

WYMONDHAM TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 6th JUNE 2012 in the Tiffey Rooms, Central Hall at 7.30pm.

Councillors present:

JRW Andrews	N Ward	JH Turner
DF Fernee	CW Foulger	MJ Gibbins
DM Hockaday	JW Wright	A Taylor
CA Longhurst	D Roberts	A Gardiner

Members of the public: 40
County Council : Cllr. Mooney
District Council : Cllr. Hornby

The Deputy Town Mayor, Cllr. D Fernee presiding

- 105/12 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Cllr. Jeffery, Savage & Cooper
- 106/12 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
Cllr. Hockaday – Prejudicial interest in respect of any items relating to Wymondham Tennis Club and a Personal interest in any item relating to Ketts Park.
- 107/12 RESIDENTS QUESTIONS
D Ward – Agenda item 11 – commented that in his opinion Cllr. Cooper was not ill and that he should resign.
M Heard – Agenda item 11 – concurred with D Ward.
P Hawkins – Asked how much the Council’s lease on 14 Middleton Street cost pa. Advised at present £25,000.
P Moss – commented that Town Guide in his view did little for the Town and why weren’t clubs/societies and businesses advertised on the Council’s website. Advised that this was being considered by the Council’s communications working group.
M Elias – Standing orders were used as a cover or excuse.
M Heard – Agenda item 12 – process wasn’t transparent and Council were frightened of outcome. Cllr. Fernee replied that the Council wanted a review done in a clear and transparent way and that it was not a witch hunt.
Mr Ward questioned the length of Council meetings.
- 108/12 MINUTES OF MEETING Upon the proposition of Cllr. Ward and seconded by Cllr. Roberts the minutes of the meeting held on 1st May 2012 were approved as a correct record subject to Cllr. Hockaday replacing Cllr. Fernee as the seconder in the nomination of Cllr. Savage as Mayor.
- 109/12 MATTERS ARISING None
- 110/12 LEISURE & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE the draft minutes of the meeting held on 15th May 2012 were presented by the Chairman and noted.

111/12 SUNDRY CREDITORS On the proposition of Cllr. Ward and seconded by Cllr. Roberts it was resolved to pay accounts for May, as per the submitted list to the sum of £45,284.72

In compliance with Financial Regulations, the clerk tabled a list of salaries paid from the wages account to the sum of £9681.05

112/12 CORRESPONDENCE received was considered and the actions proposed are recorded separately as an appendix to these minutes.

113/12 MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS Noted.

114/12 MOTION TO TOWN COUNCIL

The Council is concerned to hear of the ill health of Cllr. K Cooper and for the purposes of Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972 resolves to excuse him from attending meetings of the Council and the Committees on which he serves.

Proposer Councillor Foulger
Seconder Councillor Ward

After discussion regarding the merits of the proposal and some confusion as to the law the motion was withdrawn.

115/12 MOTION TO TOWN COUNCIL

Following the withdrawal of Dr Kemp from his appointment to conduct a review into the sale process of King's Head Meadow, this Council proposes to set up a working group of four Councillors (2 Conservatives, 1 Liberal Democrat, 1 independent) to:

1. Prepare terms of reference for such a review.
2. Set a financial limit for any costs of such a review.
3. To prepare a list of names of suitably experienced personnel to conduct the review for consideration.
4. To report back to Council on 3rd July 2012.

Proposer Councillor Fernee
Seconder Councillor Ward

Councillors made the following comments:

Cllr. Roberts felt the group should consist of 5 members.

Cllr. Turner commented that together with Cllr. Hockaday a motion to ensure a review took place had been submitted and then withdrawn.

Cllr. Gibbins commented that the Council should move forward and that a quick unbiased solution may be for Cllr. Gardiner to undertake a review. Cllr. Gardiner advised that he had no intention of doing this, that he didn't agree with the review and wanted a full enquiry. He also commented that he was not capable of doing a review.

Standing orders were suspended to allow Mr D Ward to comment that 'the people of Wymondham wanted an independent review'. Standing orders were reinstated.

Cllr. Foulger advised that he had seen Dr Kemp the previous day and Dr Kemp had explained why he had withdrawn through a conflict of Interest and that Dr Kemp would be explaining this in a letter he had written to the local newspaper being that after seeing files he became aware that his sons held shares in Tesco's that were being represented by a developer.

