

BARTON - UPON - HUMBER TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES of an ORDINARY MEETING HELD in the COUNCIL CHAMBER, BAYSGARTH
HOUSE, BARTON, on WEDNESDAY 4 FEBRUARY 2015 COMMENCING at 7.00 p.m.

Present: Councillor J Evison (Chairman)

Councillors M Burman, Mrs A Clark, F Coulsey, N Jacques, Ms A McCourt, Mrs J Oxley, Mr J Oxley, P Thornton, A Todd, J P Vickers, K Vickers, I Welch and Mrs W Witter.

Also Present: Mr M Grove, Mr M Scrooby, Ms H Dawson and Sgt D Burton (Humberside Police), Mr S Leonard (Scunthorpe Telegraph), 3 Members of the Public and Ms S Richards (Town Clerk).

250. **Adjourned Meeting**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. He then sought resolution from members present, for the meeting to be temporarily suspended whilst the town prayer was read. It was agreed and

Resolved that Councillor Mr J Oxley to read out the town prayer

The Chairman, Councillor J Evison, re-opened the meeting.

251. **Notice of Meeting**

It was noted that Notice of this Meeting had been given in accordance with Schedule 12 Paragraph 10(2) of the Local Government Act 1972.

252. **Apologies for Absence**

Councillors Mrs D Adlard (unwell), T Chant (unwell), S Dear (in hospital), Mrs D Pearson (inclement weather).

253. **Declarations of Interest**

Barton Senior Alliance – Councillor Mrs A Clark (Personal Interest)

CHAMP Ltd – Councillor J P Vickers (Personal Interest)

Barton Senior Alliance – Councillor Mrs W Witter (Personal Interest)

254. **Adjourned Meeting**

The Chairman sought resolution from members present, for standing orders to be temporarily suspended whilst Mr Matthew Grove, the Humberside Police and Crime Commissioner, spoke about the future of Humberside Police.

Resolved agreed by members present.

The Chairman, Councillor J Evison welcomed Mr Grove to the meeting, along with the other attending representatives of Humberside Police. Mr Grove thanked the town council for inviting them. He felt that Barton-upon-Humber was a gem of a town with lovely buildings and features. He wished to enhance it by offering the correct police resource regarding for the most part, minor crime issues. He gave appraisal of the modifications to be made under the Humberside Police review that is shortly to be implemented. It is a case of ensuring that the policing delivered is robust and fit for purpose. Whilst the staff are committed and passionate about their respective roles, it is clear that the force needed to be managed and structured effectively. He felt that Justine Curran, the Chief Constable, had addressed this well, to ensure the resources available are used to their maximum effect for all areas in the Humberside Police region.

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The shift pattern of policing is to be changed to meet the peaks and troughs of when demands on the system are required the most. Also, the roles of Police officers have been looked into to ensure their time is used to the maximum effect, resulting in less time spent on administrative duties. He felt that the improvements would result in resources fit for purpose in the 21st century, less inefficiencies, and a more holistic approach. Neighbourhood Policing was to be retained. It had proved a success and this will include the continuation of PCSO's. Mr Grove concluded that it had been his wish to relocate his office to Barton-upon-Humber however, due to demands of police personnel and budget restraints, there was simply no room for him at the town's Police Station. He then invited questions to be put forward to him regarding local policing and the forthcoming changes to the force.

Questions put forward included the continuation of outside agency partnership working with the police force, including local authorities. Mr Grove explained this was vital and strengthened the resource and expertise available. The Neighbourhood Action Teams (NAT) are to continue. It was felt this did assist crime reduction, along with cctv etc. Mr Grove invited people to contact him regarding any ideas they may have to enhance crime reduction in the locality. Indeed he stated he had a small budget available to assist implementation of such effective projects. Policing resources beyond the forthcoming elections in May was queried. Mr Grove explained that resources would be targeted at areas that need it with any problem areas tackled and crime hotspots to be identified and solutions sought. He highlighted the use of social media to engage with the local community, explaining that several police officers used facebook and twitter, which had proved a useful tool in crime reporting issues. He explained the command centre at Priory Road has been improved to meet the needs of enhanced communication mediums. Changes at Brigg Police Station were queried. Mr Grove explained this was to provide resource for the protection of vulnerable people in the community. The local knowledge of outside officers coming into the town was questioned. It was felt that the current policing team in the town was effective because they had local knowledge and engaged with the public well. Sgt David Burton was highlighted as a good example of this. Mr Grove explained there were risks and no doubt the system would not be perfect, however, he felt implementation of the new system would be more effective overall. A local resident was invited to speak by the Chairman. He explained he had been a Special Constable for 12 years and wished to know if this resource would continue. Mr Grove explained it would. He felt that the role had a deep understanding of the local community and it was sometimes possible to break down barriers. The number of staff fulfilling this role was to rise from over 420 to 500. This position was to also assist with the local community and the Hull City of Culture event was cited as a good example by Mr Grove. Councillor J Evison reported that a proposed public meeting was being planned to be held at the Assembly Rooms on 19 February with Martin Vickers MP and Matthew Grove present.

