

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC OFFICES ON
THURSDAY 23RD JANUARY 2020 AT 7.00PM**

Present: Councillor E Rigby (Mayor)

<u>Councillors:</u>	N Blanchard	C Briggs	Mrs J Charters	J Charters
	N Dillon	B Jackling	G Killingsworth	F W Lee
	R Little	R Lovett	S Roe	B Sellars

In Attendance: Clerks to the Committee: Mrs S Green (Town Clerk) and Mrs R Brown (Deputy Town Clerk)

Members of the Public: 1

Richard Johnston, President of North Hykeham Twinning Association was welcomed by the Mayor and invited to speak. Mr Johnston started by thanking the Council for the grant of £500 which had been awarded to the Twinning Association. He advised that in 2018 it had been the 30th Anniversary of the Association. The visits between North Hykeham and Denzlingen alternate year on year, with Europafest taking place once every four years, when all four towns, including that are twinned with Denzlingen are in attendance. In 2020 it is North Hykeham's turn to host guests from Denzlingen from 4th to 9th September. Richard Johnston said that he feels the Twinning raises the profile of the town, members are able to share problems and exchange views, and Denzlingen is a lovely place to visit. Cllr Little also advised that he had taken a group of students to Germany and this had enhanced the cultural understanding.

Richard Johnston left the meeting

The meeting opened at 7.15pm

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ACCEPTANCE OF REASONS GIVEN

RESOLVED **Proposed by Cllr Dillon, seconded by Cllr Sellars**
To accept reasons for absence received from: Cllrs Barker-Milan, Sampson, Rodgers
Unanimous

2. RECEIPT OF ANY DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS INTERESTS UNDER THE LOCALISM ACT 2011

Councillors were reminded that under the provisions of sections 26-34 and Schedule 4 of the Localism Act 2011, a member with a disclosable pecuniary interest of which they are aware in a matter who attends a meeting of the Council at which the matter is considered must disclose and withdraw from the room.

Cllr Rigby declared a non-registerable interest in Items 17 & 18, the interest is of a personal and sensitive nature, and a personal interest in item 13

RESOLVED **Proposed by Cllr Rigby, seconded by Cllr Dillon**
To move item 13 to closed session
Unanimous

3. DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

County Cllr Roe (LCC) advised that in the future the Council will be receiving regular updates from Highways. It has been decided that the camera car that patrolled school parking is being discontinued after a 2-year trial and will be replaced by additional parking enforcement officers. With regard to the speed of vehicles on Newark Road, Cllr Roe advised that this site has been added to the rota for the speed check van so this will be in operation at various times during the year. (District) Cllr Roe advised that he is encouraging joint working between LCC, NKDC and NHTC as we would all work better together. He feels that there is an optimism that the North Hykeham Relief Road will be progressed

expediently. On 3rd February 2020 at 10.30am at the Bentley Hotel, the NKDC Planning Department are meeting regarding the application for a rendering site at Norton Disney. This is in addition to the one at Skellingthorpe. All interest people are invited to attend.

Cllr Little spoke about the Boundary Commission reviewing the boundaries and said that the leader of the Council, Richard Wright is happy to come and answer any questions that the Council may have. NKDC are looking to have a £5 rise for a Band D property for 2020/21.

4. NOTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 21ST NOVEMBER 2019 TO BE APPROVED AS MINUTES

RESOLVED

Proposed by Cllr Roe, seconded by Cllr Briggs

The notes of the Town Council Meeting held on Thursday 21st November 2019, as amended, be approved as a true record of minutes.

Unanimous by those in attendance on 21.11.2019

5. CHAIRMAN'S ITEMS

The Mayor reported that the School Poetry Competition had received a great response from the schools and he had thoroughly enjoyed visiting the schools and meeting with the students. On 2nd December he had attended the Annual Presentation Evening of the North Hykeham 1237 Air Cadets and had handed out awards. On 15th December the Christmas Party in the Park, including the Town Carol Service was well attended and the winning entries of the poetry competition were read out. On 17th December, the Mayor attended NK Academy Christmas Fayre and met with the Head and one of her deputies. On 19th December he met with Padre Flight Lieutenant Andrew Tucker to plan the siting of a Commemorative Plaque to mark the crash of Handley Page Hampden Bomber AT219 and sad deaths of 4 young aircrew during WWII. This was unveiled at NK Academy on 21st January at a ceremony which was very well attended, including the Base Commander from RAF Waddington, 2 Canadian Airforce officers, the Royal British Legion, the Royal Air Forces Association and several Councillors and Memorial Hall Trustees. The Mayor expressed his thanks for all the support he had received in organising this event.

