

Minutes of the Town Meeting of Hunstanton Town Council

held Thursday 30th May 2019

at 6 pm in Town Hall



Present: The Mayor Cllr Amanda Bosworth
Cllrs: Winnington, Croucher, Jowett, McKimm, LeMay, Ruston, Smith,
Murray, Knight, Kidd, Corby, Ruston

Also Present: Town Clerk Jan Roomes, Clerk's Assistant Jennifer Christie
NCC Cllr Jamieson
Mr Paul Emerson – representative for Northfield Allotments
Mr John Bridger – HTC representative for SNAP
Members of the Public x 7

1. Welcome to the Meeting

The Mayor Cllr Amanda Bosworth welcomed members of the public to the meeting.

2. Apologies for Absence

- i. Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Bishopp who was on vacation, Cllr Bower and Howard who had prior engagements.
- ii. Members agreed (unanimous) to accept the apologies for absence from Cllrs Bishopp, Howard and Bower.

Apologies were also received from BCllr Bower who had a prior commitment.

The Clerk read a brief message from BCllr Bower:

I am honoured to be representing Hunstanton ward and am grateful to be re-elected.

“As you will all know, things have changed at the Borough Council since the election. Given that Paul Beal and I have worked closely together for several years our priorities for Hunstanton remain the same.

Residents are always welcome to contact us”

3. Minutes from Meeting held 20th April 2018

The minutes of the meeting held 20th April 2018 were agreed as a true record (6 for, 6 abstentions).

4. Report from the Mayor

The Mayor Cllr Amanda Bosworth informed those present that the meeting would be less formal meeting than previous years and that all reports to be given have been printed in the Annual Report 2018/19 booklet.

The Mayor gave the following report:

I will start my report by saying what an honour and a privilege it has been to act as Chairman of the Town Council and Mayor of Hunstanton since May 2018 - and I truly appreciate the honour of being elected to serve a second term of office in 2019-2020.

Over the past year, Hunstanton Town Council has implemented an organisational change programme in order to develop a more efficient staffing structure that better meets operational needs. Largely thanks to the dedication of the Town Clerk – as well as the understanding and cooperation of staff – these changes have already produced positive results, both in terms of administrative efficiency and financial returns. Information on finances may be found in the Finance and Property Management Committee report.

The Council has also rationalised its own structure, merging 4 committees in to two. At our June meeting we will co-opt two more Councillors to bring us up to the full complement of 17 and then the hard work will really begin. A five-year strategic planning document has been produced and will be further developed to generate annual work programmes, underpinned by statutory financial planning and reporting cycles. Priorities for the coming year already include (1) potential acquisition of the freehold of the Community Centre and grounds and (2) consideration of taking over the leasehold of the Recreation ground.

Our Community engagement strategy has seen us increase the number of events that we either organise, participate in or sponsor. These now include the commemoration of the 1953 Floods in February, “Have a Field Day” in July (celebrating our green space at the Community Centre) and “Festival of Christmas” in December. By working in partnership with a committed and energetic group of local volunteers, these really are community events.

We have also introduced new initiatives to regularly meet with residents and hear their feedback on local issues (Community coffee mornings/tea and mardle at the Community Centre and Councillor surgeries linked to the indoor car boot sales in the Town Hall); a review of practical improvement actions undertaken at the request of residents is included in the General Purpose and Community Committee report.

Unsurprisingly, areas of concern often include local transport and roads, housing and planning issues, as well as questions about the potential impact of initiatives such as One Public Estate and the Southern Seafront Regeneration. Whilst these issues do not fall directly under the responsibility of the Town Council, we constantly seek to develop closer working relationships with other organisations. Through active participation at meetings such as the HTC-BCKLWN Forum and Hunstanton Coastal Community Team, we are able to provide informed input from the perspective of local needs. The House of Lords Select Committee on Regenerating Seaside Towns and Communities published a report earlier this year entitled “The future of seaside towns” and this report raises some interesting reflections that should be considered in discussions on the regeneration of Hunstanton.

