

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THETFORD TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, KING'S HOUSE, THETFORD, ON
TUESDAY 30th JANUARY 2018, STARTING AT 7.00 P.M. WITH THE OPEN FORUM

Present:

The Mayor, Councillor D M Crawford

Councillors:

S J Armes
M P Brindle
B J Canham
J James
J Newton
M Robinson

R F W Brame
C R P Burnett
C Harvey
T J Jermy
F Robinson
S N H Wright

Officers present:

Tina Cunnell
Sarah Lewis
Chris Crimmen

Town Clerk
Deputy Town Clerk
Committee Secretary

OPEN FORUM

QUESTIONS PRESENTED BY THE PUBLIC

A resident wished to thank the Council for the improvements in the Market Place and noted that the Governance review on the Town boundaries had started with the public consultation.

Minutes

666/17 DECLARATIONS OF ANY DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

None.

667/17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors J Hollis and R G Kybird.

668/17 MINUTES

- **RESOLVED:** The minutes of the Council Meeting held on 28th November 2017, excepting those items dealt with following the exclusion of press and public, to be addressed under agenda 680/17 below, to be confirmed as a true record and signed/initialled by the Committee Chairman.
- **RESOLVED:** The minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on the 12th December 2017, to be confirmed as a true record and signed/initialled by the Committee Chairman.

669/17 COMMITTEE REPORTS

To receive the following:

- a) Planning Committee (minutes 603/17 – 612/17) 12/12/2017

RECOMMENDATION: That Thetford Town Council writes to the Head of Planning, Breckland Council, asking for the report to be considered as an emerging policy for the Area Action Plan.

RESOLVED: The Planning Committee minutes and recommendation were adopted as presented.

b) ALP Committee (minutes 613/17 – 627/17) 10/01/2018

RESOLVED: The ALP Committee minutes were adopted as presented.

c) Planning committee (628/17 – 638/17) 16/01/2018

RESOLVED: The Planning Committee minutes were adopted as presented.

d) VEM Committee (639/17 – 650/17) 17/01/2018

RESOLVED: The VEM Committee minutes were adopted as presented.

e) Finance Committee (651/17 – 665/17) 23/01/2018

RESOLVED: The Finance Committee minutes were adopted as presented.

670/17

MAYOR'S REMARKS AND REPORT

The Mayor reported that the Holocaust Day Memorial Service on the 26th January 2018 was a very moving service. The pantomime 'Robin Hood and the Babes in the Wood' was an excellent production and the Thetford Players are an excellent asset to Thetford.

Events attended since the last meeting

Mayor of Thetford Councillor Denis Crawford

December

- 1 Christmas Light Switch-On Event
- 3 Starting the Santa Run and medal presentation
- 6 Royal Air Forces Association Dinner at RAF Honington
- 7 Reception for the Mayor of King's Lynn
- 8 Thetford Business Forum Christmas Lunch at The Mulberry
- 12 Official opening of Thetford Methodist Church Christmas Tree Festival
- 13 Thetford Singers Christmas Concert
- 14 Thetford U3A Christmas Party
- Inspiration Trust Carol Service at Norwich Cathedral
- 15 Thetford and District Dementia Support Group Christmas Party
Mayor's Carol Service
- 22 Thetford Voices Christmas Concert at St Cuthbert's Church

January

- 7 Presentation for the County Cross Country Championships
- 11 Mayoral talk in the Council Chamber for a group from Thetford U3A
- 26 Holocaust Day Memorial Service
- Thetford Players Pantomime 'Robin Hood and the Babes in the Wood'

Events attended by the Deputy Mayor of Thetford Councillor Roy Brame

December

- 7 Mayor of St Edmundsbury Carol Service

January

- 10 Thetford Business Forum breakfast at Thetford Garden Centre

List of Forthcoming Events

- 9th February Mayor's Charity Quiz Night, 6.30pm at the Carnegie Room
- 12th March Commonwealth Day & Single Commemorative Act at King's House
- 16th March Mayor's Ball, 7pm at the Carnegie Room

671/17

TOWN COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER BODIES

Councillor F Robinson reported she had attended the Croxton Road Residents Association. The association reported the fund raising for the proposed Play Park has made little progress.

