

BRANDON TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Brandon Town Council Meeting
held virtually using Microsoft Teams on Monday 11th January 2021 at 7.00pm

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

Also Present: 5+ members of the public.

Preceding the meeting the Chair apologised to Mrs Susan Miller and Council for his use of inappropriate language at the previous full Council meeting.

- 1 **APOLOGIES** for absence and approval of reasons tendered.
Cllr J Hughes, Cllr P Ridgwell absent.
- 2 **DECLARATION OF INTEREST** and additions to Members Register of Interest.
Cllr P Etherington – Non-pecuniary item 23. Cllr V Lukaniuk – Non-pecuniary item 14.
- 3 **TO NOTE RECEIPT OF NALC LTN 5** regarding the law and procedure relating to Council Meetings, their Committees and Sub-Committees as set out in Schedule 12 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, S13 of the Local Government Housing Act 1989 and the Localism Act 2011 - received and noted.
- 4 **TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM SQN LDR TURNBULL - RAF LAKENHEATH**
Sqn Leader Turnbull informed Council that a mass vaccine programme was underway onsite at RAF Lakenheath, covering all personnel and dependants. He also confirmed that USAF personnel will be assisting West Suffolk Hospital by supplying surplus vaccination material. Base schools are currently closed but are due to reopen on 25th January subject to the progress of the vaccination programme. He informed Council that due to the cold weather in December, a number of flying days had been lost. Cllr Palmer asked the Sqn Leader regarding the possible numbers of aircraft that will be based at Lakenheath in future years. He replied that a mixture F15E and F35 planes totalling in excess of one hundred would be based on site.
- 5 **TO RECEIVE AND CONFIRM MINUTES**
- Of the Brandon Town Council Meeting of Monday 14th December 2020. Cllrs Lukaniuk and Wittam made comment about the content of the minutes and requested a vote to defer the minutes to the next meeting. Cllr Wittam proposed that Council resolve to defer approving the minutes until the next meeting.
Proposer: Cllr P Wittam
Seconder: Cllr V Lukaniuk
Resolution Record No: **BTC/47/11/Jan/21**
CARRIED: By majority vote: 5 for, 4 against, 2 unable to vote due to technical issues.

Signed.....

6 MATTERS ARISING for information exchange only of the Full Council Meeting of 14th December 2020 – a discussion regarding the Ellis Whittam statement.

Cllr P Etherington read a script correcting previous statements made to Council and asked the Chair to comment. Cllr Wittam did not reply and moved onto the next agenda item.

7 URGENT BUSINESS any items the Chairman considers a matter of urgent business.

Cllr Wittam reminded the meeting of the West Suffolk ‘Home But Not Alone’ initiative and means of accessing the scheme. They can be contacted on 0800 8766926 Monday to Friday. Other organisations such as the Harvest Centre, Royal British Legion and Citizens Advice amongst others, can offer support to the vulnerable also. Brandon Town Council is committed to its continued support of local organisations during this pandemic. Cllr Lukaniuk asked Councillors if they have information regarding the vaccination rollout in the area. He was aware that some surrounding villages had started vaccination programmes and wondered how the Brandon rollout was developing. Cllr Skinner reported that the Jubilee Centre in Mildenhall will be the local vaccination hub for Brandon residents, starting the following week. Cllr Palmer confirmed this information and reported Norfolk are ahead of Suffolk with vaccinations.

8 TO RECEIVE REPORTS from County, District and Town Councillors and Community Groups Representatives.

Cllr Lukaniuk reported that Norfolk County Council have concluded that 1) the additional railway siding is a breach of planning control and a planning application will be required. 2) the office building is also a breach of planning control and a planning application will be required. 3) the weighbridge is a breach of planning control and will also need a planning application. 4) the staff accommodation block is a breach of planning control and will need a planning application. He further stated that when the applications are received the residents of Brandon will have a chance to comment.

Cllr Palmer reported that no major planning applications, only minor ones have been received.

Cllr Etherington reported that there was no further information to report regarding the station until we have heard further about Holbrook’s.

Cllr Skinner reported that the new fence had been installed in the cemetery and that the ivy had been cut allowing it to die back and be removed. He further reported that a number of Councillors had agreed to join the new cemetery working group and a meeting would be taking place shortly.

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.

Proposer: Cllr P Wittam

Seconder: Cllr P Etherington

Resolution Record No: **BTC/48/11/Jan/21**

CARRIED: By majority vote: 9 for, 2 unable to vote due to technical issues

THAT THE MEETING BE ADJOURNED FOR THE PUBLIC FORUM

Signed.....

