

BARTON - UPON - HUMBER TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES of an ORDINARY MEETING HELD in the COUNCIL CHAMBER, BAYSGARTH
HOUSE, BARTON on WEDNESDAY 4 SEPTEMBER 2019 COMMENCING at 7.00 p.m.

Present Councillor J Sanderson (Chairman)

Councillors A Chapman, Mrs A Clark, J Evison, N Jacques, N Pinchbeck, Mrs C Thornton, B Troop, J P Vickers and K Vickers.

Also present 2 Members of the public and Ms S Richards (Town Clerk).

Prior to the meeting commencing, Mrs J King enquired about any initiatives that are in place separate to those of Humberside Police regarding drug issues in the town. Councillor J P Vickers stated that independently no, but there was with cross agency partnership working.

87. **The Town Prayer**

It was agreed and

Resolved that Councillor B Troop read out the Town Prayer.

88. **Notice of Meeting**

It was noted that Notice of this Meeting had been given in accordance with Schedule 12 Paragraph 10(2) of the Local Government Act 1972.

89. **Apologies for Absence**

Councillor Mrs J Oxley (bereavement)

90. **Declarations of Interest**

Barton Senior Alliance – Councillor Mrs A Clark (Personal Interest)

Aaron's Memorial Bench (correspondence after agenda item 2) – Councillor B Troop (Personal Interest)

91. **Police and Neighbourhood Action Team**

Councillor J P Vickers gave report. Anti-social behaviour issues in the area of St Peter's Church continue to be addressed. English Heritage are addressing cctv and security matters. Good intelligence has been received from local residents with everyone encouraged to report anti-social behaviour issues to the Police. There have been two high profile drug raids in the town undertaken by the Police recently, with initiatives on-going regarding drug dealing generally.

Resolved that this be noted.

92. **Minutes**

(a) **Ordinary Meeting of the Council – 3 July 2019**

Resolved that the previously circulated minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on 3 July 2019 be received, approved and confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on 4 September 2019, cont'd

93. **Matters of Report Arising**

(a) **The Community 'Speedwatch' Scheme** (*Min Ref: 65/26 – BTC 03/07/19*)

Councillor J P Vickers expanded upon this matter. The scheme relies on 3 roads added to the scheme and must be signed up for by the town council. Councillor N Jacques enquired how long the trial will run for in the town and can other roads be included in the future. Councillor J P Vickers responded that the scheme was a learning initiative whereby training to use 'Speedwatch' is undertaken by the Police and that finer details of the scheme are to be looked into in due course.

Resolved that the town council agree to sign up 3 roads in the town for the 'Speedwatch' scheme namely Far Ings, Maltkiln Road and Waterside. The scheme documents to be sent to the town council and signed for accordingly to trial the scheme.

(b) **Police & Neighbourhood Action Team** (*Min Ref: 54/20 – BTC 03/07/19*)

Councillor N Pinchbeck enquired about the current position of The Beck water level. Councillor N Jacques reported that Barton Civic Society had looked into various possibilities to these issues and all deemed unsuitable. Traps for road run off had been investigated but this posed the risk of pollutants from the road getting into the water course. Councillor Mrs A Clark asked if blow wells had been looked into. Councillor N Jacques said it had been but would have to be a year on year continuous process.

(c) **Wren Kitchens Ltd – Site Visit** (*Min Ref: 60(6)(iv)- BTC 03/07/19*)

The Clerk reported she had contacted the company, whereby it was indicated suitable dates would be put forward to the town council for consideration. However, today she had received notification from them for the town council to put forward suitable dates instead, preferably commencing at 1.30 pm in the afternoon. It was agreed and

Resolved the Mayor, Councillor J Sanderson to put forward suitable dates on behalf of the town council for Wren Kitchens Ltd to consider a site visit.

94. **Other Meeting Minutes**

(a) **Minutes of a Planning Committee Meeting**

1) **Correct Record**

Resolved that the circulated minutes of a Planning Committee Meeting held on 22 July 2019 be approved as a correct record.

(b) **Minutes of a Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting**

2) **Correct Record**

Resolved that the circulated minutes of a Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting held on 29 July 2019 be approved as a correct record.

(c) **Notes of a Planning Committee Conference**

3) **Correct Record**

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on 4 September 2019, cont'd

Resolved that the circulated notes of a Planning Committee Conference held on 15 August 2019 be approved as a correct record.

