

THRAPSTON TOWN COUNCIL

Mayor: Cllr. Val Carter

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020-012/013

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting

26 June 2012

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

In Attendance: Jeanne Pike, Clerk and Sara Crawley

01 Apologies for Absence:

District Councillor Wendy Brackenbury tendered her 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 figures for the month of May have been issued and show a total of 13; three of criminal damage, two each of burglary dwellings, deception/fraud and theft/handling with one each of the others.

Cllr. K Fouhy expressed his dissatisfaction with the persistent non-attendance of the Police and this was seconded by Cllr. P Goss. The Clerk will write to relay the Council's feelings. **Action Clerk**

05 Minutes of the last meeting:

Resolution: To approve the minutes of the Full Council meeting (AGM) dated 22 May 2012 proposed by Cllr. P Baden and seconded by Cllr. E Sewell with **all in favour R487/020**

06 Community Youth Sub-Committee:

Cllr. D Read proposed that the minutes of the Community Youth Sub-Committee dated 29 May 2012 be approved, seconded by Cllr. A Winter with **all in favour**.

07 Planning, Leisure and Amenities Committee Report:

Cllr. H McCormack proposed that the PLA report dated 06 June 2012 be approved, seconded by Cllr. E Sewell with **all in favour**.

08 Finance and Strategy Statement:

Cllr. P Baden proposed that the Finance report dated 12 June 2012 be accepted, seconded by Cllr. K Fouhy with **all in favour**.

Resolution: To accept the Finance Statement for the month of May 2012 and approve the required payments; proposed by Cllr. S Haynes and seconded by Cllr. K Fouhy with **all in favour**. **R488/021**

09 Code of Conduct:

Following the Government introducing the Localism Bill and with it a new Code of Conduct requirement (the present Code of Conduct ceases to be valid from 30 June 2012) the District Council has produced a Code of Conduct for their Council with slight modifications for their towns and parishes. Finance and Strategy have studied this Code and together with NCALC recommend:

Resolution: that Thrapston Town Council adopt the Code of Conduct issued by East Northamptonshire Council to commence 01 July 2012, proposed by Cllr. P Baden and seconded by Cllr. S Haynes with **all in favour**. **R489/021**

It was noted that forms for the new Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPIs) have been issued to members and these have a deadline of 29 July 2012 for receipt at ENC. If this is not complied with there could be a £1,000 for every non-complying councillor.

10 Bank Accounts:

The work to move some reserves into other bank accounts is on-going with further information expected shortly to help with the transition. **Deferred to July F&S**

11 Diamond Jubilee:

Cllr. Carter reported that the Diamond Jubilee Party in the Park was a great success and thanks should go to all those involved. Cllr. Carter especially wished to thank June Davy and Lindsey Burch who were instrumental in setting up the party and ensuring everything ran smoothly. SLCC advised that this could be done under the Chairman's Allowance heading. Cllr. P Baden proposed that this should be action, seconded by Cllr. S Haynes with **majority in favour**.

12 Vacancy for Co-option:

An application has been received for the vacant position of Town Councillor from Mrs Katherine Thorp who has previously been a councillor in another part of the country. Cllr. S Haynes proposed that Mrs Thorp be invited to join the Council, seconded by Cllr. E Sewell with all in favour. **Clerk to write to Mrs Thorp**

Eric Franklin has particularly asked that his letter of resignation be issued to all Councillors this has been done and Cllr. V Carter proposed that a letter of thanks be sent to Mr Franklin for his enormous participation in the life of the Council especially as Quality Council Champion, this was seconded by Cllr. K Fouhy with **all in favour**..

Action Clerk

13 Welcome Packs:

Welcome packs are given to new residents in the town and the information for this is taken from the electoral roll. Responsibility for individual roads were issued to each member who will be expected to build the pack when required and call on any new resident to welcome them to the town and introduce themselves on behalf of the Council. A specimen pack was issued to each councillor.

