

DOWNHAM MARKET TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD TUESDAY 10TH JULY 2012 AT 7.00PM

Present:	The Mayor	Cllr R A Pegg
	The Deputy Mayor	Cllr D J Sharman
	Councillors	Mrs V I Botham
		F E Daymond
		J W Doyle
		M P Ford
		J K Fox
		J Groom
		Mrs R L Judge
		P W Neate
		Mrs S M Nunn
		J J Reed
		M C Ross
		Mrs P B Sharp
		V F Starling
		M D Starreveld
	Borough Councillor	A M Lovett
	Town Clerk	Mrs J M Markwell
	Deputy Clerk	Mrs S D Porter
	Minute Secretary	Mr S W Nunn
	Members of Public	11

Those in attendance at the meeting were notified of the emergency evacuation procedure from the Town Council offices.

Those in attendance at the meeting were notified that the meeting was being recorded for the benefit of the Minute Secretary

2218. To receive Members' Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr A D Stacey (Holiday) Borough Cllrs D A Tyler (Prior Meeting) and Mrs K A Mellish (Prior Meeting), and County Councillor Mrs Sheila Hutson, (Illness)

The apologies were accepted.

Cllr Pyatt did not attend the meeting.

2219. To receive Members' Declarations of Interest

Declarations of interest had been received from Cllr Daymond in item 2225 payment of bills (i) Town Council.

2220. To approve the minutes

Cllr Reed requested that his comments with regard to ex Town Councillors Mellish and Teverson be recorded in the minutes of the meeting of 12th June 2012.

Members decided that the minutes should be amended.

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 10th June 2012 (pages 3931-3937) were approved and signed as a true and accurate record with the proposed amendment.

Adjourn meeting for public participation and reports

The Mayor, Cllr Pegg, adjourned the meeting.

Police Representative

There was no police representative present.

County Councillor

County Councillor, Mrs S Hutson was unable to be at the meeting, but had submitted a report, (Appendix 1).

Borough Councillor Reports

There were no reports from Borough Councillors

Public Participation

Howdale resident Mr Parker requested copies of all relevant paperwork with regard to the Skate Park.

Clerk

Another Howdale resident commented about noise pollution from the Skate Park, especially at weekends. He also said that young people were using their skate boards on the local roads.

The Mayor, Cllr Pegg, resumed the meeting.

2221. To receive Correspondence

A list of correspondence had been circulated (Appendix 2).

There were no questions

2222. To receive Councillors' Questions

Q. Cllr Doyle asked for a breakdown of special expenses from the Borough Council, especially with regard to grass cutting which he thought was being left for too long a period between cuts.

Q. Cllr Fox commented that there were only small posters at the Councillors' Surgery about exactly what was going on. He thought a large poster, put onto an A Fame could be produced as an advertising tool.

Q. Cllr Groom commented that materials being used in Town for repairs to pavements were not in keeping with original materials.

A. There are no remaining materials from regeneration and to source similar would be expensive.

Q. Cllr Mrs Sharp noted that the bus stop sign had still not been physically moved.

Q. Cllr Daymond commented that materials used for repairs to the pavement near the Town Hall were not of a suitable standard.

2223. To Adopt the Standing Committee Minutes

Property Committee

Proposed – Cllr Doyle

Seconded - Cllr Fox

‘That the minutes of the Property Committee meeting of Tuesday 22nd May 2012 (pages 3908-3913) be approved.’

All in favour

Finance Committee

Proposed – Cllr Ford

Seconded – Cllr Neate

‘That the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting of Tuesday 29th May, 2012 (pages 3918-3923) be adopted.’

All in favour

Town Hall Committee

Proposed – Cllr Sharman

Seconded - Cllr Mrs Botham

‘That the minutes of the Town Hall Committee meeting of Wednesday 13th June 2012 (pages 3938-3942) be approved.’

All in favour

Community Development Committee

Proposed – Cllr Mrs Nunn

Seconded - Cllr Starreveld

‘That the minutes of the Community Development Committee meeting of Tuesday 1st May 2012 (pages 3875-3879) be approved.’

All in favour

2224. To receive the Clerk’s Report

The Clerk reported that only one person had stood for the vacancy in the Old Town Ward and this meant that there would not now be an election. The successful candidate was Mr David Sutton. No one has stood for the North Ward at present and therefore it will be readvertised Elections, if held cost between £1,000 and £1,300.

2225. To approve the Payment of Bills

A list of bills had been circulated (Appendix 3).

i. Town Council

Cllr Daymond had declared an interest in this item.

