

STAMFORD TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF STAMFORD TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, 28 FEBRUARY 2023 AT 7.00PM AT STAMFORD TOWN HALL

PRESENT Councillor A Croft (Vice-Chairman)
Councillor H Bisnauthsing
Councillor B Sandall
Councillor Mrs S J Sandall
Councillor J Dawson
Councillor Miss B Griffin
Councillor Mrs S Sismore
Councillor Mrs G Johnson
Councillor S Carroll
Councillor Mrs M Pitt
Councillor Mrs A Wheeler
Councillor Mrs A Carter-Begbie
Councillor Mrs E Hooper
Councillor S Ford
Councillor S Doyle
Councillor Mrs L Brewin
Councillor Mrs A Schonhut

ALSO PRESENT Town Clerk
Rev. P Stevenson
Councillor Kelham Cooke, LCC Stamford East Division
Councillor Richard Cleaver, LCC Stamford West Division
4 Members of public
1 Member of Press

566. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (Agenda Point 1): None

A representative of the Ukrainian families living in Stamford expressed gratitude and appreciation of the most generous welcome bestowed upon the families now residing in the town. There was a request that the Town Council consider that Stamford might establish a ‘twinning relationship’ with a village in Ukraine.

The Deputy Chairman Councillor Croft thanked the representative for her presentation. Councillor Bisnauthsing, Town Council representative on the Twinning Association, agreed to investigate this matter further.

Representatives from the Kiwanis requested the Council considered favourably their proposal for a free community event on the Meadows on Saturday 1st of July 2023. The Kiwanis are also considering incorporating a raft race on the river Welland. Initial enquiries have been made with the Environment Agency and the Freeman of Stamford, together with the river’s authority, regarding requirements and conditions.

The Deputy Chairman Councillor Croft thanked the representative for his presentation and recognised that this request had already been presented to the Amenities Committee. The only contentious element was access to the river. It was noted that the Environment Agency had concerns over the river levels when the event is suggested. It was understood that there would be two events taking place on the same day, 1st July, if consent is granted.

Proposal 1 – It was proposed by Councillor B Sandall, seconded by Councillor Mrs A Wheeler and unanimously RESOLVED that the Council support the event in principle whenever it can be arranged, subject to the concerns of the Environment Agency and the work to the riverbanks.

Formal meeting commenced 7.25pm

567. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Agenda Point 2)

Councillor D Dorson, Councillor S Fenn and Councillor Mrs J Winterbourne submitted their apologies, the reasons were noted.

Proposal 2 - Councillor Mrs L Brewin proposed, seconded by Councillor Mrs M Pitt and unanimously **RESOLVED** that the Council accepts the reasons for absence.

568. DECLARATION OF INTEREST (Agenda Point 3) – None made.

569. MINUTES (Agenda Point 4)

The Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on Tuesday, 31 January 2023 had been circulated to all members of the Council.

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs S Sismore seconded by Councillor S Ford and **RESOLVED** by majority vote that the minutes of the Town Council meeting of 31 January 2023 are an accurate reflection of the meeting and be signed by the Chairman. There were three Abstentions.

570. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES / ORGANISATIONS (Agenda Point 5)

a. **Lincolnshire County Councillors** –

Councillor Kelham Cooke, LCC Stamford East Division presented his report:

- i. *UK Prosperity Fund* – Grant applications are now open.
- ii. *SK Today* – Last edition has been printed and will be moving to an online version
- iii. *Car parks* – The payment facilities have now all been upgraded to a card payment system.
- iv. *Highways* – A survey of the roads is scheduled to establish where further work may be necessary.
- v. *Art Centre* – An outdoor event is scheduled on Friday (03 March 2023) ‘Love Your Venue’, 5-8pm which is free. It is hoped as many as possible will support this event.

In response to questions Cllr Cooke advised that any capital gained from the sale of District Council assets would support the District Council reserves. The additional spaces within the Cattle Market car park are in the forward plan. It has been agreed that the bollards in the High Street will be installed and the County Council has agreed to fund the project. A Traffic Regulation Order is in process.

Councillor Richard Cleaver, LCC Stamford West Division, reported on the following elements:

- i. *Planning* – SKDC’s Local Plan is deferred until the review of the National Framework has been completed.
- ii. *Northern Development* – It is being examined whether adequate provision of sports and educational facilities will be delivered with this development.
- iii. *Health* - A quality review is anticipated, and monitoring continues of Lakeside.

Following questions, the recently installed verge protection with low level posts is inadequate and unsuccessful as vehicles destroy them. A more robust deterrent is required if vehicles are to be stopped parking on verges.

b. **Stamford Ward Councillors:**

- i. *Councillor Mrs A Schonhut* – Confirmed that she is producing a newsletter following her positive discussions with the police. It is hoped this could be circulated by all Councillors within their Wards.
- ii. *Councillor Mrs A Wheeler* – The service commemorating the first anniversary of the Ukraine War was very moving and she thanked all that attended. A Climate Action

meeting was held at SKDC and the Action Strategy has been drafted and comments are welcomed.

- iii. *Councillor Mrs E Hooper* - informed the Council that a mobile breast screening unit will be returning to Stamford.

571. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT (Agenda Point 6)

- 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 subject.
- b. *Update and feedback on action points:*
 - i. **Election 04 May** – Nomination packs are now available and Councillors intending to stand should be aware Purdah commences on the 20th March.
 - ii. **Policies** – The reviewed Standing Order; Financial Regulations; Code of Conduct; Terms of Reference for Committees and the Civility and Respect pledge will be circulated at the March Town Council meeting for approval at the April meeting.
 - iii. **Mid Lent Fair** – Councillors have been invited to the opening of the Fair hosted by the Showmen's Guild. Councillors were reminded to advise the Civic Officer whether they would be attending to assist catering arrangements.
 - iv. **Town Meeting** – Chairmen of committees need to submit their reports to the Town Clerk by 23 March latest so the Annual Report can be prepared.
 - v. **Defibrillator donation** – It was noted that a local family had donated a defibrillator to the Town which will be located on the external wall of McDonalds on Ryhall Road.

