

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THETFORD TOWN COUNCIL, HELD IN  
THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, KING'S HOUSE, THETFORD,  
ON WEDNESDAY, 28<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2009,  
STARTING AT 7 P.M. WITH THE OPEN FORUM

Present:

The Mayor, Councillor Mrs P A Spencer, Chairman

Councillors:

G P Balaam  
R F W Brame  
M Brindle  
J A Harding  
T J Jermy

R G Kybird  
T J Lamb  
D G Mortimer  
M G Spencer  
S N H Wright

Open Forum

A representative from Croxton Parish Council praised the organisers of *Tom Paine 200*, whose efforts had been such a credit to the town.

Another representative from Croxton Parish Council asked whether Thetford Town Council had arrived at a view on EPR Ltd's proposed Renewable Energy Plant. He was advised that, although a formal planning application had yet to be submitted to Norfolk County Council, this proposal would be given further consideration by the Planning Committee at its next scheduled meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2009. That said, this would not necessarily prove to be the final opportunity taken by the Town Council to comment.

264/09 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor R F W Brame declared a personal interest in item 273/09 owing to his membership of the organisation currently occupying The Old Coffee Mill.

Councillor S N H Wright declared a personal interest in item 271/09, an item he had requested, owing to his involvement with the Dad's Army Museum. In light of this, another member of the Museum Committee made the presentation.

265/09 MINUTES

Council Meeting: 30<sup>th</sup> September 2009

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2009, excepting those items dealt with following the exclusion of press and public (addressed under item 277/09a below), be confirmed as a true record and signed/initialled by the Mayor as Chairman.

## 266/09 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received on behalf of Councillors Mrs M P Chapman-Allen, S H Chapman-Allen (work-related absence), A Paines, Mrs P P Quadling, B J Skull.

## 267/09 COMMITTEE REPORTS

RESOLVED that the following reports be duly received and adopted:

(a) Planning Committee: 14<sup>th</sup> October 2009

(b) Amenities Committee: 21<sup>st</sup> October 2009

Included in adoption of the latter were Recommendations made under minutes 254/09, 256/09iii, 258/09 and 260/09.

## 268/09 MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor, Councillor Mrs P A Spencer, referred members to the lists of Events Attended and Forthcoming Events, included in the agenda papers.

### **Events attended since the last meeting**

#### **October**

2 <sup>nd</sup>	Presented with the Quality Status certificate by Baroness Gillian Shephard
11 <sup>th</sup>	Mayor of St Edmundsbury Cllr Pat Warby's Service of Praise & Thanksgiving in St Edmundsbury Cathedral
15 <sup>th</sup>	Mayor of Ipswich Cllr David Goldsmith's Charity Dinner
18 <sup>th</sup>	Mayor of Stowmarket Cllr Vera Waspe's Civic Service at St Peter's & St Mary's Church Stowmarket
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Service for the 100 year anniversary of the death of Duleep Singh in Elveden Church
25 <sup>th</sup>	Service in Norwich Cathedral for the High Sheriff of Norfolk

## 269/09 TOWN COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER BODIES

### Tourism & Heritage Partnership

Councillor S N H Wright reported on how the Partnership was consolidating its corporate identity through, for example, the opening of a bank account in its name.

270/09 COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

None received

271/09 DAD'S ARMY APPEAL

Councillor S N H Wright obtained the agreement of members present to have Dad's Army Museum Curator and Production Manager for the Stage Show planned for 2010, Miss Corinne Fulford, speak to this item.

Miss Fulford referred to the *Dad's Army Comes Home* themed events planned for June 2010. These would include the unveiling of the Mainwaring Stature. She hoped that the Town Council might see fit to extend to the organisers the concessionary arrangements offered to the *Tom Paine 200* Committee as well as agreeing to provide some direct funding.

In discussion, it was pointed out that, prior to agreeing any 'expression of support', the Council would wish to be notified of which other funding opportunities and/or avenues had been or were being explored. Miss Fulford agreed to provide this information in due course.

RESOLVED that no support be agreed pending receipt of the additional information referred to above.

272/09 TOM PAINE 200: TWINNING WEEKEND – FUNDING SUCCESS AND SUPPORT

A letter had been received from the Vice-Chair of Thetford Twinning Association, referring to the Association's success in obtaining funding from the European Union's Education, Audiovisual and Culture Agency and enclosing a cheque for £3,150. This was to be looked upon as covering some of the *Tom Paine 200* costs incurred by the Council. Members were delighted with this decision taken by the Association.

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk write to the Vice-Chair of Thetford Twinning Association, congratulating her on her successful funding application and thanking the Association for its generous support of *Tom Paine 200*.

273/09 OLD COFFEE MILL – LETTER RECEIVED

A letter, dated 8<sup>th</sup> October 2009, had been received from a resident of Churchill Road, regarding the sale of the above building.

RESOLVED that the letter not be responded to for the time being pending receipt of further background information.

#### 274/09 SEAL REGISTER ENTRIES: ST PETER'S CHURCH TRANSFER

RESOLVED to note, for the record, the following entry references:

- i. 2/09 (Transfer of Registered Title)
- ii. 3/09 (Sale and Purchase Agreement)

It was further agreed to issue a press release about the purchase of St Peter's, making reference to a public consultation exercise to be undertaken early in 2010.

#### 275/09 FINANCIAL MATTERS

##### (a) Financial Report for the Six Months Ending 30<sup>th</sup> September 2009

Copies of this had been included in the agenda papers.

RESOLVED that it be noted that this had yet to be considered by the Finance & General Purposes Committee owing to that Committee's meeting scheduled for earlier in the evening being postponed.

##### (b) 2010/11 Budget Proposals

RESOLVED that it be noted that other Committee Chairmen were aware of the need to submit to the Chairman of the Finance & General Purposes Committee any 2010/11 budget proposals for consideration and evaluation.

##### (c) Two Guildhall Hire Charge Concessions

RESOLVED that the following decisions be endorsed:

- i. Concession Form 23: Admirals School
- ii. Concession Form 24: St Cuthbert's Church

#### 276/09 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED that, pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded for the remaining items of business on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be discussed.

#### 277/09 MINUTES

##### (a) Council Meeting: 30<sup>th</sup> September 2009 – items addressed following the exclusion of press and public

RESOLVED that the minutes of these items be confirmed as a true record and signed/initialled by the Mayor as Chairman.

(b) Finance & General Purposes Committee: 30<sup>th</sup> September 2009

RESOLVED that the report of this meeting, including the Recommendation at minute 221/09, be duly received and adopted.

278/09 RED LION: PROPOSED COURSE OF ACTION

279/09 ST PETER'S CHURCH

There were no further points made in light of the support expressed earlier in the meeting under item 267/09b above for the recommendation made by the Amenities Committee under its item 260/09.

280/09 PERSONNEL MATTERS

It was noted that the Personnel Committee was unlikely to be meeting the next week.

Chairman