

# THRAPSTON TOWN COUNCIL

Mayor: Cllr Val Carter

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**Minutes of the Meeting of the Full Town Council  
held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2021 at 7.15pm at The Souster Youth Hub**

**Present: Cllr Carter (Chairman), Cllr Cairns, Cllr Cribb, Cllr Hawkins,  
Cllr Twigger, Cllr Wheeler, Cllr Wilcox, Cllr Worley [20:40]**

**In attendance: Linda Marshall (Clerk), Cllr David Brackenbury [19:25]**

No.	Item	Action	By Whom
1.	<b>Apologies for Absence</b> Cllrs Charles, Latimer, McGovern, Winter & Worley had tendered their apologies which were accepted. It was noted that Cllr Worley was attending a North Northamptonshire Q&A Session on behalf of the Council. Unitary Councillors Wendy Brackenbury and Geoff Shacklock had also tendered their apologies.		
2.	<b>Declarations of Interest</b> Cllrs Carter, Cairns, Cribb and Wheeler declared personal interests – they each knew one of the candidates standing for co-option.		
3.	<b>Public Open Time</b> None.		
4.	<b>To approve the Minutes of the Full Town Council meeting dated 17<sup>th</sup> August 2021</b> <b>Resolved</b> that the Minutes of the Full Town Council meeting dated 17 <sup>th</sup> August 2021 be confirmed as a true record.		
5.	<b>To welcome prospective candidate(s) and allow each candidate up to 3 minutes to speak about themselves and why they wish to join the Council.</b> <b>To fill the vacancy on Council by co-option and receive Declaration of Acceptance of Office form</b> Council heard from the prospective candidates as to why they wished to join the Council. [Cllr David Brackenbury arrived at the meeting]. Following a voting process it was <b>resolved</b> that Rachael McLuckie be co-opted to fill the vacancy. Rachael was asked to stay at the end of the meeting to sign her Declaration of Acceptance of Office form.		

