

STAMFORD TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE STAMFORD TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, 21 MAY 2019 AT 7.00PM IN THE TOWN HALL, STAMFORD

PRESENT Councillor B Griffin, Chairman, (Town Mayor)
Councillor H Bisnauthsing
Councillor M Exton
Councillor Mrs S J Sandall
Councillor J Dawson
Councillor Mrs S Sismore
Councillor A Croft
Councillor S Carroll
Councillor D Dorson
Councillor Mrs M Pitt
Councillor Mrs A Carter-Begbie
Councillor Mrs J Clarke

ALSO PRESENT Town Clerk
Deputy Town Clerk
Councillor D Brailsford, LCC Stamford West
Councillor R Foulkes, LCC Stamford East
Councillor R Davies, LCC Highways
8 members of public

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None

Formal meeting commenced 7.00pm

18. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE(Agenda Point 1)

The Town Clerk advised the Council that under LGA 1972 Councillors have a duty to attend meetings and drew attention that agenda notices **summon** Councillors to meetings, they do not merely invite them. In the event that they are unable to attend a meeting Councillors must submit their apologies with reasons for absence, as required by LGA 1972 Sec85(3). The Council will consider the reasons which must be approved by resolution. If a Councillor fails to attend six consecutive meetings and the Council has not approved the submitted reasons for absence, a casual vacancy may arise.

Councillor Ms M Couch, Councillor Mrs G Johnson, Councillor D Taylor, Councillor Mrs A Wheeler and Councillor Mrs E Hooper submitted their reasons for absence. The reasons were noted and accepted.

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Sismore, seconded by Councillor Dorson and unanimously **RESOLVED** that the reasons for apologies be approved.

19. DECLARATION OF INTEREST (Agenda Point 2)

Councillor D Dorson declared a Personal and Prejudicial Interest in respect of any discussions relating to staff as his wife is Deputy Town Clerk.

Councillor Mr & Mrs Sandall declared a Personal and Prejudicial Interest in respect of any discussions relating to transaction 10335 as it related to a relative.

20. MINUTES (Agenda Point 3)

The notes of the Town Council meeting held on 30 April and 16 May 2019 had been circulated.

It was proposed by Councillor Bisnauthsing, seconded by Councillor Mrs Sismore and unanimously **RESOLVED** that the minutes of 30 April 2019 together with the Pink Paper are a true record of the meeting and be signed by the Chairman.

It was proposed by Councillor Exton, seconded by Councillor Bisnauthsing and unanimously **RESOLVED** that the minutes of 16 May 2019 are a true record of the meeting and be signed by the Chairman.

21. REPORTS ON OUTSIDE BODIES / ORGANISATIONS(Agenda Point 4)

- a. *Lincolnshire County Council* – Councillor D Brailsford (LCC Stamford West) reported that Lincolnshire CC had debated the issues related to carbon emissions. The County Council did not support the motion for a Carbon Emergency Plan due to impracticality. However, there are plans in place to reduce emissions where possible. Comment was made on the recent vandalism of the collection of model railway displays at Welland Academy, which were considered by all to be abhorrent. It was confirmed that four individuals had been arrested and the Police were dealing with the matter. Councillor Brailsford confirmed that the scheduled repairs to Melancholy Walk had been completed.

Councillor R Foulkes (LCC Stamford East) reported that the Fire Services Station had recently been inspected which had been very interesting and he encouraged all Councillors to visit the station. However, he did state that recruitment was becoming an issue for the Fire Service and any support would be appreciated. It was confirmed that the loading bay signs at Red Lion Square had been reinstated. This will enable the enforcement services to ticket vehicles which are parked illegally in this vicinity. Residents parking schemes are being examined and following discussion it was asked whether the existing double lines along Barnack Road could be reviewed as they are causing vehicles to park on the verges where utility services are situated causing serious issues. Also, the very poor condition of the footpaths is causing concern for parents with buggies. Additionally, there was a serious issue of parking along St. Georges Avenue which has been communicated to Lincolnshire Highways Councillors and a formal response is still awaited. Councillor Foulkes stated that installing double yellow lines are only installed if there is good reason. There was a request as to whether the yellow lines along Barnack Road could be removed, Councillor Foulkes offered to investigate and report back. He further stated that in the event of obstruction, it would be a Police matter, and if an emergency vehicle could not access the area LCC Highways would be notified. The matter of a dangerously leaning wall along the south facing edge of Casterton Road, just before Little Casterton Road, was raised. Councillor Brailsford agreed to investigate this matter.

