EPWORTH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Full Council held on Tuesday, 7th February 2023, at 7.00 pm, in the Chapel of Rest, Cemetery Lodge, Burnham Road, Epworth

Public Participation

No members of the public expressed a wish to address the Full Council.

01/02/23 Record of Members Present

The following councillors were present: Councillors Finch (Chairwoman), Brumby, Cooper, Garner, J Whittaker and R Whittaker.

02/02/23 Apologies and Reasons for Absence

There were apologies from Councillor Richmond - work commitments, and Councillor Stewart - ill.

03/02/23 Declarations of Interest & Dispensations

- (i) Councillor R Whittaker declared a personal interest in Item 7 Grants (ii) Epworth Old Rectory.
- (ii) No dispensations had been granted.

04/02/23 <u>Co-option</u>

The Clerk had advertised the vacancy for a councillor but received no expressions of interest. Proposed by Councillor J Whittaker and seconded by Councillor Cooper - It was resolved that it be noted there was no interest and it is not re-advertised due to the local elections.

05/02/23 CCTV

Mr Chris Woollas of Woollas Security was unfortunately not able to attend to give a presentation on CCTV. Proposed by Councillor Finch and seconded by Councillor Brumby - It was resolved that the item be deferred to a future meeting.

06/02/23 Youth Council

Miss Alanna Peters and Miss Lucia Verrico both introduced themselves to the Council as Youth Council representatives for Epworth. They had come to see how the Council worked and also to help. Proposed by Councillor Finch and seconded by Councillor Cooper - It was resolved that they be thanked and this be noted.

07/02/23 Grants

(i) LIVES

The Clerk had received a request for financial assistance from LIVES and provided each councillor with a copy of the information he had been sent. They were seeking a grant of £400 to buy five sets of defibrillator pads for the local responders. Proposed by Councillor R Whittaker and seconded by Councillor Brumby - It was resolved that the Council should make a \$137 grant of £200 to LIVES to help towards the cost of providing sets of spare defibrillator pads.

(ii) Epworth Old Rectory

The Clerk had received a request for financial assistance from Epworth Old Rectory and provided each councillor with a copy of the information he had

been sent. They were seeking a grant of £300 to cover the cost of craft materials for workshops held during the school holidays and also £750 to enable them to host a 'living history' day during the Summer holidays. Proposed by Councillor Cooper and seconded by Councillor J Whittaker - It was resolved that the Council make a \$144 grant of £675 to Epworth Old Rectory to help towards the total cost of providing craft materials for the workshops and half the cost of hosting a 'living history' day.

08/02/23 Turbary Road

Proposed by Councillor Brumby and seconded by Councillor R Whittaker - It was resolved that standing orders be suspended to allow a member of the public to speak.

A resident who had lived at the Turbary for over 20 years and attended council meetings for 12 years to do with Turbary Road commented on the fact there was still an ongoing battle. They hoped councillors would familiarise themselves with the road and wanted to know why the road could not be repaired properly after all these years?

Since the last meeting of the Full Council held on Tuesday, 10th January 2023, the Clerk had not received a response from an officer at North Lincolnshire Council about sharing the costs of carrying out a temporary repair of Turbary Road, however he had received a response from one of the ward councillors informing him that North Lincolnshire Council would be carrying out footpath maintenance that would include repairing the large potholes and they had been advised by a senior North Lincolnshire Council officer that there will be no payments gifted to Epworth Town Council.

In addition, he informed the Council that he had now sent off for legal advice on the current situation regarding Turbary Road, to include registering the land, granting easements and its future maintenance - both the legal and financial implications of doing so.

Proposed by Councillor Finch and seconded by Councillor J Whittaker - It was resolved that the update be noted.

09/02/23 Chairwoman's Report

The Chairwoman had been photographed receiving the £234 grant for North Lincs in Bloom from the ward councillors and MP. In addition she reported that Reverend Paul Wilson had kindly agreed to judge a competition for the King's Coronation, the Wesley Church were having a buffet / afternoon tea and may apply for a grant, and the Baptist Church had not yet made a decision. Proposed by Councillor R Whittaker and seconded by Councillor Cooper - It was resolved the report be noted.

