



# North Hykeham Town Council

Minutes of the Town Council meeting 05/20  
held remotely on Thursday 26th November 2020 at 7pm

**Councillors Present:** C R Jackling (Chairman), J Bishop, N Blanchard, J Charters, Mrs J Charters, G Edwards, F W Lee, R Little, A Mason, S Roe, K Sampson, B Sellars, N Tully, J Wilson

**In Attendance:** Cllr M Thompson (LCC), Mrs M Parker (Town Clerk), Dr F Janan

**1. Apologies for absence and acceptance of reasons given.**

Apologies received from Cllrs Briggs and Killingsworth.

**Proposal:** To accept the apologies from Cllrs Briggs and Killingsworth, and the reasons given.

**Proposer:** Cllr Sampson      **Seconder:** Cllr Edwards

**Resolution:** Agreed by majority vote; 14 in favour, 2 abstentions.

**2. Receipt of any Declaration of Members' Interest under the Localism Act 2011**

Any Declarations to be made under individual agenda items.

**3. Notes of the Town Council meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> October 2020 be approved as a true record of Minutes**

**Proposal:** To accept the Notes of the Town Council meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> October 2020 be approved as a true record.

**Proposer:** Cllr Sampson      **Seconder:** Cllr Bishop

**Resolution:** Agreed by unanimous vote of those who had been present at that meeting.

**4. Chairman's Items**

Cllr Jackling welcomed the new Town Clerk to the Council, before raising the following items: -

- A representative from the NKDC Antisocial Behaviour Team and Partnership and a member of the North Hykeham Neighbourhood Policing Team would be present at the next Community Committee meeting (1<sup>st</sup> December 2020).
- It was positive to see the improvement works have started on the bridleway between Mill Lane and Newark Road.
- Funding for the South/West bypass has been reported by LCC - £110m.
- It was pleasing to see so many residents putting up Christmas lights and decorations outside their houses, helping to brighten up the dark Winter nights.

**Proposal:** To send a message of best wishes from the Town Council to HM The Queen and HRH Prince Philip who recently celebrated their 73<sup>rd</sup> Wedding Anniversary.

**Proposer:** Cllr Jackling      **Seconder:** Cllr Bishop

**Resolution:** Agreed by unanimous vote.

**5. County and District Councillor's Reports**

Cllr Thompson (LCC) reported that LCC staff continues to operate with staff, in the main, working remotely and Council meetings continued to be carried out using Microsoft Teams. He reported that the Eastern Bypass was scheduled to open before the end of 2020, and that the announcement of government funding for the Southern Bypass to be completed was welcomed. He advised that LCC had submitted an objection to the City of Lincoln Western Growth Corridor (WGC), a summary of which is on the LCC website. His last item was to confirm that he had

followed up on a request from a town councillor to establish when damaged traffic lights near to Asda and the Police station in the town would be repaired. Cllr Thompson confirmed that repairs to the lights had begun on 26<sup>th</sup> of November.

Cllr Roe, in his capacity as a NKDC Councillor, raised awareness that the County would go into Tier 3 restrictions when the latest Covid-19 lockdown lifted on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of December. He welcomed the news on the Southern bypass, and Declared an Interest in the matter due to land where the bypass will pass through currently has links to his family. He concluded his report by giving updates on his recent virtual meeting with residents of Manor Farm to discuss traffic issues and would be taking up suggestions from this meeting with representatives from LCC Highways in the near future.

Cllr Little, in his capacity as a NKDC Councillor, advised that NKDC continues to deliver vital services to the community and has active plans for when its leisure and arts services can re-open. He concluded by advising that NKDC had a grant scheme in place for local businesses who could not open as normal, details of which are available from NKDC.

