

Lowestoft Town Council
Meeting of the Community Safety Committee
First Floor, Hamilton House, Battery Green Road, Lowestoft, Suffolk, NR32 1DE
15:30 on 23 March 2022

Minutes

Present : Cllrs Paul Page (chaired the meeting in the absence of Cllr Lang), Wendy Brooks, Graham Parker, and Andy Pearce.

In attendance: Sarah Foote (Deputy Town Clerk) and Christopher Meek (Office Administrator)

Public: There was one member of the public in attendance in person.

72. Welcome

The fire evacuation procedure and public right to report were explained and the meeting was welcomed.

73. To receive and consider acceptance of apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Peter Lang. Cllr Pearce proposed acceptance of the apologies received; seconded by Cllr Parker; all in favour.

74. Declarations of Interests and dispensations

Cllr Pearce declared a local non-pecuniary interest as Chair of Gunton Residents' Association and Lowestoft Town Council Representative at Fen Park Friends Group. Cllr Brooks declared local non-pecuniary interest as Vice-Chair of Gunton Residents' Association.

75. To consider the draft minutes of the meeting on 15 December 2021

Cllr Brooks proposed acceptance of the minutes; seconded by Cllr Pearce; all in favour

76. Public forum

A representative of the Lowestoft Hospital Contact Group made representation about the lack of medical services being provided in Lowestoft and how, despite earlier understood intentions, services were not being delivered from the Old Hospital site. It was agreed that the Town Council would facilitate a meeting of key stakeholders such as; MP Peter Aldous, CCG, site owner and the Old Hospital Steering Group would set the agenda of items they would like considered.

77. To review any expenditure by this Committee from its delegated budget

The Committee were provided with the current budget position.

78. To consider measures to improve the security of the Town Council's assets, including the following:

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- 78.1. The Crime and Vandalism report was provided to members. It was agreed to consider this further at the next meeting, particularly which sites to prioritise, and it was also agreed that, where possible, the cost of repairs be added to the report. It was noted that some of the vandalism had happened to trees and where it had been necessary to replace these, the Council's policy of planting two new trees for one removed should be implemented.
- 78.2. Safety at the Town Council's Community Halls including an update on works for Gunton Community Hall – the anti-climb paint had been applied. A start date for the installation of the new doors was awaited.
- 78.3. An update on plans for a multi-authority meeting to discuss known community safety issues in Lowestoft – it was suggested that a way forward would be to invite all parties (ESC/PCC/SCC/LTC) to a single item Zoom meeting.
- 78.4. To receive an update on the reinstatement of the chicane gates on the Great Eastern Linear Park – unfortunately, the planned site meeting had been cancelled. Once the meeting had been rescheduled, this item would be considered further.
- 78.5. Lighting in Town Council parks – It was suggested that the main reason for considering lighting in parks was for park users' safety. It was agreed that a cost was needed before the council would make an informed decision on whether to proceed with lighting in parks. Environmental issues such as increased energy use and the possible need to remove trees (or branches of) to make existing lighting more effective were also considered. Councillors and Community Wardens would visit and assess three locations; Belle Vue Park, Normanston Park and Fen Park. This item would be further considered at the next meeting and also by the Parks and Open Spaces Committee.

79. Defibrillators:

- 79.1. Direct funded defibrillator for the Gainsborough Drive Pond area – it was agreed to defer this item to the next meeting. However, it was agreed to publicise information on correct procedure for using defibs, with an emphasis on calling 999 first in any emergency and words to the effect that the council is committed to increasing its defibrillator provision and currently has defibrillators at four named locations.
- 79.2. Match funded defibrillator in the vicinity of the High Street Surgery - It was agreed to defer this item to the next meeting.
- 79.3. Gunton Drive telephone kiosk and defibrillator and progression of installation at Kensington Gardens and Fen Park (some aspects may be confidential). It was proposed by Cllr Pearce, seconded by Cllr Parker and unanimously agreed to proceed with the purchase and installation of defibrillators at the above locations subject to site surveys including confirmation of electricity supply and liaison with relevant Friends Groups. The existing third party defibrillator was due for removal from the Gunton Kiosk and a replacement was to be fitted to the outside of the kiosk. This was being progressed and due for completion in the near future.

80. To consider a request from the Planning Committee to explore highway arrangements and road safety outside schools

Cllr Parker suggested a 20 mph limit outside the Denes Academy and an extension of car parking by the Roman Hill Primary School and that overall the Town Council should work with the County Council to achieve a 20 mph limit outside all schools. Cllr Pearce proposed a multi-agency approach was needed and in the first instance a stand-alone meeting, with delegation to officers in consultation with committee members, to liaise with Cllr James Reeder as Cabinet Member for Children and Young People's Services at Suffolk County Council. Thereafter, a multi-agency approach would be taken and informed by the results of the initial dialogue with Cllr Reeder. Seconded by Cllr Parker; all in favour.

81. Date of the next meeting

25 May 2022 17:00

82. Items for the next agenda and close

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Maintenance of Life Preservers in Parks. Meeting closed: 17.11

- 83. To resolve that under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public be excluded from the meeting on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, namely any legal issues relating to the matters on this agenda**



Signed:

25 May 2022