

Swaffham Town Council

Minutes of the **Full Town Council** meeting held on **Tuesday 10th July 2018** at **6.30pm** the Council Chamber, Town Hall Swaffham.

Present:	Mayor Cllr C Houghton (in the Chair)
Councillors:	Mr S Allen, Mr R Bartram, Mrs J Buckley-Stevens, Mrs B Bowler, Mr P Darby, Mrs T Jennison, Mrs S Lister, Mrs S Matthews, Mrs J Skinner, Mrs A Thorp
NCC	Mr E Colman
BDC	Mr I Sherwood
Town Clerk:	Mr R Bishop
Minute Taker:	Ms K Furnass
Police:	P Gilluley, Beat Manager.
Public:	1
Press:	1
Dog Warden	Mr M Gardiner

Prayers were led by Cllr Thorp.

1 Apologies for Absence

- 1.1. Cllr L Scott – work commitments
- 1.2. Cllr W Bensley – prior work commitments

2 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest recorded.

3 Mayor's Report

- 3.1 The Mayor reported that it had been a quiet month for events but a very busy month of meetings.
 - 19th June – Swaffham & Litcham Home Hospice AGM
 - 24th June – Watton Mayor's Civic Service.
- 3.2 Urgent reports at Mayor's discretion:
No reports were received.

4 Reports from Police and Principal Authorities

4.1. Dog Warden

Mr Mike Gardiner gave an informative explanation of a Dog Wardens job. He explained how he worked in partnership with the Police, Breckland District Council & the RSPCA.

He reported that Swaffham actually has a very low incidence of received complaints so if there are any problem areas the public need to be made aware of the process to log these complaints. It was suggested that Mr Gardiner be invited to attend the Vintage Car Show & Fun Day and the Norfolk Day event to meet the public and hand out any literature. He also visits Schools to give talks. Children and outside staff are the most vulnerable as far as dog fouling is concerned. This can be minimalised by having fenced off areas in any open spaces specifically for dogs. A PSPO is another option. He also informed the meeting that dog bins do actually help.

4.2. Police

PC Gilluley gave a brief outline of the latest stats and reported that compared to the same month as last year figures were down.

It was reported that a meeting had been held last month about the recent situation with the Travellers encampment and eviction notices would now be served by BDC.

The next Action Day would be held in Swaffham on 4th August.

Initials: _____

The Police will be in attendance on the Recreation Ground for Norfolk Day. They will be having a stall to display various leaflets and to engage with the public. It was also hoped that Cadets & Specials would be able to attend. A Porsche may be available for the event, but PC Gilluley was very pleased to report that they have arranged for the Police drone to be available on the day. Various groups have initially been approached to attend, Icen amongst others. PC Gilluley said that she did not have the resources to make further arrangements but suggested that the Town Council may like to take this on.

Cllr Sherwood informed the meeting that he was proud to be the Norfolk Champion and would pass on details of a pack that could be purchased from Archant.

4.3. County Councillor

Cllr E Colman gave his report– see *Appendix 3*

Cllr Colman was asked if anything could be done about utility works and road closures. These were a major problem for local businesses. Could they not work at more suitable times and co-ordinate with each other to minimise any hardship to businesses? Mr Colman shared their concerns and would take the comments back to Highways.

4.4. Breckland District Councillors

Cllr Sherwood reported that there was nothing in particular to mention, any issues had been raised and resolved by email.

Cllr Sherwood was asked when the new parking restrictions would be starting. He reported that this would be rolled out to coincide with the completion of the Buttercross enhancement programme.

5 Minutes of the previous meetings

The minutes of 13th June 2018 were agreed and signed as a true copy by the Chairman.

6 Town Hall Report by the Town Clerk

The Town Clerk highlighted the following items for the Council to note.

6.1. a) Highways Engineer meeting - notes from the meeting with Highway Engineer David Jacklin on 3rd July 2018 were circulated with the Agenda. The next meeting is booked for 7th August.

