

MINUTES OF A CEREMONIAL MEETING OF THETFORD TOWN COUNCIL,  
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, KING'S HOUSE, THETFORD,  
ON WEDNESDAY, 25<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2009,  
STARTING AT 7 P.M. WITH THE OPEN FORUM

Present:

The Mayor, Councillor Mrs P A Spencer, Chairman

Councillors:

G P Balaam	D G Mortimer
M Brindle	A Paines
Mrs M P Chapman-Allen	Mrs P P Quadling
S H Chapman-Allen	B J Skull
T J Jermy	M G Spencer
R G Kybird	S N H Wright
T J Lamb	

In attendance (for item 327/09)

Mr Keith Fuller, Breckland Council's Neighbourhood Enforcement Officer

Before the Open Forum, the Mayor's Chaplain, Canon Bob Baker, said prayers, making special reference to the late Barrie Nutt, whose funeral had taken place earlier that week.

He acknowledged Mr Nutt's contribution to community life over many years, particularly through his past role as Chairman of Thetford Twinning Association. The Mayor led the Council in marking his passing with a minute's silence.

Open Forum

A local resident was concerned about the Cottage Hospital site proposals. Reference was made by the Town Clerk to the comments passed at the meeting of the Planning Committee the previous week. (*Comments passed under item 320/09b below also refer.*)

317/09 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor R G Kybird restated the interests he had declared at two Planning Committee meetings earlier in the month, as recorded under minutes 281/09 and 295/09 respectively.

318/09 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> October 2009, excepting those items dealt with following the exclusion of press and public (addressed under item 331/09 below), be confirmed as a true record and signed/initialled by the Mayor as Chairman.

### 319/09 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received on behalf of Councillors R F W Brame and J A Harding.

### 320/09 COMMITTEE REPORTS

RESOLVED that the following reports be duly received and aopted:

(a) Planning Committee: 4<sup>th</sup> November 2009

(b) Planning Committee: 18<sup>th</sup> November 2009

In approving the latter report, the Council went on to observe that, whilst relieved that the original Cottage Hospital building was not now to be demolished, it continued to regret that the building would no longer be contributing to the 'provision of better health care' to the Thetford community, remaining unconvinced that the strategy adopted by the PCT was the right one for the people of the town.

RESOLVED that this supplementary comment be forwarded to the planning authority.

### 321/09 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**

- |                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| 30 <sup>th</sup> | Ball at Downham Market Chamber of Trade on behalf of the President, Mrs Maureen Hibling |
| 31 <sup>st</sup> | Tom Paine 200 Celebrations- Citizens of the World                                       |

##### **November**

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | Civic service for the Mayor of Whittlesey<br>Cllr Derek Stebbing                                 |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> | Annual Remembrance Ceremony at East Wretham  |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> | Remembrance Concert in the Carnegie Room   |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> | Apple Pressing at the Forgotten Garden in the Afternoon; Tom Paine Festival Close in the evening |
| 8 <sup>th</sup> | Remembrance Service & Parade   |
| 8 <sup>th</sup> | Family Fun Day & Fireworks, Barnham Cross Common   |

9 <sup>th</sup>	Presentation of certificates at Norwich Road Primary School for Young Enterprise World programme
11 <sup>th</sup>	Wreath Laying at the War Memorial & attendance at FEPOWA service
12 <sup>th</sup>	Charles Burrell High School: Celebration of Success
14 <sup>th</sup>	Thetford Lions' Swimming Gala for people with disabilities at Waterworld
15 <sup>th</sup>	Norwich Cathedral: installation of the new Bishop of Thetford, The Rt Rev Alan Winton
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Award ceremony for Young People of the Year in Norfolk & Suffolk at the Holiday Inn Norwich

### 322/09 TOWN COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER BODIES

#### Moving Thetford Forward Board

Councillor R G Kybird presented a detailed report, updating members on, in particular, discussions relating to the 3-Site Academy Project in Thetford (to include a new-build Forum in the town centre).

#### Art Gallery AGM

Councillor G P Balaam reported on this. Mr David Brooks had been elected Chairman.

### 323/09 COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Reference was made to potholes on the Brandon Road by the Premier Inn.

### 324/09 TOM PAINE 200: LETTER FROM THE CO-ORDINATOR

RESOLVED that the letter, dated 14<sup>th</sup> November 2009, received from the Coordinator (Mr John Weeks) be noted and a suitably appreciative response sent to him.

### 325/09 FIREWORK EVENT / FAMILY FUN DAY

The Town Manager updated members on what had proved a very successful event. The donation to *Help The Heroes* would amount to £2k. It was noted that any such event in future would most likely not take place on Remembrance Sunday itself.

326/09 COMMISSIONING OF ROYAL PORTRAIT

The Mayor, Councillor Mrs P A Spencer, announced that she wanted to defer any consideration of this until the economic climate had improved.

327/09 CLEAN NEIGHBOURHOODS ENFORCEMENT

The Mayor invited Mr Fuller to make his presentation. He dwelt, in particular, on cases of fly-tipping, citing examples of rogue traders and builders, who were being actively pursued.

328/09 MARKET PLACE ROUNDABOUT PROPOSALS

Two arrangements, not strikingly dissimilar, were presented for consideration by members. One of these was preferred and the Town Clerk was asked to report the preference to Norfolk County Council, mentioning the Council's wish to have some form of planting arrangement within the solid surround.

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk so act.

329/09 FINANCIAL MATTERS

Financial Report for the Seven Months Ending 31<sup>st</sup> October 2009

RESOLVED that the above report be received, as recommended by Councillor R G Kybird as Chairman of the Finance & General Purposes Committee.

330/09 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.

331/09 MINUTES

Council Meeting: 28<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.

332/09 OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE FINANCE AND GENERAL  
PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Thetford Cemetery: Further Boreholing  
2010/11 Precept-Setting: Guiding Principle  
Guildhall Complex: Bar & Security Franchise

Chairman