

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CROMER TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, NORTH LODGE PARK ON 28 JANUARY 2013**

PRESENT

Mayor Cllr. G. Smith, Deputy Mayor Cllr. D. Pritchard,
Cllr. T. Adams, Cllr. D. Airs, Cllr. T. Bartlett, Cllr. H. Cox, Cllr. S. Eastwood,
Cllr. P. Harris, Cllr. G. Hayman (from item 4), Cllr. A. Nash, Cllr. C. Plewman
Cllr. K. Royall, Cllr. Saunders

Mrs. J. Chance (Town Clerk), Mrs. J. Warner (Deputy Town Clerk)
P.C. B. Cresswell, Reporter S. Downes,
10 members of the public

Prior to the meeting, members of the Town Council received a presentation from David Ablett (NNDC) in respect of the changes to the Council Tax Benefit system and the request to lower the precept and accept a grant for the balance required. Refer agenda item 15.5.

1. **MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 10 DEC 2012**

It was unanimously **AGREED** that the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 10 December 2012 be **APPROVED**. The minutes were signed by the Mayor.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members declared interests as follows:

Cllr. T. Bartlett – Cromer Preservation Society & COAST.

Cllr. S. Eastwood – Skatepark.

Cllr. Cox – Crab & Lobster Festival.

Cllr. Royall – Crab & Lobster Festival

Cllr. Plewman – COAST & Skatepark

It was noted that declaration forms would be completed by all members declaring an interest.

3. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were considered and accepted from Cllrs. Bond and Woodcock due to illness.

4. **POLICE MATTERS**

4.1 **Police Report**

The police report was circulated and commented upon (refer attached). It was stressed that if cars are causing an obstruction, people should call 101 so that the police can visit and assess the situation. It was noted that 5 cars had recently been seized due to having no insurance. PC Cresswell asked that councillors and members of the public complete and return the Police & Crime Commissioner's consultation document.

Thanks were given to the police for their assistance at the New Year's Day Firework event.

PC Cresswell left the meeting.

4.2 **Other Police Matters**

The Clerk advised that she had written to the new Police & Crime Commissioner for Norfolk inviting him to attend a Town Council meeting. His reply was read out.

5. **YOUTH**

5.1 **Cromer Academy Student Council**

There was no representative present but it was noted that a written report would be sent to the Clerk (refer attached).

5.2 **Youth Advisory Board**

There was no update.

5.3 **Skatepark**

A letter from the group was circulated (refer attached). Cllr. Plewman provided an update in respect of fundraising to date.

5.4 **Other Youth Matters** (for information only)

The Clerk advised that she had written to the Infant and Junior Schools but had not received a reply.

6. **CASUAL VACANCY**

It was noted that no election had been called and was **AGREED** to advertise the vacancy for co-option. All applicants will be invited to meet and make a presentation to councillors.

7. **QUESTIONS TO COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

New Year's Day Firework Event – The Deputy Mayor advised that he has not yet received a response to his request for information in respect of the costs incurred to staff the car parks on New Year's Day. He also advised that a Freedom of Information request has confirmed that 1000 cars used Runton Road Car Park for the event thus paying a total of £2,000 to NNDC. He felt that this took money away from the voluntary organisations and charities in the town. District Cllr. Cox agreed that it was wrong that NNDC charged for parking and feels that it should be free on New Year's Day.

Dog Fouling – It was noted that numerous complaints are being received in respect of dog fouling. It was requested that NNDC need to have zero tolerance in respect of dog fouling and issue fines. District Cllr. Cox is to pursue this.

Crab Line – It was noted that Poppyland Partnership have paid back a large sum of money to NNDC.

Energy Scheme – Members were in receipt of information from District Cllr. Lee in respect of an Energy Scheme. It was **AGREED** to support the scheme and host an energy box either at North Lodge or Merchants' Place. The Clerk was asked to contact Merchants' Place as it was felt that this was the more accessible option.

8. It was **resolved** that the meeting be closed for public participation.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Car Parking - Labour representative Jen Emery, speaking as election candidate, advised that a lot of people she is meeting while canvassing, have raised concern in respect of car parking charges in Cromer. She asked that Cromer Town Council be proactive and continue to fight for more creative ideas regarding car parking fees.

Cabbell Park – Thanks were voiced for all those working for Cabbell Park and the football club.

Society Membership – It was questioned whether the Town Council requires councillors to declare membership of all societies eg. Masons.

The meeting re-opened.

9. **NORTH LODGE PARK**

It was noted that consultants have been appointed to progress the setting up of a community trust and produce a business plan for the park. It was stressed that the consultants need to be aware of the vast amount of public interest when organising workshops and that the future financial viability of the park needs to be included in the business plan. A press release was circulated to members and issued to the press reporter.

*It was **AGREED** to move forward the presentations from The Anglian Long Distance Triathlon, COAST and the Crab & Lobster Festival.*

10. **THE ANGLIAN LONG DISTANCE TRIATHLON**

Karl Read (NNDC) and Simon Brierley presented information in respect of the event which is to be based in Cromer on 27 July 2013 (refer attached). It was **AGREED** to add this to the agenda of the next meeting of the Promotions & Development Committee for further discussion. Karl & Simon were thanked for their presentation.

11. **COAST AND CRAB & LOBSTER FESTIVAL**

Mike Pert made a presentation on behalf of COAST appealing for financial support to be reinstated.

Tony Shipp and Noel Gant made a presentation on behalf of the Crab & Lobster Festival appealing for financial support to be reinstated.

It was **AGREED** to add these items to the agenda of the next meeting of the Strategy & Finance Committee for further discussion.