Proposal 3 - It was proposed by Councillor S Ford, seconded by Councillor Mrs A Schonhut and unanimously **RESOLVED** that the Town Council would accept this most generous donation and include it the Council's maintenance schedule of defibrillators.

572. MUSEUM COMMITTEE (Agenda Point 7)

- a. Councillor S Ford confirmed on behalf of the Committee that the minutes of the Museum Committee meeting held on Monday 06 February 2023 are a true and accurate reflection of the meeting.
- b. Matter for discussion: Councillor Ford confirmed that the Heritage and Cultural Officer had been appointed and introduced Victoria Newton to the Town Council.
- c. It was proposed by Councillor S Ford seconded by Councillor Mrs A Wheeler and unanimously **RESOLVED** the minutes of the Museum Committee meeting held on Monday 03 February 2023 are approved by the Council.

573. PLANNING COMMITTEE (Agenda Point 8)

- a. Councillor Mrs E Hooper confirmed on behalf of the Committee that the notes of the Planning Committee meeting held on Wednesday 08 February 2023 are a true and accurate reflection of the meeting.
- b. Matter for discussion: None.
- c. It was proposed by Councillor Mrs E Hooper seconded by Councillor S Doyle and **RESOLVED** by majority vote that the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on Wednesday 08 February 2023 together with the above recommendations are approved by the Council. There was one abstention.

574. EVENTS COMMITTEE (Agenda Point 9)

- a. Councillor A Croft confirmed on behalf of the Committee that the notes of the Events Committee meeting held on Monday 13 February 2023 are a true and accurate reflection of the meeting.
- b. Matters for discussion: Arrangements are well in hand for the Coronation event scheduled on Monday 8th May 2023 and all Councillors were encouraged to support the event.
- c. It was proposed by Councillor A Croft seconded by Councillor Mrs A Schonhut and unanimously **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Events Committee meeting held on Monday 13th February 2023 together with the above recommendation are approved by the Council.

575. AMENITIES COMMITTEE (Agenda Point 10)

- a. Councillor Mrs E Hooper confirmed on behalf of the Committee that the notes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on Tuesday 14 February 2023 are a true and accurate reflection of the meeting.
- b. Matter for discussion: None
- c. It was proposed by Councillor Mrs E Hooper seconded by Councillor J Dawson and unanimously **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on Tuesday 14 February 2023 together with its recommendations are approved by the Council and subject to the earlier recommendation in respect of the Kiwani 'Big Day Out' event.

576. CLIMATE ACTION WORKING GROUP (Agenda Point 11)

- a. Councillor Mrs A Wheeler confirmed on behalf of the Working Group that the notes of the Climate Action Working Group meeting held on Wednesday 15 February 2023 are a true and accurate reflection of the meeting.
- b. Matter for discussion: It was noted that the Town Council's Climate Action Meeting scheduled on 15th March 2023 has nearly 90 attendees registered. All Councillors are encouraged to attend and a press release had been drafted for the Stamford Mercury.
- c. It was proposed by Councillor Mrs A Wheeler seconded by Councillor L Brewin and unanimously **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Climate Action Working Group meeting held on Wednesday 15 February are approved by the Council.

577. FINANCE COMMITTEE (Agenda Point 12)

- a. Councillor Mrs M Pitt confirmed on behalf of the Committee that the notes of the Finance Committee meeting held on Tuesday 21 February 2023 are a true and accurate reflection of the meeting.
- b. Matter for discussion: Councillor Mrs S Sismore requested that she had an issue to raise in Closed session as it was of a sensitive nature.

Proposal 4 – It was proposed by Councillor Mrs S Sismore, seconded by Councillor J Dawson and unanimously **RESOLVED** that the Council would go into closed session on completing all other business on the agenda.

- c. It was proposed by Councillor Mrs M Pitt seconded by Councillor Mrs G Johnson and **RESOLVED** by majority vote that the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on Tuesday 21 February 2023 together with the recommendations are approved by the Council. There was 1 Abstention.

578. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT (Agenda Point 13)

The Council had been circulated with Schedule No. 11 for consideration.

Proposal 5 – It was proposed by Councillor Mrs M Pitt, seconded by Councillor Mrs G Johnson and unanimously **RESOLVED** that Schedule No. 11 is approved for payment.

579. DATE OF NEXT MEETING (Agenda Point 10) – Tuesday 28 March 2023 at 7pm.**580. TO RESOLVE TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION**

The Deputy Chairman Councillor A Croft confirmed that the Council had resolved to go into Closed Session to discuss a sensitive matter. In accordance with Sec.1(2) of the Public Bodies Act 1960 (Admissions to Meetings Act 1960) to allow frank discussion in respect of a sensitive matter. The public and media would be excluded from this part of the meeting. At the end of the Closed Session any resolutions taken will be made public.

20.30 pm Meeting continued in Closed Session

21.15 pm Meeting resumed in Open Session

During the discussion in Closed Session, the Council resolved that in future the Mayor's portrait is to be hung outside the Mayor's Parlour and then moved into the Chamber at the end of the Mayor's term of office. No past Mayor's medallion will be issued to any Mayor resigning during their term of office and the resignation will be recorded on the Mayoral Board. All Mayor's Charity funds must be fully receipted in the Mayor's Charity Account.

Chairman

(The meeting closed at 21.15 p.m.)

