

## **BRANDON TOWN COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Full Brandon Town Council Meeting  
on Monday 9 January 2012

In the Council Chamber, The Old School House, Market Hill, Brandon at 7.00pm.

**Present:** Cllr. N Vant, Cllr. D Bimson, Cllr. P Ridgwell, Cllr. T Simmons, Cllr. K Butcher, Cllr. Mrs Linda Challiss, Cllr. M Skinner, Cllr. A Billingham, Cllr. L Jacobs, Cllr. S Edwards,  
Cllr. R Crowther.

**Also present:** Mrs C Mason (Town Clerk), Cllr. B Bishop, Sgt. Chisnall, Joanne Rogers (Town Centre Manager), Graham Lockey (FHDC), 1 member of the press and five members of the public.

The meeting commenced at 7.00pm.

### **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN FOR THE MEETING**

Resolution Record No. **BTC/71/09/Jan/12**

Proposed by Cllr. D Bimson and seconded by Cllr. K Butcher.

**CARRIED:** Unanimous.

THAT COUNCILLOR STEPHEN EDWARDS BE APPOINTED CHAIRMAN FOR THE FULL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING OF MONDAY 9 JANUARY 2012.

Prior to the commencement of the meeting, the Chairman informed members of the death of ex-councillor Eric Ashley. A minutes silence was observed.

### **1. APOLOGIES**

Cllr. R Silvester, Cllr. G Hughes, Squadron Leader J Neilds.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** and additions to Members Register of Interests.  
None.

### **3. TO RECEIVE, CONFIRM AND SIGN MINUTES**

Of the Brandon Town Council Meeting of Monday 5 December 2011 (Public items).

Amendment to minutes: Agenda item 7 should read ... outside the Police Station.

Resolution Record No. **BTC/72/09/Jan/12**

Proposed by Cllr. T Simmons and seconded by Cllr. N Vant.

**CARRIED:** Unanimous.

THAT THE AMENDED MINUTES OF THE FULL BRANDON TOWN COUNCIL MEETING OF MONDAY 5 DECEMBER 2011 BE ACCEPTED AS A TRUE RECORD.

### **4. MATTERS ARISING** for information exchange only

Of the Brandon Town Council Meeting of Monday 5 December 2011 (Public Items).

Agenda item12: Cllr. P Ridgwell asked it to be noted he did not intend for the town council to purchase the CCTV camera outright but to precept accordingly each year.

### **5. PUBLIC FORUM** – Monthly event limited to 3 minutes duration maximum per resident.

Resolution Record No. **BTC/73/09/Jan/12**

Proposed by Cllr. K Butcher and seconded by Cllr. D Bimson.

**CARRIED:** Unanimous.

THAT THE MEETING BE ADJOURNED FOR THE PUBLIC FORUM.

Members of the public raised issues relating to: The need for a 'No Through Road' sign in Millers Lane (BB to action); the lime trees in Victoria Avenue/ London Road (a second opinion on the viability of planting trees on London Road is to sought).

#### **6. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE POLICE**

Recorded crime figures for the period 5 December to 5 January 2012 stands at 55. The same time period last year saw 71 recorded crimes. This is a decrease of 22.5%. Figures for Brandon 2011:

615 crimes recorded (2010 shows 702 offences) – a reduction of 12.4% on the previous year. Equates to 87 less victims of crime over the year.

The percentage of the total crime in the Brandon SNT area (Isleham Marina to Santon Downham) is also reduced. In 2010 Brandon Town itself was the location of 47.7% of all crime in the area. In 2011 it had fallen to 43.9% of total crime. Police priorities for Brandon are anti-social behaviour outside Tesco and parents parking outside schools. Run by FHDC Youth Workers, a Cage Football Event is planned to take place in Tesco car park shortly. Questions to Sgt. Chisnall included the drink driving figures; an illegally parked car in the Towlers Court area; burglaries in Pinewood Close targeting the elderly.

#### **7. TO RECEIVE REPORTS (if any) from County and /or District Councillors.**

Key points raised in Cllr. Bishop's report: A vote of thanks was given to Cllr. A Billingham for work undertaken with regard to the Community Bus. A meeting has been arranged between SCC and

Cllr. Bishop to endeavour to progress this further; the A11 duelling and the rerouting of traffic through Brandon; Inspired Youth will be meeting at the Flowerpot for one year from early January; Guy Smith from Highways will be in Brandon this week to meet with residents. Issues raised with Cllr. Bishop: the reinstatement of the Free Parking Sign near to Aldi and the future of the Brandon Heritage Centre.

Cllr. T Simmons reported refurbishment works to The Brandon Leisure Centre were complete. The official opening is on Friday 13 January 2012.

Owing to the location of The Bridge House (Conservation area), Cllr. P Ridgwell asked whether the recently installed solar panels were in breach of planning regulations. (TS to action).

The meeting was reconvened.