- It was requested for the Rangers to clean the street signs as they are looking very dirty.
- The situation on the Watton Road with straw lorries dropping straw is still ongoing. A Cllr asked what the next step was in trying to stop this as it was now a very dangerous situation. David Jacklin has previously asked for evidence to be sent to him.
- It was asked when the re-surfacing was taking place on the Campingland. The Town Clerk would look into this.

b) Church Wall - The Works Manager should soon be finished with the adjustments to the Church Wall required by Andrew Gayton.

c) Recreation Ground – There has been vandalism at the Recreation Ground to the brick-built water supply cabinet, this has been reported to the police and will be dealt with shortly. This follows on from two attempts to smash the door to the electricity supply at the disused public toilet building. We are looking at alternatives to consider in respect of type of door and lock etc, this will go to the Open Spaces Committee on 30th July.

d) Disabled Door – Last week the disabled door was replaced following what was thought to be vandalism but was in fact the Fire Brigade responding to a call out.

e) Tethered Horses on Days Field – These have been in situ for about a week. An abandonment notice was issued, and a decision is needed on whether to make arrangements to use the Bailiffs at a cost of £300. We have been informed that the horses are being removed on or before Thursday of this week. If the horses are not removed the Sheriff's Office may have to re-issue the order and remove the horses at a cost of £750.00 per horse.

It was agreed to use the Bailiffs at a cost of £300 and removal of horses at £750 each if necessary.

- f) Request for a big screen for the purpose of watching the World Cup final:– A request had been received from a Mr Leon Symonds for a big screen to be erected in the Market Place if England made it to the final of the World Cup. The Town Clerk reported the cost would be

It was unanimously agreed not to hire a big screen for the purpose of watching the World Cup final if England were successful in getting through.

6.2. Councillors questions relating to ongoing business:

A comment was made in relation to banners and free-standing flyers that had previously been used on the market, where were they, how many and could they be re-used?

7 Finance

7.1. Accounts for payment for July 2018

The interim list was circulated in the Agenda pack and an updated list was circulated to Councillors at the meeting - *Appendix 1*

Cllr Thorp asked for item 188 to be queried, charge for Assembly Rooms hire - Icen partnership. It was clarified that Item 176 was for an annual charge plus any maintenance required - Stannah stair lift.

It was agreed to accept the accounts for July 2018

7.2. To receive and consider further details of a proposed “Poppy Display” in conjunction with the Royal British Legion presented by Cllr Colin Houghton

An updated project proposal had been circulated to the Council for consideration. The Mayor updated Councillors further at the meeting. Robust discussions took place and after it was confirmed that Cllr Houghton would be organising the arrangements it was proposed to allow a £400 budget.

It was agreed to allow £400 from the Town Events Budget.

7.3. To consider estimate to repair boiler at the Museum

The estimate from Heating Britannia had been sent out with the monthly pack. It was recommended that the estimate was accepted, unless the Council wished to put this work out to tender.

After discussions it was proposed to get 3 quotes on a new boiler.

It was agreed to get 3 quotes on a new boiler.

7.4. To consider request for a litter bin at the entrance to the Cemetery from Mr Flyma

It was discussed whether to agree in principle but to look into the option of a larger bin. Three quotes were requested which will be taken to the next Full Finance meeting.

It was agreed in principle for the litter bin, and for three quotes for a larger bin which will be taken to the next Full Finance meeting.

8 Receive Correspondence or Information

8.1 **General**

- a) To consider e-mailed correspondence with the Garden Science Trust in respect of their current position at the Green Britain Centre and working towards their short and long-term future

The up to date correspondence with the Garden Science Trust and Breckland Council had been circulated with the pack. The Town Council & Breckland are aware of the situation but nothing can be done until the Trust are served notice by their immediate landlords the Green Britain Foundation, who it has been established, will be in place until the end of the calendar year.

- b) To consider various correspondence in relation to “Beating Retreat” by the Band of the Grenadier Guards on 21st

Correspondence received had been sent with the pack, a good day for Swaffham.

c) To consider response to Freedom of Information request in respect of Market from Mr Lawson
The FOI was responded to with all information and within the required time frame.

d) To consider a request for more recycled plastic bins in the Town received from Year 6 pupils at Necton C of E School.

The Town Council gave consideration in principle to providing more recycled plastic bins in the Town. However, this was a matter that would need be a joint project with Breckland if it were adopted.

It was agreed not to take this matter further.

e) To consider making nominations for Groundwork Community Awards in 10 different categories, deadline for nominations 22nd July 2018.

- Best community group contribution to environmental sustainability
- Best community group contribution to community cohesion
- Best community group contribution to education or employment
- Best community project on a social housing estate
- Best community partnership with business
- Best community garden or green space
- Community leader of the year
- Young community leader of the year
- Community group of the year – all round achievement award
- Best community group contribution to health and wellbeing

Shortlisted community groups will be invited to attend a national awards ceremony at the House of Commons on the evening of 19 November.

