

# THRAPSTON TOWN COUNCIL

Mayor: Cllr Val Carter

77 High Street  
Thrapston  
Northamptonshire  
NN14 4JJ

Tel: (01832) 734 673

Email: [clerk@thrapstontowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@thrapstontowncouncil.gov.uk)

Website: [www.thrapstontowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.thrapstontowncouncil.gov.uk)



## Minutes of the Meeting of the Full Town Council held on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2021 at 7.15pm at The Souster Youth Hub

**Present:** Cllr Carter (Chairman), Cllr Charles, Cllr Cribb, Cllr Latimer, Cllr McGovern, Cllr McLuckie, Cllr Twigger, Cllr Wheeler, Cllr Wilcox, Cllr Winter, Cllr Worley

**In attendance:** Linda Marshall (Clerk)

No.	Item	Action	By Whom
<b>Part 1</b>			
1.	<b>To Receive Apologies for Absence</b> Cllrs Cairns & Hawkins had tendered their apologies which were accepted. The unitary councillors had advised that they were not available to attend.		
2.	<b>Declaration of Interest</b> Cllrs Carter and Wheeler declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 16. Cllr Latimer declared an interest in Agenda Item 17.		
3.	<b>Public Open Time</b> None		
4.	<b>To approve the Minutes of the Full Town Council meeting dated 14<sup>th</sup> September 2021</b> <b>Resolved</b> that the Minutes of the Full Town Council meeting dated 14 <sup>th</sup> September 2021 be confirmed as a true record.		
5.	<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> Report taken as read.		
6.	<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> Presentation slides have been circulated from the latest meeting. It was raised that canisters have been found around Windsor Drive and it may be worth the police patrolling that area. The ongoing drugs problem is still a big issue in the town.		
7.	<b>To receive a report (if available) relating to the Thrapston Youth Forum, to discuss and agree any items requiring consideration</b> Report taken as read. It was agreed that no volunteers were required at Remembrance, but help would be appreciated at the Panto and the Quiz n Chips. Cllr Carter is attending the next meeting and has requested the BMX track form part of the	Include BMX Track on Agenda	Cllr Cribb

	agenda. Cllr Cribb advised that she would prepare the agenda but she cannot attend.		
8.	<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>No report produced for the meeting, but a verbal update was given that a letter will be going out next week to all the volunteers.</p>		
9.	<p><b>To receive a verbal update from the Chairman of the Planning &amp; Asset Management Committee</b></p> <p>Cllr Worley briefed the meeting on key points arising from the recent Planning &amp; Asset Management Committee meeting. To be noted that Minutes giving a detailed account of meetings are available on the Council's website.</p>		
10.	<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.</p>		
11.	<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> <p>Thanks were given to Morrisons for providing fruit and water for the litter pick.</p>		
12.	<p><b>To receive a verbal update from the Chairman of the Personnel Committee</b></p> <p>Cllr Winter briefed the meeting on key points arising from the recent Personnel 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 report from the Facilities Manager in relation to the Peace Park Centenary Project, to discuss any items requiring consideration and agree action</b></p> <p>Report taken as read. The Clerk advised that the water feature has failed and is currently switched off but is being attended to. The Chairman advised of a complaint regarding there not being a gate at the top end of the park (Market Road) from a lady whose child had wandered out. It was discussed and agreed that a trend analysis would be carried out and if similar incidents occur (this being the first one reported) then further consideration would be given to the security of the park. The Clerk was asked to investigate whether a railing could be installed opposite the Huntingdon Road entrance (nearest to the Beehive) on the pavement. The Clerk will raise this with North Northamptonshire Council.</p>	Investigate the installation of a railing on Huntingdon Road	Clerk
14.	<p><b>To receive a verbal report from Cllr Worley on the North Northamptonshire Q&amp;A session attended and agree any action required</b></p> <p>Cllr Worley briefed the meeting on his attendance at the North Northamptonshire Q&amp;A Session, advising that in the main it was complaints about the unitary council and people's general disgruntlement. Cllr Worley advised that North Northamptonshire Council are still looking at how they are going to merge the main sovereign councils, having one way of doing things in 4 local areas.</p>		

