

# **SPILSBY TOWN COUNCIL**

**Please note these minutes are draft until approved by the Council as a correct record**

## **MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF SPILSBY TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2013 AT 7.00P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, FRANKLIN HALL, HALTON ROAD, SPILSBY**

**PRESENT: - COUNCILLORS M.LENTON (CHAIRMAN), T.BEAUMONT,  
P.GRANT, T.BAILEY, A.VENABLES, G.RYMER, W.BAUGH, G.IREMONGER,  
G.WILLIS, P.ODLING, J.PEARS**

### **1) CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS**

The Chairman wished everyone a Happy New Year, thanked those Councillors in particular who had been working on the Core Strategy response and all those who had taken part in the emergency gritting. Councillors noted events attended by the Mayor over the Christmas period.

### **2) APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND REASONS GIVEN**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor A.Cadman.

### **3) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE 2000 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT**

None.

### **4) MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 22<sup>ND</sup> NOVEMBER 2012**

The notes of the meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2012 were approved as the minutes and signed by the Chairman.

### **5) CLERK'S REPORT AND MATTERS OUTSTANDING**

#### **New play area equipment**

Councillor Beaumont reported the new play area equipment was now in use and proving to be very successful.

#### **Christmas tree**

The Clerk was asked to send a letter to Mr.J.Crust, in addition to the letters already sent, thanking him for the use of his equipment to remove the tree.

#### **Winter maintenance equipment**

Councillor Lenton reported on the success of the Council's Snow Plan. Volunteers had not, unfortunately, been able to use the two spreaders that had been purchased as the grit/salt mix was too damp to pass through the mechanism. Tongs are currently looking at this problem in an effort to resolve it.

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### **Draft Core and Housing Strategies**

The Working Group had met on three occasions and a response sent in to E.L.D.C. on behalf of the Town Council. There was some discussion about the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment consultation to which a response needs to be sent by the end of February. A number of residents have expressed concern about the sites put forward for development and it was therefore proposed, seconded and agreed to arrange a public meeting at which views could be expressed.

### **Newtown car park**

Councillors noted this had been cleared.

### **Zebra crossing at The Terrace**

A meeting had been held with a Highways Officer to look at improving the safety of the crossing but it was generally felt by all those who attended that it was really only bad driving which was making it hazardous. Highways have accepted the white stripes are showing signs of wear but at present, do not warrant renewal. The only other suggestion made at the meeting was for the Town Council to ask BT to remove the telephone box. However, it was pointed out vehicles have a good view of the crossing as they have to pull out into the centre of the carriageway to pass the cars which are invariably parked alongside the Terrace.

## **6) EMERGENCY SERVICES**

There were no representatives from the emergency services present. Apologies had been received.

## **7) E.L.D.C./COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS**

District Councillor Rod Williams was not present and Councillor Lenton was asked to find out why he was unable to attend.

County Councillor Jim Swanson spoke about a proposal to install two bus stops, on either side of the road, near the junction of Boston Road/Winston Road. He said he hoped the Town Council would support the proposals. Councillors noted a further £6 million had been received from central Government to deal with potholes etc. Several copies of the Leader's Brief for January and a Winter Maintenance Newsletter were made available for Councillors to read. Councillor Swanson reported that both the County Council's Broadband and Energy from Waste projects were on target. There was a discussion about the outcome of the District Council's review of parking charges and the new disabled bays marked out in the Post Office Lane car park. Councillor Odling thanked Councillor Swanson for his report and for all the hard work he carries out on behalf of the Town.

## **8) CORRESPONDENCE**

The Clerk handed round a plan of the proposed bus stops on Boston Road. Whilst Councillors were happy with the idea and look of these, it was agreed having them opposite each other was not ideal. The Clerk is to point out to Highways that if two buses stop at the same time, the road will be blocked.

**2.24/1/13**

Councillors noted there will be a 10mph convoy in operation along the A16 between the corner of Boston Road and a point 1400 metres southeast between 25<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> February 2013.

E.L.D.C. is consulting on proposed amendments to its Licensing Policy. Councillor Pears offered to respond to this on behalf of the Council.

