

**Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting of Market Deeping
held on Tuesday 1st May 2018
at 7.00 pm at the Green School, Church Street, Market Deeping**

Present:

Councillor Mrs P Redshaw (Chairman)	
Councillor A Brookes	Councillor R Broughton
Cllr Miss X Collins	Cllr C Gamble
Cllr P Hanson	Cllr W Lester
Cllr Miss Moran	Cllr D Shelton
Cllr Mrs J Sked	Cllr Stephenson

Also in attendance was:

- District Councillor A. Baxter.
- District Councillor J. Stevens.

48 members of the public were in attendance.

Apologies were received from Cllr Fraylich

Representatives from the following voluntary sector organisations were also in attendance with displays:

- Age Concern (The Deepings)
- Deepings Heritage
- Dementia Support South Lincs
- Royal British Legion
- Deepings Youth Group
- The Deepings Lions
- Deepings Green Walk
- First Responders

Also in attendance were:

- Market Deeping Scouts
- Deepings Mens Group

01. Welcome and Introductions

Cllr Mrs Redshaw welcomed the residents to the meeting. She explained that the Town Council had a legal requirement to ensure a meeting was held for the residents each year.

02. Minutes of the meeting held on Friday 5th May 2017

Cllr Mrs Redshaw asked the residents if they had read the minutes and that they accepted them as a true record of the meeting held on Friday 5th May 2017. Cllr Broughton proposed, Cllr Lester seconded and it was unanimously agreed that the minutes were a true record of the meeting dated 5th May 2017. Cllr Mrs Redshaw duly signed the minutes

03. Town Council Annual Report 2017/18, including reports from each Chair of the following committees:

- **Amenities & Open Space**
- **Finance & Personnel**
- **Planning & Highways**
- **Town Hall & Cemetery**

Cllr Mrs Redshaw informed the residents that they had received a written report of the activities carried out by the Council during 2017/18 on behalf of the community. She mentioned that a new hedge had been installed, the volunteers at the Paddock had been nominated for an award and the Mohican cubs had visited the Town Hall. The Council would be entering the Best Kept Village competition and help would be required from the community. She talked about the places she had visited during the year whilst representing Market Deeping as their Mayor. Cllr Redshaw mentioned that during the year there had been much shouting on local social media sites. She asked the residents that if they had a problem in the community they could attend a Council meeting or visit the Clerks in the office. Cllr Redshaw thanked her fellow Councillors and the Clerks for their work and wished her successor all the best

Amenities & Open Spaces

Cllr Broughton informed the residents that he would like to bring their attention to a few items in his report:

- The hedge opposite William Hildyard School. The Town Council worked with LCC to take out the old hedge and erect a fence, with two volunteer Councillors and the park keepers. LCC put down the new footpath and it was good to work in collaboration.
- The fair had been good on the John Eve Field. The field was left in good condition and Cllr Broughton thanked the park keepers for preparing the field.
- The unlawful parking on Cross Road, off Towngate East. Cllr Broughton informed the residents that he had reported them to SKDC, who had informed LCC. He had been told that a section 61 notice had been served on them.
- Cllr Broughton informed the residents that the Town Council were arranging a beacon on Glebe Field at 7pm in commemoration of the 100 years ending of WW1.

Finance & Personnel

Cllr Mrs Redshaw informed the residents that there was a summary of the annual expenditure in the report. She mentioned that the Council had given just over £2,500 in grants to small groups.

Planning & Highways

Cllr Shelton informed the residents that they had received his report. He explained that planning falls into two categories: the routine day to day planning applications and looking at what happens in the future. He explained the hierarchy of Councils and the significance that SKDC have with planning applications. Residents were informed that SKDC were trying to be proactive rather than reactive to changes. Cllr Shelton explained that the Town Council had now taken over the amenity verge cutting from LCC in conjunction with DSJPC and would welcome any feedback. He mentioned footpath 4 that ran beside Tesco's, through the Persimmon Estate and onto Linchfield Road. Persimmon had changed the route of the footpath without permission and were trying to get LCC to accept the new route, but the Council had objected and a public enquiry would be held in August. Cllr Shelton explained that SKDC would soon be producing the draft 2018 Local Plan. Since the last draft in 2017,

the government had brought in changes so another draft was being made. After consultation in June, this would then go to the Secretary of State. MDTC, DSJPC and Deepings First had been briefed by SKDC. In the new draft, Millfield Road had been removed as a designated housing development due to the application to LCC for a village green, but there were still five sites for development in the Deepings. Residents were informed about the Deepings Green Walk and the working group set up between MDTC and DSJPC to discuss the specification of where to put and what to have at a Leisure Centre that SKDC had offered to build.

