



MINUTES

2012/31

Town Council Meeting held on 5 November 2012 at 1953 at The Methodist Rooms

Those Present: Allen Frary (Chairman), Gary Anthony, Roger Arguile, Pauline Catton, Rodney Crafer, Lindsay Dew, Joe Ellison, Tony Ford, Mike Gates, Campbell MacCallum, & Maggie Ward

Keith Leesmith (Clerk), Greg Hewitt (Asst. Clerk), Peter Terrington (NNDC), Marie Strong (NCC), Press (The Quay) & 5 Members of the Public

- 1) Public Forum
The Reverend Andrew Good who is the new vicar introduced himself to the Town Council.
- 2) Apologies Ray Hewitt (couldn't make the start of the meeting but would be along later),
Jonathan Savory and Police
- 3) Declarations of Interest None
- 4) To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 1 October 2012 - Approved and signed
- 5) To approve the budget for 2013/2014 and agree the precept for that period
The clerk's had drawn up a preliminary budget, based on past performance and Members requests for the following year. The budget was discussed. It was clarified that where there were items of expenditure under a general heading within special projects no spending would take place without a full council resolution to agree the sum.
Resolved - to adopt the proposed budget and the precept would be £68,000 for the financial year 2013/2014 (no change from 2012/2013).
- 6) To agree policy for the shooting of vermin on the cemetery
A new policy had been prepared and the Cemetery Rules amended accordingly.
Resolved - the new policy and amended rules would be adopted.
- 7) To discuss the removal of dangerous and dilapidated buildings from the allotments
MW explained there were some dangerous and dilapidated buildings on the allotments that needed removing. MW wanted the council's support to enable letters to be sent requiring relevant allotment owners to remove identified buildings or for the council to removed them and charge the allotment holder for removal.
Resolved - to support MW request and letters could be sent.

Ray Hewitt arrived during item 7
- 8) To discuss the transfer of some old disused benches to Heritage House
MW explained that RH had some old council benches from the Children's Playground and that Heritage House was in need of some benches. MW asked the council's permission for the benches to be donated to Heritage House.
Resolved - to donate the benches to Heritage House.

- 9) To discuss the new NNDC Housing Allocations Policy and decide whether we wish to respond to the consultation on the same.
MG summarised the policy for the councillors. Only those with the greatest need would remain on the allocations list. Others would be given help and guidance to enable them to buy or rent an affordable property. The policy was in line with what is happening nationally.
Resolved – to endorse the policy.
- 10) To discuss the current position regarding the East End Drying Grounds
KL explained that NNDC would transfer their portion of the East End drying grounds to the town council but the title included the entire quay heading from the Shipwrights to the Sailing Club slipway; ownership could, in the future, be financially imprudent.
Resolved - to decline the offer by NNDC, the town council does not want the land.
- 11) Reports:
- a) Safer Neighbourhood Team
A report was submitted and is appended and available on the website
- b) Norfolk County Council (Dr Marie Strong)
A delegation including Marie had met with the Schools Minister to get assurances that small schools will not be left to face a catastrophic loss of funding under the Department for Education's revised funding arrangements; the minister listened. There will be another round for applications to the Community Construction Fund in March. NCC has a fund to enable apprenticeships under the 'Apprenticeships Norfolk' banner. The Coasthopper has received some money from government. Due to member pressure Norfolk Wildlife Trust do not now support the proposed restriction area on Blakeney marshes. Natural England has a fund "paths for communities". NCC has now got 21.7 million back from Icelandic Bank and hope to get more. The report that NCC has excessive financial reserves is incorrect; the money is earmarked for projects but has to be recorded as reserves. Any reports concerning ash tree dieback contact Marie. Marie asked if the council wanted her to pursue complaints of the overgrown right of way along the old east end railway cutting.
The council did and would write Marie a letter.
- c) North Norfolk District Council
A report was submitted and is appended and available on the website
- d) Town Clerk/Asst. Clerk
In addition to the report that is appended and available on the website the Clerk mentioned the following.
Barry Dennis of Wells Community Hospital has asked if the council wish to consider Wells becoming a Dementia Friendly Town. Councillors asked to invite Mr Dennis to come and give a presentation about the proposal.
Now the street cleaner has finished for the year it doesn't mean we have to put up with dirty street. Problem areas should be reported to the Clerk and he would inform the appropriate authority. Councillors asked if the council could be informed of the date when the street cleaner finishes.
The developer of Gray's site is considering starting work in January and working straight through the summer until completion, would the councillors object. The councillors thought it was best to get on with it and get it finished.
- e) Portfolio Holders
LD Cemetery – A member of the public who was given permission has now cut back the trees overgrowing a family grave.
RH Playing Field – RH was disappointed he had not been informed about the removal of the damaged bin on the playing field.
CM Highways – CM was concerned about the potential loss of car parking space next year and wanted this on the agenda for next month.
MW Allotments – MW asked if she could have a skip on the allotments. (MW to liaise with the Clerk).
RA Tourism – RA delivered a comprehensive report to the council concerning a recent meeting of the Tourism Working Party. The report is appended and available on the website.

12) Financial Report & Accounts for Settlement

The following had been paid during the month

Madasafish	Broadband Service	14.99
E-on Energy	Sack House	57.25
E-on Energy	Street Lighting electricity	456.83
British Telecom	Telephone Service	69.92
NNDC	Cemetery Rates	53.00
Keith Leesmith	Clerk's Salary Deposit	700.00
Greg Hewitt	Asst Clerk's Deposit	530.00
		1881.99

Payments 1 October 2012

Jimmy Tottle	Bollards	220.00
Greg Hewitt	Salary (net of deposit) & Expenses	7.91
Keith Leesmith	Salary (net of deposit) & Expenses	147.50
Norfolk Pension Fund	monthly contribution	443.29
K & M Lighting Services	Street Lighting Maintenance £306.70	-----
	Street Lighting Upgrade £90.00	396.70
Norse Commercial Services Ltd	Grounds maintenance £1275.00	-----
	Grounds maintenance £303.00	1578.00
Veolia	Cemetery waste	44.21
Royal British Legion	Poppy Wreath	18.00
North Norfolk District Council	Planning Fee - Rec.Field 2013	85.00
Norfolk Association of Local Councils	Fee for Autumn Seminar KL & GH	70.00
Cadamy's Ltd	Replacement Office Kettle	12.99
Edna Garrett	Sackhouse Cleaning	37.50
Mick Chestney	Litter Picking	300.30
Terry Corbishley	Litter Picking	223.30
M L Walsingham & Son	various cleaning etc	28.50
		3613.20

Resolved – Accounts agreed and accepted

13) To confirm Date of Next Meeting

Confirmed as Monday 3 December 2012

14) To consider a resolution under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act) 1960, as amended by Section 100 of the Local Government Act 1972 to exclude members of the public and press during consideration of an item of a confidential nature.

Resolved – public and press leave

15) To discuss a confidential matter with regard to a former Town Councillor

Resolved – no case to answer, procedures were followed.

The meeting closed at 2148