



EYE TOWN COUNCIL

20 Broad Street, Eye, Suffolk, IP23 7AF
07713 196 251

MINUTES OF THE EYE TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 21st March 2018 in the COUNCIL CHAMBER, EYE TOWN HALL

Present: Mayor Cllr Ribchester, Deputy Mayor Cllr Robins, Cllr Berry, Cllr Blake, Cllr Burke, Cllr Byles, Cllr Evitt, Cllr Gould, Cllr Hudson, Cllr Mann, Cllr Smith, Cllr Walker and also in attendance 9 members of the public Town Clerk - Wendy Alcock.

1. Apologies and Approval of Absences

Cllr Henderson, Cllr Crispin,

2. Members Declarations of Interests and Consideration of Requests for Dispensations

None declared.

3. Public Participation - Meeting to be opened

3.1 County Councilor Report – Cllr. Guy McGregor

Barclays Bank PLC closure of Eye Branch. Cllr MG has expressed his concerns to senior PR personnel at Barclays.

Hartismere High School – Transport options. Proposal for change will come from SCC in June.

Discussions have been held with County Highways regarding recent issues with bad weather

Library plans progress well. Tenders in place work starts by the end of the year.

Cllr Byles – asked about the 20-mph limit in Eye. Cllr MG promised this time last year. Officers are working on this for the town. He is still applying pressure for this to be initiated. Cllr Byles asked if Cllr MG could ask for an explanation on what is causing the hold up.

Cllr Gould spoke that feedback had been received whilst consulting for the Neighbourhood plan on 20 mph and parking issues.

Cllr Gould proposed that the Town Council should make a representation to Barclays regarding the closure. Cllr Evitt agreed and felt that the bank owed some loyalty to the residents of Eye after many years of support.

Cllr Evitt asked if Barclays had given any reason for the closure. Cllr MG said that no evidence had been given for the closure by Barclays.

2198

Signed: Mayor

Clerk

Date 18th April 2018

Member of the public concerned of closures of banks in surrounding towns also, which adds further issues.

3.2 District Council Report – Cllr Michael Burke

Cllr Burke gave a report in the following areas: -

- Paddock House
- Bank
- Babergh and Mid Suffolk (see report in Appendix E)
- Awards
- Unitary Council
- Progress Power
- A140 Junction improvements

For full report see attached Appendix B

Cllr Berry – spoke about the Paddock House drop in sessions. His views were shared by Cllr Crispin. Design concepts on offer very narrow. The architects have not been stretched enough and could be expanded.

Cllr Burke added that an ultimatum was given to MSDC to bring something to the session.

Member of the public spoke of an alternative design which offered more green space and parking.

Cllr Burke commented that this confirms earlier discussions.

3.3 Members of the Public and Community Announcements

Eye Magazine – plans to publish on the website. This will be added after the paper magazine has been circulated.

Report of the state of the toilet. Referred to Mid Suffolk District Council.

Cllr Byles responded that MSDC were responsible for the public toilets and closed them. Some time ago the town council approached the district council to keep the disabled toilet open for the public. The toilet costs the Town £XXX to run. It is maintained by the TC to as high a standard given the state of the building but the building is owned by MSDC. Cllr Burke MSDC.

Member of public spoke of the concerns of the loss of the 6 parking spaces with the development of the new library and the loss of 4 spaces from the existing site.

Meeting to be closed

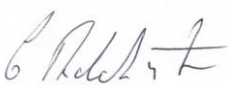
4. To receive and confirm the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 21st February 2018

Proposed by Cllr Robins – Seconded by Cllr Evitt all in favour - motion carried.

5. To receive and confirm the minutes and recommendations from Town Hall Committee meeting held on the 22nd February 2018.

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Signed: Mayor



Clerk



Date 18th April 2018

Cllr Byles confirmed that works were going very well. Historic England have agreed to cover additional work to guttering as identified.

