

Council members:

Cllr Mitchell (Chairman) Cllr Janney (Vice chairman), Cllr Astle, Cllr Baker, Cllr Dent, Cllr Harm, Cllr Johnson, Cllr Pearce, Cllr Robinson, Cllr Stewart MBE Cllr Truelove, Cllr Whittaker, Cllr Wilson & Cllr Woods.

Minutes of a Meeting of the Council held in the small room of the Imperial Hall Epworth on **Tuesday January 15th 2019 at 7pm.**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained the Fire evacuation procedures; the clerk signed the forms.

The Chairman read the following paragraphs.

**This Council supports the rights of anyone to record this meeting but advises that anyone so recording cannot disrupt the meeting by means of the recording and expresses hope that the person (or persons) carrying out the recording have obtained the necessary legal advice, for themselves, to ensure they understand the rights of any member of the public who may be present who do not wish to be filmed or recorded.**

**Public Participation session:** Residents are invited to give their views and question the Town Council on issues on this agenda or, issues for future consideration. **(Members of the public are reminded that each presentation should take no more than three minutes).** No members of the public present.

**To receive Paul Schofield, Landscape Project Manager, Isle of Axholme & Hatfield Chase Landscape Partnership** in relation to the Heritage Committee Project.

Mr Schofield described the partnership as made up from a number of organisations, among them, North Lincolnshire Council, Doncaster Council and the Lincolnshire & Yorkshire Wildlife trusts. The organisation is Heritage Lottery funded. He is employed by North Lincolnshire Council and the brief is to re-connect with the heritage and landscape of the area; the partnership employs an education officer, an archaeologist a project administration officer and has additional volunteers as well as himself as Project Manager. The Isle Greenway is the current major project. The project is “mid-term” in relation to funding.

Q: Was Mr Schofield aware of the Epworth project site?

An: Has seen site, requires archaeological dig, value of the land questioned.

Q: Would the Landscape partnership be interested in the site?

An: Small financial sum available for additional projects £2000 (two thousand pounds) which could be available, potential of site unknown.

Q: Is there a cap on funding received?

An: Lottery funding received has already been allocated, unlikely to re-apply for more funding. Grant funding objectives have changed, lower values, national assessment. Some match funding from North Lincolnshire Council and/or Natural England.

Q: If we had a Heritage Centre would you help provide items of interest?

An: Depends on what happens with project finds; scheduled to go the Museum in Scunthorpe.

Q: During the “dig” last year was the Ivy Andrew hall site considered?

An: Access was a problem with the Church connection.

Q: On “governance” can you enter into any other partnership?

An: Some small organisations, not sure about an official partner.

Q: Who formulated the partnership?

An: Came about through the Humberside Levels Partnership.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Schofield for attending and answering questions; who then left the meeting.

**27.01.19 To record the Names of Members Present.** Cllr Mitchell presiding:  
**Cllrs:** Astle, Baker, Dent, Harm, Janney, Truelove, Whittaker, Wilson & Woods.  
The clerk C Maguire was in attendance.

**28.01.19 Apologies for absence** were received from Cllr Johnson and Stewart.  
Cllrs Robinson and Pearce were not present.

**29.01.19 To receive Declarations of Interest by any member of the Council** in respect of the agenda items listed below. Members declaring interests should identify the agenda item and type of interest being declared. (*Localism Act 2011 Code of Conduct*). None declared.

**30.01.19 To note dispensations** given to any member in respect to items on the agenda (*Localism Act 2011 and the Code of Conduct*). None requested.

**31.01.19 Co-option to fill casual vacancy:** (Representation of the People Act 1985 s21 and Local Government Act 1972 s87 (1)): to receive information from interested parties for co-option as a new member to the council. No information received.

**32.01.19 To receive the Chairman's Announcements.** The Chairman had nothing to report.

**33.01.19 Heritage Project Committee;** to receive copy correspondence from estate agents and the Diocese relating to this matter and resolve the next steps. During discussions the following points were made:

- New contact at the Diocese Peter Tomlinson
- Planning conditions require an archaeological dig on the site
- Pro-active to obtain valuation at nominal cost from local estate agents
- Question the Diocese on the value they have for the site
- Query the cost of the archaeological survey
- Query on cost of bringing school buildings up to standard
- Obtain a land valuation
- Potential "asset" for Epworth
- Considered level of urgency that the Diocese wishes to sell the land for "best value"

Proposal from Cllr Baker to accept the offer from Grice & Hunter to obtain a valuation at a cost of £200.00 (two hundred pounds) plus VAT, seconded by Cllr Dent. **RESOLVED.**

Cllr Whittaker requested a recorded vote.

