

BRANDON TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Brandon Town Council Meeting
held at Old School House, Market Hill, Brandon on Monday 10th July 2023 at 7pm

Present: Cllr P Wittam (Chair), Cllr B Brabbs, Cllr G Brocklehurst, Cllr P Etherington, Cllr J Hughes, Cllr V Lukaniuk, Cllr T Nolan, Cllr D Palmer, Cllr P Ridgwell, Cllr J Savage, Cllr N Siebert, Cllr C Watts

Also Present: 25+ members of the public.

- 1 **APOLOGIES** for absence and approval of reasons tendered.
Cllr H Kostecki – apologies accepted.
- 2 **DECLARATION OF INTEREST** and additions to Members Register of Interest.
Cllr P Etherington – interest.
- 3 **TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM SQN LDR GEARY - RAF LAKENHEATH**
Sqn Ldr Geary reported that the month of June has been busy with the 48th Fighter Wing taking part in the Nato exercise ‘Artic Challenge’ which took place in Finland and Norway. National Highways have recently visited the base to investigate local road network and housing in the area. RAF Lakenheath attended the Norfolk Showground with a display of the fire fighting equipment used on base. Personnel have been advised regarding the safe use of fireworks and appropriate use in the local environment. Sqn Ldr added that the RAF have a new Chief of Airstaff.
- 4 **TO RECEIVE, CONFIRM AND SIGN MINUTES**
- Of the Brandon Town Council Full Council Meeting of Monday 12th June 2023.
Proposer: Cllr B Brabbs
Seconder: Cllr V Lukaniuk
Resolution Record No: **BTC/36/10/Jul/23**
CARRIED: By majority vote 11 for, 1 unable to vote.

BRANDON TOWN COUNCIL RESOLVES THAT THE MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF MONDAY 12TH JUNE 2023 BE APPROVED.
- 5 **MATTERS ARISING** for information exchange only of the Full Council Meeting of 15th May 2023.
Cllr Etherington asked if Cllr Lukaniuk had apologised to Mrs Prior regarding the way he had addressed her at the last meeting. She also pointed out that the Vice Chair, Cllr Brocklehurst had betrayed confidential matters. Cllr Lukaniuk commented he had not apologised as he was awaiting the result of an enquiry. Cllr Etherington asked why the full Council doesn’t know about it. Cllr Wittam declined to let her know who was conducting the enquiry as he stated it was confidential.

Signed.....

Cllr Brocklehurst read out an apology he had scripted to all, for remarks made to the public at last month's meeting.

Cllr Ridgwell stated Norfolk County Council are not charging people to dispose of building materials to reduce fly tipping and asked if Suffolk County Council would adopt this also. Cllr Lukaniuk commented he would look into the matter.

- 6 **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.
The Clerk raised a communication he had received in regard to setting up a No Cold Calling Zone in The Paddocks and being given permission by the Council to erect signs. A vote took place and all Councillors were in favour.
- 7 **TO RECEIVE WRITTEN REPORT** from the Town Clerk.
Report was received. Cllr Ridgwell queried what the grant would be spent on. The Clerk replied that this was money specifically for High Street works.
- 8 **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 V Lukaniuk
Seconder: Cllr G Brocklehurst
Resolution Record No: **BTC/37/10/Jul/23**
CARRIED: Unanimous

THAT THE MEETING BE ADJOURNED FOR THE PUBLIC FORUM.

Cllr Lukaniuk reported that he had had a meeting with Natural England regarding housing issues in Brandon. He then explained that Myxomatosis was part of the reason that the Stone Curlews decline in numbers had taken place.

Cllr Wittam reported that no meetings at West Suffolk had taken place due to the low workload.

Cllr Savage stated that she had nothing to report either.

Cllr Palmer reported he had had a zoom meeting regarding the provisions of NHS dentistry in the Brandon area but at this time nothing had resulted from the meeting. He confirmed that the funding for the new hospital at Bury St Edmunds was in place and development work is progressing.

Cllr Palmer queried the progress of the HGV restrictions. Cllr Lukaniuk replied that he had never promised a ban, only that he would work towards it. Cllr Wittam added that he and Cllr Lukaniuk had been making good progress on this subject up until the Covid epidemic when all work ceased.

Cllr Brocklehurst stated that Brandon in Bloom have Anglia in Bloom judges on Monday 17th July and asked if any volunteers would be available to assist over the weekend.