It was agreed to nominate the Escape Project for the Best community group contribution to health & wellbeing.

It was agreed to nominate Suffield Court for Best community garden or green space.

It was agreed to nominate Sally Palmer for Community leader of the year.

g) To consider letter of thanks in respect from Heather Bangay.
The letter had been sent out with the pack. For information only.

8.2. **Breckland Council**

a) To consider issues raised by the Transport & Access Focus Group in respect of the Air Quality Action Plan drafted by Breckland Council.

The draft comments on the Air Quality Action Plan from the Transport and Access Focus Group had been circulated to the Council for approval or amendment.

The Committee were unanimous in that the document was on behalf of the Transport & Access Focus Group only, and not the Town Council.

Any comments by the Council will need to be received by Friday, ready for the Town Clerk to draft out a 'terms of reference' to go to the Finance meeting on 23rd July.

8.3. **Norfolk County Council**

a) To consider Modification Application for the upgrade of a public footpath to a Restricted Byway on the Definitive Map & Statement. Public footpath No.51.

For information only.

b) To consider temporary traffic restrictions for resurfacing C562 Norwich Road from the Junction with Captains Close, 200 meters eastwards for 5 days from 1st July.

For information only.

- c) To consider dangerous parking on Mangate Street at School drop off point and pick up times raised by Mr Peter Rowling.

For information only. Mr Rowling has been contacted by Highways.

- d) To notify Councillors of the Norfolk Minerals and Waste Local Plan Review consultation period from 29th June to 13th August 2018.

For information only.

- 8.4. To notify Councillors a change of Chief Inspectors at the Breckland District as Chief Inspector Paul Wheatley is moving on, replaced by Chief Inspector Lynne Cross.

For information only

9. **Correspondence or Information**

A list of all other correspondence was noted - *Appendix 2*.

10. **COMMITTEE & WORKING GROUP reports:**

10.1. **Committees** (Planning, Personnel, Market & Open Spaces)

- a) To consider a request from Cllr Bartram co-ordinating an army themed market on 22nd September.

Cllr Bartram ran through his concept of the day for the benefit of the Councillors. This was received very positively and agreed in principle. Cllr Bartram was asked to do a written concept. Permission from Highways would be needed to close the road. There are two levels of payment that Highways could impose and it would depend on how they responded as to whether a road closure was acceptable.

It was agreed in principle to hold an army themed market on 22nd September.

- b) To consider a request from Cllr Lister to make a 'Tesco Bags for Help' Grant application for exercise equipment.

This should have been reported as a request for the blue disc promotion.

It was agreed to apply for the blue disc promotion at Tesco's for exercise equipment.

10.2. **Working Groups, Task Groups or Topic Groups** (Twinning Liaison, Museum Liaison, Allotments, Partners, Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, Christmas Lights, Swaffham/Watton Liaison)

- a) Notes from a meeting of Watton & Swaffham focus Group on 14th June 2018 had previously been circulated.
- b) Notes from the Toilet working Group meeting on 27th June 2018 had previously been circulated.

11. **Reports by Representatives from Outside Bodies**

Iceni Partnership, Iceni Partnership Buildings Management, Swaffham Museum Ltd, Relief in Need Charity, Swaffham Town Estate, Garden Science Trust, Health Forum, Swaffham Community Transport, Norfolk Association of Local Councils, SCALGA, Swaffham in Bloom, Swimming Pool, The Hamond Educational Charity and Town Team.

- a) Museum Report – Cllr Thorp gave her report -*Appendix 4*
- b) Swaffham in Bloom – Cllr Bowler gave her report – *Appendix 5*

12. **Dates of forthcoming meetings and to receive any items for a future agenda:**

12.1. Extraordinary Meeting Full Council	Mon	16th July	10.00am	Council Chamber
12.2. Relief in Need Charity	Mon	16th July	6.45pm	Council Chamber
12.3. FULL COUNCIL FINANCE	Mon	23rd July	6.30pm	Council Chamber
12.4. Open Spaces Committee	Mon	30th July	6.30pm	Council Chamber
12.5. Planning Committee	Tues	31st July	1.30pm	Council Chamber
12.6 Personnel Committee	Mon	6th Aug	12noon	Council Chamber
12.7 FULL COUNCIL	Wed	8th Aug	6.30pm	Council Chamber

Initials: _____

13. ADMISSION TO MEETINGS ACT (PUBLIC BODIES) 1960:

Confidential Business following the exclusion of the public and press

13.1. To receive and consider any staff related issues from the Personnel Committee.

- The Town Clerk read out a report from Cllr Bensley.
- The new Project Support Officer Sue Dent started work yesterday. She will be sharing her work schedule between Swaffham & Watton.
- Three interviews for the Market Superintendent vacancy are being held on Thursday.
- Staff appraisals are underway and should be concluded by the end of July. The reports will go to the Personnel meeting on 6th August.

