

**MINUTES of the FULL COUNCIL MEETING
of FAKENHAM TOWN COUNCIL**

held at the COMMUNITY CENTRE, OAK STREET, FAKENHAM

on WEDNESDAY 28TH FEBRUARY at 6:00pm

PRESENT:

Councillor A Glynn (Chairman)

Cllrs: J Holdom, M Dutton, G Acheson, D Hunter, V Joslin, I Ponton, A May-Hannam, M

Campbell, T Duffy, J Rockett and N Southerland

District Councillors: Cllr C Cushing & Cllr L Vickers

County Councillor: None

Town Clerk: Lesley Meanley

FTC Admin: Karen Lindsay

Members of the Public: Twenty one

Members of the Press: None

		Action (initials)
AGENDA		
251	<p>TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM FAKENHAM POLICE PC Elliot had circulated a report prior to the meeting which will be added to the Town council website. PC Elliot also noted that a new Full Time mobile speed officer would be joining Fakenham.</p>	
252	<p>TO RECEIVE ANY ELECTORS' QUESTIONS A resident asked "Why has North Walsham got 19 1hr free red bays when Fakenham only has 3 x 30minute bays and the town is dying. Please don't include Millers Walk private car park. NNDC Cllr Vickers responded to explain that North Walsham's Heritage Action Zone (which basically pedestrianised the town centre) meant that 16 roadside places were lost and have been redistributed to other North Walsham car parks. Cllr Vickers offered the exact distribution if the elector wanted to get in touch with her. Cllr Glynn confirmed that FTC would also be considering car parking as part of a working group.</p> <p>A resident asked "what is happening about the Wensum Lodge, it is more like a bail hostel than anything, they are putting people – drug addicts – in the bungalows behind the limes car park where vulnerable people live, surely this is an area for vulnerable people, not drug addicts. NNDC Cllr Vickers responded that the allegation that it is a bail hostel is not recognised by NNDC but it may be that the owner has come to a separate arrangement with the Home Office, Cllr Vickers will investigate but are not aware of it. Cllr Vickers understands that vulnerable people might be concerned but anonymous, non-specific allegations are difficult to deal with, not least because it is hard to communicate an outcome. Cllr Vickers can be contacted in complete confidence. Last summer an anonymous complaint was made to FTC about drug taking and rowdiness at Wensum Lodge. Cllr Vickers knocked on every door in Olivet Way and the adjoining roads, speaking to those who were in and leaving a calling card with those who didn't answer the door. Apart from one woman saying she felt a little intimidated walking her dog in the evening, there were no complaints, and even she said the men weren't doing anything wrong, just milling around. Most people were supportive. The owner insisted that anyone "doing" drugs is</p>	

immediately chucked out and denied any rowdiness. Cllr Vickers will revisit the Wensum Lodge owner.

FTC Cllr Hunter raised the issue of signage that advertised and implied the lodge was still a function hotel for member so the public. Cllr Vickers will raise with the owner.

Cllr Vickers will also speak to the police and see how many times they have been called out to Wensum Lodge.

A resident asked when funding was granted for the swimming pool project. Cllr Glynn responded that the first approach to government was made in 2021 but unsuccessful, the bid was resubmitted in 2022 and unsuccessful. The bid was resubmitted again in 2023 ahead of the third round of funding which was successful in November 2023.

A resident asked what is being done about the state of the building at 9 Norwich Street.

Cllr Glynn explained that FTC Cllrs agreed that it was unacceptable, but it was up to NNDC. NNDC District Cllr Vickers explained that she has been challenging NNDC to act and is awaiting an update from leader of the council Tim Adams.

A resident asked when the swimming pool could be expected to open.

Cllr Glynn confirmed that work is expected to star in October 2024 with a planned opening date of March 2026.

A resident asked if there was anything that would prevent the swimming pool from opening.

Cllr Glynn responded that several issues have been resolved, there was a concern around MUGA funding from Sport England being time restricted which is resolved. A change of government may affect the funding stream. NNDC are meeting prospective contractors for the build. FTC whilst having agreed in principle need to grant the lease of land to the project.

A resident asked whether the plans allow for the current sports facility to be upgraded to be safe and accommodate a larger number of sports, to include access for an increased number of disabled participants and to support the academy.