10/02/23 Ward Councillors' Report

The Clerk had received emails from the ward councillors about Turbary Road and the King's Coronation grant. Proposed by Councillor Finch and seconded by Councillor Cooper - It was resolved that this be noted.

11/02/23 Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of a meeting of the Full Council held on Tuesday, 10th January 2023, had been circulated prior to the meeting. Proposed by Councillor J Whittaker and seconded by Councillor C Finch - It was resolved they be approved as a correct record.

12/02/23 Clerk's Report

<u>Minute 04/01/23 (i) Isle Choral Society</u> - The Clerk had made a bank payment of £500 for the S145 grant given to Isle Choral Society to help towards the cost of providing entertainment and at the same time supporting the arts post-covid.

Minute 10/01/23 Correspondence (ii) a) ERNLLCA - Training Opportunities. The Clerk had booked himself on the Web Accessibility training course on Thursday, 9th February 2023, at a cost of £15 + VAT.

<u>Minute 10/01/23 Correspondence (ii) b) Councillor A Fleet</u> - Resignation. The Clerk had sent a letter of thanks to Mr Fleet for all his work as a local councillor.

Minute 10/01/23 Correspondence (ii) c) Haxey Parish Council - 5 Year Plan. The Clerk had informed Haxey Parish Council that Epworth Town Council supported its resolution, however the matter had been addressed at a town and parish council liaison meeting.

Minute 10/01/23 Correspondence (ii) d) North Lincs Council - North Lincolnshire in Bloom 2023. The Clerk had accepted the grant of up to £234 from North Lincolnshire Council and its conditions.

<u>Minute 10/01/23 Correspondence (ii) g) North Lincs Council</u> - Isle of Axholme Celebrations Week. The Clerk had asked for the Council to be kept in the loop regarding the Isle of Axholme Celebrations Week.

<u>Minute 10/01/23 Correspondence (ii) i) Parish.UK Network</u> - Introduction to Parish.UK Network. The Clerk had confirmed the details on the parish.uk website.

<u>Minute 13/01/23 Planning</u> - The Clerk had passed onto North Lincolnshire Council the views which had been expressed on the planning application.

<u>Minute 14/01/23 Finance (ii) Reimbursement of Expenses</u> - The Clerk had reimbursed Mrs J Canning £28.20 for the cost of the plants she had purchased on behalf of the Council.

<u>Minute 15/01/23 Flagpole</u> - The Clerk had paid Dave Jaques Building Services £30 for removing the old flagpole mount and putting up a new bracket for the new flagpole.

<u>Minute 20/01/23 Items Raised By Councillors (i) Cemetery Management</u>
<u>Software</u> - The Clerk had started to look at the various Cemetery Management software packages which were available, but was not yet in a position to present them to Full Council.

Proposed by Councillor R Whittaker and seconded by Councillor Finch - It was resolved that the report be noted.

13/02/23 Correspondence

- (i) a) HWRA Accounts & Treasurer's Report
- b) Mr T Ball Condition of Pavement to Primary School Entrance
- c) North Lincs Council Fostering Virtual Information Event
- d) Mr J Harris Walking Article for Local Newsletter

- e) Epworth Thurlow The Often Herd Poster
- f) Mrs J Matthews Axholme Drive Playground
- g) Worknest Redundancy and Restructuring Webinar
- h) Government Events Neurodiversity Awareness in the Workplace
- i) Brigg Town Council Civic Dinner
- j) North Lincs Council Road Closure for Resurfacing of A161
- k) Barton upon Humber Town Council Civic Dinner
- I) Plusnet Important Information about Business Broadband Account
- m) North Lincs Council Violence Against Women & Girls Conference
- n) East Riding Pension Fund New Pension Contribution Rates
- o) North Lincs Council Local Elections 4th May 2023
- p) North Lincs Council Bus Service Disruption on Saturdays Only
- q) SLCC The Future of Local Councils
- r) Barton upon Humber Town Council Civic Service
- s) Bright HR Essential Guide to HR Policy Compliance
- t) The Thurlow Permission for Advertising Signs
- u) ERNLLCA Buckingham Palace Garden Party

Proposed by Councillor J Whittaker and seconded by Councillor Cooper - It was resolved that the information be noted.

