



Oundle Town Council

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Minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on Tuesday 20th October 2015 at 7.30pm in The Oundle Suite, Fletton House, Fletton Way, Oundle.

15.111. Apologies for Absence

15.111.01. To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Menck (business).

15.111.02. To accept apologies for absence.

RESOLUTION: *'that the apologies for absence received from Cllr Menck are accepted'*.

Resolved Unanimously

15.112. Declarations of Interests

The following declarations of interest from Members and Officers under Section 50 of the Local Government Act 2000 (*Standing Order 35*) were received:

15.112.01. To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.

None.

15.112.02. To declare any Other Interests.

Cllr Grove and Talbot declared an interest in Item 15.115 and 15.116 Field on Glaphorn Road. Reason: Committee members for the Oundle Recreation and Green Spaces Group

15.112.03. To consider any requests for Dispensation.

None.

15.112.04. To report any gifts or hospitality accepted over the value of £50.00.

None.

15.112.05. To report any inappropriate gifts or hospitality offered.

None.

15.113. Minutes of Previous Meetings – Full Council

15.113.01 PROPOSITION: *'To approve and sign the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 15 September 2015 as an accurate record.'* (*Standing Order 10c*)

Proposed: Cllr Talbot **Seconded:** Cllr Chesser **Resolved Unanimously**

15.114. Review of Actions of the Previous Meetings – 15.09.2015

19.32pm: *The meeting was adjourned for the next agenda item.*

15.115. Representations from Interested Parties

Julie Grove in her capacity of Chair of Oundle Recreation and Green Spaces Group made a representation regarding the field on Glaphorn Road requesting that Oundle Town Council apply for the playing field to become Village Green Status. She confirmed that the Oundle

Recreation and Green Spaces Group would supply the administrative support to enable this application to be submitted.

19.38pm: The meeting was reconvened.

15.116. Consideration of Requests from Interested Parties

PROPOSITION: *'That Oundle Town Council considers actions relating to the field on Glaphorn Road'*.

Following a debate, it was unanimously agreed to amend the proposition as follows:

PROPOSITION: *'that Oundle Town Council agrees to submit an application to Northamptonshire County Council for Village Green Status on the playing field at Glaphorn Road, Oundle'*.

Proposed: Cllr Davis **Seconded:** Cllr Murphy **For:** 11

Cllr Grove and Talbot did not vote having declared an Other Interest.

15.117. Reports

15.117.01. Mayors Report

Cllr King provided an overview of his report and expressed regret that he was unable to attend the Bridge Club dinner on 11th October 2015 due to family commitments.

15.117.02. Police Report

PCSO Nadia Norman provided an overview of the crime figures which she confirmed were showing a spike predominantly due to the activities of a specific group. The crimes included damage to vehicles and windows in the town centre and thefts from insecure motor vehicles. PCSO Norman stated that there had also been criminal activity relating to thefts from outbuildings. Questions were raised regarding the damage in the Recreation Ground and arson attacks which PCSO Norman stated now appear to have stopped following intervention.

15.117.03. District Councillors Report

Cllr Reichhold advised that he attended a Policy Resources Committee meeting on 12.10.2015 in which it approved the process of collective switching of energy suppliers which would commence on 01.12.2015. He confirmed that information regarding this and information he gained about grants whilst at a London conference would be published shortly.

Cllr Stearn provided an update on recent planning applications confirming that the proposal for the 70 holiday homes at Fineshades is being submitted again following it being declined on two occasions. He also confirmed that the Rushden Lake project has been passed which is an enormous project which will attract many visitors and the application for Deenethorpe Garden Village has been approved resulting in 1500 new homes being built commencing in 2017. He advised that this development should see 1700 jobs being created. Cllr Stearn concluded his report by stating that there has been some interest in developing the Riverside Hotel as a prospective care home. Cllr Stearn was asked of the impact of the Deenethorpe Garden Village on East Northamptonshire Council's five year land supply to which he confirmed that this planning application sits outside of that.

15.118. Signing & Sealing

RESOLUTION: *'that any two Councillors and the Proper Officer may seal any document required by law to be issued under seal on behalf of the Council.'* (Standing Order 14b.)

Proposed: Cllr King **Seconded:** Cllr Sparkes **Resolved Unanimously**

15.119. Town Matters

15.119.01. To receive the report from the Events Officer and to consider and approve any recommendations.

The report was noted and thanks expressed to the Events Officer.

15.119.02. PROPOSITION: 'That Oundle Town Council works alongside Heartstart Oundle and Oundle First Responders to apply for funding for 5 public access defibrillator units for the following locations

- Fletton House
- The Courthouse
- Joan Strong Centre
- The Queen Victoria Hall
- The George Inn

and that the Council in conjunction with Heartstart Oundle will accept the responsibility for the checking and maintenance for these'.

