



# North Hykeham Town Council

Minutes of the Annual Town (Parish) Meeting  
held on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2023 at 7pm

**Town Councillors Present:** K Sampson (Chairman), M Bennie, J Bishop, J Charters, J Holt, G Killingsworth, F W Lee, A McDowell, T Ogden, S Roe

**Also in Attendance:** Mrs R Brown (Deputy Clerk), Miss J Humphrey (Assistant Clerk)  
Community Presentations: Mr M Joy  
4 Members of the Public

**1. Welcome from the Mayor of North Hykeham**

Cllr Sampson welcomed all to the meeting.

**2. Approval of the Minutes of the 2022 Annual Town Meeting**

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the Notes of the Annual Town Meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2022 as a true record of the meeting and accept them to be the Minutes. These were signed accordingly.

**3. Annual Reports from committees of North Hykeham Town Council**

There were no annual reports available as the Council is in a period of Purdah. The Mayor gave an overview of the year. It had been an honour and privilege to be elected Mayor last May. It had been a time of relaxation of COVID regulations. In June the Council finally managed to be fully staff and the Team worked hard throughout the year. In the Summer the Queen's Platinum Jubilee was marked with the planting of 7 trees on the Village Green – one for each decade of her reign. In remembrance of her sad passing in September, two benches have been installed in the Village Green Garden, together with two benches to mark the Coronation of King Charles III. There were a number of events which took place during the year – the Summer Sundays, Car boot sales, the Civic Service and the Christmas Fayre. There has been investment in the play equipment provided in the many parks in the Town with new items, upgraded pieces and replacement items. During the year a Defib was installed at Fen Lane which had been provided through the fundraising instigated by the late Dave Pickwell. The Mayor wished to thank the Clerks for all their hard work, and the Services Team and Councillors too for their work, help and support during his time as Mayor. Cllr Sampson wished to express his sadness at the passing of Les Hargreaves (a member of the Services Team) in January 2023.

**4. Presentation of the Mayor's Community Shield**

The Mayor invited Martin Joy to join him to present him with the Mayor's Community Shield for his tremendous hard work in setting up the Foodbank in North Hykeham together with a Warm Space, hosted at St Hugh's Church.

**5. Community Presentations**

Mr Martin Joy was invited to give his presentation. 11 months ago he approached the Lincoln Foodbank as he had discovered that there were no distribution centres in the North Hykeham area. Initially in September 2022 they opened on a Friday, and in December 2022 a Saturday opening was added. Unfortunately there is a great need in the area – in the first 3 months 39 food parcels were issued (56 adults and 29 children) and in the next quarter 112 parcels were issued which amounted to 1008 meals. 75% of the people who attend are North Hykeham residents.

New people come along every week – they include teachers, nurses, ambulance workers, people with mental and physical issues. Martin has also arranged for the Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) to provide a drop in centre on a Friday to help the people attend the food bank, so that they are not just provided with food, but are helped to progress and hopefully improve their circumstances. They are also able to help with budgeting – as is Martin, who is a trained Christians Against Poverty (CAP) advisor. He advised that the 12 warm packs that had been purchased with the support of the Town Council had all been gratefully received and made a big difference. There is a great need for food donations to enable the food packs to contain enough for 3 meals for 3 days and not have to be reduced. There is also plans to set up a Community Grocer scheme, which Martin is working on at present. Many people are embarrassed about having to use the Foodbank, and the Community Grocer scheme should help with this. There is also a hairdresser who is going to give free haircuts and another group are going to teach people how to use a slow cooker, including giving them a slow cooker to use at home.

## 6. Open Forum

This part of the meeting allows for residents to raise any issue relating to the town of North Hykeham. Councillors from North Hykeham Town Council, North Kesteven District Council (NKDC) and Lincolnshire County Council (LCC) were present and available to comment. No questions had been submitted prior to the meeting.

- Thanks was expressed to Martin for his hard work in setting up the Foodbank.
- A member of the public wanted to say how grateful they were for all the litter picking undertaken by Les Hargreaves – He'd done a fantastic job.
- Concern was expressed about the need for dualling of the A46 on the Western bypass, with the proposed increase in Northern ports, it was felt that the traffic would travel round the western bypass rather than round the new southern bypass and that this would cause lots of traffic issues if the sections were not dualled. Cllr Roe was asked to raise this, and the council were encouraged to take up this matter with LCC.
- Another matter was raised regarding the heat that is produced by the Waste to Energy plant that is not being utilised. A greenhouse was suggested, but Cllr Roe advised that this had been proven to not be financially viable. It was considered a disappointment that no use for this heat had been found.

Cllr Sampson gave thanks to everyone who had attended and closed the meeting at 7.37pm