

**WYMONDHAM TOWN COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL**  
**MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 7<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2017**  
**in the CENTRAL HALL at 7.30pm.**

Councillors Present

R Savage	S Wyer	K Hurn
S Sayer	D Underwood	J Halls
C Longhurst	L Hornby	I Flatt
P Broome		

Members of the Public: 28

137/17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Cllrs. Mooney, Holden, J Hornby & Stearn.

138/17 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- Cllrs Halls & Savage – Agenda item 8 as Trustees of the Old Grammar School Trust who own Becketts Chapel – non-pecuniary.

139/17 REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS – None.

140/17 MINUTES OF MEETINGS Upon the proposition of Cllr. Hurn and seconded by Cllr. Broome the minutes of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2017 were approved as a correct record.

141/17 PROGRESS UPDATES – None.

142/17 SUNDRY CREDITORS Upon the proposition of Cllr. Longhurst and seconded by Cllr. Hurn it was resolved to pay accounts for October 2017, as per the submitted list in the sum of £52,040.52

In compliance with financial regulations the Clerk tabled a list of salaries paid from the wages account to the sum of £8968.70

143/17 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- P Travis – Agenda items 9 & 10 – Whilst not directly in Council control a strongly worded statements should be sent. Railway station a disgrace for disabled users.
- N Seach – agenda item 10 (Railway Station) – Chair of Wymondham Access Group – brought to the public’s and Member of Parliaments attention again last year. Still no further forward with a solution.
- M Welton – agenda item 10 – disabled access should be for both platforms.
- S Day – agenda item 10 – difficult to move from one platform to the opposite one with a large suitcase. A Health & Safety issue.

144/17 BECKETTS CHAPEL Mrs J Harwood (Norfolk Historic Buildings Trust) assisted by Mr B Coe (Wymondham Arts Forum) gave a presentation in respect of a proposal for the refurbishment, redevelopment and future of Becket's Chapel which is currently owned by Wymondham Old Grammar School Trust. It is proposed to apply to the Heritage Lottery Fund for approx. £900,000 and they were seeking support from the Council in two areas:

1. Support in general terms for the project.
2. A commitment in principle for the present Tourist Information Centre, which is situate in the Market Cross, to be replace with one inside Becket's Chapel with funding assistance from the Town Council.

Upon the proposition of Cllr. Halls and seconded by Cllr. Wyer it was resolved to suspend Standing Orders to allow comments/questions from residents.

#### RESIDENTS QUESTIONS

- P Hawkins duplication of facilities need to be avoided, It is difficult getting residents into the Town Centre and the project would need good marketing and Promotion.
- T Vale South Norfolk Council are launching a major virtual reality trail in June 2018 and this is an opportunity to link with this project.
- M Gibbins (Old Grammar School Trust) clarified that whilst the Trustees were broadly in agreement with the project and passing over ownership of Becket's Chapel to the NHBT no final commitment had yet been made.
- M Welton queried whether the NHBT would be putting funds into the project.
- B Blackney (Wymondham Heritage Society) supports project but concerned that this would become a Heritage Hub as this function was already being filled by the Heritage Museum.
- P Travis – Becket's Chapel needs to be used properly and there are two other attractions on Church Street being the Abbey & the Green Dragon PH.
- A Rostron (Wymondham Business Group) – seems a good idea and should be linked in with Tourism initiatives (Local Tourism Action Group) and consultation with residents would be a good idea.
- N Seach (Wymondham Access Group) – accessibility to a TIC appeals to WAG but wanted assurances that the Market Cross would be used and not fall into disrepair.

Standing Orders re-instated.

After discussion upon the proposition of Cllr. Hurn and seconded by Cllr. Flatt the following resolution was unanimously approved

‘The Council notes the presentation on the future of Becket's Chapel submitted by Norfolk Historic Buildings Trust and Wymondham Arts Forum, and agrees to support the outline plans for the refurbishment and future use of the building.

The Town Council will consider, subject to a feasibility study and business case, the relocation of the Tourist Information Centre to the refurbished building’

The meeting was suspended at 8.40pm and then reconvened at 8.45 pm.

145/17 MOTION Cllr. Halls introduced the following motion seconded by Cllr. Underwood

‘The Town Council wishes to register its considerable concern regarding the proposal to cut the number of PCSO’s in Norfolk to nothing as it believes this will seriously further compromise the ability of the Norfolk Police force to dispense justice and adequately police Wymondham and the immediate area’.

After discussion it was unanimously agreed to defer the motion to allow a representative from Norfolk Police to attend and give the police’s reasons for the recently announced re-organisation and to answer any questions.

146/17 MOTION Cllr Underwood introduced his motion seconded by Cllr. Longhurst in respect of the disability access issues at Wymondham Railway Station in respect of moving between the two platforms. This received support from many Councillors and it was resolved to approve the following.

1. Urge Network Rail, Greater Anglia and other interested parties to urgently discuss options to make Wymondham Railway Station fully accessible to all.
2. Supports Wymondham Access Group in its attempts to make access to the Railway Station and in turn making Wymondham a Town open to all visitors and residents alike.
3. Write to our local M.P. to gain additional support to this important item.

147/17 REPORTS FROM COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

- County – None.
- District – None.

148/17 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES – None.

149/17 SUGGESTED ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED FOR NEXT MEETING – None.

*[The meeting closed at 21.05 pm]*

DATED this .....day of .....2017

SIGNED .....(Chairman)