

Minutes of a meeting of the **SPALDING TOWN FORUM** held in the Meeting Room 1, Council Offices, Priory Road, Spalding, on Wednesday, 28 March 2018 at 6.30 pm.

PRESENT

Councillors:

J McLean(Chairman)	G R Aley (Vice-Chairman)	D Ashby
G K Dark	R Gambba-Jones	C J Lawton
A M Newton	E Sneath	P A Williams

Community Representatives:

G Scott (Spalding Transport Forum)

In Attendance:

Democratic Services Officer

Apologies for absence were received from or on behalf of Councillors Drury and Porter, and Pastor Kevin Taylor (Churches Together in Spalding and District) and Roger Perkins (Castle Sports Bowling Complex).

30. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the following meetings were signed by the Chairman as a correct record:

- a) Spalding Town Forum – 15 February 2018; and
- b) Spalding Town Forum – 29 November 2017

31. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.**

There were no declarations of interest.

32. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE LAST MINUTES.**

Councillor Newton was due to provide an update on Traffic Congestion matters in Spalding, this would happen in a following item on the agenda for this meeting.

Councillor Drury had been approached for details regarding phone box adoption for the phone box on London road. Councillor Drury was due to update to the Spalding Town Forum soon.

33. **SPALDING SPECIAL EXPENSES - FINANCE TEAM TO PROVIDE A VERBAL UPDATE**

The Chairman read out an email from the Head of Finance. It was agreed that Spalding Special Expenses (SSE) would be updated quarterly.

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The Chairman asked the members to consider what the priorities should be

Members discussed how they felt the information should be circulated and proposed that there should be a 'nuts and bolts' approach. They requested that they be in a transparent format, suitable for in-depth scrutiny and that the relevant officers be available at the Town Forum meetings.

Members mentioned that the Spalding Special Expenses reports would also allow the public to have information on the costs of services in Spalding, therefore facilitating public scrutiny and allowing them to understand the kind of costs involved.

Members agreed that the initial priorities would be Monkshouse and the Sir Halley Stewart field as well as all other large expenses.

**AGREED:**

- a) That relevant officers should always be in attendance wherever possible.
- b) That relevant officers should investigate the Spalding Special Expenses archive to determine when SSE last included full details of costs, incomes and revenues.
- c) That the priorities for scrutiny of Spalding Special Expenses be set as; Monkshouse and the Sir Halley Stewart field, as well as all other large expenses.

**34. TRAFFIC CONGESTION - COUNCILLOR NEWTON TO UPDATE**

Councillor Angela Newton provided an update to traffic congestion issues in Spalding. Councillor Newton had written to the Area Highways Manager at Lincolnshire County Council and read out an update from him.

Hawthorne Bank railway crossing was being closed for 1-2 days during the day due to necessary work by network rail and highways on the local road infrastructure. It was also due to be closed all day for a number of days for further work at another point in the near future.

Network rail were due to close several other local crossings (Winsover Road, Woolram Wygate and Park Road) for similar reasons.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Newton for the information.

Councillor Newton stated that she was happy for the Traffic Congestion update to be a standing item. The Chairman followed up from this and requested that this item became a standing item for all further Spalding Town Forum agendas

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George Scott (Transport Forum). Mentioned that he could publicise information regarding traffic issues if it were passed to him. Councillor Newton agreed that she would send them to him.

Members stated that, at the time of the meeting, there was a traffic modelling program being run. They mentioned that this data would be available soon. They also mentioned that it might be possible to have information from this relayed to the forum and it would be an opportunity to question the solutions to these issues. They also stated their disappointment at one objection being able to stop the proposed trial period of a one way system along Swan Street. They wished to recommend this proposal once more.

The Chairman wanted it noted that he wanted a consultation on the recommendations made in regards to a one way system in Swan Street.

**AGREED:**

- a) That the Traffic Congestion update become a standing item on all further Spalding Town Forum agendas.
- b) That the possibility of a consultation for a one way system on Swan Street be investigated.

**35. ANGLIAN WATER BARRICADES, LONDON ROAD - DISCUSSION**

The Chairman provided details about the barricades on London Road and requested discussion from the forum.

*Councillor Sneath left the room at 19:14*

Some mentioned that they felt that these barricades were for public safety.

Members, however, did mention that they felt the barricades would look better if they were painted green and there was general agreement.

The Chairman mentioned that Anglian Water did not need planning permission for these barricades and reiterated that he did feel they were crucial to public safety. He mentioned that the recommendations were to either paint it black or green. He stated the civic society had not come to any specific recommendations. Also, he stated that an officer of the council was due to write to Anglian water to raise aesthetic concerns and raise the forum's suggestions. He asked for consensus for this to take place.

Members stated that they felt that the Civic society should progress this further, and be asked to contact Anglian Water, not the council.

Members stated that the riverside had some unusual conservation zone shaping. They further stated that if it was found that the barricades were in this zone, this would reinforce any action taken by the Council.

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The Chairman stated he would circulate his emails on this topic if requested.

**AGREED:**

That an officer of the Council would write to Anglian Water, raising aesthetic concerns with the barricades on London Road, also to raise the Forum's suggestions.

**36. ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN DECIDES ARE URGENT**

Litter in the Park:

- Members stated that they had been contacted by the Guardian about the state of litter in the park near the skate park and suggested that signs should be put up reminding people not to litter. Members stated that it was important that any signs erected were enforceable. They stated that the skate park was subject, like all other grass areas, to regular litter picking.
- The Chairman stated that he felt that signs were an option because the wording would have to be agreed and approved through a meticulous process.
- Members stated that potentially, positive community projects and events which promoted action against littering could be the solution to the problem.
- George Scott (Transport Forum) stated that litter was a big problem in Spalding but that he saw no solution had been raised.
- The Chairman stated that whatever the solution, there needed to be progress made on reducing litter. Also he stated that the new 'Street Wardens' would be of great use in the response to litter.

BT Phone box adoption

- The Chairman brought up the issue of Phone box adoption. Specifically in reference to the potential adoption of one specific BT Phone box along the riverside in Spalding.

**AGREED:**

That Democratic Services would distribute the dates of the Spalding Transport Forum to all members in the future.

**37. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

20 June 2018 at 6:30 pm in Meeting Room 1

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(The meeting ended at 7.39 pm)

(End of minutes)