

BRIGG TOWN COUNCIL
FULL COUNCIL MEETING – MONDAY 15th DECEMBER 2003
Chairman – Councillor M.S. Campion

Present: Councillors, Mrs. J.A. Bell, Mrs. J. Brock, C.J. Cook, Mrs. A. Eardley, Mrs. M. Glossop, T.D. Glossop, J. Kitwood, A.L. Markham, F. Melton, Mrs. J.L. Melton, T. Morris, Mrs. P.J. Smith, A. Sykes and Mrs. A. Tasker

In attendance:	Revd MJ. Silly Peter Thompson	Town Mayor's Chaplain Market Rasen Mail
	Cllr LR Long Cllr. N. Sherwood	North Lincolnshire Council North Lincolnshire Council
	Apologies were received from Cllr J. Berry who is attending another meeting	
		North Lincolnshire Council

263 PRAYER

Members were led in prayer by the Town Mayor's Chaplain.

264. NOTICE CONVENING THE MEETING

Taken as read and approved.

265 APOLOGIES RECEIVED AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE

Councillor M.N. Birkitt has got the flu.
Councillor J.E.G. Kidd has just arrived home from a week-end away.
Councillor K. Smith has got a severe cold.
Councillor J. Truepenny – is at University?

266 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

267 MINUTES AS CIRCULATED

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on Monday 24th November 2003, having been circulated, were taken as read and approved as a true record.

Proposed: Councillor Mrs P.J. Smith Seconded: Councillor Mrs A. Tasker

268 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

No public present.

269 POLICE MATTERS

None.

CORRESPONDENCE

270 BRIGG ROTARY CLUB - CENTENARY

Letter received from the Rotary Club of Brigg regarding their centenary year in 2005. The Rotary Club would like to discuss ideas and suggestions on how they can celebrate their centenary. It was agreed that this request should be referred to the Property and Services Committee.

271 C.P.R.E.-PLANNING TRAINING

A full day training seminar has been arranged by C.P.R.E;
One member of the Council can attend free of charge. No-one available.

272 HUMBER & WOLDS R.C.C.

Notice of the extra-ordinary A.G.M.

273 NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

Notice of A.G.M.

274 KEIGAR HOMES DEVELOPMENT – STREET NAMES

Letter received from North Lincolnshire Council asking for the Town Council's opinion on the name put forward by Keigar Homes:-
St. John's Close.

As this was one of three suggestions put forward by the Town Council, members re-iterated their support.

275 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS

i) Councillor J. Kitwood

Councillor Kitwood enquired whether there was any policy or ruling in place regarding the use of sandwich boards for business advertising.

The clerk advised that Councillor Mrs Melton had raised this same issue just a few weeks ago. North Lincolnshire does have a policy in place governing the use and positioning of sandwich boards, and officers will investigate and deal with any perceived mis-use of this method of advertising e.g. if the sandwich board is causing an obstruction.

ii) COUNCILLOR MRS. A.TASKER

Councillor Mrs Tasker commented that private vehicles are regularly parking for long periods within the pedestrianised area of Bigby Street.

The clerk will report this matter to the Police and the Traffic Warden

iii) COUNCILLOR MRS. A EARDLEY

Councillor Mrs. Eardley asked if action could be taken to stop drivers driving through the red lights at the traffic lights on Barnard Avenue.

The clerk will contact the police and the traffic warden.

iv) COUNCILLOR MRS. P.J. SMITH

Councillor Mrs Smith asked if the clerk could enquire on the progress regarding the investigation into the efficiency of the traffic lights on Barnard Avenue.

Councillor N. Sherwood, North Lincolnshire Council, advised that he had made similar enquiries a couple of weeks ago, and was told that work is still ongoing. Councillor Sherwood will make further enquiries.

The clerk will contact Mr. M.cBride in the Highways Department.

v) COUNCILLOR T.D. GLOSSOP

Councillor Glossop raised the issue of the problem at the traffic lights caused by drivers blocking up the central area after the lights have changed. He asked if the suggestion can be put forward that the junction at Old Courts Road should be a boxed junction.

The clerk will also convey this suggestion to Mr. McBride.

vi) COUNCILLOR MRS. A. EARDLEY

Councillor Mrs. Eardley commented on a recent incident, when the landlady of the White Hart jumped into the River Ancholme to rescue her dog, which had fallen in from the White Hart jetty. Councillor Mrs. Eardley asked if any progress had been made regarding the provision of grab rails on the river wall, and whether any action could be taken to encourage the Environment Agency to bring this jetty up to safety standards.

Councillor Mrs. Eardley was advised that the White Hart jetty is the responsibility of the Licensee of the Public House itself. However, the Environment Agency will be installing grab rails along the opposite quay wall as part of the forthcoming work to install a safety rail.

276 RECEIVE AND CONSIDER MINUTES FROM COMMITTEES

a) Property and Services Committee Wednesday 3rd December 2003

Councillor J. Kitwood proposed that the Minutes be received by Full Council, and accepted and approved as a true record.

No matters arising Seconded Councillor Mrs. P.J. Smith. All agreed.

b) Planning and Environment Committee Wednesday 10th December 2003

Councillor T.D. Glossop proposed that the Minutes be received by Full Council, and accepted and approved as a true record.

No matters arising Seconded Councillor Mrs J.A. Brock All agreed.

Policy Committee Wednesday 10th December 2003

Councillor C.J. Cook proposed that the Minutes be received by Full Council, and accepted and approved as a true record.

No matters arising Seconded Councillor J. Kitwood All agreed.