The Chairman, Councillor J Evison, together with members of the town council, thanked Mr Grove and his fellow colleagues from Humberside Police for attending the meeting. This provided everyone with a better insight into the new policing structure of Humberside Police. Mr Grove and the Humberside Police personnel then left the meeting. There was a 5 minute break in the meeting.

Councillor J Evison re-opened the meeting.

255. **Police and Neighbourhood Action Team**

Councillor Mrs W Witter requested if those cycling on footpaths in the town could be looked into, together with motorised scooter training. Councillor N Jacques gave appraisal of the traffic loops located on Caistor Road. Under the point-scoring system, it did not constitute enough points for action. It was reported that Safer Neighbourhoods were assisting in this matter. Speeding in the town was highlighted, in particular Falkland Way, Waterside Road and the Leisure Centre off Brigg Road. Councillor J P Vickers stated that further intelligence was required to assist this matter by members of

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the public. He explained that questionnaires had been hand delivered to some local residents in affected areas regarding this matter with a poor response. Councillor Ms A McCourt commented that social media played a role in the reporting of incidents, as had been discussed earlier this evening.

Resolved that this be noted and reported to the Neighbourhood Action Team.

256. **Minutes**

(a) **Ordinary Meeting of the Council – 7 January 2015**

Resolved that the previously circulated minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on 7 January 2015, to be received, approved and confirmed as a correct record, signed by the Chairman.

257. **Matters of Report Arising**

(a) **Neighbourhood Plan** (Min Ref: 232/95 - BTC 07/01/15)

Councillor N Jacques reported that he understood there would be a new funding stream available from April 2015, in support of this and hoped the town council would reconsider this matter in due course.

Resolved that this be noted.

258. **Other Meeting Minutes**

(a) **Minutes of a Personnel Committee Meeting**

1) **Correct Record**

Resolved that the circulated Minutes of a Personnel Committee Meeting held on 13 January 2015 be approved as a correct record.

(b) **Minutes of a Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting**

2) **Correct Record**

Resolved that the circulated Minutes of a Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting held on 19 January 2015 be approved as a correct record.

(c) **Minutes of a Planning Committee Meeting**

3) **Correct Record**

Resolved that the circulated Minutes of a Planning Committee Meeting held on 26 January 2015 be approved as a correct record. Councillor Mrs W Witter explained that 25 members of the public had attended this meeting. As with all of the meetings, they are public, with everyone invited to attend and view the latest planning applications for the town. She, along with the Town Clerk, explained there were on-going problems with the planning application information on the North Lincolnshire Council website that continued to present issues with the delay in information available, discrepancy of dates and the perception this conveys to members of the public.

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259. **Precept for 2015/2016** (Min Ref: 242(f)/99 – F&GP 19/01/14)

Members received a presentation of estimates, income and expenditure, showing build-up of the 2015/2016 budget, together with details of reserves held. A 2.51% decrease in a Band D property for council tax had resulted. It was felt the budget to be fair in the current climate whilst maintaining service levels. Councillor K Vickers gave thanks to the Community and Environment Working Parties and those attending the Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting to scrutinise the entire budget/precept proposals for 2015/2016, resulting in the same precept requirement for 2015/2016 as for the current year, 2014/2015.

A formal proposal was then made by Councillor Mr J Oxley and seconded by Councillor Mrs W Witter to accept the recommended precept and grant for 2015/2016. All members present accepted the proposal.

Resolved

(i) that the town council levy a precept and grant upon North Lincolnshire Council, in the sum of £161,007 for the financial year ending 31 March 2016. To comprise precept of £138,188 and a grant element of £22,819.

260. **Matters of Report Arising**

None reported.

