

Bungay Town Council

**Minutes of the January meeting of this Council held at the Council Chamber
Broad Street on 18th January 2010 at 8pm.**

**Present were Clls Warnes, (in the chair), Woods, Bedingfield, Brook, Cloke,
Evans, Fisher, Groom, Jervis, O'Neill, Palin, Shepherd, Thompson and Ward**

Also present were Cll Ritchie (SCC), PC Skuse and the Press.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cll Blowers O'Neill.

2. Interests

Cll Warnes declared an interest in the planning application for 14 Wharton Street and Cll O'Neill in agenda item 15.

3. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on the 21st December 2009 were approved and signed subject to Cll O'Neill stating that the mugs referred to item 22 were to be presented by him to those who had served the Council.

4. Local Electors Comments

No electors wished to comment.

5. Matters arising

p1511; Market Place bus shelter modification. The Clerk reported that the original fabricator had confirmed that he would be quoting for this work shortly.

p1512; Cll O'Neill reported that chief executives of the principle Suffolk local authorities were preparing for local government re-organisation in the county.

p1513, Cll Woods said that the meeting with WDC would take place in the week commencing 8th February 2010.

p1515; the Clerk said that he had contacted SCC about the waiting restriction review and he understood that the SCC officer concerned would be considering matters further in early February.

p1515; the Clerk reported that he had discussed the Council's wishes with a SCC lighting technical officer who had advised that highway lights in the county were currently controlled individually by photo-electric cells so selective control of them was not possible. Regulations also required that certain areas had to be illuminated

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throughout the hours of darkness. SCC were carrying out pilot schemes to test the viability of alternative control of highway lighting but there were substantial cost implications if the current light control systems were to be changed.

p1516; Cll Shepherd reiterated her request that the fire hydrants in the town be tested to ensure that they were fully operative.

6. Correspondence

The following correspondence was reported as received:-

Broads Authority re planning parish forum on 28 April at 6pm at Dragonfly House Norwich. It was agreed that Clls Bedingfield, Cloke and Shepherd would attend.

WDC re free event advertising in 'East Anglia's Sunrise Coast What's On'.

SCC re temporary closure of part of Earsham St for utility work, 22-23 Jan.

Brains of Bungay. Council team will be in the first round on 22 January.

The Suffolk Foundation annual review for 2008/2009.

7. Report on local policing matters

PC Skuse reported on current local policing matters including a concerted effort to deal with anti-social behaviour.

He advised that matters of concern were being raised at the Safer Neighbourhood Meetings and that those present at these meeting were then setting the priority for dealing with these. These meetings were held at different times of the day to allow maximum access to them.

Clls O'Neill and Shepherd reported on speeding issues effecting different areas of the town. Cll Shepherd also requested that on future Remembrance Sundays traffic be stopped a further distance from the War Memorial so that stopped traffic did not disturb proceedings.

Cll Groom thanked the police for dealing with problems in Meadow Rd promptly.

8. County Councillors report.

Cll Ritchie reported that Suffolk council Chief Executives were putting in place arrangements for elections to appoint shadow new authority ahead the decision on structural changes. He reported on management of the salt stocks to ensure salt remained available until the recent thaw. He asked for feed back about local gritting problems. He advised that a further £3K of the Locality Budget remained to be allocated.

9. To consider plans received, to receive notice of planning decisions from Waveney District Council

The following plans were considered:-

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DC/10/0015&16/FUL, Mr D Trafford, construct 2 storey rear extension and single storey rear conservatory with balcony above, garage extension, replacement windows, rebuilding existing wall and demolition of outhouses, 14 Wharton Street. Cll Warnes withdrew and Cll Woods took the chair. Approval of this plan was recommended. Cll Warnes resumed the chair.

DC/09/1129/FUL, Mr & Mrs P and A Boothby, construct 2 bungalows and garages and erection of garage for 17 Southend Rd. Refusal was recommended on the grounds of overdevelopment.

DC/10/0026/FUL, Mr M Elvin, construction of a rear conservatory, 17 Flixton Rd. Approval was recommended.

