

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CROMER TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, NORTH LODGE PARK
AT 19:00 ON 24 FEBRUARY 2020**

PRESENT

Mayor Cllr. R. Leeds (from item 6.2),
Cllr. T. Adams (from item 9), Cllr. T. Bartlett, Cllr. P. Bennett, Cllr. H. Cox (from item 9),
Cllr. P. Harris, Cllr. M. Hayhurst, Cllr. D. Pritchard, Cllr. D. Roberts (from item 8),
Cllr. D. Russell, Cllr. P. West, Cllr. A. Yiasimi (from item 8)

Mrs. J. Chance FSLCC (Town Clerk)
Mrs. J. Warner PSLCC AICCM (Deputy Town Clerk)

1 member of the public

It was noted that several members would be late in arriving at the meeting due to a civic event elsewhere in the Town. In the absence of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor, it was **AGREED** that Cllr. Pritchard would chair the meeting until the Mayor arrives.

It was **AGREED** to add an item of urgent business at item 4.

1. **MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS HELD ON 13 JANUARY 2020 & 18 FEBRUARY 2020**

It was **AGREED** that the minutes of the meetings held on 13 January 2020 & 18 February 2020 be **APPROVED**. The minutes were signed by Cllr. Pritchard in the absence of the Mayor.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS**

Members declared interests as follows:

Cllr. D. Russell – EEAS

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

3. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

3.1 **Apologies for absence**

Apologies were accepted from Cllrs. Bossingham, Baksh, M. Russell & Spagnola.

It was noted that Cllrs. Adams, Cox & Leeds would be late arriving at the meeting.

4. **COMMITTEE REPRESENTATION**

It was **AGREED** that Cllr. Bennett be appointed to the following committees: Community & Economic Development, Promotions and Events and Works & General Purposes and their sub-committees.

5. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The member of the public did not wish to address council.

6. **POLICE MATTERS**

6.1 **Police Report**

Members were in receipt of the monthly police newsletters which were noted.

Cllr. Leeds arrived at the meeting.

6.2 **Other Police matters** (for information only)

Cllr. Adams provided an update on the meeting with the Police Inspector later in the meeting but for continuity of the minutes it is included here. Cllr. Adams felt that the meeting was very beneficial to the smaller parishes who perhaps do not have as close contact with their police officers.

The Mayor, Cllr. Leeds arrived at the meeting and took the Chair.

7. **YOUTH**

7.1 **Cromer Academy**

There was no representative present from Cromer Academy.

7.2 **Other youth matters**

There were no other youth matters to report.

8. **DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCIL**

8.1 **County & District Councillors**

Cllrs. Roberts & Yiasimi arrived at the meeting.

Cllr. Adams arrived later in the meeting and presented his report (attached).

8.2 **Questions to District & County Councillors**

Cllr. Yiasimi will ask at NNDC whether there are any proposals to increase Councillor allowances.

Cllr. Adams will be asked whether he has any response in respect of the increase in the County Councillor allowances. Cllr. Adams was asked to obtain an update in respect of the reports of rats on the pier forecourt.

Cllr. Harris reported that the Town Council's response to the Transport Plan Consultation has been submitted.

9. **PLANNING TRANSPORTATION & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

9.1 **Minutes of the meeting of the Planning Transportation & Environment Committee held on 09 January 2020 & 06 February 2020**

The minutes of the meeting held on 09 January 2020 and 06 February 2020 were **APPROVED** and **ADOPTED**.

Cllrs. Adams & Cox arrived at the meeting during this item.

The Gangway – Cllr. Adams confirmed that The Gangway will not have yellow lines. He is to meet with the Conservation Officer as some repairs to the structure have now been identified. It was noted that the signage is correct and any additional signage would lead to ambiguity.

Woodland Burial Site – It was noted that pre-submission for the site will be considered at the meeting on 05 March 2020.

