

Minutes

Town Council Meeting held at the Kiln Room, Wells Maltings, on 2 November 2020 at 1903 hrs

Those Present: Mike Gates (Chairman), Janet Angles, Roger Arguile, Mel Catton, Pauline Catton, Lindsay Dew, Peter Rainsford, Joyce Trett & Guy Warren

Greg Hewitt (Clerk), Peter Fisher, Press (The Quay) & 1 Members of the Public

1) Public Forum

A member of the public spoke about the parking situation on Market Lane and the problems caused by the buses parking there during the day.

2) Reports

a) Police – A report was sent and is available on the website.

b) Norfolk County Council, Councillor Dr Marie Strong

A report was sent and is available on the website.

Councillor Arguile explained that he had concerns about the County Councils Coronavirus telephone help line which was an automated service that was totally inappropriate. He had written to NCC's Head of Paid Services and had wanted to raise the issue with Marie.

c) North Norfolk District Councillor Peter Fisher

Peter reported that there had been a number of new staff positions at NNDC, that Bacton Gas Terminal was being considered for hydrogen production, Stearmans Yard toilets were no further forward and the electric charging points on the car park would hopefully be working within two weeks. Councillors asked Peter about the state of the Jicklings Yard Car Park and fast-food outlets on the old Ark Royal Car Park.

3) Apologies – Ray Hewitt, Jessica Curtis & Police

4) To receive Declarations of Interest and consider any requests for Dispensations
– None

5) To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 5 October 2020 Approved and signed.

6) To consider proposals made by Councillor Mel Catton for bus parking bays and additional parking restrictions on Market Lane.

Councillor Catton outlined the problem and a possible solution.

Resolved – That the council supported the ideas put forward by Councillor Catton and agreed that he could take them forward with the County Highways Authority on behalf of the Town Council.

7) To discuss the recently publicised proposal for a new roundabout on the A148 Fakenham and consider if the Town Council has any concerns about the design.

Councillors express concerns that the proposed new roundabout, which is to be situated at the Water Moor Lane junction, would not address the problems at the Cherry Tree A148/B1105 junction.

Resolved – That the Clerk should write to NCC and NNDC to state the concerns and seek clarity.

- 8) To consider the budget proposals for the financial year 2021/2022 and agree the precept for the same period.
Resolved – The budget proposals presented by the Clerk were agreed and the precept set at £80,000.
- 9) To consider a grant application from Wells Sea Cadets.
Resolved – Awarded a grant of £500.
- 10) Reports
a) Town Clerk
The Clerk reported that collection of the allotment rents had started and that letters were sent out to all those allotments holders who had not cultivated their allotments during the year, requiring that should they wish to keep them their allotment, they would need to be made ready for cultivation by 31st January 2021. The Clerk also reported that the external Audit had been concluded and there were no issues to consider.
- e) Portfolio Holders/Committees
MC (Traffic and Parking) MC queried when the improvement work was starting on the Quay (*Advised that highways had given a start date of 6th January 2021*).
RA (Tourism and Neighbourhood Plan) RA shared some detail from the recent housing needs survey commissioned by Holkham Estate that clearly demonstrates a need for much more affordable housing; it was hoped the Neighbourhood Plan could help deliver affordable rentable housing for local people.
- 11) Financial Report & Accounts for Settlement
The financial reports were circulated. These can be viewed at Appendix A and on the website
Resolved – Accounts agreed, accepted and signed
- 12) To confirm Date of Next Meeting - Confirmed as Monday 7 December 2020.

Meeting ends 2040