13.2. To consider on-going legal issues and discussions in respect of:-

- a) Days Field – Three strands of enquiries are continuing as reported in confidential papers circulated in the pack. It is recommended to defer any decision until the Full Council Finance meeting on 23rd July 2018

It was agreed to defer any decision until the Full Council Finance meeting on 23rd July 2018

- b) Green Britain Centre – After a recent meeting regarding this building the council were asked if 'in principle' they wished to be included in a possible future development for the centre.

It was agreed that 'in principle' the Council wished to be included in a possible future development for the centre.

- c) The Shambles – Ongoing . For information only.
d) Section 106 – Ongoing. For information only.
e) Town Centre – Ongoing. For information only.

13.3. To consider a paper in respect of the Antinghams and agree a strategy to enter into further negotiations with Heygate Farms – A draft proposal was put before the Council to explore various options, including one from Mr James Dean. The Council were asked for approval to explore the various options.

It was agreed to explore further the various options in the draft proposal, including the one from Mr James Dean and to arrange a meeting with Heygates in the Autumn.

The meeting closed at 9.50pm

Mayor.....

Swaffham Town Council - Accounts for July 2018

7.1

No	Payment	Name	Details	Price	VAT	Total
Paid - 1st -11th July 2018 Town Council meeting						
145	Card	WorldPay	Monthly Pymt chgs - <i>June 18</i>	£ 0.12	£ 0.01	£ 0.13
146	Card	Lloyds Bank	Corporate Card - Monthly Fee - <i>June 2018</i>	£ 3.00	£ -	£ 3.00
147	Card	DVLA	Road Tax - <i>AP52 BTY</i>	£ 252.50	£ -	£ 252.50
148	d/d	Unity Trust Bank	Quarterly Service Charge - <i>Apr-Jun 18</i>	£ 50.10	£ -	£ 50.10
149	Card	Amazon-White Hinge Ltd	General Stationery	£ 13.28	£ 2.68	£ 15.96
150	Card	Amazon	Office Wall Fan	£ 22.31	£ 4.46	£ 26.77
151	Card	Amazon	New office keyboard	£ 22.49	£ 4.50	£ 26.99
152	Card	Office Furniture	New office chair	£ 89.00	£ 17.80	£ 106.80
153	BACS	Netmatters	IT Equipment - Project Support Officer	£ 942.59	£ 188.52	£ 1,131.11
154	BACS	Amazon - Oregon	Health & Safety - visor & earmuffs	£ 43.44	£ 9.88	£ 53.32
155	BACS	JRB Enterprise Ltd	Dog bin	£ 163.40	£ 29.80	£ 193.20
156	BACS	Ironmongery Direct	Cabinet locks	£ 42.15	£ 8.43	£ 50.58
<i>Sub Total</i>				£ 1,644.38	£ 266.08	£ 1,910.46
To be authorised and paid - post 11th July 2018 Town Council meeting						
157	BACS	Net Salaries	Town Council	£ 17,302.68	£ -	£ 17,302.68
158	BACS	Inland Revenue	Tax & National Insurance	£ 5,626.14	£ -	£ 5,626.14
159	BACS	Norfolk Pension Service	Superannuation	£ 5,502.16	£ -	£ 5,502.16
160	d/d	Breckland Council	Town Hall - Rates	£ 1,008.00	£ -	£ 1,915.00
			Market - Rates	£ 392.00	£ -	
			Cemetery - Rates	£ 182.00	£ -	
			Public Toilet - Rates	£ 333.00	£ -	
161	d/d	Immervox (<i>June 2017</i>)	Large Office - User Groups Phone 336953	£ 11.50	£ 2.30	£ 172.81
			Small Office - User Groups Phone 336954	£ 11.50	£ 2.30	
			Town Council - Fax & Broadband 720469	£ 48.06	£ 9.61	
			Museum - Telephone 721230	£ 22.33	£ 4.47	
			Town Council - Telephone 722922	£ 37.62	£ 7.52	
			Town Council - Alarm 724968	£ 13.00	£ 2.60	
162	300216	Swaffham Town Council	Petty Cash	£ 244.60	£ -	£ 244.60
163	BACS	Anglian Chemicals	Public Toilet Supplies	£ 182.22	£ 36.44	£ 218.66
164	BACS	Anglian Water	Tumbler Hill - a/c 0291044001 - 7/3-6/6	£ 20.09	£ -	£ 20.09
165	BACS	APG Systems	Annual Intruder Alarm & CCTV service contract	£ 598.00	£ 119.60	£ 717.60
166	BACS	Express Lifts Alliance	Town Hall Lift repairs	£ 220.22	£ 44.04	£ 264.26
167	BACS	Go Bright	Window cleaning Town Hall	£ 50.00	£ -	£ 50.00
168	BACS	GV Bensley	Recreation Ground repairs	£ 65.00	£ 13.00	£ 78.00
169	BACS	Lyreco	General Stationery	£ 43.82	£ 8.76	£ 52.58
170	BACS	Ministry of Defence	Band of the Grenadier Guards - <i>reduced fee</i>	£ 618.16	£ 123.63	£ 741.79
171	d/d	Netmatters	Monthly IT Support Package - <i>July 2018</i>	£ 256.00	£ 51.20	£ 307.20
172	BACS	One Stop Promotion	Flags & Flagpoles - <i>2nd order</i>	£ 876.34	£ 175.28	£ 1,051.62
173	BACS	Play Maintain	Merryweather play area repairs	£ 855.40	£ 171.08	£ 1,026.48
174	BACS	R K Resprays	MOT - AP52 BTY + repairs	£ 165.40	£ 22.28	£ 187.68
175	d/d	SSE-Southern Electric	Public Toilets - Electricity - <i>June 18</i>	£ 148.40	£ 29.68	£ 178.08
176	Card / BACS	Stannah	Museum stairlift - repairs	£ 893.12	£ 178.62	£ 1,071.74
177	BACS	Swaffham Museum	TIC Service Level Agreement - <i>July</i>	£ 983.00	£ -	£ 983.00
178	BACS	Swinton Business	Lawn Mower insurance renewal - <i>AU12 BPV</i>	£ 183.02	£ 30.00	£ 213.02
179	BACS	Travis Perkins	Outside supplies - general	£ 67.40	£ 13.48	£ 80.88
180	BACS	Veolia	Monthly waste collection - <i>June 18</i>	£ 127.72	£ 25.54	£ 153.26
<i>Sub Total</i>				£ 38,732.28	£ 1,337.51	£ 40,069.79

