THRAPSTON TOWN COUNCIL

Mayor: Cllr Andrew McGovern

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Minutes of the Meeting of Full Town Council held on Tuesday 17th September 2024 at 7.15pm at the Town Council Office, Thrapston

Present: Councillor Worley (Deputy Chairman) Councillor Storey

Councillor Bellamy Councillor Wheeler Councillor Glover Councillor Winter

Attending: Cllr Wendy Brackenbury Linda Brodier (Town Clerk)

Mark Wood (Facilities Manager)

Lauren Wheeler (Assistant Clerk)

FTC/09/01 APOLOGIES

Councillors Hawkins, Lewis, McGovern, Severn, Shortland-Ford & Wilcox had tendered their apologies which were accepted. Cllr Latimer advised that she may be late to the meeting.

FTC/09/02 **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Cllr Bellamy – non-pecuniary interest – FTC/09/09.1 Cllr Worley – non-pecuniary interest – FTC/09/09.7

FTC/09/03 PUBLIC OPEN TIME

A member of the public attended the meeting to highlight to the Council the issues he is experiencing with the HGVs driving through the town every night. He said there are numerous lorries passing through each night; his house shakes, they are noisy, and they disturb him every night. He has contacted the police, the previous MP Tom Pursglove and Unitary Councillor David Brackenbury. Whilst he had some initial response from Tom Pursglove and David Brackenbury, there has been no resolution to the problems and communication has now stopped. The Deputy Chairman thanked him for his comments and advised it was an agenda item at this meeting where it will be discussed further.

FTC/09/04 MINUTES

Resolved that the Minutes of the Full Council meeting dated 20th August 2024 be confirmed as a true record.

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

FTC/09/05 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/09/06 FINANCE

FTC/09/06.1 To approve the Financial Reports for August 2024

Resolved that the Financial Reports for August 2024 be accepted, as attached at Appendix 1.

FTC/09/06.2 To receive and authorise payments due September 2024

Resolved that the list of payments due in September 2024 be approved, as attached at Appendix 2.

FTC/09/12 UNITARY COUNCILLORS REPORT

To receive reports from North Northamptonshire Unitary Councillors.

Item brought forward. Unitary Cllr Wendy Brackenbury reported:

- New bus service now running.
- Aware of issues with HGVs, and Highways and the Police are aware.
- Planning on warehouses, one is due to go before Committee at the end of October with the other in November. It was confirmed that both will go to Committee regardless of the outcome of the other.
- In answer to a question about the NNC Budget and the fact that NNC had to capitalise £6.5m last year, Cllr Brackenbury confirmed that yes, there will be a shortfall this year – but she doesn't know what.
- In answer to a question about the implementing width and weight restrictions on the Thrapston bridge, Cllr Brackenbury will speak with Highways and ask if any temporary measures can be put in place, i.e. temporary chicanes. However she is aware that it may need a Traffic Regulation Order which could take time.

FTC/09/07 PLANNING, LICENSING & OTHER CONSULTATIONS

FTC/09/07.1 To consider the following planning applications and determine the Council's responses.

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

Resolved: No Objection

NE/24/00818/FUL: 88 Springfield Avenue, Thrapston: Two storey side extension.

Resolved: No Objection

FTC/09/07.2 To receive notification of planning permissions granted, refused, withdrawn and appealed.

NE/24/00622/FUL: Garden Room/Office to Rear at 29 John Street, Thrapston – PERMISSION GRANTED.

Noted.

FTC/09.09.5 To receive councillor report in relation to HGVs passing through the town when works are being undertaken along the A605 / A14 and determine action to be taken.

Item brought forward. Discussions took place regarding the issues of the HGVs diverting through the town and the impact that this is having on residents. It was noted from Cllr Hawkins' report that the police have the power to enforce the 7.5 tonnes restriction, but they have confirmed that they don't have the manpower to do it. Discussions took place and the following was **resolved**:

- Cllr Brackenbury will raise with NNC temporary width restriction on the bridge.
- Cllr Brackenbury will raise with NNC if a longer term solution of a weight restriction can be brought in.
- Officers will gather data (company/reg plate) into a database and report to Driver Vehicle Standards Agency. Clerk to contact them first to see what information they would require and get their guidance.
- Officers to contact the police and try to escalate the matter.

FTC/09/08 CORRESPONDENCE / GRANT APPLICATIONS

FTC/09/08.1 To receive correspondence from Elements Gymnastics requesting under stage storage; to consider request and determine action to be taken.

Discussions took place regarding storage at the Plaza for hirers. Following consideration of the request it was **carried by majority** with **one decline to vote** to refuse the request for under-stage storage to Elements Gymnastics.

FTC/09/08.2 To receive quotation from HJ Horticulture Ltd regarding taking on the annual maintenance of the land developed by Thrapston Nene Valley Park team by Water's Edge in the sum of £1,596 per annum and determine whether to accept the quote.

