

WYMONDHAM TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 14th MARCH 2013 in the Central Hall at 7.30pm.

Councillors present:

JRW Andrews	N Ward	JH Turner
M Elias	C Foulger	MJ Gibbins
A Taylor	R Savage	A Gardiner
CA Longhurst	D Fernee	

Members of the public: Approx 210
South Norfolk Council: Cllr. Hornby
Norfolk County Council: Cllr. Mooney
The Town Mayor, Cllr. R Savage presiding

- 40/13 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Cllrs. Hockaday & Buckton
- 41/13 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST None
- 42/13 RESIDENTS QUESTIONS
- Cllr. Mooney asked why a paper in respect of agenda item 11 (King's Head Meadow) had not been issued with the agenda and was below the line at the last Leisure and Environment meeting. Cllr. Gardiner responded that it was to allow the proposal to be delivered to residents in one hit.
 - J Hornby asked if the rumours that Kings Head Meadow was to be fenced in/ locked and that new Town Council offices were to be built were true. Cllr. Savage responded that this question would be deferred until after agenda item 11 was presented.
 - Cllr. Hornby asked why the Mayor and Clerk had allowed the King's Head Meadow to be discussed in secret below the line at the last Leisure & Environment Committee meeting. Cllr. Savage responded that it wasn't his decision it had been made by the working group. Clerk responded that as he was not shown the presentation until the Committee meeting was held and was not aware of its contents he therefore could not advise the Committee Chairman if the item should be above or below the line.
- 43/13 MINUTES OF MEETING Upon the proposition of Cllr. Gardiner and seconded by Cllr. Ward the draft minutes of the meeting held on 5th February 2013 were approved as a correct record.
- 44/13 MATTERS ARISING None
- 45/13 FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE the draft minutes of the meeting held on 19th February 2013 were presented by the Chairman and noted.
- 46/13 LEISURE & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE the draft minutes of the meeting held on 5th March 2013 were presented by the Chairman and noted.
- 47/13 SUNDRY CREDITORS On the proposition of Cllr. Ward and seconded by Cllr. Foulger it was resolved to pay accounts for February, as per the submitted list to the sum of £35,468.53 In compliance with Financial Regulations, the clerk tabled a list of salaries paid from the wages account to the sum of £7,779.32
- 48/13 CORRESPONDENCE received was considered and the actions proposed are recorded separately as an appendix to these minutes.

49/13 MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS were noted.

50/13 KING'S HEAD MEADOW Cllr. Gardiner referred to work undertaken by the King's Head Meadow Trust working group in respect of proposals for the future of the Meadow and thanked Cllrs. Fernee, Taylor, Foulger & Gibbins for their hard work. He then presented a power point presentation during which he referred to meetings with Wymondham Town Football Club (WTFC) and thanked them for providing minutes and information from which it was clear that Developers had approached them 6 months before they approached the Council and that the Town Council did not instigate the possible sale of the meadow. The presentation then outlined an 18 point proposal for the Council to consider. The principle points being:

- Acquisition of a piece of land which is part of the meadow but owned by Saffron/ South Norfolk Council
- An extended play area from Ogden Court through to the Orchard Way Footpath
- The meadow to be fenced in on all sides and locked from Dusk to Dawn
- Tree planting scheme to enhance the aesthetic quality of the meadow
- Current WTFC building to be demolished.
- New build – part WTFC clubhouse/community facility, part Council Offices.
- WTFC to have pitch 1st September – 30th April, remaining time an open park.
- WTFC to have new lease.
- New Council equipment store to be built at Ketts Park.
- Review of Browick Recreation Ground facilities.

Upon the proposition of Cllr. Foulger and seconded by Cllr. Longhurst it was resolved to suspend standing orders to allow residents questions.

Questions

- Mr P Travis – excellent usage as park in summer, potential to run events.
- Mr D Ward – congratulated working group, will secure meadow with 21st Century facilities and will save WTFC. New Council offices will save £27,000 pa rent. Apologised to Cllr. Foulger as Town Council had not contacted Asda/developers as he had claimed.
- Cllr. Hornby – have Saffron agreed to sell land. Cllr. Foulger responded that he had spoken to their Chief executive and he was not against the idea and would welcome a transfer of ownership.
- Cllr. Hornby – queried the financial situation of WTFC and if they can afford a commercial rent. Cllr. Gibbins replied rent would have to be agreed with WTFC and Council were hopeful that a mutually acceptable agreement can be reached.
- Mr Heard – apart from the 200 people here tonight would there be any other mechanism for public to input into scheme. Cllr. Gardiner advised that a presentation to residents would take place in June/July at an exhibition when plans are drawn up.
- Mr Witt – WTFC discussion with working group had been positive. WTFC does pay small rent but does spend a lot of money to look after meadow.
- Claire ? – requested dog walking area and noted that existing fencing is constantly being vandalised. Cllr. Fernee confirmed that there would be fencing around the football pitch and fencing around the meadow boundary. Cllr. Gardiner commented on securing the site boundary.
- Cllr. Mooney – read out a statement
 - Principle to keep open space had been established.
 - Proposal will go a long way to achieving this aim.
 - Happy to see proposal to go to next stage
 - Noted that Mr D Ward had confirmed that WTC didn't do anything underhand with ASDA.

