

Long Stratton Annual Town Meeting

Minutes

Monday 23rd May 2022

6.00pm

Long Stratton Pavilion, Manor Road Playing Fields

- 1) Welcome to the meeting from the Town Council
Council Chairman Lunness gave a warm welcome to all in attendance.
- 2) Apologies for absence
Councillor Smith gave apologies as well as District Councillor Alison Thomas. + *councillor Baker.*
- 3) To review and adopt the minutes from the Annual Parish Meeting held 20th May 2019
The minutes of the last meeting were reviewed and signed as a true record.
- 4) To review Town Council's year end accounts and ask any questions.
The Town Clerk Becky Buck explained that although some expenditures were significantly over budget and some significantly under budget the Town Councils accounts were balanced.
- 5) To receive a report from the Town Council Chairman regarding the years events and the aspirations for the upcoming year.
 - a. This is the first Annual Town Meeting we have been able to hold since 2019 thanks to the Pandemic which saw the Council not able to engage with the community in the way that we have liked but also challenged the Council to work in difference ways.
 - b. Completion of the Pavilion
2019 saw the pavilion being built and the Council received the keys a week before the first lock down. Since then, operationally it has been very up and down with the various lockdowns that followed and the Covid measures in place.
The pavilion club room is being booked out regularly for meetings during the mornings as well as full day events. New booking enquiries are received regularly.
 - c. Community Christmas events 2020 and 2021
These events have been well received by the community and planning is already underway for 2022.
 - d. Council staff member updates
One temporary administrative assistant has been employed on a permanent basis.
A new temporary administrative assistant has been employed part time.
Currently advertising for a cleaner as the role is vacant.
 - e. Adoption of Swan Lane public toilets
There have been some issues with managing the toilet block. The toilet paper that had been purchased was not disintegrating properly and caused blocking issues with the drains. This has been addressed with new paper being provided by our cleaning contractor.
 - f. Adoption of Neighbourhood Plan
The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) has increased to 25% instead of 10% due to the adoption of the Neighbourhood Plan.

g. Dog bin awareness posters

A competition was held at a local primary school to design awareness posters for dog bin use around the town. Nine were selected by the Councillors and printed as permanent signs.

h. Defibrillator installation at the Pavilion

A defibrillator has been installed at the main entrance to the Pavilion for use by the community. It is sited in a locked cabinet that can only be accessed by a code provided by the 999 service.

Aspirations for 2022-23

i. New play equipment

We would like to update the play equipment in the park. A public consultation with residents and school children has given us a steer on what pieces of equipment are most wanted. Grant funding is being sought to be able to provide the playground equipment as it will cost approximately £80,000 to complete.

Temporarily, the equipment has been sanded back and re-painted to offer a fresh and brighter appearance.

j. Reducing carbon footprint

The council is looking to swap solar lights with LED's in the Multi Use Gym Area (MUGA) as well as going paperless in the office as much as possible.

k. Queens Jubilee event

Planning is well underway for this event. Musicians, Magicians and entertainment acts have been booked to perform, as well as organising stalls and food vendors. The main concept for the day was for it to be a family friendly, low-cost event that the community could attend. Large scale family games will be available to play, a sports day style event will be held as well as a crown making/decorating area all for free.

l. Another defibrillator

We are planning to have a defibrillator installed at the Police Station on the main A140 Ipswich Road.

m. New trim trail

During the public consultation for the play equipment, we asked residents to also indicate items for a new trim trail, to be sited next to the MUGA. Funding will need to be sourced to provide this addition to the playing fields.

n. Community Interaction

We want to put more emphasis on interaction with the community via a new newsletter and upgrading the current website.

6) To receive a written report from District and County Councillor Alison Thomas read by the Town Clerk

a. Nutrient neutrality

All building projects in Norfolk have been halted until they are able to demonstrate how they will deal with the issue of nutrient neutrality – leaking nitrates into the water and soil from building/construction sites.

There are no major concerns currently.

b. South Norfolk District Council office move

South Norfolk District Council will be moving out of South Norfolk House by the end of the year and temporarily relocating to Thorpe Lodge in Norwich, before moving permanently to the Horizon building on the edge of the city.

c. Council member resignations

Three South Norfolk council members have resigned as Conservative members and will be running as independent candidates because of the relocation decision – Josh Worley, Clayton Hudson and Michael Edney resigned due to the relocation decision

d. Levelling Up

Smaller councils may struggle to cope with the new duties and responsibilities that may be passed down via the levelling Up and Regeneration Bill that has been introduced. Long Stratton Town Council is in a good position having had an experienced Town Clerk in place for a number of years as well as having a committed team of employees and Councillors.

7) To hear from local community groups regarding their year and the aspirations for the upcoming year.

Long Stratton Football Club – delivered by LSFC Chairman Paul Simmons

- a. The team have received lots of compliments from visiting teams, officials and supporters stating that the Pavilion is a wonderful, modern facility. The facility has also helped to attract new players to the team.
- b. Great success this year with the highest league positions being recorded for the men's and women's teams, as well as a win in the Norfolk County Senior Cup.
 - First Team – Anglian Combination Premier Division – Finished 4th
 - Reserves – Anglian Combination Division 3 – Finished 2nd
 - Sunday League – Norwich & District Sunday League Division 1 – Finished 1st
 - Ladies – Norfolk Women & Girls' Football League Division 1 - Finished 5th
- c. Two new managers have been appointed for the first team – Damian Hilton and Steve Race
- d. Goals for 2022-23 season is to compete to win the respective division titles and achieve cup successes.
- e. There has been significant growth in the club over the last 5 years, including a development from only 4 youth teams to 9 this season, aiming for 14 next season.
- f. The team recently had 250 supporters attend the cup final game which was amazing.
- g. The club would like to have some team pictures up on the walls of the Pavilion

8) To hear from all parishioners and local community groups about aspirations that they wish the Council to consider for future years.

None in attendance and no information provided for discussion at the meeting.

9) The meeting to be opened for discussions and any other business. Any resolutions may be put forward for consideration.

No other business to discuss

With there being no further comments, the Chairman thanked all those for coming and contributing and closed the Annual Parish Meeting for Long Stratton at 19:00.