**8. URGENT BUSINESS** – any items the Chairman considers a matter of urgent business. There were no matters of urgent business.

#### **9. ACCOUNTS**

9.1 Approval of payments (Public Items) –December 2011.

9.2 Approval of confidential items –December 2011 (Staff salaries).

Resolution Record No. **BTC/74/09/Jan/12**

Proposed by Cllr. D Bimson and seconded by Cllr. K Butcher.

**CARRIED:** Unanimous.

THAT SUBJECT TO ONE INVOICE BEING VERIFIED, BRANDON TOWN COUNCIL APPROVES AGENDA ITEMS NINE ONE AND NINE TWO EN-BLOC

<b>Date</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Supplier</b>	<b>Net Total</b>	<b>VAT</b>
Dec-11	163.90	Finevale Service Station	136.58	27.32
Dec-11	14.52	Thetford Garden Centre	12.10	2.42
Dec-11	341.89	Silky Fox Saws (Pole Saw and Blade)	284.91	56.98
Dec-11	32.31	Silky Fox Saws (Pole Saw and Blade)	26.92	5.39
Dec-11	30.24	Walters Limited (Photocopying)	25.20	5.04
Dec-11	536.54	Suffolk County Council (Streetlight)	447.12	89.42
Dec-11	334.33	Glasdon U.K. Ltd (Dog bin in The Orchard)	278.61	55.72
Dec-11	14.00	J & D Green	14.00	
Dec-11	112.25	Stannah Lift Services	93.54	18.71
Dec-11	9.74	Fengate Fasteners Limited	8.12	1.62
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>1,589.72</b>		<b>1,327.10</b>	<b>262.62</b>

## **10. MARKET HILL**

Resolution Record No. **BTC/75/09/Jan/12**

Proposed by Cllr. S Edwards and seconded by Cllr. T Simmons.

**CARRIED:** 6 for 5 against.

THAT BRANDON TOWN COUNCIL AGREES TO INCREASE THE FINANCIAL DONATION TOWARDS THE REFURBISHMENT COSTS TO MARKET HILL FROM FIVE HUNDRED POUNDS TO TWO THOUSAND POUNDS.

## **11. BRANDON COUNTY PARK**

Notes from a meeting (previously circulated) regarding the future running of Brandon Country Park were discussed in more detail.

Resolution Record No. **BTC/76/09/Jan/12**

Proposed by Cllr. A Billingham and seconded by Cllr. D Bimson.

**CARRIED:** Unanimous.

THAT SUBJECT TO DUE DILIGENCE, THIS COUNCIL AGREES TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THE TRANSFER OF BRANDON COUNTRY PARK TO BRANDON TOWN COUNCIL. FURTHERMORE, IF ACHIEVABLE, RELEVANT FINANCIAL INFORMATION TO BE PRESENTED AT THE PRECEPT MEETING.

Agenda item 16 was now heard.

## **16. PRESENTATION FROM JOANNE ROGERS, TOWN CENTRE MANAGER**

The need to set up a Town Centre Association was the basis of the presentation. FHDC will help in the initial stages of the Association; retailers will be responsible for setting priorities; successful in both Newmarket and Mildenhall.

Cllr. M Skinner felt more could be done to involve retailers in the annual Christmas event and suggested a small working group be appointed to progress this further. The town council would lead the project rather than FHDC.

Resolution Record No. **BTC/77/09/Jan/12**

Proposed by Cllr. D Bimson and seconded by Cllr. K Butcher.

**CARRIED:** Unanimous.

THAT BRANDON TOWN COUNCIL AGREES TO SET UP A WORKING GROUP TO PROGRESS THE INVOLVEMENT OF BOTH RETAILERS AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC IN THE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS EVENT.

Cllr. M Skinner, Cllr. T Simmons, Cllr. Mrs L Challis and Cllr. R Crowther were duly elected.

## **12. CHRISTMAS ARRANGEMENTS 2012**

Discussed in agenda item 16.

## **13. STANDING ORDERS**

Resolution Record No. **BTC/78/09/Jan/12**

Proposed by Cllr. P Ridgwell and seconded by Cllr. N Vant.

**CARRIED:** 9 for 1 abstention.

THAT BRANDON TOWN COUNCIL APPROVES THE VARIANCE OF STANDING ORDER 3.4 ALLOWING THE TOWN CLERK TO AUTHORISE EXPENDITURE UP TO A LIMIT OF TEN THOUSAND POUNDS.

## **14. THE QUEENS DIAMOND JUBILEE BEACON**

Location agreed as Market Hill. Cost of the Beacon to be obtained.

## **15. CLERKS MONTHLY LOG**

Training for members was held in December; three quotations have been obtained for emptying the town council skip; works to the cycle paths are scheduled to commence on the 9 January 2012; papers relating to the CPO have been misplaced for a second time. This will unfortunately delay matters.

There were no confidential matters to consider.

With no further business to discuss the meeting ended at 9.15pm.