Environmental issues such as coastal erosion, condition of our beaches, quality of bathing water, single use plastics are of particular interest to all of us. We have therefore decided to include this topic in one of our working parties to identify if there is anything that we might implement in our day-to-day working environment or present for consideration in another forum.

I will close by offering my personal thanks to all Councillors and staff (both past and present) for their valuable contribution to the work of the Council – as well as to all of the local volunteers who do so much to make Hunstanton the friendly and inclusive community that is so appreciated by residents and visitors alike.

5. General Purposes & Community Committee

Cllr Winnington acknowledged the death of Mr John Crisford who dedicated a lot of time to work for the Town. Mr Crisford sadly passed away shortly after the last Annual Town Meeting.

Cllr Winnington gave the following report:

Firstly, my sincere thanks go to all members of the working parties that report to the General Purposes and Community Committee. It is within these working parties that most of the groundwork of the council takes place. Additional thanks also go to the Town Clerk for her time and expertise producing the documentation for the committee meetings and implementing the recommendations into practice.

This committee came into being during November 2018 when the council made the decision to merge the General Purposes Committee with the Community Committee.

Special thanks to Councillor Croucher for the works she carried out as Chair of the Community Committee.

Four working parties now report to the GP & C Committee; Highways and Byways, Community Engagement, Neighbourhood Plan and Youth. A Fifth working party, Remembrance 2018, founded to co-ordinate commemorations of the ending of the First world War has now been closed as the aims of the party have all been achieved (please refer to the special report on this subject).

The Highways and Byways working party has reacted to enquiries and concerns from residents regarding grit bins, dog bins, dropped kerbs, pavements, potholes, building works and other issues. The committee has been proactive (following last year's Wig-Wag 20 mph sign on Collingwood Rd) and has arranged for the purchase and imminent installation of SAM 2 speed information signs for both Oasis Way and Lighthouse Lane.

The Neighbourhood Plan Working Party had a busy year finalising details, the draft plan is very thorough and is currently out for consultation to statutory bodies including the Borough Council. The new draft Local Plan of the Borough Council has also been studied in detail and a response listing a number of concerns has been sent. Very special thanks to Councillor Murray for his time and expertise in the preparation of these documents. It is the intention that the finalised neighbourhood plan will go to local referendum later this year; it will need to be supported by at least 51% of those voting.

The main aim of the Community Engagement working party is for individuals and groups within the town to work together and support each other for the benefit of the town. This was in its infancy last year but is now moving forward including the town council joining with others to produce a Festival of Christmas for the benefit of the town.

Unfortunately, the Youth working party, for several reasons, has not been as effective during the past year. However, we plan to re-launch to include all schools and youth organisations within Hunstanton so the agenda may be set for the necessary requirements from the town council.

The General Purposes and Community Committee also receives reports from the town council's representatives on other groups; these include the Borough and Town Council Forum, Coastal Community Team, The Wash East Coast management Strategy Group, Chamber of Trade, Civic Society, Hunstanton in Bloom, West Norfolk Tourism Forum and The Sheepfield Community Project.

environment, as well as our latest addition; Elly Griffiths novels set in local areas our footfall continues to increase month by month. TripAdvisor reports that 47 reviews of Hunstanton Tourist Information Centre have been recorded on the site with scores of between 4.5 and 5 showing 'very good' and above service.

Popular services to local residents included the processing of new bus passes and renewal applications - including taking the necessary photograph – as well as parking permits, not only for residents but also for businesses and visitors to the town.

The excellent and well trained staff ensure that local businesses are promoted by holding sample menus from local restaurants, arranging accommodation bookings for providers registered with Visit West Norfolk, sell tickets for local events in the Town Hall, Community Centre, Sealife Centre, local Panto and many more.

Staff also produce an extremely popular monthly events list showcasing all one-off events in the area, plus the regular weekly and monthly event's, currently 150 + copies per month are printed.

A wide selection of leaflets are stocked for hundreds of local attractions as well as bus timetables, Holiday guides, 'Where to Go' guides and Hunstanton Mini Guide. Tickets are sold for all local events, whether purchased over the phone, in person or mailed out.

