

NEEDHAM MARKET TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of NEEDHAM MARKET TOWN COUNCIL held in the Green Room, Needham Market Community Centre, School Street, Needham Market, on Wednesday 2nd August 2017 at 7:30pm.

Present: Cllr X Stansfield (In the Chair), Councillors; BE Annis, D Campbell, R Campbell, TS Carter, RP Darnell, JE Lea, I Mason, A Morris, S Phillips, D Spurling and M Spurling.

Apologies for Absence:

Cllr MG Norris – Personal Engagement
Cllr KMN Oakes - Unwell

County Councillor Anne Whybrow

Absent

Cllr AL Ward

In Attendance: District Councillor Wendy Marchant, two members of public and Town Clerk Kevin Hunter.

C134/17 To confirm the Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held 19th July 2017.

The Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held Wednesday 19th July 2017 were accepted as a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman.

C135/17 To receive Councillors' Declarations of Interest for Matters on the Agenda.

Cllr BE Annis - (Community Centre)
Cllr M Spurling – Accounts for Payment
Cllr X Stansfield – Accounts for Payment (Community Centre)

C136/17 To receive reports from The County Councillor, District Councillors and, to take questions from members of the public.

County Councillor Whybrow had provided a brief report that the Clerk read out in which she referred to the many roadworks and subsequent diversions currently impacting on Needham Market which caused delay and frustration for many people. She is contacting the County Council Highways service regarding the situation.

District Councillor Wendy Marchant presented the District Councillors report, which was tabled and a copy of which will be appended to the Minute Book. It included reference to:

- Planning Application for 152 Houses, Barking Road – concerns expressed at the Planning Referrals Committee that resolved to reject the application
- Improved Access for Needham Market Railway Station – meeting to be held 4th August to again explore potential for improving the access
- MSDC/Babergh Updated Local Plan – Draft Joint Local Plan Consultation Document published and to be extensively consulted on mid-August to October
- Ward Boundary Review – Mid Suffolk District Council to reduce its number of Councillors from 40 to 34

Cllr Mason, referring to the planning application for housing off Barking Road, commented the location is a flood plain and the development of the Doctors Surgery there should not have been granted planning permission for that reason.

Cllr Darnell asked what Mid Suffolk/Babergh District Council's intended rebranding exercise is going to deliver. Cllr Stansfield said he recalled the District Councils' Chief Executive stating the Councils are to rebrand on the basis they 'currently have an identity crisis'. Cllr Lea added rebranding will of course come with a cost for changing signage etc.

The members of public present had no question to raise.

C137/17 To receive a report of the activities of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor on behalf of the Town.

The Mayor reported attending:

Thursday 20th July – Meeting with Mid Suffolk District Council to discuss the NM Neighbourhood Plan

Thursday 20th July – Station Commanders' Cocktail Party, Wattisham Airfield

Friday 21st July – Mayor of Ipswich 'At Home' event

Saturday 22nd July – Archaeological Open Day, Lion Barn Industrial Estate

Wednesday 26th July – MSDC Development Committee (Housing Development off Barking Road)

Wednesday 26th July – Drinks with the High Sheriff of Suffolk

The Deputy Mayor had nothing to report.

C138/17 To receive a report from the Needham Market Neighbourhood Plan Working Group.

Cllr Norris had provided a report, which was tabled and a copy of which will be appended to the Minute Book. It included reference to:

- The concept of a new southern town boundary which would include a through road from Barking Road to Stowmarket Road – update following the recent refusal of planning permission for new homes off Barking Road
- Draft Mid Suffolk/Babergh Joint Local Plan – Mid Suffolk District Council briefing attended by Town Councillors on Thursday 20th July

Cllr Stansfield reported Mid Suffolk District Council has recently confirmed activity has been commenced in relation to the future of its Needham Market Headquarters site following their imminent move to Ipswich and progress will be reported to an initial meeting of the 'Sounding Board', which includes Town Council representation, in mid-October.

C139/17 To receive a report from the meeting of the Needham Market Institute Trustees held on 11th July.

Cllr Phillips presented his report, which was tabled and a copy of which will be appended to the Minute Book. The report provided an update on the Institute's financial position, the situation regarding the release of the deeds of the Institute building by Barclays Bank and the cost of engaging a solicitor.

C140/17 Clerk's Report and Correspondence to be noted.

1. Actions from Town Council Meeting 19.07.17:

None.

2. Issues:

- Neighbourhood Watch Application for Grant – has been withdrawn
- Reform of Data Protection Legislation – briefing sessions to be held by SALC during October

3. Correspondence to be noted:

- Letter received on 3rd August from Needham Market & Barking Welfare Charities inviting a representative(s) to the Charities Annual Meeting to be held on Thursday 12th October at 7:30pm in the Community Centre

C141/17 SECTIONS.

C141/17/1 Finance/General Purposes

C141/17/1a Accounts for Payment and Confirmation.

Cllr Morris presented the accounts for payment, which were tabled and a copy of which will be appended to the Minute Book.

