



EYE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE EYE TOWN COUNCIL held using video conferencing Held on WEDNESDAY 17th June 2020 @ 7:30 pm

Present: Cllrs, Walker (Chair), Berry, Brandon, Byles, Evitt, Gould, Henderson, Hudson O'Mard, Potter and Smith, Turner Wendy Alcock (Town Clerk) and no members of the public.

1.0 Apologies and Approval of Absences

Cllr Gibbs, Blake

Council would like to wish Cllr Blake a speedy recovery.

2.0 Members Declarations of Interests and Consideration of Requests for Dispensations

Cllr Smith and Cllr Byles 12.2 Accounts Payable.

3.0 Public Participation - Meeting to be opened

3.1 County Councillor Report – Cllr. Guy McGregor

MLM Report thanked those who have given comments to the County Council. Particularly supportive of Cllr Gould's letter to the portfolio holder for highways.

Cycleway Eye to Yaxley – requires works to bring up to standard funding could be available for this project. Cllr Byles – cycle route Eye to Yaxley, what improvements would be made. Cllr McGregor agreed to request copies of the plans for the bid and would pass these to the Clerk for circulation.

SCC have invested considerable funding to support the Covid-19 response. A review of these areas particularly the response to the care homes will be made.

Local government can be proud of their responses during the crisis.

Cllr Gould asked for an update for education in Suffolk.

Cllr McGregor cannot add more he knows there is a desire for schools to get back to normal as soon as possible. Many schools are not under County control and SCC are doing what they can to support these and their own managed schools.

3.2 District Councillor Report – Cllr Peter Gould

2461

Signed: Mayor

Clerk

Dated:

15.07.2020

Cllr Gould has written to the Highways portfolio holder and his deputy regarding assessing the safety issues for traffic through Eye. The traffic review from SCC would not take place with the community until March 2021. Hard evidence has been provided by ETC of the issues in Eye through the MLM report. Plea to the County Council to engage with us now rather than later.

Cllr Berry – MLM report has been given to Sue Ives who chairs the joint parish group. This will be useful to neighbouring parishes as evidence against future planning applications. Cllr Gould – we have an immediate opportunity to use the report to give advice for impact on traffic flow through Eye which the MLM report highlights.

Recent reports of incidents at the Pennings with overflowing bins, litter and anti-social behaviour (ASB). We have confirmation from MSDC to install additional bins and is asking questions of the responsible department how they will deal with the ASB.

Cllr Byles asked what the nature of ASB was at the Pennings. Cllr Gould replied that littering and noise and some vandalism.

Cllr Henderson issues with young people driving scooters and motorcycles at speed along the road which is a safety issue. Cllr Gould will feed this aspect into his discussion with MSDC.

Cllr Hudson – issue with the motorcycle on the footpath from the Rettery has asked for the Council for a new sign to say no motorized vehicles. Litter is a problem at the Pennings, and she is aware of at least two parties. Cllr Gould – will follow up on the request for a sign.

Cllr Potter – feels that the young people don't have anywhere to go with Covid-19 restrictions and shouldn't the Council support facilities for young people. Cllr Gould would agree with the statement and discussions for a range of ideas did take place pre-Covid and hopes that these can now be picked up to make provision for young people in Eye.

Cllr O'Mard asked who was responsible for emptying the bins at the Community Centre. Town Clerk responded that this would be the Community Centre Trustees, the Town Council is responsible only for the bins around the skatepark.

Full report shown in **Appendix A**

3.3 Members of the Public – to receive questions and matters of concern from those present.

No members of the public present.

Meeting to be closed for public participation. Formal Council statutory business as follows: -

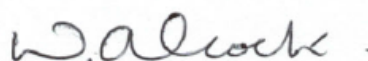
4.0 To receive and confirm the minutes of the **Town Council** meeting held on the 20th May 2020.

2462

Signed: Mayor

Clerk

Dated:



15.07.2020

Proposed by Cllr Evitt seconded by Cllr Hudson - All in favour motion carried.

5.0 To receive and confirm the minutes from the **Town Hall Committee** held on 28th May.

Review of fees and charges the committee have agreed to stay the same for 2020/21. Special events such as New Years Eve will be priced individually as previously agreed.