8. E-Planning Committee

Cllr Kidd, Chairman of E-Planning gave the following report:

In the planning process Hunstanton Town Council (HTC) are one of the bodies who are deemed to be a Statutory Consultee. The Borough Council Planning Department receive the applications and notify each Town/Parish of all the applications relevant to each council.

HTC have an E-planning Committee which review all of the planning applications made in the town council's area of responsibility.

The Town Council are allowed a period of 3 weeks to make any comments with regards to the proposals and feed them back to the Borough Council. As part of this process HTC E-planning carry out a review of all the applications and where appropriate carry out site visits to look at the proposals being put forward, canvass the views of neighbouring properties including the impacts on them, the local environment, whether they comply with conservation area requirements and the benefit of the town in general.

In the past 12 months Hunstanton has dealt with a large number of applications. These include full, full major, outlining, advertisements, change of use and trees. We as a Town Council have reviewed them and provided our consultee comments. There has been a number which have been supported by the Town Council and some that we as Town Councillors felt we could not support on the grounds of the impact on the town, the impacts on local constituents and the benefits to the town in the longer term.

There have been some significant applications which will have an impact on the town including the Witley Press site, which HTC opposed based upon the impact on the local residents in Church Street and the neighbouring roads. We did however put forward a suggested change to the design to firstly ensure that the site was developed in a manner which was in keeping with the existing building lines and met the requirements of nationally recognised guidance on areas such as the allocation of parking spaces, in order to meet the occupancy levels anticipated.

Also following the sales of both the old Nat West Bank and 15 The Green, we have seen both purchased and applications received to house the Heritage centre & a new restaurant for the town.

We also have the development on the Bennett Homes site on the A149 Cromer Road which has seen some early preparatory works undertaken to accommodate new road layouts and the re-siting of the bus stops.

As a Town Council we will be continuing to look at all future planning applications/proposals which have an impact on how the town develops and once the neighbourhood plan has been agreed and passed, how they will fit into the plan going forward in the future.

9. Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Murray gave the following report:

In Spring 2013, permission was granted from the Borough Council for Hunstanton Town Council to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan for the whole area of the parish. Progress has been slow. The town council elected to focus the plan on the type and design of housing. A questionnaire was circulated in April 2016 and there have been 2 public consultations. The draft plan was put out to consultation in November 2018. There is a need to clarify with Peter Jermany some of the responses made by the Borough and to check that the plan conforms with the new version of the National Planning Policy Framework published in June 2018.

10. Community Engagement

Cllr Bosworth read the following report from Cllr Howard (Chair of Community Engagement Working Party):

The community engagement team have had a busy year, starting with the field day last July, those who attended enjoyed it however the turnout was quite low as it clashed with England playing in the World Cup. Planning commenced in January for the Field Day this year July 6th and plans are underway to hold a competition to find a new Town Crier. Anyone interested can contact the Clerk on 01485 532402 or by email to clerk@hunstantontowncouncil.gov.uk for further information or simply turn up on the day for an audition.

Thanks go to Cllr Knight for setting up the HTC Hunstanton Events Facebook page. Already a very active site promoting both private and Council run events, available for anyone to use. Please take a look and see what is going on in and around the town.

A Saturday morning **Coffee with Councillors** morning was held each month in the Community Centre. Introduced to give residents a chance to meet their local councillors in a relaxed and informal way whilst having the opportunity to find out what was currently happening and proposed for the town.

A **Councillor Surgery** was also held every 1st Monday of the month in the Town Hall, another way for locals and visitors to communicate with the council and to voice any concerns.

The Christmas festivities are currently being organised with a large team of councillors, residents and business people all working together to make this year's event a success.

Engaging with the community is an important part of the Council as only through communication are the council aware of how the residents feel the council is performing and how the council knows what the residents expect from them.

11. Remembrance Working Party

Cllr Winnington gave the following report:

All of the events and acts of remembrance during the First World War Centenary weekend in Hunstanton were well attended.

On the Sunday, despite the inclement weather, about fifteen hundred people gathered at the Cenotaph War Memorial in the Esplanade Gardens for the Act of Remembrance and the two minutes silence.

