

# THRAPSTON TOWN COUNCIL

Mayor: Cllr Andrew McGovern

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## Minutes of the Meeting of Full Town Council held on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2024 at 7.15pm at the Town Council Office, Thrapston

**Present:** Councillor McGovern (Chairman) Councillor Shortland-Ford  
Councillor Hawkins Councillor Storey  
Councillor Latimer Councillor Wheeler  
Councillor Lewis Councillor Wilcox  
Councillor Severn Councillor Worley

**Attending:** Linda Brodier (Town Clerk) Mark Wood (Facilities Manager)  
Lauren Wheeler (Assistant Clerk)

FTC/10/01 **APOLOGIES**  
Councillors Bellamy, Glover & Winter had tendered their apologies which were accepted. Unitary Councillors Wendy Brackenbury and Geoff Shacklock had also sent apologies.

FTC/10/02 **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**  
Cllr Hawkins –pecuniary interest – FTC/10/07.1  
Cllr Latimer – non-pecuniary interest – FTC/10/09.1  
Cllr Severn – non-pecuniary interest - FTC/10/09.1  
Cllr Storey – non-pecuniary interest - FTC/10/08.1

FTC/10/03 **PUBLIC OPEN TIME**  
Three members of Thrapston Venturas attended the meeting to speak under agenda item FTC/10/09.1.

FTC/10/04 **MINUTES**  
**Resolved** that the Minutes of the Full Council meeting dated 17<sup>th</sup> September 2024 be confirmed as a true record.

Minutes of Committee and Working Party meetings held in September 2024 were noted.

FTC/10/05 **REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES TO OTHER BODIES**  
To receive reports from Councillors on meetings they have attended as representatives to other bodies:-

- Joint Action Group (JAG) – Cllr Hawkins
- Police Liaison Representative – Cllr Hawkins
- CHAT Youth Counselling – Cllr Wilcox
- Volunteer Action – Cllr Wheeler
- Warehouse Applications – Cllr Hawkins
- Thrapston Nene Valley Park – Cllrs Wilcox

The reports presented were noted. There were no questions raised.

FTC/10/06 **FINANCE**  
 FTC/10/06.1 **To approve the Financial Reports for September 2024**  
**Resolved** that the Financial Reports for September 2024 be accepted, as attached at Appendix 1.

FTC/10/06.2 **To receive and authorise payments due October 2024**  
**Resolved** that the list of payments due in October 2024 be approved, as attached at Appendix 2.

FTC/10/07 **PLANNING, LICENSING & OTHER CONSULTATIONS**  
 FTC/10/07.1 To consider the following planning applications and determine the Council's responses.

**NE/24/00076/FUL Appeal:** 48 John Street, Thrapston. Demolition of existing garage, erection of new detached dwelling incorporating garage and parking facilities for the host dwelling and the new dwelling.

**Resolved:** The Town Council have declined to comment further but refer North Northamptonshire Council to the previous comments that were made on this application.

**NE/24/00896/TPO:** 8 Poppyfield Court, Thrapston. Tree Preservation Order Consent. T1; Walnut - reduce by 2 metres, remove dead branches. T3; Walnut - monitor fungal infection.

**Resolved:** No objection.

**NE/24/00900/FUL:** Kings Arms, 59 High Street, Thrapston. Demolition of curtilage warehouse structure and formation of parking area, change of use of attached courtyard dwellings to form part of public house, demolition of single storey lean-to extension, extension to existing bar area and extension to form café/restaurant.

**Carried by Majority** with one abstention: No objection

**NE/24/00901/LBC:** Kings Arms, 59 High Street, Thrapston. Demolition of curtilage warehouse structure and formation of parking area, change of use of attached courtyard dwellings to form part of public house, demolition of single storey lean-to extension, extension to existing bar area and extension to form café/restaurant.

**Carried by Majority** with two abstentions and one vote against: No objection

**NE/24/00930/FUL:** 16 Woodpecker Way, Thrapston. Demolish garage. Single storey side and rear extension.

**Resolved:** To reiterate previous comments as follows: The council have a concern that the loss of parking for the dwelling would cause the additional vehicles over the resulting space at the dwelling to park on the street. This has clear potential to cause issues including safety issues to other users of the highway.

The Town Council have **resolved** to object to the application until the applicant can demonstrate that the additional vehicles on the street can both be accommodated and would not create a safety issue.

**NE/24/00948/LBC:** 7 Chancery Lane, Thrapston. Proposed repainting of windows and doors, replacement of felt bay roofing with lead, repair of windows where noted and the replacement of windows and doors where noted.

Cllr Hawkins left the meeting following his declaration of interest.

**Resolved:** No objection.

Cllr Hawkins returned to the meeting.

**Gambling Act 2005: Statement of Principles Consultation**

To receive the revised Gambling Policy and determine whether the Council would like to submit any comments.

**Resolved:** No comment.

FTC/10/07.2 To receive notification of planning permissions granted, refused, withdrawn and appealed.

**NE/24/00730/TCA:** T1; Sycamore - a maximum crown reduction of 2.5 meters to 3 meters (35%), crown lifting of the trunk to a maximum of 5 meters and severing of the Ivy at the base of the tree at 9 Paradise Crescent, Chancery Lane, Thrapston – NO OBJECTION.