Page 3968 (12)

Proposed – Cllr Ford

Seconded – Cllr Starling

‘That the Town Council bills be paid as per the attached list.’

For – 15

Against – 0

Abstentions – 1

ii. Town Hall

Proposed – Cllr Sharman

Seconded – Cllr Daymond

‘That the Town Hall bills be paid as per the attached list.’

All in favour

iii. Jubilee Community Centre

Proposed – Cllr Doyle

Seconded – Cllr Groom

‘That the Jubilee Community Centre bills be paid as per the attached list.’

All in favour

2226. Newsletters

The latest newsletter had been distributed with the Citizen.

It was asked if the Newsletter could be distributed via email, it was thought that this would not be possible, but it should be noted that the Newsletter is available on the website.

2227. To discuss the article in the Lynn News regarding the Skate Park

The article had been circulated, (Appendix 4).

A full discussion took place and points made included:

- Most complaints are about anti social behaviour, which is a matter for the police.
- The area has been used as a youth and community centre for many years with accompanying noise and disturbance.
- The police advised on the location of the skate park as it is ideal for surveillance.
- The police currently list the skate park as a priority area.
- Hopefully problems are short term, once the novelty of the project wears off, it is hoped that youths will move onto a different area.
- The SWAN project, once running fully will give the youth something else to occupy their time.
- Surface noise, the skate park has a good surface in respect of noise, a post instillation check will need to be carried out. The Borough Council will be carrying out checks on the facility.
- Some ideas for solutions included, looking at hours of operation, local signage to dissuade riders/skaters from using the roads and noise screening, although this should wait until after the Environmental Health report.

2228. Downham Market Festival

Cllr Groom commented that the event had been very successful but that more people/Councillors were needed on the Committee or the event could fade away.

Cllr Fox commented that Councillors should be trying to get more members of the public involved.

2229. To receive report on the Joint Burial Board

There was nothing to report.

2230. To receive report on the Old Fire Station Building

It was reported that the Heritage Society were working on raising funding, some funds had already been received.

2231. To discuss future education needs within Downham Market

Nothing more had been received from the Norfolk County Council. It was considered that this item is of a high priority and that the Norfolk County Council should be approached for more discussions.

Borough Councillor Lovett suggested speaking to Norfolk County Councillor Mrs Hutson but was advised that she has been already involved in discussions.

**2232. To adopt the new LGA Model Code of Conduct dated 1st July 2012 and approve the new Register of Members' Disclosable Pecuniary Interests form
(All Councillors will be required to sign the new Code of Conduct and complete and sign the new Register of Members' Disclosable Pecuniary Interests form).**

Members had received a copy of the Code of Conduct. (Appendix 5).

The Standing Orders working party has looked at this document and noted that it has differences to the similar document supplied by NALC.

Members were made aware that they should include memberships of local organisations.

Proposed – Cllr Fox

Seconded – Cllr Starreveld

‘That the Council accepts the new LGA Model Code of Conduct dated 1st July 2012 and approves the new Register of Members' Disclosable Pecuniary Interests form.’

All in favour

2233. To receive proposition from the Property Committee meeting of Tuesday 19th June 2012:

‘That the principle of car park charging be accepted.’

Cllr Doyle reported that a quotation for car park charging could not be sought without the Council accepting that it agreed to the principle of car park charging. This did not mean however

that car park charging was inevitable. The car parks will need repairing in the years to come and financing this is considered a problem.

Page 3970 (12)

Proposed – Cllr Doyle Seconded - Cllr Reed

‘That the principle of car park charging is accepted.’

For 10 Against 6 Abstentions 0

2234. To receive report from the Human Resources Committee – Cllr Mrs P B Sharp to report

A report had been circulated (Appendix 6).

2235. To discuss any urgent items as agreed by the Mayor

There were no urgent items.

2236. Mayor’s Announcements

Cllr Groom reported that once again she is to cycle to Paris in aid of the Royal British Legion. She invited members to support her efforts. Cllrs Doyle and Mrs Botham thanked Cllr Groom on behalf of the Royal British Legion.

Proposed – The Mayor Cllr Pegg

Seconded – Cllr Fox

‘To invoke Standing Order 6a, that in the view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest, that the public and/or the press be temporarily excluded and they are instructed to withdraw.’

All in favour

Members of public left the Council Chamber at 8.05 pm.

2237. Human Resources Committee

Confidential Item

Proposed – Cllr Mrs Sharp

Seconded – Cllr Mrs Nunn

‘That the Clerk and Deputy Clerk be allowed two set days per month to replace lieu hours.’

For 14 Against 1 Abstentions 1

The Mayor thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.34pm.

Chairman

Date