

BOROUGH COUNCIL OF KING'S LYNN & WEST NORFOLK**COUNCIL**

Minutes from the Meeting of the Council held on Thursday, 8th July, 2021 at 4.30 pm in the Assembly Room, Town Hall, Saturday Market Place, King's Lynn PE30 5DQ

PRESENT: Councillor H Humphrey (Chair)
Councillors B Ayres, Miss L Bambridge, R Blunt, F Bone, C Bower, A Bubb, A Bullen, Mrs J Collingham, J Collop, S Collop, S Dark, M de Whalley, I Devereux, P Gidney, G Hipperson, A Holmes, M Howland, G Howman, B Jones, C Joyce, A Kemp, J Kirk, P Kunes, A Lawrence, B Lawton, B Long, J Lowe, C Manning, G Middleton, J Moriarty, C Morley, S Nash, E Nockolds, T Parish, S Patel, C Rose, J Rust, A Ryves, C Sampson, S Sandell, Mrs V Spikings, S Squire, A Tyler, D Tyler, D Whitby and M Wilkinson

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors P Beal, J Bhondi, C J Crofts, A Dickinson, Lord Howard, C Hudson and M Storey

C:17 **MINUTES SILENCE FOR THE LATE CHRIS BAMFIELD AND THE LATE HAZEL FREDERICKS**

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Council held a minutes silence for the late Chris Bamfield whose funeral had been held recently, and the late Hazel Fredericks who passed away recently.

C:18 **PRAYERS**

Prayers were led by Rev Canon Ling.

C:19 **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meetings held on 8 April and 20 May 2021 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

C:20 **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

None

C:21 **MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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The Mayor informed Council that he had attended the Flag raising ceremony for British Services, the NHS Day ceremony and the

ceremony for the consecration of the Bishop of Lynn at Norwich Cathedral.

He also informed Council that he had sent letters of congratulations to Helen and Mike Taylor on the receipt of MBEs for the work done for the Bridge for Heros.

C:22 **URGENT BUSINESS**

None

C:23 **PETITIONS AND PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

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The Mayor invited public questions under standing order 9

i) **Question from Trudy Clark**

“In view of the Council’s much-welcomed decision not to build on the eastern side of Parkway, can I ask if they will now follow the Norfolk Wildlife Trusts wishes, and allow the eastern side to become an urban Country Wildlife Site, which would not only protect the internationally important reedbeds, rare species and overall biodiversity, but also promote the well-being of the local population who so love the area.”

In response Councillor Kunes reported that he and the Leader had met with Ms Clark and given assurance that there was no intention to build on the land and discussions would be held with the representatives to look into making it a county wildlife site.

Ms Clark thanked Councillors Dark and Kunes for the meeting and looked forward to working with them.

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ii) **Question from Alistair Kent**

“Climate Change Strategy and Plan

I would like to congratulate the Council on producing their climate change strategy and plan.

I understand that the informal working group of councillors on climate change proposed to the Environment and Community Panel, and the Environment and Community panel apparently accepted, that this strategy and plan should go out to public consultation.

What plans have been made by the Council to undertake such a consultation with the citizens of the Borough, and how will these be made known to interested persons who may wish to contribute to the development of a robust plan for mitigating the impact of climate change in West Norfolk?”

In response Councillor Kunes said consideration had been given to how to progress consultation with the paper whilst progressing it with some speed, so it was hoped to have the Action Plan to be worked on by the end of the year. It was therefore proposed to carry out on line consultation.

As a supplementary Mr Kent drew attention to the Tindle Centre calculations and asked what action was being taken so the Borough didn't continue at the expense of others around the world.

In response Councillor Kunes commented that the Borough Council only had limited powers for what could be put forward, but could lead by example to decrease the Council's CO2 emissions and lobby government.

C:24 **RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COUNCIL BODIES**

i **Cabinet: 15 June 2021**

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Councillor Dark, seconded by Councillor Middleton proposed the recommendations separately.

CAB9: Portfolio responsibilities and Scheme of Delegation – this was agreed.

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With regard to CAB10: Local Plan review draft for pre submission consultation, Councillor Joyce proposed the following amendment, seconded by Councillor Bone:

"1) The Council approves the draft Local Plan Review for pre-submission consultation when a site has been identified in the Local Plan for a new general hospital situated within the Borough of King's Lynn and West Norfolk."

