

BARTON-UPON-HUMBER ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
MINUTES of MEETING HELD in the ASSEMBLY ROOMS, BARTON-UPON-HUMBER
on THURSDAY 13 APRIL 2017 COMMENCING at 7.00 pm

In attendance:

Councillor A Todd (Chairman)

Councillors F Coulsey, N Jacques, Mrs D Pearson, N Pinchbeck, J Sanderson, Mrs P Sanderson, B Troop, C Ulliott, J P Vickers, K Vickers, Ms J Warton and Mrs W Witter.

Sgt David Burton (Barton Policing Team) representing Humberside Police, Peter Williams (Director of Operations) and Rob Beales (Head of Highways & Neighbourhood Services) - representing North Lincolnshire Council, 24 local residents, Mrs C Clark (Deputy Town Clerk) and Ms S Richards (Town Clerk).

Apologies:

Councillors J Evison (work commitments) and D Yellowley (unwell)

1. **Welcome from the Chairman**

The Chairman, Councillor A Todd welcomed the attending public, also extending a welcome to introduce representatives of Humberside Police, North Lincolnshire Council and Members of Barton-upon-Humber Town Council. He then stated that the attending representatives of North Lincolnshire Council are unable to discuss issues or answer questions relating to “Top Field”. A further planning application is due to be submitted to North Lincolnshire Council for the site and the authority has been threatened with legal action. In light of this, the representatives felt it was inappropriate to comment further at the present time. The town council was unable to make comment or answer questions too. It objected to planning application PA/2016/1490 at a Planning Committee meeting held on 3 October 2016 and until a further planning application is submitted to North Lincolnshire Council, the town council have nothing further to add at present.

Local resident Mr M Martin stated that the Leader of North Lincolnshire Council, Mr R Waltham had recently spoken about “Top Field”, so he felt there was no reason the topic could not be discussed and questions answered. The Mayor, Councillor A Todd, reiterated his earlier comments and Mr P Williams (NLC) stated there were legal issues surrounding this matter that Mr Martin may not be aware of and referred him back to the Mayor’s statement.

2. **Notice of Meeting**

It was noted that Notice of this Meeting had been given in accordance with Schedule 12 Paragraph 14 (2) of the Local Government Act 1972.

3. **Barton-upon-Humber Town Council Annual Reports 2016/2017**

Consideration was given to the above mentioned Annual Reports, circulated with the April 2017 issue of the ‘Bartonian’. Members of the public were given a brief resume and invited to ask relevant questions.

(a) **Community Committee** (Chairman: Councillor A Todd)

Consideration was given to the Annual Report. No questions were raised from members of the public.

(b) **Environment Committee** (Chairman: Councillor F Coulsey)

Consideration was given to the Annual Report. No questions were raised from members of the

public.

(c) Finance & General Purposes Committee (Chairman: Councillor K Vickers)

Consideration was given to the Annual Report. No questions were raised from members of the public.

(d) Planning Committee (Chairman: Councillor Mrs W Witter)

Consideration was given to the Annual Report. No questions were raised from members of the public.

4. **Questions for Barton Policing Team**

- **Ms Dell Swift** commented that a group of under-age drinkers congregate at the top of Ferriby Road/Forkedale/Feyzin Drive, and are the Police aware? Sgt Burton explained about the alcohol free zone in the town and more signage required to under-line this. The Police do target this type of issue and also discuss the matter at the local Neighbourhood Action Team meetings (NAT). He urged members of the public to contact the Police to report such incidents, in order for them to target the issue. 999 should be dialled for urgent and emergency problems and 101 for all other incidents and/or reports.
- **A Local Resident** stated that vehicles speeding through the town were becoming a problem. Sgt Burton replied that some of these issues were seasonal and some vehicles had recently been seized. Several cases of no tax or insurance of vehicles had also been dealt with. As not many reports had been received by the Police lately, he urged members of the public to report any vehicle crime or speeding for the Police to investigate. Illegal/noisy and modifications to vehicles were also outlined.
- **Mr J Hall** enquired if there is any monitoring undertaken regarding travellers in the town. Sgt Burton explained the Police closely monitor this with the North Lincolnshire Council Traveller Liaison Officer. Mr Hall reported that there is debris/rubbish left by the travellers on Victory Way and a lot of scrap. Mr P Williams (NLC) stated he will speak to the Traveller Liaison Officer about this.
- **Sgt D Burton** gave an appraisal of the latest local crime statistics. Crime overall was slightly up 6%, including violent and domestic crime. Theft and burglary was slightly down. Out of 17 wards in the Scunthorpe area, Barton is the second lowest for crime of the whole area at present. The new Chief Inspector is to review neighbourhood policing, a team of 'specials' are now operational in Barton and Police personnel serving Barton varies daily depending upon the shift cycle. There is an effective Neighbourhood Action Team and good Neighbourhood Watch groups in the town. Mr M Martin enquired about Policing at events, notably the Beer Festival. He felt the Police presence at the 2016 event not great. Sgt Burton commented that the Beer Festival was a well-run private event and excellent for Barton. This was aided by the Barton Lions stewarding and the 'Pub Watch' liaison group. He stated that there was a Police presence at the festival last year and will be this year, along with other events in the town, i.e. the Fake Festival and the Carnival etc.

5. **Questions for North Lincolnshire Council**

- **Mr I Clipson** enquired about the pathway and traffic issues on Far Ings Road. In particular the drainage and concave footpath causing water and mud to settle in this channel. Mr R Beales (NLC) stated that in the current financial year, resurfacing work would be undertaken in the programme of work. A Resident of Far Ings Road also spoke about the possibility of 'angled' parking on both sides of the road to alleviate parking problems. Mr Beales commented he would look into this matter.