A member of the public stated that they wished to correct statements made at the December meeting. These being that the Church Institute does not own the roadway at the rear of the building. It merely has right of access over the land, not ownership. The only prohibited vehicle that the carriageway prohibits is cycles from the direction of the Leisure Centre and there is a sign indicating this. St Peter's PCC had been approached by the Senior Transport Planner at West Suffolk Council through St Edmundsbury Diocese, if they would support the resurfacing of the carriageway. St Peter's PCC are happy for the work to take place providing the right of access is used by vehicles is maintained and no barriers are put in place to restrict this movement. The PCC is not in a position to contribute to the cost of the work. The work should not take place over an extended period that restricts access to the Church Institute. The member of the public also felt that Cllr Wittam should declare an interest in this subject as the carriageway borders his property. The Chair apologised for any apparent misinformation given at the last meeting.

A resident stated that some residents of Weeting are being requested to go near Kings Lynn for their Covid vaccination and others registered at Brandon surgeries are going to Mildenhall. They questioned if any arrangements are being made for transporting those without their own vehicles or having other needs. A discussion on this subject is taking place at Weeting Parish Council. The Chair stated that he had been informed that those infirm or unable to travel would receive their vaccination by means of a visiting nurse. Cllr Palmer added that he was investigating this with West Suffolk and at this time had not had a reply. A general discussion ensued.

Another resident commented that the statement by Cllr Palmer that no significant planning applications had been received seemed to be in error as the proposed development in Coulson Lane was not in their opinion insignificant. Cllr Palmer replied that the application had not been submitted to Development and Control at West Suffolk. They also stated that they had raised the issue of the notice board at Old School House for a period of time and requested a progress report. The Clerk replied that it had been ordered and he would progress delivery. They further commented on the condition of the Coulson Lane passageway. The Clerk stated that he had been in contact with West Suffolk Council regarding this. The responsibility of this passageway is not clear and has yet to be determined. Cllr Lukaniuk made a statement regarding the Coulson Lane, Victoria Avenue and Churchyard maintenance. Cllr Etherington reminded Council that we currently have one member of ground staff. Cllr Vant stated that the analogy of Victoria Avenue is not a good one as BTC maintain the trees and grass not the footpath. Councillors Atkins and Wittam volunteered their services to clear the Coulson Lane footpath.

Another member of public asked members of the Planning Committee if the proposed development in Coulson Lane is within the town development boundary. Cllr Wittam stated it is categorically outside the development boundary. They also made comment regarding the discussion over the minutes of the previous meeting. Cllr Vant commented that he had no objections to the minutes.

THE CHAIRMAN RECONVENED THE MEETING.

11 CORRESPONDENCE

- Brandon in Bloom – Friendly Bench at Bury Road, Brandon - information was received.

Signed.....