- (ii) a) <u>ERNLLCA</u> Training Courses. Details of various training courses being held from February to September 2023. Proposed by Councillor J Whittaker and seconded by Councillor Brumby It was resolved that the information be noted.
- b) Ms J Shirley Research on Youth Councils Survey A request to complete a survey on youth councils to help look at the success rates of youth councils as a tool for engaging with young people. Proposed by Councillor Cooper and seconded by Councillor Finch It was resolved that the Council should participate in the survey.
- c) <u>NALC</u> Standards Matter Conference. Details of a conference due to be held place on Friday, 3rd March 2023, from 10.00 am to 3.30 pm, at the America Square Conference Centre in London. Proposed by Councillor Brumby and seconded by Councillor J Whittaker It was resolved that the information be noted.
- **d)** North Lincs Council New Members for North Lincolnshire Local Access Forum. An invitation to apply to become a member of the North Lincolnshire Local Access Forum. Proposed by Councillor R Whittaker and seconded by Councillor Brumby It was resolved that the information be noted.
- e) <u>Rural Services Network</u> Rural Cost of Living Survey. A request to complete a survey to help understand more about rural household budgets during difficult times. Proposed by Councillor R Whittaker and seconded by Councillor Brumby It was resolved that the information be noted.
- f) ICCM Management of Memorials Inspection Workshop. Details of a workshop due to be held on Friday, 17th March 2023, and also on Friday, 24th March 2023. Proposed by Councillor J Whittaker and seconded by Councillor Cooper It was resolved that the information be noted.

- g) <u>ERNLLCA</u> HR Problem Training. Details of a remote training session due to be held on Tuesday, 21st March 2023, at 6.30 pm. Proposed by Councillor R Whittaker and seconded by Councillor Finch It was resolved that Councillor J Whittaker be allowed to attend the HR Problem Training due to be held on Tuesday, 21st March 2023, at a cost of £35 + VAT.
- h) North Lincs Council Hackney Carriage & Private Hire Licensing Policy. Invitation to comment on the policy by Monday, 6th March 2023. Proposed by Councillor J Whittaker and seconded by Councillor Brumby It was resolved that the information be noted.
- i) <u>Dementia Group</u> Hire of Room. A request to use the Chapel of Rest for a meeting of the group. Proposed by Councillor Finch and seconded by Councillor Cooper It was resolved that the Dementia Group be allowed to use the room free of charge.
- j) North Lincs Council Curry Leaf Premises Licence Variation. Information about an application for a variation of a premises licence. Proposed by Councillor J Whittaker and seconded by Councillor R Whittaker It was resolved that the Council should support the Licence Variation for the Curry Leaf.
- k) North Lincs Council Defibrillator Grant & Shortfall. Email confirming that the Council had been awarded a community grant of up to £2,000 from North Lincolnshire Council towards the cost of the refurbishment of an unused phone box and the installation of a defibrillator which was expected to cost £3,965, however this was subject to the standard conditions of the grant. Proposed by Councillor J Whittaker and seconded by Councillor Cooper It was resolved that the Clerk should accept the grant of up to £2,000 from North Lincolnshire Council and its conditions, and the Council agree to make up the shortfall.
- I) <u>VANL</u> Free Cyber Security Training. Details of several free training sessions being held on Thursday, 2nd March 2023, from 10.00 am to 12.30 pm, Monday, 27th March 2023, from 1.00 pm to 3.30 pm, and also on Tuesday, 18th April 2022, from 10.00 am to 12.30 pm. Proposed by Councillor J Whittaker and seconded by Councillor R Whittaker It was resolved that the information be noted.