The following planning decisions were received from WDC:-

DC/09/1008/FUL, Miss P Plews, erection of a single storey rear extension, 44 Staithe Rd. Approved.

DC/09/1044/FUL, Mr & Mrs Durrant, construction of a two storey side extension, 23 Tower Mill Rd. Approved.

DC/09/1012/1013/LBC, Mr J Walker, listed building and planning consent, proposed conversion and extension of garage block to bungalow, 1 Lower Olland St. Approved.

DC/09/1021/FUL, Mr M Hall, replacement of first floor windows and replacement of rear downstairs windows, Masonic Rooms, 18 Chaucer Street. Approved.

DC/09/1076/FUL, Mr P Milburn, retrospective application for retention of replacement windows to front, 33 Lower Olland Street. Refused.

DC/09/1014/COU, Mr S Duffy, change of use from light industrial use(B1) to replacement tyre centre, unts 14-15 Southend Rd Industrial Estate. Refused.

10. To receive a report from the Finance & General Purposes Committee and to deal with matters arising

The Committee met on the 4th January 2010. Present were Cll Warnes, Woods, Blowers O'Neill, Groom, Jervis, O'Neill and Shepherd.

1. Apologies were received from Cll Thompson.
2. Cll Jervis declared an interest in agenda item 4.
3. No local electors wished to comment on matters to be considered at this meeting in accordance with Schedule 1 of the Council's Standing Orders
4. It was recommended and agreed that no grant would be paid to Black Dog Arts to reimburse them for the insurance premium already paid as this was a regular overhead which, as an establish group, should be met by the group. In future years it would be open to the group to seek grant support for new projects.
5. To consider making a donation to Bungay Youth Association. The Committee had been given delegated powers to agree a grant up to the level of £945 being the sum voted to cover the Associations insurance costs and then withdrawn in view of the changed position of the Association. The Clerk reported that he had received a copy

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of the ROSPA report relating to the access ramp for which a grant was now being sought. The report was 2 years old and did not give a high priority to this work as evidenced by the fact that the work had not been carried out in the 2 years that had elapsed since the report was presented. Furthermore only one quote had been received for the work and even if the Committee were to grant the full amount within their power there was still a considerable shortfall if the work was to proceed on the basis of the quote. He suggested as an alternative that the Council offer a grant to cover the cost of a new ROSPA report in case this highlighted the need for more essential work. If this was the case the Association could use their own resources and seek a grant from the Council to carry out this high priority work. Furthermore the Clerk advised that a grant of the full amount would exceed the Council's donation budget for the current year. Against the advice of the Clerk the Committee voted a grant of £945 for the access ramp.

6. There were no cheques for payment.

The following balances were reported:-

Bank accounts £10058.14

Scottish Widows deposit accounts £94000.30

Total £104058.44

7. Other business. Cll Shepherd complained about the icy condition of some of the pavements in the town. Members were asked to let the Clerk know of grit bins in their areas so that a comprehensive list could be drawn up so that additional provision could be considered.

11. To receive a report from the Environment Committee and deal with matters arising

The Committee met on 4th January 2010. Present were Clls Warnes, Woods, Bedingfield, Cloke, Evans, O'Neill and Shepherd.

1. Apologies were received from Clls Thompson and Ward.
2. No interests were declared.
3. No local electors wished to comment on matters to be considered at this meeting in accordance with Schedule 1 of the Council's Standing Orders
4. Matters relating to the 10:10 campaign were discussed. The Clerk reported on power use at the Riverside Centre. The energy savings benefits of car sharing and turning off of street lights for part of the night were referred to as was the beneficial effects to be gained from a tree planting programme. Further consideration was to be given to these matters at the next meeting of the Committee.
5. Information was received about the Environment Agency's role in relation to the EDF proposed new nuclear power station at Sizewell. Cll O'Neill spoke of the need to address in the design stage problems associated with the long term effects of rising sea levels.
6. Other business. It was noted that Clls Warnes, Cloke, O'Neill and Shepherd with Cll Bedingfield as reserve would represent the Council in the Brains of Bungay quiz on 22 January 2010.

