

## DRAFT MINUTES

### Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting of Market Deeping held on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2014 at 7pm at the Deepings Community Centre, Market Deeping

Present: Councillor Miss X Collins  
Councillor R J Broughton  
Councillor Mrs P Redshaw  
Councillor A J Baxter  
Councillor R C Howard  
Councillor R Stephenson  
Councillor W Lester

38 members of the public, along with representatives from The Deepings Youth Centre and the Deepings Carnival Committee were also present.

#### **001. Chairman's Welcome**

Cllr Miss Collins welcomed all to the meeting.

#### **002. Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2013**

It was resolved to accept the minutes of the meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2013 as a true and correct record, and they were signed accordingly.

#### **003. Market Deeping Town Council's Annual Report 2013/2014**

Annual Reports were read through in the following order:-

Mayor's Annual Report - Cllr Miss Collins  
Amenities and Open Spaces Committee – Cllr Broughton  
Finance & Personnel Committee – Cllr Miss Collins  
Planning and Highways Committee – Cllr Mrs Redshaw  
Town Hall and Cemetery – Cllr Stephenson

Also included in the report were the Market Deeping Town Council Event Diary for 2013/2014, a summary of Town Council expenditure for 2013/14 and a list of the grants paid out in 2013/2014. There were no matters arising from the minutes of the Annual Town Meeting 2013.

#### **004. Community Presentation – Deepings Youth Centre**

Mr Paul Hanson gave a presentation on the history of the current Youth Centre and its service provision to the youth. Mr Hanson explained that the provision of a Youth Centre was taken over by a group of Trustees 3 years ago when Lincolnshire County Council (LCC) ceased to provide any youth centres in Lincolnshire, and that the funding provided by the town council was essential to the operation of the centre. He went on to detail the various activities run by the centre during the week and school holidays, including inter-club football competitions and day trips to Tallington Lakes. He also referred to the recording studio facilities which were in high demand from local developing bands.

#### **005. Community Presentation – Deepings Carnival 2014**

Mr Tony Plunkett (Deepings Lions) and Mr Tom Johnson (Rotary Club of the Deepings) talked about the new community group committee which had been formed this year to co-ordinate the Deepings Carnival. The carnival will take place on a Sunday this year (6<sup>th</sup> July) and would see the return of a parade, which this year would be a parade of vehicles and cycles through the town and the theme for this year's carnival was 'Tour de Deeping'.

#### **006. The Deepings Library – a community update**

Cllr Baxter gave a brief summary of processes which had taken place since December 2013, to reach the current position regarding the future of The Deepings Library. After an Expression of Interest had been accepted by

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Lincolnshire County Council (LCC), a community group was formed in February 2014 which currently consisted of 72 people interested in volunteering time to the running of a library and over 100 'Friends of Deeping Library' who received updates from the community group. Cllr Baxter explained that the group now awaited LCC's consideration of a business plan which had been submitted to LCC at the end of March 2014 on the basis that the library being retained in its current location of Wade House, but with LCC bringing the building back up to an acceptable state of repair. He went on to say that it was hoped offices would be created on the first floor, the rent from which would help to sustain the library in the future.

### **007. Market Deeping Town Council Community Awards 2014 presentation**

Cllr Miss Collins presented certificates to the following for their dedication to the community:-

- The Deepings' Foodbank – to the trustees and the team helping to support the needy of The Deepings
- Helen Morgan – for her leadership and inspiration as a member of the group trying to secure the future of The Deepings' Library
- Clare Mowforth – for her hard work fundraising in support of the St Guthlac's Church Tower fund
- Cathy Pridgeon – for her hard work and commitment as Chair of Deepings Community Trust in developing and maintaining the excellent range of services provided by The Community Centre

### **008. Open Forum and Questions**

The following questions were put to the council:

**Q1. Previously, planning statistics to 2021 had been quoted as Deeping needing 500 more houses, but your latest committee report says 200 more houses are needed by 2026. Why has there been an increase in the figures?**

Response: Some of the 500 houses that were required by 2021 have already been built, but some of these are in Deeping St James not just in Market Deeping, so the remaining number of houses the Deepings need by 2026 is now only 200. It is the timescale that has changed, not the number of homes, and this has been changed by SKDC who regularly review housing needs. Larkfleet Homes have been planning for a couple of years for the development of land around the Spitfire Industrial park although their plans are not set in concrete as yet, but they have been given the first option by SKDC to build 250 houses on that site.

