

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 17th July 2019 at 7:30pm.

Present: Cllr D Campbell (In the Chair), Councillors; C Campbell, JE Lea, I Mason, MG Norris, M O'Shea, P Potter, M Spurling and X Stansfield.

Apologies for Absence:

Cllr Andrews – School Governors Meeting
Cllr Annis – Meeting Commitment
Cllr Darnell – Holiday
Cllr Ost – Holiday
Cllr Phillips – Family Commitment
Cllr D Spurling – Unwell

In Attendance: Suffolk County Councillor Kay Oakes, Mid Suffolk District Councillor Mike Norris and the Town Clerk

C124/19 To confirm the Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held 3rd July 2019.

The Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held Wednesday 3rd July 2019 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

C125/19 To receive Councillors' Declarations of Interest for Matters on the Agenda.

Cllr Norris – Planning Matters
Cllr M Spurling – Accounts for Payment
Cllr Stansfield - Accounts for Payment (Community Centre)

C126/19 To receive reports from the County Councillor, District Councillors and to take questions from members of the public

County Councillor Kay Oakes gave a verbal report that included information on the launch by the County Council of its Green Access Strategy Consultation.

County Councillor Oakes commented on the cessation of bus services affecting Needham Market on Sundays and Bank Holidays. The County Council is saving £7,680 per annum from the withdrawal of these services and she added that, having asked the Town Clerk, she is aware the Town Council has received no adverse contact regarding the withdrawal of the services.

Councillors referred to Suffolk County Council's current consultation on the Northern Ipswich Route. Cllr Norris said he is to convene a Highways, Lighting & Footpaths Section meeting to allow discussion on the consultation with the aim of making a recommendation to full Council regarding the Town Council's response.

District Councillor Mike Norris presented the District Councillors' report which was tabled, and a copy of which will be appended to the Minute Book. The report referred to:

BABERGH & MID SUFFOLK JOINT LOCAL PLAN.

As mentioned in the last District Councillors' Report, approval was recently given at individual Full Council Meetings of the two Councils for the Draft Joint Local Plan to put out for consultation. The Draft Plan proposes a set of planning policies that will be used to inform decisions on planning applications and appeals. Key points from the document include an identified housing requirement of 10,008 new homes in Mid Suffolk over the period up to 2036 – working out at 556 dwellings per year and prioritising new retail and town centre uses in strategically important towns. The consultation will be launched later this month and further information regarding the consultation process will become available in due course. The Draft Plan is available to view on MSDC's website.

NEW BIN COLLECTION DAYS.

The majority of Mid Suffolk District Council's residents will be given a new bin collection day this month as part of plans to future-proof waste and recycling services in the district. By re-routing the current collection rounds and introducing new ones, the Councils will make them more fuel efficient, both reducing the impact on the environment whilst providing the service needed for current and future residents.

COUNCILS BRING DEMOCRACY ONLINE.

Mid Suffolk District Council is making council meetings, including major decisions such as budgets, and planning applications which go to Development Control (Planning) committees, accessible to everyone as online livestreaming begins. Several meetings have already been broadcast online, with the videos available both during the meeting and afterwards on the Council's 'YouTube' channel. Plans are in place to broadcast all meetings held in the main council chamber, the King Edmund Chamber, the agendas and location for which are published ahead of the meetings online, and are available on the Democratic Services homepage.

SPORTING MEMORIES PROJECT EXPANDS ACROSS SUFFOLK.

The Sporting Memories Foundation has been awarded £93k from the National Lottery to tackle rural isolation and loneliness in Suffolk. The project is supported by the Most Active County Partnership, Suffolk Community Foundation, and Mid Suffolk & Babergh District Councils, with extra groups being targeted in these rural areas, initially around Sudbury, Eye and Woolpit. Individuals, organisations and facility providers who wish to get involved can contact Phil Lown on 07864 614979 or via email at phil@sportingmemoriesnetwork.com

Cllr Potter said a recent Mid Suffolk District Council report had included reference to Needham Market not being strategically important. Cllr Norris suggested not reading too much into that reference as Needham Market is included in the strategic importance hierarchy.

C127/19 To receive a report of the activities of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor on behalf of the Town.

No activities were reported.

C128/19 To receive a report from the Needham Market Neighbourhood Plan Working Group.

Cllr C Campbell, on behalf of Cllr Andrews, Neighbourhood Plan Project Manager, presented a report which was tabled and a copy of which will be appended to the Minute Book. The report included reference to:

- Project Plan update
- Work in progress
- Work Completed
- Work to be Completed
- Financial Resources

The report concluded with the following recommendations:

1. Councillors are asked to note the content of this project report.
2. Note the varying number of proposed homes to be built; Feasibility Study **1,400** homes with relief road and infrastructure, including going into BPC parish; **800/900** homes without BPC, but with limited infrastructure and **497** homes as part of the MSDC Local Plan. Whilst this will be discussed at the next Steering group of the NP, it would be helpful to gauge Councillors response to these numbers.

Councillors debated the housing figures included in the report and it was suggested the District Council's current allocation (draft Local Plan) of 497 homes to Needham Market may not be helpful to the Town Council in taking the Neighbourhood Plan forward however, it was acknowledged the District Council's allocation could be revised in relatively short time.

Cllr D Campbell proposed Council receive the Project report. Cllr C Campbell seconded the proposal. Council agreed the proposal.

C129/19 Clerk's Report and Correspondence to be noted.