The clerk miss-directed the council on the procedure, was corrected by Cllr Baker and apologised to the Council

In favour: Cllrs Mitchell, Astle, Baker, Dent, Harm, Janney, Truelove, Wilson and Woods.

Cllr Whittaker voted against.

**34.01.19 Highways Grass Cutting and parish paths Scheme Agreement:** to receive copy contract and correspondence and resolve a response. During discussions the following points were raised:

- No mention of previous conditions
- Concern over current conditions of verges
- Concern over vehicles damaging verges – need to be in "pristine" condition before we take them over
- Last year 3 or 4 cuts to public rights of way, this year only 2
- Names of possible contractors not provided

- No provision for litter picking prior to verge cutting
- Less details than previous parish path scheme
- No mention of requirement for inspection of rights of way before cutting starts
- Need to consider the reduction in councillor numbers before taking on additional work (from 15 down to 9)
- Concern over paragraph 7, that the town council would be responsible for community complaints if agreement signed
- Query on additional insurance required

Proposed by Cllr Harm seconded by Cllr Baker and **RESOLVED** to decline to adopt the pilot scheme, one abstention.

**35.01.19 Kings Head Croft: CCTV and Lighting:** to receive copy correspondence and resolve a response. Points noted:

“On the radar” vague and inadequate response avoiding issue; request more specific reply; Epworth Town Council has resolved to invest in CCTV and requests to know what the NLC/NATS programme is?

Proposed by Cllr Mitchell seconded by Cllr Baker and **RESOLVED** to write to Rob Waltham requesting clarity.

**36.01.19 Wesley Statue:** to receive recent copy correspondence, an update (if available) and to resolve whether or not Epworth Town Council continues with the procedure to adopt the statue.

Cllr Janney provided a resume of the letter written (in liaison with the clerk) to HSR Law. The clerk had circulated a copy of the letter previously requested, and written to Mr. Stewart. Noted that no itemised accounts had been received. Proposed by Cllr Harm seconded by Cllr Whittaker and **RESOLVED** to defer the decision until a response from HSR law had been received.

**37.01.19 Epworth Cemetery:** to receive and resolve DRAFT Epworth Cemetery Memorial Safety Inspection procedures and Policies and notices ahead of the scheduled inspection. After brief discussion it was proposed by Cllr Mitchell seconded by Cllr Harm and **RESOLVED** to refer the item back to the Cemetery Committee.

**38.01.19 Electricity Accounts:** to receive information on electricity prices to resolve a provider and to authorise the clerk to sign up to the agreement(s). (prices vary on a daily basis). The clerk provided a summary of the prices from companies contacted for prices to date explaining the difficulties faced in trying to obtain quotations. Proposed by Cllr Janney seconded by Cllr Harm and **RESOLVED** to mandate the clerk to deal with Black Sheep utilities (broker) to obtain new contracts for the supply of electricity.

**39.01.19 BT Cloud storage:** to receive information on costs for increased storage capacity and resolve further provision. The clerk explained that current cloud storage provision was inadequate. Currently pay £6.12 per month for 10 GB of storage; could increase to £12.24 per month for 50 GB of storage. Discussion amongst councillors with knowledge of the subject suggested 50 GB of storage still insufficient. Proposed by Cllr Mitchell seconded by Cllr Harm and **RESOLVED** personnel committee to discuss and to come back to full council with recommendations. 1 abstention.

**40.01.19 Planning (Town & Country Planning Act 1990 as amended)**

**(a) To resolve:** PA/2019/32 planning permission to erect a single storey rear conservatory  
Site location: 16 King Oswald Road, Epworth.

Proposed by Cllr Truelove seconded by Cllr Harm and **RESOLVED** no observations.

**(b) Planning enforcement:** to discuss the advertising on the frontage of the Mechanics Institute.

Proposed by Cllr Harm seconded by Cllr Truelove and **RESOLVED** to forward the complaint to North Lincolnshire Council planning enforcement as advertisement within the conservation area on a listed building

**41.01.19 Kings Head Croft:** to discuss and resolve whether or not to instruct the clerk to apply to North Lincolnshire Council for conservation area tree works to (crown lift/remove) tree situated on grass by car park that limits CCTV view. Proposed by Cllr Whittaker seconded by Cllr Harm and **RESOLVED** to wait for a response from North Lincolnshire Council regarding the CCTV before discussing the tree.

**42.01.19 To nominate items for facebook.** No items were put forward.

**43.01.19 Questions to the Chairman:** (*Items of immediate urgency that must be acknowledged before the next meeting and have not been included on the Agenda*). No issues were raised.

**44.01.19 To confirm the date and time of the February Meeting of the Council** as Tuesday February 5th at 7pm in the Imperial Hall, Epworth.

Meeting closed at 8.38pm

cm 17.01.19