



Present: Councillors;

Anne Fleming (Chair), Ann Baldwin, Rosemary Lewis, Maureen Took, Sandra Leverett, Iona Winton, D Wollweber (after co – option)

In Attendance: N J Rees (Clerk), 24 members of the public

Minutes

1. **Apologies:** Cllrs; D Thomas, J Wagner, P Widdowson, P Dutton, A Payne

1. **Declarations of interest:** Non-pecuniary interests: Cllr S Leverett for 15.2, Cllr M Took for 14

2. **Minutes:** RESOLVED that the minutes of the monthly meeting of the Council held on 7th September were accepted as a true record.

3. **Chair's Report:** To receive a monthly report from the Chair of the Council

The Chair reported on the Parish/Town meeting on the 9th September at the Edgar Sewter School which was to enable residents to come along and have their say or ask questions. The next meeting is in January (probably the 19th TBC). The Chair reported on the Heritage Open Days event (10th – 14th September) and thanked Michael Imison and Ezra Leverett for organising the event. It was planned that this would be a Bi-Annual event so the next one would be in 2017. On the same weekend there was the Heritage Church Bike ride, one participant had visited 56 churches! On the 15th September the Chair and Cllr Dutton attended an important meeting with Waveney District Council on the Local Plan Review, this was proved to be very useful and would feed in to the preparations for a Neighbourhood plan. The Chair attended the Anglia in Bloom award ceremony in Ware and gave congratulations to Tamsyn Imison and her team for another Gold award for Halesworth and also for winning the best small town award. Spectra also won the award for the best industrial site. The Chair also wished to thank the Waveney Norse team who did such a great job for the town. On the 22nd the Chair, Cllr Lewis and the Clerk accompanied representatives from Waveney Norse & Suffolk County Council on a tour of part of the town to identify areas requiring work. It was planned to have these regularly and to cover the whole town in sections. On the 26th September the Chair was privileged to formally open the Mens Sheds, around 80 people attended and the Council wishes them every success.

4. **Co-option of one Councillor:**

- a) To consider the applicant(s) that have applied for the last remaining position on the Council: RESOLVED that Mr David Wollweber was unanimously voted to be accepted as Halesworth Town Councillor.
- b) To receive the declarations of acceptance of office and to note any declarations of interest: The Declarations of Acceptance of Office was then duly signed in the presence of the Town Clerk.

Cllr Wollweber then took a place at the meeting.

5. **Police Report:** There were no officers present. The Chair read out the police report (attached).

6. **Public Session:** Janet Huckle reported that she had distributed surveys of bus usage and had left these in the bus shelters. Karen Prime reported that she and Cllr Took had conducted a survey of most of the shop keepers in the town and it was clear that virtually all were in favour of a bus hub. The Chair wished to make clear that the decision of having a bus hub had already been made in previous years and the Council could not affect any change now. It was therefore for information only that the item was on the agenda, no decision was to be made at this meeting. There followed various statements from members of the public which showed many varying differences of opinion on the bus hub from Mr Doug Gray, Mr Malcolm Smith, Mr Richard Trim.

Mrs Anne Smith asked for clarification on the bus hub plan. Sue Allenby reported that in her research, when the jubilee shelter was moved to the Angel Link car park, most of the bus users would use the Norwich Road stop instead. The Chair stated that she would like to find out from residents where (if there was a choice) would they like the Jubilee shelter moved to. Mr W Jones asked whether there was any further information on getting the town signs cleaned. Jill Macfarlane asked whether the Council could consider a special tribute to Tamsyn Imison and also to inform the Council that the Sign of the Fish was 25 years old on the 1st November. Mr Doug Gray reported that there had been serious thefts from the supermarket and was concerned at how long it was taking for the police to respond. Mr Richard Trimm reported that there was a light permanently on in the middle car park, the Clerk would investigate.

7. **Committee Members and Representatives on Outside Bodies:**

Committee Members It was agreed that the recently co-opted Councillors would join the following Committees: **Town Development Committee:** Cllr Winton, Cllr Leverett, Cllr Wollweber. **Finance & Personnel:** Cllr Leverett, **Planning:** Cllr Wollweber, **GAPPA:** Cllr Leverett, **Communications:** Cllr Wollweber.

Representatives on Outside Bodies Campus, after receiving confirmation that the Campus group would accept a council representative it was RESOLVED that Cllr Ann Baldwin would be the Council representative at the Campus meetings.

It was noted that Cllr Winton stated that she would like to be the representative on the Day Centre and also Halesworth Volunteer Centre. The Clerk would contact the groups.

It was agreed that as there were so many Councillor currently away so the remaining Reps on Outside bodies would be reviewed again at the next meeting.