14/02/23 Publications

The following publications had been received:-

Alliance Volunteer Hub - Newsletter	January 2023
ERNLLCA - Newsletter	January 2023
Public Sector Network - Newsletter	January 2023
Rural Services Network - Rural Funding Digest	January 2023
North Lincolnshire Council - Forthcoming Meetings	February 2023
Rural Services Network - Rural Funding Digest	February 2023

ERPF - Employer Bulletin ICCM - Member Newsletter

NALC - Chief Executive's Bulletin

NALC - Events NALC - Newsletter

North Lincs Council - Business Forum Newsletter

North Lincs Council - Weekly Roadworks

Public Sector Executive - Online Newsletter Rural Services Network - Rural Bulletin SLCC - News Bulletin VANL - Newsletter

Proposed by Councillor R Whittaker and seconded by Councillor Brumby - It was resolved that the information be noted.

15/02/23 Committee / Working Group Reports

- i) <u>Combined Cemetery & Environment Committee</u> The minutes of a meeting of the Combined Cemetery & Environment Committee held on Monday, 16th January 2023, were circulated prior to the meeting. Proposed by Councillor J Whittaker and seconded by Councillor Finch It was resolved that they be approved as a correct record.
- (ii) <u>Planning Committee</u> The minutes of a meeting of the Planning Committee held on Thursday, 19th January 2023, were circulated prior to the meeting. Proposed by Councillor R Whittaker and seconded by Councillor Brumby It was resolved that they be approved as a correct record.
- (iii) <u>Finance Committee</u> The minutes of a meeting of the Finance Committee held on Monday, 23rd January 2023, were circulated prior to the meeting. Proposed by Councillor J Whittaker and seconded by Councillor Finch It was resolved that they be approved as a correct record.

16/02/23 Planning

The following planning applications were considered:-

PA/2023/52 Proposal: Notice of intention to fell a poplar and ash tree,

both within Epworth's Conservation Area Location: 7A Church Street, Epworth, DN9 1ER

Applicant: Mrs Barry Clarke

Proposed by Councillor J Whittaker and seconded by Councillor Brumby - It was resolved that the Council should support the planning application.

PA/2022/2143 Proposal: Planning permission to erect replacement

dwelling

Location: Frog Hall, Idle Bank, Epworth, DN9 1LF

Applicant: Laura Grantham

Proposed by Councillor J Whittaker and seconded by Councillor Garner - It was resolved that the Council should object to the planning application due to concerns about archaeology / drainage / contamination / size of the footprint of the property / it being in open countryside / no link to agriculture.

17/02/23 Finance

(i) a) Financial Report & Bank Reconciliation Statement for October 2022

- The Clerk had provided each member of the Council with detailed monthly accounts for October 2022 for them to scrutinise.

Proposed by Councillor J Whittaker and seconded by Councillor Finch - It was resolved that the Financial Report & Bank Reconciliation Statement for October 2022 be approved.

- b) Financial Report & Bank Reconciliation Statement for November 2022
- The Clerk had provided each member of the Council with detailed monthly accounts for November 2022 for them to scrutinise. Proposed by Councillor J Whittaker and seconded by Councillor R Whittaker It was resolved that the Financial Report & Bank Reconciliation Statement for November 2022 should be approved.
- c) Financial Report & Bank Reconciliation Statement for December 2022
 The Clerk had provided each member of the Council with detailed monthly accounts for December 2022 for them to scrutinise. Proposed by Councillor J Whittaker and seconded by Councillor Finch It was resolved that the Financial Report & Bank Reconciliation Statement for December 2022 should be approved.
- (ii) <u>Budget Report</u> Councillors had been provided with a copy of the budget report for April 2022 to December 2022. Proposed by Councillor J Whittaker and seconded by Councillor Finch It was resolved that the Budget Report for April 2022 to December 2022 should be approved.

(iii) Accounts for Payment

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT - FEBRUARY 2023

Payments made before or since last meeting:-

40.04.00		01.00	Maraharahia Danassal	000 00
10.01.22	Equals	SLCC	Membership Renewal	222.00
17.01.23	Equals	Travis Perkins	Concrete Blocks	15.22
	Equals	SLCC	ILCA Training Course	144.00
20.01.23	DD	EDF Energy	Electricity	10.00
	DD	EDF Energy	Electricity	16.00
	DD	EDF Energy	Electricity	35.00
23.01.23	BP	Mrs J Canning	Reimbursement for Plants	28.20
	BP	D Jaques	Flagpole Mount & Bracket	30.00
	BP	Isle Choral Society	S145 Grant	500.00
24.01.23	DD	EDF Energy	Electricity	34.00
25.01.23	DD	Vodafone	Mobile Phone Charges	15.00
26.01.23	DD	Everflow Water	Water Rates	14.66
27.01.23	DD	Plusnet	Telephone & Broadband Charges	34.92
31.01.23	BP	Wages / Tax & NI / Pension	Month 10	2,956.26
01.02.23	DD	Scottish Power	Electricity	1.00
	DD	North Lincs Council	Business Rates	71.00