261. **Correspondence**

1. Details received from ERNLLCA regarding the new Local Council Award Scheme which has been launched by the Improvement and Development Board which comprises the Department of Communities and Local Government; the Local Government Association; the National Association of Local Councils and the Society of Local Council Clerks.
2. Receipt of Barton Area Foodbank newsletter for January 2015 (*copy available from the council office*).
3. Notification from North Lincolnshire Council Tourism Team of a market consent application for Waters' Edge Visitor Centre for 3 times a year with the first market to be on 7 February 2015.
4. Price received from contractor for work to the Assembly Rooms doorway at £500 +vat (*Min Ref: 230/95 – BTC 07/01/15*).
5. Reminder from North Lincolnshire Council that they can assist with grounds maintenance procurement, provision and contracting with town and parish councils (*Min Ref: 176(15)/71 – BTC 06/11/14*).
6. Request from North Lincs Adult Safeguarding Board to complete a questionnaire as a key aspect of their provision is ensuring they communicate effectively with the people it has a responsibility to protect. The questionnaire can be found at <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/13qmYRk7hhGILaatXtx5Qp51eSvBBxdMOqpbSssIH>
7. Letter from local resident with concern at the dark colours used in the November issue of the Bartonian (*Min Ref: 198(3)/(i)/81 – BTC 03/12/14*).
8. The Highway Programme of Works for the area from North Lincolnshire Council.
9. Request via ERNLLCA for members views by the end of January 2015 regarding Vehicle Operator Licence Applications and renewals. Anyone interested can find details at <http://www.dft.gov.uk/traffic-commissioners-review/> Also received ERNLLCA newsletter for January 2015.
10. Receipt of Healthwatch North Lincolnshire Newsletter for January (*copy available from the council office*).

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11. Receipt of town council grant scheme application from CHAMP Ltd towards a project to showcase the work and raise the profile of local sculptor Philip Pape. Part of the project is to pay for conservation work on a dove created by Philip Pape. The estimated project costs are £4,500, with CHAMP contributing £1,000 and they are seeking in principled support from the town council up to a total of £3,500.
12. Request from Scunthorpe Telegraph reporter for a response to resident letter sent to the Telegraph regarding town council's comments on the Lidl 2 hour car parking (*Min Ref: 234(b)/96 – BTC 07/01/15*) (*copy enclosed*).
13. Update from North Lincolnshire Council Befriender Coordinator who asks if any town councillors would be interested in becoming a volunteer befriender for vulnerable adults both in the community and in care homes. The volunteer needs to be a patient, non-judgmental person who can commit to at least 2 hours per week on a very regular basis.
14. Invite to attend Healthwatch North Lincolnshire's official launch of 'Health and Social Care Signposting Directory and a celebration of their work to date to be held on Friday 30 January 2015 from 12pm at Cafe Indie, Scunthorpe.
15. Request for support towards event in Barton for the 100 years anniversary of the battle of Loos from The Barton Living Memorial Trust (*copy enclosed*).
16. Receipt of informal notes from the Barton Tourism Partnership meeting on 20 January 2015.
17. Prices received for Town Award plaques, costing £60 each for the same wooden shield or from £40 for a jade glass plaque available in leaf, curved, circle, octagonal or rectangular shape. Both include the town crest and graphics.
18. Notification from North Lincolnshire Council Highways that the town's green salt bins will be checked and replenished where necessary rather than delivering 1 tonne bags by 6 February 2015.

Resolved

- (i) Councillor A Todd to chase up further outstanding quotations (item 4);
- (ii) item withdrawn from the meeting by Councillor J P Vickers (item 11);
- (iii) it was confirmed this matter had been resolved and thanks were given to the Scunthorpe Telegraph for their kind assistance in this matter. However, after further discussion regarding various highway issues in the town, it was agreed that the town council will look further into this matter. Placing an article in the Bartonian was muted, along with a public meeting and public comment for general views in this matter. To be discussed further by the town council (item 12);
- (iv) Councillor Mr J Oxley has now become a volunteer befriender for Vulnerable Adults for North Lincolnshire Council Brigg and Barton areas (item 13);
- (v) the town council give their full support to the Barton Living Memorial Trust to mark the 100 year anniversary of the battle of Loos. The group to be notified accordingly (item 15);
- (vi) it was agreed that an octagonal (flat) 8" height jade glass plaque with presentation box be ordered from the supplier, in the sum of £60. The budget to be taken from the town council reserves (item 17);
- (iii) that the remaining correspondence be received and the contents noted.