23.	<p><b>Unitary Councillors Report (brought forward)</b>  Cllr Brackenbury reported the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First meeting of the executive committee is next week; he now sits on Growth &amp; Regeneration and deals with planning, planning policy, cemeteries.</li> <li>• Wendy Brackenbury is Chairman of the Scrutiny Commission – there is an open public consultation asking what aspects people want the scrutiny commission to look at.</li> <li>• Growth deal: 3 major projects being considered with funding from central government:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Isham by-pass</li> <li>○ Kettering road extension</li> <li>○ 2 phase programme upgrading the A45 from the M1 to Thrapston being a smart expressway / dualling Stanwick to Thrapston</li> </ul> </li> <li>• ENC Local Plan Part 2 has been submitted to the Inspector; they are expecting public consultation in the Autumn.</li> <li>• Next strategic thing to do is to revise the Core Spatial Strategy in North Northants.</li> <li>• Any local planning application will go to the Thrapston Area Committee.</li> <li>• The Strategic Planning Committee (Steven North, Chairman) will deal with major developments (more than 500 houses), large industrial developments, minerals/ waste.</li> <li>• Children's Trust are making sure children services are up to scratch, it segways in-house with adult social care. They are also working on levelling up deprived areas in Corby, Wellingborough and Kettering.</li> <li>• Duties: North Northants have announced that they will take in 10 Afghan families, following the collapse of the Afghan Government, who have been involved with Western government. West Northants are providing hotel accommodation.</li> </ul> <p>Cllr Brackenbury concluded his report and asked for any questions. Several points were raised which Cllr Brackenbury responded to or advised that he would find out and report back; these included:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The dualling of the A45 between Stanwick &amp; Thrapston.</li> <li>• Level 3 childcare provision in the town.</li> <li>• St John's Ambulance building / Bullring car park.</li> <li>• Car parking charges in East Northants.</li> <li>• Support of a Neighbourhood Plan.</li> <li>• Empowerment fund.</li> <li>• Council buildings being retained / sold – opportunity to rent space.</li> <li>• Further explanation of the Children's Trust.</li> <li>• Confirmation of who was on the Scrutiny Committee before Unitary and who is still on it now and what general lessons have been learnt.</li> <li>• Sackville Street car park weeds causing obstruction.</li> <li>• Highways generally looking scruffy.</li> <li>• Thrapston is the biggest town in the area – need support from unitary councillors.</li> </ul> <p>Cllr Brackenbury left the meeting at 20:07.</p>		
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6.	<p><b>To receive a report (if available) from the last JAG meeting; to discuss and agree any items requiring consideration; to identify any items to be raised at a future</b></p> <p>Report taken as read. To be noted that the public can report speeding directly on the Northants Police website through the Neighbourhood box or via PCSO Tim Butter.</p>		
7.	<p><b>To receive a report (if available) from attendance at the Police &amp; Crime Commissioner's Surgery; to discuss and agree any items requiring consideration; to identify any items to be raised at a future meeting</b></p> <p>No report received – next meeting is next week. The question was asked whether we publish the data from the speed devices. The Clerk advised that currently we don't.</p>		
8.	<p><b>To receive a report (if available) relating to the Thrapston Youth Forum, to discuss and agree any items requiring consideration</b></p> <p>Report taken as read. Further updates: a meeting with Souster Youth and CHAT has been arranged for the 4<sup>th</sup> October; the Youth Forum are meeting on the 21<sup>st</sup> September.</p>		
9.	<p><b>To receive a report (if available) from the Nene Valley Park Project's Management Team; to discuss and agree any items requiring consideration; to identify any items to be raised at a future meeting</b></p> <p>Report taken as read. Further update: response at Charter Fair exceeded expectations with many people signing up to be involved. It was noted that David Manning will be speaking at the Youth Forum meeting.</p>		
10.	<p><b>To receive a verbal update from the Chairman of the Planning &amp; Asset Management Committee</b></p> <p>Cllr Worley was not in attendance – no update given. To be noted that Minutes giving a detailed account of meetings are available on the Council's website.</p>		
11.	<p><b>To receive a verbal update from the Chairman of the Finance &amp; Devolution Committee</b></p> <p>Cllr Cribb briefed the meeting on key points arising from the recent Finance &amp; Devolution Committee meeting. To be noted that Minutes giving a detailed account of meetings are available on the Council's website. It was noted that North Northants had provided a list of their assets in Thrapston. St John's Ambulance hall was not listed, but Chancery Lane Car Park &amp; Land was listed.</p>		
12.	<p><b>To receive a verbal update from the Chairman of the Events &amp; Community Engagement Committee</b></p> <p>Cllr Wilcox briefed the meeting on key points arising from the recent Events &amp; Community Engagement Committee meeting. To be noted that Minutes giving a detailed account of meetings are available on the Council's website.</p>		
13.	<p><b>To receive a verbal update from the Chairman of the Personnel Committee</b></p> <p>Cllr Winter was not in attendance. To be noted that Minutes giving a detailed account of meetings are available on the Council's website. The Chairman advised the meeting that for those not already aware, Melanie Barfield, Events &amp; Community Engagement Co-ordinator has resigned.</p>		
14.	<p><b>To receive a report from the Facilities Manager in relation to the Peace Park Centenary Project</b></p> <p>Report taken as read.</p> <p>It was <b>resolved</b> to proceed with planting of the Red Robin bushes in the steepest areas along the footpath as</p>		

