

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF CROMER TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 25TH OCTOBER, 2017 AT 7.00 PM
IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, NORTH LODGE, CROMER

Present:-

Mayor – Cllr. J. Frosdick, Deputy-Mayor – Cllr. D. Pritchard,
Cllr. T. Adams, Cllr. M. Bossingham, Cllr. G. Dickenson, Cllr. P. Harris,
Cllr. R. Leeds, Cllr. Y. Nolan, Cllr. C. Plewman, Cllr. D. Russell,
Cllr. B. Stibbons and Cllr. A. Yiasimi.

David Bale – North Norfolk News.

Julie Chance MILCM – Town Clerk.

One member of the public also attended the meeting.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. T. Bartlett – travelling back from holiday.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

Declarations of interest were received from Cllr. T. Adams and Cllr. M. Bossingham in connection with any skate park matters.

Declarations of interest were received from Cllr. P. Harris in connection with any Norfolk ALC matters.

Declarations of interest were received from Cllr. T. Adams in connection with any Norfolk County Council matters.

Declarations of interest were received from Cllr. A. Yiasimi in connection with any North Norfolk District Council matters.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None received.

4. MOTION TO DCLG – SECOND HOMES COUNCIL TAX

It was **AGREED** that Cromer Town Council will propose the attached Motion to DCLG.

5. MOTION TO NORFOLK ALC AGM – COSTESSEY PARISH COUNCIL

It was **AGREED** in principle that Cromer Town Council would second a Motion proposed to Norfolk ALC AGM by Costessey Parish Council. The wording of the Motion will be circulated to all Members once received by the Clerk and if the Members are not happy with the wording the support to second the Motion will be withdrawn. The Motion will be asking for a mechanism to be in place that allows for

discussion with the Parish and Town Councils when Norfolk County Council or North Norfolk District Council cut services which the Parish and Town Councils are asked to absorb into their budgets.

6. NORFOLK CONSTABULARY 2020

The Clerk circulated all correspondence received from Unison and the Police. Following lengthy discussion, it was **AGREED** that the Clerk would write to Chief Constable Bailey and express the Town Council's concern at the lack of consultation on the loss of the PCSO's. It was **AGREED** that the Clerk would invite Chief Constable Bailey to a future Town Council meeting to do a presentation on the proposals to the Members.

7. ROADWORKS – CROMER

County Councillor Adams reported that he has concerns about the work being carried out by BT at the junction of Church Street/Overstrand Road/Norwich Road. Norfolk County Council have an expectation for BT to have manned traffic control during peak hours which has not happened. The utility companies have an obligation to minimise disruption. It was **AGREED** that Cromer Town Council supports County Councillor Adams concerns. County Councillor Adams will be dealing with this matter at County level.

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was noted as Monday 27th November at 7.00 pm (Budget meeting).

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.45 pm.

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Chairman

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Date

Dear DLCC colleagues,

Impact of Second Homes, particularly on coastal communities

Cromer Town Council would like to formally submit a proposal for legislative change to enable better funding for services provided to permanent residents in areas with a particularly high proportion of second homes and holiday homes.

Like many other areas with a high proportion of second homes and/ or holiday homes, North Norfolk councils at all levels struggle to provide viable services to isolated individuals and seaside towns and village communities along the coast. This problem is heavily impacting on a number of towns and parishes. Taxpayers in these areas pay second homes council tax or, for holiday homes, pay business rates on their properties. However, these funds are then 'lost', following payment either into the much larger collection fund for the district/ county, in the case of second homes council tax, or, worse, into the non domestic rates funding pool for holiday homes. This is unfair for these communities which require some of this funding to meet the particular demands of those living in these areas, who are often left isolated and without community transport or facilities, particularly outside of the holiday season. Town and parish councils in the area affected are active in attempting to halt the decline in the availability of services in these communities, but need further support. It is understood this will also be a problem in other areas of the country.

Neighbourhood Plans, where produced, can help increase the proportion of housing supply that is available/ affordable to local residents, but this cannot be expected to adequately tackle the problems identified

This proposal is to examine the extent to which measures to improve funding could improve the economic, social and environmental well-being of these communities. Evidence will be gathered by gaining an understanding of how funding operates at this local level, together with online electronic surveying of town and parishes in the main holiday areas via the National Association of Local Councils, County Associations of Local Councils and the Society of Local Council Clerks.

I hope you will agree that this is a proposal for further research that can be progressed. I would therefore be very grateful if you could please confirm your support for the gathering of further evidence in support of this issue.

Yours faithfully