10. **PROMOTIONS & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

10. **Minutes of the meeting of the Promotions and Development Committee held on 18 February 2020**

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 February 2020 were **APPROVED** and **ADOPTED**.

It was **AGREED** to delegate authority to the Clerk to make a donation of up to a maximum of £100 towards a retirement gift for the museum curator.

11. **POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

11.1 **Update from the Policy and Resources Committee**

It was noted that the Committee next meet on 25 February 2020.

12. **WORKS & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE**

12.1 **Minutes of the meetings of the Works & General Purposes Committee held on 14 January 2020 & 11 February 2020**

The minutes of the meetings held on 14 January 2020 & 11 February 2020 were **APPROVED** and **ADOPTED**.

12.2 **Commemoration & Events Sub Committee**

Members were reminded that assistance is needed at the various events. The Clerk advised that Duxford have asked whether Cromer Town Council would be prepared to contribute towards the cost of a Spitfire fly past along the coast on Friday 08 May 2020.

13. **COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

13.1 **To consider the minutes of the meeting of the Community & Economic Development Committee held on 16 January 2020**

The minutes of the meeting held on 16 January 2020 were **APPROVED** and **ADOPTED**.

14. **REPORTS FROM MAYOR & DEPUTY MAYOR**

The Mayor reported on his attendance at the opening of the Deep History Coast Hub, the Crab & Lobster Festival Launch, the VEO Pancake Races and the presentation to Mr. W. Cox MBE for his long service to the Fire Service.

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

15.1 **Ambulance Response Times**

Cllr. D. Russell provided an update and raised some concern in respect of the consortium. It was **AGREED** to instruct the Clerk to write to the consortium to ask for a copy of their Terms of Reference.

15.2 **Norfolk Association of Local Council**

Cllr. Harris provided an update on his attendance at the Norfolk ALC Executive meeting and the Wellbeing Meeting. It was noted that the Norfolk ALC AGM is on 06 April 2020 which will also be attended by members of the CCG.

15.3 **Twinning**

Members were in receipt of the report from the Twinning Association.

16. **CORRESPONDENCE**

16.1 **Correspondence as detailed below**

Norfolk ALC	Weekly newsletters Well being initiative
NNDC	Deep History Coast invitation & newsletter Electric charging points in car parks
NCC	AONB Dark Skies Festival Norwich Western Link
Walk Cromer	AGM 24 March 2020

Cromer Peregrine Project AGM 25 Feb 2020

NNAB Annual Report

All the above correspondence was noted and no action taken unless stated otherwise.

16.2 **Correspondence received since 24 February 2020**

Civic Charity event hosted by Lord Mayor & Sheriff of Norwich

17. **DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING:** 7pm 06 April 2020

There being no further business, the Mayor closed the meeting at 8.15pm.

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Signed

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Dated

Combined County Council & District Council report by Cllr Tim Adams – 24th February 2020

You will likely have seen media coverage of the County Council budget, with a 3.99% increase now agreed - £54.27 for Band D.

I personally voted against the budget, largely due to the further impacts on disabled people as a result of the further changes to the Minimum Income Guarantee. I spoke on this matter several times during the meeting.

We had also hoped to divert the now agreed 2% rise in allowances to highways maintenance in amendments which were not supported by the administration Councillors.

You will possibly have also seen the media coverage of the District Council budget, with a £4.95 increase currently proposed for Band D properties. The Full Council meeting is on Wednesday later this week.

Consideration of the budget and delivery plan has largely dominated time at the District Council for the last month.

At the time of writing, it is also still proposed to maintain the Cromer Museum budget, which is of course matched by the £4000 contribution by Cromer Town Council. This will be the last year of this agreement.

Separately, the Independent Remuneration Panel has also recommended an increase to NNDC Councillor's allowances, though this has yet to be considered by the Council.

At the Police & Crime Panel, scrutiny led to some concerning performance figures on domestic abuse in North Norfolk.

