



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CITTASLOW AYLSHAM COMMITTEE
HELD AT TOWN HALL, CAWSTON ROAD
ON THURSDAY 4th NOVEMBER AT 11am.**

PRESENT: Mr P Prekopp, Aylsham Slow Food, Chairman
Mrs M Evans Aylsham Town Council
Mr G Margaron, Aylsham Community Partnership
Mrs J Kerrison Aylsham WI
Mrs M Anderson-Dungar ABEF
Mr D Harrison Aylsham Town Council
Mr R Willis ABEF

Helen Jermy National Trust
Megan Dennis National Trust

OFFICER: Mrs S Lake Town Clerk

01 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Rev Canon Julie Boyd – Aylsham Parish Church
Mrs J St Clair Aylsham U3A
Mrs H Jones Aylsham U3A
Mr R Preston has resigned from the committee

02 MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & DISPENSATIONS

There were no Declarations of Interests or any Requests for Dispensations.

03 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Cittaslow Aylsham Meeting held on 7th October 2021, were **confirmed and signed by the chairman.**

04 MATTERS ARISING

None raised

05 ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING

In the absence of any member of the public, the meeting continued without adjournment.

06 CITTASLOW IN AYLSHAM

Heather Jermy (General Manager) and Megan Dennis (property Manager) from Blickling Hall attended the meeting and explained the current work at the National Trust.

The Trust has two main priorities starting in 2022 and being the main focus for the next 10 years – Everyone Welcome and Climate Action.

Under climate action they are hoping to be carbon neutral by 2030. They are working on planting woodlands and clearing rivers working with their tenants.

Blickling is part of the Upperlands projects working around the chalk streams which are fairly unique to Norfolk. They are also looking to restore the health of the lake and will be undertaking a veteran tree survey.

The Trust is really keen on building up relationships with their tenants and other stakeholders and hope to re-start the meetings with Parish Councils in the near future. They are still in recovery from covid so 2022 will be a planning year rather than an action year.

The committee then had the opportunity to ask questions which gave the following answers:

- No plans for The Buttsland
- The lake has blue/green algae
- Not keen on a northern bypass
- The heat pump has been very effective
- Hoping to purchase a bio-chipper to reduce waste further

Heather and Megan were thanked for this and stayed for most of the rest of the meeting.

07 FUTURE OF CITTASLOW IN AYLSHAM

The possibility of withdrawing from Cittaslow was discussed at the last Town Council meeting and it was agreed by the council that before a decision is made the Cittaslow Committee would have time to discuss this and put forward a case for retaining membership.

Members were disappointed at the move. Aylsham is the oldest Cittaslow town in the UK and if they withdrew membership Cittaslow UK would have to fold as it requires a minimum of three members. Members felt the Cittaslow status marked Aylsham as different. It was queried as to whether Cittaslow could raise its own subscription.

It was felt that over the years Cittaslow had done a lot for the town and it was proposed that membership should be retained.

A paper will need to go to the Town Council detailing why and it was further agreed to ask for more time to prepare the report to enable other groups to be contacted and to contribute

At the Town Council it was suggested that we look at other towns who are not in Cittaslow to see how they compare. Stamford was mentioned but that is a much larger town and a well-known tourist destination. It was thought Bungay or Harleston would be better comparisons.

08 FARMERS MARKET

a) October Farmers Market

The market is back up to full strength again

b) To receive an update on the general markets on a Monday and Friday

The Monday market is busy and generally full but there is still an issue regarding Fridays. Longevity may also be a problem as existing stall holders get older and retire. There is an issue with parking and the clerk will be producing a policy for the next Council meeting regarding who receives parking permits for market days as these seem to be issued randomly. Once this is in place the stall holders can be approached regarding the vans.

09 PROJECTS

i) OLD STATION YARD

Clearance work being undertaken regularly

ii) WALKERS ARE WELCOME

Richard Preston will be withdrawing from the organisation in the near future.

iii) TOWN PEDESTRIAN MAP

Still not heard from the Tesco Grant Scheme so may need to look elsewhere for funding.

10 CLIMATE EMERGENCY

The first meeting of the group took place on the 1st November. Aims and objectives have still to be written and this will be completed in draft before the next meeting. A carbon footprint audit for the Town Council will be looked into together with a carbon budget. A 'Green Day' event will be planned for the spring.

11 CITTASLOW UK

A meeting is scheduled for November 6th.

12 AYLSHAM COMMUNITY EVENTS COMMITTEE

The preparations for the Christmas Lights Switch On are in hand and it is anticipated that numbers will be high.

The Firework Event has good pre-event sales so should be a successful event.

Plans are under way for the Platinum Jubilee celebrations in June 2022.

13 SLOW FOOD AYLSHAM

Slow Food attended the Charity day on 30th October and sold some of the cookery books.

Plans for 2022 are in progress to include a spring breakfast

14 AYLSHAM IN BLOOM

Winter planting has recently taken place.

Work at the Paupers Grave has been completed and an official opening will take place in March with the High Sherriff.

15 ABEF

Numerous info packs were handed out at the Charity event. Adam Payne will be looking at combining the app and website.

A meeting is scheduled between the two business groups.

16 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/NEXT AGENDA

Nothing to report.

17 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as **Thursday 2nd December 2021 at 11.00am in the Council Chamber**

The Town Council have changed their meeting date to the first Wednesday so new dates for 2022 will need to be agreed.

CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 12.45pm