Councillor J Newton reported that he had attended the January Safer Thetford Action Group (STAG) meeting. The priorities for January to March were:

- Priority One – Youth related ASB and ASB caused by street drinking and drug related activities in the PSPO area.
- Priority Two – ASB relating to motor vehicles, including quad bike and mini motos, with extra attention to St Johns Way and Fulmerstone Road.

The next public open meeting is Thursday 5th April 2018 at 7 p.m. at the Thetford Guildhall.

Councillor M Robinson reported the Keystone AGM was on 10th February 2018 starting at 10 a.m. at the Riversdale.

Councillor B Canham reported on the Charles Burrell Museum. An Officer from Breckland Council is meeting with the Trustees regarding the museum doors and she hoped a way forward to replace/repair the doors can be found. She also reported the Thetford Youth Council is working on producing a consultation to the youth of Thetford. Councillor R Brame clarified the work being proposed to the CB Museum. Breckland Council are proposing to give CBM £12,000 to repair the fire doors, not the main doors, to enable the public to get in and out safely.

Councillor M Brindle reported that he had attended a meeting of the Redcastle Action Group and that the Chairs of the various residents groups are meeting on a regular basis to discuss matters they have in common dealing with the Councils, Police, Keystone and Housing Association with a view to having a louder voice when approaching these organisations.

Councillor T Jermy reported he had attended the first meeting of the GTDP Board which had been much reduced and Sam Chapman-Allen had been voted Chairman. The Charles Burrell Centre had secured £43,000 from L.I.F.T (Local Investment in Local Talent) to assist up to 80 people back into work. The centre will have to raise match funding of £343,000 and they are meeting with Breckland Council to further this funding.

672/17

REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Councillor M Robinson reported he had attended on 12th December 2017 of the sub-group that are part of the Governance Review and would urge all Councillors and Residents to go onto the website to give their views before the consultation close on 16th March 2018. He had also attended a Diversity Workshop in November that explored different cultures and was pleased to find a group of young people from Thetford filming the event. Lastly he had attended a launch of the Dementia Support group that are doing invaluable work in the community.

Councillor M Brindle reported at that last Breckland Council meeting he had raised again the issue of the Cottage Hospital Building and although the council reported they are doing all they can nothing is happening. He felt the same about the empty riverside shops that they are not being strongly marketed.

Councillor T Jermy reported that the NCC consultation of proposed cuts had been completed and he was pleased to report that the £500,000 cuts on public transport and the £200,00 cuts to the gritting budget had both been dropped. The Council did go ahead with the £5 million cut to children's services, museums and libraries and it is not clear yet how this will affect Thetford.

673/17

PARISH PARTNERSHIPS APPLICATIONS

The Town Clerk reported that the Council needed to approve a change to the minute number 472/16 from the Full Council meeting dated 29th November 2016 to clarify the Council agreed to match funding to construct a new section of footway at

the corner of Ford Street at a cost of £3,837.15. This alteration had been confirmed by listening to a recording. The alteration was confirmed by the Council and the Chairman from that meeting, Councillor T Jermy initialled the alteration.

674/17

USE OF TOWN SEAL

The Town Clerk reported she had used of the Town Seal in December (Number 317) for the surrender of client leases. This use was confirmed by Councillors.

675/17

RIVERSIDE PATHS

Councillor S Wright reported the Council approached Breckland Council (BC) to add and upgrade the construction Riverside Paths opposite the Hayling path heading to Abbey, St John's and St Martins Estates where the ground has become very muddy. He was asking for the Councils support this work and work together with BC to discuss this matter. After a discussion Councillor B Canham proposed and Councillor J James seconded:

RESOLVED: That Thetford Town Council support the principle of working together with BC/NCC to add and upgrade the riverside paths.

676/17

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The Council approved additions to committee membership as follows:

- Councillor B Canham to the Allotment Committee.
- Councillor M Robinson to the VEM Committee.

677/17

REVIEW OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF INTERNAL CONTROL

The Deputy Town Clerk stated it was a statutory requirement to review the Councils effectiveness of internal review. The Council had received a report from a meeting 8th December 2017 and Councillors noted the review is now complete.

678/17

ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

None.

679/17

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

None.

680/17

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

To consider resolving that, pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded for any remaining items of business on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be discussed.

681/17

COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no Committee minutes recorded below the line.

682/17

BRITISH LEGION TENDER

Chairman.