

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CROMER TOWN COUNCIL
HELD REMOTELY AT 19:00 ON 21 SEPTEMBER 2020**

PRESENT

Mayor Cllr. R. Leeds, Deputy Mayor Cllr. M. Bossingham,
Cllr. T. Adams (from item 6.3), Cllr. T. Bartlett, Cllr. D. Baksh, Cllr. P. Bennett,
Cllr. P. Harris, Cllr. M. Hayhurst, Cllr. D. Pritchard (from item 5), Cllr. D. Roberts,
Cllr. D. Russell, Cllr. M. Russell, Cllr. P. West (to item 6 incl), Cllr. A. Yiasimi (from item 6.3)

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

D. Baker MP for item 6.3
North Norfolk News reported Sabrina Johnson
Rob Snowling from Pigeon Developments (to item 6 incl)

The Mayor advised that he had invited Duncan Baker MP to the meeting following the receipt of requests for residents' parking but Mr Baker will be late arriving at the meeting.

1. **MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 10 AUGUST 2020 & 11 AUGUST 2020**

It was **AGREED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 10 August 2020 & 11 August 2020 be **APPROVED**. The minutes will be signed by the Mayor at the next appropriate opportunity. It was **AGREED** that a letter of thanks be sent to Jack Broughton for his assistance with the Battle of Britain leaflet.

2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were accepted from Cllr. Spagnola (family commitment), Cllr. Adams who would be late arriving at the meeting due to an urgent Cromer Cares matter & Cllr. Pritchard who was having difficulties accessing the zoom session. It was noted that Cllr. West will leave the meeting early due to work commitments.

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

Members declared interests as follows:

Cllr. Harris – Norfolk ALC Executive Committee

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

4. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Mr Snowling advised that he was attending as Associate Director of Pigeon Developments in order to listen to the discussion about the land adjacent to Clifton Park.

5. **POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

5.1 **Minutes of the meetings held on 25 August 2020 & 17 September 2020**

Cllr. Hayhurst presented the minutes of the meetings held on 25 August 2020 & 17 September 2020 which were **APPROVED**.

COAST Arts – It was noted that a letter of thanks has been sent to thank them for all their work.

Cromer Cares – It was noted that any extra work carried out by the Officers had been done voluntarily. It was stressed that now that the Town Council meetings have recommenced and business is increasing, volunteers need to be trained to take over the work of Cromer Cares. Cllr. Hayhurst will contact Cllr. M. Russell to discuss the befriending service.

Cllr. Pritchard arrived at the meeting.

6. **PLANNING TRANSPORTATION & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

Cllr. Adams arrived later in the meeting but his comments are included here for continuity

6.1 **Parking for motor caravans in Cromer** – Members were in receipt of a copy of a letter sent to NNDC in respect of parking for camper vans in Cromer. NNDC are dealing accordingly.
Concern was raised that due to the camp sites being full, camper vans are being parked in residential streets overnight.
On his arrival at the meeting, Cllr. Adams advised that this is not illegal as long as they are not placing items on the highway (eg. gas bottles, garden chairs etc).

6.2 **Land adjacent to Clifton Park** – The Clerk advised that she has written to CPRE, Norfolk Wildlife Trust and Natural England to ask that the area is designated as open space for wildlife. It was noted that Norfolk Wildlife Trust have recommended to NNDC that this is designated in the local plan as an open space for wildlife. Cllr. Harris advised that a meeting has been held with the new wildlife group who will also be contacting the Runtons to discuss the proposals.
On his arrival at the meeting, Cllr. Adams advised that NNDC have discussed the Local Plan and the Clifton Park site was heavily debated. He is hopeful that the site will not be considered feasible. There is huge biodiversity on the site which would be lost.

Duncan Baker MP arrived at the meeting

6.3 **Permit Parking** – Mr. Baker advised that he had been contacted by several residents asking that residential parking permits may be considered and asked whether the Town Council could discuss this. He felt it would be beneficial for residents to be able to park more easily near to their homes and beneficial for NNDC if visitors were encouraged to use the car parks.