12. **AMBULANCE SERVICE**

Dates for councillors to go on ride outs are yet to be confirmed.

13. **PLANNING TRANSPORTATION & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

13.1 **Minutes of the meeting of the Planning Transportation & Environment Committee held on 10 January 2013**

Cllr. Harris presented the minutes of the meeting held on 10 January 2013 which were **APPROVED** and **ADOPTED**.

Item 12.1 Bittern Line - Concern was raised that there are not enough carriages at busy times. It was noted that 3 large planters have been obtained and students from Cromer Academy will be asked to decorate them. An information board is needed at Cromer Station.

Item 13.2 Coastal path – It was noted that the path over the golf course was not included as a 5 metre strip of land would be required. This would mean that 3 tees would have to be re-sited.

13.2 **A148 Holt Road**

Cllr. Cox advised that work on the footpath should commence on 11 February 2013. It was **AGREED** to instruct the Clerk to write to the parish councils at Aylmerton and the Runtons to ask for their endorsement of the need for a 30mph speed limit, a footbridge and a mini roundabout.

13.3 **Former T.I.C. as Cromer Bus Station**

Work to demolish the building is scheduled to commence on 04 March 2013.

13.4 **Planning Application NP/13/0041** – Plans were circulated and noted. It was **AGREED** to make no response.

14. **PROMOTIONS & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

14.1 **Minutes of the meetings of the Promotions & Development Committee held on 11 December 2012 and 14 January 2013**

Cllr. Nash presented the minutes of the meetings held on 11 December 2012 and 14 January 2013 which were **APPROVED** and **ADOPTED**.

14.2 **Village Games**

Information was circulated and noted.

14.3 **Christmas Events**

The financial statement for the 2012 event was circulated and noted (refer attached).

15. **STRATEGY & FINANCE COMMITTEE**

15.1 **Minutes of the meeting of the Strategy & Finance Committee held on 15 January 2013**

Cllr. Pritchard presented the minutes of the meeting held on 15 January 2013, which were **APPROVED** and **ADOPTED**.

Parish Plan – It was noted that the first draft of the questionnaire is almost complete. The aim is to deliver the questionnaires after the NNDC election.

15.2 **General Power of Competence**

Members were in receipt of information in respect of the General Power of Competence and it was noted that all the requirements to be able to adopt the power had been met. Following a brief discussion, it was **AGREED** to adopt the General Power of Competence.

15.3 **Cromer Town Football Club**

Cllr. Hayman raised concern at the disregard by NNDC of the legal position in respect of Cabbell Park. It is hoped that this will be sorted out by mediation rather than through the courts.

15.4 **Basement Flat**

The Clerk updated members in respect of the sale of the flat. It was noted that the numbering within the lease differs from the copy lodged with the Land Registry. Hoyl have asked if the lease can be redrafted to correct this and have stated that they will meet the costs. Concern was raised in respect of the access across the public garden and at the request for an extension to the lease. It was **AGREED** that Cromer Town Council should not sell the right of way and that the lease should not be extended.

15.5 **Precept**

Cllr. Pritchard asked that it be noted that he took no part in this item. Cllr. Eastwood read a response to the changes in the Council Tax System (refer attached).

Following discussion, it was **AGREED** to accept the grant from NNDC and reduce the precept accordingly. The revised precept form was signed.

16. **WORKS & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE**

16.1 **Minutes of the meeting of the Works & General Purposes Committee held on 21 January 2013**

Cllr. Pritchard presented the minutes of the meeting held on 21 January 2013, which were **APPROVED** and **ADOPTED**.

Street Light, 10 Cliff Drive – It was noted that the cost to relocate the street light to the opposite side of the road has been quoted as £4525.60. It is anticipated that the developer will not fund this thus the street light will remain where it is at present.

The remaining members of the public left the meeting.

17. **MAYOR & DEPUTY MAYOR**

17.1 **Mayor's Report**

Refer attached. It was noted that the Mayor's Civic Event has been booked for 16 March 2013. Invitations are being drafted.

*It was **AGREED** to suspend Standing Orders to continue the meeting beyond 9.30pm.*

17.2 **Deputy Mayor's Report**

The Deputy Mayor advised that he had attended several events including the New Year's Day Firework Event and the launch of the Crab and Lobster Festival.

18. **REPORTS FROM MEMBERS ON OTHER COMMITTEES**

Poorlands Trust – Report circulated and next meeting to be arranged.

19. **CORRESPONDENCE**

19.1 **Correspondence as detailed below**

The correspondence listed was noted or action agreed as detailed in appendix attached.

19.2 **Correspondence received since 22 January 2013**

There was no other correspondence to report.

20. **DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING:** 11 March 2013 at 7pm.

21. **TO CONSIDER A RESOLUTION UNDER THE PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS ACT 1960) TO EXCLUDE MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

There were no members of the public present.

22. **WAR MEMORIAL**

It was noted that a quotation is still awaited.

23. **LEASE OF LAND (Cemetery No 2 site)**

It was **AGREED** to accept the Heads of Terms which had been circulated to members. Land is still being sought for allotments. The Works and General Purposes Committee will assess and set criteria.

24. **MOLEHILLS (Cemetery No 2 Site)**

The Clerk presented three quotations for the removal of the molehills. It was **AGREED** to accept the quotation from the contractor.

Concern was raised in respect of the depth of the burrows. Cllr. Pritchard advised that moles dig no deeper than 1 metre and that there should be no shallow graves in the cemetery.

There being no further business, the Mayor closed the meeting at 9.50pm.

.....
Signed

.....
Dated