

BRANDON TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Brandon Town Council Meeting
held at Old School House, Market Hill, Brandon on Monday 13th February 2023 at 7pm

Present: Cllr S Skinner (Chair), Cllr S Annear, Cllr L Atkins, Cllr B Brabbs, Cllr P Etherington, Cllr J Hughes, Cllr V Lukaniuk, Cllr D Moore, Cllr D Palmer, Cllr P Ridgwell, Cllr N Vant, Cllr P Wittam

Also Present: 5 members of the public.

- 1 **APOLOGIES** for absence and approval of reasons tendered.
Cllr J Lloyd-Blackwell – not approved.
- 2 **DECLARATION OF INTEREST** and additions to Members Register of Interest.
Cllr L Atkins - Non-pecuniary interest – Item 20.
- 3 **TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM SQN LDR GEARY - RAF LAKENHEATH**
SqN Ldr Geary did not attend the meeting due to being on holiday.

Item 5 was taken before item 4 due to Suffolk Constabulary being delayed at Ipswich.

Cllr Lukaniuk suggested that item 5 be heard in the public forum where he intended to give a report regarding his dealings on the subject. Cllr Skinner proposed that Council suspends standing orders to hear a presentation from Cllr Margaret Marks representing Suffolk County Council Health Scrutiny Committee.

Proposer: Cllr S Skinner

Seconder: Cllr S Annear

Resolution Record No: **BTC/175/13/Feb/23**

CARRIED: Unanimous

- 5 **UPDATE** – report on phlebotomy services in Brandon.

Cllr Margaret Marks was introduced to the meeting by Cllr Palmer and Cllr Marks proceeded to give a comprehensive presentation regarding the current situation and actions that are taking place within Suffolk to improve the phlebotomy services in Suffolk. Cllr Marks is very aware of the specific issues being faced by residents in Brandon and is currently working with all interested parties to resolve the situation. She is currently awaiting data on numbers of people being referred out of area for blood tests.

Cllr Lukaniuk enquired of Cllr Palmer regarding the meeting that took place requesting when this was. Cllr Palmer replied it took place approximately four weeks ago. Cllr Lukaniuk then proceeded to ask why this meeting had been convened. Cllr Palmer stated that he had been asked by a constituent in June 2022 to investigate the phlebotomy service that was on offer and had acted on this request in July. Cllr Lukaniuk then referred to the article published in the Brandon Life which he stated Cllr Palmer not having written. Cllr Palmer confirmed that the article was written by Mrs Palmer from notes taken at a meeting and it was signed by himself.

Signed.....

Cllr Lukaniuk then proceeded to state that he had spoken to the Mayor at Haverhill who had confirmed to him that they had a full phlebotomy service in Haverhill.

Cllr Marks requested she makes a reply regarding what she considered an interrogation of Cllr Palmer and herself on this subject and she found his behaviour both aggressive and offensive. The heated exchange continued for a short period.

Cllr Etherington stated that she was ashamed by the behaviour and language of Cllr Lukaniuk and considered it pure electioneering. Cllr Ridgwell suggested that a nurse is employed part time at each surgery to provide a service.

Cllr Wittam stated that the situation appeared to come from years of underfunding the NHS.

Cllr Marks offered the reasoning that Brandon has a high percentage of infirm and elderly residents and this has exacerbated the situation. Cllr Marks suggested that Cllr Lukaniuk speak to the Community Coordinator at West Suffolk this being Ms Veronica Breeze.

4 TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM SUFFOLK CONSTABULARY

Sgt Peter Maxfield introduced himself to those gathered and gave some information about his time with Suffolk Police Force. He explained that whilst the police would deal with the issue of electric scooters being used in the town this proved a difficult subject for the police as the cost to seize a scooter amounted to approximately £100. Regarding ASB they are currently working with agencies to resolve the problems. He further added that in Mildenhall they had installed covert cameras and identified a number of young people causing problems, this had resulted in excess of fifteen visits to parents and a small number of persistent offenders being charged.

PC Richard Smith, Community Engagement Officer then spoke outlining engagements he is making with local schools and groups. He is aware of speeding offenders and suggested that a Community Speed Watch be organised in the areas that are affected.

Cllr Wittam raised the issue of modified cars with extremely loud exhaust systems in Brandon. PC Smith stated that this is a road policing issue and that resolving the problem here would move the issue elsewhere.

Cllr Annear asked if US service personnel received training regarding driving in the UK.

