

SPILSBY TOWN COUNCIL

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

Minutes of the meeting of Spilsby Town Council held on Thursday 24th October, 2013 at 7 p.m. in the Council Chamber, Franklin Hall, Halton Road, Spilsby

Present: Councillor P. Grant (Chairman)
Councillor M. Lenton
Councillor G. Iremonger
Councillor W. Baugh
Councillor G. Rymer
Councillor T. Beaumont
Councillor J. Pears
Councillor A. Cadman
Councillor G. Willis

1. Chairman's Remarks

The Chairman spoke on how Councils are conducting meetings with regard to mobile phones óData Protection Act and Freedom of Information Act. He followed on by saying that correspondence received either by post or e-mail to the Town Council for Councillors to see and act upon would be placed in a tray in the office as would a tray for the public but a cost would be incurred if members of the public required copies.

A discussion then took place on documents/e-mails received being made available to all Town Councillors. Councillor Lenton stated that in a conversation with Sara, Town Clerk, who confirmed that correspondence sent to the Town Council should be available to all Councillors. He added that the practice he followed whilst Chairman was that if correspondence was addressed to Sara, only the Chairman and Sara could open.

Councillor Pears then stated that with regard to the Freedom of Information Act she would be resigning from the CCTV rota as of now on the advice of police. She went on to give her reasons. Councillor Lenton went on to say that the four tenants and owners involved as part of their agreement is that a Town Councillor accompanies the police whilst in their premises.

The Chairman told the meeting of the various functions he had attended.

2. Apologies

Councillor Odling
Councillor Venables
Sara Marshall

It was agreed that the ELDC report from District Councillor Williams would be brought forward as he had another meeting to attend. Standing Orders were then suspended.

Councillor Williams said that this year he decided to support sports within the Town and therefore he had donated £500 to the Junior Football Team - £500 to Spilsby Tennis Club

and asked if we knew of any sports group who needed money to start up to contact him. Councillor Grant suggested Storm UK and Councillor Pears said she would forward contact details to Councillor Williams.

With regard to the conversation prior to this meeting with Councillor Beaumont, he said he would contact ELDC Finance Department for further information and get back to Councillor Beaumont. He stated that ELDC had to find savings where they could.

He then went on to ask if we had received a letter from ELDC with regard to land currently owned by ELDC in Eresby Avenue. Councillor Grant read the letter which stated they wished to transfer ownership to Spilsby Town Council for £1 subject to the Town Council taking on full responsibility of the site and meeting all legal costs. Councillor Grant said that this would be an agenda item on the next Amenities meeting.

Standing Orders were then reinstated.

3. Declarations of Interest in accordance with the 2000 Local Government Act

None.

4. Notes of the meeting held on 26th September, 2013 to be approved as the minutes.

The notes of the meeting held on 26th September, 2013 were approved as the minutes and signed by the Chairman.

5. Matters Arising

Re-investment of Council reserves – Councillor Beaumont said three Town Councillors needed to sign the document ó Councillor Grant ó Councillor Lenton and himself and this would be completed the next day.

Best Kept Town Competition - Discussion took place on the feedback letter received. Councillor Pears said she thought we had done everything to improve the town and suggested that a couple of Town Councillors visit the winning site to see where we could improve upon. Councillor Beaumont said that according to the letter we only missed out narrowly but did not show in the ãcommentsøbox where we could improve.

Action *Agenda item at next Amenities meeting.*

Library Consultation – Councillor Beaumont said we were awaiting update from LCC on consultation document. Councillor Pears said that LCC had sent consultation document to Sheffield University and when the document is returned to LCC they will make the final decision on 3.12.2013. Further discussion took place on the future of Spilsby Library.

6. Emergency Services

There was no representative from the Police but Councillor Grant said that a document had been left in the office ó ãWolds Area Partners Briefingøgiving crime figures for East Lindsey District. Further discussion took place on the crime figures. Councillor Grant said that Sergeant Cummins was on holiday but on his return would ask him to come into the office as there were other matters of concern he wished to discuss with him.

7. ELDC/County Council matters

Discussion took place with regard to County Councillor Ayling's non attendance at Town Council meetings with no apology having been received from her. Further discussion took place on a way to progress this matter. It was agreed that we would in the interim, via the Council website, send her an e-mail with the date of the next Town Council meeting.

8. To note general correspondence

Councillor Grant gave an overview of correspondence received. He mentioned that the Town Council website needed updating. Councillor Willis said she would forward Keith Butters details in order for this to be done.