In speaking on the amendment, Councillor Dark did not accept the amendment but empathised with the intention behind it to support the hospital. He explained that the hospital was aware of the land available from the Borough or County councils and other landowners, but was confined to the way it had to be structured as the rebuild needed to be on its own premises. It was hoped that the decision by government on the bidding process would be made by Christmas. He explained that the Local Plan timeframes were tight and the proposal would cause too much of a delay. He reassured members that the Council would get behind the hospital wherever possible.

Councillor Jones asked Councillor Joyce whether he would consider withdrawing the amendment in the light of the comments made. Councillor Joyce withdrew the amendment.

Councillor Kemp proposed that the Local Plan not be moved onto the next stage until the funding for the road for the A10 proposals was secured. This was seconded by Councillor de Whalley.

The Monitoring Officer explained that the amendment negated the motion so was therefore not permissible. On being put to the vote CAB10 was agreed.

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CAB14: Anti fraud and anti corruption strategy was approved.

RESOLVED: That the recommendations from the Cabinet meeting on 15 June 2021 be approved.

C:25

APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES AND PARTNERSHIPS

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Councillor Dark proposed the list of nominees to outside bodies as set out on the sheet, this was seconded by Councillor Middleton.

Councillor Spikings also nominated Councillor Nockolds for the position on the West Norfolk Community Transport. Councillor Rust had also been nominated by the Independent Group.

Votes were then taken and Councillor Nockolds was appointed the representative on West Norfolk Community Transport.

On being put to the vote it was:

RESOLVED: That the Outside Bodies nominations be agreed.

C:26

NOTICE OF MOTION

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Councillor Dark proposed the following Notice of Motion (2/21) seconded by Councillor J Rust:

“This Council recognises that the QE Hospital building and infrastructure in Kings Lynn has major structural issues and must be rebuilt urgently.

Whilst all in this chamber readily acknowledge and applaud the amazing work done by the staff and contractors at ‘our’ hospital over many years, brought sharply in to focus during the last 18 months of the pandemic, it is a simple truth that this great work is now being done in spite of, rather than supported by, a building built 40 years ago and way beyond its intended operational life span.

Whilst welcoming the news that the QE Hospital has just received £20M in emergency funding to put remedial measures in place in the operational areas most affected, this is clearly just a short-term ‘sticking plaster’ that does not mitigate the need for a match-fit, 21st century hospital capable of supporting staff, patients and visitors needs and having a key role in the entire region’s Integrated Care System, both now and in the future.

This Council formally resolves to continue standing shoulder to shoulder with the QE Hospital’s Leadership Team in their current bid for a new hospital for West Norfolk and the surrounding area alongside The County Council, region’s MPs and community campaigns will do all it can to help with and magnify their message.

To be absolutely clear, this Council will continue to urge, on its own and with others, the Secretary of State for Health to urgently approve a new build hospital to replace the Queen Elizabeth and to fast track its build and design.”

In speaking on the Motion Councillor Dark spoke in favour of his motion which he was pleased Councillor Rust would be seconding. He commented that the QEH was in the public’s focus during the pandemic despite its infrastructure, not because of it. He drew attention to the County Council motion, and that a petition had been raised on the gov web site in order to raise awareness and force a debate in Parliament.

Councillor Joyce commented that all Labour Councillors would support the motion as it was too important to bring in politics. He congratulated Councillor Rust on rising above politics to second the motion.

Councillor Long, in supporting the motion drew attention to the need to come together for the wider community who deserved facilities as good as the rest of the county. He commented that the staff were doing a superb job despite the circumstances in a building which was 10 years over its life expectancy on construction.

Councillor Kemp supported the motion and drew attention to the fact that the QEH needed support for its business case and proper planning for the replacement of hospitals.

Councillor Moriarty spoke in support of the motion and thanked the staff working there.

Councillor A Tyler spoke in support of the motion and the need for a decent health service and hospital.

Councillor Jones supported the motion and as it was one of the largest employers in the area.

Councillor de Whalley expressed his support for the motion.

Councillor Parish in supporting the motion also drew attention to Councillor Rust's seconding rather than proposing.

Councillor Rust in seconding the motion drew attention to the need to work together to shape and influence the future, and to the fact that if funding wasn't forthcoming wards could have to close due to the danger of collapse. She drew attention to the rally she had been involved in in support of the Hospital, and expressed disappointment that the QEH was not on the first list of replacements. She undertook to continue to campaign to the Health Minister.

The motion was put to the vote

RESOLVED: The Motion was agreed unanimously.

C:27

CABINET MEMBERS REPORTS

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Councillor Dark presented the Cabinet Members reports en bloc in order for Councillors to ask their questions.

Councillor Blunt responded to a question from Councillor Parish on the costs incurred on the Parkway scheme and referred members to the forthcoming Cabinet report on 3 August.