Cllr Ridgwell commented that the grass cutting was disgusting and we should not have to complain to get the grass cut.

A member of the public informed the meeting that the government have given extra funding to local authorities to deal with potholes and asked why Cllr Wittam did not know about this.

A resident drew the Councils attention to Small Fen Lane which in their opinion was impassable unless by a 4 x 4 vehicle and that there appeared to be a business and habitation being set up in the area at the end of Small Fen Lane. Cllr Wittam replied he will look into the issue and report back to Council.

Signed.....

The Clerk stated he had already notified the SCC Rights of Way department about the issues concerning this bridleway/footpath.

A member of the public, referring to resolution 431 asked what extraordinary events means and who is doing the internal enquiry, as this should be done by an external enquiry. They asked if this, was another tactic to get rid of staff and commented that all Councillors should know about the internal enquiry.

Another member of the public commented that they were disappointed not to have heard from their own Councillor on an issue. Cllr Lukaniuk stated he will reply in due course. The member of public asked that diversity training be offered to Councillors and that the whole town will be supportive of diversity in the future.

Another resident queried why after a meeting with the local M.P. the HGV's transiting Brandon reduced for a period but they appeared to be an excessive number again. Cllr Wittam stated he will look into what happened and answer to be forthcoming at the next meeting.

A member of the public asked Cllr Lukaniuk why he is trying to get an HGV ban which he felt to be an impossible task as HGV's will always be diverted through Brandon if there are any traffic issues on local major roads. He seems to be undertaking tasks which he cannot win instead of concentrating on issues such as grass cutting etc.

Another member of the public made a remark regarding the LGBTQ+ flags stating that not everyone has to accept it and everybody has different opinions regarding this subject.

Cllr Etherington stated that local Americans had been asking why Brandon was flying flags of the American States when England lost the War of Independence.

THE CHAIRMAN RECONVENED THE MEETING

9 CORRESPONDENCE

- Brandon & District Rotary Club – Letter of thanks – information received.

10 ACCOUNTS To approve the payments for June 2023.

Cllr Brocklehurst queried why there were two invoices which appeared for gas at Old School House. The Clerk explained that the two invoices from British Gas were due to their billing procedures and it should not be assumed that there are two meters.

Proposer: Cllr P Etherington

Seconder: Cllr J Hughes

Resolution Record No: **BTC/38/10/Jul/23**

CARRIED: Unanimous

BRANDON TOWN COUNCIL APPROVES THE PAYMENTS FOR JUNE 2023.

| Invoice Date | Invoice No | Supplier | Expense Type | Nett | VAT | Gross | Payment |
|--------------|------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------|--------|-----------|--------------|
| 01/06/2023 | 2165 | Webnet Products Ltd | Pump for Water Bowser | £185.90 | £37.18 | £223.08 | BACS |
| 13/06/2023 | | B & D Rotary Club | S137 Grant | £2,000.00 | £0.00 | £2,000.00 | BACS |
| 11/05/2023 | IN452610 | Aurora Ltd | Photocopier - Copies | £438.50 | £87.70 | £526.20 | Direct Debit |
| 16/05/2023 | INV-2699 | Hugofox Limited | Website Subscription | £29.99 | £6.00 | £35.99 | Direct Debit |
| 24/06/2022 | | I.C.O. | GDPR Registration | £35.00 | £0.00 | £35.00 | Direct Debit |
| 19/05/2023 | 806418950 | British Gas | Gas OSH | £107.68 | £5.38 | £113.06 | Direct Debit |
| 12/06/2023 | 814428355 | British Gas | Gas OSH | £288.48 | £14.42 | £302.90 | Direct Debit |

Signed.....