Cllr Hunter responded that large areas of the current facility are earmarked for refurbishment, but NNDC would need to explain the exact plans.

A resident asked what would happen to the Trap Lane pavilion and to the Town band.

Cllr Glynn answered that the pavilion will need to go as part of the development site and FTC are actively looking at options, there are currently 2 potential options to temporarily rehouse the Fakenham Town band, in either NNDC accommodation or at the academy. Longer term NNDC have put provision into the refurbished sports facility for a community room that includes storage and practice space.

A resident asked what would happen to the Pre school that uses Trap Lane pavilion. Cllr Glynn answered that she understood the pre school were working with Norfolk County Council on options for alternative accommodation that would hopefully include a permanent solution as they currently hire Trap Lane pavilion on a sessional basis.

A resident asked if the local canoe clubs could be involved in the project as currently, they must travel to Taverham to practice.

Cllr Glynn confirmed that FTC will put them in touch with the project leader Steve Hems.

A resident asked why the car park in Millenium Park has been closed as cars for the park are now parking on Queens Road and Lichfield Street and Rosemary Terrace, meaning they can't park outside their house.

Cllr Dutton responded that the Fakenham Recreation Ground Charity owns the park and had reached the decision to close the small car park after issues with the surface being destroyed and activities at night. It has recently been fenced off. The main park gates are currently being refurbished and will be rehung later this year

	<p>and at the moment is not intended to reopen as a car park. Cllr Glynn responded that FTC is looking to upgrade the park with a new skatepark project and will look at the parks overall facilities as part of that project when the swimming pool project has settled down.</p> <p>A resident asked if the loss of the Trap Lane pavilion would see FTC recompensed by NNDC. Cllr Glynn responded that NNDC expect FTC to contribute to the swimming pool project and losing the pavilion is part of it.</p> <p>A resident asked why NNDC are spending money on a roundabout on the bypass that nobody wants and why aren't Trinity college paying for it Cllr Glynn responded that it is an NNDC and County Council issue, not FTC but they are doing it to facilitate the Northern development of Fakenham.</p> <p>A resident asked if the Grammar school had been sold. Several Cllr's answered, FTC have not been formally informed of any decisions but there is an understanding that final tenders have been received and a choice made. As its Norfolk County Council property, they are under no obligation to discuss with FTC.</p> <p>A resident living in a private road asked what will happen when Highfield Road car park goes? They already can't park outside their house as others park there, it's a private road so no one wants to help. What will be provided as roads are getting more congested and a lack of public transport means people need cars. Cllr Glynn Responded that FTC opposed the sale of Highfield Road car park, even suggesting we land swap with land at Trap Lane to save it but NNDC refused. NNDC administration have made the decision to sell and knock down the toilets.</p> <p>A resident asked if "pressure can be put on NNDC to do something about the situation as NNDC make decisions that affect people without consulting them and are holding Fakenham back. Shops are closed, pubs are closed, planning is giving to shops that won't last long like more hairdressers".</p> <p>Cllrs explained that district Cllr's present do fight on resident's behalf, but NNDC administration make decisions out of FTC and district Cllrs control. Cllr Glynn added that Planning Permission to turn the former wedding shop to a hairdresser would not have been necessary.</p>	
253	<p>REPORTS FROM DISTRICT/COUNTY COUNCILLORS Reports were received from District Cllr Vickers & Cushing as well as County Cllr FitzPatrick. These will be available on the FTC website.</p>	
254	<p>TO CONSIDER FOR ACCEPTANCE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Bucknell as well as County Councillor FitzPatrick.</p>	
255	<p>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST None</p>	
256	<p>TO CONFIRM THE FULL COUNCIL MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 24th JANUARY 2024 AND THE EXTRAORDINARY FULL COUNCIL MEETINGS ON 7TH AND 19TH FEBRURY 2024 The minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 24thJanuary 2024 were agreed on the proposition of Cllr Glynn and seconded by Cllr Acheson AGREED by all and signed by the Chairman. The minutes of the Extraordinary Full Council meetings on 7th February 2024 were agreed on the proposition of Cllr Glynn and seconded by Cllr Hunter. The minutes of the Extraordinary Full Council meetings on 19th February 2024 were agreed on the proposition of Cllr Glynn and seconded by Cllr Hunter. AGREED by all and signed by the Chairman.</p>	
257	<p>TO RECEIVE UPDATE ON ACTIONS TAKEN AFTER THE LAST COUNCIL MEETING IF THESE MATTERS ARE NOT ON THE AGENDA Minute 186 - To receive an update on the parking town centre rejuvenation stakeholder working group Awaiting an update from County Cllr Fitzpatrick, which is expected by mid-March. He is seeking funding for a feasibility study into a bus stand. A previous feasibility study pre covid investigated parking but not bus accommodation. Cllr Glynn arrange a working party meeting in the 3rd week of March, Cllr's Acheson, Duffy, Rockett and</p>	AG