	<p>recommended by the Facilities Manager at a cost of £200, taken from the Open Spaces budget.</p> <p>A few items were raised to be actioned before the Party in the Park, including the fencing, general tidying, completion of the well. The Clerk will raise these points with Facilities.</p>		
15.	<p><b>To receive and accept a report from the Clerk in relation to the Peace Park Project</b></p> <p><b>Resolved</b> to accept the Clerk's report. Thanks were given to the Clerk for dealing with this impeccably and for the extra amount of work undertaken in resolving the issues.</p>		
16.	<p><b>To receive and accept a report from the Clerk in relation to the Thrapston Market</b></p> <p>Report taken as read. Further update: one of the stall holders is refusing to complete paperwork on the basis that the conditions laid down will not be complied with. To be discussed further at the Working Party meeting.</p>		
17.	<p><b>To receive a report from the Clerk relating to the Deed of Easement for the Hydro Station and agree action</b></p> <p>Report taken as read. The Chairman explained the background for the benefit of the new Councillors. It was noted that The Mill is up for sale.</p> <p>The proposed amendments to the Easement were noted, together with the solicitors comments. It was <b>resolved</b> to accept the solicitors' comments as follows:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5.3(c) to be removed.</li> <li>• Sch. 1 - reinstate timings, save for in an emergency, and/or for activities relating to the hydro station and land maintenance/compliance with statutory requirements only.</li> <li>• Sch 2 Clause 3 – accept amendment.</li> <li>• Sch 2 Clause 4 – accept amendment.</li> <li>• Sch 2 Clause 5 – refuse amendment.</li> <li>• Sch 2 Clause 6 – refuse amendment.</li> <li>• Sch 2 Clauses 7, 8, 9 – remove.</li> <li>• Sch 2 Clause 11 – accept amendment.</li> <li>• Sch 2 Clause 12 – accept amendment.</li> </ul> <p>It was noted that the provisions of this deed will be registered so will benefit future ownership of this land.</p>		
18.	<p><b>To receive and discuss councillor training needs, including the new Councillor Development Framework laid down by NCALC and iLCA and agree action</b></p> <p>Cllr Worley arrived at the meeting.</p> <p>Following discussion it was <b>resolved</b> that group sessions should be held with Council achieving Foundation by May 2022 and Core by the summer of 2022. It was noted that if any Councillor wishes to undertake iLCA (Introduction to Local Council Administration) that they contact the Clerk.</p> <p>It was further noted that a list of training dates had been circulated – if there are any specific courses that Councillors wish to attend please speak to the Clerk.</p>		
19.	<p><b>To receive a verbal update on the councillor surgery held at the Farmer's Market and determine whether future surgeries should be held and, if so, where</b></p> <p>Update received from those who attended the recent Farmer's Market. Discussions took place and it was agreed that there should be a theme for each surgery to give those in attendance something to engage with. It was agreed that it was important for the Council to be seen and for the surgeries to continue.</p> <p>October – Cllrs Cribb &amp; Wheeler.</p> <p>November – Cllrs Hawkins &amp; Worley.</p>		

20.	<p><b>To note the arrangements for Remembrance Sunday 2021 and requirement for councillor attendance</b></p> <p>It was noted:  11am wreath laying service at the Coronation Gardens memorial on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> November  2.30pm Parade from outside the library followed by a Church Service.  Councillors are required to attend. The Vice Chairman carries the Town Council Standard.</p>		
21.	<p><b>Notice of Conclusion of Audit: To note that the External Auditor, PKF Littlejohn, have now completed their review and signed off the Annual Return for the financial year 2019/20 with no matters arising</b></p> <p>Noted. Thanks were given to the Clerk.</p>		
22.	<p><b>To receive a recommendation from the Planning &amp; Asset Management Committee that the Town Council pursues the creation of a Neighbourhood Plan, with the Town Council being the Qualifying Body, the Designated Area being the whole of the parish and the work being undertaken by a Steering Group; to discuss the recommendation received and agree action</b></p> <p>Lengthy discussions took place. It was agreed to hold a separate 1-hour session to discuss Neighbourhood Plans, the benefits of them, the work involved, the processes. The Clerk will arrange the session.</p>		
23.	<p><b>Clerk's Report (for noting)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Insurance claim from the injury sustained by a member of the public in the Peace Park has now been settled in favour of the Claimant.</li> <li>• Legal proceedings relating to the speed devices has now been transferred to Peterborough County Court.</li> <li>• Town Council policies will be reviewed 3-yearly unless there are legislative changes or amendment is required by the Council.</li> </ul>		
24.	<p><b>Chairman's Comments</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Chairman thanked those who attended on Friday.</li> <li>• The Chairman advised of a meeting held the previous evening with groups under the umbrella of the Sports Association regarding their plans to extend provisions by way of further training pitches/an astro pitch. They are looking at availability of land and are seeking the support of the Town Council. They are going to provide plans of their visions at which time it will come back to Full Council.</li> </ul>		
	<p>Rachael McLuckie signed her Declaration of Acceptance of Office in the presence of the Clerk.</p>		
<b>Part 2</b>			
25.	<p><b>Under Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 members of the public and press are to be excluded on the grounds that the following items to be discussed are of a confidential and sensitive nature (Members of the public and press will be moved to the waiting room)</b>  <b>Resolved</b> to close the meeting to members of the public and press.</p>		

26.	<p><b>To receive correspondence from the solicitor relating to the land dispute at Lancaster Drive and agree action</b>  The correspondence received was noted. It was <b>carried by majority</b> with one abstention to accept the proposals laid down therein on the basis that the works are undertaken by the end of the year.</p>		
27.	<p><b>Resolved</b> to formally open the meeting.</p>		
	<p><b>There being no further business the meeting closed at 21:42.</b></p>		

Signed .....

Dated .....