Recovery of the Town Hall for hirers has been the main source of work, risk assessment must take place for each hirer. The first returning hirer will be Weight Watchers who will hopefully be returning on the 9th July. This is subject to government restrictions being lifted.

Cllr Henderson asked whether the Wednesday Market would be reopening. The Clerk confirmed that she had received a phone call from the Market Manager, and it was not thought that they would not be returning any time soon. The Government restrictions do not allow the opening of indoor markets presently. The Clerk also gave an update on other regular hirers who still currently have no plans to return to the Town Hall at least until September.

6.0 To receive and comment on planning applications and appeals as follows (and consideration of late applications)

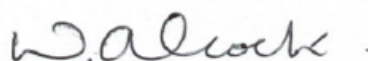
6.1	DC/20/01952	Oak Lodge, Nicks Lane, Brome	Permission for farm shop and café, siting of Nissan hut for museum
ETC supports this application as it offers a contribution to visitor and tourism generation and promotes the sale of local produce through the farm shop. This development could also provide opportunities for education and employment.			
Proposed by Cllr Smith seconded by Cllr Byles – All in favour motion carried.			
6.2	DC/20/02040	46 Castle St, Eye	Listed building consent
ETC supports this application.			
Proposed Cllr Brandon seconded Cllr Mann - All in favour motion carried.			
6.3	DC/20/02077	Stayer House, 52 Castle St, Eye	Notification of works to trees in a conservation area.
No comment			
Proposed by Cllr Smith seconded by Cllr Byles - All in favour motion carried.			
6.4	DC/20/02230	Eyes Open CIC2 Castle St, Eye	Listed building consent, window repairs, door replacement.
ETC supports this application to enable The Bank to reopen and resume its important function within the town without significant disruption to the fabric of this important building.			

2463

Signed: Mayor

Clerk

Dated:



15.07.2020

Proposed by Cllr Gould seconded by Cllr Mann - All in favour motion carried.

6.5	DC/20/01537	Former Paddock House Care home	Erection of 16 affordable dwellings Re-consultation amended plans
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This re-consultation involves changes to plots 15 and 16 and ETC has considered this application on this basis with previous comments from its meeting held on 18th May remaining unchanged.

ETC has no comments specific to this re-application which satisfies item 1 from its previously submitted conditions made on acceptance of DC/20/01537

Proposed by Cllr Henderson seconded by Cllr Evitt - All in favour motion carried.

Cllr Gould – The Planning officers report is in the process of being finalised in discussion with the applicant (MSDC). They are looking at the boundary between the pavement and the green space. Discussions with Cllr Berry and Henderson have resulted in a proposal of railings with a gate or gates this proposal has been accepted favorably by the planning officer. The decision for this application will be dealt with under delegated powers. Asked if Council was happy with the general principals of the above. All nodded in agreement.

Cllr Henderson – Significant public interest in the garden area which should be protected prior to the building works. Work with people living closest to the development being involved in all aspects of the project and whether any grants were available to complete the work. Could work with primary school or scout groups for art projects in the space. Cllr Henderson offered to be the link officer with this group.

Cllr Berry – the intention was that funding for the development of the green space within the development to be incorporated within project costs. Suggested that with support from Cllr Gould this should be possible freeing up grant funding for other projects.

6.6	DC/20/01931	1 Cross St, Eye	Insertion of PVCU French door set (following removal of window)
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Do not wish to object but do not consider that the addition of PVC doors of this design on the front elevation adds to the quality of the building.

Proposed by Cllr Brandon seconded by Cllr Evitt - All in favour motion carried.

6.7	DC/20/02052	Castle Hill Farm, Occold	Erection of 4 poultry houses and associated admin block, store, feed bins and alterations to vehicular access
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The Council is not a statutory consultee for this application, but Cllr Berry recommends that we should object on traffic grounds using the evidence in the MLM report as vehicles servicing this establishment would need to come through Eye. We should inform the joint working parish group that we will be objecting. The detail of objection to be drawn up by Cllr Berry and Cllr Gould.

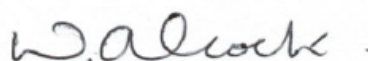
Proposed by Cllr Potter, seconded by Cllr Mann - All in favour motion carried.