Cllr Mason proposed the accounts for payment be adopted. Cllr Darnell seconded the proposal. Council agreed the proposal.

C141/17/1b To receive a report from the Section Leader.

Cllr Morris had nothing further to report.

C141/17/2 Recreation & Sport

C141/17/2a To receive a report from the Section Leader.

Cllr Phillips reported details of proposed improvements and new facilities at Crowley Park Pavilion have been received from Needham Market Phoenix Youth Football Club and, these will be assessed for practicality/affordability.

Cllr Stansfield said he had noted the Needham Market Skatepark Facebook page had attracted 400 people. Cllr Phillips confirmed he has agreed to meet the parents etc. behind the campaign on the evening of Friday 4th August.

C141/17/3 Town Property and Services

C141/17/3a To receive a report from the Section Leader

There was no report.

C141/17/4 Newsletter and Communications

C141/17/4a To receive a report from the Section Leader

Cllr M Spurling reported the new Town Council website is impending. It will include information on what the Town Council's role is, also a 'know your Town Councillor' feature.

Cllr M Spurling confirmed the September edition of the Needham Market Newsletter will include a Poetry Corner item plus an article from a young person who resides in the town. Cllr Lea said although the Poetry Corner item had been prompted by an individual who had submitted numerous poems, the item would be available for other authors of poems should they wish to submit their work.

The Clerk referred to a request received from Mid Suffolk District Council to use the Newsletter for displaying an article on the District Council's forthcoming move from Needham Market to Ipswich. Councillors made numerous comments regarding the content and wording of the article, concluding the Town Council should accede to the request but also try and avoid association with it. Cllr Phillips proposed Mid Suffolk District Council be notified the article can be included as an insert in the September edition of the Newsletter, thereby differentiating it from the Town Council and local community content, with the normal charges for an insertion being applied. Cllr Mason seconded the proposal. Council agreed the proposal.

C141/17/5 Planning.

Cllr R Campbell presented Minutes from the Planning Section meeting held on Monday 31st July, which were tabled and a copy of which will be appended to the Minute Book.

C141/17/5a To receive Planning Decisions.

Cllr R Campbell reported no planning decisions had been received.

C141/17/5b To consider Planning Applications

Cllr R Campbell reported the following planning applications had been received:

DC/17/03682 - 60 High Street - Application for Listed Building Consent - To erect tiled stud work walls in front of the existing brick oven door and the existing window.

The Planning Section recommended approval of the application.

Cllr R Campbell proposed Council support approval of the application. Cllr M Spurling seconded the proposal. Council agreed the proposal.

DC/17/03411 - 3 Foxglove Avenue - Erection of single storey rear extension and single storey front extension to garage. Partial conversion of existing garage and associated works.

The Planning Section recommended approval of the application.

Cllr R Campbell proposed Council support approval of the application. Cllr Phillips seconded the proposal. Council agreed the proposal.

DC/17/03408 - 61 High Street - Application for Listed Building Consent - Replacement of rear single storey roof with leaded flat roof, retiling and strengthening of rear 2 storey catslide roof, internal alterations and associated works.

The Planning Section recommended approval of the application.

Cllr R Campbell proposed Council support approval of the application. Cllr M Spurling seconded the proposal. Council agreed the proposal.

DC/17/03733 - The Cart Lodge, Coddendam Road - Application for Listed Building Consent. Conversion of cartlodge to dwelling

The Section referred to the Town Council's previous objection on the grounds it would be an unsuitable redevelopment and change of use of an historic building which would irretrievably damage its integrity. (Planning Policy HB1 – Protection of Historic Buildings)
The Planning Section recommended refusal on the same grounds.

Cllr R Campbell proposed Council object to the application on the same grounds which apply to Planning Application 1841/17. Cllr Phillips seconded the proposal. Council agreed the proposal.

DC/17/03595 - 11 Hawks Mill Street - Removal of part of the rear wall and erection of rear extension

The Planning Section recommended approval of the application.

Cllr R Campbell proposed Council support approval of the application. Cllr Lea seconded the proposal. Council agreed the proposal.

DC/17/03036 - Unit 7, Williamsport Way - Outline Planning Application with Matters of Appearance Reserved - Erection of new warehouse and manufacturing building with link connection to existing manufacturing building; Erection of two-storey extension to existing building to provide office/training/studio space, with facilities; Re-location of existing oil tank and generator to rear of existing building; and creation of additional car parking and onsite turning and maneuvering space.

The Planning Section recommended approval of the application.

Cllr R Campbell proposed Council support approval of the application. Cllr Carter seconded the proposal. Council agreed the proposal.

DC/17/03201 - Land Adjacent 96 Stowmarket Road - Outline Planning Application - All matters apart from access are reserved - Erection of 9 dwellings with garages. Construction of vehicular access; Provision of pedestrian link to rail underpass.

The Planning Section recommended refusal for the following reasons:

1) The proposed development site is green field land and outside the settlement boundary for the town of Needham Market as identified in the Mid Suffolk Local Plan.