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|------------|-------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|---------|-----------|--------------|
| 21/05/2023 | M066 S3 | BT | Phone OSH | £73.10 | £14.62 | £87.72 | Direct Debit |
| 22/05/2023 | M042 EJ | BT | Phone OSH | £38.24 | £7.65 | £45.89 | Direct Debit |
| 30/05/2023 | | Creative Pension Trust | Pensions - May | £636.72 | £0.00 | £636.72 | Direct Debit |
| 26/06/2023 | | Creative Pension Trust | Pensions - June | £636.72 | £0.00 | £636.72 | Direct Debit |
| 01/06/2023 | 755A-0015 | E.ON | Electric Cemetery Yard | £19.43 | £0.97 | £20.40 | Direct Debit |
| 01/06/2023 | A292-0022 | E.ON | Electric Pillar 8 Market Hill | £40.90 | £2.04 | £42.94 | Direct Debit |
| 05/06/2023 | 6C32-0022 | E.ON | Electric OSH | £248.00 | £12.40 | £260.40 | Direct Debit |
| 06/06/2023 | 5A54-0021 | E.ON | Electric Pillar 9 Market Hill | £22.24 | £1.11 | £23.35 | Direct Debit |
| 06/06/2023 | 1C56-0020 | E.ON | Electric Christmas Tree Pillar | £17.36 | £0.87 | £18.23 | Direct Debit |
| 06/06/2023 | 3E73-0022 | E.ON | Electric BRPF Yard | £184.62 | £9.23 | £193.85 | Direct Debit |
| 01/06/2023 | 10593 | Cranberry Comms. | Microsoft 365 | £239.90 | £47.98 | £287.88 | Direct Debit |
| 01/06/2023 | 1567 | Cranberry Comms. | Microsoft 365 | -£188.71 | -£37.74 | -£226.45 | Direct Debit |
| 18/06/2023 | 2334575 | Everflow Water | Water OSH | £25.43 | £0.00 | £25.43 | Direct Debit |
| 28/06/2023 | 1215028 | West Suffolk Council | Trade Waste | £75.76 | £0.00 | £75.76 | Direct Debit |
| 30/06/2023 | | Unity Trust Bank | Service Charge | £38.40 | £0.00 | £38.40 | Direct Debit |
| 22/05/2023 | 69738 | Blademaster | Servicing Mower Blades 2 Sets | £36.00 | £7.20 | £43.20 | BACS |
| 01/06/2023 | 8AEUI | Amazon | Kettle - OSH | £20.00 | £4.00 | £24.00 | BACS |
| 07/06/2023 | 825 | Amazon | Ethernet Cable - OSH | £9.49 | £1.90 | £11.39 | BACS |
| 05/06/2023 | 3460 | Evolution Town Plan. | New Cem. Fees 24/1 to 24/5 | £925.50 | £185.10 | £1,110.60 | BACS |
| 08/06/2023 | K65749 | Ernest Doe & Sons Ltd | Blade Line Cutter - Strimmer | £3.99 | £0.80 | £4.79 | BACS |
| 08/06/2023 | K65750 | Ernest Doe & Sons Ltd | Pulley - Mower | £55.94 | £11.19 | £67.13 | BACS |
| 26/06/2023 | K66799 | Ernest Doe & Sons Ltd | Strimmer Line | £72.22 | £14.44 | £86.66 | BACS |
| 09/06/2023 | | Mrs A Barnes | Reim. Ball Valve - Bowser | £5.75 | £1.15 | £6.90 | BACS |
| 10/06/2023 | R9180/LOR | Ray Tuttle Lift Sers. Ltd | 6 Month LOLER - Lift Inspet. | £99.09 | £19.82 | £118.91 | BACS |
| 12/06/2023 | INV17138 | Hampshire Flag Co Ltd | 3 x Armed Forces Flags | £20.96 | £4.19 | £25.15 | BACS |
| 14/06/2023 | | Mrs J Prior | Reim. Mileage re Training | £20.00 | £0.00 | £20.00 | BACS |
| 15/06/2023 | INV-23361 | S. Michlmayr & Co Ltd | Town Clock Repairs | £2,296.00 | £459.20 | £2,755.20 | BACS |
| 16/06/2023 | 27319 | S.A.L.C. | Councillor Training x 4 | £240.00 | £48.00 | £288.00 | BACS |
| 19/06/2023 | 1085557815 | Stannah Lift Services Ltd | Quarterly Lift Service | £116.67 | £23.33 | £140.00 | BACS |
| 20/06/2023 | | Mr G Cock | Reim. Postage | £14.30 | £0.00 | £14.30 | BACS |
| 26/06/2023 | | Mr M Goodson | Reim. Spare Key Cut - Gator | £13.00 | £0.00 | £13.00 | BACS |
| 30/06/2023 | 261026 | Fengate Fasteners Ltd | Soft. Tabs, Snap Hooks, Cons. | £161.20 | £32.24 | £193.44 | BACS |
| 30/06/2023 | 20230000622 | Finevale Service Station | Fuel | £185.14 | £37.02 | £222.16 | BACS |
| 05/07/2023 | | HMRC | NICS | £2,337.94 | £0.00 | £2,337.94 | BACS |

11 TO RECEIVE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENTS AGAINST BUDGET FOR MAY 2023

The Income and Expenditure Statement against Budget for May 2023 was received.