The Council passed a resolution to submit a VAT registration for the Town Hall activities. This was submitted in October 2017. By January no response was heard. Following enquiries, we were told that there was a backlog and would be processed by March. A letter has been received that HMRC will not continue to process our application as we hadn't supplied data as requested. No request was received. We have asked for the letter which requested the data and we have also logged an appeal against the decision.

Cllr Byles praised the Town Hall Committee and said that the success of the refurbishment was down to all the members.

Cllr Berry confirmed that the project was working within budget. All interior works will be completed before Easter. Which will allow bookings to recommence on the 3rd April. There will be a cleaning team in the Town Hall over the Easter holiday to clear up. The Town Council is very pleased with the level of work from our contractor Paul Durrant and Son.

5.1 To consider whether or not to undertake a fire risk assessment at a cost not exceeding £600 using a single source tender

Proposed by Cllr Byles – Seconded by Cllr Berry all in favour - motion carried.

5.2 To consider whether or not to spend up to £400 on framing the copies of the original town hall drawings, for heritage purposes the cost to be contained within the overall budget for the building works.

Proposed by Cllr Berry – Seconded by Cllr Burke all in favour - motion carried.

5.3 To note that Gislingham Silver Band will be attending the re-opening of the Town Hall on Wednesday 4th April during the Country Market. They will be playing from 10:00 am until 11:00 am.

6. To receive and comment on planning applications as follows (and consideration of late applications)

6.1 DC/18/00753 - 7 Lowgate Street, Eye - Listed Building Consent. Replacement of front door and door frame to match existing. – No reason to object.


6.2 DC/17/05666 - Land To The South Of Eye Airfield And East Of The A140 – Re-application to erect a new processing facility, waste water treatment plant and gatehouse with associated car park and service yards, two vehicle access points, drainage swale and landscaping. – Concerns remain the same as first application. No reason to object.

6.3 Progress Power Acoustic Wall Draft Planning Inspectorate Letter – The Planning Committee had agreed to endorse the letter as circulated from Mellis PC. However, at the same time the Planning committee met, Cllr Gould and Cllr Burke attended a working session with Progress Power. They reported that they have now appointed a contractor to build the power station who has planned to build a baffling method around the elements of the power station so the acoustic wall was no longer be needed. Therefore, this item can be withdrawn.

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

2200

Signed: Mayor



Clerk



Date 18th April 2018

Proposed no reason to object for 6.1 and 6.2 by Cllr Evitt – Seconded by Cllr Smith - all in favour - motion carried.

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

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

7.1 DC/18/00142 - Progress Power, Eye, Suffolk - Approval of details in accordance with Schedule 2 (1) of the S106 Agreement pursuant to The Progress Power (Gas Fired Power Station) Order 2015 (S.I2015/1570) as amended.

7.2 DC/18/003583 – 3 Lowgate Street, Eye – Refusal of discharge of conditions

7.3 SCC\0226\17MS - 6, Cross Green, Eye – Planning permission granted subject to conditions.

7.4 DC/18/00253 – 4 Linden Court, Wellington Road, Eye – Erection of shed – Permission granted.

7.5 DC/18/00273 – St Peter & St Paul PC, Church St, Eye – Erection of single storage building – Permission granted.

7.6 DC/17/06312 - 21 Castle Street, Eye - Replacement of timber casement windows to East, South and North elevations – Listed building consent granted.

8. To receive and confirm the minutes and recommendations of the Environment Committee meeting held on 6th March 2018.

No resolutions for Council

9. To receive and confirm the minutes and recommendations of the Finance & Governance Committee meeting held on 8th March 2018.

9.1 That Full Council approve the budget virements at listed in Appendix A attached to this agenda.

Proposed by Cllr Evitt – Seconded by Cllr Byles all in favour - motion carried.

9.2 That Full Council agree to Cllr John Blake becomes the fourth authorised signatory.

Proposed by Cllr Evitt – Seconded by Cllr Robins all in favour - motion carried.

