



AYLSHAM TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF AYLSHAM TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 20 JANUARY 2021 at 7pm

The meeting was held under The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 via Zoom.

PRESENT:

Trevor Bennett Chairman	Mr B Lancaster
Mrs J Bennett	Mrs A Overton
Mr R Clarke-Ward	Mr P Prekopp
Mr D Curtis	Mrs V Shaw
Mrs M Evans	Mrs E Springall
Mr D Harrison	Mr S White

Sue Lake Town Clerk

Wendy Murphy Finance Officer

10 members of the public

1. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES

All members present

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

David Harrison declared his interests as a District and County Councillor and as a resident re Gas House Hill application

3. TOWN COUNCIL VACANCY

Only one completed application had been received but the person was not present at the meeting.

Members did not feel they could co-opt someone not in attendance so it was proposed and **AGREED** to postpone the decision to next month and re-advertise the vacancy.

4. MINUTES

Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 16 December, were **confirmed and will be signed by the chairman.**

5. INFORMATION ON MATTERS ARISING NOT ON THE AGENDA

The clerk advised that she had invited the MP Jerome Mayhew to a meeting and he will be attending the February meeting. Also attending that meeting will be Phil Courtier from Broadland.



6. REPORTS FROM POLICE, COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

a) To receive written and/or verbal Reports from Representatives

Police – PC Ward advised he had issued four covid warnings but no fines. The area had been very quiet recently but he was aware of a den having been created with a fire pit and he will keep an eye on this

Norfolk County Council – David Harrison advised of three issues where the decisions of cabinet were questionable two of which had been taken to judicial review and one had been lost by the county council.

Broadland District Council – Steve Riley advised that the GNLP had gone through overview and scrutiny, cabinet and full council and would proceed to consultation regarding process. Sue Catchpole sent her apologies for the meeting.

b) To consider any matter for the Broadland District Council Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Nothing was put forward but it was agreed to keep this item on the agenda.

7. ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A resident of Petersons Lane reiterated the problems residents were having with the additional traffic and requested that the TRO on Red Lion Street be removed.

A resident of Red Lion Street advised they were very happy with the one-way system and would like the TRO to remain but if it was removed then for the council to look for a long-term solution.

A resident asked when repairs would be made to the Burgh Road roundabout and could anything be done to make it safer.

PC Ward advised that he had attended three accidents at this site and all were caused by driver error. The clerk advised she had spoken with Karl Rands who had advised the lights etc should be repaired early this year.

Another resident advised he had still not heard from the Highway Engineer and has been waiting to speak to him for 9 months.

8. QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

None received.

9. PLANNING ISSUES

a) APPLICATIONS DETERMINED These were noted.

b) APPLICATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

20202366

17 St Michaels Avenue, Aylsham

Single storey rear extension and internal alterations

Town Council Response – No Objection



20210031 **21 Oakfield Road, Aylsham**
Single storey rear extension

Town Council Response – No Objection

20201755 **Gas House Hill, Aylsham**
Demolition of garage and construction of new dwelling

Town Council Response – Object as unsuitable for a conservation area and concerned at objections from neighbours

(D Harrison declared an interest on this application and took no part in the discussion)

10. GREATER NORWICH LOCAL PLAN (GNLP)

a) To receive a report regarding the Regulation 19 stage of the GNLP

The report was adopted

b) To discuss the implications for Aylsham

The report detailed the changes made between the Reg 18 consultation and the Reg 19 document. This included an additional 5000 homes for the three districts overall with 250 being allocated to Aylsham. This means that instead of the anticipated one development there would now be two – one on the car boot site and one by the motel.

Broadland District Council have accepted the draft plan. Those who had observed the meeting were disappointed at the lack of discussion and the haste at which questions were dispatched. It was thought the planning portfolio holder came over as condescending and unaware of current issues.

Consultation will begin on 1st February but this is only regarding the soundness and legal compliance of producing the plan.

Members were angry at the decisions taken especially as they had been made without consultation or even notice.

c) To consider a response to the Regulation 19 consultation

It was proposed and **AGREED** that the Town Council would submit an objection to the GNLP.

All councillors were asked to send their views on the matter to the clerk and together with the chairman a draft response will be prepared for agreement at the February meeting.

11. FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) To receive and adopt the Financial Report for December

The report was adopted

The clerk advised that the Interim Internal Audit report had been received earlier today and an Effectiveness of Internal Audit Meeting will take place soon.