**NE/24/00759/FUL:** Single storey side extension at 36 Conway Drive, Thrapston – GRANTED.

Noted.

FTC/10/08

**CORRESPONDENCE / GRANT APPLICATIONS**

FTC/10/08.1

**To receive a grant request from Thrapston Charter Fair and determine whether to award the grant.**

Cllr Storey left the meeting following her declaration of interest. **Resolved** to award the grant in full in the sum of £3,000. In accordance with policy, grants over £2,500 will be paid in the next financial year. It was **resolved** at the Council's discretion to include a caveat that if the grants budget in the 2024/25 financial year is under-spent that the grant be paid in March 2025. Cllr Storey returned to the meeting.

FTC/10/08.2

**To receive copy email from a member of the public request the town council to consider an annual maintenance plan to tidy areas of the town not currently within the remit of the town council and determine action to be taken.**

The resident's email was considered. Following discussion, it was **resolved** to respond along the lines that the works raised within the email are not within the remit of the Town Council but are within the jurisdiction of North Northamptonshire Council. As such, and being mindful of the current financial crisis, the Town Council feel that it would be cost prohibitive to add such a maintenance plan to their budget which residents would pay, when they already pay towards North Northamptonshire Council through the Council Tax. Furthermore, there is no money within the current budget to cover such a maintenance plan, nor do our staff have the necessary licenses to work on the Highway. The Council are of the mind that if there are concerns regarding the works undertaken by North Northamptonshire Council, it should be raised directly with them.

FTC/10/09

**OFFICER & COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

FTC/10/09.1

**To receive Councillor report regarding Thrapston Venturas proposal to develop a fit for purpose training ground to Thrapston and to hear from Steve Kilby, Chairman of Thrapston Venturas.**

Cllrs Latimer and Severn left the meeting following their declarations of interest. Steve Kilby, Chairman of Thrapston Venturas, addressed the Council and informed members of their requirements for training and what they consider are potential improvements needed for their current site or possible alternative locations. He advised that they regularly have to train outside of Thrapston which affects residents in transporting their children, and they believe that for the size of the town Thrapston should have its own suitable training facility.

Members discussed matters and agreed that the biggest issue is that there is no suitable land within the ownership of Thrapston Town Council; and although The Carr

was listed as a potential site the biodiversity net gain would make this impractical. Members asked what the Venturas believe would be required to bring the current training pitch at Castle Playing Fields up to standard. They also spoke of the site behind the school which is not within the Town Council’s ownership. Following discussion it was **resolved** that Cllrs Wheeler, Latimer and Worley would organise a meeting with the School to explore opportunities of using the field behind the school for the benefit of the town and the wider sporting community; that the Clerk would contact the owners of the land lying to the northwest of Springfield Avenue to explore opportunities for acquiring the land; and that the Facilities Manager would liaise with the Venturas to look at options for bringing Castle Playing Fields up to a suitable standard. Cllrs Latimer and Severn returned to the meeting.

FTC/10/10  
FTC/10/10.1

**STRATEGIC PLAN**

**C/F To receive officer report, including recommendation from the Finance & General Purposes Committee, in relation to improvements to the public toilets provision in the town and determine action to be taken. To receive letter from a resident in relation to the re-opening of the public toilets for consideration.**

**Resolved** to accept the recommendation of the Finance & General Purposes Committee to proceed with the refurbishment of the public toilets. Further **resolved** to suspend Standing Orders 18 (d) (iv) to allow for the submission of tenders for this project to be sent by email. It was agreed to amend the Standing Orders permanently at a future meeting to take account of this amendment.

FTC/10/10.2

**To receive quarter review on the Strategic Plan and determine any action to be taken.**

Noted. Cllr Worley asked when the Be Active project funding would be applied for; it was confirmed this will be in the spring window. It was noted that the next review would be undertaken January 2025.

FTC/10/11

**UNITARY COUNCILLORS REPORT**

**To receive reports from North Northamptonshire Unitary Councillors.**

No reports received.

FTC/10/12

**CLERK’S REPORT**

Clerk’s report noted. An update was given on the issue with the HGVs and a meeting with the police, highways, and Lee Barron MP is being organised. Members were made aware of Crimewave, who were at the NCALC AGM as an exhibitor – it was agreed to invite them to a future meeting to present to Council. Councillors listed as helping at the Christmas Festival were asked to confirm that they were still available.

FTC/10/13

**CHAIRMAN’S UPDATE**

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending his Civic Service. He advised that the Band Night went well. He advised that he is attending the High Sherriff’s service on Thursday. He also reminded Councillors of Remembrance Sunday, 10<sup>th</sup> November, and that Councillors are requested to attend and take part in the parade.

**There being no further business the meeting closed at: 20:44.**

Signed .....

Dated .....

**APPENDIX 1 – FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR SEPTEMBER**

*The financial reports are available on the Town Council website.  
To view the reports please.*

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**APPENDIX 2 – LIST OF PAYMENTS FOR OCTOBER**

*The list of payments is available on the Town Council website.  
To view the reports please [Click Here](#).*

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