Sgt Maxfield answered the question by stating that the base personnel were supported and issues were dealt with robustly on site.

A member of the public commented that there was a drug problem in Brandon. Sgt Maxifeld stated that there is an operation currently taking place and warrants have been issued. PC Smith stated that the drugs problem is not as significant as in other areas of the County. He stated that there were ten county lines operating in Ipswich and only one in West Suffolk. He further reinforced this statement by confirming that community information on any issue is needed.

6 TO RECEIVE, CONFIRM AND SIGN MINUTES

- Of the Brandon Town Council Precept Meeting of Wednesday 4th January 2023.

Proposer: Cllr S Skinner

Seconder: Cllr P Etherington

Resolution Record No: **BTC/176/13/Feb/23**

CARRIED: By majority vote: 11 for, 1 unable to vote.

BRANDON TOWN COUNCIL RESOLVES THAT THE MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF WEDNESDAY 4TH JANUARY 2023 BE APPROVED.

Signed.....

- Of the Brandon Town Council Full Council Meeting of Monday 9th January 2023.

Proposer: Cllr S Skinner

Seconder: Cllr P Etherington

Resolution Record No: **BTC/177/13/Feb/23**

CARRIED: By majority vote: 10 for, 2 unable to vote.

BRANDON TOWN COUNCIL RESOLVES THAT THE MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF MONDAY 9TH JANUARY 2023 BE APPROVED.

- 7 **MATTERS ARISING** for information exchange only of the Full Council Meeting of 4th and 9th January 2023.
None.
- 8 **URGENT BUSINESS** any items the Chairman considers a matter of urgent business – to be submitted no less than 48hrs prior to the meeting or by discussion with the Chairman.
None.
- 9 **TO RECEIVE WRITTEN REPORT** from the Town Clerk.
Report was received.
- 10 **PUBLIC FORUM** monthly event limited to 3 minutes duration maximum per resident, this will include reports from County, District and Town Councillors also Community Group Representatives.
Proposer: Cllr S Skinner
Seconder: Cllr P Wittam
Resolution Record No: **BTC/178/13/Feb/23**
CARRIED: Unanimous

THAT THE MEETING BE ADJOURNED FOR THE PUBLIC FORUM.

Cllr Lukaniuk informed the meeting regarding a meeting held at the Forest Surgery to discuss the ongoing issues with the phlebotomy services. He stated that the surgery is a private business and was there to make money. He then proceeded to outline the short-term solution to people being unable to travel to various location to obtain a blood test by a bus service being offered to transport people to Mildenhall. The cost to provide a minibus per journey will be approximately £80 a cost which Brandon Town Council would have to fund.

Cllr Wittam stated that the situation seems to be resolving into short term and long-term solutions. He gave a general overview of previous conversations. He stated that the Brandon Leisure Centre is a possible central venue for blood testing in Brandon. He further stated that West Suffolk are planning to spend forty million pounds on a new office and sports centre. He further added comments regarding the issue of the street lighting which is currently being negotiated.

Cllr Palmer stated that two blood nurses are being recruited and it was envisaged that the blood service in Brandon will commence in March 2023.

Cllr Lukaniuk thanked the grounds staff for replacing the trees in Victoria Avenue. A member of the public thanked Cllr Marks for attending the meeting and providing valuable information.

Signed.....

THE CHAIRMAN RECONVENED THE MEETING

11 CORRESPONDENCE

- Abbeycroft Leisure - Update on Teen Chill– information received.
- Citizens Advice West Suffolk – Letter of thanks – information received.
- King Charles III – (card on Council Chamber table) – the Clerk passed round the card containing thanks from King Charles III for all Councillors to see.

12 ACCOUNTS To approve the payments for January 2023.

Proposer: Cllr S Skinner

Seconder: Cllr V Lukaniuk

Resolution Record No: **BTC/179/13/Feb/23**

CARRIED: Unanimous

BRANDON TOWN COUNCIL APPROVES THE PAYMENTS FOR JANUARY 2023.