9.3 That Full Council agrees to pay £170.00 Hartismere School towards the Annual Awards from April 18 Section 137 budget and to request the Head Teacher collects the cheque from the 18th April meeting.

Proposed by Cllr Evitt – Seconded by Cllr Gould all in favour - motion carried.

9.4 To receive an update on office line management ***

9.5 To receive a report regarding the Street Carers' annual leave ***

10. To receive and confirm the minutes and recommendations of the Events Committee held on the 26th February 2018.

Next event is Mayors Parade.

No resolution from Council

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Signed: Mayor



Clerk



Date 18th April 2018

11. To receive and confirm the following Financial Matters:

11.1 To receive and note the current bank balances and Balance Sheet (Appendix C)

11.2 To receive and approve invoices presented for payment (Appendix D)

11.3 To approve payment of Staff Salaries for 2018 by bank transfer payable on the 22nd March 2018.

Proposed by Cllr Gould – Seconded by Cllr Burke all in favor - motion carried.

12. That Full Council approve the Internal Control Statement for the year ended 31st March 2019.

Proposed by Cllr Evitt – Seconded by Cllr Walker all in favor - motion carried.

13. That Full Council approve the reviewed Eye Town Council's - Risk Register

Proposed by Cllr Walker – Seconded by Cllr Hudson all in favor - motion carried.

14. That Full Council approves the following reviewed documents: -

- Guide to being a Mayor
- Councillor Induction Programme

Proposed by Cllr Mann – Seconded by Cllr Blake all in favor - motion carried.

15. Update on the Neighbourhood Plan from the Neighbourhood Planning Steering Committee.

Cllr Gould gave an overview of progress to date. He proposed a presentation at May meeting prior to the full Council meeting to further update when more news would be available.

Neighbourhood Plan helps residents influence the planning process for the town. (Look at leaflet for summary) Designation last autumn for Eye to develop a Neighbourhood Plan.

MSDC are developing a Local Plan the Neighbourhood Plan dovetails into the Local Plan and has to be considered. NP should be in place by autumn. It will be tested by MSDC and then go to a referendum of Eye residents.

Evidence has been drawn by the 2009 parish plan. Looking at the infrastructure for Eye, residents concerned about the pressures development can have on the existing infrastructure. Eye currently has a deficit for its infrastructure in relation to its current residents let alone any future development.

Housing Needs Survey will be taking place going forward.


A Community Facilities Survey has already taken place and is now being analysed.

Identifying potential sites for development – include Century Road and Castleton Road. Victoria Mill is also a potential site. Full options appraisal of alternatives including relocating the Chicken Factory for development. ACON are completing site evaluation assessments on our behalf.

Victoria Mill site – Council owned land, one presently used for allotments the other has been used for agricultural use. Clean title has been obtained. Agricultural use land needs to make an application to the secretary of state. Allotment society approval was obtained. Secretary of State has given permission to

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Signed: Mayor



Clerk



Date 18th April 2018

change use of the land. Access is a particular problem to allow development. Single track not suitable for high levels of vehicles. Other access point is from the land where the planning permission has already been granted.

Several options:-

- Do nothing
- Sell it
- Develop it
- Use for solar power generation.


Cllr Byles would like to thank Cllr Gould for informing the Council of plans. She asked for reassurances that the current land used for allotments would remain as allotments. Cllr Gould confirmed that the options appraisal would only look at the land currently being used for agricultural use.

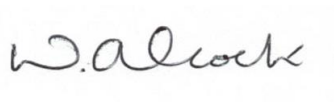
Cllr Burke added the he attends the planning meetings at MSDC. Currently Eye has no 5 year land supply and no Neighbourhood plan. Without these in place there has to be good planning reasons why proposed development can not place. The Neighbourhood Plan would provide a 3 year land supply and give more structure to the planning process.

