

GAINSBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of a MEETING of Council held at Roses Sports Pavilion, North Warren Road, Gainsborough on Tuesday 7th June 2011 at 7:00pm

Present: Councillor Harry Clarke (In the Chair)

Councillor Pearl Banyard
Councillor Mark Binns
Councillor Norman Dinsdale
Councillor Richy Doran
Councillor Vaughan Hughes
Councillor Cynthia Isherwood
Councillor Paul Key
Councillor David Manning
Councillor Julie Nicholson
Councillor William Parry
Councillor Leslie Rollings
Councillor Mel Starkey
Councillor Kenneth Woolley
Councillor Trevor Young

In Attendance: Clerk to the Council
Assistant Clerk to the Council
Events / Finance Officer

Also in Attendance: Six members of the public
WLDC Cllr. Mick Tinker

Prior to the meeting Pastor Paul McGuigan led the meeting in prayer.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Daniel Dand
Councillor Sandra Goacher

RESOLVED on proposal by Cllr. P. Banyard, seconded by Cllr. M. Starkey to accept the apologies received.

2. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None received.

3. COUNCIL MINUTES

It was pointed out that Councillor Julie Nicholson had been missed from the 'present' list. Cllr. J. Nicholson's name was added to the notes.

RESOLVED on proposal by Cllr. M. Binns, seconded by Cllr. P. Banyard that the notes of the Full Council meeting on Tuesday 17th May 2011 be confirmed as a correct record.

Cllr. P. Key was against the vote.

4. TO DEAL WITH ANY BUSINESS EXPRESSLY REQUIRED BY STATUTE TO BE DONE

No business to be dealt with.

5. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman advised Council that he will be away on holiday from 17th – 24th June 2011.

6. REPORT FROM THE CLERK TO THE COUNCIL

Councillors had previously received the following report from the Clerk.

Gainsborough B.I.D.

The BID continues to progress and I attach herewith copies of latest minutes of the Task Group together with other information

Gainsborough in Bloom

The project continues to gather momentum with work underway on Thorndyke roundabout and discussions with Ping are now at an advanced stage regarding the design of the Corringham Road roundabout.

The project group are still attempting to contact the owner of the Spital Terrace/North Street area of land with a view to refreshing and upgrading this area.

The High School have indicated that they will be planting an area of the school grounds fronting Morton Terrace in order to bring some colour to this main entry into the town.

Judging will take place on July 11th and we are hopeful that the town will improve on last year's performance when we gained a commendation certificate.

Business Challenge Workshop

On Tuesday 31st of May I am attending a meeting of a Business Challenge Workshop at Trinity Arts Centre. I enclose details of the event and will give a resume at the Full Council meeting.

At the time of writing we have a meeting at Marshalls with representatives from the Football Foundation to discuss progress made on site and I will verbally report to Council on the night of the meeting.

The Clerk also advised that he attended a BID meeting last week and will circulate the minutes when received.

Britain in Bloom judging will now be on Monday 4th July.

Councillors are invited to the forthcoming Royal British Legion Parade and Church service being held on Sunday 26th June at 1:45pm, Councillors were advised to inform the office if they wish to attend.

Councillors were also advised that the Lincolnshire Association of Local Councils are holding two Parish Assembly's for Councillors old and new, Councillors were again advised to inform the office if they wish to attend.

7. GAINSBOROUGH LOCAL ISSUES

No local issues received.

8. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No public questions received.

9. TO DISPOSE OF ANY BUSINESS REMAINING FROM THE LAST MEETING

No business to dispose of.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD IN MAY

No Committee meetings were held.

11. QUESTIONS TO THE MAYOR

Cllr. T. Young stated a point of order and asked if the question was in accordance with Standing Order 10?

Cllr. P. Key questioned specifically 10.2

Cllr. H. Clarke allowed the question to go ahead.

- i. Cllr. V. Hughes had submitted the following question.

“In light of recent events at GAPA and the imminent loss of six paid staff this summer and the loss of funding for it’s open access service for 5-14 year olds, would the newly appointed representative for the Town Council, Councillor Binns, kindly give us a full update on the situation and what plans there are going forward to try and save this valuable facility in the Town and whether he has any ideas of how we can help as a council”

Cllr. M. Starkey declared a personal interest as a Director on GAPA.

Cllr. L. Rollings believed that Cllr. V. Hughes was political mischief making as Cllr. M. Binns has not been working with GAPA for long and he should ask Cllr. M. Starkey or County Councillor M. Tinker but to target a Councillor is wrong.

Cllr. M. Binns advised Council that he was only contacted yesterday by GAPA and immediately went for a visit and looks forward to the first meeting and working with them to search for funding.

Cllr. V. Hughes thanked Cllr. M. Binns for his report and advised it was not political mischief making.

12. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

- i. Councillor T. Young had submitted the following motion.

It is little over a month since the Town Council Elections.

Quite clearly the general feeling of the electorate during that election towards the Town Council was very negative on how this council fails to operate and function.

One of the biggest weaknesses of the town council is it’s ‘governance arrangements’.

As elected members we all have a share of responsibility in ensuring that we have robust financial and decision making process in place.

All effective, well run councils are dependent on having robust governance arrangements.

With that in mind, I would like to move that we temporally suspend all appointments to both Committees and Sub-Committees, and for a period of up to six months and all business of the council should be conducted through the full council meetings.

Within the six month period, we will carry out a full review of the council, and adopt a robust new governance arrangement which will move this council forward.

Seconded by Cllr. P. Key.

Cllr. T. Young informed Council that in the months of February, March and April 2011 he average meeting length was 22minutes.

Cllr. M. Starkey proposed the following amendment: -

Mr Mayor

I propose that this Council carries on as it was elected to do so at the full Council meeting after the AGM and ALL members that were elected onto committees at the last full Council meeting stands as separate groups.

I believe that it will make full Council meetings longer and end up like the District Council and then end up being run by the majority group and not as a Town Council.

I so move.

Seconded by Cllr. P. Banyard.

A general discussion took place and many Councillors agreed that policies need looking at and reviewing from somebody from outside of the Council.

Cllr. M. Starkey proposed that the Council move to the vote.

Cllr. M. Starkey's amendment

With a total of two votes for, eleven votes against and two abstentions the motion was defeated.

Cllr. T. Young's motion

With a total of eleven votes for and two votes against the motion was carried.

The Clerk advised that under Standing Order 31.4 the vote would need to be two thirds of the Council which it was.

13. TO FULFILL VACANCIES ON COMMITTEES. MEMBER CHAMPIONS OR OUTSIDE BODIES

No vacancies to fulfil.

14. TO RECEIVE NOTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD IN MAY

No Committee meetings were held.

The meeting concluded at 7:43pm.

Chairman