6. CORRESPONDENCE AND CLERKS ITEMS None.

7. NOTICE OF CO-OPTION FOR TOWN COUNCIL VACANCY – WITHAM WARD

RESOLVED

Proposed by Cllr Lovett, seconded by Cllr Roe

That the Council seek to fill the vacancy on Witham Ward via a co-option, which will take place at a Town Council Meeting on 26th March 2020.

Clerk to action the legal process of advertising the vacancy.

Unanimous

8. PRECEPT

Councillor Charters advised the final precept to be submitted to NKDC was unchanged from what had been presented to the Council in November. The main reasons for the increase to the precept requested is costs relating to a legal issue and an increase required in the budget for new/replacement play equipment.

RESOLVED

Proposed by Cllr Charters, seconded by Cllr Lovett

To accept the precept for 2020/21 with an increase of 8.4% for submission to NKDC to meet deadline of 31st January 2020.

Unanimous

9. REVIEW OF LGPS EMPLOYER PUBLISHED DISCRETION STATEMENT FOLLOWING LGA CLARIFICATION ON PARIAL FLEXIBLE RETIREMENT

The Town Council having been in receipt of the documentation prior to the meeting have reviewed their Published Discretions Policy and following information provided by the Clerk it was was

RESOLVED

Proposed by Cllr Rigby, seconded by Cllr Charters

That the Annual Review of the Employers Published Discretion Policy had taken place and following LGA Clarification on partial flexible retirement no changes were made to their policy

were required

Unanimous

10. APPROVAL OF VIREMEMNT OF £3,500 FROM S137 TO COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH – COMM5.19 ITEM 10 & F&P7.19 ITEM 6

RESOLVED

Proposed by Cllr Lovett, seconded by Cllr Roe

to approve the virement of £3,500 from S137 to Community Speed Watch
Unanimous

11. TO NOTE THE INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT

The Mayor wished to record his thanks for the work of the staff which was reflected in the excellent Internal Audit Report. Cllr Roe requested that the Mayor respond to the comments made by the Internal Auditor regarding the pension policy of the Council, requesting that these comments be struck out of the Annual report as they are not required for audit purposes.

12. INTERNAL AUDITOR – APPOINTMENT OF INTERNAL AUDITOR

Councillor Charters expressed his opinion that the current internal auditor has vast experience and knowledge of the sector and undertakes a very thorough audit and that he would wish to recommend the appointment of Steve Fletcher

RESOLVED

Proposed by Cllr Jackling, seconded by Cllr Rigby

To confirm the appointment of Steve Fletcher as the Internal Auditor 2020-21.

12 in favour, 1 abstention

14. NKDC GRASS CUTTING IN NORTH HYKEHAM

It was noted that the grass cutting that had been undertaken by NKDC has now been handed back to LCC and as a result the number of cuts will be reduced to 2 per year.

15. ACCEPTANCE OF TOWN COUNCIL CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2020-2021 - CIRCULATED

The draft calendar had been circulated prior to the meeting and comments had been invited. There was some discussion regarding the change to monthly meetings from bi-monthly as it was felt that the gap between meetings was too long and it had been difficult to maintain momentum on projects. Cllr Lee proposed that the period of 6 weeks between meetings instead of monthly, but there was no seconder to this proposal.

RESOLVED

Proposed by Cllr Charters, seconded by Cllr Roe

To accept the calendar of meetings 2020-21 as presented.

12 in favour, 1 against.

16. The Council resolved to move into closed session in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 as amended by Section 100 of the Local Government Act 1972 for confidential Items 17, 18 and 13

RESOLVED

Proposed by Cllr Roe, seconded by Cllr Sellars

To move into closed session for items 17, 18 and 13

Unanimous

Cllr Rigby left the meeting at 20.00

13. RECOMMENDATION FROM F&P TO ENGAGE AN INDEPENDENT HEATING ENGINEER TO CARRY OUT A SURVEY OF THE COMMUNITY HUB HEATING SYSTEM TO A MAXIMUM COST OF £3,000

17. NOTES OF THE CLOSED SESSION TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 21ST NOVEMBER 2019 TO BE APPROVED AS MINUTES

21. PERSONNEL MATTERS

Town Council Meeting – 23 January 2020
Signed _____

The meeting moved into CLOSED SESSION at 20.00

ACTIONS

Action	By whom	By When	Completed
Put forward road safety issues on Newark Road to LCC	County Councillor Roe	Ongoing	