On the Friday a number of pupils from each of the three schools in the town were among those who visited the Remembrance Bed on the Green to place named crosses for the 443 people who went from Hunstanton to serve in the Great War. The Town Council purchased a 6ft "Tommy" to stand as a sentry over the crosses. During the weekend over 600 people viewed the Hunstanton Remembers Exhibition in the Town Hall, where all who went to war were remembered in the Roll of Honour, informative displays and selected readings.

Finally, on Sunday evening, a good crowd assembled on the cliff top to see the beacon lit, hear the Last Post sounded and listen to the Cry for Peace around the World.

Thank you to everyone who helped make these special centenary events happen, especially John Smith and Tony Armstrong for the organisation of the crosses and the exhibition, Maria Rix for her arrangements of poppies in the hall and around the town, Margi Blunden and Christine Earnshaw for organising all the readings, Simon Matthews for organising the parade and war memorial ceremony, and the Borough Council for organising the lighting of the beacon.

12. Henry le Strange Community Orchard

Cllr Winnington gave the following report:

The Henry le Strange Community Orchard was the brainchild of Kate Dunbar. She had a vision of turning a barren grassed area into a place where fruit trees could be grown to create an area for people to enjoy and for wildlife to thrive. Started in 2012 it is totally run by volunteers. Trees have been sponsored by local people, businesses and groups.

Not only is the Orchard a relaxing place to visit, it is a hub for education, where children learn about wildlife and the importance of our environment. The Primary school, scouts, brownies and Benjamin Foundation Young Carers have all helped sow seeds, plant wild flower plugs and plant bulbs to help create a stunning wild flower area.

The NWT carried out a pre-planting survey to record species present originally. The RSPB kindly donated several nesting boxes to help encourage birds to the Orchard. The scouts constructed a bugotel to provide shelter for insects and spiders.

There are now 118 fruit trees (apple, pear, plum, cherry, medlar, apricot and others) in the Orchard, many of which are East Anglian Heritage varieties. As the trees grow, they will provide more fruit which will be used for the community, although a small amount will be left for the wildlife.

13. Hunstanton & District Civic Society

Cllr Andrew Murray gave the following report:

The monthly talks for the 2018 / 2019 season have ended, the next season will begin in September.

Recently the Society has been on very successful visits to Ely Cathedral, the Langham Dome and the Wells Maltings.

Planning permission has just been obtained for the change of use of the former Nat West Bank building into a Heritage Centre with a separate accommodation unit on the first floor. The transformation of the building has been challenging because of the height of the ceilings, the presence of various voids and the blockage of a main drain but several people have given many hours of their time and expertise making it happen. It is planned to open Saturday & Sunday 1pm – 5pm, other times by arrangement.

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14. Hunstanton in Bloom

Cllr Adrian Winnington gave the following report:

Hunstanton Town Council is proud to support Hunstanton In Bloom. The Hunstanton In Bloom Committee has a mixture of dedicated residents, gardening enthusiasts, council officers, borough and town councillors, business owners and others, to ensure that the town's major horticultural improvements are appealing to the eye but also sustainable for generations to come.

Hunstanton first entered Anglia In Bloom in 2004, and since then has progressed from bronze, through silver and silver gilt, to gold awards.

In 2018 Hunstanton achieved a Gold and winner of small coastal category in Anglia In Bloom; it also was awarded Gold in Britain In Bloom. In 2019 Hunstanton has again been invited to enter Britain In Bloom, for the third successive year – a reflection of the high level at which Hunstanton In Bloom is held within the RHS.

The In Bloom campaign has three overarching principles – Horticultural Practice, Environmental Responsibility and Community Participation. Despite a reducing budget we are fortunate that the Borough Council continues to maintain the high quality of outdoor spaces. This is supported by the dedication of a host of volunteers, including a large team of adopt-a-bedders. The Refill Hunstanton campaign encourages re-use of water bottles thus reducing the number of plastic bottles being used in the town. Regular beach cleans take place organised by a number of groups. Biodiversity is enhanced in the Community Orchard, Boston Square and the cliffs. Community participation is essential if Hunstanton In Bloom is to be successful. Many individuals and groups are involved, ranging from schools to care homes, allotments to businesses.

