

WYMONDHAM TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Town Council meeting held on Tuesday 1st April 2025 at 7.00pm in the Council offices, Ketts Park, Harts Farm Road, Wymondham NR18 0TU.

Present: Councillor (Cllr) Suzanne Nuri-Nixon (Chair), Paul Barrett, Marlene (Joy) Batley, Lowell Doheny, Rory Frostdick, Julian Fulcher, Annette James, Lucy Nixon, Alex Perry and Dave Roberts.

Member(s) of the Public: Four members of the public were present including members from the Wymondham Youth Council and Norfolk County Councillor Robert Savage.

059/25	<p><u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:</u> Apologies were approved for Cllr Broome and Cllr Witt – unwell, and Cllr Rosen – other commitment.</p>
060/25	<p><u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:</u> None.</p>
061/25	<p><u>MINUTES OF MEETINGS:</u> Upon the proposition of Cllr Roberts and seconded by Cllr Barrett the minutes of the meeting held on 4th March 2025 were unanimously approved as a correct record.</p>
062/25	<p><u>PROGRESS UPDATES:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The notes of the Council Building, Health & Safety and Personnel Working Group meeting held on 12th February 2025 were noted and upon the proposition of Cllr James and seconded by Cllr Nixon the recommendations therein were unanimously ratified. • The notes of the Council's Allotment Working Group meeting held on 12th March 2025 were noted. • Youth Council: The Chair gave a general update and mentioned they met in the Council's Chamber on 21st March 2025.
063/25	<p><u>LEISURE ENVIRONMENT ENTERPRISE & TOURISM COMMITTEE:</u> The minutes of the meeting held on 18th March 2025 were noted and upon the proposition of Cllr Nixon and seconded by Cllr Roberts the recommendations therein were unanimously ratified.</p> <p>Cllr Barrett suggested for the LEET Committee to liaise with the Norfolk Wildlife expert on the pond restoration and Miyawaki projects at Becketswell.</p>
064/25	<p><u>SUNDRY CREDITORS:</u> Upon the proposition of Cllr. Barrett and seconded by Cllr. Fulcher it was resolved to pay accounts for March 2025, as per the tabled list in the sum of £44,601.11 together with debit card payments totalling £164.54. In compliance with financial regulations the Clerk tabled a list of salaries paid from the account to the sum of £9,484.67.</p> <p>A comment was made for the Clerk to review the Street lights yearly costs.</p>

065/25	<p><u>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:</u> County Councillor Robert Savage gave a general background for agenda item 10 'Norfolk and Suffolk Devolution Consultation' and mentioned what County Council had voted back in December 2024 and felt it was important for the Town Council to discuss and come to an opinion on the unitary options and give a response via the online survey.</p> <p>He also made a comment for item 4 on the agenda 'The Bus stop' and mentioned that options have been given to replace the location of the gold standard bus shelter and an additional bus shelter for the town centre.</p>
066/25	<p><u>ROTHBURY PARK:</u> The Chair gave a general update and informed that Greening Wymondham had prepared the flyer to promote the drop-in session on Sunday 13th April from 12pm to 4pm at Rothbury Community Hall, where residents could view the design of the improvements to the park and playground.</p> <p>It was mentioned that Joe from JDMA will be the project manager and will be able to commence the works on Rothbury Park in conjunction with the Play Equipment contractors starting their work in May/June 2025.</p>
067/25	<p><u>BROWICK RECREATION GROUND:</u> The Clerk contacted a few companies and received a quote for the removal of the existing portable cabin and metal container and upon the proposition of Cllr Roberts and seconded by Cllr Doheny it was unanimously approved for Valley Services to carry out the removal of the portable cabin and metal container at the quoted cost.</p>
068/25	<p><u>CONSULTATION:</u> Norfolk and Suffolk Devolution Consultation - Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government: Noted.</p> <p>It was mentioned that the consultation seeks views, particularly from interested parties, including those who live and work across Norfolk and Suffolk, on the effect of establishing a Mayoral Combined County Authority. In some parts of the country there may be proposals for reorganisation of existing councils. It was mentioned that this is a separate process and is not covered by this consultation.</p> <p>The Chair and Cllr Roberts gave a general update on matters discussed and proposed at District and County level, and informed Councillors of the options of three tiers.</p> <p>After much discussion it was felt that the Town Council would favour a position towards a three tier, and a comment was made to suggest if a two tier would come to affect it was not favourable to fall under a Greater Norwich.</p> <p>The Clerk would submit the Town Council comments via the online survey.</p>
069/25	<p><u>REPORTS FROM COUNTY / DISTRICT COUNCILLORS</u> <u>Norfolk County Council:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Savage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Norfolk is set to receive more than £56m for highways maintenance this year. ○ County Council budget was raised by 4.99%. ○ Phase on, on the mitigation for the Western Link, should go ahead and Wymondham should get the 30mph speed limit on Tuttlles