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12. To receive a report on the operation of the Riverside Centre and related matters

A meeting of the supervisory group with the Canoe Club would be arranged so that a report can be made to the Council at the next full meeting. Problems with the water heating and door entry systems had arisen at the Centre. These were being addressed and costings for carrying out necessary remedial work would be presented to the Council at the next meeting.

Black Dog Arts were planning a large scale event at the Staithe in September 2010.

13. To consider the proposal that Emails serving the summons on members to attend any meeting of the Council with an electronic signature will be satisfactory for the purpose of Schedule 12 Para (10)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972

The Clerk reported that the view of Suffolk Association of Local Councils on the legality of an Email summons was directly opposed to that expressed in the 2009 edition of the standard text book on local government administration. He therefore recommended that consideration of this matter be deferred until further information was forthcoming. This was agreed.

14. Amendment of the Council's Standing Orders arising from adoption of the proposal at agenda item 13.

Consideration deferred as for item 13 above.

15. To consider a request to use the Town Crest on commemorative mugs for presentation by Cll O'Neill

Cll O'Neill withdrew while this item was discussed. The Clerk explained that the full crest could only be used by the Council itself. The Council could however grant consent for part of the crest to be used for purposes that they considered appropriate and had done so in the past. It was decided that open-ended consent would not be granted but Cll O'Neill was to be invited to apply to the Council on a case by case basis providing details of the purpose, design and materials to be used.

16. To appoint representatives to the Bungay Youth Association

Clls Cloke and Groom were appointed to join Cll Bedingfield as council representatives on the above body.

17. To receive reports from Council Representatives

Cll Jervis reported that the Tourist Committee would meet at the Riverside on 17 February at 7pm.

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Cll Evans reported on the operation of the Safer Neighbourhood Meetings referred to earlier by PC Skuse. These were effectively community forums where a wide variety of police related matters could be discussed and action requested.. The next meeting would take place at the Beccles Town Hall on 16th February at 4pm.

He advised that a breakfast meeting would take place at Lowestoft Orbis Centre on 9th March 8-10am to discuss matters relating to the possible wider economic benefits of the 2012 Olympics.

Cll Thompson said that a publicity open day for the Cyber Café would take place on 6th February. It was hoped that the Café would open in late February.

Cll Brook said that she would be joined by Cll Ward for the councillor surgery on 6th February.

Cll Ward said that a Bungay in Bloom meeting would take place on 25th January.

Cll Palin reported from the Dryers Homes Trust on internal damage caused by a car to one of the almshouses.

Cll Warnes urged members to use the town diary in the WDC Local Office. He also reported on the Civic Evening which he planned for 30th April 2010. The Community Centre had been booked for this evening. He asked members to consider nominations for the Civic and other awards.

18. To receive reports from District Councillors

Cll Woods spoke about local government re-organisation and hoped for a decision as soon as possible after the end of the consultation period on the 19th January.

19. To receive balance details and approve cheques for payment

Balances were reported as above and the following cheques were approved for payment and signed:-

The Bungay Directory, quarterly report, £415.00; Waveney Norse, rubbish collection, Riverside Centre, £84.01; Commutaports Ltd, payment on account of replacement bus shelter, £1500.00; Mr A Newberry, litter pick and Riverside, £128.86; HM Revenue & Customs, VAT to 31 December 2009, £239.53; HM Revenue & Customs, PAYE, £1512.00; P Morrow, reimbursed expenses, £415.90.

20. Other business of an important nature

Cll Ward reported that Sustainable Bungay had arranged for devices to monitor electric use to be made available for loan from Bungay Library.

Cll O'Neill suggested that details of the subsidised large item collection scheme be put on the Council notice boards.

It was agreed that the Council would meet before the committee meetings on 1st February to consider how the one-way proposals should be carried forward.

The meeting closed at 9.45pm.

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