Resolved to accept the quote from HJ Horticulture for the additional works to be undertaken, but to commence April 2025 as part of the annual maintenance contract so the additional sums can be budgeted for.

FTC/09/08.3 To receive invitation from North Northants Council to the next Strategic Town & Parish Forum and agree attendance by any councillors.

Noted. Cllr Worley said he would attend. He will also ask Cllr Hawkins. Cllr Bellamy said that he would also be happy to attend.

FTC/09/09 OFFICER & COUNCILLOR REPORTS

FTC/09/09.1 To receive officer report in relation to the Be Active project and determine action to be taken.

Report noted. Discussions took place regarding the equipment and locations and the following was **resolved**:

- Officers to proceed with a funding application for 2 x pieces of equipment at the Peace Park, as per the report.
- Officers to proceed with a funding application for 2 x pieces of equipment at the Windsor Drive, as per the report.
- Devolved to officers to choose the appropriate equipment for each site.
- Additional equipment at Castle Playing Fields to be discussed with the Sports
 Association at the next meeting. In additional it was felt that consultation should
 take place with neighbouring properties at the appropriate time.

FTC/09/09.2 To receive officer report in relation to IT Upgrades and determine action to be taken.

Resolved to accept the recommendation for IT upgrades (quote 1) at a cost of £2,024.11 plus VAT with a contingency to allow for a variance in pricing for an amount up to £2,500 plus VAT, with funds being taken from EMR for IT Support, to be repaid to EMR at the end of the financial year from monies underspent.

FTC/09/09.3 To receive officer report in relation to the Perimeter Fencing at the Skate Park/BMX Track and determine any action to be taken.

Resolved to accept the recommendation for new perimeter fencing at the Skate Park and award the contract to JW Fencing for key clamp type fencing in the sum of £5,415 with funds being taken from EMR for the skate park, to be repaid to EMR at the end of the financial year from monies underspent.

Cllr Glover raised concerns regarding the health and safety of the current BMX track. It was agreed that this should be investigated separately.

FTC/09/09.4 To receive officer report in relation to additional CCTV at Meadow Lane Car Park and determine action to be taken.

Following discussion it was **resolved** to defer this agenda item. Officers are asked to review the CCTV provider and obtain maintenance quotes from other providers, and obtain other quotes for citing a new camera at the far end of the car park. Officers are also asked to contact the Sailing Club and Sea Cadets about their security arrangements and if they have any thoughts.

FTC/09/09.6 To receive councillor report in relation to the Anglian Water Pollution problem and determine action to be taken.

Report noted, and discussions took place regarding the pollution. It was agreed to raise the issues with the Environment Agency at the meeting already arranged on the 29th October.

FTC/09/09.7 To receive officer report in relation to the Scotney Way play area and determine action to be taken.

Report noted. Following discussion, it was **resolved** to swap Scotney Way's and Sissinghurst Drive's park rating, with Sissinghurst converting to a LAP at the time of redevelopment, and Scotney Way being a LEAP (local equipped area of play). It was agreed that Scotney Way's play facility should be a showpiece, being the main one on Lazy Acre. It was felt that the area should be showcased, with new play equipment, improvements to ecology and climate and a full regeneration of the area, including other sports facilities from the Be Active project. It was **resolved** for officers to obtain costs for a minimum of 5 pieces of equipment, trees, wildflower areas etc. and apply for funding to a maximum of £100,000.

FTC/09/09.8 To receive officer report in relation to improvements to the bar at the Plaza, together with quotes, and determine approval of the quotes or other action to be

Report noted. Following discussion it was **resolved** to proceed with the maintenance works required in the sum of £4,720 for which funding has been secured from North Northamptonshire Council's Community Fund.

FTC/09/10 STRATEGIC PLAN - PROJECTS

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.

Following consideration of the report and subsequent discussion it was **carried by majority** with **one vote against** to defer the item to the October meeting.

FTC/09/11 **COMMITTEES**

To receive officer report to review and appoint recently co-opted members to committees where appropriate.

Resolved to appoint Cllr Bellamy to the Personnel Committee, and Cllr Lewis to the Events Committee.

FTC/09/13 CLERK'S REPORT

Clerk's report noted.

FTC/09/14 **CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE**

The Deputy Chairman advised that he had attended his first function as Deputy Chairman at Lamport Hall which was very nice. He thanked everyone for attending.

There being no further business the meeting closed at: 21:30.

Signed	I
Dated	

APPENDIX 1 – FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR AUGUST

The financial reports are available on the Town Council website.

To view the reports please <u>Click Here</u>.

APPENDIX 2 – LIST OF PAYMENTS FOR SEPTEMBER

The list of payments is available on the Town Council website.

To view the reports please <u>Click Here</u>.