

# NORMANTON TOWN COUNCIL



## MINUTES OF A MEETING OF NORMANTON TOWN COUNCIL

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at 6.30pm at Normanton Town Hall

Present:

- Councillor C Appleyard
- Councillor D Appleyard
- Councillor E Blezard
- Councillor A Bones
- Councillor G Cheesbrough
- Councillor M Jennings
- Councillor H Jones
- Councillor F Marchant – Mayor of Normanton
- Councillor P Marchant
- Councillor B Mayne
- Councillor P Mayne
- Councillor J Medford – Deputy Mayor of Normanton
- Councillor T Morgan
- Councillor J Pritchard
- Councillor P Sampson
- Councillor A Samuels
- Councillor R Seal
- Councillor D South

Donna Johnston – Town Clerk & RFO

Also Present: 7 members of the public

Absent:

- Councillor S Hudson
- Councillor K Wilson, JP
- Councillor A Wood
- Councillor W Wood

### 127. Mayors Announcements

The Mayor did not have any announcements to make.

The Mayors Chaplain led the Council in prayers.

**128. Apologies for Absence**

RESOLVED that apologies be received on behalf of:

Councillor S Hudson, Councillor K Wilson, JP, Councillor A Wood, and Councillor W Wood.

**129. Declarations of Interest**

RESOLVED that the following declarations of interest be received:

Councillor E Blezard

Non-Pecuniary Interest – Item 140

Family member attends 1<sup>st</sup> Normanton Scouts

Councillor T Morgan

Non-Pecuniary Interest – Item 133, 135 and 140

Volunteer at The Well Project

Councillor J Pritchard

Non-Pecuniary Interest - Item 133, 135 and 140

Trustee at The Well Project

Councillor A Samuels

Pecuniary Interest - Item 133, 135 and 140

Employee at The Well Project

**130. Members of the Public**

Representatives from Altofts Community Action Group were in attendance to raise serious concerns about the planning application at Station Road for 408 homes.

The group raised the following issues:

Impact on the highway network, road safety for children walking to school, protected trees and wildlife and lack of infrastructure including doctors, dentists and school places.

**131. Minutes**

**Meeting of Council**

RESOLVED that the minutes of a meeting of Normanton Town Council held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2023 (Minute Numbers 107-126; Pages 43-50) be received and the contents contained therein be approved.

**Meeting of the Property Management Committee**

RESOLVED that the minutes of a meeting of the Property Management Committee held on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2023 (Minute Numbers 1-9; Pages 1-4) be received.

### **132. Notes of Working Groups**

#### **Consultation Working Group**

RESOLVED that the notes of the Consultation Working Group held on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2023 relating to a proposed new radio base station in Normanton be received.

### **133. Correspondence**

RESOLVED that the following correspondence be received:

- Update on the Well Shop from Cllr D Dagger, Cllr D Jeffery and Michelle Newton.
- Taylor Wimpey Consultation Feedback

### **134. Update from the Police**

The Normanton and Featherstone NPT had not provided an update for the meeting.

### **135. The Well Project – Food Bank**

RESOLVED that the request for financial support from The Well Project be referred to the Finance Committee for consideration in the new financial year.

### **136. Reports from District Councillors**

Councillor J Medford for the Normanton Ward reported on:

- Meetings with WMDC regarding a possible 20mph zone at Benson Lane.
- Pavement damage around the area.
- Road safety on Wakefield Road.

Councillor J Pritchard for the Altofts Ward reported on:

- Funding awarded to The Brig to refurbish the Community Room £6,223.
- Funding to Alice Bacon Trust £480.
- Funding to the Miss Green Remembers project £664.
- Burglaries in Ward 3 raised with Alison Lowe, Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime, with a view to supporting affected businesses.
- No HGV signs installed near Pope Street after a two year campaign.

### **137. Amendments to Committees**

RESOLVED that Councillor W Wood be removed from the Special Projects Committee and Stanley Ferry Community Liaison Group at his request.

RESOLVED that Councillor M Jennings be appointed as the representative to the Stanley Ferry Community Liaison Group.

