

**GAINSBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL**

MINUTES of the ANNUAL TOWN MEETING held at the All Saints' Parish Church, Church Street, Gainsborough on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2021 at 6:00pm

**Present:** Councillor Richard Craig (Chairman)

**In Attendance:**

Rachel Allbones Deputy Clerk & RFO - Gainsborough Town Council  
Sean Alcock Operations Manager - Gainsborough Town Council  
Jessica Flowers Administration Support Officer – Gainsborough Town Council

X6 Gainsborough Town Councillors

**Also in Attendance:** Mike Hopper – Gainsborough Neighbourhood Plan  
Councillor Clio Perraton-Williams – Lincolnshire County Council  
PCSO Matt Eglinton  
Barry Coward – North Notts & Lincs Community Rail Partnership

X7 Members of the public

**1. WELCOME BY THE MAYOR**

The Mayor welcomed all to the meeting.

**2. MINUTES OF 2019 MEETING**

Councillor Craig recapped the minutes of the 2019 meeting and made comments on certain items as necessary.

The Minutes were accepted as a true record.

**3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

There were no matters arising.

**4. TOWN MAYOR'S REPORT**

Councillor Craig reported on the Mayoral functions he had attended, partnership working with other organisations and authorities and community grants awarded throughout 2019/21. Councillor Craig reported on the changes in the 2019 elections and commended Councillor Panter on his service as Mayor from May 2019 – May 2021 during difficult times.

Councillor Craig informed attendees that the project on the War Memorial was now complete and the sub-lease of Roses Sports Ground to Gainsborough Trinity Foundation was again complete and the 3G built.

It was highlighted that there was a new Christmas lights scheme for 2021 and a different kind of switch on due to the pandemic.

Councillor Craig advised who the Citizens of the Year had been for 2019 and 2020.

**5. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN – Mike Hopper**

Mike Hopper presented the now adopted Gainsborough Neighbourhood Plan and the steps the working group had to take over the past 5 years to successfully pass it through the referendum.

**6. LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL HIGHWAYS – Cllr Clio Perraton-Williams**

Councillor Perraton-Williams gave a presentation on the highway improvements in recent years, the main one being the installation of traffic lights on Thorndike Way / Corringham Road junction.

Issues / questions raised from the public were:

- Traffic lights on Middlefield Lane / Foxby Lane are causing issues round Park Springs Road area with drivers taking short cuts.
- Some pot holes in the roads were reported.
- Request for improved cycle routes

**7. NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING TEAM - PCSO Matt Eglinton**

PCSO Eglinton reported of the success of the recent World Café event held within the town. Members of the public were encouraged to report all crimes themselves to the police.

Issues / questions raised from the public were:

- Use of electric scotters
- Illegal motorbikes and ways to pursue users
- Correct use of cycle paths
- Vandalism on allotments

**8. NORTH NOTTS AND LINCS COMMUNITY RAIL PARTNERSHIP – Barry Coward**

Mr Coward informed attendees of the ongoing improvements at both train stations within the town and the continued discussions to replace platform 1 at Lea Road. He reported on the ongoing efforts working with the rail companies on the train timetables in and out of Gainsborough.

He also advised of the continued work on the bus routes and timetables with Stage Coach.

**9. OPEN FORUM / QUESTIONS**

The following questions / concerns were raised by members of the public:

- A date for the opening of the riverside near Bowling Green Road
- Possibility of reopening the toilets on Whittons Gardens, and possible shop
- How Councillors are appointed to the Council if not by election
- Update of the Neighbourhood plan referendum and possibility of looking into a green ridgeway
- Issues on an allotment site and possibility of CCTV installation
- Near Lincolnshire Otter is being used for fly tipping

Councillor Richard Craig thanked residents for their attendance.

The meeting concluded at 8.21pm.