

RAUNDS TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes: 14 June 2016 Time 7.30pm.

PRESENT

Cllr H Howell (Town Mayor) (Chair), Cllr B Tyman, Cllr N Beck and Cllr R Levell, Cllr L Wilkes, Cllr D Hughes.

IN ATTENDANCE

Ms Kate Houlihan, Town Clerk (Minutes)
Mrs Emma Williams, Assistant to the Clerk.

ALSO PRESENT

3 members of the public.

- 73.16 To Receive Apologies For Absence.**
Apologies were received from Cllr R Beattie, Cllr Allard, Cllr Jeffs, Cllr Davidson-Jeffs, Cllr S Hughes.
RESOLVED to note the apologies.
- 74.16 Notification of requests from members of the public to address the meeting in compliance with adopted protocol.**
NONE RECEIVED
- 75.16 Notification of members questions in compliance with the council's standing orders.**
NONE RECEIVED
- 76.16 Declarations of Interest.**
COUNCILLORS ARE REMINDED THAT IF THEY HAVE EITHER A DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST OR OTHER INTEREST IN ANY ITEM THEN THEY SHOULD DECLARE THE INTEREST AND LEAVE THE MEETING FOR THAT ITEM
NONE RECEIVED
- 77.16 Minutes:** to confirm the minutes of the Council meeting held 10 May 2016.
RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held 10 May 2016 be approved as a true record
- 78.16 Committee Report:** To receive the report of the Environment Leisure and Recreation Committee 19 May 2016. (copy herewith).

Cllr Wilkes presented the minutes (forming the report) of the Environment Leisure and Recreation Committee 19 May 2016 which were received, and the resolutions and recommendations duly considered.

RESOLVED that the report be approved and the resolutions of the Environment Leisure and Recreation Committee 19 May 2016 be agreed.
- 79.16 Committee report:** To receive the report of the Planning Committee 26 May 2016.

Cllr Tyman presented the minutes (forming the report) of the Planning Committee 26 May 2016 which were received, and the resolutions and recommendations duly considered.

RESOLVED that the report be approved and the resolutions of the Planning Committee 26 May 2016 be agreed.

80.16 Committee report: To receive the report of the Finance Committee 7 June 2016.

Cllr Levell presented the minutes (forming the report) of the Finance Committee 7 June 2016 which were received. Cllr Levell noted that the approval of the accounts, annual return formed separate agenda items later in the meeting and it was...

RESOLVED that

- a) **Resolutions regarding the accounts and the annual accounts and annual return be deferred until the separate agenda items later in the meeting;**
- b) **The report be approved and the remaining resolutions and recommendations of the Finance committee meeting held on 7 June 2016 be approved**

81.16 District Councillors Report.

NONE RECEIVED

82.16 County Councillors Report.

Cllr Hughes reported on the issues that had been discussed by the County Council cabinet that day and answered questions thereon.

RESOLVED to note the report.

83.16 Town Mayors Announcements.

13th May: St Peter's School, Birthday celebrations for the Queen's 90th.

16th May: Windmill School to hand out certificates to the children who performed at The Mayors Show.

23rd May: St Peter's School, drama performance. It was really fantastic, the children were totally natural and it was really enjoyable, well done to everyone.

26th May: St Peter's School for the achievement awards, well done to all the children who received an award.

28th May the Deputy Mayor attended Raunds Football Club to support and hand out awards at the ladies tournament for the morning session and then my consort Cllr Wilkes and I attended in the afternoon as the

event went on most of the day, a big thank you to Cllr Beck the deputy Mayor.

7th June Raunds Library to support their reading challenge.

8th June RAF Alconbury's base tour, a really interesting day with a guided tour of the base including the Fire engine house to watch a demonstration and admire the huge American trucks, followed by an ammunitions and sniffer dog demonstration a really interesting afternoon. We were given an update on the future of the base.

10th June Park Infants School for their Queens 90th Birthday celebrations.

11th June, we had our own picnic at the rec to celebrate the Queen's 90th Birthday, I think the day was a great success, we were so lucky with the weather again and everyone pulled together, the entertainment was great and catered for all tastes. I think we did her majesty and the town proud.

12th June Cllr Lee Wilkes, my consort and I opened The Langham Road street party for the Queen's Birthday celebrations following on from an invitation the day before, we were really pleased to be invited.