**138. External Organisations**

Councillor P Sampson reported that he was meeting with the Royal British Legion to try to get the group up and running again.

Councillor E Blezard reported that a new container/office had been sourced for The Well Project and would be installed in March – Thanks were offered to Councillor J Pritchard for her assistance in making this happen.

**139. Outside Bodies**

RESOLVED that the following report be received:

- Welbeck Liaison – Operations report March 2023

**140. Financial Matters**

RESOLVED that the list of invoices due for payment in March 2023 totalling £9,193.19 be approved.

A copy of the list of accounts for payment can be found at appendix 1.

RESOLVED that the list of payments made under the Clerks Authority in January 2023 totalling £14,271.22 be approved.

A copy of the list of accounts for payment can be found at appendix 2.

RESOLVED that the Bank Reconciliation for January 2023 showing a balance of £270,503 be received.

**141. Small Grant Applications**

RESOLVED that the following small grants be awarded:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Normanton Scouts £500.00 for craft supplies.
- Altofts Methodist Church £160.58 towards book publishing for a social isolation project.

**142. Planning**

RESOLVED that the following planning applications be received, and an OBJECTION be raised in relation to 23/00322/FUL – Land at Station Road.

| APP NO       | ADDRESS   | PROPOSAL  |
|--------------|---|---|
| 23/00170/TPO | 6 Lodge Farm<br>Gardens<br>Altofts<br>Normanton<br>WF6 2NP                                | <a href="#">Crown Reduce trees T1, T2, T3 and T4 to achieve a maximum 2metre clearance from the adjacent BT service line.</a><br><a href="#">Remove all deadwood from all trees in the group.</a> |
| 23/00210/FUL | Haw Hill Park<br>Castleford<br>Road<br>Normanton<br>WF1 1RQ                               | <a href="#">Replacement of existing bowling green with Multi Use Games Area enclosed by 3.0m-high mesh fencing</a>  |
| 23/00194/CPL | 23 Highgrove<br>Court<br>Normanton<br>WF6 2TY   | <a href="#">Single storey rear extension</a>  |
| 23/00271/FUL | Stables On<br>Goosehill<br>Lane<br>Goosehill<br>Lane<br>Warmfield<br>Wakefield<br>WF6 2JB | <a href="#">Proposed dropped kerb for existing access into stables and hard standing/turning area.</a>  |
| 23/00322/FUL | Land Off<br>Station Road<br>Normanton<br>WF6 2NB  | <a href="#">Residential development (up to 408 dwellings) and associated works including demolition of existing farmhouse and associated buildings</a>  |

#### 23/00322/FUL - Land Off Station Road Normanton WF6 2NB

Members of Normanton Town Council wish to place on record their strong objection to the application at Station Road for 408 dwellings.

The scale of the development is not in keeping with the host village and adding an additional 408 dwellings will represent a significant increase that will diminish the village nature of Altofts.

Normanton and Altofts are closely linked but it is vital that they keep their own unique identity, and this is being impacted by building closer and closer to the settlement boundary.

The Highways network will be negatively impacted due to the volume of traffic caused by the development during the construction phase and during occupation.

The travel plan refers to good public transport links, however, there have recently been a number of cuts to busses in Altofts meaning that it is inevitable that those who purchase homes at this site will need to have access to their own transport to get around the district.

Station Road is already heavily congested and adding another large-scale housing development at this site will compound the situation. Road safety will be at risk as children struggle to cross a busy road to get to Altofts Junior School which is across the road from this proposed development.

The railway bridge only has a single path and children already have to walk into the road to pass. This development will make their journey to school more difficult.

Standing traffic will cause harmful emissions in an area where children walk to school, and this will have a direct impact on their health.

There has already been a significant amount of building in Altofts which residents feel is an over-development of this area.

The narrow roads in Altofts are simply not suitable for HGV use and given the weight restrictions, this could mean a significant number of HGVs accessing the site through Normanton on a daily basis, which will have a negative impact on the flow of traffic through the town. There is also the potential for mud being carried across the highway network as we have witnessed with the Talyor Wimpey development at Benson Lane which saw hundreds of HGV vehicle movements each day.