Councillor Lawrence responded to Councillor Howman's question asking whether buy back clauses would be added to council land when sold. He undertook to look at each piece of land individually.

Councillor Kunes in response to Councillor Devereux confirmed that the food waste collections would resume from 19 July.

Councillor Blunt, in response to Councillor Ryves question on whether Parkway grant money would have to be repaid if planning permission was refused, explained that if permission was refused other things may come into force, but it would still need planning permission.

Councillor Mrs Collop asked when she would receive a response from Councillor Middleton on questions she had raised. Councillor Middleton explained he had been away for personal reasons but would respond shortly.

Councillor D Tyler asked if there was any update on the CIL Spending Panel which Councillor Blunt confirmed there would be a meeting on 22 July carrying out training and looking applications. He gave an update on the numbers of applications and announced that the total fund was £1.9m, and £388,000 had been distributed to parishes to date.

Councillor Rust asked who had taken the decision to include facilities for the pontoons in the Town Fund Bid. Councillor Kunes confirmed that the newly extended pontoons were used more regularly now with RIBs mooring there, fishing trips fun from them, and seal trips planned, he confirmed that unless facilities were available leisure craft would not wish to use them.

Councillor A Tyler asked what the contractual financial implications of temporarily withdrawing a service were. Councillor Kunes undertook to find out and let him know.

In response to a question from Councillor Collingham, Councillor Sandell gave an update on the summer of play planned by Alive for young people and families, they would be advertised over social media.

In response to Councillor Squire's question on when enforcement would be carried out on fly tippers, Councillor Kunes confirmed that a successful prosecution had been made, and forensic evidence was being collected to try to prosecute.

Councillor Long undertook to look into the broken tap at Gaywood cemetery as pointed out by Councillor Mrs Collop.

In response to a question from Councillor Mrs Nockolds regarding the tolling programme of public convenience refurbishments, Councillor Long confirmed all facilities were being examined and some identified so that adult changing facilities could be provided over a phased basis for those with mobility issues.

Councillor Blunt agreed to provide an update for Councillor Morley as to when the Council would receive an update on the Council's wholly owned companies. Councillor Middleton explained that a review of the structures was currently being undertaken looking at best practice. The report would be forthcoming.

In response to Councillors Kemp and Ryve's questions why the KLIC no longer provided business advice Councillor Middleton reminded members that NEWS the business advisors no longer owned the

building but the Council did after they defaulted on their loan and it was necessary to ensure the building paid its way.

The Leader's question time now commenced.

Councillor Kemp asked a question regarding the fact that as she felt the County Council would sell the library building, would the Borough Council look for another option to enhance its viewing. Councillor Dark responded that the current building was not fit for a 21 century library hub, he confirmed he was having discussions with the County Council and would report back when in a position to do so.

Councillor Mrs Wilkinson reported having problems with the CCG getting meetings regarding Fairstead Surgery and asked for the Leaders assistance. He undertook to assist where he could.

In response to a question from Councillor Bower on the new local members fund being set up, Councillor Dark explained that in line with the scheme run by the County Council he proposed to provide a fund for each councillor to enable them to support small grass roots scheme within their communities.

Councillor Dark undertook to come back to Councillor Morley on his question relating to the cost benefit analysis of the schemes proposed in the Town Fund.

In response to a question of whether the Council would commemorate if England won the Euros, Councillor Dark confirmed that the Town Hall would be lit up red and white on Saturday and Sunday.

Councillor Dark undertook to ask Cllr Dickinson to respond to Councillor Ryves' question on whether she the Member Major Projects Board was central to the audit function.

In response to Councillor de Whalley's question re engaging the public in the emerging climate change strategy, Councillor Dark confirmed they would be looking to engage as many people as possible, the detail of which would be forthcoming.

In response to a question from Councillor Joyce regarding the disposal of Council assets without the ward member being aware, Councillor Dark confirmed portfolio holders would be careful around assets.

C:28

MEMBERS QUESTION TIME

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Councillor Kemp asked Councillor Sampson as Chair of the Environment and Community Panel what he could do as the Medworth consultants had indicated that they didn't need to consult with people of the Borough despite the Panel asking them to do so.

Councillor Kunes responded that Fenland DC had been contacted and asked for the consultation to be extended to the areas of west Norfolk adjacent to Fenland DC.

Councillor Middleton asked Councillor A Tyler as Chair of KLACC if he would care to invite King's Lynn County Councillors to the KLACC meeting in order to get input from them, also bearing in mind that County Councillors were given a pot to spend in their Division. Councillor A Tyler confirmed that yes, he would be happy to in principle.

