

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

**Minutes from the Meeting of the Council held on
Thursday, 14th October, 2021 at 4.30 pm in the Assembly Room, Town Hall,
Saturday Market Place, King's Lynn PE30 5DQ**

PRESENT: Councillor (Mayor)

Councillors B Ayres, Miss L Bambridge, P Beal, J Bhondi, R Blunt,
Mrs J Collingham, J Collop, S Collop, C J Crofts, S Dark, I Devereux,
A Dickinson, P Gidney, G Hipperson, A Holmes, Lord Howard, M Howland,
C Hudson, B Jones, A Kemp, P Kunes, A Lawrence, B Lawton, B Long,
C Manning, G Middleton, C Morley, S Nash, E Nockolds, T Parish, S Patel,
J Ratcliffe, C Rose, J Rust, A Ryves, C Sampson, S Sandell, Mrs V Spikings,
S Squire, M Storey, A Tyler, D Tyler, D Whitby and M Wilkinson

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors F Bone, M de Whalley,
G Howman, C Joyce, J Kirk, J Lowe and J Moriarty

C:41 PRAYERS

Prayers were led by Rev Canon Ling

C:42 MINUTES

RESOLVED: The minutes of the meeting held on 9 September 2021
were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

C:43 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None

C:44 MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

C:45 URGENT BUSINESS

None

C:46 ITEMS OUTSTANDING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

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(i) Questions of the Leader

Members were invited to ask questions of the Leader from his report to
the last meeting. He responded to questions on the proposed

incinerator in Wisbech and the County Council position where he stated he would do everything he could to ensure the views of those in West Norfolk were taken into account.

Councillor Dark also responded that the Cabinet would take a view on the issue of the Ferry access.

(ii) Questions of Chairs of bodies other than the Cabinet.

There were no questions.

C:47 **PETITIONS AND PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

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The Mayor invited Ms Sue Bruce to ask her public question:

“I refer to the application for a new 3G pitch on River Lane.

The application described the need for the pitch to support the needs of affiliated football teams, school programmes, clubs and coaching sessions.

I refer to an article in the EDP on the 9th October entitled Pitching in at King’s Lynn.... or are they? by King’s Lynn town football club which is too long to read out but includes the following.

It reports that they have found it impossible to hire pitches from Lynnsport for any of their youth teams and Norfolk FA promised that the club would have access to any new 3G pitch however they have now been told they will not be able to hire the pitch for any of their youth teams and he was told by a manager at Lynnsport to disband their youth network.

They have been using pitches at King Edward VII Academy however as the light fades the older age groups who train later face difficulties in training as there are no floodlights at KES. The better alternative would be to place the pitch at KES, who can help towards the finance and would be far more of a natural fit.

The report states that he would argue that the planned set up for Lynnsport is essentially an income-generating coaching organisation, but certainly not a grassroots football club.

This application is unpopular with residents, will remove important green space, will not support the current well run and successful youth teams and will cost £263 thousand pounds in tax payers money.

Isn’t it time to withdraw the application?”

Councillor S Sandell responded

“Demand for the 3G is extremely high and it is unfortunate that Alive West Norfolk regularly have to turn down clubs and organisations who

wish to make use of the floodlit facilities. We have provided space for KLFC in the past but currently they are not using and have not booked any times.

The FA are committed to providing a facility at Lynnsport to address this additional demand and this is their preferred location. They do not support funding a 3G pitch at KES. Fields in Trust have also confirmed that this is an acceptable development on his site.

The report is criticising the FA making an award to Kings Lynn Football in the Community. Alive Kings Lynn Football in the Community provide an opportunity for children and young adults in West Norfolk to play sport and create opportunities at all levels.

The scheme was formed in 2002 and works with approximately 1500 children aged 5-19 year each week. Strong links have been formed with local youth football clubs, schools across West Norfolk, local organisation and agencies.

The scheme offers advanced football squads, player development centres, in-school curriculum sessions, school sponsorship days, after school and lunchtime clubs, birthday parties, disability sessions, multi-skills, and coaching opportunities

This application will allow Alive West Norfolk to extend the opportunities to the local community including a wider group of clubs and organisations within West Norfolk.”

By way of a supplementary Ms Bruce asked if consultation would take place with the public prior to the planning application. Councillor Sandell responded that the consultation would take place as part of the planning process.

C:48

PROPORTIONALITY

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Following a further change to the Independent Group, Council was requested to amend the proportionality figures. The recommendations were proposed by Councillor Dark and seconded by Councillor Middleton, and on being put to the vote were carried.

RESOLVED: That proportionality be amended by the change of seats as follows:

That Independent lose 1 seat from the Licensing Committee and 1 seat from Environment and Community Panel.

Those 2 seats to be dealt with as follows:

- Environment and Community seat goes to Conservative Group
- Licensing Committee seat goes to Labour Group

C:49 **RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COUNCIL BODIES**

i **Cabinet: 21 September 2021**

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The Leader proposed CAB46: Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan, seconded by Councillor Middleton. On being put to the vote the recommendations were agreed.

RESOLVED: That the recommendations from the 21 September 2021 Cabinet meeting set out in CAB46 be approved.

C:50 **NOTICES OF MOTION**

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Notices of Motion 4/21 published on the agenda had been withdrawn by Councillor Joyce. As he was not present at the meeting to propose his Notices of Motion 5 and 6/21 they were not moved.

Councillor Kemp proposed the following Notice of Motion (7/21), speaking in support of it. This was seconded by Councillor Rust who spoke in support of it.