	<p>Bucknell were part of the party with Cllr Hunter as a substitute if either Cllr Acheson or Duffy were unable to make it. Cllr Glynn will circulate dates for the working party and include bus representatives to include bus issues and deal with parking as a separate issue. Cllr Dutton suggested pedestrian areas rather than parking could be considered. All agreed parking and pavements need to be accessible for all and currently isn't because of people parking on pavements etc. Clerk to write formally to the Inspector for Roads Policing Unit Norfolk to complain.</p> <p>Minute 230 - To discuss the FLASH project</p> <p>Cllr Dutton is unhappy at the loss of the pavilion and disappointed that NNDC have not offered a replacement. He was pleased that the Fakenham Town Band that FTC were in discussions with NNDC about taking the upstairs area in the Connect building for their temporary accommodation. There is a second offer from Fakenham Academy.</p> <p>Concerns that the FLASH project will result in the loss of FTC depot and grounds staff accommodation which FTC must address.</p> <p>Fakenham Town Band have expressed concerns that the academy will not suit their needs for storage of equipment but need to discuss the idea with the Academy.</p> <p>NNDC are looking into accommodation upstairs in the connect building as room size and storage suitable. Thanks to Cllr Campbell for liaising with the academy.</p> <p>FTC will need to rent temporary facilities for the groundsmen. NNDC have advised that if a building is displaced by another building, planners are likely to be less concerned if the footprint of a replacement matches what has been lost, a new community building may be permitted to be built at Trap Lane. FTC currently has no funds to build but there may be community funding available for a pavilion.</p> <p>Opportunity to build a proper depot and workshop. Steering group members to agree what's needed and push NNDC.</p>	<p>AG</p> <p>Clerk</p>
258	<p>TO FILL ONE TOWN COUNCILLOR VACANCY BY CO-OPTION</p> <p>No candidates stood</p>	
259	<p>TO RECEIVE THE MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS</p> <p>None</p>	
260	<p>TO RECEIVE ANY REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS WHO HAVE ATTENDED MEETINGS OUTSIDE THE COUNCIL</p> <p>Cllr Campbell had met with Bob Moorhouse Chief Executive of Sapiientia Academy Trust regarding potential Fakenham Town Band accommodation. Cllr Campbell has Been put in touch with a contact at Robertson Barracks, Swanton Morley, to discuss military presence at the D-Day80 town events.</p> <p>Cllr Acheson & Glynn met with the Fakenham Town Band to discuss the potential loss of Trap Lane Pavilion and possible alternative accommodation options.</p> <p>Cllr Joslin's cinema triangle tidy group are back after a winter break.</p> <p>Cllr Campbell met with the cinema manager who is more positive the cinema will stay open. Cllr Campbell will try to get the manager to the next full council meeting. FTC may be able to do something as a community project, if so Cllr's Glynn & Holdom will lead.</p>	<p>MC</p>
261	<p>TO RECEIVE AND NOTE CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMENT UPON ANY ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AND ACTION</p> <p>The Clerk had received correspondence from travel website Kayak wanting to showcase the Fakenham Heritage Trail in their Fakenham attractions page if Cllrs were happy to mention KAYAK on our website. All Agreed. Cllr Glynn will also ask the Visit North Norfolk Website to feature the Heritage Trail. Heritage Trail brochure & budget to be reviewed at the next Finance committee meeting.</p>	<p>AG</p>
262	<p>TO RECEIVE AND ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE DEVELOPMENT & MARKET COMMITTEE HELD ON 5th February 2024</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on 5th February 2024 were moved for reception and adoption by Cllr Hunter Seconded by Cllr Duffy and agreed unanimously</p>	
263	<p>TO RECEIVE AND ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE HELD ON 13th February 2024</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on 13th February 2024 were moved for reception and adoption by Cllr Glynn Seconded by Cllr Acheson and agreed unanimously</p>	
264	<p>TO RECEIVE AND ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE LEISURE & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 20th FEBRUARY 2024</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on 20th February 2024 were moved for reception and adoption by Cllr Joslin Seconded by Cllr Glynn and agreed unanimously. Cllr Southerland left the meeting.</p>	

