

**Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on Tuesday 16 December 2008 at 7.00 pm at the Council Chamber, Wayland Hall, Watton**

Councillors Present: J Carr  
R Crabtree  
B Freeman  
A Harvey  
M Holmes – Vice Chairman

R Ivory  
J P McCarthy - Chairman  
L McCarthy  
R Rudling  
B Wykes

Officers Present: J Seal - Town Clerk

Others Present: County Councillor John Rogers, District Councillor David Myers, PC Ian Hinchliffe – Safer Neighbourhood Team and Lisa Clayton – Youth Council

Members of the Public Present: One

**80 APOLOGIES**

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillor B Anderson, A Osborn, C Walls, K Gilbert and District Councillor Claire Bowes

**81 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

It was agreed that the minutes of Tuesday 25 November 2008 be signed as a true and correct record with an amendment to Item 77 paragraph three to read ‘had been re-elected’.

**82 COMMUNITY REPORTS**

**82a Police**

PC Hinchliffe reported that the detection rate for Watton was 42%. There had been eleven incidents over the weekend in Priory Road with tyres being damaged and were working on a number of suspects.

He felt that the Christmas Market was once again a great success despite the potential incident of having sixty army vehicles coming through the Town. The Clerk thanked PC Hinchliffe for his help in diverting the convoy away from Watton and said it had been rather a worrying time.

Members expressed concern at the increase in the number of mobility scooters that were using the pavements with two Members having had reported to them an incident where a lady had been thrown against a wall with no apology from the driver. PC Hinchliffe said he would find out the legal status of driving on the footpath and the speed limit.

The parking of Post Vans at the rear of the Post Office in Harvey Street and general parking in the town was discussed. Some Members would like to see parking tickets issued as a deterrent.

PC Hinchliffe informed Council that in 2009 Traffic Wardens would become the responsibility of the County Council and understood from reports in the press that there was no funding available until 2010.

**82b County Councillor**

County Councillor Rogers reported that he had spoken to Highways regarding making good the footpaths. There had been an incident with forty barriers on Norwich Road being pushed onto footpaths and into the hole where the road works were. He had asked Highways to check the barriers at the weekends as well as during the week.

One Member asked for further information on the 106 money agreed by Tesco for Road improvements.

County Councillor Rogers had also asked for action to be taken to sort out the sequencing of the Traffic Lights to alleviate the congestion on the approach roads to the town.

**82c Youth Council**

Lisa Clayton gave out invitations for a Coffee Morning in aid of helping Linda Bloomfield fund her trip to South Africa and said that the Youth Council had held their last monthly meeting at the 'Surge'.

**82d District Councillors**

APPENDIX 'A' District Councillor David Myers

**83 MERTON ROAD**

The Clerk reported that the detailed map requested from Highways had not been forthcoming.

It was agreed that County Councillor Rogers take up the matter and report back to Council and discussed further at the next Planning Meeting.

**84 MATTERS ARISING**

Item 71 – District Councillor Report – Letter had been received from the Chief Executive stating that he had passed the information to Ray Johnson, Breckland's Asset Manager for him to deal with.

Item 74 – Committee Reports – Premises – No response had been received from shopkeepers regarding donation for the pigeon loft except for Mr Chris Edwards who had offered to place the loft on his roof as his contribution.

**85 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

APPENDIX 'B'

**86 CLERKS REPORT**

APPENDIX 'C'

**87 PAYMENTS**

**87a Payments for approval**

It was agreed that payments for December 2008 be approved

**87b Precept**

It was proposed by Councillor Rudling, seconded by Councillor Harvey and

RESOLVED

That the Budget for 2009-2010 be approved and the precept be claimed from Breckland District Council.

**88 COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**88a Planning and Forward Development Committee**

It was agreed that the minutes of Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December be adopted.

## **89 CORRESPONDENCE**

### **89a Anti Social Behaviour**

Letter of complaint from a resident of Priory Road relating to the recent problems with vandalism. The resident requests that the Council look at extending the public order to cover the whole of Watton.

It was agreed that Inspector Porter be invited to the next Council Meeting to discuss the enforcement of the order and various other issues in the town.

### **89b Complaints**

The Clerk reported a substantial number of complaints from the public regarding the Christmas Lights in the town.

### **89c Speed Limit**

Letter from Saham Toney Parish Council asking Council to support their request for a 30 mph speed limit the length of Cley Lane, Saham Toney through Saham Road to Watton. There has been several problems with cars travelling too fast along the road particularly in the vicinity of the bridge, which has caused several near accidents.

It was agreed that the Council support the request from Saham Toney Parish Council for a 30mph speed limit from Cley Lane, Saham Toney through Saham Road to Watton.

It was also agreed that Highways be asked to cut back the overgrowth of the verges onto the road.

### **89d Meeting**

Letter from the Chief Executive with three dates for a meeting with Councillor William Nunn and himself. Dates offered were Friday 16 January at 10.00 am, Monday 19<sup>th</sup> January at 2.30 pm and Monday 26 January at 2.30 pm.

It was agreed that the meeting be held on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2009 at 2.30pm at the Town Hall.

Members were asked to submit items for discussion so that the Clerk could put together an Agenda.

## **90 GRANTS**

### **90a Norfolk Constabulary**

A grant application had been received from Norfolk Constabulary to fund a football game between the police and the youth in Watton.

Members felt that activities should be open to both boys and girls and not just restricted to football.

It was proposed by Councillor Rudling, seconded by Councillor Crabtree and

**RESOLVED**

That a grant of £100 be given to the Norfolk Constabulary

## **91 REPRESENTATIVE ORGANISATION REPORTS**

Councillor Crabtree – Youth Council

Councillor Crabtree asked that Members support the Coffee Morning for Linda Bloomfield who would be tutoring disadvantaged children in South Africa.

Councillor Harvey – Wayland Luncheon Club

Councillor Harvey reported that a meeting had been held with the management regarding the budget and that a full report would be submitted when the meeting with Norfolk County Council had taken place.

Councillor J P McCarthy – Project Rainbow

Councillor J P McCarthy reported that as soon as the minutes had been signed by their Chairman they would be distributed to Members.

## **92 CO-OPTION**

The Clerk reported that four applications for the vacancy for a Councillor had been received. Members were asked to approve the application form and set a date for interviews to be held.

It was proposed by Councillor Crabtree, seconded by Councillor Rudling and

**RESOLVED**

That the application form be approved and sent to prospective Candidates to be returned by 31<sup>st</sup> December 2008 and interviews to be held on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2009 for Co-option to the Council.

It was proposed by Councillor Crabtree, seconded by Councillor Rudling

in accordance with Standing Order No 66 and

**RESOLVED**

That in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded and they are instructed to withdraw

The public and press were excluded.

## **93 ALLOTMENT SECURITY**

It was proposed by Councillor Rudling, seconded by Councillor Harvey and

**RESOLVED**

That for security reasons, should the owner of the land require someone to inspect the site on their behalf that they contact the office for someone to accompany them to the site.

## **94 STAFFING**

It was agreed that the cleaning of the Youth Centre be put out to contract.

The Meeting ended 9.00 pm

JS