12. BUDGET 2021/22

a) To receive the completed budget document for 2021/22

The changes discussed at the last meeting had been incorporated into the document. Members stated how much easier the new format budget document is to read.

b) To agree the budget for 2021/22

It was proposed and **AGREED** to accept the budget document. Total expenditure for the year was set at £499,888.

c) To agree the precept request for 2021/22

It was proposed and **AGREED** to request a precept sum of £409,500. The cost of this to a Band D property is estimated to be £152.06 a decrease of 0.55% on the previous year.

d) To agree fee rates as detailed in the budget document

It was proposed and **AGREED** to approve the rates for Town Hall Hire, Drill Hall Hire, Burial Fees and allotment charges as listed in the budget document. These showed no increase on the previous year. The Council staff are looking at wedding package costs for the Town Hall should new legislation come into force regarding new licensing arrangements for venues.

13. TOWN CLERKS REPORT

The Town Clerk presented and updated her report.

The request to place a boulder as a gravestone still no images had been received.

Councillors would like to see these before a decision is made.

The clerk had received a request to send a letter of support from the Town Council to the lottery on behalf of the Bure Valley Railway. This was proposed and **AGREED**.

14. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The chairman advised he had nothing to report.

15. AYLSHAM REOPENING HIGH STREETS SAFELY PROGRAMME

a) To receive a report on councillor's views on the current arrangements

Members were asked to put in writing their views on the traffic issues experienced since the Traffic Regulation Orders (TRO's) were put in place on Red Lion Street and Oakfield Road. A report on the combination of these views was included with the agenda. The main problem with the restrictions is the impact it has had on the buses and the knock-on effect to other roads in the town.

b) To receive details of a zoom meeting with Ingham Pinnock

Broadland District Council have engaged the consultants Ingham Pinnock to look at market towns in both Broadland and South Norfolk to suggest further ideas. The ideas they produced were welcomed but they appeared to be ideas for the future and did nothing to resolve the issues experienced now.



c) To consider the options with regard to Red Lion Street

The council discussed the issue in detail noting that whatever decision is made will upset some people. It was proposed and **AGREED** that the clerk writes to Broadland District Council and request them to remove the TRO and revert back to the previous arrangement.

The Town Council were also aware that the subject of the roads had been discussed before by various parties but no real conclusions had ever been made or followed up. It was suggested that a proposal be placed on the next agenda to set up a working party in a similar manner to the Neighbourhood Plan group to discuss the issue in detail and come up with a definitive answer. The work on Shaping Aylsham's Future will be a good start for discussions

16. HIGHWAYS

a) To receive an update on Parish Partnership bid for Penfold Street

A draft proposal had been received but this had very little detail and did not show what signage would be put in place.

b) To consider a proposal for an area of grass outside The Buttsland car park

A request to be given permission to create a garden on the verge to protect it from parking had been received. Councillors **AGREED** the proposal subject to obtaining consent from Highways.

c) To receive an update on Highway matters

There is an issue with Mill Lane at its junction with Cawston Road. Despite being stopped up the road is still shown on satellite navigation systems and due to the barriers being broken cars and vans are regularly using this. It has been reported to Highways who are scheduling repairs. In the meantime, the council will place some barriers to reduce the problem.

17. RECREATION GROUND

a) To note minutes of the Recreation Committee Meeting held 12th January 2021

The minutes of the meeting held on 12th January were noted. Eileen Springall clarified that the report she will be doing will be for the Town Council not the Recreation Ground Committee. This change has already been notified and an amendment will be made to the draft minutes.

b) To receive details of a s106 payment relating to the Recreation Ground

The s106 agreement relating to the Aegel House development includes a provision for funds which must be spent on play equipment at the Recreation Ground. This sum amounts to £23,829 and will be held by Broadland District Council and paid on receipt of invoices.



c) To consider how the s106 money can be spent

For many years there has been talk of installing a new skate park and it was thought this sum would go a long way towards this project. It was therefore proposed and **AGREED** to earmark this sum for a new skatepark.

18. CHURCH WALL

The clerk had contacted a specialist builder who will view the wall in the New Year to provide an estimate of cost.

It was suggested that a Churchyard Committee Meeting be held soon.

19. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The Cittaslow Committee are scheduled to meet on the 21st and on the agenda are various items relating to climate change etc some of which are linked with the recent paper

Building Back Greener written by the local MP Jerome Mayhew.

The clerk advised that the Christmas Lights had been retained longer than usual but are scheduled to be taken down on Sunday January 24th.

20. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Chairman confirmed the date of the next Meeting as Wednesday 17 February 2021, at **7.00pm via zoom.**

CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 21.00p.m.

Minutes Agreed..... 17 February 2021