I am working on currently to introduce a specialised role to within the Early Help Hub at NNDC to help the victims of domestic abuse, with negotiations now ongoing with the OPCCN and NNDC. Early indications indicate this is working well elsewhere to reduce the impacts on victims, reduce cases becoming more severe and increased levels of victims supporting prosecution.

At the People & Communities Select Committee, I managed to get the Committee to agree to the formation of a Task & Finish group looking at the Care Market, making me the first opposition member to get a substantive motion through since these Select Committees were raised 6 months ago.

The Task & Finish Group will look at the following:

- Carry out a deep dive, examining best practises and other initiatives and consider how the adult social care market position in Norfolk could be improved.
- How to ensure quality in the market.
- How to ensure financial viability within the market.
- How to make working in the social care sector in Norfolk more attractive.

You will have seen Norfolk Fire Rescue responded to a significant house fire in West Runton on Friday, which was attended by the Cromer Crew. Thankfully, nobody was hurt and the Cromer Crew have otherwise not had faced this sort of incident for the last month.

As I reported earlier, I had not expected Seaview Pre-School to reopen as North Lodge Pre-School in January as previously reported. This is not expected to open in September as I had previously expected.

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NNDC issued a fine for littering on West Street in the last month, and prosecuted a Chartered Surveyors for the condition of a property on Bond Street.

Streetlights have been replaced on the East Prom, with works soon to occur on The Gangway.

I have met with CTFC and NNDC on a few occasions to discuss future arrangements in terms of leasing, and supported North Norfolk Hockey Club with grant applications.

I am still working with Friends of Horsey Seals to built up a case for a PSPO banning ring frisbees from our beaches.

In terms of Highways and public realm matters, it has been a particularly busy period with visits ongoing due to inclement weather and two storms having caused damage to various highways and other Council assets across the Cromer Division.

Offensive graffiti on a number of highways assets within and outside of the Cromer Division area has also been taking up a great deal of time, and causing offence. Please report any incidents of this that are found.

I have also today been dealing with the Abnormal Loads team at Norfolk Constabulary in respect of the two lorries that were stuck at the junction of Prince of Wales Road and Hamilton Road.

In terms of other individual issues of all types, I have dealt with the following:

Social Care cases- 6

Housing, benefits and utilities – 6

Planning Complaints & other planning matters – 20 – largely led by Roughton Road and 3 St Marys Road, the latter of which will likely be approved.

Beach detritus/ abandoned tractors – 2

Litter - 3

Dog Fouling – 6 (Cabbell Road, Howards Hill x 3 and Station Road)

Overflowing bins – 1

Abandoned vehicles – 4

Flytipping – 1

Fly posting – 2

Road sweeping- 2

Other environmental matters - 3

The Gangway – Complaints following introduction of Clearway – 4

Weather related highways obstructions – 9 (in nearby vicinity)

Pavement deterioration- 4 (The Croft, Arbor Road, Vicarage Road & Overstrand Road)

Potholes and road surface deterioration - 12

Non-functional streetlights and illuminated signs – 10

Blocked Gullies – 7

Overgrown hedges – 2 (Holt Road and Central Road)

Damaged signage – 2

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Loose or damage utility covers – 2

Trip hazards – 3

Faded road markings – 2

Damaged Kerbs – 1

Damaged Bollards – 1

Utility company damage to pavement - 1

Other highways complaints – 3

(Visits are currently ongoing which will reflect on future figures).

Mill Road school time parking visits – 10.

Warnings and advice given to drivers on 9 occasions during these visits for S137 Highways Act Offences, or yellow line parking.

Other parking complaints -2

S137 obstructions – 5

Other parking contraventions - 3

Damaged NNDC Property - 5, including Meadow Car Park railings, Marrams Footway, West Cliff drainage, Meadow Tree, Meadow Car Park Barrier and NLP footways.

Persistent, malicious or unsubstantiated complaints - 7