16. To note the attached items of correspondence.

CORRESPONDENCE TO THE COUNCIL – TO BE NOTED AND CONSIDERED		
<i>Date</i>	<i>Details of Correspondence</i>	<i>Actions Taken/Required</i>
06/03/2018	Local Government Boundary Commission consultation on ward boundaries for Mid-Suffolk	For information Boundary Commission have proposed no changes to Eye joining Occold for electoral boundaries.
26/02/2018	The Forge Church Community Involvement	Pass to all Councillors but for Events committee to action
15/03/2018	Consultation on Suffolk Parking Management Strategy	Passed to all Councillors for decision. Cllr Burke defer to the Neighbourhood Plan to look at this strategy.
18/03/2018	E-mail from local resident regarding traffic and parking issues in Eye and closure of Barclays Bank	Passed to all Councillors for information and response. Cllr Burke – spoke about parking as an issue for the NP and the Council priorities.

17. Date of next meeting Wednesday 18th April 2018.


Signed: Mayor 

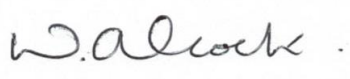
Clerk 

Date 18th April 2018

18. Exclusion of Press and Public (LGA 1972, Part 1, Schedule 12A, Section 100A(4). To consider whether under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public should be excluded from the meeting on the grounds that the business to be transacted involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as prescribed in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 and indicated against each item marked***

Meeting Closed to public.

Signed: Mayor 

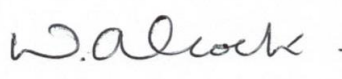
Clerk 

Date 18th April 2018

Appendix A

Budget virements to cover variances				
Environment - Street Care			Amount	Revised Budget
From	50	Maint Street Furniture	-275	25.00
To	149	Speedwatch	+275	3075.00
From	48	Street Minor Maint	-150	120.00
From	49	Replacement dog bins	-150	0.00
From	47	Grit Bin	-50	110.00
To	52	Hanging Baskets	+350	1250.00
Environment - Allotments			Amount	Revised Budget
From	54	Allotment water rates	-108	167
Environment - Cemetery/Churchyard				
To	67	Rates and utilities	+108	108
Finance & Governance			Amount	Revised Budget
From	25	Petty cash, misc	-35	297.00
To	22	IT support	+35	208.00
From	152	Recruitment	-200	0.00
From	30	CLL expenses	-100	0.00
From	25	Petty cash, misc	-80	217.00
To	26	Audit	+380	1328

Signed: Mayor 

Clerk 

Date 18th April 2018

Appendix B

District Councillors Report

21st March 2018 – Michael Burke

1. Paddock House

Eventually Mid Suffolk carried out their drop-in session/consultation on Paddock House on March 12th. I know many people were disappointed with what was presented, the one positive being that they did engage, albeit 12 months after they bought the site.

We have subsequently been in touch with MSDC and will shortly be arranging a meeting between ETC representatives and relevant MSDC officers to review and discuss the results of the consultation and to identify the best way forward dependent on the findings from the drop-in session.

2. Bank

The announcement of the closure of the bank in Eye by Barclays is a major blow to the town. We as Councillors need to do everything that we can to either get Barclays to reverse their decision or probably more likely canvass to attract another bank/building society to come to Eye.

3. Babergh & Mid Suffolk

The independent telephone survey carried out by ComRes, covering 2000 residents in each district has shown that 62% of residents are in favour of the creation of a single council for Babergh and Mid Suffolk.

In Babergh 54% of respondents are in favour of a single council, 35% are unfavourable. In Mid Suffolk the figures are 69% of respondents are in favour and 22% unfavourable.

4. Awards

Babergh and Mid Suffolk councils have been given the silver award in the Council of the Year in the Public Sector Transformation Awards 2018.

5. Unitary Council

Colin Noble, leader of Suffolk County Council has commissioned a new report looking at the prospect of a single council running all services in Suffolk. He has called in a think tank Respublica to look at options in Local Government in Suffolk over the next few years.

6. Progress Power

Attended further working session with Progress Power on Monday 19th March. This is an Agenda item under planning so will update the latest at that point in the meeting. Here we have a bit of good news.