(d) **Minutes of a Planning Committee Meeting**

4) **Correct Record**

Resolved that the circulated minutes of a Planning Committee Meeting held on 2 September 2019 be approved as a correct record.

95. **Matters of Report Arising**

(a) **Review of the Town Council's Standing Orders** (*Min Ref: 82(b)/34 – F&GP 29/07/19*)

Councillor N Jacques stated he wished to overturn the decision made of not to exercise the general power of competence by the town council. He felt by gaining the power it would allow the council to have more powers, not only for allowing donations to be made it was not currently empowered to do so, but allow for grass cutting etc. Councillor K Vickers commented that grass cutting does not need the power. He stated that he stood by the decision made at the Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting of not adopting the power as he felt the service level of the town council was adequate as it currently stood and for donations it gave to local groups. Councillor N Pinchbeck requested clarification regarding whether or not the town council required the general power of competence to cut the grass or not as two councillors had differing views. The Clerk stated the town council did not need the power to be able to cut the grass. Councillor J P Vickers stated he had never known a time when the power was required in the past and didn't see a need for it now. Councillor N Jacques commented that the power could only be adopted in an election year and wished for an agenda item to be put onto the October meeting agenda to discuss this matter further once the Clerk had obtained further information on the power, as no councillors present knew what the power covered. It was suggested that an emergency Personnel Committee meeting be held before then as it would be an employment issue. The Clerk stated the meeting held this evening was not the correct platform to discuss personnel matters, this needs to be addressed by the Personnel Committee. Councillor N Jacques suggested a vote be taken. Those in favour of discussing adopting the general power of competence at the October ordinary meeting of the town council, once further information was to hand, by a show of hands were 6, those not in favour was 4. It was agreed and

Resolved that the Clerk investigate what the general power of competence covers with ERNLLCA and an agenda item to be made for the 3 October meeting of the town council to discuss this matter further.

96. **Correspondence**

1. Request from Liz Bennet, chair of the newly formed Neighbourhood Planning sub group of Barton Civic Society, to speak to the council at a future meeting to outline the process of starting a neighbourhood plan, the benefits it would bring to the town and how people can get involved.
2. Nominations for North Lincolnshire Council's Community Champion Awards 2019 can be made following <https://www.northlincs.gov.uk/tourism-museums-the-arts/community-champion-awards/>
3. Receipt of latest Highway Programme of Works for the area from North Lincolnshire Council.
4. Notification Baysgarth Park has been nominated for Fields in Trust UK's Best Park 2019. Voting closed on 19 August, after which the parks with most votes will be shortlisted.
5. Notification that the vacancy of town councillor due to the sad death of John Oxley will be filled by an election. It will take place on Thursday 3 October 2019. There will be no cost to the Town Council for this by-election in this instance.

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6. Notification from ERNLLCA they have copies of the Good Councillor Guide at £3.35 per copy plus £1.20 handling fee, postage and packing costs. Request to complete May 2019 Local elections survey before 27 September 2019, details at <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/GHKRX5J> Reminder legal advice can also be accessed via NALC's Direct Access Legal Department, plus NALC's Chief Executive's bulletin and Independent Review into Local Government Audit.
7. Receipt of copy letter sent to North Lincolnshire Council by resident of Barrow Road, opposed to the Wren Kitchen planning application until a relief road has been put in place.
8. Confirmation for grant of a Premises Licence for Barton Christmas Festival on Saturday 30 November 2019 (*Min Ref: 294(d)/130 – CC 04/03/19*).
9. Receipt of North Lincolnshire Council's business information newsletter for August. Copy available from the town council office.
10. Request from Humber Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) to complete Humber Local Industrial Strategy – Consultation Survey at www.snapsurveys.com
11. Request from 1st Hibaldstow and Scawby Scout Group for financial support, some of their members live in Barton (*BTC Town Grant Application Form has been forwarded*).
12. Humber Nature Partnership based at Waters' Edge Visitor Centre is developing the Barton and Barrow Claypits Natural Heritage Trail and would appreciate participation in their consultation survey, available at <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/BQBVXDT> Also invitation to give presentation on current overview of their work and explore ways to work together with communities bordering the Humber Estuary.
13. Notification Barton came second in the Small Town group for this year's CPRE Best Kept Village Competition, a representative is invited to attend the presentation at Messingham Village Hall on Wednesday 2 October 2019 at 7.30pm. Also receipt of CPRE Countryside Voice and Fieldwork magazines for summer 2019, notification following consultation over the past 18 months of a change in tone from CPRE, focusing more on the positive solutions that they try to create.
14. Receipt of Humberside Police & Crime Commissioner August Newsletter. Copy available from the council office.
15. Receipt of Barton NAT meeting minutes from 6 August 2019 and notification next meeting is on 15 October 2019, 6.30pm in the Assembly Rooms.
16. Updates from BCCRP on changes to this line with East Midlands Railway plus notification their next OGM is on 2 September 2019, 11am at Grimsby Town Station.
17. Copy of taster pamphlet about what can be expected during 2020, for Ted Lewis anniversary events.
18. Notification from North Lincolnshire Council Street Numbering of two shops which will be opening shortly in the former Lidl store on the High Street – Boyes (Unit 1) and Heron (Unit 2).
19. Invite to attend Barton Lions Club Annual Charter Ball on Saturday 26 October 2019, 7.00pm at Hallmark Hotel, Hull. Tickets £35 per person. Please contact Councillor A Chapman for further details.
20. Details of SLCC's Annual General Meeting and National Conference on 1 – 3 October 2019.

