

## Sleaford Town Council

### Minutes of the Meeting of Sleaford Town Council held on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2016 at 7.00 p.m. at The Town Hall, Quayside House, Navigation Yard, Sleaford.

**Present:** Cllr D Suiter (Chair)

Cllr M Allan (Vice Chair)

Cllr J Charlesworth

Cllr K Dolby

Cllr G Jackson

Cllr P McCallum

Cllr R Willis

Cllr A Brand

Cllr S Clegg (7:13pm)

Cllr K Fernandes

Cllr H Lorimer

Cllr A Snookes

Cllr J Brealeycook

Cllr P Coyne

Cllr M Graves (7:07pm)

Cllr J Mathieson

Cllr G Titmus

**Also in attendance Council Officers:** Clerk and Assistant Clerk  
Members of Public (4) Press (1)

**FC.1. Chairman's Welcome**

001 Chairman welcomed all to the meeting.

002 No public questions were raised at the forum before the meeting.

**FC.2. Apologies for Absence**

003 Apologies for absence with reasons were received from Councillor B Allan.

004 **IT WAS RESOLVED** to accept the above apologies with reasons. Vote: for 15 - against 0 – abstained 0.

**FC.3. Declarations of Interest.**

005 No Declarations of Interest were received.

**FC.4. Minutes**

006 **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the notes of the Council Meeting held on September 7<sup>th</sup> 2016, with two spelling amendments, be approved as minutes of the meeting. Vote: for 12 - against 0 - abstained 3

**FC.5. Chairman's Report**

007 Sleaford In Bloom Awards had taken place earlier, this evening, in the Town Hall. SIB were grateful for the use of room and Mr Graham Sleaford, Services Supervisor was thanked for his involvement with SIB.

008 Solo Club booked for Christmas Market Dinner, Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2016.

**FC.6. Planning Matters**

009 6.1 **Current Planning Applications – IT WAS RESOLVED** to accept officer recommendation for no comment, on the following applications. Vote: for 14- against 0 – abstentions 1. The Resolution was carried. NKDC to be notified accordingly.

Ref No	Location	Proposal
16/1055/FUL	Former Electricity Sub-Station, Electric Station Road	Erection of 6 no houses & associated parking provisions (resubmission of approved 13/0769/FUL) NB: STC made no comments
16/1108/FUL	The Agra, 1 Pride Parkway, Enterprise Park	Erection of porch to front elevation

010 6.1 **16/0547/FUL & 16/0548/LBC Amended Plans**, Solo Club, 6 Market Place, Amendments consist of revised floor plans to show for the creation of 8 letting rooms & supporting statement to accompany application.

011 **IT WAS RESOLVED** not to agree officer recommendation of no comment but to ask NKDC, for a time extension, to enable this application to be brought back to the next meeting. Vote: for 6 – against 4 – abstention 5. The Resolution was carried. NKDC to be notified accordingly.

012 Cllr M Graves arrived at the meeting.

013 6.2 **16/0984/RESM** – Reserved matters application for the erection of 199 dwellings with public open space & associated infrastructure including formation of roundabout to Grantham Road & new access onto Northfield Road (pursuant of 14/1257/OUT). Land South of Grantham Road & West of Northfield.

014 **IT WAS RESOLVED** to make no comment to this application. Vote: for 12 – against 0 – abstentions 4. The Resolution was carried. NKDC to be notified accordingly.

**FC.7. STC Neighbourhood Plan**

015 Cllr P Coyne circulated a written report which explained “Made in Sleaford” will be taking place on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2016. There will be a display in the Town Hall to coincide with this event enabling the public to see the existing Plans which have to be taken into account in the development of the Neighbourhood Plan. The report was noted.

016 Cllr S Clegg arrived at the meeting.

**FC.8. Finance**

017 8.1 **Regular Direct Debits/Standing Orders - IT WAS RESOLVED** to approve the list totalling £16,258.41. Vote: for 17 – against 0 – abstentions 0. The Resolution was carried.

018 8.2 **Pending BACS payments - IT WAS RESOLVED** to approve the list totalling £22,775.10. Vote: for 17 – against 0 – abstentions 0. The Resolution was carried.

019 8.3 **Pending cheque payments - IT WAS RESOLVED** to approve the list totalling £5.00. Vote: for 17 – against 0 – abstentions 0. The Resolution was carried.