7. A140 Junction improvements

Just a reminder for everybody that tomorrow Thursday 22nd March is the Stakeholder Engagement Event Meeting on the junction improvements on the A140 alongside Eye Airfield. This is being held at the Community Centre from 2:00 pm until 7:00 pm. A chance to see the designs and input on local priorities.

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Signed: Mayor



Clerk



Date 18th April 2018

Eye Town Council**Bank Reconciliation at 28/02/2018**

Cash in Hand 01/04/2017

117,260.60

ADD

Receipts 01/04/2017 - 28/02/2018

349,747.01

467,007.61

SUBTRACT

Payments 01/04/2017 - 28/02/2018

255,390.14

A Cash in Hand 28/02/2018**211,617.47**

(per Cash Book)

Cash in hand per Bank Statements

Cash	28/02/2018	90.35
Barclays Current Account	28/02/2018	141,926.89
Barclays Business Account	28/02/2018	48,985.61
National savings investment account	31/01/2018	30,549.18
Barclaycard	28/02/2018	0.00

221,552.03

Less unrepresented cheques

As attached

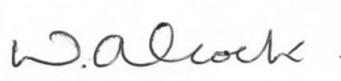
9,984.53

211,567.50

Plus unrepresented receipts

As attached

49.97

B Adjusted Bank Balance**211,617.47****A = B Checks out OK**

Appendix D

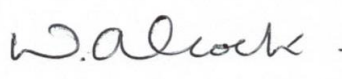
14 March 2018 (Accounts 2017/2018)

**Eye Town Council
PAYMENTS LIST**

Vchr.	Cheque	Cde	Name	Description	Amount
413	106439	25	Suffolk Neighbourhood Watch Association	Donation box	50.00
414	106440	159	Eye and District Volunteer Centre	Office Utilities Contribution	38.18
415	106441	146	The Fabric Shop	Uniforms	25.00
416	106442	171	Lighting Design & Drawing Services	Lighting design	70.00
417	106443	49	Glasdon U.K Ltd	Dog Bin Replacement	103.82
458	106444	178	Mid Suffolk District Council	Building Inspection fee	330.00
436	106445	14	HMRC	PAYE/NIERC	265.21
437	106445	145	HMRC	PAYE/NIERC	398.93
438	106445	170	HMRC	PAYE I Haines	36.00
439	106445	17	HMRC	National insurance ers	172.66
				Subtotal Cheque No. 106445	872.80
441	106446	94	Handyman Eye	Misc	11.70
442	106446	46	Handyman Eye	Street carer sundries	2.40
443	106446	71	Handyman Eye	toilet cleaning materials	4.00
444	106446	63	Handyman Eye	Cemtery Sundries	1.58
				Subtotal Cheque No. 106446	19.68
452	106447	36	The Prior Inn Co	Meeting expenses	100.00
453	106448	139	Outflux	Neighbourhood planning	400.00
455	106449	170	Gislingham Silver Band	Tow n Hall opening event	150.00
456	106450	139	Ipswich Borough Council	Neighbourhood planning	50.00
457	106451	139	Langton Brook Consultancy	Neighbourhood planning	125.00
419	BT20	14	Wendy Alcock	Tow n Clerks Salary	1,442.57
420	BT21	170	Ian Haines	Admin Assistant Salary	144.00
421	BT22	145	A Robinson	Project Co-ordinator salary	68.78
440	BT22	170	A Robinson	Recharge Project Co-ordinator	456.69
				Subtotal BT22.	525.47
422	BT23	68	Dawn Rouse	toilet cleaner w ages	195.00
423	BT24	80	Steve Smith	Caretakers Wages	570.94