The proposal will result in the loss of a well-loved green space which is home to a number of protected trees and wildlife which should be preserved.

Members of Normanton Town Council would ask that this application is considered by the full planning committee, given the strong opposition from the community.

### **143. Consultation – Telephone Masts**

RESOLVED that, following consultation with the local community, an OBJECTION be raised in relation to the telephone mast application at High Street on the following grounds:

Normanton Town Council wish to place on record its strong objection to the installation of a telephone mast at High Street Normanton.

The location selected is completely unsuitable for the installation of a telephone mast, as it will not be in keeping with the street scene, in particular the history and heritage of the surrounding buildings.

There has been sympathetic development in the vicinity of High Street over recent years, and careful thought has always been given to the character and appearance of new buildings and refurbishments alike.

For example:

- The Asda building is the former Swimming Baths which was built in 1926 and paid for by local miners.  
There was a long-fought battle by the community to ensure that this building was sympathetic to the surrounding area with specific materials, pitched slate roofline and incorporating original historical features.
- The Baptist Church was refurbished after a fire, and this was done in a sympathetic manner to protect the historical integrity of the area.
- The Medical Centre was built with a pitched slate roofline to ensure that it was in keeping with other properties.
- The Town Hall has been refurbished with traditional materials to tie in with nearby buildings.

There are concerns relating to vandalism as members feel that the cabinets will provide access to the single storey roof of the Emily Market building.

Nearby residents who live very close to this site have serious concerns about the health implications of these masts which they feel are not yet proven to be safe.

To place an obtrusive telephone mast in this location will completely ruin all the work done in protecting the heritage and character of the buildings in this area of the town and we would urge Clarke Telecom

to find a more suitable location which will have less impact on the visual amenity of the area.

RESOLVED that, following consultation with the local community, an OBJECTION be raised in relation to the telephone mast application at Kingston Drive on the following grounds:

Normanton Town Council wish to place on record its strong objection to the installation of a telephone mast at Kingston Drive Normanton.

The location selected is completely unsuitable for the installation of a telephone mast, as it will not be in keeping with the street scene, which is predominantly made up of residential properties.

This mast will tower over the residential area and be an eyesore in an otherwise pleasant neighbourhood.

Our residents who live very close to this site have serious concerns about the health implications of these masts which they feel are not yet proven to be safe.

The location selected is adjacent to a busy footpath where children walk to and from school.

There are also concerns about the devaluing of residential properties.

The owner of a nearby business is appalled that they have not been contacted directly as this will be extremely close to their property.

We would urge Clarke Telecom to find a more suitable location for this mast, away from residential properties.

#### **144. Town Hall**

Pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 it was RESOLVED that this item be taken in private due to the commercially sensitive information to be discussed.

RESOLVED that the report be received and:

- i) The Council notes that the main contractor, Dhand Construction, have gone into administration and that,
- ii) the offer from Penguin Facilities Management to complete the project be declined.

Members of the Town Council offered their thanks to Councillor B Mayne, Councillor A Bones and the staff for their work on the Town Hall project.



**145. Quantity Surveyor / Project Manager**

Pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 it was RESOLVED that this item be taken in private due to the commercially sensitive information to be discussed.

RESOLVED that a quote for additional works carried out and anticipated on behalf of the Quantity Surveyor / Project Manager, Tim Howe Consultancy, for the work on the Town Hall refurbishment be agreed at a cost of £5,100.00.

**146. M&E Consultant**

Pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 it was RESOLVED that this item be taken in private due to the commercially sensitive information to be discussed.

RESOLVED that a quote for additional work to be carried out by the M&E Consultant, Shearstone Mechanical for the additional work on the Town Hall refurbishment be agreed at a cost of £950.00.

**147. Air Con and M&E Inspections**

Pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 it was RESOLVED that this item be taken in private due to the commercially sensitive information to be discussed.

