



**Needham Market Town Council  
Community & Assets Committee  
Minutes – 20<sup>th</sup> April 2022**

**Present:** Cllrs Annis, Lea, Norris, O'Shea, A Reardon, J Reardon, X Stansfield.

Suffolk County Councillor Kay Oakes, three members of public and the Town Clerk were in attendance.

In the Absence of both the Committee Chairperson and Vice Chairperson, Cllr Stansfield proposed Cllr Lea take the Chair. Cllr O'Shea seconded the proposal. The Committee agreed the proposal.

**CA022/22** Chairperson's Welcome and Apologies for Absence.

Apologies received from: Cllrs Darnell and Phillips.

**CA023/22** To receive and confirm the Minutes of the Community & Assets Committee held 16<sup>th</sup> February 2022.

The Minutes from the Community & Assets Committee held 16<sup>th</sup> February 2022 were formally adopted at the Town Council Meeting held 16<sup>th</sup> March 2022.

**CA024/22** To receive Councillors Declarations of Interest for items on the agenda.

There were no Declarations of Interest.

**CA025/22** To consider the Mid Suffolk District Council Community Governance Review.

The Clerk explained the purpose of the review and its scope. The Committee accepted Needham Market did not identify with any of the criteria the review was focussed on.

Cllr Stansfield proposed no response, at this stage, was necessary. Cllr J Reardon seconded the proposal. The Committee agreed the proposal.

**CA026/22** To consider outstanding projects including those in course of delivery.

The Clerk provided updates on:

- Crowley Park Skatepark, MUGA and younger children's play area Project

The Committee agreed to host a meeting with members of the Skatepark Committee.

- Crowley Park Pavilion and Former Clubhouse Building Improvement Project

A member of public present referred the Committee to the poor condition of the toilet situated at the rear of Crowley Park pavilion.

**CA027/22** To consider new projects, their prioritisation and funding, including allocation of CIL funds.

The Clerk updated the Committee on the amount of CIL funding available.

Cllr Stansfield suggested the available funds should be reserved, at this point, for the Crowley Park Pavilion Improvements Project and, the proposed replacement of younger children's play equipment on Crowley Park. He added it may be appropriate, once the current priorities are dealt with, to engage with the local community on the future use of CIL funds.

Cllr A Reardon referred to the pond area at the junction of Barretts Lane with Hurstlea Road and its current poor condition. It was confirmed Mid Suffolk District Council own the pond area and improvements to it are planned to take place once the adjacent development site is at an advanced stage.

Cllr Annis updated the Committee on progress with the proposal to install Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) in three key locations in the town (Barking Road, Stowmarket Road and Ipswich Road). County Councillor Oakes added some detailed information on the types of SIDs available and the role Suffolk Highways performs in supporting their installation plus, the financial contribution she could make from her Locality Fund. Along with District Councillors' financial contributions from their Locality Funds, it is anticipated three SIDs could be purchased.

At 8:25pm Cllr O'Shea left the meeting.

**CA028/22** To consider the Council's Communications functions.

Cllr J Reardon reported on the number of hits received by the Town Council's Facebook page, and that this increase in conveying information to the public, comes at no cost.

**CA029/22** To receive a report from Council’s Civic Events Working Group including considering sending Her Majesty The Queen a letter of congratulations on her Platinum Jubilee.

Cllr Lea reported the group who are organising events for the celebration of The Queen’s Platinum Jubilee continue to meet with meeting notes sent out to all Town Councillors.

Cllr Lea proposed a letter be sent to Her Majesty the Queen expressing Congratulations and Good Wishes from Needham Market, to include a suitable photographic representation of the town. Cllr Stansfield seconded the proposal. The Committee agreed the proposal.

Cllr Lea added, photos will be taken at the Jubilee events, and these will be used to create a 4-page supplement in the monthly Town Council Newsletter.

**CA030/22** To consider Crime Prevention and Community Health and Wellbeing issues.

The Clerk reported further incidents of Anti-Social behaviour in the town. The culprits have been identified including a ringleader who appears to have no bounds to how he behaves and acts towards people when challenged. The local Safer Neighbourhood Team is aware, and their advice is to encourage victims of ASB report crimes to them.

**CA031/22** To consider establishing a subcommittee to take forward the Council’s role in Climate Emergency.

Cllr A Reardon presented a comprehensive report setting out the rationale for the Town Council to consider declaring a Climate Emergency with then establishing a sub-committee named the ‘Climate Awareness Group’, with agreed terms of reference, to take an appropriate agenda forward.

The Committee commended the report for its clarity and succinctness.

Cllr A Reardon proposed the Committee adopt her report including its recommendations. Cllr Stansfield seconded the proposal. The Committee agreed the proposal.

The Meeting closed at 8:52pm.

Signed..... Committee Chairperson

Date.....