020 8.4 **Draft Budget & Precept 2017/18** – The Clerk clarified several questions and asked members to consider the information detailed in the reports and to contact him with any amendments for consideration. A further draft budget & precept report to be brought to a future meeting later this year.

021 **IT WAS RESOLVED** to note the Clerk's comments and Councillors were requested to identify any changes required to the draft budget for 2017/18, direct to the Clerk. Vote: for 17 – against 0 – abstentions 0.

#### **FC.9. Internal Affairs**

022 9.1 **Review of the Constitution – To receive a report and consider motions** – Members expressed a number of views during a long debate, regarding the new Constitution which has been in place since May 2016.

023 Councillor J Charlesworth requested a **recorded vote** for this item which included motions 1 to 4, as set out in the report. Seconded by Cllr R Wills. Vote: for 17 – against 0 – abstentions 0. The Resolution was carried.

024 **IT WAS RESOLVED** to accept an amendment to Motion 1, e, changing the maximum of members from five (5) to seven (7). Vote: for 9 – against 6 – abstentions 2.

025 **Motion 1 (Panels)** the following **WAS RESOLVED:-**

- a) The Council will appoint Panels comprised solely of Councillors;
- b) Each Panel will include a member of staff to provide advice and an administrative function;
- c) The remit, terms of reference, timescale and membership will be determined by resolution of the Council (see also **Note**);
- d) The function of Panels is to make recommendations to the Council but cannot decide on matters;
- e) A Panel will consist of a maximum of seven (7) members except for the Clerk's Management Panel which has three (3) members;
- f) A Panel may invite and seek expert advice from outside the Panel, however, all recommendations brought to the Council can only be decided by those appointed to sit on the Panel;
- g) The Council may dissolve a Panel at any meeting.

**Note:** *the means, and criteria, by which Councillors are selected into Panels and Working Groups still has to be addressed. There are several options including selection by the Clerk after receiving Councillor Preference or other methods in a way that is seen as un-biased.*

026 **Recorded Vote was taken:**

Cllr A Brand (For)	Cllr H Lorimer (For)
Cllr K Dolby (For)	Cllr M Graves (For)
Cllr J Charlesworth (For)	Cllr R Willis (For)
Cllr G Titmus (For)	Cllr K Fernandes (For)
Cllr J Mathieson (For)	

Cllr D Suiter (Against)	Cllr M Allan (Against)
Cllr A Snookes (Against)	Cllr J Brealeycook (Against)
Cllr P Coyne (Against)	Cllr G Jackson (Against)

Cllr S Clegg (Abstained)      Cllr P McCallum (Abstained)

027 **Voting: for 9 – against 6 – abstentions 2. The Resolution was carried.**

028 **Motion 2 – (Working Group) the following **WAS RESOLVED**:-**

- a) The Council will appoint Working Groups comprised solely of Councillors;
- b) Each Working Group will, where possible include a member of staff to provide advice and an administrative function;
- c) The remit, terms of reference, timescale and membership will be determined by resolution of the Council (see also **Note**);
- d) The function of Working Groups is to make recommendations to the Council but cannot decide on matters;
- e) A Working Group will consist of a maximum of five (5) members;
- f) A Working Group may invite and seek expert advice from outside the Group, however, all recommendations brought to the Council can only be decided by those appointed to sit on the Working Group;
- g) The Council may dissolve a Working Group at any time.

**Note:** *the means, and criteria, by which Councillors are selected onto Panels and Working Groups still has to be addressed. There are several options including selection by the Clerk after receiving Councillor Preference or other methods in a way that is seen as un-biased.*

029 **Recorded Vote was taken:**

Cllr A Brand (For)	Cllr H Lorimer (For)
Cllr K Dolby (For)	Cllr M Graves (For)
Cllr J Charlesworth (For)	Cllr R Willis (For)
Cllr G Titmus (For)	Cllr J Mathieson (For)

Cllr D Suiter (Against)	Cllr M Allan (Against)
Cllr A Snookes (Against)	Cllr J Brealeycook (Against)
Cllr P Coyne (Against)	Cllr G Jackson (Against)

Cllr S Clegg (Abstained)      Cllr K Fernandes (Abstained)  
Cllr P McCallum (Abstained)

030 **Voting: for 8 – against 6 – abstentions 3. The Resolution was carried.**

031 **Motion 3** – A Panel with the remit to advise upon Markets, Fairs, Events and the development of Marketing Sleaford and its assets.