2464

Signed: Mayor

Clerk

Dated:



15.07.2020

<https://planning.baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk/online-applications/> Search by the reference number.

7.0 To receive and note Mid Suffolk DC planning decisions and appeals as attached.

7.1	DC/20/01696	Conifer Cottage, 84 Brome Ave, Eye	Listed building consent has been refused.
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8.0 Progress Power, Eye Airfield. Application for a “non-material change” to Secretary of State for a one-year extension to beginning of works.

ETC does not have any objections. Given the elapse of time since any consultation meetings have been held ETC is to request two sets of hard copy of the latest drawings of the elevations, plans and site plans of the proposed power station and sub-station so that the people of Eye can be informed of the latest design proposals and assess their visual impact. ETC will also request a copy of Drax’s Corporate Social Responsibility policy with an aim to build a working relationship between the community and Drax and develop areas such as education and training opportunities and other benefits.

Proposed by Cllr Byles, seconded by Cllr Brandon All in Favour

Cllr Byles thought that the draft letter circulated was good and asked what the community benefit fund would look like or what the objectives are. Cllr Berry would like to see the details; however, these will not be available until the project is complete and costs are identified. Cllr McGregor – social benefit fund who would control the fund locally or through Section 106 monies through the district council. Cllr Gould confirmed that this is money for the parishes not the district.

Cllr Evitt also agreed with the points in the draft letter happy for it to be sent.

Cllr Henderson – do we know if issues of traffic and pollution have been considered. Cllr Berry – this is a high-level application directly to the Secretary of State and full research has taken place. These issues would have been picked up by the applicant.

9.0 To receive and confirm the minutes and recommendations of the **Environment Committee** meeting held on 2nd June 2020.

9.1 Proposed that Full Council approves the recommendation to increase the allotment fees as follows for 2020/21: -

- Eye Residents £2.50 per rod
- Non-Eye Residents £3.50 per rod

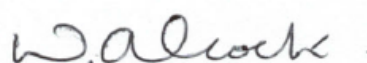
Proposed by Cllr Smith seconded by Cllr Hudson - All in favour motion carried.

2465

Signed: Mayor

Clerk

Dated:



15.07.2020

Cllr Smith reported that a complaint had been received regarding the skate park. The skatepark will remain officially closed until further notice. Cllr Smith has checked and has this been confirmed to the Clerk by the Suffolk Association for Local Council's that the police are responsible for the enforcement social distancing restrictions. The Town Council has no powers in this area.

The annual safety inspection has been requested on the skate park and the pocket park through Mid Suffolk District Council. The inspecting body will be "The Play Inspection Company". ETC has asked for an estimated life expectancy assessment on both parks. Cllr Smith suggested that Council makes an informed decision on the future of the skate park once the annual safety inspection and life expectancy report is received. The inspection date to be confirmed by Clerk through the district council. If necessary, Cllr Smith will call an extraordinary meeting to decide on the opening of the skate park dependent on the recommendations of the report.

Cllr Potter asked when would the skatepark be opened. Cllr Smith replied that it would be dependent on when the annual safety inspection is carried out and the recommendations of report received by MSDC's representatives.

Cllr Potter - The Community Centre gates are locked which impedes access to the car parking area which could cause issues should emergency vehicles need to get into the area. Cllr Smith has spoken to the Community Centre trustees regarding the closing of the gates.

Cllr Smith reported issues with the CCTV cameras, he is looking into allowing access of the CCTV to the Town Council.

Cllr Smith reported that there has not been any water at the cemetery for several weeks. The nearest mains water supply is over 350 meters away from the cemetery. Cllr Smith is investigating whether we can access water from the well which his located in the cemetery.

10.0 To receive and confirm the minutes and recommendations of the **Finance & Governance** Committee meeting held on 4th June 2020.

Resolutions and information for Council

Proposal to Council to

10.1 To recommend that Council agrees the revised budget for 2020/21 as presented.

Proposed by Cllr Evitt seconded by Cllr Gould - All in favour motion carried.

10.2 Propose that Council approves the Annual Governance Statement for 2019/20 as presented.

Proposed by Cllr Evitt seconded by Cllr Hudson - All in favour motion carried.

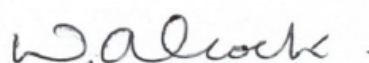
10.3 Propose that Council approves the Accountability Return for 2019/20 as presented.