277 FINANCIAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The clerk advised that this months financial report will be provided as at 31st December 2003, as part of the Budget Proposals for 2004/ 2005

Accounts for Payment:

Mrs JM Woollard	clerical services	803.79
Mrs JM Woollard	home telephone	10.00
Mrs JM Woollard	general clerical services for the Angel Suite	82.44
	Angel Suite Bookings	negligible
	so far, probably due to the transition period. Estimate 2 hours since Monday 1 st December 2003	
		20.60
Petty Cash	replenish float	41.87
Barrie Gray & Sons	Christmas Lights 2nd stage payment	1,500.00
	+ refurbishment and installation of new lights	2,000.00
Arena Business Machines	£26.42 + V.A.T. £4.62	31.04
Brigg Office Supplies	stationery 23.88 + V.A.T. £4.18	28.06

Proposed Councillor Mrs. A. Tasker. Seconded Councillor Mrs. J.A. Bell
All agreed.

Members were also advised that the clerk has worked an extra 33 hours during the last month. She will be re-claiming these hours, as agreed, through time off in lieu, during next week and over the Christmas period, and also taking some holiday days. The office will therefore be closed from Monday 22nd December and will not re-open until Monday 5th January

278 MEMBERS ARE REMINDED TO REVIEW AND UPDATE THEIR DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST, AS PER THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT

Members were reminded that it is their duty to ensure that their Record of Declared Interests is kept up to date, and they are therefore asked to call in the Town Council Office to check that the information they have provided is still valid and up to date.

279 CONSIDER REQUEST FROM THE BRIGG COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION FOR SUPPORT FROM THE TOWN COUNCIL AGAINST THE DECISION BY NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL, NOT TO ALLOW THE USE OF ATHERTON WAY AS A SITE FOR THE BRIGG HORSE FAIR IN 2004.

Councillor T.D. Glossop advised members that, although no formal response has been received from North Lincolnshire Council, he has been advised verbally by Simon Driver, Director of Corporate Affairs, that the request for the use of land on Atherton Way has been refused.

Councillor Glossop castigated North Lincolnshire Council for taking so long to make a decision in the first place, and also deplored the fact that this refusal could have jeopardised the whole event which is central to the forthcoming 800th anniversary year.

However, Councillor Glossop was pleased to announce that a private landowner has come forward, and the use of a field at the end of Mill Lane will be rented to the Community Association to house the Gypsy Horse Fair.

Councillor Glossop added that, if all goes well, it has been intimated that the landowner will make this field available each year to secure the future of the Horse Fair.

The next stage will be to secure funding for the event. Heritage Lottery has already given a favourable indication to initial enquiries, and Councillor Glossop asked if the Town Council would consider some form of financial assistance, in order to ensure that the event can now proceed without any further delays.

Councillor Glossop concluded by re-stating his dissatisfaction with the lack of support from North Lincolnshire Council over the past 3 years.

Councillor Champion (Town Mayor) thanked Councillor Glossop for this update, and it was agreed that the request for financial support should be placed on the next Agenda.

Councillor Mrs. Eardley expressed her disappointment at the lack of support from North Lincolnshire Council adding that, if the event had been in Scunthorpe, the answer would have been different!! continued/...

Councillor J. Kitwood observed that it was his impression that the officers of North Lincolnshire Council have pressed for this decision, but he thought it was up to elected members to take on board the information provided by officers, and then make their own decision.

Councillor Kitwood went on to comment that the land on Atherton Way is Brigg land, which is currently under used and lying fallow; there is no indication that this will change in the foreseeable future, so why shouldn't it be used to house a major event like the Horse Fair?

Councillor Kitwood proposed that a strong letter should be sent to North Lincolnshire Council, expressing the Town Council's dissatisfaction, that as a result of this decision, the Community Association may well be faced with a substantial bill to rent land privately for this event, which will be a financial burden on the volunteers involved; also requesting an explanation on how this decision was reached.

Councillor L.R. Long, North Lincolnshire Council, expressed surprise that Councillor Glossop had chosen to speak to an officer of the council on this issue, and re-iterated that it is the elected members who take the decisions of the Council, not officers. However, he confirmed that the decision taken is to refuse the request for the use of Atherton Way, for the following reasons:-

the event is not a North Lincolnshire Council event, therefore there is no obligation to hold it on Council Land.

many complaints were received regarding the mess left behind after previous Horse Fairs, and the cost of cleaning up after the event is a burden on the Council Tax.

complaints were received regarding the treatment of the horses.

land on Atherton Way is earmarked for industrial development and, as such, it must be available at all times for potential purchasers.

Councillor Long re-assured the Town Council that North Lincolnshire Council has committed its general support to the year of celebrations in Brigg.

Councillor T.D. Glossop responded that:

when the event is organised by a responsible organisation such as the Community Association, the cost of cleaning up after the event is borne by that group. The reason why this has not happened over the last 2 years is that land was not made available, therefore the Community Association had to divorce itself from the Horse Fair.

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similarly, when the event is held under the umbrella of the Community Association, the services of the R.S.P.C.A. are engaged, and their inspections never highlighted any mis-treatment of the horses.

the land on the industrial estate has been available for potential buyers for the past three years, but it is still vacant.

Councillor concluded that the excuses behind the decision are very shallow.

Councillor Mrs. P.J. Smith seconded the proposal by Councillor Kitwood, adding that thanks should also be expressed to Mr. Mick Smith, for allowing the use of his land for the Horse Fair.

All agreed.

Councillor Mrs. J. Melton proposed a vote of thanks for Councillor T.D. Glossop for all his hard work to ensure that this event will go ahead.

Seconded by Councillor C.J. Cook. All agreed.

There was no other business, the meeting closed at 7.50pm

Chairman, Full Council Meeting held on Monday 26th January 2004