An invitation from Eresby School received inviting the Town Council to speak on the day to day running of the Town Council. Councillor Grant said that he and Councillor Rymer would attend and take and mayoral chain of office along.

Minutes of the Area Committee received by e-mail.

Councillor Pears left the meeting at 8.07 p.m.

9. Payment of accounts

It was agreed that any outstanding accounts would be paid subject to two Councillors approving the invoices.

10. Planning consents/refusals

None. Councillor Grant said that a Projector had not been purchased yet and asked the Town Council's approval to pay by cheque. Agreed.

11. Planning applications

None. It was suggested that once the projector has been purchased it would be a good idea if Councillors had a dry run on how it works. It was also mentioned that the projector could be hired out to other Parish Councils but a Spilsby Town Councillor would also have to be present.

12. Report from the meeting of the Amenities Committee held on 9.10.2013

Item (6) – Rota for winter maintenance – Councillor Baugh asked if further volunteers had come forward. Councillor Lenton said "No."

Item (7) – Christmas Tree surround – Councillor Grant reported that the wood had been delivered and cut to size, now ready to be taken to schools. Discussion followed on whether or not to paint both sides. It was agreed just to paint one side.

Item (11) – Wall opposite Sainsbury's – Enquiries made as to whether taken away for cleaning or stolen. Confirmation of it being reported to police required in order for our Insurance to cover.

Item (12) – Christmas Tree – Councillor Grant said he had not received a response re the donation of a tree. He added that he had made tentative enquiries at two places just in case one is not donated. It was agreed that if a tree needed to be purchased Town Council would pay.

13. Report from meeting of Finance Committee held on 9.10.2013

Item (6) – Grant applications – a further letter from Wildmanø received re donation of £250 towards Bike Night.

CCTV Maintenance Contract – Councillor Lenton gave an update and said he had received a promising e-mail from Barclayø Brokers but with a proviso that a maintenance contract would have to be in place, which they cannot provide, but Councillor Lenton said he had approached James Lawie Electricals to submit such a contract to the Town Council. **Received**

Council Tax Consultation documents – Councillor Beaumont gave an overview of the circumstances surrounding this Consultation document of which the Town Council had no knowledge of. He added that the Working Group had been set up consisting of Councillors Grant, Rymer, Beaumont and Willis. This group met on 18.10.2013, discussed and completed on behalf of the Town Council the questionnaire on ELDC website and asked for the Town Councilø permission to submit as their response. He added the document had to be submitted by the end of October. **Agreed** He added that we could find that the £7,700 from ELDC significantly reduced because of Government reducing funding to local Councils. It was agreed that a letter be sent to ELDC stating that Town Councils should be informed of any consultation taking place. Further discussion took place.

14. Report from Town Council Surgery

No local resident attended the Surgery.

15. To agree date of interviews for co-opted Councillor

Discussion took place on whether or not to agree to two dates being made to interview potential Town Councillors. It transpired that the only applicant up until 26.9.2013 would be on holiday until the 14th November therefore unable to attend on the 4th November ó the date agreed upon at the last full Council meeting (26.9.2013). The candidate wrote to the Town Council asking for consideration of a new date for interview. The current situation is that there are now two further candidates, three in total, but they are unaware of the 4th November date for interview. Councillor Lenton read the letter from the potential candidate asking for a new date of interview.

Further discussion followed on the date for interview and procedure of selecting a candidate. After further discussion it was agreed that letters be sent to all candidates with interview dates of 4th and 18th November at 1.30 p.m. They would in turn reply by either letter ó telephone ó e-mail on their preferred date.

Agreed

16. Date of next meeting – Thursday 28th November, 2013.

17. Any urgent business for discussion by leave of the Chairman

Councillor Willis said at a recent meeting which Alan Hardwick, Police Crime Commissioner, attended he said he had set up a £30,000 fund which local community groups could apply to for funding up to £1000 for community projects. She suggested

that maybe the Town Council could apply to help with matting in the play area. The details were on his website.

Councillor Iremonger said he thought it was about time the Town Council approached the owner of the land in Reynards Street (where the old cinema was situated) in order to clear it up.

Councillor Grant said the licence for planting the daffodil bulbs had arrived & awaiting Councillor Odling to contact him. Rotary and Co-Op have offered to help with planting.

Meeting was then closed at 9.35 p.m.