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Signed: Mayor 

Clerk 

Date 18th April 2018

424	BT25	43	S Kaye	Street carer salary	482.94
425	BT26	68	K Rouse	toilet cleaner wages	60.00
426	BT27	171	Needham Electrical Ltd	Electrical Works	3,552.00
427	BT28	62	TOP Garden Services	Grass Cut Contract (Cem & Church)	234.00
428	BT28	63	TOP Garden Services	Tree works	600.00
429	BT28	73	TOP Garden Services	Pocket park grass cut	67.50
				Subtotal BT28	901.50
430	BT29	62	TOP Garden Services	Grass Cut Contract (Cem & Church)	234.00
431	BT29	73	TOP Garden Services	Pocket park grass cut	67.50
				Subtotal BT29	301.50
445		49	Go West	Installing Dog Bin	40.00
446	BT30	171	Paul Durrant & Son Builders	Building works	32,490.00
447	BT31	171	Paul Durrant & Son Builders	Building works	12,379.37
435	DD	94	O2	Caretakers Phone replacement	33.60
418	DD	142	Zen	Broadband	50.40
432	DD	106	Wave	Water/Sewerage Rates	105.30
433	DD	23	O2	Phone	36.54
434	DD	19	Nest	Pension	21.55
448	DDCNG1	105	CNG	Gas	207.62
449	DDCNG1	105	CNG	Gas	-376.75
450	DDCNG1	105	CNG	Gas	189.45
				Subtotal DDCNG1	20.32
412	PC	20	Petty Cash	Petty Cash	7.80
				Total	55,695.28

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

Signed: Mayor  Clerk 

Date 18th April 2018

Independent Survey finds residents in favour of the creation of a single council

Posted by on 21 March 2018 | Comments

Almost two thirds of residents (62%) are in favour of the creation of a single council for Babergh and Mid Suffolk, an independent survey has found.

As part of wider public engagement activities on the proposal to create a single council to replace Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils, ComRes, a leading market research company, carried out an independent telephone survey of 4,000 residents - 2,000 from each district. Respondents reflected the gender, age, ethnicity and socio-economic grades of the local population.

The results of the survey, which were presented to councillors from both districts today, shows that in Babergh 54% of respondents are in favour of the creation of a single council and 35% are unfavourable. In Mid Suffolk, 69% of respondents are in favour of the creation of a single council and 22% are unfavourable.

Overall, the survey showed extremely high support from electors for five key objectives of creating a single district council:

- Long term financial stability to protect the services that are most important to residents (93%)
- Delivering services that are better tailored to the needs of local residents (93%)
- Meet the challenges facing local government (89%)
- Maintain low council tax (88%)
- Create better relationships with local communities (88%)

The survey found that nearly three quarters of respondents (70%) were aware of the proposals and more than half (57%) knew a little or a lot about it.

More than half of respondents (54%) were not concerned about the proposal to create a single council, while 43% were concerned.

The survey found that support for the vulnerable is considered to be the most important priority for local government; and residents think that the creation of a single council would have a positive effect on older people, disabled people and young people.

The results of the independent telephone survey will be included alongside all the other responses to the initial public engagement and the costs and benefits in a business case, which is due to be published in the spring.



The Leader of Babergh District Council, Councillor John Ward said: "This independent telephone survey, which asked a representative sample of the local population, shows that seven years on from the previous referendum on this issue, more people in Babergh are now in favour of the creation of a single council than those who are not. Residents are clear that we should be prioritising financial stability and providing better local services that are more tailored to the needs of our residents. Dissolving Babergh and Mid Suffolk to create a new single district council will ensure we can deliver what our residents want.

A lot has changed since 2011 and it was essential that we carried out this engagement to understand current public opinion in Babergh to inform the business case for creating a new

council. Once the business case has been drafted and fully debated by all councillors, then it will be put to the electors of Babergh to vote on through a referendum this summer."

Leader of Mid Suffolk District Council, Councillor Nick Gowrley said: "The results of this independent telephone survey reinforces the views expressed by Mid Suffolk electors in the 2011 referendum, and clearly show that more residents in Mid Suffolk are in favour and unconcerned about the proposed creation of a single council than there were back in 2011. . Our residents have spoken and they are clear what they want us to do, now is the time to put this to the Secretary of State and make this a reality."