Proposed by Councillor R Whittaker and seconded by Councillor Finch

Payments submitted at this meeting:-

07.02.23	BP	BRS Tech Limited	IT Support	54.00
	BP	MWQA Ltd	Monthly H&S Competent Person Fee	60.00
	BP	Arrand Tree Care Ltd	Removal of Fallen Tree	480.00
	BP	Mr S Gerry	Exploratory Dig	90.00

⁻ It was resolved that the action taken be approved.

BP Mr M Johnson Bulbs 14.99
BP Mr S Quantrill Expenses - Mileage & Elastic 8.75

Proposed by Councillor J Whittaker and seconded by Councillor Finch - It was resolved that these accounts be paid.

18/02/23 Financial Regulations

At the last meeting of the Finance Committee held on Monday, 23rd January 2023, it was resolved that the Clerk be asked to compare the Council's financial regulations with NALC's model set of financial regulations and put it before Full Council, but unfortunately he had not had time to do this therefore he suggested the item be deferred. However it was pointed out that there was a need to amend point 6.20 about the use of a pre-paid card. Proposed by Councillor J Whittaker and seconded by Councillor Finch - It was resolved that the financial regulations be amended to allow the Clerk to use the Equals card up to a sum of £600, and the rest of the regulations to be reviewed at the next meeting of the Finance Committee.

19/02/23 <u>Cemetery Rules & Regulations</u>

At a meeting of the Combined Cemetery & Environment Committee held on Monday, 16th January 2023, it reviewed the rules and regulations for the Cemetery, and each councillor was provided with a copy of this. Proposed by Councillor J Whittaker and seconded by Councillor Finch - It was resolved that Full Council should agree with the recommendation made by the Combined Cemetery & Environment Committee to re-adopt the rules and regulations for the Cemetery.

20/02/23 King's Coronation

At a meeting of the Combined Cemetery & Environment Committee held on Monday, 16th January 2023, it made a recommendation that Full Council should:- (i) Purchase an inscribed commemorative bench for the Cemetery. (ii) Arrange a Best Dressed Shop Window Competition with a £30 gift voucher prize. (iii) Purchase some bunting to put up along the High Street from the traffic lights to the Market Place. (iv) Purchase two flags for the Market Place and Cemetery Lodge. Proposed by Councillor J Whittaker and seconded by Councillor Cooper - It was resolved that:- (i) The Clerk should apply for a £250 grant from North Lincolnshire Council for the King's Coronation. (ii) The budget for the King's Coronation be delegated to the Combined Cemetery & Environment Committee to spend as it saw fit on celebrating the King's Coronation.

Councillor J Whittaker left the meeting at 9.00 pm.

21/02/23 Hanging Baskets

At a meeting of the Finance Committee held on Monday, 21st November 2022, it discussed a recommendation from the Combined Cemetery & Environment Committee that the cost of a hanging basket should be increased from £25 to £30 for 2023. Proposed by Councillor R Whittaker and seconded by Councillor Cooper - It was resolved that Full Council should agree with the recommendation made by both the Combined & Finance Committees that the cost of a Hanging Basket for 2023 should be £30.

22/02/23 Boot Scrapers

At a meeting of the Combined Cemetery & Environment Committee held on Monday, 16th January 2023, it made a recommendation that Full Council should purchase two boot scrapers.

The Clerk had managed to obtain the following quotes:-

Sam Tuner & Sons £8.29 + VAT Woodside £12.49 + VAT Doidge Limited £16.67 + VAT

Proposed by Councillor R Whittaker and seconded by Councillor Brumby - It was resolved that the Clerk should purchase two boot scrapers from Doidge Limited at a cost of £33.34 + VAT.