1. Actions from Town Council Meeting 03.07.19

None

2. Issues:

- Gipsy Lane – report received
- Town Clerks Meeting with Babergh/MSDC Chief Executive – held at Endeavour House 12th July

The Clerk reported the Babergh/MSDC Chief Executive advised the former Needham Market Middle School site redevelopment is due to commence towards the end of the year with redevelopment of the former District Council Offices site due to commence early next year.

3. Correspondence to be noted:

None

C130/19 SECTIONS

C130/19/1 Finance/General Purposes

C130/19/1a Accounts for Payment and Confirmation.

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

Cllr Lea proposed adoption of the accounts for payment. Cllr Mason seconded the proposal. Council agreed the proposal.

C130/19/1e To receive a report from the Section Leader

There was no report.

C130/19/2 Recreation & Sport

C130/19/2a To receive a report from the Section Leader.

Cllr Mason referred to the dumping, by members of public, of hedge cuttings and other garden material on Crowley Park and how this incurred costs to the Town Council in arranging for its disposal.

C130/19/3 Town Property and Services

C130/19/3a To receive a report from the Section Leader

Cllr Lea reported a Section meeting had been held on Tuesday 16th July, notes from which will be tabled and presented at the 7th August Town Council meeting. The Section recommended a decision on the configuration of a temporary public toilet building, to be located on Barretts Lane car park, should be taken at full Council. The Clerk agreed to include an appropriate item on the agenda for Council's 7th August meeting.

C130/19/4 Newsletter and Communications

C130/19/4a To receive a report from the Section Leader

Cllr C Campbell reported he has completed 6 Town Councillor profiles for inclusion in the Town Council's monthly newsletter.

C130/19/5 Planning

Cllr Stansfield reported the Section meeting scheduled for Monday 15th July had been cancelled due to lack of relevant business.

C130/19/5a Planning Decisions and other Notices received

Cllr Stansfield reported the following Planning Decisions or Notices had been received:

DC/19/02608 – Unit 1 Plot 11 Maitland Road, Lion Barn Industrial Estate – Erection of a single storey side extension. Creation of new first floor office area in existing building.

Planning permission has been granted.

C130/19/5b Planning Applications Received

Cllr Stansfield reported the following planning applications had been received:

DC/19/03136 - 25 Bluebell Grove - Erection of a single storey front porch and single storey rear extension (amended scheme to that approved under DC/19/00285).

Cllr Mason proposed Council support approval of the application. Cllr Stansfield seconded the proposal. Council agreed the proposal.

DC/19/03151 – 27 Quinton Road – Erection of pitched roof to existing garage/rear showeroom.

Cllr Stansfield proposed Council support approval of the application. Cllr Mason seconded the proposal. Council agreed the proposal.

Cllr Stansfield reported Notice of Consultation had been received in respect of a Suffolk County Council Planning Application (ref: SCC/0059/19MS/VOC – Great Blakenham Energy from Waste Plant) which will be determined by the County Council. The detail of the application will be considered at the next Planning Section meeting.

C130/19/5c Planning Report

Cllr Stansfield reported the Planning Section will next meet on Monday 5th August in the Town Council Office at 7pm. Unless Section Members are informed by email of a cancellation.

C130/19/6 Highways, Lighting and Footpaths

C130/19/6a To receive a report from the Section Leader

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

Road markings, High Street / Coddendam Road / Station Yard junction.

Following a recent report that the road markings at this junction were almost indiscernible, I raised this with SCC Highways and have received the following response:

“Thank you for your recent report. We can now provide you with the following update:

The Safety and Speed Management team have advised that the markings at this location have already been added to our countywide road marking refresh list. Road markings are now prioritised based on the road marking type and the category of road they are located on. This is to ensure that the highest priority safety road markings on the highest category roads are treated first. We have a small budget each year to deal with refreshing of road markings for the whole county. Orders are now being issued for the refreshing of the higher priority road markings for this year. At this time, we cannot give a timescale as to when the markings at this location will be refreshed.” (End)

I will follow this up and will also check that the road markings at the Coddendam Road / Lion Lane junction have been reinstated once the works in that area have been completed.

Section Meeting required.

We have received a number of communications which require a response, namely:

- Parish Bus Timetable Information.
- Ipswich Northern Route.

- Yellow Fish Drain Marking (Environment Agency).

I would like to call a Section Meeting to discuss these for 10.00am next Monday 22nd July.

Cllr Norris referred to the announcement of Suffolk County Council's consultation on its Green Access Strategy, details of which will be forwarded for Councillors to consider.

Cllr Lea said roadworks signage currently located in the High Street was blocking vehicle drivers' visibility of oncoming traffic. County Councillor Oakes agreed to refer the matter to the County's Highways service. Cllr Norris said signage in the town appears to be unnecessarily clustered, a matter he is awaiting a response on from the County Council's Highways service.

C131/19 Questions under Standing Order 40.

Cllr M Spurling asked if Councillors were aware of the vandalism of one of the planters located in the High Street. The perpetrator had been arrested by the Police.

Cllr M Spurling asked if Councillors were aware of the difficulties created when a large contractors vehicle needed to gain access to the Community Centre Sports Courts to deliver machinery to be used in the improvement works to the courts. He added the Community Centre apologies for the impact it had on local residents.

Cllr Lea asked if Councillors were aware of the deteriorating state of the former Needham Market Middle School site.

The Meeting closed at 8:30pm.

Chairman **Date**