Hunstanton Town Council supports In Bloom in a number of ways. It hosts judging days in the Town Hall, it has adopted the raised bed on The Green for floral displays, it supports the Community Orchard, it maintains the War Memorial in the Heritage Gardens and it has offered to host Anglia In Bloom seminars.

In 2019 some of the new initiatives are the painting and positioning of peace poles around the town. Plastic bottle flowers are being made to display on the Waterfall Bed, fencing on Oasis Way and elsewhere. The painted bikes with their flower baskets will also be making a re-appearance.

Hunstanton Town Council thanks everyone who helps make our town so attractive to residents and visitors, and helps Hunstanton In Bloom achieve a consistently high standard in the RHS In Bloom Scheme.

15. King's Lynn & Hunstanton Railway Campaign

Cllr Andrew Murray gave the following report:

A pamphlet was produced. 10,000 copies were distributed door to door in Old Hunstanton, Hunstanton, Heacham, Snettisham and Dersingham. Over 4000 people have signed the petition calling for a re-instatement. Howard Johnston made a presentation to the Borough Council's Regeneration and Development panel in March 2019 which seemed to be well received. It is proposed that a similar presentation should be made to the Transport panel at Norfolk County Council. The aim at present is for the project to be included in the development plans at both County and Borough levels.

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16. Hunstanton Pier Project

Cllr Andrew Murray gave the following report:

The Hunstanton Heritage Pier Community Trust's plan to build a new Pier for Hunstanton continues to forge ahead. The exact location of the proposed pier is as yet still undecided, but negotiations on potential sites are in progress. These negotiations are confidential and will be covered in principle by non-disclosure agreements for the time being.

In the meantime, HHPCT have made an important step forward. Norfolk County Council have confirmed that, although not ready to provide financial support, they will recommend us to a number of Central Government funding sources and assist us in developing business plans.

Additionally, a third meeting will very soon be held with the Chair of the National Piers Society; this organisation is also strongly supporting Hunstanton's project.

On a national scale, there are currently a record number of new-build pier proposals in various stages of progress; further evidence of their importance to the vitality and economy of coastal communities.

17. Safer Neighbourhood Action Panel (SNAP)

Mr John Bridger gave the following report:

At the last SNAP Meeting in Hunstanton on 13th February 2019, the Police stated they were going to trial a new pattern for SNAP Meetings for a period of 12 months. They said their intention was to seek the engagement of the Communities they serve on a 'more local basis' by offering drop-in meetings in local Community Centres.

A 'Community Update' has been received recently from Norfolk Constabulary with notification of dates and times for a series of six monthly Drop-in Engagement Surgeries for local communities.

These meetings will be provided by the Safer Neighbourhood Action Panel and will be held in Dersingham as follows:

Thursday 20 th June	10am to 12pm	Dersingham Village Hall
Thursday 25 th July	10am to 12pm	Dersingham Village Hall
Thursday 22 nd August	10am to 12pm	Dersingham Village Hall
Thursday 26 th September	10am to 12pm	Dersingham Village Hall
Thursday 24 th October	10am to 12pm	Dersingham Village Hall
Thursday 28 th November	10am to 12pm	Dersingham Village Hall

These Engagement Surgeries are for the benefit of members of the public to express their views, ask questions and raise local issues. There is no need to book to attend, just drop in at any time between the stated hours, and you will have a chance to speak to your local Beat Manager, and local Councillor about any Policing issues in your local area.

If you are unable to make one of the meetings, Norfolk Constabulary invite members of the public to email their issues to the address below and it will be discussed at the meeting.

18. Northfields Allotment Association

Mr Paul Emerson gave the following report:

I have been Chairman of the Northfields Allotment Club for just over a year, having taken over from Keith May who had run the club practically single handed for some time, so big boots to fill.

My first task was to oversee the annual Open Day in July. This was very successful despite being a bit later than usual and clashing with the kite fair. We still raised over £1000.