23/02/23 Mole Control

The Clerk informed councillors that there was a problem with moles in several areas of the cemetery and he had obtained a quote to deal with it. If it was two moles causing the problem it would cost £72 + VAT, whilst of it was three moles causing the problem it would cost £84 + VAT. Proposed by Councillor Cooper and seconded by Councillor Brumby - It was resolved that the Clerk should ask Axholme Pest Control to deal with the mole problem at a cost of up to £84 + VAT.

24/02/23 Lawnmower

At a meeting of the Combined Cemetery & Environment Committee held on Monday, 16th January 2023, it discussed the need for a new lawnmower and made a recommendation that Full Council should purchase one.

The Clerk had managed to obtain the following quotes for a Stihl RM 4 RT Self-Propelled Mulching Lawn Mower:-

Just Lawnmowers £699.00 + VAT
Scunthorpe Lawnmowers Ltd Out of Stock
Torne Valley Ltd £487.50 + VAT

Proposed by Councillor Finch and seconded by Councillor Cooper - It was resolved that the Clerk should purchase a Stihl RM 4 RT lawnmower from Torne Valley Ltd at a cost of £487.50 + VAT.

25/02/23 Cemetery Lodge

At a meeting of the Combined Cemetery & Environment Committee held on Monday, 16th January 2023, it agreed the specification for the decoration of the stairway area of Cemetery Lodge and the Clerk had received the following quotes for the work:-

Ian Richardson£1.800Roy W Robinson£695

Proposed by Councillor Cooper and seconded by Councillor Garner - It was resolved that the Clerk should ask Roy W Robinson to carry out the decoration of the stairway area at a cost of £695.

26/02/23 Heater

At a meeting of the Combined Cemetery & Environment Committee held on Monday, 16th January 2023, it discussed the fact that the office heater was not working and it recommended that Full Council should purchase a new heater for the office.

The Clerk had received the following quotes for a new radiator:-

JR Cockin Electrical Contractors Ltd £639 + VAT Skidmore Electrical (UK) Limited £690 + VAT

<u>Note</u>: Skidmore Electrical were prepared to try and carry out a repair and only charge for the repair should it be successful.

Proposed by Councillor Finch and seconded by Councillor Garner - It was resolved that the Clerk should ask Skidmore Electrical (UK) Limited to try and repair the heater, however if this was not possible then to fit a new radiator at a cost of £690 + VAT.

27/02/23 Electricity

The Clerk had received some prices from the electricity broker and provided each councillor with a copy of them. Proposed by Councillor Cooper and seconded by Councillor Finch - It was resolved that the item should be deferred to the next meeting of the Full Council.

28/02/23 <u>Items Raised By Councillors</u>

(i) R-evolution Flower Bikes - Councillor Brumby wondered if the Council was prepared to accept an offer of up to five fully planted 'Blooming Bikes' which could be sited around the town for the pleasure of local people and local children could also be given an opportunity to write a story about each bike - to imagine the life it had before it became a 'Blooming Bike', who owned it, where it was kept, what adventures it went on. Proposed by Councillor Brumby and seconded by Councillor Cooper - It was resolved that the Clerk accept two Blooming Bikes from R-evolution for Epworth and go ahead with the idea of stories for each bike.

29/02/23 Questions to the Chairwoman

There were no questions.

30/02/23 Date, Time & Place of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Full Council will be held on Tuesday, 7th March 2023, at 7.00 pm, in the Small Hall of the Imperial Hall, Chapel Street, Epworth. In addition, there is also a meeting of the Planning Committee due to be held on Thursday, 16th February 2023, followed by a meeting of the Combined Cemetery & Environment Committee on Monday, 20th February 2023, - both committee meetings are at 7.00 pm in the Chapel of Rest, Cemetery Lodge, Burnham Road, Epworth. Proposed by Councillor Finch and seconded by Councillor Cooper - It was resolved the information be noted.

31/02/23 Closure of Meeting

The Chairwoman declared the meeting closed at 9.35 pm.