

**Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2009 at 7.00 pm at the Council Chamber, Wayland Hall, Watton**

Councillors Present: B Anderson  
K Gilbert  
A Harvey  
R Ivory  
J P McCarthy - Chairman

L McCarthy  
A Osborn  
R Rudling  
M Wassell  
B Wykes

Officers Present: J Seal - Town Clerk

Others Present: County Councillor John Rogers, Norfolk Police PCSO Joe Jermy and PC Flanagan, and Dominic Chessum Eastern Daily Press Reporter

**135 APOLOGIES**

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillors M Holmes, R Crabtree, Walls and B Freeman

Other Apologies were received from Sergeant Osbourn, Norfolk Constabulary

The Chairman congratulated County Councillor Rogers on being elected Chairman of Breckland.

**136 INTERESTS**

Item 149 – Councillors K Gilbert and L McCarthy declared interests as Members of Twinning.

**137 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

It was agreed that the minutes of Tuesday 31 March 2009 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record

**138 COMMUNITY REPORTS**

**138a Police**

P.C.S.O Jeremy reported that the main trouble at the Blenheim Grange site had now reduced and was under control. The Boy racers had now moved from Threxton Industrial Estate and the cars for sale on Norwich Road and the Thetford Road Car Park had now been moved and are being monitored.

P.C. Flanagan reported that a pro-active approach was being made in issuing £30 parking fixed fines by Police Officers but at present the PCSO's did not have the power to issue tickets.

The police have launched a 'Cop Cards 2009' competition aimed at 7 – 11 year olds where they answer questions and collect limited edition cards.

A Member reported that Police Officers had been seen parking in between the zigzag lines and asked that this be reported.

There were now only four Safer Neighbourhood Officers in Watton no Traffic Wardens. It was agreed that P.C. Flanagan asks that a Traffic Warden be present in Watton on Wednesdays. She also reported that there were six response stations being at Thetford, Norwich, Yarmouth, Kings Lynn, Fakenham and North Walsham.

**138b Council Councillor**

County Councillor Rogers had nothing further to report after the Town Meeting on Thursday 23 April.

**138c District Councillor**

Councillor Gilbert reported that he had had a quiet month due to illness but would attend the next Scrutiny Committee on Thursday 30 April when they would be scrutinising the Thetford Partnership.

**139 MATTERS ARISING**

**Item 134** Paramedic Car – Letters has been sent to the Ambulance Trust and NHS Norfolk in support of the doctors petition. Councillor Anderson reported that a large petition had been put forward.

**140 URGENT BUSINESS**

The Chairman had been asked by some Members to re-instatement a Finance and General Purpose Committee. Councillor Wykes said that Terms of Reference should be agreed.

Councillor Rudling said that the name needed to reflect the Terms of Reference to stop item being discussed that belonged to another Committee and therefore preventing duplication.

**141 CHAIRMAN/VICE CHAIRMAN REPORT**

The Chairman submitted a report and thanked the Members for persevering with him for the last meeting.

One Member felt that in future at the Town Meeting the Chairman should explain the role of the County Councillor so that the public could ask questions and pointed out that a third of the meeting had been taken up with Councillors asking questions which they should be asking at the monthly meetings.

Another Member felt that County Councillor Rogers did a good job, attended meetings of the Council regularly with information and felt that Councillor Walls comments had not been necessary and agreed that the Chairman speaks to Councillor Walls regarding this.

**142 CLERKS REPORT**

The Clerk submitted a report.

Councillor Gilbert was asked to look into the agreement with the Sports Centre Loan at Breckland.

**143 COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**143a Premises**

A Member pointed out that there were Members on the Twinning Association who should have declared an interest when discussing Twinning at the meeting.

It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting be adopted.

## **143b Environment**

Many compliments had been received by Members and the office regarding the beautiful Yellow Tulips in the Flower tubs and asked that the compliments be passed to the Town Gardener.

The Chairman was asked to thank the Gardener on behalf of the Council.

It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting be adopted.

## **144 CORRESPONDENCE**

### **144a Wayland Show**

Letter from the Wayland Show organisers regarding sponsorship

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

RESOLVED

That the Council become a Member and that the Town Mayor attend on behalf of the Council.

### **144b Allotment – Thetford Road Site**

The Allotment Holders on the Thetford Road site have decided not to form an association but have agreed an informal meeting on the first Saturday of the month for those interested.