15.	<p><b>To review committee structures and confirm appointment of Members to the following committees/working parties:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Finance &amp; Devolution Committee</b></li> <li>• <b>Planning &amp; Asset Management Committee</b></li> <li>• <b>Events &amp; Community Engagement Committee</b></li> <li>• <b>Personnel Committee</b></li> <li>• <b>Thrapston Market Working Party</b></li> </ul> <p>Following review of the committee structure it was <b>resolved</b>:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All Committee Chairmen plus one other councillor and the Mayor &amp; Deputy Mayor (ex-officio) to sit on Finance, meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 7.15pm.</li> <li>• Events &amp; Community Engagement Committee to meet monthly on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month at 7.15pm.</li> <li>• Personnel to be held quarterly on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 6.45pm with Finance &amp; Devolution Committee meeting at 7.45pm on that night.</li> <li>• Youth Forum to include an additional Councillor, to be agreed monthly at Full Council.</li> </ul>		
16.	<p><b>To receive a request for a memorial bench to be installed on Lazy Acre Park, off Oundle Road and agree action</b></p> <p>Cllr Winter declared a personal interest in this item, along with Cllr Carter and Cllr Wheeler.</p> <p><b>Resolved</b> to accept the request for an oak memorial bench to be installed on Lazy Acre, with a note being made that if the bench were to fall into disrepair that the Council reserves the right to have the bench repaired or removed, being that it is being installed on Public Open Space owned by the Town Council.</p>	Respond to resident	Clerk
17.	<p><b>To receive a request from the Sports Association to support their venture to provide (i) an all-weather football pitch and (ii) further training pitches and consider land availability and agree action</b></p> <p>Cllr Latimer had declared an interest in this agenda item and refrained from taking part in the discussions.</p> <p><b>Resolved</b> that the Town Council is fully supportive of the Sports Association's venture to provide an all-weather football pitch and further training pitches.</p> <p>The question of available land was discussed. There is some privately owned land in the town, i.e. Springfield Farm but the Sports Association would need to liaise with the landowners. There is Thrapston Carr – but initial reports and surveys to determine if the land was viable would be costly for the Sports Association. There is also the school field, which had previously been identified as a possible site and which is owned by North Northamptonshire Council.</p> <p>Cllr Worley had statistics on how many pitches should be available for a town of this size. It was agreed that the unitary councillors should be involved, and the Clerk was asked to contact them in general about pitch availability and more specifically about the school field.</p>	Liaise with unitary authority	Clerk
18.	<p><b>To receive a verbal update on the councillor surgery held at the Farmer's Market and confirm details for the November Farmer's Market</b></p> <p>It was noted that the pop-up gazebo is broken and can no longer be used. Cllrs Cribb and Wheeler who attended the October Farmer's Market reported that it went well. They advised that a member of the Sailing Club spoke with them, who confirmed that the path around the lake wouldn't be open until the Spring to give chance for the grass to grow.</p>		

	It was agreed that attendance at the November Farmer's Market would be Cllrs Hawkins, McGovern, Wilcox & Worley with the Council's main gazebo being used.		
19.	<p><b>Unitary Councillors' Reports</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pupils eligible for free school meals will receive support during the October half term and Christmas holiday. NNC will provide shopping vouchers which will be distributed to families through their schools.</li> <li>• Residents of North Northamptonshire who haven't responded to the annual canvass form recently sent will soon receive a reminder with a deadline of 22<sup>nd</sup> October. The annual canvass helps NNC to update household information on the Electoral Register.</li> <li>• Anyone not registered to vote who should be, can do so at <a href="http://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote">www.gov.uk/register-to-vote</a>.</li> <li>• NNC has made a commitment to support a minimum of 10 Afghan families to re-settle in the North Northants area. A support page has been set up for those who would like to offer help or donate <a href="http://www.northnorthants.gov.uk/afghan">http://www.northnorthants.gov.uk/afghan</a>.</li> <li>• Cllr David Brackenbury has been appointed to the Executive and is now the Executive Member for Growth and Regeneration.</li> </ul>		
20.	<p><b>Clerk's Report (for noting)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unitary Councillors have been invited to attend the November Full Council meeting to give an overview of the first 6 months of the unitary authority – they have accepted and requested 30 minutes. Any questions should be submitted before the meeting.</li> <li>• The Clerk is attending an Elections Debrief with NCALC to assess the elections process on 4<sup>th</sup> November. Could councillors advise the Clerk of any issues they experienced in the elections process so it can be discussed at the meeting.</li> <li>• At the next Full Council meeting in November a slot will be allocated for a presentation on producing a Neighbourhood Plan, delivered by Cllr Worley and the Clerk.</li> </ul>		
21.	<p><b>Chairman's Comments</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Mayor's diary had been circulated and was noted. A point for new councillors is that being Mayor is an opportunity to engage with other local councils and promote Thrapston.</li> <li>• The Mayor had attended the Queens Green Canopy meeting and will circulate a report in due course.</li> <li>• The Mayor advised that she and the Clerk met with a resident who had produced a Remembrance picture and would like it displaying and then selling, with proceeds going to the Royal British Legion.</li> </ul>		
<b>Part 2</b>			
22.	<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</b></p> <p>There were no items to be discussed in Part 2.</p>		
	There being no further business the meeting closed at 20:35.		

Signed .....

Dated .....