After further discussion a counter proposal was made by Cllr. Roberts and seconded by Cllr. Longhurst as follows:

Following the withdrawal of Dr Kemp from his appointment to conduct a review into the sale process of King's Head Meadow, this Council proposes to set up a working group of four Councillors (2 Conservatives, 1 Liberal Democrat, 1 independent) to:

1. Prepare terms of reference for such a review.
 2. Set a financial limit for any costs of such a review.
 3. To prepare a list of names of suitably independent experienced personnel to conduct the review for consideration.
 4. To report back to Council on 3rd July 2012.
 5. All members must be present at all meetings
- Those for 10, those against 2 the amended motion was carried.

116/12 MOTION TO TOWN COUNCIL

That this Council resolves to undertake a complete review of its Standing Orders, with the assistance of an impartial expert.

Proposed : Councillor John Turner

Seconded : Councillor Diana Hockaday

After discussion Cllr. Ward seconded by Cllr. Hockaday proposed that the motion was amended as follows:

That this Council resolves to undertake a complete review of its Standing Orders, with the assistance of an impartial expert. Review to take place after King's Head Meadow review is completed.

It was unanimously resolved to pass the amended motion.

It was felt that an appropriate organisation to contact re impartial expert advice was the Norfolk Association of Local Councils.

Members of the working group (min 115/12) to be Cllrs. Roberts, Savage, Gibbins & Hockaday

- 117/12 APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS Clerk handed out a copy letter received today from the Council's internal auditors (Larking Gowen) confirming that they had completed the internal audit procedures for the year ended 31st March 2012 and that no matters came to light to indicate that the internal control objectives were not being achieved and that they had signed the appropriate section of the external auditors form. Cllr Gibbins presented the Councils Accounts for the year ending 31st March 2012 as agreed by the Finance & General Purposes Committee together with the Annual Return and Statement of Assurance. He then gave an outline of some of the key factors affecting the accounts and invited Councillors to contact either himself or the Town Clerk if any further clarification was required. Upon the resolution of Cllr. Gibbins and seconded by Cllr. Roberts it was unanimously resolved to approve these for signature by both the Chairman and Clerk to the Council, as Responsible Financial Officer.

118/12 APPOINTMENT TO COMMITTEES

Planning Lighting & Highways – it was resolved to appoint Cllr. Gardiner to the vacant position.

119/12 APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES

Ketts Park Management Committee – it was resolved to appoint Cllr. Gardiner to the vacant position.

120/12 REPORTS FROM DISTRICT / COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Norfolk County Council

Cllr. Mooney –

- Wymondham High School planning application was proceeding and was supported by the Town Council.
- Footpath between Orchard Way & Windmill Pub was overgrown, he had reported it to highways maintenance and it would be cut back soon.

Cllr. Hockaday commented on delays at the Whartons Lane Waste disposal site due to skips being exchanged and that better signage should be erected at the end of Straygroud Lane.

South Norfolk Council

Cllr. Hornby-

- Local residents to be consulted by letter about future of the proposed school site on the Harts Farm Estate and a drop in meeting has been arranged for 19th June – 3.00pm – 8.00pm.

Cllr. Foulger –

- Developers have submitted a second application for 350 dwellings at Carpenter Barn Norwich Common.

121/12 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Cllr. Turner – Spooner Row Village Hall – Attended AGM, new committee formed – Funds down due to cost of floor refurbishment. Village Fete on 8th July.

Cllr. Andrews – Allotment Association – read out a report which included attending the opening of their new storage facilities.

122/12 HEALTH & SAFETY Nothing to report.

123/12 QUESTIONS None received.

124/12 EXCLUSION PUBLIC & PRESS On the proposition of Cllr. Gibbins and seconded by Cllr. Longhurst resolution by the Council under the provisions of Section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admissions to meetings) Act 1960 to exclude Press and the Public from the meeting of Wymondham Town Council in order to discuss matters where publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

125/12 FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE the confidential minutes of the meeting held on 16th May 2012 were presented by the Chairman and noted.

[The meeting closed at 21.30 pm]

DATED thisday of2012

SIGNED(Chairman)

WYMONDHAM TOWN COUNCIL

MEETING 6th JUNE 2012

CORRESPONDENCE

Action

1. SNC Older Peoples Forum – Meeting 10.00am – 19.6.12 – Long Stratton **Noted**

Information

1. Norfolk Association Local Councils – Summer Conference – 3.7.12 – 9.30am – 14.45pm – Norwich City FC. **Noted**
2. Baptist Church – invitation to attend induction new Pastor – 9.6.12 -3.00pm – Queen Street. **Noted**

Mayor's Engagements

1. Territorial Army Forum meeting– Aylsham Road Norwich – 24.5.12 **Noted**
2. Wymondham & Attleborough Talking Newspapers AGM – 24.5.12 **Noted**
3. Priory Bowls Club –opening new clubhouse – 2.6.12 **Noted**