## 6. Correspondence and Clerk's Items

The Clerk presented the following correspondence: -

Item	Content	Comments
Copy of letter from 15 <sup>th</sup> Scout Group sent to CEO of NKDC	Looking to secure permanent premises for the group to use	Members agreed this should be identified need within the Town Council's Strategic Plan
Letter from Lincolnshire Police	Criminal damage at The Community Hub; incident closed as no suspects had been identified	Noted by Members.
FCC Communities Foundation	Details of Action Fund grant scheme	Noted by Members.

The Clerk had no further items to present. Cllr Thompson (LCC) left the meeting.

## 7. Co-option for Town Council Vacancy – Witham Ward

An application for the vacancy had been received from Dr Faraz Hanan.

**Proposal:** To Co-opt Dr Faraz Hanan onto the Town Council into the vacant seat for Witham Ward.

**Proposer:** Cllr Roe      **Seconder:** Cllr Charters

**Resolution:** Agreed by unanimous vote.

Members welcomed Cllr Hanan to the Town Council.

## 8. Co-option for Town Council Vacancy – Meadow Ward

No applications had been received. The Clerk advised she would re-advertise the vacancy.

## 9. Consideration of North Kesteven District Council's draft Tree Strategy 2020

Members discussed the draft document and agreed that it was a positive approach to tackling climate control and supported a healthy environmentally sustainable tree population.

**Proposal:** To respond to the consultation on the NKDC draft Tree Strategy 2020 to confirm that the Town Council fully supports the strategy.

**Proposer:** Cllr Jackling      **Seconder:** Cllr Wilson

**Resolution:** Agreed by unanimous vote.

## 10. Strategic Planning Sub Committee update

Cllr Charters informed members that the sub-committee had met on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of November to discuss and identify any precept proposals, which had now been included in the draft precept plans. He expected the next sub-committee meeting to be held early in 2021.

**11. Consideration as to whether the Strategic Planning Sub Committee should become a statutory committee of the Town Council**

Cllr Little proposed that the sub-committee should be a statutory committee of the council to increase its operating efficiency and the pace with which it could progress matters, and that this should be from the start of the next Council year (May 2021). As there was no immediate seconder for the proposal, members discussed at length the variations in operating capacity and delegated powers between a sub-committee and a statutory committee. Concerns were raised that a statutory committee could commit the Council to large financial or commercial decisions which may not be the wishes of the full council. Cllr Charters made a counter-proposal to defer this item until after the precept had been set, as this was a more pressing matter for the Council, and allow members more time to deliberate the suggestion. Cllr Little withdrew his original proposal.

**Proposal:** To defer this agenda item until the Town Council meeting to be held in January 2021.

**Proposer:** Cllr Charters **Seconder:** Cllr Sampson

**Resolution:** Agreed by unanimous vote.

**12. Recommendation from F&P Committee - Revised LGPS Employer Discretions Policy**

Cllr Jackling informed members that a revised LGPS Employer Discretions Policy had been presented at the last F&P committee meeting and was recommended that the Council adopt it.

**Proposal:** That the Town Council adopts the revised LGPS Employer Discretions Policy.

**Proposer:** Cllr Charters **Seconder:** Cllr Jackling

**Resolution:** Agreed by unanimous vote.

**13. To resolve whether the Council will move into closed session in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 as amended by Section 10 of the Local Government Act 1972 for the following confidential items.**

**Proposal:** That the Town Council move into closed session to discuss confidential items listed on the agenda.

**Proposer:** Cllr Jackling **Seconder:** Cllr Sellars

**Resolution:** Agreed by unanimous vote.

At this point the meeting closed to members of the public, and Cllr Janan also left the meeting as he had yet to sign his Declaration of Office.

Actions from this meeting:

Item No:	Action	Allocated to	Date to be Completed by
4	Send letter to Buckingham Palace	The Clerk	November 2020
7	Completion of Declaration of Office and associated papers for Cllr F Janan	The Clerk	November 2020
9	Respond to NKDC consultation on draft Tree Strategy	The Clerk	November 2020
11	Defer agenda item to January meeting of Town Council	The Clerk	January 2021

The meeting moved into Closed Session at 7.50pm