Invoice Date	Invoice No	Supplier	Expense Type	Nett	VAT	Gross	Payment
25/01/2023		Mr Elliot Cottage	Contribution - Wall Repair	£250.00	£0.00	£250.00	BACS
29/11/2022	IN405182	Aurora Ltd	Toner - Magenta	£13.50	£2.70	£16.20	Direct Debit
29/11/2022	IN405244	Aurora Ltd	Waste Toner Box	£13.50	£2.70	£16.20	Direct Debit
29/11/2022	IN405277	Aurora Ltd	Waste Toner Box	£13.50	£2.70	£16.20	Direct Debit
29/11/2022	IN414294	Aurora Ltd	Toner - Black	£13.50	£2.70	£16.20	Direct Debit
29/11/2022	1323616055	Trade UK	Paint for Grotto	£40.00	£8.00	£48.00	Direct Debit
28/11/2022	1323186190	Trade UK	Paint for Grotto	£23.12	£4.62	£27.74	Direct Debit
29/11/2022	1323487085	Trade UK	Paint for Grotto	-£20.00	-£4.00	-£24.00	Direct Debit
20/12/2022	M061 8K	BT	Phone OSH	£39.72	£7.94	£47.66	Direct Debit
21/12/2022	M037 TZ	BT	Phone OSH	£33.13	£6.63	£39.76	Direct Debit
28/12/2022		Creative Pension Trust	Pensions - December	£643.39	£0.00	£643.39	Direct Debit
01/01/2023	10311	Cranberry Comms.	Microsoft 365	£121.90	£24.38	£146.28	Direct Debit
02/01/2023	11454032	Wave - Anglian Water	Water Cemetery Yard	£43.26	£0.00	£43.26	Direct Debit
03/01/2023	A292-0017	E.ON	Electric Pillar 8 Market Hill	£47.13	£2.36	£49.49	Direct Debit
03/01/2023	755A-0010	E.ON	Electric Cemetery Yard	£35.73	£1.79	£37.52	Direct Debit
05/01/2023	6C32-0017	E.ON	Electric OSH	£112.65	£5.63	£118.28	Direct Debit
09/01/2023	3E73-0017	E.ON	Electric BRPF Yard	£190.13	£9.51	£199.64	Direct Debit
09/01/2023	5A54-0016	E.ON	Electric Pillar 9 Market Hill	£28.72	£1.44	£30.16	Direct Debit
09/01/2022	1C56-0015	E.ON	Electric Christmas Tree Pillar	£68.13	£3.41	£71.54	Direct Debit
28/01/2023	1178310	West Suffolk Council	Trade Waste	£69.28	£0.00	£69.28	Direct Debit
27/01/2023		Unity Trust Bank	Copy Cheque Request	£6.00	£0.00	£6.00	Direct Debit
06/01/2023	1459456	Kingfisher Ltd - Bin Shop	Three Grit Bins	£509.97	£101.99	£611.96	BACS
09/01/2023	45075	J & D Green	Window Cleaning OSH	£20.00	£0.00	£20.00	BACS
10/01/2023	1987	Amazon	Two Extension Cables	£9.14	£1.84	£10.98	BACS
10/01/2023	2038	Amazon	Two Extension Cables	£9.14	£1.84	£10.98	BACS
12/01/2023	332	Amazon	Folding Table	15.82	3.17	18.99	BACS
18/01/2023	69	Amazon	Folding Table - Return Cost	-12.47	-2.49	-14.96	BACS
16/01/2023	FBCA-0009	Fed. of Burial & Crem.	Membership	£170.00	£26.00	£196.00	BACS
24/01/2023	93954	Sky High Access Ltd	Boom Lift - Christmas Light.	£384.00	£76.80	£460.80	BACS
24/01/2023	3280	Evolution Town Plan.	New Cem. Fees 1/12 to 23/1	£843.25	£168.65	£1,011.90	BACS
24/01/2023	58929	Chase Timber Products	Post Mix - Tree Cages	£18.72	£3.74	£22.46	BACS
25/01/2023	58951	Chase Timber Products	8 x Stakes - Trees Orchard	£17.60	£3.52	£21.12	BACS
31/01/2023	59051	Chase Timber Products	War Memorial	£19.00	£3.80	£22.80	BACS

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26/01/2023	K58805	Ernest Doe & Sons Ltd	Cutting Deck - Mower	£84.42	£16.88	£101.30	BACS
30/01/2023	K58973	Ernest Doe & Sons Ltd	Strimmer, 2 Batteries & Charger	£885.00	£177.00	£1,062.00	BACS
31/01/2023	K59039	Ernest Doe & Sons Ltd	Solenoid for Mower	£13.50	£2.70	£16.20	BACS
26/01/2023	2563	Simpson's Nurseries Ltd	Trees - Vic. Ave. & The Orchard	£220.00	£44.00	£264.00	BACS
30/01/2023	73200	Alan R.Cross & Son	Alarm System - BRPF Yard	£590.57	£118.05	£708.32	BACS
31/01/2023	252152	Fengate Fasteners Ltd	Nuts & Bolts - Tree Cages	£8.48	£1.70	£10.18	BACS
31/01/2023		Mr G Cock	Reim. Mileage, Postage, IONOS	£90.30	£0.00	£90.30	BACS
05/02/2023		HMRC	NICS	£2,382.34	£0.00	£2,382.34	BACS

13 TO RECEIVE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENTS AGAINST BUDGET FOR DECEMBER 2022

The Income and Expenditure Statement against Budget for December 2022 was received.