Members made the following comments:

- This was considered a few years ago but it was felt that free on street parking is welcoming to visitors who would otherwise visit other towns instead and trade would be lost
- The bigger issue is cars parking on pavements
- Suggest the roads are made to look like residential streets to deter people from riding round looking for spaces
- NNDC need to introduce proper car park signage with directions and the availability of spaces
- If residential parking is introduced people will expect to park outside their homes but it would be a zoned system of several streets
- Many households have more than one car
- Should consider a park & ride scheme in the holiday towns
- This issue will not go away, with the increase in the numbers of electric cars people will need to be able to park outside their homes to recharge their vehicles
- When considered before, NCC stated that in order to help fund the scheme there would have to be parking meters in the town
- The Town Council need to speak to NCC about this and about electric car charging

Cllrs. Adams & Yiasimi arrived at the meeting

- Need to encourage people to use public transport and bicycles
- Mr Baker was asked about the Government Legislation in respect of pavement parking but he did not have an update to report. Cllr. Adams advised that there is legislation to deal with obstructions on the pavement but it is enforced by the police. It would be helpful if Civil Enforcement Officers could respond to these issues.
- Free short term parking on the town centre streets would be lost if residents parking was introduced
- Some roads are unadopted so this would not work
- Feel residents parking would not be supported by residents
- Permit parking will shift the problem elsewhere
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Mr Baker thanked members for their comments and left the meeting.

Cllr. West left the meeting.

Cllr. Adams provided updates re items 6.1 and 6.2 which have been recorded under the applicable minutes above.

Mr. Snowling left the meeting.

7. WORKS & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

7.1 Minutes of the meeting held on 08 September 2020

Cllr. Pritchard presented the minutes of the meeting held on 08 September 2020 which were **APPROVED**.

North Lodge – It was noted that works are on-going although they did pause temporarily last week.

Battle of Britain Day – It was noted that the Mayor laid a wreath at the War Memorial in memory of those who lost their lives in the battle.

8. **PROMOTIONS & EVENTS COMMITTEE**

There were no updates to report. It was **AGREED** that a letter of thanks be sent to Nigel Hogg and all those involved in putting on the shows in the Pavilion Theatre.

9. **COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Cllr Harris advised that the work of Cromer Artspace is progressing and the Clerk will circulate a research report to members. It was noted that the Pocket Park has reopened but the saplings have not survived the dry weather.
A date will be set for the committee to meet via zoom.

10. **CORREPENDENCE** (for information only)

Lines & nets discarded on pier – It was suggested that the Chamber of Trade are contacted to ask that traders who sell the items provide advice to purchasers re the use of such items. Guidance posters could be posted on the pier too.

Norfolk Coast Partnership – AONB Boundary Review – It was felt that this would not impact on Cromer.

Letter from NNDC re COVID-19 Arrangements – It was felt that due to the increased COVID alert the arrangements in the town Centre should remain for the time being but must not be permanent.

11. **OTHER REPORTS** (for information only)

Blood Tests at Cromer Hospital – Cllr. Russell advised that he and Cllr. Spagnola are working together in respect of the stopping of GP referred blood tests at Cromer Hospital.

Men's Shed – Cllr. Baksh advised that he had attended a webinar and that Fay Sheldon will be contacting the Clerk to ask that CTC publicise the setting up of a Men's Shed in Cromer/Overstrand.

Solar Power – Cllrs. Baksh & Bennett attended a webinar re solar power. Cllr. Harris advised that this was the first of a number of energy webinars being set up by Norfolk ALC.

Norfolk ALC – Cllr. Harris advised that Norfolk ALC is now a Co-operative. There is a board meeting on Thursday after which information will be circulated to Town and Parish Councils.

12. **DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING:** 02 November 2020 (Budget meeting)

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

The press reporter left the meeting.

- 14. **LEGAL MATTER** – There was no update to report

There being no further business to discuss the Mayor closed the meeting at 20:45

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Signed

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Dated