

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on Tuesday 26th May 2009 at 7.00 pm at the Council Chamber, Wayland Hall, Watton

Councillors Present: B Anderson R Ivory – Vice Chairman
R Crabtree J P McCarthy
B Freeman L McCarthy
K Gilbert A Osborn
A Harvey R Rudling
M Holmes - Chairman M Wassell

Officers Present: J Seal - Town Clerk

Members of the Public Present: Five

206 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN-TOWN MAYOR 2009-2010

The Chairman welcomed Members and the public and asked for nominations for Chairman and Town Mayor.

It was proposed by Councillor Ivory, seconded by Councillor Wassell that Councillor Holmes be elected Chairman and Town Mayor for the year 2009-2010.

There being no other nominations Councillor Holmes was duly elected Chairman and Town Mayor for the year 2009-2010.

Councillor J P McCarthy then invested Councillor Holmes with the Chain of Office, gave his congratulations and retired from the chair.

Councillor Holmes took the chair and thanked the retiring Chairman Councillor J P McCarthy for his year in office and the wonderful job that he had done in representing the town and the Council. She also thanked Councillor L McCarthy for her support to the Chairman.

207 DECLARATION OF OFFICE

Councillor Holmes then read out and signed the declaration of Acceptance of Office of Chairman and Town Mayor before her fellow Councillors, witnessed and signed by the Town Clerk.

Although she was a relative new comer to the town having moved to Watton in 1995 to live and work, since retirement she said that since her retirement she had become involved more in the town and it was a great honour to have been elected as the Chairman and Town Mayor and would do her best in representing the town.

There were two charity groups which were very dear to her heart, the Wayland Luncheon Club and the Watton Thursday Club which she would support throughout her year and would willingly support any fund raising events for them.

She thanked Members for their support and looked forward to working with them in her year of office inviting them to join her for a celebratory drink after the meeting.

208 APOLOGIES

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillors Wykes and Freeman, County Councillor John Rogers and District Councillor David Myers

209 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

The Chairman asked for nominations for the Vice Chairman.

It was proposed by Councillor Holmes and seconded by Councillor Wassell that Councillor Ivory be elected Vice Chairman for the year 2009/2010.

Voting: 6 for

It was proposed by Councillor Harvey and seconded by Councillor Crabtree that Councillor L McCarthy be elected Vice Chairman for the year 2009/2010.

Voting: 5 for

Councillor Ivory was duly elected Vice Chairman for the year 2009/2010.

210 PAST CHAIRMANS REPORT

Councillor J P McCarthy gave a report and wished Councillor Holmes good luck for her year of office.

211 MINUTES

It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 28 April 2009 be signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

212 INTERESTS

Item 222 - Councillors J P McCarthy, Rudling, Crabtree and L McCarthy declared personal interests due to Arden Kendall being their Accountant.

213 COMMUNITY REPORTS

213a Members

One Member expressed concern that once again the youth of Watton had not been included in the half term sports events and asked Councillor Gilbert to make Councils feelings known at Breckland.

The Clerk was instructed to write to Breckland to ask why Watton was not included.

213b Members of the Public

In response to the Skateboard petition a member of the public presented a Clayland Estates pack and informed Council that Clayland had offered to carry out searches, planning application and setting up of a Skateboard Park free of charge.

It was agreed that this would be discussed at the next Premises meeting.

The Eastern Daily Press Reporter Dominic Chessum thanked Members for allowing the Charlotte Harvey Trust minutes to be made public.

214 COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT 2009/10

Councillor Rudling pointed out that everyone had been given his or her first and second choices except himself on committees and had wanted to be a Member of the Premises Committee and inferred that he was being prevented from this as he would object to some of the spending.

The Chairman rebuked Councillor Rudling for his inference and stated that the Premises Committee had carried out a good job and felt that his vast experience on Planning was more beneficial.

It was proposed by Councillor Gilbert, seconded by Councillor Harvey and
RESOLVED

That the proposed committee membership be approved

215 OUTSIDE BODY APPOINTMENT 2009/10

It was agreed that Councillor Anderson be appointed Council Representative on the Arts Festival Committee

It was agreed that Councillor Ivory be appointed Council Representative on the Carnival Committee

It was agreed that Councillor Osborn be appointed Council Representative on the Citizens Advice Bureau Committee

It was agreed that Councillors Holmes, Harvey and J P McCarthy be appointed Council Representatives on the Wayland Luncheon Club Committee

It was agreed that Councillor Crabtree be appointed Council Representative on the Junior School Governing Body

It was agreed that a letter be sent to the Infant School to ask if they wished to have a Council Representative on their Governing Body

It was proposed by Councillor Rudling, seconded by Councillor L McCarthy and
RESOLVED

That Councillor J P McCarthy be appointed Council Representative on the Stanta Liaison Committee

It was agreed that Councillor Wykes be appointed Council Representative on the Watton Sports Centre Committee

It was agreed that Councillor J P McCarthy be appointed Council Representative on the Twinning Association Committee

It was proposed by Councillor J P McCarthy, seconded by Councillor Harvey and
RESOLVED

That Councillor Wassell be appointed the Council's main Representative on the Wayland Partnership Development Trust Committee with Councillor Wykes being the Reserve Representative.

Councillors Rudling and L McCarthy still had terms to serve on Watton Relief in Need.