12th June the Deputy Mayor Cllr Beck attended Wellingborough civic service on my behalf; this was his first civic service so now he knows what is in store. Thank you Cllr Beck.

84.16 Accounts for payment: to receive the payments lists for April and May 2016.

XX

RESOLVED that the payment lists be noted.

85.16 Annual Accounts: to receive and approve the annual accounts.

Cllr Levell presented the accounts as shown in Appendix 1. and answered questions thereon. He explained that the accounts had been simplified in an attempt to increase transparency. Notes had been added to explain the jargon used in the accounts. A summary was included to show the movement on reserves to show more clearly the closing position and what had happened during the year.

RESOLVED that the Annual Accounts for 2015-16 be approved.

86.16 The Annual Return

Appendix 2 to these minutes contains the Annual Return, sections 1 & 2 for 2015-16.

- a. To receive and approve the annual governance statement. Members read the annual governance statement, Section 1, and were in agreement with the statements made.

RESOLVED that the Annual Governance Statement be approved.

- b. To receive and approve the statement of accounts.
The Council considered Section 2 of the Annual Return, the Accounting Statement, noting it had been compiled from the Annual Accounts approved in the previous agenda item.

RESOLVED that the Annual Statement of Accounts be approved.

87.16 To approve the Annual Report of the Council.

Members considered the annual report of the council (shown in Appendix 3), which included reports from each committee on their work during 2015-16.

RESOLVED to approve and publish the Annual Report of the Council, subject to minor typographical amendments

88.16 To consider a recommendation from the Clerk and the Chairman of the Finance Committee regarding the level of investment in the Public Sector Deposit Fund.

The Clerk and Cllr Levell presented the clerk's report as shown in Appendix 4. Following discussion it was..

RESOLVED that:

- a) **The Natwest Deposit account be closed, moving the substantive balance of £425,000 to the PSDF.**
- b) **The Natwest Current account is to remain open with a balance of £10,000, this is simply to ensure that the council has access to everyday banking services *if* there was ever a problem with the council's account at Unity Trust Bank.**
- c) **Any additional monies from the Natwest will be moved to the Unity Trust Account.**

89.16 To receive information regarding planned repairs to the Church Boundary Wall.

XXXX

90.16 Fly the Flag this Armed Forces Day: to consider correspondence from the defence services secretary.

XXXX

91.16 Planning Applications for consideration.

16/00894/FUL | Two storey side and single storey rear extension (amended scheme to 12/02035/FUL) (part retrospective) | 40 London Road Raunds Northamptonshire NN9 6EJ

RESOLVED that the Town Council had no observations to make.

- 92.16 Sale of land at Belmont Gardens:** to consider the report of the clerk
And to resolve to seal the transfer deed.

The clerk gave a verbal report regarding the sale of land at Belmont Gardens:

Raunds Town Council have agreed to sell a parcel of land to an individual who will develop the land. Terms of the sale have previously been agreed with the Council. The Council's solicitors have now issued the transfer for signing/ sealing.

It is a statutory requirement that where a council is disposing of public open space a notice is placed in a local newspaper advertising that fact. A notice was therefore placed in the Northants Evening Telegraph advising of this allowing a 2 week period for people to object to the sale. The council must consider any objections which are received following the public notice. However the council is not obliged to act on any objection.

In consideration of the report **It was RESOLVED**

- a) That the transfer be signed by 2 councillors and the document be sealed.
- b) That the council's solicitors be instructed to complete the transfer subject to the outcome of any objections raised through the publication of the public notice.
- c) That it be delegated to the Policy and Resources committee to consider any objections which may arise.

- 93.16 To consider the need for the Town Council to appoint a part-time gardener/handyman.**

Members considered the need to keep key locations within the Town to a very high standard and that these areas would benefit from a more bespoke service than that offered through the current grounds maintenance contract.

Following discussion it was RESOLVED to agree the matter in principle and that a costed scheme would be put to the next meeting of the ELR committee.

- 94.16 To consider the need for the Town Council to appoint a press officer.**

Members considered the need to improve communications with local residents and across the county..

Following discussion it was RESOLVED to agree the matter in principle and that a costed scheme would be put to a future meeting of the P&R committee.