We have erected a sign in memory of Keith which is at the entrance to the lane leading down to the allotments, having obtained approval by the Le Strange Estates and paid for by donations

On Blossom Day 2018 over £100 was raised mainly by selling rhubarb collected by Peter Williams from club members. Unfortunately, Blossom Day was cancelled this year due to the weather.

At the A.G.M. this year, because of poor attendances at our working groups to work on general areas on the site, a proposal was made and agreed that an additional £5.00 would be added to rents in 2020 to any plot holder who did not attend at least one working day. It worked as the first one after this was very well attended.

The club is managed by members on behalf of the Town Council. We are a happy bunch and are proud of our wide diversity with members originating from many countries both young and old.

A few plots will shortly become vacant so if anyone is interested please take a form and contact the club to be put on the waiting list.

19. Hunstanton & District Festival of Arts

Cllr Ann McKimm gave the following report:

The Hunstanton & District Festival of Arts has been running in Hunstanton since 1952. We are a committee of volunteers interested in the Arts in all its forms.

Each year we receive a small grant from Kings Lynn Borough Council to enable us to bring various Performing Arts – drama, dance, music, and visual arts to the area. We also receive funds from the monthly Craft Fairs held at the Town Hall and an annual donation from HTC.

We are a registered charity and make no profit from our various activities, ploughing all profits back into the projects. In the season 2018 -19 we presented Live music On the Spinney at the end of the High Street where various rock musicians played throughout the summer. There was a series of Poetry Mornings based in the Town Hall Basement and an adjudicated one -Act Play Festival for Eastern Area drama groups at The Princess Theatre.

Our annual outdoor theatre project was Pride & Prejudice performed by The Heartbreak Theatre Company and presented at Thornham Village Hall grounds. Unfortunately, the Picnic on the Green event in August with the Town Concert Band was rained off but the gallant band played on anyway through torrential rain.

This year our long running ceramic tile project in conjunction with Paint Me Ceramics was themed Sea Creatures, and can be seen near the Sailing Club on the waterfront. In September we held the annual Hunny Folk Festival at the Wash & Tope Hotel with many local acts taking part.

Our final event of the year was the Christmas Tree Festival, held over 3 days in December. This Festival grows more popular every year with over 30 local charities and businesses taking part. This year the top prize went to the RSPCA shop for its imaginative Christmas Tree Dog! The Town Hall venue is alight with colour and creative ideas and lots of visitors throughout the session. The Mayor and Father Christmas visited us on the Saturday.

This year's Arts Festival is already under way and full details of all the events and how to contact us are in our new 2019 brochure available in the Tourist Information Centre.

20. Water Refill

Cllr Amanda Knight gave the following report:

Refill is part of a national, practical tap water campaign that aims to make refilling your water bottle as easy, convenient and cheap as possible by introducing refill points.

Launched in Hunstanton in 2017 the scheme has proven to be a hit and over 37 businesses in the area have signed up to be Refill Stations: these include cafés, restaurants, pubs, hotels, tourist attractions and visitor centres including Sandringham Estates.

Hunstanton was the first East Coast town in the UK to take up the Refill challenge and address the plastic bottle pollution problem with positive action.

Refill boards have now been installed on the Promenade and discussions are taking place with BCKLWN to erect some in the High St.

21. Police Report

Inspector Ben Jarvis emailed the following report:

Whilst we may be going in to a new financial year and beyond, our commitment to provide an outstanding service to the communities that we serve remains strong. 2018-2019 has been a good year for the town of Hunstanton; the summer of 2018 will long remain on record as one of the warmest and busiest in terms of policing and I think (and hope this thought is shared) that our teams did a fantastic job coping with the unprecedented levels of demand.

Moving forward, I look forward to having a similar summer in 2019 (weather-wise!), with our neighbourhood teams able to support local projects, fetes and initiatives, whilst also continuing to make the residents and holiday makers in Hunstanton feel safe and leave them able to enjoy the beautiful town. Our Sandi Starfish campaign

will be up and running during the summer months and keep an eye out for our local beat managers out on their pedal cycles or in the ATV along the promenade. In the last year, our local policing team have worked hard, executing several drugs warrants in the town, then working with housing providers to ensure a joined-up approach to problem solving. We've run several initiatives helping those most vulnerable within our communities protect themselves against scams and thefts and we're continuing to work with farmers and those in rural locations, to assist with crime prevention and future reporting, to crack down on high value rural thefts. Having conducted research, whilst crime figures do not seem to have changed much on paper in the last year, in reality, with a recent change in recording standards, other areas have seen a spike in crimes as a result. So, with Hunstanton remaining the same, I am happy that we are still working well towards bringing these numbers down and keeping the town safe.