032 **Recorded Vote was taken:**

Cllr A Brand (For)	Cllr J Charlesworth (For)
Cllr D Suiter (Against)	Cllr M Allan (Against)
Cllr P McCallum (Against)	Cllr A Snookes (Against)
Cllr J Brealeycook (Against)	Cllr P Coyne (Against)
Cllr K Fernandes (Against)	Cllr S Clegg (Against)
Cllr G Jackson (Against)	Cllr J Mathieson (Against)
Cllr H Lorimer (Abstained)	Cllr K Dolby (Abstained)
Cllr M Graves (Abstained)	Cllr R Willis (Abstained)
Cllr G Titmus (Abstained)	

033 **Voting: for 2 – against 10 – abstentions 5. The Resolution FAILED.**

034 **Motion 4** – The Council resolves to abolish the Role of Leader and make appropriate adjustments to the Clerk’s Management Panel.

035 **Recorded Vote was taken:**

Cllr A Brand (For)	Cllr H Lorimer (For)
Cllr K Dolby (For)	Cllr J Charlesworth (For)
Cllr R Willis (For)	Cllr G Titmus (For)
Cllr D Suiter (Against)	Cllr M Allan (Against)
Cllr A Snookes (Against)	Cllr J Brealeycook (Against)
Cllr P Coyne (Against)	Cllr S Clegg (Against)
Cllr G Jackson (Against)	Cllr J Mathieson (Against)
Cllr M Graves (Abstained)	Cllr P McCallum (Abstained)
Cllr K Fernandes (Abstained)	

036 **Voting: for 6 – against 8 – abstentions 3. The Resolution FAILED.**

037 9.3 Strategic Plan – Update from Panel Lead. It was agreed that this item be deferred to a future meeting.

038 **IT WAS RESOLVED** to suspend Standing Orders, to allow a Power Point Presentation to be set up. Vote: for 17 – against 0 – abstention 0.

039 **IT WAS RESOLVED** to continue the meeting and it was **FURTHER RESOLVED** to extend to the meeting until 9:30pm. Vote: for 16 – against 0 – abstentions 1.

040 9.4 **Asset Working Group** – The Group Lead and one other Working Group Member took the Council through a number of power point slides, following the first “walk about” meeting that had taken place.

041 Terms of Reference was requested for this Working Group. Clerk to bring to a future meeting. The report was noted.

042 **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the following items be deferred to the next Council Meeting:-

9.5 Town Hall Marketing Group – Update

9.6 Christmas Market 2017 – update

10.1 To note the draft Annual Town Meeting Notes of 18<sup>th</sup> May 2016

11.1 Armed Forces Day 2017 and 2018

11.3 Verbal updates from District and County Councillors

12.2 East Midlands Rail refranchising – Draft response to NKDC

Vote: for 17 – against 0 – abstentions 0.

043 11.2 **Application of Proposed Work to Trees subject to a TPO** – Fell one Hornbeam at The Foyer, 81 Eastgate - **IT WAS RESOLVED** to make no comment on this application. Vote: for 15 – against 0 – abstentions 2.

044 Councillor H Lorimer left the meeting at 9:15pm

045 12.1 Cemetery Toilets – To receive report and costings (attached). The Clerk explained the current situation. **IT WAS RESOLVED** to defer this item to a future meeting. Vote: for 16 – against 0 – abstentions 0.

**FC.13. Resolution to move into Closed Session.**

046 **IT WAS RESOLVED** to exclude the public and press for the consideration for the following confidential matter. Vote: for 16 – against 0 – abstentions 0.

**FC.14.** Meeting with Planning Consultants regarding Boston Road Site Access on 16<sup>th</sup> September 2016 – update from the meeting and agreement to, and approval of, a response to the relevant parties

047 **IT WAS RESOLVED** to instruct STC’s solicitors to write to Tesco's and/or their legal representatives and inform them that prior to any further progress on the access road proposal we require their agreement that they will meet all legal and professional costs in relation to this matter regardless of whether the planning application or development is ultimately successful.

Furthermore, STC advise them of the costs incurred for the previous planning application and invite them to reimburse us for those costs.

The above to be communicated to Roythornes as soon as possible.

Vote: for 16 – against 0 – abstentions 0.

**FC.15.** Update from the Clerk on HR matters. The Clerk circulated a report for noting.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked all for attending and closed the meeting at 9.27pm.