Proposed: Cllr King **Seconded:** Cllr Chesser **Resolved Unanimously**

15.119.03. To receive an update on progress with the re-opening of South Bridge.

Cllr Vowles advised that Cllr Heather Smith and himself have been progressing this and confirmed that Anglian Water have a solution to progress the repairs and that it is intended that the works commence in January 2016.

15.119.04. PROPOSITION: That Oundle Town Council:

(a) notes the correspondence received from David Oliver, Chief Executive of ENC in response to OTC's letter on the growing refugee crisis and;

(b) agrees to write to County Councillor, Heather Smith requesting information and assurances that NCC are putting in place the necessary framework and infrastructure around adults and children's safeguarding to help the refugees who may arrive in Northamptonshire and;

(c) notes the vote by Councillor Smith against the motion put forward at NCC's Full Council Meeting on Thursday 24 September 2015 relating to the Refugee Crisis.

Cllr Grove proposed that the above motion be moved; however Cllr Chapple requested that an amendment be passed as follows: *'That item c of the proposition is removed'*. This proposition was passed as follows:

Proposed: Cllr Chapple **Seconded:** Cllr S Oakes **For:** 7 **Against:** 6

As a result of this, the amended proposition as stated below was moved and passed:

PROPOSITION: That Oundle Town Council:

(a) notes the correspondence received from David Oliver, Chief Executive of ENC in response to OTC's letter on the growing refugee crisis and;

(b) agrees to write to County Councillor, Heather Smith requesting information and assurances that NCC are putting in place the necessary framework and

infrastructure around adults and children's safeguarding to help the refugees who may arrive in Northamptonshire.

Proposed: Cllr King **Seconded:** Cllr Davis **Resolved Unanimously**

15.120. Operations Management Matters

- 15.120.01. To receive the minutes of the Operations Management Committee meeting held on 13th October 2015.
Noted.
- 15.120.02. To approve the Balance Sheet and Budget Report – September 2015.
Cllr Stagg provided an overview on income and expenditure confirming that initial figures for The Hub looked promising. He advised that the income from the hire of rooms was not accurate due to initial problems with the new system but that was due to be resolved imminently. He also noted the income of the s106 monies and the precept which has resulted in the Balance Sheet being in good order. Cllr Stagg highlighted expenditure in IT and the initial outlay for set up in The Hub confirming that much of this would be recovered. It was noted that Fletton House still need to be reflected accurately on the Balance Sheet which will be done once the final valuation figure is available.
- 15.120.03. Payments for September 2015.
PROPOSITION: *'That the schedule of payments for September 2015 as presented at this item are paid in the amount of £421,261.08 and that all related documentation and cheques are signed'*.
Note: This includes a transfer of funds in the amount of £300,000.
Proposed: Cllr Stagg **Seconded:** Cllr Murphy **Resolved Unanimously**
- 15.120.04. To confirm the arrangements for the Financial Profiling of Council activities.
Cllr King confirmed that this was necessary to do to enable the 2016/17 budget to be produced together with the plan for the next 3 years which is required to enable the Local Council Award to be retained.

15.121. Estate Matters

- 15.121.01. To receive the minutes of the Estate Management Committee meeting held on 6th October 2015.
The draft minutes were noted. Cllr Fitzgerald advised that a paper regarding The Courthouse will be presented to the Estate Management Committee and then Full Council in November in order that various options regarding the future of the building can be considered.
- 15.121.02. To receive a verbal update on the works required to finalise Fletton House.
Cllr Fitzgerald advised that the works within the building are now almost complete although there are still numerous tasks to carry out.
- 15.121.04. To agree a policy regarding dogs in Oundle Town Council buildings.
Following a debate, it was proposed *'that other than Assistance Dogs, Oundle Town Council does not allow dogs to be admitted in its buildings'*
Proposed: Cllr King **Seconded:** Cllr S Oakes **For:** 9 **Against:** 4

15.122. Communications Working Party Matters

- 15.122.01. A verbal update to confirm the details and timescales for the next edition of the Oracle.
Cllr Talbot provided an overview on the timetable for the Oracle which will be produced by the beginning of November with Cllr Grove providing the editorial

work for this issue. Cllr Talbot and Grove requested that all contributors ensure the deadlines are met in order to facilitate the agreed timescales.

15.123. Neighbourhood Planning Working Party Matters

15.123.01. To receive the minutes of the Neighbourhood Planning Working Party meeting held on 22 September 2015.

Noted.

15.123.02. To agree the proposed new arrangements for delivering the Neighbourhood Plan as follows:

15.123.02.01. PROPOSITION: 'To cease the existing Neighborhood Planning Working Party and its membership with immediate effect'.

15.123.02.02. PROPOSITION: 'that Oundle Town Council establishes a Neighbourhood Planning Scrutiny Committee as outlined in the tabled report'.