#### **9) PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

It was proposed, seconded and agreed to approve the following accounts for payment:-

- a. Welton Garden Services - £708.00 (contractor's costs for January and skip hire)
- b. S.D.Marshall (salary for January)
- c. HW - £24.00 (payroll)
- d. Linkage Community Trust - £1404.06 (maintenance of hanging baskets)
- e. Information Commissioner - £35.00 (Data Protection Act renewal)
- f. Car Care & Army Stores - £52.00 (gloves and high viz vests)
- g. Colin Bark - £95.40 (flail mowing)
- h. E.J. Tong & Sons - £144.00 (snow shovels)

#### **10) PLANNING CONSENTS/REFUSALS**

Noted as follows:-

- a. Countryside Art - extensions to existing building, Vale Road, Spilsby **GRANTED**
- b. Spilsby Christian Fellowship - siting of a portable building, Halton Road, Spilsby **GRANTED**

#### **11) PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

None.

#### **12) DOG FOULING ON PLAYING FIELD**

The Clerk handed out a written Report of her findings about bylaws for the playing field. Rather than making a set of bylaws, it was suggested a CCTV camera might help to solve the problem of dogs fouling on the playing field. Councillor Pears said she felt it was criminalising dog owners by having a CCTV system effectively watching them.

Following further discussion, it was agreed to consider the matter further once J & A had been approached about the use of some of their money for such a camera and the Playing Field Committee had been asked if they would be willing to make a donation towards the camera.

#### **13) SITING OF NEW CCTV CAMERA(S)**

Councillor Lenton explained he had made enquiries about siting the camera for the entrance to the Vale Road Industrial Estate on or in the vicinity of the NISA store but this was not possible. However, Bush Tyres have expressed an interest in having it mounted on their building and may also be willing to contribute to the cost. It was therefore proposed, seconded and agreed to purchase a camera for this location at a cost of £795 plus monitor.

#### **14)BUNGALOW FENCING AT BOSTON ROAD PLAYING FIELD**

The Clerk reported she had located the deeds for the playing field at Sills Betteridge and had visited their offices to look through the paperwork. Despite a thorough search, she had been unable to find any evidence that the Town Council is responsible for the southern boundary of the playing field. Councillor Pears reiterated her original comments about the state of the garden and it was subsequently proposed, seconded and agreed to take no further action with regard to this matter. The Clerk is to inform the owner of the property accordingly.

#### **15)REPORT FROM TOWN COUNCIL SURGERY**

Councillor Lenton reported that the first surgery had proved to be very successful with various issues being raised by members of the public. The landlord at The George had attended to ask the Council to instigate a dispersal order outside his property. The Police had been contacted about this matter since the surgery and a report of incidents at the George since August 2012 had been compiled. In addition, a plain clothes officer had attended the pub to witness the behaviour of those drinking outside. In conclusion, the Police said that, as the landlord must take responsibility for the people within the boundary of his premises, a dispersal order was not appropriate.

#### **16)MINUTES OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 5<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2012**

Noted.

The Clerk reported she had let two allotments since this meeting.

#### **17)MINUTES OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD ON 5<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2012 AND 9<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2013**

##### **Finance Reserves Policy**

Councillor Odling said he was unhappy that the item was not on the main agenda for discussion and that he could not recollect seeing a copy of the amended Policy. The Clerk advised that all Councillors had been supplied with a copy. Following some discussion, it was proposed, seconded and agreed to defer any decision on this matter until the Council's reserves at the end of the current financial year are known.

#### **18)FINAL BUDGET AND PRECEPT REQUIREMENTS**

Prior to discussing this matter, Councillor Beaumont explained how the new tax base in order to calculate the amount payable by a Band D property in the Parish, had been arrived at. Councillors noted this was a result of the way in which residents will be receiving their Council Tax discounts/benefit from April this year. As part of the precept is now made up of a grant received from the District Council (originating from central Government), concern was raised that a few years down the line, the grant may disappear. In the light of this, it was felt the proposed budget should be trimmed further. A vote was taken and it was resolved that the budget be revisited at the next meeting of the Finance Committee. A sheet prepared by Councillor Beaumont detailing the likely Band D increase based on various options was handed out and following further

**4.24/1/13**

discussion, it was proposed, seconded and agreed to increase the Council's precept requirements by 1% to £44521.

**19)DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Town Council will be held on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2013 at 7.00p.m. in the Franklin Hall, Halton Road, Spilsby.

**20)ANY URGENT BUSINESS FOR DISCUSSION BY LEAVE OF THE CHAIRMAN OR ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA**

The date and venue of the next Alford and Spilsby Area Committee was noted.

Councillor Iremonger asked that the spinney and the ivy growing on the trees in the cemetery be tidied up.

As there was no other business the meeting closed at 10.10p.m.