

EPWORTH PARISH

Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held on Monday, 17th April 2023, at 7.30 pm, in the Small Hall of the Imperial Hall, Chapel Street, Epworth

01/2023 **Record of those Present**

The following parishioners were present:- Councillor C Finch (Chairwoman), Mrs S Brumby, Mrs J Cook, Mr A Cooper, Mr J Franz, Mrs J Levesley, Mrs J Turner, Mr J Whittaker, Mr M Whittaker and Mrs R Whittaker.

02/2023 **Apologies for Absence**

There were apologies from Mr M Richmond and Mr D Stewart.

03/2023 **Minutes of the Last Meeting**

The minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held on Monday, 25th April 2022, were available at the meeting. Proposed by Mr J Whittaker and seconded by Mr A Cooper - **It was resolved that they be approved as a correct record.**

04/2023 **Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising from the minutes. Proposed by Mrs S Brumby and seconded by Mr A Cooper - **It was resolved that this be noted.**

05/2023 **Chairwoman's Report**

The Chairwoman gave a detailed report on the Council's activities which had taken place during the year - see enclosed appendix, and also the figures of attendance. Proposed by Mrs J Turner and seconded by Mrs J Levesley - **It was resolved that the Chairwoman's Report be accepted.**

06/2023 **Parish Affairs**

The following items were raised by parishioners:-

- (i) Mrs J Levesley was concerned about the walkway between Hollingsworth Lane & Vinegarth. It was well used but very dangerous due to the block paving not being very even. She had reported it to North Lincolnshire Council.
- (ii) Mrs J Turner highlighted the danger of canker in trees, and how it had resulted in the removal of the two willow trees on the corner of Fieldside.
- (iii) Mrs J Levesley spoke about the state of the block paving at Fountain Court and how it was extremely dangerous and a death-trap in winter.
- (iv) Mr J Whittaker commented on the building site next to the Temperance Hall and of an unfenced excavation area which was dangerous to pedestrians using the footpath. In addition some scaffolding was overhanging Pashley Walk and also potentially dangerous.
- (v) Mr M Whittaker raised the issue of development of the leisure centre, which he said was a great asset. He understood that they were not allowed to display the plans on the noticeboards, however he thought there was some merit in having them on display whilst development took place, so people could cross reference it with what they saw.

- (vi) Mrs R Whittaker said she was continually asked what is happening at the leisure centre and been told that they could not display the plans on the notice boards, because North Lincolnshire Council wanted them to use electronic versions. She said it was a £3.5 million project - a big thing, and there was a danger it was discriminating against people who do not use modern technology - it was not an inclusive approach.
- (vii) Mr J Whittaker commented that the majority of things raised so far were to do with North Lincolnshire Council and it was therefore a shame the two ward councillors were not here.
- (viii) Mrs R Whittaker mentioned that the QE2 Field was looking wonderful and kept clean, and the play equipment was also well maintained. Vandalism was a problem and a sign of the times, but the QE2 Field was one of our assets and looked pretty good.
- (ix) Mrs J Levesley asked about moving of the bin at the top of Hollingsworth Lane.
- (x) Mrs J Levesley asked if the Council still did walkabouts.
- (xi) Mr J Whittaker raised the issue that some people were concerned when nothing seems to get done, and Mrs R Whittaker said they needed to ensure they reported things and did not give up - as residents they had a lot of power. Mrs Jean Turner suggested residents attend meetings and complain directly in order to get things done.
- (xii) Mrs J Levesley complained about the number of empty shops and said Epworth was dying fast. The Co-op move had led to congestion on Mowbray Street and was detrimental to the centre of Epworth.

Proposed by Mrs S Brumby and seconded by Mr A Cooper - **It was resolved that the parish items raised be noted.**

07/2023

Date, Time & Place of Next Meeting

The next Annual Town Meeting is due to be held on Tuesday, 16th April 2024, at 7.00 pm, in the Small Hall of the Imperial Hall, Chapel Street, Epworth. Proposed by Mr A Cooper and seconded by Mrs S Brumby. **It was resolved that this information be noted.**

08/2023

Closure of Meeting

The meeting was closed by the Chairwoman at 8.30 pm.