15.123.02.03. PROPOSITION: 'that the Mayor and the Clerk have designated powers to identify and brief Neighbourhood Planning Policy Co-Ordinators to produce policies and evidence for scrutiny'.

Before the propositions were moved, a full debate took place during which thanks were expressed to all the existing members of the Neighbourhood Planning Working Party for their hard work and the resulting evidence produced. Cllr King requested that the names of these individuals were minuted as follows:

Mark Bennis	Debra Harper	Sue Oakes	Roger Sturman
Lisa Cameron	Rachel Hatt	Carol Park	Richard Tremellen
Ann Chapple	Dee Hope	Paul Piercy-Hughes	Nick Turner
David Chapple	Tony Hoyle	Gwen Radcliffe	Rachel Vicary
Moira Clarke	Paul King	Philip Rose	David Webb
Paul Eveleigh	Bill Martin	David Smith	David Wood
Mark Felton	Matthias Menck	Roy Sparkes	Ali Winbolt
Neil Fraser	Neville Oakes	Philip Stearn	

Following this, the propositions were then moved with the following outcomes:

PROPOSITION: 'To cease the existing Neighborhood Planning Working Party and its membership with immediate effect'.

Proposed: Cllr King **Seconded:** Cllr Fitzgerald **For:** 12

Against: 0 **Abstention:** 1

PROPOSITION: 'that Oundle Town Council establishes a Neighbourhood Planning Scrutiny Committee as outlined in the tabled report'.

Proposed: Cllr King **Seconded:** Cllr Murphy **For:** 12

Against: 0 **Abstention:** 1

PROPOSITION: 'that the Mayor and the Clerk have designated powers to identify and brief Neighbourhood Planning Policy Co-Ordinators to produce policies and evidence for scrutiny'.

Proposed: Cllr King **Seconded:** Cllr Talbot **For:** 10
Against: 0 **Abstention:** 3

15.124. Planning Matters

15.124.01 To receive the minutes from the Planning Committee meeting held on 6th October 2015.

Cllr Chapple noted the minutes and advised that a decision made regarding the retrospective planning application for a variation at Lamorna was under query as a member of the public was unhappy that the Council had not stated there should be a requirement for a yew hedge that had been removed to be replaced.

15.125. Meeting Reports

15.125.01. To receive reports on meetings held by members on behalf of the Council.
Noted.

15.125.02. To receive reports on meetings due to be held by members on behalf of the Council.

Cllr Stagg advised that he has a meeting planned regarding CCTV coverage for the Recreation Ground.

15.126. Council Matters

15.126.01. An update on the proposed new Oundle Town Council logo.

Cllr King advised that this agenda item will be deferred to the November Full Council meeting to enable choices to be considered.

15.126.02. To discuss plans for an official opening of Fletton House.

Cllr King confirmed that a Civic Event will be held on 2nd December 2015 to officially mark the opening of Fletton House and invitations would be sent from the office shortly.

15.126.03. To consider next steps with the Local Council Awards Scheme.

Cllr King advised that the Council needs to apply for the Scheme by end of year in order to have continuity of Quality status. He advised that this needed to be mandated by Full Council and it will be on the November agenda for submission the first week of December. He stated that the application required a lot of work and that it may not be possible to make the accreditation deadline but the Clerk and he would make best endeavours to achieve this.

15.126.04. To receive a verbal update with progress on the marketing plan for Oundle.

Cllr King advised that the Marketing Group had been reconstituted and new Terms of Reference developed. He confirmed that a successful first meeting had now taken place and that the notes from this will be written up and circulated shortly.

15.127. Consultations, Conferences and Training

15.127.01. Central Licensing Administration Unit: Consultation on Statement of Principles – Gambling Act 2005 (three yearly review). Responses by 3 November 2015.

It was confirmed that Cllr Davis and Sparkes are reviewing this. It was unanimously agreed to give delegated authority to produce a response on behalf of the Council which should be submitted via the office.

15.128. Correspondence for Action

15.128.01. None.

15.129. Correspondence for Information

15.129.01. Tom Pursglove MP re Syrian Refugee Crisis.
Noted.

15.129.02. Cllr Rupert Reichhold re Syrian Refugee Crisis.
Noted.

15.130. Any Other Relevant Matters for Report

Cllr King stated that a Mayors Charity Ball would be held on behalf of Cancer Research UK on the 16th April 2016 and asked that everyone hold that date. He confirmed that more details will be forthcoming.

He also reminded everyone about the invitation received to a special church service to raise aid for the Syrian refugees being organised by East Northamptonshire Council and asked members to let the office know if they can attend. Cllr Kind concluded by stating that the Remembrance Service Parade takes place on Sunday 8th November 2015 and that everyone should meet at 2.10pm for a 2.30pm service. He advised that this was followed by a service in St Peters Church and asked that everyone attended. Cllr Chapple offered his apologies as he is attending a service in London.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.09pm.

Signed:.....

Dated:.....