Councillor R Davies (LCC Highways) confirmed that an extensive walk-about was conducted with Town Councillors Bisnauthsing and Taylor around some of the congestion hot-spots in the town of which Barnack Road was one. The issue of Red Lion Square is still being examined as to determining the best long-term solution in respect of the road surfacing. Taking into consideration development in and around the town, a cycle network is being investigated to reduce congestion. A request for a dedicated and segregated cycle-way would be safer and more beneficial. Highways and footpath repairs are on-going with a responsive team in place. It was confirmed that Lincolnshire County Council had agreed to implement three safety grass cuts and will clean gullies twice a year.

- b. *South Kesteven District Council* – No reports provided
- c. *Town Councillors On Outside Bodies* – No reports provided

22. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT(Agenda Point 5)

- a. *Correspondence* – A schedule of correspondence had been e-mailed to all members to examine. Any queries relating to any element of such correspondence should be directed to the Officer dealing with that item.
- b. *Matters related to Council business:*
- i. Councillors were reminded to submit their Registrations of Interest and any election expenses which must be received by the end of the month.
 - ii. All Councillors had been circulated regarding the Skells Trust meeting on Tuesday 28 May.
 - iii. All Councillors were reminded of their duty to attend meetings and that an attendance register is maintained and uploaded on the Council website.
 - iv. *Defibrillators under the responsibility of the Town Council* – The Council were fully briefed on the current status of the five units which are located as follows: one in the telephone box at Station Road, two along High Street (one at Johnson Cleaners and the other at Rohan retail shop), one along Broad Street at the new dental surgery and one further unit on the Recreation Ground. It was noted that the unit on the Recreation Ground had been removed and not returned given the main box was not damaged. It was confirmed that access was only through a combination number obtained from the emergency services. The Police had been informed and a crime number obtained. It was reported that there had been some discussion on Facebook that the Town Council had stolen the device to reassign it to the Town Hall. This was totally untrue, and the Town Clerk had put out a statement on social media stating such and advising that any such disinformation should desist as the Council would not hesitate to take legal action against perpetrators in such cases. Following discussion, it was noted that the East Midlands Ambulance Services (EMAS) and The Sudden Adult Death Trust (SADS) have offered guidance on prevention. Following discussion, the installation of electronic tags on these units would be investigated.

23. TOWN COUNCIL VACANCY CO-OPTION

As a result of recent local elections vacancies had arisen in the following four Wards:

- All Saints North
- All Saints South
- St. George's
- St. John's

Seven candidates had expressed an interest in joining the Council and their profiles had been circulated to the Council. The Chairman Councillor Miss Griffin welcomed them to the meeting and requested them to present their cases as to why they would like to join the Council individually without the others present. All candidates left the Chamber while the vote was cast.

Proposal 1 – It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Sismore, seconded by Councillor Carroll and unanimously **RESOLVED** that the following candidates are co-opted on the Town Council to serve in the following Wards:

All Saints North: Simon Fenn
All Saints South: Shaun Ford
St. George's: Bill Turner
St. John's: Bob Sandall

The Chairman thanked all candidates for their interest and appreciated their attendance.

All the newly co-opted members signed their declarations of office to enable them to participate in the meeting.

7.45pm Councillors Bob Sandall, Councillor Bill Turner, Councillor Simon Fenn, Councillor Shaun Ford joined the meeting.

24. TO REVIEW COMMITTEE STRUCTURE, TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Committee Structure and Terms of Reference were circulated for consideration. It was also noted that with the disbandment of the Strategic Development Committee and the Scrutiny and Audit Committee, Working Groups would be created to handle Tourism, the review of the Council's policies and the production of the Council Newsletter.

Proposal 2 – It was proposed by Councillor Mrs S J Sandall, seconded by Councillor Dorson and unanimously that the Terms of Reference were accepted with a minimum of seven members to form each of the following Committees.

Finance, Personnel and Assets Committee – 7 members

Amenities Committee – 7 members

Planning Committee – 7 members

Events Committee – 7 members

The Working Group for Tourism would fall under the responsibility of the Events Committee; Working Groups of the review of the Council's policies and production of the Newsletter would fall under the responsibility of the Finance Committee.