- **Mr M Martin** wished to know “what view does the town council take of the recently NLC proposed Nature Reserve to the west entrance to the Town, its limit, purpose and application”. Mr Martin gave appraisal and background to his question, via a visual aid plan. The points he included were the proposed nature reserve, millennium wood to the A15, A15 and roundabout traffic issues, the terminology of what exactly the verges were, maintenance issues, volunteer roles and community groups, health and safety issues of volunteers, a petition put forward against the development proposals, a visitor centre, historically changed circumstances of the site and Lidl wishing to undertake tree removal etc. Latest discussions with the Leader of North Lincolnshire Council were referred to, stating that the latest proposals have not been supported with background documentation. He felt that conservation is important and if the town council receive another document and/or planning application to carefully consider this and to make a proposal not to accept new plans. Councillor J P Vickers commented that there was opportunity for enhancement of the area. English Nature are looking into the proposals and the Environment Manager at North Lincolnshire Council has been positive about the whole scheme. He felt that everyone was required to work together and that no one was against conservation issues of the area. Mr P Williams (NLC) stated that he would take the comments made back to North Lincolnshire Council. With regard to volunteers, he wished to make it clear that they are only ever deployed where it is safe to work and proximity to the highway was always respected. Mr Martin enquired why the A15 did not have the same status as the A180. Cllr A Todd responded that this is because Highways England are responsible for the A180 unlike the A15.
- **Mr P Chapman and Mrs J Chapman** enquired “why the NLC leader has offered to withdraw the housing element from their plan to develop ‘Top Field’ when it is quite clear that Lidl have never shown any interest in this part of the original proposal”. Also, “why have all of the comments/objections posted by individuals on PA/2016/1490 (Top Field application) been deleted, surely they should remain there to view until the application is either determined or withdraw?”. The NLC representatives attending this meeting agreed to take the comments back to North Lincolnshire Council.
- **Mr M Martin** outlined the parameters of court action that North Lincolnshire Council had been subjected to. Mr P Williams (NLC) explained that Mr Martin was not aware of all of the legal threat.
- **Ms Dell Swift** wished to know “how does Barton Town Council and the Planning Committee react to the fact that North Lincolnshire Council have ignored at least 3 Planning Committee recommendations for Top Field, Ferriby Road, Barton to be officially designated public open space and granted town green status”. Councillor Mrs W Witter, Chairman of the Barton Town Council Planning Committee responded. She stated that the only official planning application received by the town council (PA/2016/1490), was unanimously objected to on 3 October 2016. Lidl have undertaken a public consultation at the Assembly Rooms a few weeks ago, however, no planning application has yet been submitted to North Lincolnshire Council. The Leader of North Lincolnshire Council, Mr R Waltham verbally addressed the town council briefly about this at the town council meeting held on 5 April 2017. However, to date, no documented information of this has been received by the town council. She confirmed that the town council are listening to local residents about this matter, but the town council is only a consultee – the same as everyone else, when a new planning application is available.

6. General Questions from the Floor

- **A Local Resident** asked if speed ramps could be installed on Far Ings Road. Concern for speeding lorries and HGV vehicles was raised with road safety concerns, particularly cars speeding/racing at weekends. The Police are aware of speeding issues in this area and Mr R Beales (NLC) agreed to look into the weight limits of vehicles and also review the traffic survey recently undertaken by North Lincolnshire Council Highways.

- **A Local Resident** observed that a planning application has been submitted for residential development of the North Lincolnshire Council Neighbourhood Services Depot on East Acridge, Barton. He enquired what was happening to Neighbourhood Services and would they remain in Barton. Mr P Williams (NLC) stated that North Lincolnshire Council leased the depot and would remain on the site until termination of the lease, under 'Rights of Tenancy'. Currently there were no plans to re-locate Neighbourhood Services but the best service would be provided to the town irrespective of where the service was based.
- **Mr T Chant** commented that Baysgarth Park is owned by the people of Barton. He stated that it has nothing to do with North Lincolnshire Council and is only maintained by them. He also made reference to licenced events proposed to be held at Baysgarth House via a recent licence application. He disagreed with the 'Friends of Baysgarth Park' group proposals and felt that any money spent on the park could be utilised better elsewhere. Councillor Ms J Warton explained that the 'Friends of Baysgarth Park' group only had plans to enhance the park, making it more accessible and user friendly for all local residents to use. This included a re-vamp of play areas and new pathways. Councillor J P Vickers further explained the project had been taken on to obtain 'Green Flag' status for the park. So far, it has received support and success and will be a fantastic park for everyone to enjoy in the future. Councillor Mrs D Pearson agreed with Mr Chant that the park is owned by the people of Barton. She disagreed with the expenditure made on the park and also stated that the Butchery was a highway.
- **A Local resident** wished to congratulate the 'Top Field' action group for promoting to stop infilling in the town with development. He cited the recent 115 property Keigar Estate off Falkland Way and the amount per property towards education in the town. He felt that the 3-storey development on Brigg Road was an eyesore, the amount of heavy lorries travelling through the town centre and the amount of pot holes on the highway network. Councillor A Todd thanked the resident for his comments and explained that if anyone wished to become a member of the town council, he invited everyone to declare an interest at the next election or co-option. The post of town councillor was as an un-paid volunteer.

7. **Items for discussion or report at the discretion of the Chairman**

None.

The Chairman, Councillor A Todd thanked everyone present at the meeting, including the speakers and members of the public for their comments.

The meeting was closed at 8.15 p.m.

.....Chairman

3 May 2017