Town Hall & Cemetery

Cllr Stephenson introduced the tasks of the committee and explained that during the last year the cemetery had received more income than had been predicted. He informed the residents that the Town Council had a duty to provide space for local families and the Spinney through to the Paddock was one of the best for environment in the County. He explained that the Town Hall was not that large, but during the last year the double glazing had been replaced and the outside repainted. The front door had been repaired so that it was no longer difficult to open.

The paddock and the cemetery produce a lot of green waste, so the Council had purchased a chipper which would pay for itself in 2-3 years by saving on the cost of hiring skips. The pansies in the planters in the cemetery were beginning to grow. The residents were informed that the paddock was a wildlife area where volunteers helped the Council. Recently orchid seeds had been planted but these would take 5 years to germinate. Cllr Stephenson informed the residents that a few years ago there were concerns about the amount of space left in the cemetery for burials. He explained that he had recently marked out the available space and there was room for approximately 100 burials which at the current rate would last 10-12 years. The Council are saving to purchase more land for when some becomes available. There is still plenty of space for the interment of ashes. The residents were informed that the paddock had recently been entered for an award had reached the last three. The final would be later this month and the Council were hoping to come first.

Cllr Stephenson thanked everyone who were involved in the community.

04. Presentations and updates on the following:

- **The Green Walk**
- **The Saturday market (Cllr Miss Moran)**
- **District Councillors allowance for community projects (Cllr Neilson)**

The Green Walk

Cllr Mrs Redshaw invited Pam Bird to speak about the green walk.

Mrs Bird explained that she had been working on the green walk for some time with Deeping First. It was being arranged jointly with DSJPC and MDTC and came out of the Neighbourhood Plan. They wanted to ensure the health of the community and make sure that the planned new housing would not have a negative impact on the environment. They had looked at the area of the town around Godsey Lane and the Town Centre and at least half of the residents lived within one mile of this area, so the green walk wanted to encourage people to walk to these areas. The complete map of the green walk is nine miles long but currently much of this is on roads. They wanted new developments to support the walk. Mrs Bird informed the residents that Deepings First had produced a green walk policy which had been adopted by MDTC and DSJPC, which would be used to influence new developers to incorporate the walk into their plans. Residents were informed that the map of the green walk was available at the Town Hall.

Cllr Mrs Redshaw thanked Mrs Bird for informing them about the Green Walk.

The Saturday Market

Cllr Miss Moran informed the residents that SKDC had put forward plans to bring a Saturday market to the Market Place. Initially they had applied for a road closure every week, but the Town Council had met with SKDC to explain the problems with this eg the bus route, so the market is now planned for the car park area and will consist of approximately twenty stalls. Currently, SKDC have issued questionnaires to residents and businesses in the Market Place/High Street and there was a survey online. So far there had been approximately 300 replies with 2 objections. If the consultation is positive then the market should begin in September.

Cllr Miss Moran asked if there were any questions. The following questions were asked:

a) Would the stalls at the Wednesday market be able to attend on a Saturday?

Cllr Miss Moran explained that all the Wednesday stallholders were on the list to be invited, but they may already attend another Saturday market. She stated that the Council did not wish to lose the Wednesday market and hoped that footfall would increase with opening of the new store.

b) The plan shows that the disabled parking would be lost whilst the market was on. Could this be retained?

Cllr Miss Moran explained that unfortunately there would be no access to the disabled parking.

c) Pleased that the road closure was not going ahead due to the disruption to the bus service

Cllr Mrs Redshaw thanked Cllr Miss Moran

District Councillors allowance for community projects

Cllr Mrs Redshaw explained that Cllr Neilson was to explain about this but was not in attendance. Cllr Baxter (SKDC) introduced himself and explained that the district council had agreed to provide each ward member £1,000 to be spent on good projects in their ward. It could be used individually or the ward members could combine it and it could be used on a number of projects.

05. Talk by Sgt Emma Crisp (Lincs Police)

Cllr Mrs Redshaw thanked Sgt Crisp for attending the meeting on her day off and invited here to address the residents.