On a personal note, I would like to thank those within the local community who have made me feel welcome since I arrived here and I have thoroughly enjoyed my time so far! I recognise what a privilege it is to work in a place like this and I will do everything I can to continue to make this area a place where people want to live, work, travel and invest, for years to come.

As always, if anyone has any issue they would like to discuss, I'm more than happy to take your call.

22. NCC Cllr Jamieson

Cllr Jamieson gave the following report:

The old Primary School – the building will shortly be on the market.

Meeting with NCC and HTC in respect of the Community Centre and Children's Services is to take place in Council Chamber Monday 10th June 2019.

I am keen to work with HTC in acquiring the freehold of the CC on behalf of the Town subject to Full Council agreement. Capital assistance may be available for refurbishment from NCC.

Likewise, HTC have my support for taking over the management of the Recreation Ground if members agree this way forward.

Library & Bus Station, I am still waiting to see a firm proposal and will be interesting to see where the proposed bus stops will be.

Hemmingway Design project has gone very quiet, I will continue to keep pushing for information on proposed designs.

I fully support the King's Lynn & Hunstanton Railway Campaign as the A149 suffers serious congestion. No route has as yet been decided not have costings been undertaken at this stage.

23. Public Question Time

The Mayor opened the floor to residents of Hunstanton:

The following questions were asked:

- i. What are Council doing to promote events and actions in the Town?
- ii. What are the proposals for the old Primary School?
- iii. What has happened to the 'Tommy' that was purchased and erected in the flower bed on green?
- iv. What actions are being taken, if any, to address the increasing Motorhomes parking along Cliff Parade, Northgate and Lincoln Gardens areas?
- v. Why are there so few residents of the Town present at this (and past) Annual Town Meetings?

The following information was given by a resident of Hunstanton:

- i. Yvonne Bridger informed those present that she had bumped in to Wayne Hemmingway on the Promenade one morning and having asked for an update on the proposed plans for the seafront was told by Mr Hemmingway that work on the project is still being carried out.
- ii. Yvonne Bridger advised that the 'Quick Fixes' for the Town should be happening in 2020 but again this was still a work in progress and no further information was available at this time.

The Mayor thanked Yvonne Bridger for the information.

Councillors response to questions asked:

- i. Cllr Bosworth: We are constantly updating our new website www.hunstantontowncouncil.gov.uk and have a new Facebook page 'Hunstanton Events' - our thanks go to Cllr Knight for setting this up. The TIC produce an 'Event' Booklet. Moving forward – plans are underway to set up a small 'Communications' team to produce newsletters and newspaper reports.
- ii. NCC Cllr Jamieson advised he had wanted to see 'Start-Up' units or offices in the old Primary School but it is now likely to be sold and changed to residential homes. The structural design to remain the same.
- iii. Cllr Winnington advised the 'Tommy' was currently stored in the garage awaiting repairs – 2 options: a) to have welding undertaken and replace in flowerbed for this year's Remembrance Day b) to place against a wall and have flowers growing around the frame.
- iv. Cllr Ruston reported Parking Permits had been discussed around 5 years ago but residents did not want them for various reasons due to cost, no guarantee of parking outside their property etc. Unfortunately, there is little that could be done to address the issue.
- v. Cllr Croucher gave a detailed speech on her views of the town as a resident, some of her comments below:
Could those present have informed their friends the meeting was on and bring them along?
Possibly low attendance is due to 'contentment' within the Town?
How the Town has blossomed over the past years, residents are now able to purchase fresh bread, meat and vegetable in the High Street, something that has not been seen for a very long time.

All present applauded Cllr Croucher for her excellent speech.

Meeting closed 8pm