14 TO NOTE MINUTES OF EVENTS COMMITTEE MEETING of 12th January 2023.

The minutes from the above Events Committee Meeting were noted and received.

15 TO NOTE MINUTES OF PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING of 6th February 2023.

The minutes from the above Planning Committee Meeting were noted and received.

16 RESOLUTION from Cllr V Lukaniuk No. 424

Brandon Town Council resolves to undertake the spraying of the weeds three times annually in the High Street, as far as the Aldi entrance.

Cllr Lukaniuk stated that the High Street had looked the best it had in years previously. Cllr Brabbs stated that the ground staff had not sprayed the High Street due to the hot weather not allowing the weeds to appear and that West Suffolk had sprayed the weeds in at least one instance in 2023.

Cllr Brabbs then posed the question that are we not paying for the spraying of the weeds twice in similar fashion that we do for the street lighting as West Suffolk were already obligated to spray the weeds. A general debate took place following by a vote.

Proposer: Cllr V Lukaniuk

Seconder: Cllr P Wittam

Resolution Record No: **BTC/180/13/Feb/23**

FAILED: By majority vote: 1 for, 10 against, 1 abstention.

17 RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

That pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the Public and Press be excluded from the Meeting temporarily due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed concerning QUOTES: LAND: STAFF: CONTRACT.

Proposer: Cllr S Skinner

Seconder: Cllr P Wittam

Resolution Record No: **BTC/181/13/Feb/23**

CARRIED: Unanimous

Cllr Palmer left the meeting.

Signed.....

BRANDON TOWN COUNCIL

Confidential Minutes
of the Full Brandon Town Council Meeting
held at Old School House, Market Hill, Brandon on Monday 13th February 2023 at 7pm

THIS PAGE IS CONFIDENTIAL
ONLY THE RESOLUTIONS MAYBE DISPLAYED
AS A MATTER OF PUBLIC RECORD

18 TO RECEIVE, CONFIRM AND SIGN CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES

- Of the Brandon Town Council Meeting of Monday 9th January 2023.

Proposer: Cllr S Skinner

Seconder: Cllr P Etherington

Resolution Record No: **BTC/182/13/Feb/23**

CARRIED: By majority vote: 9 for, 2 unable to vote.

BRANDON TOWN COUNCIL RESOLVES THAT THE CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF MONDAY 9TH JANUARY 2023 BE APPROVED.

19 MATTERS ARISING

The Clerk brought to the attention of the meeting a further quote that had been received regarding the repairs to the town clock. A general discussion took place regarding the quote and a vote ensued.

Proposer: Cllr P Etherington

Seconder: Cllr S Skinner

Resolution Record No: **BTC/183/13/Feb/23**

CARRIED: By majority vote: 6 for, 5 against.

BRANDON TOWN COUNCIL RESOLVES TO ACCEPT THE QUOTATION FROM A CONTRACTOR TO UNDERTAKE REPAIRS TO THE TOWN CLOCK.

20 RESOLUTION from Cllr S Skinner No. 425

Brandon Town Council resolves to instruct the Town Clerk to sign on behalf of the Council a lease for the building on the Brandon Remembrance Playing Field, currently used by the Town Keepers.

A general discussion took place regarding this resolution with the Clerk stating that a number of small adjustments to the draft document being made. A vote then ensued.

Proposer: Cllr S Skinner

Seconder: Cllr P Wittam

Resolution Record No: **BTC/184/13/Feb/23**

CARRIED: Unanimous

BRANDON TOWN COUNCIL RESOLVES TO INSTRUCT THE TOWN CLERK TO SIGN ON BEHALF OF THE COUNCIL A LEASE FOR THE BUILDING ON THE BRANDON REMEMBRANCE PLAYING FIELD, CURRENTLY USED BY THE TOWN KEEPERS.

The meeting closed at 9.07pm

Signed.....