The meeting closed at 6.15 pm

OUTSIDE BODY APPOINTMENTS TO BE MADE BY FULL COUNCIL ON 8TH JULY 2021

Scrutiny nominations (to be confirmed by Council) are also shown below and Cabinet appointments (*in italics*) are included for information purposes only.

Outside body appointments for 2021/22 approved by Council

Name of Outside Body	Appointed/ Nominated by	Number of reps	Current and nominated representatives	Term of office
Southery and District Internal Drainage Board	Council	8	1 vacancy available following resignation of Cllr Ryves	4 years
Stoke Ferry Internal Drainage Board	Council	9	1 vacancy available following resignation of Cllr Ryves	4 years
Backham Almshouses Trust	Council	1	Sally Twyman (non Cllr)	Annual
Bexwell Poors Land Charity	Council	1	Tony White (non Cllr)	Annual
Borough Council/College of West Anglia Liaison Board	1 Cabinet and 1 E&C	2	Lowe (nominated by EC to be approved by Council) <i>Dark (Appointed by Cabinet)</i>	Annual
Brancaster Commons Committee	Council	1	Lawton	Annual
Burnham Overy Harbour Management Committee	Council	1	Sandell	Annual
Downham Market Leisure Centre Joint Management Committee	1 Cabinet and 2 Council	3	Ryves and Howland (Council) <i>Middleton (appointed by Cabinet)</i>	Annual
Gaywood Allotment Trust	Council	4	S Collop, Lowe, S Young and T Smith	Annual
Hunstanton and District Festival of Arts	Council	1	Bower	Annual
Hunstanton Prosperity Coastal Community Team	1 Cabinet and 2 Council	3	Bower and Beal (Council) <i>Middleton (Dark sub) (appointed by Cabinet)</i>	Annual
Hunstanton Sailing Club Development Sub Committee	Scrutiny (CPP)	1	Rose (nominated by CPP to be approved by Council)	Annual

John Sugars Almshouses Charity	Council	4	Bambridge, Bone, Sally Twyman and Janice Minns (non Cllrs)	Annual
King's Lynn and West Norfolk Area Museums Committee	1 Cabinet, 3 Scrutiny (E&C), 1 Council	5	de Whalley, Kemp and Bubb (nominated by E&C), A Tyler (Council) <i>Nockolds (appointed by Cabinet),</i>	Annual
King's Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Charity	Council	2	Bower, Bubb	Annual
King's Lynn Conservancy Board	Council	4	Ayres (to 31st Jan 22), Sampson (to 31st Jan 22), Kunes (to 31st Jan 2021), Howland (to 31st Jan 22)	
King's Lynn Emmerich Twinning Club	Council	2	Dickinson and Ryves	to May 23
King's Lynn Town Football Club	Scrutiny (EC)	1	Paul Bland (non cllr)	Annual
Marriotts Warehouse	Council	3	Bower, Gidney and Paul Richards (non cllr)	May-23
Norfolk Countywide Community Safety Partnership Scrutiny Sub Panel	Scrutiny (EC)	1 + 1 sub	Kemp and Bubb (Sub)	Annual
Norfolk Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Scrutiny (EC)	1 + 1 sub	Kemp and Bubb (Sub)	Annual
North End Trust	Council	1	Nockolds	Annual
Outwell Charities	Council	1	Crofts	Annual
Queen Elizabeth Hospital Governors Council	Council	1	Kunes	Annual
Safer Neighbourhood Action Panel - Downham Market	Council	2 (Chair and Vice Chair)	Vacant (Chair) Howland (VC)	Annual
Safer Neighbourhood Action Panel - Hunstanton	Council	2 (Chair and Vice Chair)	Beal (Chair), Bubb (VC)	Annual
Safer Neighbourhood Action Panel - King's Lynn	Council	2 (Chair and Vice Chair)	Bambridge (Chair) F Bone (VC)	Annual
Sibelco - Leziate Quarry Committee	Council	2	Howland and Manning	Annual
West Norfolk and King's Lynn Girls School Trust	Council	1	Nockolds	Annual

West Norfolk Community Transport Project	1 Scrutiny (EC). Please note the Panel did not make a nomination – so it is referred to Council.	1	Nockolds	Annual
West Norfolk Youth Advisory Group	Council	1	Lowe	Annual
West Walton Poors Charity	Council	1	Mrs B Porter (non Cllr)	Annual
William Cleave Educational Foundation	Council	2	Bambridge and 1 vacancy	Annual