- Mrs Godfrey – requested that fencing in front of Ogden Court should include double planting of hedging and that a formal garden area should be provided for Ogden Court residents. Cllr. Gardiner replied that these comments should be fed back into the forthcoming consultation event he had referred to.
- Mrs H O'Brian – Browick Road Recreation Park was not a Beirut site (Cllr. Gardiner had referred to it in his presentation), the majority of users were polite and courteous. Cllr. Gardiner advised that he had met youngsters with Cllr. Fernee and that they would like to police the site themselves.
- Mrs V Knight – asked if she would be able to cut across site or will she be stopped and what size the fencing would be. Cllr. Gardiner replied the same size as the Catholic Church fence. When told that youngsters climb over this he then replied it will be built higher.
- Mrs K Mooney – requested that local schools should become involved especially in planting.
- Cllr. Mooney – stated that fencing might damage the Meadow's appearance and that CCTV might be an alternative to deter vandals. Cllr. Fernee responded that if the Council Offices were on the site it was hoped this would deter vandalism. Fencing would be disguised by hedge planting.
- Mr Soanes – Thanked working group and then asked for a show of hands re the proposal. The majority of hands were raised.
- Mr Hawkins – spoke on behalf of WAW to thank WTC and to advise WAW were behind the proposal. He thanked people for turning up.

Standing orders were re-instated.

After discussion by the Council upon the proposition of Cllr. Foulger and seconded by Cllr. Fernee it was unanimously resolved to accept the proposal of the Leisure & Environment Committee for the future of the King's Head Meadow as presented and approved at the Leisure & Environment Committee meeting on Tuesday 5th March 2013. Cllr. Gardiner advised that the next stage would be the presentation of a timetable and full costing to the Council at its meeting on the 2nd April.

- 51/13 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING After discussion it was agreed that the Police and a local youth worker would be contacted to give presentations at the meeting scheduled for 23rd April.
- 52/13 COUNCIL VACANCIES Clerk advised of the resignations of Cllrs. Roberts & Jeffery. South Norfolk Council as the electoral authority had been informed and it was agreed that if by elections were called then polling cards would be required.
- 53/13 RISK ASSESSMENTS 2012/13 Clerk advised that the yearly risk assessments had been carried out and a copy of the resulting action had been sent to all Councillors. Upon the resolution of Cllr. Fernee and seconded by Cllr. Foulger the Council resolved to approve the action plan.
- 54/13 APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES It was resolved to appoint Cllr. Longhurst to the Archive Management Group. The other vacancies to be deferred until the AGM in May.
- 55/13 REPORTS FROM DISTRICT / COUNTY COUNCILLORS
Norfolk County Council - Cllr. Mooney
- Wymondham High School extension has commenced.
 - Robert Kett School have submitted plans to extend sports hall.
 - Apprentice scheme has commenced.

South Norfolk Council – Cllr. Foulger

- Wymondham Abbey proposal has been approved and apprentices will be trained on traditional building skills.
- South Norfolk have purchased some new street sweeping equipment.

56/13 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

- Cllr. Gardiner – Ketts Park Management Committee – attended meeting with Cllr. Taylor and replacement of heating system was discussed and grant application to be submitted to Council. Toilet blockages was also discussed,
- Cllr. Gibbins – Old Grammar School Trust – Future of Becketts Chapel still being discussed and will report back when more information is available.
- Cllr. Longhurst – North Wymondham Community Centre – Fashion show to be held.

57/13 HEALTH & SAFETY Nothing to report.

58/13 QUESTIONS UNDER S/O 8 None Received

[The meeting closed at 21.10 pm]

DATED thisday of2013

SIGNED(Chairman)

WYMONDHAM TOWN COUNCIL

MEETING 14th MARCH 2013

CORRESPONDENCE

Action

- 1.

Information

1. Norfolk Association Local Councils – Norfolk Link Newsletter
2. South Norfolk Council – Green Deal scheme
3. Norfolk County Council – Managing Flood Risk newsletter

Noted
Noted
Noted

Mayor's Engagements

1. South Norfolk Community Achiever award – 28.3.13
2. Duke of Edinburgh Awards Ceremony - High School – 15.2.13
3. Broadland District Council – Chairman's Reception – 7.3.13

Noted
Noted
Noted