P Baden and seconded by Cllr. K Fouhy with **all in favour**. **R482/319**
- 10 Annual Town Meeting:**  
Cllr. A Winter proposed that the minutes of the Annual Town Meeting dated 17 April 2012 be accepted, seconded by Cllr. S Haynes with **all in favour**.  
It was noted that in spite of a PA system being on the premises it was not available for use and it should be ensured that it is made available for any future meetings.
- 11 Disability/Equality Statement:**  
Members discussed the Draft Equality Statement and Cllr. Sewell asked members to consider two paragraphs where the Statement seems to favour 'disabled' persons over 'able' ones. This was discussed at length with some members feeling that it was a necessary requirement as the more favourable treatment would only bring the 'disabled' person equal with an 'able' one. It was noted that the Equality Act should be considered and any wording used from that Act to ensure correct statements.  
Subject to this Cllr. P Baden proposed that the Statement be accepted, seconded by Cllr. P Goss with 8 in favour, 3 abstentions and one objection. **Clerk to check Act**

**12 Vacancy for Co-option:**

Three applications have been received for the vacant position of Town Councillor.

- Mrs Catherine Thorp
- Mt Barry Westley
- Mr Philip Pike

Members held a private ballot and there were six votes each for Mrs Thorp and Mr Pike, the Chairman used his casting vote to appoint Philip Pike to the Town Council.

**13 End of Year Figures 31 March 2012:**

The Clerk reported that on a Receipts and Payments total the payments were £228,869 and receipts were £257,441. These figures have to be re-stated for Income and Expenditure. Bank balances show £39,327 in the youth account, £476,441 in the deposit account, £57,738 in the current account and £5,965 in the Plaza account. There is also a credit in transit for the Plaza account of £81.

**14 Training Courses:**

There were no training courses during the month of March/April but the Chairman reported that on 28 March he had attended a Rotary lunch followed by a tree presentation ceremony in the Peace Memorial Park.

On 01 April he attended the opening of the new box and nets at the Cricket Club and on 18 April he attended TADS play 'It runs in the family'; an enjoyable performance.

**15 Clerk's Report:**

1) SLCC has written setting out the details and conditions for the Council to obtain the use of the General Power of Competence.

The Clerk has to have passed CiLCA including a new Section 7 and will be attending a training session at Litchborough on 22 May 2012.

2) The Nene Valley Swimming Club has asked for funding towards a swimming gala to be held for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations.

This will be passed to F&S for consideration.

**16 District Councillors Report:**

Cllr. P Baden reported that East Northamptonshire Council are planning a boundary revision and he asked that the Council write to the District Council to ask that Thrapston is made back into one ward as it is felt that Thrapston is a town and should not be divided by wards. Clerk to write asking for this review. **Action Clerk**

Cllr. Read reported that the Cattle Market relocation application was due to be heard on 02 May and the two supermarket applications on 13 and 14 June. There will be an opportunity to speak at the hearing (3 minutes only) on 13 June 2012.

**17 Chairman's Comments:**

The Chairman reported that together with two other councillors he recently (in the evening) walked around St James Church grounds. They found several young people and spent time talking with them about concerns over the damage that some young people were creating in the grounds.

The councillors also visited the residents of the cottage situated in the grounds ; they have been the recipients of much vandalism and abuse over the past months and are very concerned for their safety and well-being. They are keeping a log of each happening and reporting any problems to the Police. The next patrol is planned for a couple of months' time and anyone is welcome to join the 'team'.

Cllr. Sewell reminded members that this meeting was his last Full Council as Chairman and he thanked everyone for their help saying that it had been a very busy but enjoyable year.

Cllr. P Baden proposed a vote of thanks for Cllr. Sewell's work and input over the past year.

Cllr. Sewell then wished Cllr. Carter success in her role as Chairman for the coming year.

**18 Items for Future Agendas:**

It was noted that some people felt they had not had the opportunity to submit a report for the Annual Town Meeting. To ensure that this matter is rectified it was agreed to publish a request for reports for the ATM in the January newsletter.

There being no other relevant business the meeting closed at 8.20 pm.