Resolved

(i) Councillor N Jacques wanted to accept the invitation for the Barton Civic Society representative to attend the October meeting of the town council to speak about Neighbourhood Planning. Councillor J P Vickers suggested that Mr D Lofts, representative of North Lincolnshire Council also attend the meeting to speak. It was agreed that both be invited to speak to the town council about Neighbourhood Plans (*item 1*);

(ii) Councillor J P Vickers updated everyone about the Fields in Trust UK's Best Park 2019, thanking everyone who had taken part in the vote for Baysgarth Park (*item 4*);

(iii) Councillor J P Vickers urged everyone to complete the survey and that the project was coming on well. It was agreed to invite the Humber Nature Partnership to give a presentation to the town council at a future town council meeting about this (*item 12*);

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(iv) it was agreed to ask the former town councillor, Mr F Coulsey (ex-Chairman of the Environment Committee), if he would attend the presentation on behalf of the town council to accept the award (item 13);

(v) Councillor N Jacques stated he and Councillor Mrs C Thornton had attended a recent meeting of the BCCRP. He gave report on the latest issues regarding the franchise changes, the service delays and cancellations. He requested if the local MP Martin Vickers could look into this matter as nothing appeared to be reaching any conclusion to sort out on-going issues of the line. A question was raised about any impact these delays were having on the public car parking issues at the interchange. It was reported that North Lincolnshire Council were still in negotiation regarding this matter (item 16);

(vi) the remaining correspondence be received and the contents noted.

97. **Correspondence Received Since Issue of the Agenda**

1. Letter from Councillor Janet Oxley requesting a leave of absence from the Council of 6 months following her husbands' death, as she is currently unable to fulfil her commitments and needs time to recover her health and state of mind in order to move forward from her bereavement.
2. Notification from Councillor Ben Troop that no additional finance will be required towards Aaron's memorial bench which has now been installed at Waters' Edge (Min Ref: 177(9)(i)/75 – BTC 07/11/18).
3. Notification from North Lincolnshire Council Events Team that occasional market consent has been granted for the Christmas Festival (Min Ref: 294(i)/131 – CC 04/03/19).
4. Receipt of ERNLLCA August newsletter. Copy available from the council office.
5. Notice from North Lincolnshire Council Licensing of premises licence application for Heron Foods Ltd at Unit 1 High Street, Barton for the supply of alcohol for consumption off the premises Monday to Saturday 08:00hrs to 20:00hrs and Sunday 10:00hrs to 16:00hrs.
6. Information from North Lincolnshire Council NAT Group coordinator advising details of the Local Policing North Lincolnshire area Community Cohesion Officer along with guidance notes in relation to applying for funding from the Crime Reduction Fund.
7. Request from Barton Town Football Club to discuss the possibility of tree planting at their ground with members of the town council.

Resolved

(i) The contents of the letter was agreed and understood by everyone present The Clerk to write to Councillor Mrs J Oxley stating that whilst her absence of leave had been registered, she was welcome to attend any meeting or committee meeting during her 6 month leave of absence if she chose to do so (item 1);

(ii) Councillor B Troop gave appraisal of this matter and that no funding was required from the town council in this instance (item 2);

(iii) Councillor A Chapman gave report regarding this matter. It was agreed that a representative of the Football Club attend a future meeting of the town council to discuss this issue (item 7);

(iv) the remaining correspondence be received and the contents noted.

