

**Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2009 at 7.00 pm at the Council Chamber, Wayland Hall, Watton**

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

Officers Present: J Seal - Town Clerk

Others Present: County Councillor John Rogers, District Councillors Clair Bowes and David Myers, Eastern Daily Press, Dominic Chessum

**113 APOLOGIES**

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillors J Carr, B Freeman, M Holmes, C Walls

Other apologies received from Lisa Clayton, Youth Council and PC Ian Hinchliffe, Norfolk Constabulary

**114 INTERESTS**

Item 117 – Councillor Wykes declared a personal interest as the Council’s Representative to the Sports Centre.

Item 117 – Councillor Crabtree declared a personal interest as a Trustee of the Sports Centre.

Item 121 – Councillor Wykes declared a personal interest due to personal friendships.

Item 121 – Councillor Crabtree declared a personal and prejudicial interest as Chairman of the 864 (Watton) Squadron Air Training Corps.

**115 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

It was Agreed by Members that the Minutes be accepted and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record

**116 COMMUNITY REPORTS**

**116a County Councillor Report**

County Councillor Rogers reported that a 30 mph speed limit was temporarily in action on the road south of Griston to Watton whilst road works were being carried out.

Improvements had been made to the road each side of Lovell Gardens.

The Police precept had been agreed at 3.9%, which would be an additional 14 pence per week onto a Band D property.

County Councillor Rogers also reported that a planning application had been submitted for a further development of houses at the former RAF site in Carbrooke and Griston and had asked that the outstanding roadworks be completed before any new houses were built.

### **116b District Councillor Report**

**APPENDIX 'A'** Councillor Myers submitted a written report

**APPENDIX 'B'** Councillor Bowes submitted a written report

Councillor Gilbert was pleased to see the Breckland Youth Council up and running and said there had been a 20% turn out in Watton for the voting process.

He had attended the meeting of the Cabinet during the day and was not happy that the Cabinet had agreed that planning was to be outsourced. He felt that there were still too many unanswered questions.

### **116c Youth Council Report**

In the absence of Miss Clayton Councillor Crabtree reported that three Youth Councillors from Watton had been selected to the Breckland Youth Council.

The Youth Council had also been nominated for the 'Pride In Breckland' Award.

Miss Clayton had also requested that her thanks to the Council be passed on for giving her a reference for entrance to Netherhead 6<sup>th</sup> Form and stated that it was the reference that had gained her her place.

## **117 MATTERS ARISING**

Item 99, The Clerk reported that alternative venues had been looked at. The Wayland Partnership did not have suitable accommodation. The Christian Community Centre could accommodate on Tuesday evenings but could not offer caretaker facilities. Watton Sports Centre could offer a meeting room to the rear of the bar area which would seat approximately thirty (30) people at a cost of £20 per night.

The Clerk pointed out that Council meetings could not be held in licensed premises. This was challenged by some Councillors and was asked to check this further. Councillor Crabtree stated that there were several rooms at the Centre that could be used and that Members could be signed in and could have a drink before meetings.

Some Members felt it was not a suitable venue and that disabled access should be looked at further when the Wayland Hall Project was discussed by Premises.

Item 102 – Councillor Anderson asked Council to write a letter to Norfolk County Council asking why there were no bus services from Watton on Sundays. It was agreed to write a letter.

Item 110 – A meeting had been held with Mr Paul Adcock to discuss the loan agreement with Watton Town Council and Breckland Council. Councillor Wykes asked Council to agree to the Clerk writing another letter to Breckland requesting that they confirm that Watton Town Council was released from any liability under the new agreement.

Item 112 – The Clerk reported that a collection would be held to purchase a leaving gift for the Town Handyman on his forthcoming retirement and asked Members who wished to contribute to contact the Clerk.

**118 CHAIRMAN/VICE CHAIRMAN REPORT**

**APPENDIX ‘C’** The Chairman submitted a written report.

**119 CLERKS REPORT**

**APPENDIX ‘D’** The Clerk submitted a written report.

Councillor Anderson reported that despite the letters that appeared in the press she had also had compliments on the Public Toilets

**120 COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**120a Planning and Forward Development**

It was agreed that the minutes of Tuesday 10 February 2009 be adopted.

**120b Premises Committee**

Item 68 – An amendment was proposed by Councillor Anderson, seconded by Councillor Rudling and

RESOLVED

Voting: 9 for with 1 against and 1 abstention

That should the Council fail to loan or hire a flashing speed sign from Norfolk County Council that the Council purchase one.

Item 67 – Councillor Osborn wished it to be recorded that he did not agree with the decision made

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

RESOLVED

That it be referred back to the Premises Committee for further discussion.

It was agreed that what had been said was inappropriate to the goodwill of Councillor Ivory

It was agreed that the minutes of Tuesday 17 February 2009 be adopted.

**121 GRANTS**

A grant application was received from 864 (Watton) Squadron Air Training Corps.

Councillor Crabtree withdrew from the meeting. Members agreed that the group was worthy of support

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

RESOLVED

Voting: 9 for with 1 abstention

That a grant of £400 be given to the 864 (Watton) Squadron Air Training Corps.

## **122 PAYMENTS**

It was agreed that payments for February 2009 be approved for payment

## **123 REPRESENTATIVE ORGANISATION REPORTS**

Councillor Osborn – CAG Meeting

Crimes were coming down but anti social behaviour were on the increase. Lovell Garden and the Queens Hall problems were being looked at.

Councillor Wykes – Sports Centre, A written report was submitted

Councillor Wykes thanked the Council on behalf of the Queens Hall Committee of which he was a Member for the grant given by the Council and stated that the hall would be a closed for two weeks whilst work was carried out.

Councillor Wassell – Wayland Partnership Development Trust

Councillor Wassell had had a meeting with the Chairman, which had gone very well.

Councillor Gilbert – Twinning Association

A dinner had been arranged for the following Saturday to celebrate Twinning's Anniversary and a visit to Weeze would take place in May.

Councillor Rudling suggested that the Allotment holders be contacted to ask if they would like to form an association where a representative could contact the Clerk with their views.

It was agreed unanimously.

## **124 FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (MODEL CODE)**

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

RESOLVED

That the New Model publication scheme be adopted.

The Meeting ended 8.20pm

JS