265	<p>FINANCIAL MATTERS - MONTHLY REPORTS:</p> <p>a) To receive and approve Fakenham Town Council & Charter Market Receipts and Payments reports for January 2024 On the proposition of Cllr Dutton, seconded by Cllr Acheson, RESOLVED to receive, and approve the receipts and payments of the accounts as reviewed by the finance committee for January 2024</p> <p>b) To receive and approve Fakenham Town Council & Charter Market Consolidated Bank reports for January 2024 On the proposition of Cllr Dutton, seconded by Cllr Acheson RESOLVED to receive, and approve the consolidate bank reports as reviewed by the finance committee for January 2024</p> <p>c) To receive and adopt minutes for the Finance Committee meeting held on 19th February 2024 The minutes of the meeting held on the 19th February 2024, were moved for reception and adoption by Cllr Dutton, seconded by Cllr Acheson</p> <p>d) To receive Finance Team report The Finance team have reviewed the information that comes out to Cllr's with the office and have agreed TOR for the ICO.</p>	
266	<p>TO RECEIVE AND ADOPT POLICIES BROUGHT TO FEBRUARY FINANCE MEETING:</p> <p>Expenses Policy On the proposition of Cllr Dutton, seconded by Cllr Hunter and agreed by all that this policy should be approved.</p> <p>Reserves Policy On the proposition of Cllr Dutton, seconded by Cllr Hunter and agreed by all that this policy should be approved.</p>	
267	<p>TO AGREE A DATE, TIME AND VENUE FOR THE ANNUAL TOWN ASSEMBLY All agreed to hold the Annual Assembly of the Town on Wednesday 29th May 2024 at 19:00 at the Fakenham Community Centre.</p>	
268	<p>TO DISCUSS MEDIA MESSAGING AND CHANNELS All Agreed that media messages to the Wensum advertiser would come from the Town Clerk and to the Beacon from the current Chairman.</p>	
269	<p>TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM EP YOUTH Cllr's agreed that that the report was impressive. Clerk to let EP Youth know.</p>	Clerk
270	<p>TO CONSIDER THE COUNCIL'S POSITION ON THE SALE OF HIGHFIELD ROAD CAR PARK NNDC have agreed to the sale despite FTC opposing it. All agreed the Clerk will write to NNDC to urge them not to allow the sale of the housing when built, to offer them with no right to buy.</p>	Clerk
271	<p>TO CONSIDER THE COUNCIL'S POSITION ON 9 NORWICH STREET Cllr Rockett has reported to County Highways as a Health & Safety issue.</p>	
272	<p>TO CONSIDER A PROPOSAL FOR PILOT COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PLAN On the proposition of Cllr Dutton, seconded by Cllr Acheson and agreed by all that this policy should be approved.</p>	
273	<p>TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE ADDITIONAL COST OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES EXPENDITURE IN RESPECT OF OPEN SPACES MANAGEMENT Deferred to March Finance meeting</p>	
274	<p>TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON UPCOMING EVENTS</p> <p>CLASSIC CAR RALLY – Rally organised for Sunday 28th April with cars ending in the marketplace. Full route details to follow. Fakenham Auto Club will apply for a market Tolls grant to assist with plaques and trophies.</p> <p>80TH ANNIVERSARY OF D-DAY: An offer from a military historian who lectures at Kings College, London, to come to Fakenham to deliver two presentations. One at the Academy for older students and one to the community. The Deputy Clerk has organised the majority of day events and is well underway with organising the evening events.</p>	
275	<p>TO RECEIVE ANY FURTHER ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA None</p>	
276	<p>TO MOVE THAT THE PUBLIC & PRESS BE EXCLUDED FROM THE MEETING UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 1(2) OF THE PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960 On the proposition of Cllr Dutton seconded by Cllr Joslin. RESOLVED that pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, that Public & Press be excluded from the Meeting, as publicity would be</p>	