8. **Planning Committee:** To receive a report from the meeting held on the 21st September 2015. The decisions at the last Planning Committee meeting were read out by the Chair.
9. **Town Development Committee:** To receive a report from the meeting held on the 21st September. The Chair of the Town Development Committee was currently away but would provide a report at the next meeting.
10. **Health:** A summary of the report of the CCG consultation by Mr Malcolm Ballantine. Mr Ballantine presented a report on the consultation which is attached to these minutes. It was clear from the figures that the response to the consultation was disappointingly low, around 0.5 % for the Waveney/Gt Yarmouth area. It was not known what the individual response rate was for Halesworth. Mr Ballantine reported that it had come to light that Mr Mark Millar, Chief Executive of the Saint Elizabeth Hospice had shown an interest in acquiring the Patrick Stead building or the Southwold Hospital for end of life care. It was reported on the radio that Therese Coffey MP was not aware of this approach by the Saint Elizabeth Hospice and was by all accounts was not best pleased. Mr Millar was also interviewed on the radio and said that despite following all the correct procedures their interest in acquiring either building appeared to have been ignored by the CCG. Mr Doug Gray suggested that the Council should write to the Saint Elizabeth Hospice. Cllr Wollweber suggested writing to the Saint Elizabeth Hospice.
11. **Bus Hub:** Cllr Took reported on the survey of 44 shops and businesses in the town and according to her findings all who responded were in favour of the Bus Hub. There followed more discussions and opinions on the Bus Hub and after suggestions from Cllrs Lewis and Leverett, the Chair agreed that it would be of benefit to invite County Councillor Tony Goldson and/or a representative from the County Council to come and present the current plans for clarification at a town council meeting prior to any public consultation.
12. **Communications:** To receive any updates: The Chair reported that the layout of the Notice Board in the town was undergoing improvements, which included colour coding committee notices which would hopefully make it much clearer and easier to use. There would also be two folders in the Library, one with the Council minutes and one with all the various reports.
13. **GAPPA:** The Chair of the Grand Parents and Parents Play Association, Jane Kircher, reported that they had received confirmation that Flagship Housing association would be donating £12,500 to the fund to improve the play equipment in the park and the recent 'Welly Walk' and other donations had

raised a further £1,200. This brought the current total to £26,849, about 65% of the total required. The Council congratulated the Chair and the members of the GAPPA committee on all their hard work.

2. **Reports on meetings and events attended by Council representatives:** Local Plan Review, the Chair reported further on the Local Plan Review and the report by Cllr Dutton (report attached). The Chair also reported further on the walkabout with Waveney Norse and it was clear that there were some areas in the town that were left over after a development was completed and that these areas then reverted back to WDC ownership. However, some of these small areas may not necessarily be on Waveney Norse's work schedule. An example was a square of grass surrounded by bushes in Aldergrove Close. The Chair asked everyone to report any similar areas and send photos if possible, so these areas could be managed properly and not forgotten. It was also hoped to undertake a survey of dog bins and litter bins to try and identify where bins were under used or where there were a lack of bins. The Chair had also requested some dog waste stickers which would help identify bins that could be used for both.
Cllr Leverett read out a report on the Waveney Valley Local Action Group meeting on the 16th September (attached), one item of interest was that European funding of £3.3million for job creation and growth will be launched nationally in October. The Chair was very interested in whether there was any money available for Halesworth, it was thought this was for probably for larger towns but the Chair would investigate further.
Cllr Lewis reported on the Campus meeting with Sentinel, the purpose was to find out for each organisation, HPFA, Bowls Club etc what facilities they wished to see. The meeting was very well attended and very positive. There would then be a report made to Pulse, who would be building the facilities, to price up the work and report back. There was also a public meeting at the Rifle Hall on Tuesday Night (6th October) to inform the residents of all the recent developments.
3. **District & County Reports:** To receive any reports from the District & County Councillors: There were no District or County Councillors present at the meeting. Cllr Leverett asked whether the questions raised at the last meeting to District Councillor, Letitia Smith could be asked again, as there had not been a response so far. Namely; was the car park to the rear of Musker Mckintyre being sold off, what was the truth about rumours of bus subsidies being withdrawn and was the District Council intending to charge for emptying the green bins.
The Clerk would forward these questions again.
4. **Financial Matters:** To receive the report of the Finance & Personnel Committee meeting held on the 21st September 2015. Cllr Lewis (Chair of the Finance Committee) said that the Finance Report was delayed due to holidays but it would be posted on the website and in the Library as soon it was approved.
5. **Parish Meeting & Priorities:** The Chair reported on the Parish/Town meeting held on the 9th September at 7pm at the Edgar Sewter School. A report would also be published in the Halesworth edition of the Community News (attached).
6. **Civic Dinner:** The Chair confirmed arrangement had been made and invitations sent for the 24th October, 2015
7. **Remembrance Sunday:** The Chair confirmed that the service would be on the 8th November at 3pm and invited all Councillors to attend.
8. **Correspondence:**
 - a) **Bruno Peek:** Commonwealth Flag. It was agreed to accept the offer of a Commonwealth flag from Mr Bruno Peek (Commonwealth Pageant Master) and that the Clerk would contact the Church to have it flown on the 14th March 2017.
9. **Accounts for Payment:** The following accounts for payment were approved.

Community News – Advertising	130.00
HMRC – Quarterly PAYE	1713.16
The Little Copy Shop	10.00
British Legion Wreath (18.50 + 11.50 Donation -tbc)	30.00
Wissett Parish Council – Contribution for VAS signs insurance	12.31
Salaries	1625.95

Bank & Cash Balances

Current 728	£86,289.74
Comm A/c	£5,266.78
Bus Res 017	£92,185.14

The meeting as closed at 8.20pm