98. **Accounts for Payment**

Resolved

(i) that the Clerk be authorised to pay the accounts as listed in Appendix II in the sum of £815.49 (A/cs 103 to 109) and those presented at the meeting in the sum of £6,155.45 (A/cs 110 to 116) - a grand total of £6,970.94;

(ii) petty cash expenses for August 2019 are £190.84;

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(iii) the balanced bank reconciliation sheets for June and July 2019 were signed by the Mayor and Town Clerk.

(iv) payment of the August accounts in the sum of £14,756.39 were duly made on 5 August and petty cash expenses were £95.91 (*Min Ref: 62/26 – BTC 03/07/19 refers*).

99. August Committee Meetings of the Town Council

Councillor K Vickers suggested that a summer recess of all town council meetings, including committee meetings be made for the month of August each year. This would be in line with most other town/parish councils. Following programmed committee meetings of the town council unable to be held due to not being quorate in August 2019 (the Planning Committee meeting 12 August, the re-arranged one the week after on 19 August and the Environment Committee meeting on 19 August). This was not just a problem with the reduced number of councillors since the May election as it had been a problem in previous years as well with 22 councillors. Councillor K Vickers concluded that it was clearly a month when several members of the town council took their summer family holidays, so it was logical not to hold meetings during this month. It was agreed and

Resolved

- (i) all meetings, including committee meetings not to be held during August each year;
- (ii) the Environment Committee meeting due to be held on 19 August to be rescheduled by the committee chairman;
- (iii) the town council office to ensure that payment of the accounts for the month of August are made each year;
- (iv) in lieu of a Planning Committee meeting in August, a consultation be held with the town council office and the planning committee members, to ensure any planning applications were commented upon.

100. The Proposed Sale of Providence House by North Lincolnshire Council

Councillor J Sanderson commented he had heard about the sale of Providence House via Facebook. He felt the town council should have been informed about this. Councillor N Jacques stated that the building had been placed upon the community asset register at North Lincolnshire Council by the Barton Civic Society. Councillor N Pinchbeck queried the extended opening hours of the new library complex that did not appear to reflect the advertised opening hours. The Leader of North Lincolnshire Council, Mr R Waltham MBE had been consulted regarding this issue. Councillor K Vickers stated that it was the intention for the opening hours to be extended following the initial interim period to sort out staffing matters. Councillor J P Vickers said he had received good feedback regarding the children's summer reading programme, the initial uptake had been very good and a great success. Councillor N Pinchbeck felt that as it had taken 2 years to plan the complex, with the great addition of a café facility it was still rather disappointing that the opening hours had not been previously determined and sorted out beforehand. Councillor J P Vickers commented that a lot of hard work had gone into the new complex, particularly services for the elderly and vulnerable. Also, the more people who used the facility, along with Baysgarth Park, the more sustainable it would become. He then asked if the Barton Civic Society would be making a bid to purchase Providence House, before the 6 month period of execution commences as they had placed it onto the community asset register. Councillor N Jacques stated he did not know but they would be holding a meeting next week.

Resolved that this be noted.

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101. **Grass Cutting at Beretun Green & Bowmandale**

Councillor J P Vickers commented upon the success of the roundabout adoption on Bowmandale by local contractor Mr M Nettleton. Following comments and complaints from local residents in the Beretun Green and Bowmandale area, he had contacted the contractor to provide a quotation for grass cutting in both these areas. He had also consulted with North Lincolnshire Council who were happy for a third party to cut the grass in this area. Councillor Mrs C Thornton enquired about overhanging hedges from private properties onto the public thoroughfare. Councillor J P Vickers suggested she contact the Environment Team at North Lincolnshire Council to look into the matter. Councillor J Evison commented that there is a mechanism for North Lincolnshire to do this, as he had previously reported such issues on Caistor Road and Green Lane, whereby the hedges had been cut.

Resolved an agenda item be placed for the Finance & General Purposes committee agenda for 28 October 2019 to discuss this matter.