Equal Value, Equal Lives

This Council is united in valuing the lives of all its residents equally; it is committed to a culture of safety for women and girls throughout the Borough; to a level playing field of opportunity and respect for people of all abilities, genders and races, including Travellers; and will stand up to discrimination in all its forms, call out hate speech and work towards community cohesion.

Under standing order 14.6, Councillor Dark proposed that the Motion be referred to Cabinet for consideration and report back to Council. This was seconded by Councillor Kemp and on being put to the vote was carried.

RESOLVED: That the Motion be referred to Cabinet for consideration and reporting back to Council.

C:51 **CABINET MEMBERS REPORTS**

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Councillor Dark moved Cabinet Members reports en bloc.

In response from a question from Councillor Rust about pop up shops, Councillor Middleton confirmed he had spoken to the Vancouver quarter regarding the use of a disused building. He would get an update from Ms Etheridge on what could be done, he also confirmed the proposals with the Town Fund to repurpose empty shop space. He undertook to give an update when he had more information available.

Councillor Blunt confirmed his meeting listed was the West Norfolk Housing Company, not a West Winch meeting.

Councillor Sandell, in responding to Councillor Nockolds gave an update on the work of the Housing Team working in partnership with the hospital to get necessary works completed to permit patients to return home from hospital.

In response to a question from Councillor Morley, Councillor Kunes gave an update on work progressing to apply for funding to add charging points on council owned car parks in King's Lynn and Hunstanton.

Following a question from Councillor Squire, Councillor Kunes commented that he believed a task group looking at biodiversity had been taking place with the Environment and Community Panel. He updated that a number of trees which had been planted had been vandalised but were looking to be replaced, and the planning plan for Lynnsport was for early spring.

Councillor Blunt, in response to a question from Councillor Spikings on the timetable for CIL awards, explained that the process was being simplified, and bids would be accepted in January and July. Parishes would be notified.

In response to a question from Councillor Parish asking of the current housing allocations were sufficient so not requiring an increase in the numbers allocated, Councillor Blunt reminded members that it boiled down to the number of properties which were built, and that the Government made the rules regarding the number of houses required.

Councillor Dickinson confirmed to Councillor S Collop that the Independent report into members allowances had been received.

Councillor Ryves referred to parking offers given at Christmas by other authorities and asked that they be introduced. Councillor Middleton reminded Members of the different schemes run in the past, including the scheme which had been run on Boal Quay to encourage shoppers, but the spaces had been used by people working in the town. He drew attention to the events put on all year round with the current arrangements.

In response to a question from Councillor Rust asking for an enhanced role for King's Lynn councillors with the Town Fund, Councillor Middleton confirmed that the King's Lynn Town Centre Members were involved, and the set up was as agreed with the Government.

Councillor Morley asked if governance could be included into some cabinet members reports. Councillors Blunt and Middleton undertook to look into it.

Following a question from Councillor Kemp regarding the consultation process for the Town Fund, Councillor Middleton confirmed consultation had been carried out when the bid was put together, and that consultation on the multi user hub was imminent.

Councillor Lawrence in responding to Councillor Morley confirmed there was interest in the NORA development

Questions to the Leader

In response to Councillor Ryves question on the Member Major Projects Board meetings, Councillor Dark confirmed that they would be seeing the list of projects at its next meeting.

Following a question from Councillor Parish regarding the number of press statements being released in line with the additional staffing for that team, Councillor Dark confirmed that no additional staff had yet been appointed, but that the press releases were drawing attention to good work done. He acknowledged the issue with planning enforcement resources and confirmed it was being looked at.

Councillor Dark also responded to Councillor Kemp that areas with challenges and staffing issues were being looked at, and did not require another Board to consider them.

Councillor Bower drew attention to the work being carried out to the roof of the Princess Theatre in Hunstanton, Councillor Dark confirmed that a defibrillator was also being added to it, he also drew attention to the underwriting of the fireworks in Hunstanton. Councillor Beal also thanked the Leader for the work being carried out to the Princess Theatre as landlords, he drew attention to the good work of the current occupants in running the theatre.

C:52

APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES

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Council was invited to make appointments for a substitute Member from two Outside Bodies which fell within the Environment and Community Panel's remit. This report asked Council to confirm the replacement Member who had been nominated by the Environment and Community Panel.

The Council had also received a request to appoint a Member to King's Lynn Community Football Board.

Councillor M de Whalley was nominated to the Norfolk Health Overview Scrutiny Committee by the Environment and Community Panel. This appointment was agreed.

Councillors C Hudson was nominated for the substitute Member on Norfolk Countywide Community Safety Partnership Scrutiny Sub-Panel. On being put to the vote this was agreed.

Councillors C Hudson, G Middleton and J Rust were nominated to serve on the King's Lynn Community Football Board. On being put to the vote, Councillor G Middleton was appointed.

RESOLVED: 1) That the Council appoints Councillor de Whalley to serve as the substitute Member on Norfolk Health Overview Scrutiny Committee as nominated by the Environment and Community Panel.

2) That Councillor C Hudson be appointed to serve as substitute Member on Norfolk Countywide Community Safety Partnership Scrutiny Sub-Panel as no nomination was made by the Environment and Community Panel.

3) That Councillor G Middleton be appointed to serve on King's Lynn Community Football Board.

C:53 **MEMBERS QUESTION TIME**

There were no questions.

The meeting closed at 5.55 pm