



Long Stratton Town Council

MINUTES OF FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 10th MARCH 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

Councillors Ciorra and Baker gave apologies for absence 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 Alison Thomas reported the following.

The flood defence barriers are now at the fire station where they will be deployed in the case of flooding in the area. The condition of The Beck has been reported back to Octavius and Norfolk County Council. Octavius did not know the history of the flooding in the area and more baffles will be put down to prevent the run off of the bypass going into The Beck. Remedial works will be carried out to clear The Beck.

The bypass is progressing well with the pedestrian bridge for Church Lane being delivered and the buttresses for Hall Lane bridge in place. Octavius are hoping these routes could open in Summer 2025.

Devolution is in the fast track programme. Local Government Reorganisation is progressing, District Councils are proposing 2 or 3 Unitary Councils, Norfolk County Council haven't specified what would be their preference. There is a lot of work surrounding how Social Care will be delivered and whether a single unitary would be preferable or would this be too big.

A member of the public advised that at the roadworks at Swainsthorpe the operative in charge of the lights was asleep in his vehicle. Alison advised that this had been reported.



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A member of the public asked if South Norfolk House would be used as a base for a Unitary Authority. Alison advised that as far as she was aware the resolution passed to sell to Blue Sky was still the proposal being taken forward. Another member of the public asked if the green space at the front of South Norfolk House can be retained as a Town Asset. Alison advised that at the time of discussion she had campaigned for the open space to remain as it would not be in keeping with the street scene if this was built on.

A member of the public from Bike Active Norfolk advised that they had raised £8,500 towards a rickshaw and they are hoping to have the service running from Spring 2026.

4. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on [10th February 2025](#)

The minutes of the meeting held on 10th February 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 10th February 2025

The payment lists were noted and authorised by the Council and the Chairman signed the payment list as a true copy.

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

The Council noted the credit card payments and the Chairman signed the payment list as a true copy.

6. To discuss and decide on installing noticeboards in bus shelters.

Following a lengthy discussion, it was agreed to purchase a elasticated noticeboard to be placed on the bus shelter by The Chip Inn.

7. To discuss and decide on responding to email from [CPRE](#)

Following a lengthy discussion, it was agreed to support the email from CPRE in principle until more information regarding a potential new town was known.

8. To discuss and decide on consultation for night skies.

Following a lengthy discussion, it was agreed to start a consultation with the community regarding night skies. It would be proposed to be between 12pm-5am.



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9. To discuss and decide on a Councillor surgery

a. Councillors

Councillor Harris advised that he would be in attendance, other Councillors advised that if they could attend they would.

b. Date & Time

It was agreed for the Town Clerk and Councillor Harris to confirm a time and date which would then be circulated to the Council and advertised to the community.

10. To discuss and decide on the following policies

a. [Financial Regulations](#)

The Clerk advised of the changes made which were approved by the Council.

b. [Standing Orders](#)

The Clerk advised of the changes made which were approved by the Council.

c. [Financial Risk Assessment](#)

The Clerk advised of the changes made which were approved by the Council.

d. [Internal Controls](#)

The Clerk advised that there were no changes made, the Council approved the policy.

e. [Safeguarding](#)

The Clerk advised that this item was postponed to the next meeting to allow Safer (an organisation specialising in working with young people and safeguarding) to review the policy.

11. To discuss and decide on interview panel for youth support worker.

Councillors Lunness, Pochin and Mundford said they would like to be involved.

12. AOB

The Clerk gave a verbal update regarding the VE Day event which was well received. The Clerk was asked if it would be possible to get a historic fire engine from the Fire Engine Trust.

Councillor Dickerson advised that there is a proposal at the High School to change the school times which would allow a 2 week half term in October.

With there being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 20:22