Brandon Town Council
Full Council Meeting
Monday 11th January 2021

12 ACCOUNTS To approve the payments for December 2020.

Proposer: Cllr V Lukaniuk

Seconder: Cllr S Skinner

Resolution Record No: **BTC/49/11/Jan/20**

CARRIED: Unanimous

Invoice Date	Invoice No	Supplier	Expense Type	Nett	VAT	Gross	Payment
02/12/2020	95392	Culford Waste Ltd	Trade Waste	£241.67	£48.33	£290.00	BACS
23/12/2020		CMS		£45.00	£0.00	£45.00	BACS
09/11/2020	230284	Corona Corporate Sols.	Photocopier - Copies	£105.53	£21.11	£126.64	Direct Debit
30/11/2020		Creative Pension Trust	Pensions	£313.17	£0.00	£313.17	Direct Debit
20/11/2020	714781957	British Gas	Gas OSH	£108.31	£5.41	£113.72	Direct Debit
22/11/2020	M012 &O	BT	Phone OSH	£19.50	£3.90	£23.40	Direct Debit
24/11/2010	T036 P3	BT	Phone OSH	£39.50	£7.90	£47.40	Direct Debit
27/11/2020	H193606B01	E.ON	Electric Cemetery Yard	£37.26	£1.86	£39.12	Direct Debit
27/11/2020	H10B237BA0	E.ON	Christmas Tree Pillar	£1.79	£0.09	£1.88	Direct Debit
28/11/2020	H19370C02A	E.ON	Electric Pillar 9 Market Hill	£4.23	£0.21	£4.44	Direct Debit
29/11/2020	H1937847EA	E.ON	Electric Pillar 8 Market Hill	£14.11	£0.71	£14.82	Direct Debit
06/12/2020	H10B3F2584	E.ON	Electric New Yard	£124.57	£6.23	£130.80	Direct Debit
01/12/2020	115431	Cranberry Comms.	Microsoft 365 Subscription	£121.70	£24.34	£146.04	Direct Debit
15/12/2020	778526	Everflow	Water OSH	£14.25	£0.00	£14.25	Direct Debit
21/12/2020		Creative Pension Trust	Pensions	£334.88	£0.00	£334.88	Direct Debit
28/12/2020	1127508	West Suffolk Council	Trade Waste	£71.92	£0.00	£71.92	Direct Debit
30/09/2020	1IN43313	Weeting Tyres Ltd	Puncture Repair	£12.50	£2.50	£15.00	BACS
15/10/2020	939553006	Arco Ltd	PPE	£57.45	£11.49	£68.94	BACS
04/12/2020	940090271	Arco Ltd	PPE	£56.37	£11.27	£67.64	BACS
07/12/2020	940119757	Arco Ltd	PPE	£116.09	£23.22	£139.31	BACS
22/12/2020	940259040	Arco Ltd	PPE	£39.85	£7.97	£47.82	BACS
20/11/2020	104309	Thetford Garden Centre	Christmas Event	£15.81	£3.16	£18.97	BACS
07/12/2020	529178	J & D Green	Cleaning Windows OSH	£16.50	£0.00	£16.50	BACS
07/12/2020	207500	Fengate Fasteners Ltd	Christmas Event	£312.07	£62.41	£374.48	BACS
28/12/2020	208463	Fengate Fasteners Ltd	Christmas Event	£85.87	£17.17	£103.04	BACS
09/12/2020	3754 AGE839	Travis Perkins Ltd	New Fence - Cemetery	£16.85	£3.37	£20.22	BACS
14/12/2020	51235	Chase Timber Products	New Fence - Cemetery	£495.71	£99.14	£594.85	BACS
17/12/2020	51271	Chase Timber Products	New Fence - Cemetery	£5.36	£1.07	£6.43	BACS
18/12/2020	51331	Chase Timber Products	New Fence - Cemetery	£86.13	£17.23	£103.36	BACS
22/12/2020	51359	Chase Timber Products	New Fence - Cemetery	£11.44	£2.29	£13.73	BACS
31/12/2020	51384	Chase Timber Products	New Fence - Cemetery	£25.38	£5.08	£30.46	BACS
17/12/2020	1085260198	Stannah Lift Services Ltd	Lift Service	£116.67	£23.33	£140.00	BACS
17/12/2020	R7430/LOR	Ray Tuttle Lift Services	LOLER Inspection - Lift	£92.50	£18.50	£111.00	BACS
25/12/2020	2DCA283B-0005	Wittam Info. Tech. Ltd	Website Upkeep	£30.00	£0.00	£30.00	BACS
31/12/2020	20210000005	Finevale Service Station	Fuel	£35.42	£7.08	£42.50	BACS
05/01/2020		HMRC	NICS	£1,220.08	£0.00	£1,220.08	BACS

13 TO RECEIVE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT AGAINST BUDGET FOR NOVEMBER 2020

The Income and Expenditure Statement against Budget for November was received.

Signed.....

- 14 GRANT APPLICATIONS** discussion to consider S137 grants from Brandon and Santon Downham Neighbourhood Watch Association, Brandon in Bloom and Fledgelings Preschool. Cllr Etherington proposed that all applications to be considered are approved as an entity. A further discussion on this subject was agreed at a future meeting.

Proposer: Cllr P Etherington

Seconder: Cllr P Wittam

Resolution Record No: **BTC/50/11/Jan/20**

CARRIED: Unanimous

BRANDON TOWN COUNCIL RESOLVES TO APPROVE GRANT APPLICATIONS FROM BRANDON AND SANTON DOWNHAM NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH ASSOCIATION FOR £400, BRANDON IN BLOOM FOR £300 AND FLEDGELINGS PRESCHOOL FOR £500.

- 15 REPORT** from the Chair of the Planning Committee regarding recent planning applications. To note the addition of Cllr Ridgwell to the Planning Committee and ask for another Councillor to become a member.

Cllr Vant interjected with a point of order, stating that the Planning Committee had no standing because it had not been re-elected at the May 2020 AGM of the Council as per Standing Orders. Cllr Vant proposed a resolution that "the Council elects a Planning Committee to serve until the May 2021 meeting". Cllr Skinner wished to second the proposal. This was rejected by the Chairman without a vote who stated that he wanted to take further advice from the Monitoring Officer regarding this. This rejection led to another point of order. Cllr Skinner asked if the decision regarding the planning application for Coulson Lane could be revealed as this was of great interest to many residents of Brandon. Cllr Lukaniuk stated he would answer as the Chair of the Planning Committee if he could continue in that role. The Chair stated that he felt that the meeting was at an impasse and needed to seek legal advice. A further discussion took place between Cllr Vant, Cllr Lukaniuk, Cllr Etherington and Cllr Skinner.

At 8.40pm the Chairman instructed the administrator to close the meeting prematurely without a vote to do so. Cllr Skinner stated that the meeting was considered adjourned and this was reiterated by Cllr Etherington.

The meeting was adjourned at 8.40pm

Signed.....