12 TO NOTE MINUTES OF EVENTS COMMITTEE MEETING of 8th June 2023.

The minutes from the above Events Committee Meeting were noted and received. Cllr Lukaniuk asked Cllr Hughes regarding the costs for the Nine Stiles Walk stating that any costs should come to full Council for authorisation. Cllr Etherington added further information regarding the leaflets which are held at Old School House.

Signed.....

13 TO NOTE MINUTES OF PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING of 3rd July 2023.

The minutes from the above Planning Committee Meeting were noted and received.
Cllr Wittam allowed Cllr Brocklehurst to read a report concerning the activities of the planning committee.

14 ELECTION OF TWO PEOPLE TO BE APPOINTED AS TRUSTEES OF THE LINGHEATH AND ATMERE TRUST

Cllrs Ridgwell and Wittam were proposed by Cllr Brocklehurst and seconded by Cllr Lukaniuk as trustees of the Lingheath and Atmere Trust. A vote ensued.

Proposer: Cllr Brocklehurst

Seconder: Cllr V Lukaniuk

Resolution Record No: **BTC/39/10/Jul/23**

CARRIED: Unanimous

15 ELECTION OF TWO PEOPLE TO BE APPOINTED AS TRUSTEES OF THE BRANDON HERITAGE CENTRE

Cllrs Ridgwell and Lukaniuk were proposed by Cllr Wittam and seconded by Cllr Lukaniuk as trustees of the Brandon Heritage Centre. A vote ensued.

Proposer: Cllr P Wittam

Seconder: Cllr V Lukaniuk

Resolution Record No: **BTC/40/10/Jul/23**

CARRIED: Unanimous

16 RESOLUTION from Cllr G Brocklehurst No. 431

Brandon Town Council resolves to confirm that there will be no staffing changes within the lifetime of this Council, with the exception of extraordinary events.

Deferred.

17 RESOLUTION from Cllr G Brocklehurst No. 432

Brandon Town Council resolves that all expenditure for events be approved by Full Council.

A short debate took place with Cllr Etherington stating that it is difficult to book events when approval has to be given by full Council. Cllr Ridgwell added that a budget has already been established. A vote then ensued.

Proposer: Cllr G Brocklehurst

Seconder: Cllr J Hughes

Resolution Record No: **BTC/41/10/Jul/23**

CARRIED: By majority vote: 7 for, 5 against.

BRANDON TOWN COUNCIL RESOLVES THAT ALL EXPENDITURE FOR EVENTS BE APPROVED BY FULL COUNCIL.

Signed.....

18 RESOLUTION FROM CLLR G BROCKLEHURST NO. 433

Brandon Town Council resolves to revise and confirm cemetery fees.
Deferred to a later date.

19 RESOLUTION from Cllr G Brocklehurst No. 434

Brandon Town Council resolves to adopt a method and policy for moderating Facebook comments.

Proposer: Cllr G Brocklehurst

Seconder: No seconder

As this resolution was not seconded the debate did not proceed and a vote was not taken.

20 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 B Brabbs

Seconder: Cllr P Etherington

Resolution Record No: **BTC/42/10/Jul/23**

CARRIED: Unanimous

Signed.....

BRANDON TOWN COUNCIL

Confidential Minutes
of the Full Brandon Town Council Meeting
held at Old School House, Market Hill, Brandon on Monday 10th July 2023 at 7pm

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

21 TO RECEIVE, CONFIRM AND SIGN CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES

- Of the Brandon Town Council Meeting of Monday 12th June 2023.

Proposer: Cllr N Siebert

Seconder: Cllr V Lukaniuk

Resolution Record No: **BTC/43/10/Jul/23**

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

BRANDON TOWN COUNCIL RESOLVES THAT THE CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES OF THE
FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF MONDAY 12TH JUNE 2023 BE APPROVED.

22 MATTERS ARISING

None.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm

Signed.....