

**Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting of Market Deeping
held on Tuesday 5th April 2016
at 6.30 pm at the Green School, Market Deeping**

Present:	Councillor Miss X Collins	Councillor W Lester (Chairman)
	Councillor P Hanson	Councillor Mrs P Redshaw
	Councillor D Shelton	Councillor A Brookes
	Councillor N Neilson	Councillor Mrs J Sked

14 members of the public, along with representatives from Age Concern, Deepings and Deepings Scouts & Guides.

001. Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman of Market Deeping Town Council, Cllr Lester welcomed all to the meeting. Cllr Lester explained to residents that unfortunately there was no Annual Town Meeting held in 2015 due to the local election being countermanded following the passing of one of its councillors, the late Cllr Howard. That local elections were then held in June 2015 (deferred from May 2015) and a new council was formed in July 2015.

002. Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held on Tuesday 22nd April 2014

It was resolved to accept the minutes of the meeting held on 22nd April 2014 as a true and correct record, and they were signed accordingly.

003. Market Deeping Town Council's Annual Report July 2015 – April 2016

Annual Reports were read through in the following order:-

Mayor's Annual Report - Cllr Lester

Amenities and Open Spaces Committee – Cllr Miss Collins

Finance & Personnel Committee – Cllr Lester

Planning and Highways Committee – Cllr Mrs Redshaw. Cllr Mrs Redshaw included in her update to residents a request for residents to voice their views regarding planning development and encouraged all to share their thoughts and opinions with the council.

Town Hall and Cemetery – Cllr Lester

Also included in the report was Market Deeping Town Council Events Diary and a summary of the Town Council's expenditure for 2015/16 as well as a list of the grants paid out in 2015/16. There were no matters arising from the minutes of the Annual Town Meeting 2014.

004. Presentation by the Welland and Deepings Internal Drainage Board

Mr Nick Morris (Operations Manager) & Mr Julian Boden (Assistant Engineer) gave a slide presentation to all those present regarding the work of the Welland & Deepings Internal Drainage Board. Mr Nick Morris gave an outline of the Internal Drainage Board and stated that there are approximately 111 Internal Drainage Boards (IDB's) that cover 9.7% of the country (1.2 million hectares), that IDB's are established particularly in low lying areas and that they have functions and powers defined by the Land Drainage Act 1991 and Flood & Water Management Act 2010. The general duty of the IDB is to supervise all matters relating to land drainage and water level management within their district. In terms of the Welland & Deepings IDB this covers 32,434 hectares, 631 km of watercourse, 24km of pipeline, 14 pumping stations, 3 tidal sluices and over 70 water control structures. Mr Morris explained the maintenance and improvements undertaken by the IDB, and this included; controlling vegetation in channels and on banks, removal of silt deposits and debris, refurbishing pumping stations and structures, improving systems to cater for increased run-off from catchments and divert systems to all for new roads and developments. Mr Morris further explained who looks after the river systems in Market Deeping and Deeping St James and stated that; The River Welland, Greatford Cut and Maxey Cut are all classed as "Main River" and therefore fall under the remit of the Environment Agency, who are responsible for maintenance works which

are undertaken to make sure the rivers can function as they should do whilst providing navigation, fishery, environmental and water resources benefits as well as flood risk management. Mr Morris concluded his presentation.

005. Presentation by Cllr Shelton on the Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Shelton gave a verbal presentation regarding the Neighbourhood Plan and explained that from 2011 as part of the Localism Act communities now have the opportunity to shape development in their own areas. And that in 2011 Market Deeping Town Council did attempt to pull people together to form a committee/group for the Neighbourhood Plan, however were unable to take it any further at that time. The creation of a Neighbourhood Plan is now under way with Market Deeping Town Council and Deeping St James Parish Council joining forces along with other interested parties. The first stage registration has been completed with District Council and a steering committee has been formed. Cllr Shelton explained that the joining forces of Market Deeping Town Council and Deeping St James Parish Council was unique in Lincolnshire. He further explained that both councils will be kept updated of progress from the steering committee, and that both councils had precepted funds to help with the development of the Neighbourhood Plan and that the steering committee would also be looking for other sources of funding. Echoing Cllr Mrs Redshaw comments from earlier on the in the evening Cllr Shelton urged people to give their thoughts, views and opinions on the Neighbourhood Plan, so that they are involved and stated over the next few months there will be events about the Neighbourhood Plan and would like to encourage all to attend and gain support.