Sgt Crisp introduced herself stating she was the Neighbourhood Sgt for the Deepings, Stamford and Bourne. She dealt with long term issues and was responsible for the local PCSO's. She was aware that the area was thin on the ground for police officers but was pleased to see that the police station would be opening again by being manned by volunteers. Sgt Crisp informed the residents that she was aware that the main current concern was the travellers parked off Towngate West. She had visited them and knew that LCC were pushing to get them moved on. She would continue to chase this with LCC and due to this issue, the response officers were currently patrolling the Deepings more regularly. There had recently been an incident with a suspicious white van but this had come to nothing. Sgt Crisp informed the residents that the main concerns in the area were antisocial behaviour, drugs and hare coursing although the season for hare coursing was coming to an end for this year. Sgt Crisp asked if there were any questions

a) What happens to the dogs when they are confiscated from the hare coursers?

Sgt Crisp explained that they are taken to kennels until the court case and if they are not returned, they will be rehomed.

Residents were also informed about the neighbourhood police panel meeting which is held at the Open Door Baptist Church every three months, where they can take their issues to the PCSO's.

b) What was happening about the recent antisocial behaviour on the Persimmon Estate?

Sgt Crisp informed everyone that she had recently attended a meeting with the residents of the estate and had details of the youths involved. These would soon be receiving visits from the police.

c) Could the police help with the state of the roads and in particular the pot holes on Linchfield Road?

Sgt Crisp explained that the police had no powers and it was LCC Highways who were responsible. They could only speak to the Council.

Cllr Mrs Redshaw thanked Sgt Crisp for attending the meeting.

06. Open Forum and Questions

Cllr Mrs Redshaw informed the residents that a few questions had been received prior to the meeting and she would go through those first

a) It is noted that the precept for the Youth Centre has been increased by 50% from £5,000 (2017/18) to £7,500 (2018/19). Can the Council enlighten on the numbers who attend the centre and hence the amount spent per attendee?

Since Kate Jacobs the manager was in attendance she agreed to answer the question. She explained that the numbers varied from each session and that youth work was about making a difference for the young people. They dealt with a number of problems from drugs, self-harming to not receiving proper meals. They had recently become a member of the PSHE organisation so that they could deliver the same curriculum as delivered in the schools.

Cllr Mrs Redshaw thanked Kate Jacobs for answering the question.

b) The Friends of Mill Field would like to know how committed the Town Council is to their cause to keep Mill Field as a green open space for local residents?

Cllr Shelton agreed to answer this question and informed the residents that the Town Council is committed to Mill Field but was unsure whether the friends required any further support.

The resident who posed the question explained about the importance of the field and how it was regularly used by dog walkers. The group were currently trying to get LCC to designate it as a village green but if this failed they would raise funds to fight it further in the courts.

It was explained that the Town Council as a corporate body were in agreement of keeping Mill Field. Cllr Mrs Redshaw wished the group well with their plans for Mill Field

c) Did the Town Council put in a request to SKDC to have a preservation order put on the trees along Millfield Road and if so was it successful?

Cllr Mrs Redshaw confirmed that on 3rd August 2017, the Clerks had sent a request to SKDC to have a preservation placed on the trees. This was chased in February 2018 and again in April 2018. Cllr Shelton that he informed the residents that since nothing had been received back from SKDC this should be taken further.

Cllr Mrs Redshaw asked if there were any further questions

d) There were concerns about the potholes

Residents were informed that these should be reported to LCC

e) Would the new leisure centre have a swimming pool?

Cllr Shelton informed the residents that two swimming pools were on the wish list but it depended whether the schools would be using it. The working group were looking two sets of changing rooms so that the schools and public could be kept separate.

f) Footpath 4: How far did Persimmon encroach over the footpath?

Cllr Brookes answered this question. He explained that when Tesco's was built the footpath had not been legally diverted. Persimmon were not sure of the route of the footpath and built houses on it. The section that is going to public enquiry is not ideal but the Council are trying to see what they can do. They want make sure there is no barrier to use the footpath, when the future development is built. Residents were surprised that LCC did not know the route of the footpath but they were informed that the route walked was taken and not the actual path.

There being no further questions, Cllr Mrs Redshaw thanked everyone for attending and reminded them to look at the displays around the room from local groups and organisations. The meeting closed at 8.56pm