

## **RAUNDS TOWN COUNCIL**

Minutes: 10 October 2017 Time 7.30pm.

### **PRESENT**

Cllr R Levell (Deputy Town Mayor) (Chair), Cllr L Wilkes, Cllr R Tyman, Cllr H Howell, Cllr J Duff, Cllr R Beattie, Cllr M Hind, Cllr D Jones, Cllr S Hughes

### **IN ATTENDANCE**

Miss Kate Houlihan, Town Clerk, Minutes  
Mrs Emma Williams, Assistant to the Clerk.

- 326.17 To Receive Apologies For Absence.**
- 327.17 Notification of requests from members of the public to address the meeting in compliance with adopted protocol.**
- 328.17 Notification of members questions in compliance with the council's standing orders.**
- 329.17 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 IN THE CASE OF A PECUNIARY ITEM LEAVE THE MEETING FOR THAT ITEM
- 330.17 Minutes:** to confirm the minutes of the Council meeting held 12<sup>th</sup> September 2017. (copy herewith).
- 331.17 Committee report:** to receive the report of the Events Committee meeting held 27 September 2017. (copy herewith)
- 332.17 Committee report:** to receive the report of the Planning Committee meeting held 28 September 2017. (copy herewith).
- 333.17 Committee report:** To receive the report of the Environment Leisure and Recreation Committee meeting held on 28 September 2017. (copy herewith).
- 334.17 Committee report:** To receive the report of the Extraordinary Full Council meeting held on 2 October 2017 (copy herewith).
- 335.17 Committee report:** To receive the report of the Policy and Resources committee meeting held on 2 October 2017. (copy herewith).
- 336.17 District Councillors Report.**
- 337.17 County Councillors Report.**
- 338.17 Town Mayors Announcements.**
- 339.17 JAM in the Hood Project:** To receive a presentation from Groundworks regarding the recent JAM in the Hood project which took place in Raunds.

- 340.17 Open Space at Sheffield Court:** To consider the future maintenance of land at Sheffield Court (information herewith, an officer from ENC will be attending the meeting to answer members questions)
- 341.17 Accounts for Payment:** To receive the payment lists. (information herewith)
- 342.17 Raunds Business Forum:** To consider a request from Raunds Business Forum for support from the Town Council. (information herewith)
- 343.17 To receive the report of the External Auditor:** To note the no issues arising report from the External Auditor for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017. (information herewith)
- 344.17 Winter Grounds Maintenance Contract:** To receive the winter grounds maintenance contract and consider any amendments that may be required. (copy to follow)
- 345.17 Planning Matters**
- a. To receive an oral update on the Raunds Neighbourhood Plan

The Clerk reminded members of the decision taken at the extraordinary meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2017, which was;

**RESOLVED to accept the modifications of the external examiner subject to the final outcome of the Judicial Review.**

**If the Stop Warth Park Group apply for “oral renewal” of their application for a judicial review, then the Neighbourhood Plan will be re-considered by the Full Council on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2017.**

Members then considered the information received from East Northamptonshire Council (ENC) regarding the Judicial Review.

“ENC expect to receive formal notification from the High Court of the Oral Renewal process by Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2017. Thereafter it is understood that the process was likely to take a further 4 to 8 weeks to conclude (but that this period may be longer)”.

The Clerk explained that if the council were to delay the decision on the Neighbourhood Plan until after the Oral renewal process was completed then it would not be possible to hold the referendum on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2017 as there was a statutory requirement to publish details of the referendum by 12<sup>th</sup> October 2017.

Members then considered the report of the external examiner and his reasons for not allowing the land south of meadow lane to be protected. The examiner had considered the designation of the land as both a Protected Open Space and as Local Green Space. The examiner had concluded that:

*Site 25 - Land South of Meadow Lane should not be designated as “Protected Open Space”, nor should it be covered by a “Local Green Space” designation on the grounds that it does not meet the basic*

*condition tests or have regard to national policy for the protection of open space.*

Reluctantly members concluded that there was nothing more that could be done to try and protect this piece of land through the Neighbourhood Plan.

Further consideration was then given to other policies in the Neighbourhood Plan, such as policies in support of protecting local buildings, other open spaces and future infrastructure aspirations.

Following detailed discussion it was concluded that, whilst the exclusion of site 25 (Land South of Meadow Lane) from the final plan was deeply disappointing, overall the Neighbourhood Plan was of such strategic importance that the referendum should not be delayed.

**RESOLVED to accept the modifications of the external examiner and to advise East Northamptonshire Council that the Town Council were in agreement with the referendum date of 16<sup>th</sup> November 2017.**

**346.17 Exclusion of the press and public:** The press and public will be excluded from the following agenda item due to the confidential nature of the business under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960

- a) Operational Matters: To consider information relating to the operation of council property and land.