



MINUTES

Town Council Meeting held on 4 March 2013 at 1905 at The Methodist Room

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

Greg Hewitt (Clerk), Marie Strong (NCC), Press (The Quay) & 18 Members of the Public,

- 1) Public Forum Nothing raised, AF deferred questions concerning item 7 until the item was discussed
- 2) Apologies Gary Anthony, Pauline Catton, Campbell MacCallum & Jonathan Savory
- 3) Declarations of Interest Mike Gates declared an interest in items 9 & 11. Lindsey Dew in item 5.
- 4) To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 4 February 2013 - Approved and signed
- 5) To receive a presentation from the Chair of Homes for Wells, Anne Phillips, explaining the charities plans and aspirations for the Field Study Centre
Anne explained they hope to exchange contracts soon and now needed to raise the money for the conversion into 11 homes for rent by local people. Initial tenancies would be for a year before moving to a full 5 year tenancy. As a listed building the front profile would not be changed. If Homes for Wells complete the Field Study project they will have completed their 10 year housing plan in the first two years.
- 6) To discuss this Council's response to the above.
There was nothing specific to discuss but the council commended them on their achievements
- 7) To consider the Council's position with regard the intention of Norfolk County Council to withdraw the funding for the daily placing of the 'No Entry' bollards in Staithe Street
Several shop owners from Staithe Street were in attendance and AF allowed them to speak. The concern was that removal of the bollards would create a danger to road uses and impact on the vitality of the street. MG suggested the town council should fund the placing of the bollards. It was also suggested that the traders may be prepared to help with some capital costs.
Resolved – The town council would carry on placing the Bollards (*funded by the Town Council*)
GH suggested it would be beneficial if the traders had a chamber of trade in Wells so that they could speak as one on important issues like the bollards.

Peter Terrington arrived during item 7
- 8) To consider approval for the publication of a Visitors Brochure for free distribution in the town
RA had investigated the cost and practicalities of producing a brochure and wanted the council's approval to proceed. The provision of a town information board with a map was also discussed.
Resolved – to provide an information board and 10,000 brochures within the tourism budget previously agreed.
A working party was formed to complete this task comprising RA, MW and Guy Warren.

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- 9) To consider the requirement and positioning of a dedicated new gateway onto the recreation field for accessing the skatepark

RH explained a separate entrance was required for the new skateboard park on the recreation field to prevent cycling on top of the playing field bank. Members of the skatepark group were present and their views were expressed. A number of locations were considered and the skatepark group have funding.

Resolved – to have a new gate to the north of the existing white gate, with 2 or 3 posts and ranch fencing.

The fence would channel cyclists in the right direction. RH to liaise directly with the skate park group.

- 11) To consider a number of issues relating to the new skatepark on the recreation field including, repairs needed to the surface in front of the football pavilion and car park, laying of turf, provision of bins and a seat.

Items 9 and 11 were considered to be linked and therefore dealt with together. Following the construction of the skatepark there were concerns about the reinstatement of the surface in front of the football pavilion and the general condition of the shingle car park.

Resolved – the council would take responsibility for reinstating the surface in front of the pavilion and the shingle car park.

The required work would be done in conjunction with the scheduled refurbishment of the vehicle access track along the east side of the football field.

It was agreed the skatepark group would take responsibility for placing two bins, two seats, a sign and turfing the surface immediately around the skate park.

It was also identified that a risk assessment was required for the skatepark and the Clerk would liaise with the group to finalise the risk assessment.

- 10) To consider the placement of two new 'No Cycling' signs at both entrances to the Children's Playground

Now that the position of a new access gate for the skatepark was agreed, RH needed permission to place only one 'no cycling' sign at the Freeman Street entrance. The friends of the playing field would provide the funds.

Resolved – to place one sign at the Freeman Street entrance.

- 12) To consider supporting a proposed scheme to replace overhead electricity lines running between Wells and Pinewoods Caravan Park with underground cables

Resolved – to support the scheme.

- 13) Reports:

a) Safer Neighbourhood Team

A report was submitted and is appended on the website

b) NCC (Dr Marie Strong)

The list of concerns about the Cherry Tree Corner junction at Fakenham, discussed last month, is now with the Counties design team for consideration. Marie will attend the Market Lane housing development site meeting but the rules do not allow her to speak. The Broadband project team are now considering which areas will be in the first phase. The County is now involved with a mobile telephone infrastructure project to improve coverage. There will be a full monthly report in the Quay magazine as usual.

c) NNDC (Peter Terrington)

A report was submitted and is appended on the website.

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d) Town Clerk

In addition to the monthly report which is appended. The council were happy to support a request from Mr & Mrs Baldry concerning yellow lines in Bolts Close. RA volunteered to sit on a steering committee for the Tourist Information Centre. A quote had been received for the repair to the bus shelter but was considered too high; the Clerk would look for a more affordable solution. The Harbour Master, Robert Smith, had asked for the council to support an 'Invest in your town' scheme which would be published in the Quay Magazine; support was given. There had been a meeting about litter on the Quay with a number of stakeholders; a solution had been agreed which would be trialled this year. It had been reported that the surgery car park was now closed at weekends. The Maltings Trust would be invited to speak about their new plans for the Maltings Project at the Town Meeting on 22nd April.

e) Portfolio Holders

JE – Buttlands) The trees on the Buttlands need surveying and any work recommended completed as soon as possible.

Resolved – It was agreed this should be done.

14) Financial Report & Accounts for SettlementThe following had been paid during the month

E-on Energy	Street Lighting Electricity	472.06
Brightview Internet	Broadband Service	14.99
E-on Energy	Buttlands	29.61
Greg Hewitt	Clerk's salary deposit	530.00
		1046.66

Payments February 2013

Jimmy Tottle	bollards	220.00
Greg Hewitt	Salary (net of deposit) & Expenses	637.98
Norfolk Pension Fund	monthly contribution	452.70
K & M Lighting Services	Street Lighting Maintenance	306.70
Anglian Water	East End Allotments - 125.39	-----
Anglian Water	West End Allotments - 123.13	-----
Anglian Water	Cemetery - 32.84	281.36
Veolia	Bins - Cemetery	46.51
Society of Local Council Clerks	Greg Hewitt - Tendering Course	150.00
Viking Direct	Office Equipment	310.74
Zurich Municipal	Insurance - bus shelters	53.00
Terry Corbishley	Litter Picking	227.15
Wells Community Hospital	rent	250.00
Alister Beale	Tree and shrub clearance Polka Cemetery	210.00
		3146.14

Resolved – Accounts agreed and accepted

15) To confirm Date of Next Meeting
Confirmed as Monday 8 April 2013

The meeting closed at 2150