2466

Signed: Mayor

Clerk

Dated:



15.07.2020

Proposed by Cllr Evitt seconded by Cllr Brandon - All in favour motion carried.

10.4 That Council notes the Internal Audit End of Year report for 2019/20 particularly that there are no recommendations made by the auditor in his report.

Cllr Evitt was pleased to see that internal auditors report had no recommendations this gives confidence that the Council's accounts are in good order, credit for this should be given to the Clerk for this achievement.

11.0 To report that the meeting of the **Events** committee scheduled for the 1st June did not take place as it was not quorate.

12.0 To receive and confirm the following Financial Matters:

12.1 To receive and note the current bank balances and Balance Sheet (Appendix B)

12.2 To receive and approve invoices presented for payment from June (Appendix C)

12.3 To approve payment of Staff Salaries for May 20 by bank transfer payable on the 18th June 20.

Proposed by Cllr Gould seconded by Cllr Evitt - All in favour motion carried.

13.0 To note that no items of correspondence have been received since the last meeting.

14.0 Date of next meeting Wednesday 15th July 2020.

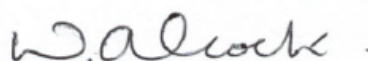
Meeting closed at 20:55

2467

Signed: Mayor

Clerk

Dated:



15.07.2020

Appendix A
Cllr Peter Gould – District Council report
June 2020

As you know, you are currently receiving weekly updates on our response to COVID-19 in our districts and **we suggest that you review the most recent update to see the most up-to-date situation** in terms of our support for local business, communities and impact on our services ahead of your town or parish meetings.

You can [see all Councillors updates here](#) and we also recently provided an [overview of performance and activity for 2019/20](#) to assist you with any 'end of year' round up as required.

You have continued to receive all media releases as they are issued since then and can [see them on our website here](#), but to assist you in giving your towns or parishes a rundown of activity during May, we include all recent announcements over recent weeks below:

We're rooting for new parents during COVID-19 and beyond

A Tree for Life scheme in Babergh and Mid Suffolk which offers a free tree for new parents, is now open for 2020 applications allowing families to apply from home during the coronavirus outbreak.

[Read the full story here.](#)

[For details of how apply, please refer towns and parishes to our website](#)

New grant scheme opens for small businesses

A new Discretionary Grant is now open for businesses based in shared offices or other flexible workspaces, market traders, bed and breakfasts and small charity properties.

[Read the full story here.](#)

[For details of how apply, please refer towns and parishes to our website](#)

Suffolk works on creating safer places as lockdown measures ease

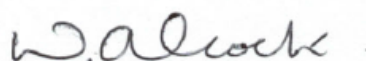
Businesses, towns and spaces in Suffolk are getting extra help to make them safer and reduce the risk of COVID-19 spreading as lockdown measures are eased.

2468

Signed: Mayor

Clerk

Dated:



15.07.2020

[Read the full story here.](#)

Communities benefit from Coronavirus funding boost totalling over £100,000

Communities have received more than £100,000 in vital funding from Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils – helping them to respond to Covid-19 and paving the way for a stronger society.

[Read the full story here.](#)

[For details of how apply, please refer towns and parishes to our website](#)

Children to explore the value of food through new competition by #FoodSavvy

Pioneering food saving campaign #FoodSavvy launched a month-long Delicious Drawings competition, on Wednesday 20 May, in collaboration with the East of England Co-op.

[Read the full story here.](#)

Stick With It Suffolk – continue slowing the spread of coronavirus

Suffolk people are being asked to continue their great efforts, which are successfully reducing the spread of COVID-19.

[Read the full story here.](#)

Small businesses to benefit from new innovation and growth fund

A new £300,000 funding programme for small businesses across Babergh and Mid Suffolk has been agreed - with funds to be allocated over the next three years. This will provide a much needed boost to businesses after the coronavirus crisis to help sustain and create jobs, provide opportunities to grow and innovate as well as react to the changing business landscape.