262. **Correspondence Received Since issue of the Agenda**

1. Receipt of Town Grant Scheme completed application form from Bowmandale School requesting financial support towards their annual Residential Trip to Cumbria. In 2014 the town council gave a £200 donation, if the same amount was given in 2015 it would give an approximate reduction of £6 per student for 34 students taking part.
2. Receipt of the latest copy of the Highway Programme of Works for the area from North Lincolnshire Council.
3. Request to complete a Neighbourhood Services Survey from North Lincolnshire Council for our current grounds maintenance Service level Agreement for the planting on Ferriby Road and Barrow

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Road.

4. Reminder of the next Barton School Council Forum meeting on Wednesday 11 February 2015 at Barton St Peters Primary School starting at 1.45pm.

Resolved

- (i) it was agreed to provide a donation of £200. The budget to be taken from the Community 'Donations/Grants' budget for 2014/2015 (item 1);
(ii) that the remaining correspondence be received and the contents noted.

263. **Accounts for Payment**

Resolved

- (i) that the Clerk be authorised to pay the accounts as listed in the sum of £1,348.29 (A/cs 210 to 219), and those presented at the meeting in the sum of £5,770.48 (A/cs 220 to 224). A grand total of £7,118.77.

264. **Town Mayor and Deputy Town Mayor 2015/2016**

Consideration was given to expressions of interest received from members wishing to undertake these civic roles. One candidate for the role of Mayor, Councillor Mr J Oxley and one candidate for the role of Deputy Mayor, Councillor A Todd.

A proposal was made from Councillor J Evison for Councillor Mr J Oxley to be put forward as Town Mayor elect for the annual meeting of the town council to be held on 20 May 2015, this was seconded by Councillor J P Vickers and agreed by members present.

A proposal was made from Councillor Ms A McCourt for Councillor A Todd to be put forward as Deputy Town Mayor elect for the annual meeting of the town council to be held on 20 May 2015, this was seconded by Councillor J Evison and agreed by members present.

Resolved that the election of the Town Mayor and Deputy Town Mayor 2015/2016 be undertaken at the annual meeting to be held on 20 May 2015.

265. **The Town Award 2015**

Consideration was given to nominations for the Town Award 2015 having regard to a previously circulated resume of nominations. By a recorded vote, no votes were received for Nancy Birtwhistle, 2 votes were received for Margaret Dyer, 2 votes for John French, 8 votes for Lawrence Robinson, and 2 votes for David Witter. It was agreed and

Resolved

- (i) the Town Award 2015 be awarded to Lawrence Robinson. The award to be presented at the Mayor's Civic Dinner to be held on 17 April 2015. The recipient to be notified and invited.

266. **Highway Modifications on George Street**

Councillor J P Vickers outlined the proposed modifications and all members were furnished with a plan of the proposals. This included dropped kerbs for a safe crossing point and the parking bays to reflect the traffic regulation order. It was discussed, agreed and

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Resolved the town council support the proposed modifications to George Street.

267. **Reports from North Lincolnshire Council Representatives**

(a) **Inclement Weather Conditions**

Councillor J P Vickers requested that an e-mail be sent to the local Neighbourhood Services, thanking them for the work undertaken in the town to clear snow and ice from the pavements and key town centre areas. All members present agreed to this request.

Resolved the town council office send an e-mail to the local Neighbourhood Services, thanking them for the work undertaken in the town to clear snow and ice from the pavements and key town centre areas in the current spate of inclement weather.

(b) **Cross Country/Baysgarth Park**

Councillor Mrs W Witter asked if anything could be done to improve the condition of the path running between the Leisure Centre and the toilets in Baysgarth Park. It would be the annual cross country at the end of the month and she felt that the path needs to be made safe before the event takes place. Councillor J P Vickers reported that £10,000 of funding was in place for work in Baysgarth Park, to include widening and reinstatement work to the path.

(c) **Market Place**

Councillor Mrs W Witter requested if the current improvement scheme works to the Market Place could include a Georgian type handrail outside the 'Best Wishes' premises, preferably something to match similar outside the old Smith's Butchers premises. Councillor K Vickers reported that the improvement works were to commence mid-February and he would look into this matter.

268. **Reports from Members on Outside Organisations**

(a) **Barton Senior Alliance**

On behalf of Barton Senior Alliance, Councillor Mrs W Witter thanked the town council for supporting the 2015 annual tea and service, which is very much enjoyed by those attending. The event is to take place on the afternoon of Monday 28 September at the Trinity Methodist Church. Transport would be provided for those in need to attend the service.

269. **Exclusion of the Press and Public**

Resolved that in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and press be excluded from this meeting because publicity would prejudice the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the following business, concerning personnel and contractual matters, arising out of the business to be transacted.

A member of the press and 3 members of the public left the meeting.