



Long Stratton Town Council

MINUTES OF FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 16th JANUARY 2023 @ 7pm IN THE COMMUNITY PAVILION ROOM

In attendance: Councillors Kelly Lunness, Judith Baker, Mat Pochin, Diane Woodham, Andrew Lansdell Tony Wright, Robert Mackenzie, Louise Mundford (19.10), Susan Smith, David Willis and Helen Dickerson

2 members of the public

District and County Councillor Alison Thomas

Clerk Becky Buck

1. To receive a presentation from CHANCES.

Andrew Thorpe gave a presentation about how CHANCES can benefit the residents of Long Stratton. CHANCES is an organisation that works in partnership with other voluntary organisations that supports 1:1 bespoke to support motivated individuals in gaining employment. The Town Council thanked Andrew for his time and supported what CHANCES is looking to provide.

Councillor Mundford joined the meeting.

2. To receive apologies for absence

There were no apologies of absence received.

3. To receive disclosures of interest and dispensations

There were no disclosures of interest or dispensation received.

4. To allow members of the public and district and county councillors to speak - max 20 Minutes

District Councillor Thomas reported the following. The developers will be imminently putting in a revised planning application. This will need to be determined by South Norfolk Council before the 16th March 2023 when District Councillors will go into Purdah. Ongoing conversations have been progressing regarding establishing a cycle route between Long Stratton and Tasburgh, a meeting has been agreed for either the 3rd, 9th or 10th February 2023. In attendance will potentially be members of Tasburgh, Long Stratton and Tharston & Hapton as well as officers from Norfolk County Council who are looking at the proposal through the 'Draft local cycling and walking infrastructure'. Norfolk Children Services as been classified as good through Ofsted.

Nathan Homes has been investigating the localised flooding in Long Stratton. Hall Lane grills are being cleared however they are frequently re-filling.

Finally, South Norfolk House proposals are coming forward in sealed bids. These will be discussed on 13th February at a cabinet meeting, of which the Town Clerk and the Council Chairman have been



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invited to attend to make representations on the Council and Community wishes. It was confirmed the memorial gardens are not included in the sale.

The Church Warden of St Mary's Church provided an updated on the ground scanning planned which will determine the amount of vacant plots in the churchyard. The Council were able to ask questions of which the Church Warden answered to the best of his knowledge.

5. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 12th December 2022

The minutes of the previous meeting held 12th December 2022 were approved by Council and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

6. To note the Clerks report and to ask any questions arising from the report.

The clerk's report was noted and there were no questions asked.

7. Financial and Governance items

a. To approve and note receipts and payments since 14th November 2022

Payments and received since 14th November 2022 were approved and noted and signed by the chairman.

b. To note credit card payments since 14th November 2022

Credit card payments since 14th November 2022 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

c. To note the Internal Auditors report November 2022

The Clerk talked the Council through the Internal Audit report. The Council noted the recommendations, the Clerk advised that they were all in the process of being actioned.

8. Budget

a. To discuss and decide on adoption of the budget following a recommendation from the working group.

Following a lengthy discussion the budget was adopted by Council.

b. To discuss and decide on setting the precept for 2023-2024

Following a lengthy discussion, the Council agreed to raise the Precept by 8% to £213,942. The shortfall will be taken from existing ear marked reserves for Land Purchase.

9. To discuss and decide on installing a table tennis table currently situated outside South Norfolk House

It was agreed to accept the table tennis table from South Norfolk District Council. It was proposed and agreed that the location for the table tennis table will be directly outside the pavilion.

10. To discuss and decide on contributing to a land survey as per email received from South Norfolk & Broadland Council.

Following a lengthy discussion, it was agreed to contribute 8% of the cost towards a land survey.

11. To note Councillor Wright is stepping down from the planning committee.

This was noted by Council.



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12. To discuss and decide on a new CCTV camera.

Following a lengthy discussion, it was agreed to delegate the decision for a new camera to Councillors Pochin and Lunness. The Clerk was asked to contact the police to discuss the challenges the Council is facing with ASB and vandalism.

13. To discuss and decide on putting in a new grit bin for the junior school on Swan Lane

It was agreed to place a grit bin outside the school gates. Norfolk County Council will be responsible for filling it however any secondary responsibility will be the schools.

14. Play area

a. To note the ROSPA play inspection report.

The Council noted the ROSPA play inspection report. It was agreed that the Clerk and the Direct Services Officer would be responsible for the risks identified. The Clerk advised that all high risk matters had been dealt with.

b. To receive update on replacing the play equipment.

The Clerk advised that she had received a further 2 quotations and the Council discussed them at length.

c. To review the quote received from Premier Playground and review the next steps.

The Council preferred contractor Premier Playground had also provided an updated quote which was more competitive than other providers was approved to carry out the work. The Council agreed to use existing ear marked reserves to carry out the whole refurbishment and install a new trim trail and zip wire to the cost of £93,052.

15. Newsletter

a. To discuss and decide on the content.

The Council reviewed the newsletter and approved the content.

b. To discuss and decide on delegating final draft to go to the printers to a Councillor and Town Clerk or Council officers.

This was no longer necessary as the newsletter was completed.

16. Correspondence

a. To discuss and decide on email from South Norfolk & Broadland regarding Surface Water Management Plan

Following a lengthy discussion it was agreed to take ownership of, and work with South Norfolk District Council on implementing a Surface Water Management Plan.

b. To discuss and decide on email received regarding an Asset of Community Value.

The Council discussed this at length. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to the correspondent.



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17. To discuss and decide on the Council's response to the future use of South Norfolk House.

Following a lengthy discussion, the following was agreed. The Clerk would ask the community on social media what they wanted to see in the Town. The Council were unanimously against any further housing on the site. They agreed that infrastructure that would support the existing plans for 1800 homes that would improve the economy and create jobs would be of preference but were open to plans that would support mental health and wellbeing. The Clerk and Chairman have been invited to the Cabinet meeting on Feb 13th 2023 to make representations on behalf of the Town Council and community.

18. To receive committee updates.

a. Planning & Highway Committee

i. To note the minutes from the planning meeting.

Councillor Lansdell gave a verbal account of the last planning meeting. This was noted by the Council.

19. Meeting dates

a. Events: Monday 16th January 2023 @ 7pm

Due to the postponement of the full Council meeting, it was agreed the events meeting would be held on Monday 23rd January 2023 at 7pm.

20. Any Other Business (For information only – not for discussion.)

The Clerk advised that we had received a quote for the finger posts to the Pavilion and Playing Fields and that payment would be submitted on Tuesday 17th January.

With there being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 21.55.