	<p>Lane.</p> <p><u>South Norfolk District Council:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Roberts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ South Norfolk Help Hub is available to anyone that needs a bit of extra support from time to time and can offer practical support, advice and guidance.
070/25	<p><u>REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • P Barrett Sustainable Wymondham <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Cllr James and Cllr Fulcher had resigned as members and thanks were expressed for all their valuable contribution. ○ The Draft Strategy has been updated and will be submitted at the next LEET Committee meeting. ○ The group keeps working towards the Great Big Green Week – from 7th to 15th June 2025 running in conjunction of Greening Wymondham. Greening Wymondham <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Work continues at the community orchard at Browick. ○ Litter pics and water testing continues. ○ At the last Public Realm meeting Consultants have been appointed, seven areas have been selected for enhancement, and the second consultation with residents will be conducted in June 2025. • Cllr Frosdick was invited to attend the Allotment Association AGM on 27th March 2025. • Cllr James The Lizard Trustee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The defibrillator will be installed on 14th April 2025. ○ Commissioned work to be done on the rescued wood - from the tower that South Norfolk had to take down - and it will be turned into benches. • Cllr Perry <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Toad watch volunteers have saved 1,000 toads.
071/25	<p><u>EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS & PUBLIC:</u></p> <p>On the proposition of Cllr. Fulcher and seconded by Cllr. Broome resolution by the Council under the provisions of Section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admissions to meetings) Act 1960 to exclude Press and the Public from the meeting of Wymondham Town Council in order to discuss matters where publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.</p>
072/25	<p><u>REVIEW PROPOSAL FOR NCC BUS STOP:</u></p> <p>An update was received from NCC on the proposal to provide a ‘gold’ standard bus stop in Wymondham Market Place and due to various space constraints on the existing bus stop outside the Co-Op this scheme was deemed unfeasible, and impact on the public realm improvement scheme in the Market Place would need to ensure both schemes are co-ordinated. NCC have identified another location on Norwich Road adjacent Tuttlles Lane in which the Town Council would adopt to cover any future maintenance, and a second ‘gold’ standard bus shelter would need to be placed near the Market Place. After much discussion it was agreed for</p>

	<p>the Town Council to endorse the first 'gold' standard bus shelter on Norwich Road and suggested for the current bus shelter to be moved to Norwich Comon. The Town Council felt strongly about positioning the second 'gold' bus stop outside The Cross Key. The Town Clerk will inform NCC accordingly.</p>
073/25	<p>REVIEW OF COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS: An explanation of the reason why the Town Council had voted in favour to livestream Full Council and Committees meetings since the relocation to the new Council Offices at Ketts Park was mentioned, and unfortunately due to recent years of continuous negative cover from a local magazine Councillors and staff members had raised their concerns and effect to their health and wellbeing. After much discussion Cllr Doheny proposed to suspend all Council's livestream and have a break of four months subject to a review at the end of the fourth month. Upon the proposition of Cllr Doheny and seconded by Cllr Nixon the following vote took place:</p> <p>In favour: 7 Abstain: 0 Against: 3</p> <p>The proposal was agreed by majority.</p>

[The meeting closed at 20.26 pm]

Chair's Signature

Date