14 August Full Council:

Due to August being the main holiday month and both the Chairman and Vice – Chairman taking annual leave in this period the Chairman suggested that the date for Full Council be moved to Tuesday 21 August 2012. However after discussion it was agreed that the Town Council would not meet in August, the only meetings being the standard committees. **Agreed**

15 Training Courses:

The Clerk and Cllr. Pike attended the Larger Council Partnership at Wellingborough on 14 June. The main topics on discussion were the Code of Conduct and Highways. See Appendix one

The Chairman had carried out several civic functions; during the month, all of which were very enjoyable.

16 Clerk's Report:

- 1) Reminder that names are required if councillors wish to attend the Nene Valley Swimming Gala on July 01 from 5pm to 8pm
- 2) The Olympic torch Relay will be running through Dingley village on Monday 02 July around 3pm. Councillors are invited to attend.
- 3) Mr Nicholson, who complained to the Street Doctor regarding the granite sets in the High Street, has been told that although the cobbles do not meet the specifications for removal due to potholes etc. they realise that mobility scooters may have a problem traversing them and so have passed his letter for further investigation. If anyone knows why the cobbles were retained when other paths have been slabbed Highways would like to hear from them.
- 4) A one-day event on 'The Localism Act and How You Can Use It' is to be held on key aspects for local councils at Northampton Saints 9am on Tuesday 10 July 2012 the cost is £60 per delegate. Clerks and Councillors are invited to attend.
- 5) Prince William School is once again planning to hold a Coin Week and has asked Thrapston Town Council if they can specify a project. Howard Bosworth has suggested remedial work to enhance the entrance to Town Walk. It is envisaged that the only likely cost will be the preservative required, maximum cost £100.
- 6) The Plaza has been repainted and is looking much better – ready for the Charter Fair.
- 7) Bob Keys from Sainsburys has again requested the result from the poll taken in the town. The Clerk has directed him to the web site.
- 8) The Northamptonshire Branch Conference of SLCC will be held in Raunds on Wednesday 19 September 2012. The Clerk and Deputy have booked to attend at a cost of £10 per head.
- 9) The planning applications for the two food stores will be heard on Wednesday 04 July at ENC and may spill over to 05 July. Doors will open at 6pm on 04 July and one town councillor may speak if they wish. The District councillors will speak on behalf of the wards and no town councillors will speak publicly.
- 10) Lynne Rothwell is coming to the office on Wednesday 27 June to talk about the possibility of making the toilets a trust. Councillors are welcome to attend.
- 11) Information has been received that the Nene Centre will close for approximately nine months to allow repairs and remedial work to be carried out.
- 12) The Monitoring Officer has asked that Town Councils consider nominating a councillor to sit on the Joint Standards Complaints Committee (JSCC). Cllr. R Jakeman agreed to be nominated and the Clerk will inform Sharn Matthews.

17 District Councillors Report:

Cllr. P Baden reported that as previously mentioned the planning applications for the food stores will be heard on 04 and possibly 05 July. There will be three allowed to speak in favour of the applications and three who object. No shouting or heckling will be allowed.

The recommendation is that Sainsbury's application is approved and the Scotts one rejected, however the final decision rests with the members.

Cllr. Read reported that the reason for the closure of the Nene Centre was that the roof had failed, being incorrectly constructed at the time it was built with bolts that were incorrect.

There were two options open to the Council:

1. To close and mothball the building
2. To replace the roof and try to recover the approx. million £ costs with legal proceedings.

The Council chose the second option and regrettably had no choice but to make staff redundant in the process. It is hoped that the Centre will re-open 9 months from the closure planned for September 2012.

18 Chairman's Comments:

The Chairman reported that the Party in the Park on 04 June went very well with thanks to all concerned.

Raffle gifts for the Charity Ball on Saturday 07 July 2012 will be gratefully accepted.

19 Items for Future Agendas:

There were no items for future agendas but it was noted that Alan Winter would revert to being a member of the Finance and Strategy Committee with Kath Thorp delegated to Planning, Leisure and Amenities.

There being no other relevant business the meeting closed at 8.35 pm.

FTC26/06/12/jgp