102. **Increasing the Town Bus Service to 5 Days a Week**

Councillor N Jacques reported that he felt the town bus service be extended to 5 days from the current 3 days a week. Following discussions with some members of the public, he felt people were left marooned on the other two days the bus service didn't run. Councillor N Pinchbeck enquired if the bus service was well used. Councillor J Evison commented that it wasn't and the service was currently under review by North Lincolnshire Council. Councillor J P Vickers suggested the service be extended to 3pm on the current 3 days it runs. Councillor N Jacques felt that if it was a regular 5 day service it would become more popular. The Clerk asked where the budget for the extension of the service would come from. It was stated either any budget provision previously made for the Castledyke bus service or the town council reserves. Councillor Mrs C Thornton requested that the bus service be advertised in the next edition of the Bartonian. Councillor K Vickers commented that he had been chasing up the local free bus that is run by Tesco before they had a store in Barton. As such, it takes away fee paying customers from the service buses in the town through to Brigg. Councillor N Jacques enquired if this service could be re-routed. Councillor K Vickers concluded that he had been unable to get a response in this matter from anyone at Tesco for some considerable time. It was agreed and

Resolved

- (i) that North Lincolnshire Council be contacted regarding extending the hours the bus service currently runs on 3 days to 3pm and enquiring about the service running on Tuesdays and Thursdays.
- (ii) the town bus service to be advertised in the next edition of the Bartonian.

103. **Consideration that in light of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's recommendation that urgent action is needed to reduce substantially carbon emissions by 2030, the Town Council agrees to declare a Climate Emergency and to establish a Committee to develop ways to make the Town Council's operations carbon neutral by 2030, in line with Standing Order 4. The Committee is to report back with proposed Terms of Reference for consideration at the December 2019 Council Meeting before starting work**

Councillor N Jacques felt that his proposal was clear and he appreciated that a lot of people were trying to reduce their carbon footprint. Councillor J P Vickers stated that he had concerns regarding climate issues and after speaking to several local children they were very confused with this subject. He felt the town council had reduced their carbon footprint greatly. The council had for instance reduced from 22 councillors to 12. The Assembly Rooms had replaced its old lighting to led and a new energy efficient boiler has been fitted. The Christmas lighting had been replaced with new led

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lighting etc. The town council use local contractors where possible and greener options for power resources were always looked into. In light of this, he suggested that a 'task and finish' group be set up to provide a report on the town council's initiatives to address some climate change issues. Councillor J Sanderson supported an informal group looking into these matters. Councillor N Jacques felt that the single use of plastic cups used at meetings should be looked into for instance. Councillor K Vickers stated that there should be some recognition of how The Assembly Rooms upgrades reflect reductions in the carbon footprint. Following discussion, it was agreed and

Resolved that a 'task and finish' group be set up, consisting of Councillors A Chapman, N Jacques, Mrs C Thornton and J P Vickers regarding reporting back to the town council early in the new year with a report of how the town council has addressed reducing its carbon footprint with best practice.

104. **Reports from North Lincolnshire Council Representatives**

(a) **Councillor J P Vickers**

Councillor J P Vickers reported that there is to be an update regarding the proposed relief road this coming Friday. Barton Town Football Club is completing some of the new car park works and the new library complex is due to be officially opened on 20 September 2019. Contracts are being exchanged regarding the interchange car park and Baysgarth Park improvement works will allow direct access from Caistor Road/Eastfield Road with the path system extended.

Councillor Mrs A Clark raised an historical issue regarding an embankment problem at the A15 area and some local resident's properties. There has been no progress regarding trees/shrubs requiring pruning work. They are growing to an unmanageable height, which she claimed could affect some properties. Despite previous work looking into this matter, it was still unclear who is responsible for this. Councillor J P Vickers stated he had spent a lot of time investigating this matter during the last few months and is getting nowhere fast with Highways England. In light of this, it was agreed and

Resolved

- (i) the town council write to North Lincolnshire Council enquiring who is responsible in this matter for the embankment management issues;
- (ii) Councillor Mrs A Clark to make an appointment to see the local MP Martin Vickers at his surgery this week.

(b) **Councillor J Evison**

Councillor J Evison gave appraisal of the Ward Members involved in initiatives with the Police and local Police Crime Commissioner regarding drug related issues in the town. Problems with the Police 101 system are being looked into and response times regarding using the internet means of contact with the Police. Councillor N Jacques requested clarity on using the 999 and/or the 101 system.

105. **Reports from Members on Outside Organisations**

(a) **Baysgarth Park**

Councillor Mrs C Thornton had received comment that Baysgarth Park is one of the best seen. However, it had been muted if the car park could be linked into the path system. Councillor J P Vickers stated that this matter had already been looked into and would be subject to grant monies available to add this to the current park improvement programme of works.

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The Chairman, Councillor J Sanderson closed the meeting at 8.21 p.m.

..... Chairman 2 October 2019