Finance Committee (7):

Town Mayor (Ex Officio)

Councillor Susan J Sandall (Chairman)

Councillor Bob Sandall (Vice Chairman)

Councillor Harrish Bisnauthsing

Councillor John Dawson

Councillor Sheila Sismore

Councillor Andrew Croft

Councillor Julie Clarke

Planning Committee (6):

Town Mayor (Ex Officio)

Councillor Steve Carroll (Chairman)

Councillor Andrew Croft (Vice Chairman)

Councillor Marion Pitt

Councillor Julie Clarke

Councillor Elaine Hooper

Councillor Shaun Ford

Amenities Committee (6):

Town Mayor (Ex Officio)

Councillor Gloria Johnson (Chairman)

Councillor Bill Turner (Vice Chairman)

Councillor Mike Exton

Councillor John Dawson

Councillor David Dorson

Councillor Simon Fenn

Event Committee (5):

Town Mayor (Ex Officio)

Councillor Maxine Couch (Chairman)

Councillor David Dorson (Vice Chairman)

Councillor Amanda Wheeler

Councillor Angela Carter-Begbie

Councillor Shaun Ford

Councillor Simon Fenn

Proposal 3 – It was **RESOLVED** by majority vote of the Council that the above standing Committees be approved and accepted. There was one abstention.

It was noted that Councillor Bisnauthsing wished to serve on the Town Council Planning Committee but would check that this did not create a conflict of interest should he serve on the District Council's Development Committee.

25. TO APPOINT MEMBERS TO WORKING GROUPS AND OUTSIDE BODIES

The following were appointed as members to the following outside bodies and working Groups:

- a. *Browne's Hospital* – Town Mayor Councillor Miss Griffin would be (*ex officio*) on the Board. Deputy Mayor Councillor Ms Couch would be an observer on the Board. It was noted that Councillor J Dawson, agreed to continue as a Town Council's representative. There were two nominations for the second representative – Councillor Bisnauthsing and Councillor Croft. A vote was taken, and the elected nomination was Councillor Croft. It was noted that Councillor Mike Exton is a member in his own right.
- b. *Stamford United Municipal Almshouse and Winifred Browne Charities* – It was noted that there were two Councillors currently appointed. Councillors J Dawon and Ms M Couch both agreed to be re-appointed to attend the meetings for both the Stamford Municipal Almshouse and The Winifred Browne Charities.
- c. *South Lincolnshire Citizens Advice Bureau* – Councillor Mrs Clarke agreed to be the representative to attend meetings on behalf of Stamford Town.
- d. *Sir Malcolm Sargent Concert Committee* – Councillor A Croft agreed to continue on the committee as a representative of the Town Council.
- e. *Stamford Hospital Development Advisory Committee* – Councillors Mrs S J Sandall and M Exton agreed to continue to attend these meetings on behalf of the Town Council. Councillor Mrs Pitt had also expressed an interest to be involved as she is also a member of the PPG and the Friends of Stamford Hospital.
- f. *Stamford Festival* – Town Mayor Councillor Miss Griffin (*ex officio*) & Deputy Mayor Councillor Couch (Observer)
- g. *Twinning Association* – Councillor H Bisnauthsing agreed to continue as representative of the Town Council to the Association.
- h. *Newsletter Editorial Team* – Councillor A Croft and Councillor S Ford agreed to support the Civic Officer to produce the Town Council's quarterly Newsletter.
- i. *Neighbourhood Working Group (Stamford First)* – Following discussion it was agreed that the representatives on the Stamford Neighbourhood Plan be retained with Councillor John Dawson and David Taylor

9.30pm – The Council **RESOLVED** to continue the meeting to complete considering the items on the agenda.

26. TO APPROVE THE POLICIES OF THE COUNCIL (Agenda 9)

The Chairman suggested that this item is deferred to a later date due to the time factor.

Proposal 4 – It was proposed by Councillor B Sandall, seconded by Councillor Dorson and unanimously **RESOLVED** that this item is deferred to a later date.

27. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT(Agenda Point 10)

Schedule no. 2 (transactions 10215-10336) had been circulated for consideration.

Proposal 5 – It was proposed by Councillor Mrs S Sismore, seconded by Councillor Mrs M Pitt and **RESOLVED** that Schedule No. 2 is agreed and approved for payment, with four abstentions.

The Town Clerk explained how the financial controls operated within the Council and that with the new Council a new set of signatories were required to be agreed:

Proposal 6 – It was proposed by Councillor Dorson, seconded by Councillor Mrs Pitt and unanimously **RESOLVED** that the following Councillors should be confirmed signatories on the Council accounts:

Councillor Miss Griffin
Councillor Ms Couch
Councillor Bisnauthsing
Councillor Exton
Councillor B Sandall
Councillor Mrs S J Sandall
Councillor J Dawson
Councillor Mrs S Sismore

28. QUESTIONS WITHOUT DISCUSSION (Agenda Point 11) -

The Mayor Councillor Griffin informed the Council that her Mayor's Sunday had been changed and would now be held on Sunday 30th June 2019 for which all Councillors would receive an invitation. It was hoped that as many as possible would be able to attend.

Chairman
(The meeting closed at 10.00p.m.)