

DEREHAM TOWN COUNCIL

14th November 2023

At a meeting of the **Full Council** held on **Tuesday 14th November 2023** in the Memorial Hall at **7.30pm**.

Present: Councillors H King (Chairman), H Clarke, K Cogman, C Coleman, P Duigan, S Green, A Greenwood, P Morton and R O'Callaghan.

Also in attendance: Town Clerk T Needham, Deputy Town Clerk J Barron, and District Councillor A Webb.

73. To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A Brooks, L Monument and H Jones-Seymour.

74. Declaration of Interest.

There were no declarations of interest.

The meeting was adjourned

Kay Willmott addressed the meeting advising that there a small gang of youths attacking people in Dereham with weapons. She continued by saying that some of the lighting in town had also been damaged and raised concerns about public safety.

Debbie Ithell asked the Councillors 'How are we going to solve this problem'. She said that the police are aware of what has been happening and have been given the names of the suspects.

The Town Clerk said that there would be a SNAP (Safer Neighbourhood Action Plan) meeting at 7pm on the 29th November at Breckland Council offices and urged members of the public to attend to raise these issues.

Christina (did not wish to give surname) asked if it would be helpful to compile a list of factual incidents with times and places. Councillors agreed that this would be extremely helpful for the police.

The Mayor, Councillor H King said every incident no matter how small should be reported to the police so that it can be logged.

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Mr Carl Wiseman addressed the meeting explaining how disappointed he was with the parking issue in Dereham, vehicles parking in the market place on market days, parking on pavements and at junctions blocking the view for other drivers which is extremely dangerous.

The Town Clerk explained that we do not have parking enforcement powers but he suggested that Mr Wiseman speak to County Councillor Duigan regarding the possibility of having bollards reinstated on the pavement in the market place which would at least help alleviate the problems there.

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District Councillor A Webb said that Breckland Council had launched its Business Support Scheme. She continued by updating Councillors on the Park Run saying that things were progressing well and that she would be meeting with Dereham Football Club to discuss parking and the possible use of their toilet facilities. She also said that she was working on the funding for a defibrillator and hi-viz jackets. District Councillor Webb thanked the Town Clerk for all his hard work with the Park Run and said that he had been brilliant.

District Councillor A Webb gave an update on the Akash restaurant stating that no decisions would be made until the spring.

The meeting resumed

District Councillor A Webb left the meeting.

75. To receive announcements.

The Mayor, Councillor H King, announced that he had attended the following events:

13th October 2023 - Joyce Knock 100th Birthday – Meeting Point
15th October 2023 - High Sherriff of Norfolk Justice Service
23rd October 2023 - Honningham Church – Desert Rats
4th November 2023 – Armed Forces Breakfast – The Railway Tavern
8th November 2023 – Nova Centre – Presenting Certificates
10th November 2023 – Remembrance Service Breckland Council
11th November 2023 – Armistice Day Dereham War Memorial
11th November 2023 – Remembrance Service Meeting Point
14th November 2023 – Salvation Army Coffee Morning
Royal Air Force Cadets

76. To receive from the Chairman, confirm as correct and sign the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Tuesday 10th October 2023.

Proposed by Councillor H King, the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Tuesday 10 th October 2023 were agreed and signed.
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77. Personnel

a) To receive from the Chairman, confirm as correct and sign the minutes of the **Personnel Committee meeting** held on **24th October 2023.**

Proposed by Councillor K Cogman, the minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting held on Tuesday 24 th October 2023 were agreed and signed.

b) To discuss any matters arising and vote on any recommendations listed below.

The following recommendations were agreed and approved by the Council:

To consider recruiting for vacant admin post.

It was agreed that the Town Council advertise for a full-time admin post which would amalgamate the Community Car scheme Co-ordinator post with the vacant admin post.

To consider recruiting for outside staff.

It was agreed that the demands and responsibilities for this new post are of such a high level it was recommended the post be regraded to SC13-23 and a full-time position be advertised at this grade.

It was also agreed that the existing outside posts be evaluated to see if the existing job description matched the demands and responsibility now required and where necessary the post be regraded accordingly, but not to be graded over SC23.

The costs for these changes would come from the budget allocated from a now redundant management position.

78. To receive and adopt the list of accounts paid, the Financial Statement and list of accounts to be paid.

Proposed by Councillor H King, the list of accounts paid, the Financial Statement and list of accounts to be paid were agreed.

79. To receive any updates/reports from members of the council who are County or District Councillors:

1. Congestion at Tavern Lane -Councillor Duigan said that the lights at this junction were being repaired due to a recent accident and things may be looked at then.
2. Gritting Routes – Councillor Duigan said that no new gritting routes have been proposed.

80. To consider appointing representatives to attend George Freemans Mid Norfolk Flood Partnership.

Councillor P Morton volunteered to represent the Town Council at George Freemans Mid Norfolk Flood Partnership meetings. This was agreed.

Chairman