[Read the full story here.](#)

Coronavirus cons

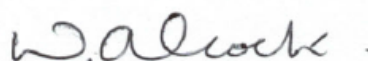
Unfortunately, opportunistic traders and scammers are taking advantage of the vulnerability of those panicked by COVID-19. If you'd like to help make Suffolk a safe place to live and work, register to be a Trading Standards Consumer Champion and receive a weekly email alert that provides information on scams as well as any doorstep rogues calling at properties in the local area so you can alert your neighbours or residents.

2469

Signed: Mayor

Clerk

Dated:



15.07.2020

Register to be a Trading Standards Consumer Champion

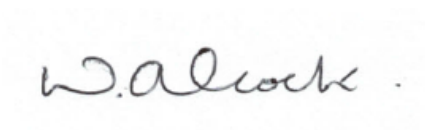
Appendix B

2470

Signed: Mayor

Clerk

Dated:

Handwritten signature of J. Walker in cursive script.Handwritten signature of W. Alcock in cursive script.

15.07.2020

Eye Town Council

Bank Reconciliation at 31/05/2020

	Cash in Hand 01/04/2020		148,591.20
	ADD		
	Receipts 01/04/2020 - 31/05/2020		64,937.96
			213,529.16
	SUBTRACT		
	Payments 01/04/2020 - 31/05/2020		36,170.12
A	Cash in Hand 31/05/2020		177,359.04
	(per Cash Book)		
	Cash in hand per Bank Statements		
	Cash	31/05/2020	129.84
	1. Barclays Current Account	29/05/2020	97,360.51
	Barclays Business Account	31/05/2020	49,205.88
	Barclaycard	31/05/2020	0.00
	National savings investment acc	31/05/2020	31,016.90
			177,713.13
	Less unrepresented payments		354.09
			177,359.04
	Plus unrepresented receipts		0.00
B	Adjusted Bank Balance		177,359.04

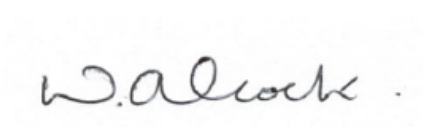
A = B Checks out OK

2471

Signed: Mayor

Clerk

Dated:



15.07.2020

Appendix C

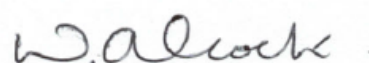
EYE TOWN COUNCIL							
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE TO 12/06/2020							
Vch	Pay Type	Code	Name	Description		Amount	Initials
64	BT	19 - Pensions	NEST	Pension		124.02	
65	BT	23 - Phone	O2	Phone		-8.00	
66	CC	159 - Office Rent	Zoom	subscription		14.39	
67	PC	20 - Office costs postage,stationery,copy	Post office	Postage stamps		1.15	
68	BT	62 - Grass and hedge cutting	Mortimer Contracts Ltd	Grass Cut Contract (Cem & Church)		720.00	
69	DD	51 - Street Light Loan repayment	Public works loan board	Public Works Loan		2,108.81	
70	CC	16 - Town Clerks Expenses	The Train Line	Travel expenses		0.50	
71	CC	30 - Cllr Expenses	The Train Line	Travel expenses		0.50	
72	DD	142 - Broadband	Zen	Broadband		38.40	
73	DD	23 - Phone	O2	Phone		42.22	
74	DD	32 - Admin Other SALC Affiliation	Information Commission	Data Protection Registration		35.00	
75	BT	20 - Office costs postage,stationery,copy	C Byles	stamps		6.08	
76	DD	105 - Gas	Crown Gas & Power	Gas		28.32	
		All Staff				3,880.43	
		All Staff	HMRC	PAYE/NIERC		994.78	
88	BT	58 - Allotment general maintenance	Mike Smith	Allotment Maintenance		240.00	
89	DD	Office costs	Zen	Broadband - Tacon Close		38.40	
90	CC	Cleaning and other materials	Amazon EU S.a.r.l	Protective gloves for caretaker		18.24	
91	BT	Public Toilet Refurbishment 2020-21	Paul Durrant & Son	Stage payment for refurbishment		3,456.46	
92	DD	Pension costs	NEST	June pension payments		128.14	
93	BT	Grass Cutting	Hartley's Garden Service	June grass cutting		275.00	
						12,142.84	

KEY - Numbers = Cheque, BT = Bank Transfer, CC = Credit Card, DD = Direct Debit, PC = Petty Cash

Signed: Mayor

Clerk

Dated:

15.07.2020