**Q2. A few years ago, at a meeting, John Hayes (MP) said Market Deeping had reached its quota for houses. Why would he say that if it hasn't?**

Response: They were the figures that he would have been given to work with at the time of the meeting, but we cannot confirm where he would have received those figures from – only he could give you that information.

**Q3. My neighbours and I live along Stamford Road, and we want to petition for a Residents Parking Scheme to be in operation outside our homes. Do you consider parking when you look at planning applications? New businesses have developed along Stamford Road, resulting in more people parking outside our homes all day and we cannot park there. There are no long stay car parks in Market Deeping, what are we supposed to do? We've asked for your help before, and you referred our petition to LCC who said it was not their responsibility and had passed it onto South Kesteven District Council (SKDC). But we cannot get any response from SKDC. You represent us; we want you to help us.**

Response: Yes, we do consider parking implications with all planning applications and agree that the lack of parking is a problem for the town. We did receive your previous petition and passed it onto the LCC Highways department, asking that they liaise with you directly. We can take your concerns to LCC and SKDC again and ask them the questions that you have asked of us. We will discuss the letter that you have given us tonight at our next Planning and Highways committee and progress it for you.

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**Q4. I agree with the residents of Stamford Road. I live on the High Street and parking is a very big problem. There is no enforcement of the parking restrictions which say 'do not return with 1 or 2 hours'. I have conducted many surveys and sent my findings to the parking officer who was supposed to be reviewing and monitoring the situation. I've written directly to LCC regarding this, but nothing is being done about it. There are many large lorries travelling along the High Street combined with an excessive volume of traffic using the street regularly. In one survey I counted over 800 vehicles using the street in a couple of hours. This is too much. The High Street is being very well developed with new businesses, but parking is a big problem. I'm very concerned there will be a serious accident because there are too many vehicles using the High Street and parking is dangerous. What can be done about this?**

Response: A Freedom of Information (FOI) request was sent to LCC in 2012 regarding traffic enforcement, the results of which showed that 800 tickets had been issued in Stamford and only 2 in The Deepings. Another FOI has recently been submitted and the results are awaited, and included in this request is details of how many tickets have been issued for infringement of the parking restrictions. Articulated lorries are also using Church Street and this is something that should be being addressed by the Police. Again, this is something that our Planning & Highways committee can progress with the appropriate authorities.

**Q5. Can you ask LCC what is going to be done about the poor state of Godsey Lane between Tesco and the Health Centre, and also the state of the junction of Hardwicke Gardens? Ask them why proper drainage wasn't installed when the road was first built, and ask them to resurface Godsey Lane as it is in a dangerous condition.**

Response: We have spoken with LCC and Persimmon homes many times about the condition of Godsey Lane and the problems of drainage at the entrance to Hardwicke Gardens. We told them both before the development started that the road would not drain properly. We are meeting with LCC next week on site to discuss the pedestrian crossing on Godsey Lane, so we can have an initial discussion with them about these matters whilst we are in the area, before progressing it formally through our Planning & Highways committee.

**Q6. Outside the Laurels (High Street) there are double yellow lines on one side of the road and the pavement drops away to almost nothing. I often walk with my mum along that pavement and we regularly have to move up against the house wall to avoid vans that are mounting the pavement to avoid on coming buses which are on the wrong side of the road because of parked cars. I would like to see the double yellow lines on both sides of that part of the street to avoid an accident in the future. And on another subject, what can be done to grit the pavements in the town centre in winter?**

Response: Firstly, we can raise your request for double yellow lines with LCC when we discuss the problems of parking and follow that through our Planning & Highways committee. Secondly, we can confirm that the town council has purchased a small manual gritting machine and a supply of grit so we can grit the pavements in the town centre in winter if necessary.

**Q7. Will you be attending the public meeting about the development on the old Witts site off Godsey Lane later this week? Has Market Deeping Town Council changed its opinion of the development?**

Response: The town council has not been invited to the meeting, although representatives from the council will be attending. This is a meeting that has been arranged by John Hayes, MP, and not the town council. The Town Council would not object to the development of retail in the town centre, however we have not changed our objections to the development's parking proposals nor have we stopped supporting residents' objections to the development.

As there were no further questions, and there being no other business, Cllr Miss Collins thanked all for attending, including the representatives from local groups, and the meeting closed at 8.45pm.