



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF AYLSHAM TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN AYLSHAM TOWN HALL,
ON WEDNESDAY 1ST MARCH 2023 at 7.00 p.m.**

PRESENT:

Trevor Bennett Chairman	Mr B Lancaster
Mr D Anderson	Mrs A Overton
Mrs J Bennett	Mr L Mills
Mr D Curtis	Mr P Prekopp
Mrs M Evans	Mr C Spink
Mr J Gibbons	Ms S Westwood

Sue Lake - Town Clerk Wendy Murphy – Finance Officer

3 members of the public

1. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Ms L Cannon

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

None made.

3. MINUTES

Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 9th February 2023 had previously been circulated and were confirmed and signed by the chairman.

4. INFORMATION ON MATTERS ARISING NOT ON THE AGENDA

Nothing raised

5. REPORTS FROM POLICE, COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

a) To receive reports from Representatives

Police – no report

District Council

Sue Catchpole reported that the move to the Horizon Building will take place after the elections.

Broadland are meeting to discuss the proposed County Deal and the indication is they will object.

County Council – no report

b) To consider a response to the proposed Norfolk Deal

The consultation on the proposed County Deal is open until March 20th. Members felt the principle of devolution was good but this deal has been poorly negotiated.

Councillors did not like the role of political leader and felt a mayoral system would be better. The £20m per year would not increase over the 30years and it was thought £20m would not be a substantial sum in 2054.

Councillors also felt the consultation was biased to elicit a positive response and the advertising very poor.

It was proposed and **AGREED** to respond to the consultation that the deal should be rejected but that the Town Council was broadly in favour of devolution.

6. ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No resident wished to speak

7. TO ANSWER QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

None Received

8. TO CONSIDER PLANNING ISSUES

a) APPLICATIONS DETERMINED

Information provided with the agenda was **noted**.

b) APPLICATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

20230359 34 Mill Row

Revisions to Internal layout of ground floor granary building with associated changes to positions of external openings

Town Council Response – No Objection

9. POTENTIAL NEW HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS

a) To discuss issues regarding new school proposals

An e-mail had been received from the Head of St Michaels School advising there was no decision to close the school and move it to the new site on Burgh Road. The chairman visited the Head and explained what the Town council had been told and the details in the wording of the policy. There are two options either Aylsham has three primary schools or the school moves. So far nothing has been agreed.

There is also an issue with falling birth rates in the county which could lead to the new school not being developed.

It was mentioned that several years ago David Harrison, as County Councillor for Aylsham, had advised that the County Council had money set aside for a new school in the town. The details of this will be researched

b) To discuss any updated information on Norwich Road site

There are now over 40 objections to the development on the District Council website.

A response from Highways had been received in relation to the Travel Hub. The clerk responded to say the details had not yet been discussed by the Town Council. Highways had objected on several counts – a copy of the letter will be e-mailed to councillors.

The Town clerk had sent a copy of the councils response to Jerome Mayhew. He advised he did not get involved in planning matters unless there had been a lack of consultation. The Town Clerk reminded him that that was the issue he was informed of two years ago when Regulation 19 was published.

The application to list the bus shelter had been rejected by English Heritage.

c) To discuss any updated information on Burgh Road site

The application has still to be received. In view of the earlier discussion on the situation regarding the school any plans need to be examined to see what happens to the land earmarked for the school should the build not go ahead.

d) To note response from Broadland re paper plans

The Head of Planning had written to apologise about the lack of plans and would ensure that this should not happen again

10. FINANCE

a) To receive and adopt the Monthly Financial Report to 17.2.23

This was adopted.

11. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

The Town Clerk presented and updated her report.

Town Hall & Drill Hall – boiler review on March 14th

Accident on Penfold Street – insurance claim under way for the street light. Total cost likely to be around £8000

Dog Bin at The Meadows – this has been installed

Co-Op Roof Repairs – Scaffolding being installed 21st March and this may have an impact on parking spaces in the Market Place

12. TO RECEIVE CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The chairman reminded members the Annual Town Meeting would be held on March 22nd

13. TOWN COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Elections will be held on Thursday May 4th. All nomination papers must be hand delivered to Broadland District Council by 4pm on Tuesday 4th April.

14. RECREATION GROUND

To receive any update

The minutes of the last meeting will be available at the next meeting.

It was reported that the meeting was quite fractious as the committee have decided to cease issuing the grants to the private sports groups who use the Recreation Ground. One user group is unhappy at this stance and further discussions are likely to take place.

15. HIGHWAYS MATTERS

To receive updates on Highway Matters

Line Painting had taken place around the town including speed roundels on Norwich Road

A Councillor had observed bollards placed in Norwich that were approximately half the size of those installed outside the Friendship Hall and these may be a more cost efficient style of bollard to install in the future.

16. CORONATION OF KING CHARLES III

a) To note proposed activities

The Events Committee will be opening up the Town Hall in the morning so people can watch the coronation on the screen inside the Town Hall. It will also be the Farmers Market on that day so there will be stalls outside. Street Food vendors will be invited for the afternoon and music will be played through the loudspeaker finishing at about 6pm.

The Street Party will be held in July as there are logistical problems with getting the tables and chairs for the Sunday and it was also felt the weather could be cold.

The Town Council will act as a conduit for volunteers and organisations needing help on the Monday for *'The Big Help Out'*

b) To consider how/if the Town Council will mark the event

There was a discussion as to whether the Town Council should provide some form of commemorative token to mark this event. A proposal was made as to whether the Town Council should do anything to mark the occasion. The vote was five for and five against with two abstentions. The chairman declined to use his casting vote. It was suggested that the Events Committee look at this matter and come back with a proposal and costings for the Town Council to decide.

17. AYLSHAM CITTASLOW COMMITTEE

a) To note minutes of the Cittaslow Committee Meeting 15th February 2023

These were noted. Pat Prekopp advised that the President and Secretary will be visiting from Italy on May 3rd. It was unclear on the purpose of the visit. Work is still ongoing with regard to the accounts

b) To agree the design of the town map

This was **AGREED**. £1500 had been awarded from the Tesco Bags for Help Scheme and £2000 from Cittaslow UK to fund this project.

c) To confirm the decisions made by the Cittaslow Committee

These were confirmed. Sandi Westwood has made some progress with the accounts

18. PROPERTIES COMMITTEE

a) To note minutes of the Properties Committee Meeting 20th February 2023

These were noted.

b) To confirm the decisions made by the Properties Committee

These were confirmed

19. AYLSHAM TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT GROUP

a) To note minutes of the Traffic Group Meeting 22nd February 2023

These were noted. The aim is for the draft strategy to be ready to present to the council after the elections.

Members from the group had met with the local Highway Engineer who had made various suggestions linked to the items in the strategy.

b) To confirm the decisions made by the Traffic Group Committee

These were **AGREED**

20. CLIMATE COMMITTEE

a) To note minutes of the Climate co-ordination Meeting 6th February 2023

The minutes previously circulated were noted.

b) To confirm the decisions made by the Group

These were agreed.

21. TO NOTE ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/FUTURE AGENDA

Nothing raised

22. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

This was confirmed as **Wednesday April 5th 2023** at 7.00pm

CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.05p.m.

Minutes Agreed..... 5th April 2023