### **144d Volunteers Week**

To mark the 25 anniversary of National Volunteer week the Wayland Partnership are holding a week long (1-5 June) Market Place when all their Partner Organisations can promote themselves and their volunteering opportunities. On the last day there will be a light lunch to thank the existing volunteers and present them with certificates.

Any Partner wishing to recruit new volunteers need to give either a poster or leaflet with what the organisation is and does and what opportunities for volunteering can be offered. The deadline is 8 May 2009.

It was agreed that the Ambulance and Community Car Volunteer drivers be put forward for an award and that the Council promote these positions.

### **144e Funding Workshop**

Norfolk Rural Community Council are holding a Funding Workshop on 21 May 2009 between 1.15 – 3.00 pm at their Dereham Office at the cost of £5.00.

It was agreed that the Clerk should attend the meeting.

It was pointed out that any funding bids for the Council would be written by the Clerk and not the Councillors.

### **144f Local Government Re-Organisation**

A Question and Answer meeting to be held by Norfolk County Council with Parish Councils to discuss in detail their proposal for a Unitary Council and the impact it will have on the Parish sector. Tuesday 5 August Park

Hotel Diss, Wednesday 6 August, Assemble Rooms, Dereham, Wednesday 13 August, Town Hall, Aylsham, Monday 18 August, Recreation Centre, Acle, Tuesday 19 August, Knights Hill Hotel, Kings Lynn.

It was agreed that the Clerk attends the meeting and report back to the Council. All Councillors were also encouraged to attend.

**144g Allotments**

Letter from Mrs Toulson expressing her pleasure at the opening of the Allotments at the Thetford Road site.

**144h Swimming Pool**

Letter from Richmond Golf Club asking if the Council would give a grant towards the new indoor swimming pool and fitness centre.

It was pointed out by Councillor Gilbert that grants cannot be given to private companies.

The Chairman felt that the Town Council should make a substantial grant and enter into a legal agreement for the Town to use the pool. There was some discussion on how a grant could be given and the legality of it.

The Chairman felt that it could be done in some way with private and Council investment and should be pursued. It was pointed out that it was the responsibility of Breckland and Norfolk County Council to provide the facilities and legal advice should be sought to clarify the Councils position.

**144i Invitation**

An Invitation to the opening of Saxon House, Thetford Road, Watton to view the 19 quality apartments between 12 noon and 2 pm on Friday 1 May 2009.

**144j Watton Doctors Service**

Letter of complaint from a member of the public concerning the poor doctors service in Watton.

Members were split on the service provided with some having received complaints and some having excellent service.

It was agreed that a letter be sent to the Patients Committee and copied to Councillor Holmes informing that complaints have been made.

**144k Freedom of Information**

Request from Dominic Chessum reporter from the Eastern Daily Press for the minutes from the previous two year's worth of meeting of the Charlotte Harvey Trust be made public.

It was agreed that this would be discussed at the next meeting of the Charlotte Harvey Trust on Thursday 7 May 2009.

**145 GRANTS**

A request from Wayland Community High School Eco Bugs for a grant for seating for the wildlife area that they are creating.

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

RESOLVED

That a grant of £250 be given retrospectively from the 08/09 budget.

A request from Wayland Community High School Eco Bugs for a grant for a School garden that they are creating.

It was proposed by Councillor L McCarthy, seconded by Councillor Wykes and

RESOLVED

That a grant of £250 be given.

#### **146 PAYMENTS**

It was agreed that Payments for April 2009 be approved.

#### **147 REPRESENTATIVE ORGANISATION REPORTS**

Councillor Wykes submitted a written report for the Watton Sports Centre.

Councillor Wassell reported that the Wayland Partnership Development Trust had almost full capacity for their office space and that Watton featured in the Eastern Daily Press Colour magazine.

Councillor Osborn had attended a CAG meeting where there was an agreement for Respect signs to be put in the Queens Hall Car Park.

#### **148 REPLY FROM LEADER AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

It was agreed that Councillor Gilbert liase with the Clerk to obtain an answer in writing from Breckland relating to the writing off of the loan to the Sports Centre.

#### **149 NAMING OF TWINNED TOWN**

Members agreed that the town should decide if they wished to have a place in Watton named after the twinned town Weeze in Germany.

It was agreed that it would be put in the paper and a public meeting should be held.

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

RESOLVED

That the decision be made by the Town and that a Public vote be asked for.

The Meeting ended 8.50pm

JS