

# **Long Stratton Town Council**

# MINUTES OF FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 14<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2025 @ 7pm IN THE COMMUNITY PAVILION ROOM

In attendance: Councillors, Justin Harris, Florence Morimont, Mat Pochin, Louise Mundford, Andrew Lansdell, David Willis, Kelly Lunness, Helen Dickerson, Susan Smith, Katrina Thompson and Fiona Lawrence

Town Clerk, Becky Buck and Molly Hallett, Town Council administrator.

County Councillor Alison Thomas and 4 Members of Public.

#### 1. To receive apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mundford, Dickerson and Lawrence and these were accepted by the Council.

### 2. To receive disclosures of interest and dispensations

There were no disclosures of interest or dispensations received.

3. To allow members of the public and district and county councillors to speak - max 20 Minutes County Councillor Thomas reported the following.

Bypass updates, the pedestrian bridge is now in place, the beams from Hall Lane have been delivered and installed and Octavius are hoping they will be open for the Summer.

Councillor Thomas asked the Council to consider what would the Council like to do for a opening launch when the road is completed. It was advised that Bike Active Norfolk would like to be involved. The Clerk advised that the youth council through the youth work may have some good ideas too. Road closures are planned but there is no set date as of yet.

Local Government Reorganisation, Norfolk County Council are looking at proposing 1 or 2 unitary authorities as they feel that 3 unitary authorities wouldn't work.

A member of the public asked if a teenager who has been litter picking around Long Stratton could be recognised. The town clerk advised that a Council can't give money to an individual. County Councillor Thomas advised that South Norfolk District Council are running a Community Award scheme, and the Council can nominate the teenager through that scheme.



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## 4. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 10th March 2025

The minutes of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2025 were approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman as a true copy.

#### 5. Finance and Governance

a. To note and authorise income and expenditure through Unity Trust Bank since 10<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Income and expenditure were noted and authorised by the Council and the payment list was signed by the Chairman as a true copy.

## b. To note all credit card payments since 10th March 2025

Credit card payments were noted by the Council and the Chairman signed the payment list as a true copy.

### c. To note the yearend financial figures.

The Council noted the yearend financial figures.

d. To discuss and decide on a <u>quotation</u> for filling in the pothole on the car park.

Following a lengthy discussion, contractor C was appointed with a quote of £750 + VAT.

#### 6. To discuss and decide on managing of the public toilets.

Following a lengthy discussion; it was agreed that Councillors would take it in turns to lock the public toilets until a more permanent solution is found.

### 7. To receive an update on youth work in Long Stratton.

An update was provided and it was noted that youth café was going really well, however additional volunteers were needed to ensure young people's safety. A member of the public, Councillor Thompson and Councillor Smith all advised that they are happy to volunteer.

8. To discuss and decide in implementing Lemon Bookings on a rolling month contract.

Following a lengthy discussion; the Council agreed on an annual subscription for pavilion bookings.

## 9. To receive an update on the VE day event on May 10th 2025

An update was provided to Council with items booked.

#### 10. To note steps being made regarding Local Government Reorganisation.

The Clerk advised that following recent training events on Local Government Reorganisation it was likely that once unitary authorities are established services and assets may be devolved



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down to the Town Council. As a result of this the Clerk had started looking at the facilities and services within Long Stratton and who provides what.

#### 11. AOB

As part of the successful Councillor surgery held, it was suggested that the County Councillor was given her own item agenda so that members of the public could participate more freely. The Clerk advised that she would adjust the agenda.

It was reported that on FP12 there was a lot of rubble. Councillor Pochin advised that he will go and look at it.

It was reported that the bin at Netherton House was broken.

The Clerk advised that the Annual Town Meeting will be held on Monday May 19<sup>th</sup> at 6.30pm.

12. To close the meeting to press and public under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 due to the disclosure of confidential information (land, contracts, staffing matters)

Members of the Public were asked to leave the meeting. The meeting was then closed.

### 13. Staffing matters.

The Clerk advised the Council of the recent staffing matters. Following a lengthy discussion, it was agreed to terminate the employment of a staff member. The Clerk was asked to enquire whether a former employee would be interested in returning. The Council agreed the terms and conditions for that role.

With there being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 20:47