006. Mayor's Charities Cheque Presentation

Cllr Lester presented cheques to the following organisations who he had been fund raising for since July 2015.

1. To a representative from the Market Deeping Guides for £350
2. To two representatives from the Market Deeping Scouts for £500
3. To two representatives from Age Concern The Deepings for £700

Cllr Lester thanked all the organisations for all the good work they do in the community and wished each of them well for the future.

007. Open Forum and Questions

The following questions were put to the council:

Q1. The taxi rank in the Market Place is being used by members of the public to park their cars in the evening and especially on Friday and Saturday nights taxi's from Peterborough are using it. I have reported this to the police, LCC and parking services who say it is to do with Market Deeping Town Council. Cllr Broughton asked me to take down the registration numbers and he has been reporting them to PCC and SKDC. Could this be monitored. I would like to know what the council are doing to sort out this problem.

Response: Unfortunately, Market Deeping Town Council (MDTC) has no powers over parking or over taxi's. Parking issues and concerns can be raised with the Enforcement Officers at County Council and MDTC is aware that the Licensing officers at District Council have supported Cllr Broughton's feedback to PCC regarding taxi's from Peterborough using the taxi rank. The Clerk was asked to contact Licensing and Enforcement to pass on the concerns of residents.

Q2. Why haven't we got a bus service and winter gritting on Tattershall Drive? This road was built for buses and it services hundreds of houses.

Response: We are fortunate that as a town we do have Delaine Bus Company when so many areas have lost or have reduced bus services as their aid has reduced from Local Authorities. Bus companies will choose viable routes and they will determine where those will be. The Chairman expressed his apologies to the people of the town regarding the provision of bus services and stated that many people prefer to use their cars and not public transport. Tattershall Drive is not gritted as this is not a bus route. The Local Authority assess if a road is to be gritted or not and if its a bus route that is a deciding factor.

Q3. Why has this section of the Welland not had a deep dredge since 1974? the silt level keeps raising and the roots of the reeds are encroaching on the river and impeding the flow?

Response: The organisation responsible for looking after the Welland is the Environment Agency. The clerk was asked to contact the Environment Agency and raise these concerns.

Q4. Are there any plans to build another health center, perhaps in Deeping St James, to accommodate all the extra families in the new houses you have agreed to being built in Market Deeping?

Response: Plans have been seen regarding the expansion of the current health center of Godsey Lane. Health receive monies from development to help the expansion. To our knowledge no plans have been seen for another health center in the town.

Q5. I am here regarding the proposed development at Northfields. A lot of the residents in Lancaster Way sent in quite a lot of letters raising concerns about the development. Some people were elderly and some not able to write letters. Letters have been sent to District Council. People have made points and raised queries and suggestions. For example is it possible to keep the development to 200 as opposed to 240? Is it possible to move the exit? The site is on the last remaining fields of Towngate Village and this was an ex Conservation Area, can we suggest that homes are built further back, can we try and get some concessions? Can we ask for a play area to be on the front with housing behind it? There is a lovely view of Langtoft can the houses be moved to have a green corridor? And Larkfeet still have their development too in that area.

Response: As a council we often tell them (SKDC) what we don't want, but we are dictated too from the Local Plan which is the plan that SKDC work too. We will continue to raise the concerns and views of the people, you make a valid point that the area used to be Towngate Village. The Chairman asked if the resident would like to liaise with Cllr Mrs Redshaw (Chair of Planning & Highways) regarding the questions raised.

Cllr Lester asked if there were any other questions.

Cllr Neilson (to the person who asked question 5) I think you raise incredibly valid points and I would encourage you to join David (Cllr Shelton) to develop the Neighborhood Plan. I attended a meeting with West Deeping who discussed the Neighbourhood Plan and incredibly they said they were not going to do one. I would encourage people to be involved with the Neighbourhood Plan.

As there were no further questions, and there being no other business, Cllr Lester thanked all for attending,