RESOLVED that the quotes for inspections and reports on the Air Conditioning at the Town Hall carried out by Greenhills be agreed at a cost of £650.00.

RESOLVED that the quotes for inspections and reports on the mechanical and electrical work at the Town Hall carried out by R J Plumbing and Gas be agreed at a cost of £750.00.

**148. Coronavirus – Emergency Delegated Powers**

RESOLVED that the emergency powers delegated to the Town Clerk in March 2020 for the duration of the Coronavirus crisis, be formally withdrawn.

In the absence of any further business, the Mayor thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting.

**Appendix 1****INVOICES FOR PAYMENT - MARCH 2023**

| PAYEE                           | PURPOSE               | AMOUNT           | BUDGET           |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Advertiser Office Printers      | Mayors Printing       | £48.00           | Civic            |
| Class Office                    | Cleaning Materials    | £66.48           | Woodhouse        |
| Class Office                    | Shelving / Cuboard    | £756.00          | Administration   |
| Normanton & District Advertiser | Advertising           | £172.80          | Administration   |
| Shredall                        | Shredding             | £52.61           | Administration   |
| Starboard Systems Ltd           | Scribe Accounts (3yr) | £7,429.20        | Administration   |
| Trinity Medical                 | First Aid - P@HHP     | £445.20          | Special Projects |
| Trinity Medical                 | First Aid - Switch On | £174.90          | Special Projects |
| Yorkshire Removal Company       | Storage               | £48.00           | Town Hall        |
|                                 |                       | <b>£9,193.19</b> |                  |

## Appendix 2

### PAYMENTS MADE UNDER CLERKS AUTHORITY

January 2023

| CARD PAYMENTS |                           |         |                              |
|---------------|---------------------------|---------|------------------------------|
| DATE          | PAYEE                     | AMOUNT  | PURPOSE                      |
| 05.01.23      | Value Products Ltd        | £55.92  | First Aid Supplies           |
| 16.01.23      | Cannon Hall Garden Centre | £73.74  | Christmas Decorations (Sale) |
| 19.01.23      | WEL Medical Ltd           | £204.00 | Defibrillator Battery        |
| 23.01.23      | B&Q                       | £20.00  | Key Hooks                    |
| 23.01.23      | IKEA                      | £12.00  | Kitchen Equipment            |
|               |                           | £365.66 |                              |

| PETTY CASH |       |        |            |
|------------|-------|--------|------------|
| 31.01.23   | Tesco | £14.00 | Stationery |
|            |       | £14.00 |            |

| INVOICES |                             |            |                                |
|----------|-----------------------------|------------|--------------------------------|
| 05.01.23 | Knight Engineers            | £1,020.00  | Air Con Servicing              |
| 05.01.23 | Castleford Male Voice Choir | £100.00    | Performance - Xmas Celebration |
| 05.01.23 | Chubb Fire & Security       | £146.89    | Emergency Light Service        |
| 05.01.23 | Chubb Fire & Security       | £109.32    | Fire Extinguisher Service      |
| 20.01.23 | Advertiser Office Printers  | £48.00     | Raffle Ticket Printing         |
| 20.01.23 | Hebden Royd Town Council    | £30.00     | Ceilidh Tickets                |
| 20.01.23 | Normanton Advertiser        | £457.58    | Advertising                    |
| 20.01.23 | Advertiser Office Printers  | £66.00     | Stationery                     |
| 20.01.23 | Yorkshire Removal Company   | £48.00     | Storage Fees                   |
| 20.01.23 | RCW Building Solutions      | £690.00    | Tap Repairs                    |
| 20.01.23 | Shredall                    | £52.61     | Shredding                      |
| 30.01.23 | Employees                   | £7,073.53  | Wages                          |
| 30.01.23 | HMRC                        | £2,082.86  | PAYE/NIC                       |
| 30.01.23 | WYPF                        | £1,817.72  | Pension Contributions          |
| 31.01.23 | UK Safety Store             | £149.05    | Fire Safety Signage            |
|          |                             | £13,891.56 |                                |

**GRAND TOTAL**

**£14,271.22**