

GAINSBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Annual Meeting of the Town Assembly at Marshalls Sports Ground Function Room, Middlefield Lane, Gainsborough on Friday 06 May 2022 at 19.00

Present: 22 members of the public

1. Welcome by the Town Mayor

The Town Mayor Pat O'Connor welcomed those present.

2. Receive Minutes of the 2021 Annual Town Meeting

The minutes of the 2021 Town meeting were received and approved.

3. Matters arising from the Minutes

There were none.

4. Town Mayor's Report – Councillor Richard Craig

The Town Mayor for the 2021-22 municipal year Cllr Richard Craig reported on his time in office. He congratulated Cllr Pat O'Connor on his election as Mayor for the 2022-23 municipal year. Cllr Craig's report is appended.

5. Neighbourhood Plan – RAGE Gainsborough

Sadly, the speaker on the Neighbourhood Plan was unable to attend the meeting. It was noted that the neighbourhood plan had been made.

6. Local Policing Team

PCSO T Burnett talked about recent changes in the neighbourhood policing team and that it was hoped that the team would be back up to four PCSOs in the near future. She pointed out that Gainsborough police station was staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week. If the doors of the building were shut, members of the public could use the yellow phone outside the building to report.

Members of the public should dial 101 for non-urgent calls and ask to be put through to the Community Policing Team. Unfortunately there was often a long wait for calls to be answered. Reporting incidents online would frequently be quicker, but the report may never reach the local team unless reported over the phone. Members of the public are encouraged to report any crime to the local police station. Only crimes reported through the official channels will appear in crime statistics. Facebook pages are not an official channel. The crime statistics inform how local services are funded and supported, so reporting crime is important.

It was reported that the town centre CCTV had been upgraded and was much improved leaving no blind spots.

Useful information on policing can be found on [Home | Police.uk \(www.police.uk\)](http://www.police.uk) where statistics on the local area are also available.

7. North Notts and Lincs Community Rail Partnership

Since 2017 North Notts and Lincs CRP has tried to persuade residents to utilise the rail network and other public transport. It was reported that both Gainsborough Stations would receive 9ft artwork welcoming travellers to Gainsborough.

Mayflower 400 had seen travellers, particularly the USA, come to Gainsborough. It was hoped to build on this success for the 2026 anniversary. A question was raised whether toilets would be available at the Gainsborough stations. Unfortunately toilets are considered too much of a hazard at an unstaffed station.

8. OPEN FORUM – the opportunity for the community to raise issues

A question was raised regarding the Riverside Path. The opening of the path was behind schedule due to safety concerns. West Lindsey District council was working on a solution. Cllr Mat Boles spoke briefly on plans under the levelling up fund which included town centre development and further development on the riverside.

A member of the public queried why there was no pedestrian crossing on Bridge Street. They were advised to take this up with their County Councillor.

A member of the public asked about the decriminalisation of Cannabis. They were advised that this could not be decided on a local or even county level and that the national laws applied.

The Mayor Pat O'Connor thanked residents, speakers and members of the local police force for their attendance.

Signed: _____ Date: _____