It was agreed that Councillor Crabtree be appointed Council Representative on the Youth Council Committee

It was agreed that Councillor Crabtree be appointed Council Representative on the Youth Focus Group Committee

It was agreed that Councillor Holmes be appointed Council Representative on the Stevens Alms Houses Trust

216 MATTERS ARISING

Item 138a - It was reported that cars were being sold on the Flying Fish car park

Item 144j - Letter had been received from the doctors surgery stating that the doctors had been informed about the complaints and that the Practise Manager would reply on her return from sick leave.

217 URGENT BUSINESS

The Chairman said that the Blues and Royals (Household Cavalry) would again be attending Bodney Camp for the 21st year and suggested that the Council could award the regiment the 'Honorary Freedom of the Town' in respect of their long association with the town.

Members unanimously agreed that the award should be given and that £500 be spent on a Civic Reception after the regiment had paraded through the town.

The Clerk was asked to organise the event.

The Chairman stated that there had been no response to Norfolk County Council's request for the provision of extra cycle racks from Members.

It was agreed that the Chairman, Vice Chairman and the Clerk look at the allocation of extra cycle racks in the town and respond to Norfolk County Council

218 CLERKS REPORT

The Clerk submitted a report.

The Chairman thanked the Clerk for the admirable way in which she had carried out her duties during the period of her accident.

219 ARMED FORCES DAY

A request from Mr Anscombe had been received that the Council fly the specially commissioned Armed Forces Day flag from the Clock Tower. The raising ceremony would commence at 10.30 am on Monday 22 June with the flag remaining in place until sunset on Armed Forces Day on 27 June.

Mr Anscombe had also offered to acquire the flag at the cost of £10 for the Council and to arrange the necessary raising and lowering of the flag.

It was agreed that Mr Anscombe purchase a flag on behalf of the Council and that he carry out the raising and lowering of the flag from the Clock Tower at the designated times.

220 COMMITTEE REPORTS

220a Planning and Forward Development

It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 30 April 2009 be adopted

220b Environment

Item 75 – Councillor Ivory reported that work on the water feature had been started.

Item 77 – Church Railings – Councillor Harvey explained that the reason for asking for costings for the complete and part replacement was due to vandalism on certain sections which needed urgent replacement for health and safety reasons.

Item 79 – Footpath Conditions – It was pointed out that the footpath from the Tesco Store to Monkams Drive on the Thetford Road was in a poor condition.

Item 80 – Councillor Harvey reported that the Cemetery meeting was to be re-arranged.

It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 5 May 2009 be adopted

220c Policy

It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 12 May 2009 be adopted

221 CORRESPONDENCE

221a Letters of thanks had been received from Norfolk Police and Eco Bugs for their Grants. Eco Bugs have also sent a badge.

221b Invitation to the Clerk and Councillors to join Sarita Presland the Parish Liaison Officer for the Town and Parish Association for coffee and a chat on Wednesday 17 June 2009 between 10am and 12 noon at the Lincoln's Bistro, 6-8 Fairland Court, Hingham. NR9 4HN

221c A petition with 109 signatures has been handed into the office with one letter of support for a Skateboard Park in the town. There was also a petition being collected by Edwards Newsagents, which had still to be forwarded.

221d Letter from the Carnival Committee asking if they could use power from the Council offices for a human football table on Carnival Day.

It was agreed that the Carnival Committee could use the power from Wayland Hall for the Human football table on Carnival day.

221e Letter from the Church Road Allotment Holders requesting that they have the same facilities for Water as the Thetford Road site.

Members agreed with one against that a Water Tank be sited at the Church Road Allotments for the sole use of the Allotment Holders and that it be filled on an occasional basis by the Town Gardener as per the Thetford Road site.

222 PAYMENTS AND INTERNAL AUDITOR

222a Payments

It was agreed that payment for May 2009 be approved.

222b Internal Auditor

It was proposed by Councillor Anderson, seconded by Councillor Ivory and
RESOLVED

That Arden Kendall be re-appointed as the Councils Internal Auditor.

223 MEETING DATES

It was agreed that the draft meeting dates be approved.

224 GRANTS

A grant application had been received from the Carnival Committee.

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

That the Council underwrite the Carnival for £500.

225 REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Councillor Gilbert Twinning – The Twinning Association had decided not to hold so many fundraising stalls but would concentrate more on talking to people and encouraging new Members to join.

Councillor Crabtree Carnival – Brochures for this years Carnival were now available.

Councillor Wassell Wayland Development Partnership Trust – The new prospective Mid Norfolk candidate George Freeman had given a talk on the Members night.

The New England lease for the police station had been agreed for a further 15 year term.

Project Rainbow had been informed that they were unable to bid for the second phase of Myplace funding and were now looking at other options

Councillor Osborn Citizens Advice Bureau – Report Circulated.

CAG Meeting – Parked cars for sale were being looked into by Breckland Council, Norfolk County Council, Safer Neighbourhood Police and Trading Standards.

It was suggested by Councillor Gilbert that planning permission may be needed if cars were being sold on the car park of the Flying Fish which was private land.

Councillor Holmes Wayland Luncheon Club were waiting for a response from Norfolk County Council on their funding support. A meeting with the Council would be arranged when this had been received.

Stevens Alms Houses Trust – Quotes for repairs were being looked at.

The Meeting ended 8.20 pm
JS