Initials: _____

Late Bills - received after agenda issued						
181	BACS	Anglian Chemicals	Annual Nappy & Sani bin collection services	£ 360.00	£ 72.00	£ 432.00
182	BACS	CGM Group	Grass cutting - <i>June 18</i>	£ 132.00	£ 26.40	£ 158.40
183	BACS	CJM Electrical Specialists	Buttercross Project electrical design work	£ 800.00	£ 160.00	£ 960.00
184	BACS	Cooleraid	Town Hall Drinking Water	£ 11.85	£ 2.37	£ 14.22
185	BACS	E-On	War Memorial Lights - Electricity - <i>Apr - June 18</i>	£ 12.63	£ 0.63	£ 13.26
186	BACS	George Tufts & Sons Ltd	Town Hall New Door frame	£ 15.42	£ 3.08	£ 18.50
187	BACS	Hussey Knights	Swaffham NP - <i>July 18 printing</i>	£ 133.00	£ 26.60	£ 159.60
188	BACS	Iceni	Beat Retreat event - Assembly Room bookings	£ 271.34	£ 54.26	£ 325.60
189	BACS	Iceni	Swaffham NP - Newsletter advert	£ 191.40	£ 38.28	£ 229.68
190	BACS	J P Skips	Cemetery Skip hire	£ 133.33	£ 26.67	£ 160.00
191	BACS	Lawn Boy	Strimmer cord	£ 72.50	£ 14.50	£ 87.00
192	BACS	Nicola Barnes HR	HR Consultancy - June 18	£ 135.00	£ -	£ 135.00
193	BACS	R & I Builders Ltd	Public Toilet - repair to disabled door	£ 967.50	£ 193.50	£ 1,161.00
194	300217	Swaffham Service Station	Monthly Fuel costs	£ 179.00	£ 35.81	£ 214.81
195	BACS	TTSR Ltd	Grave Digging - <i>June 18</i>	£ 240.00	£ -	£ 240.00
TOTAL				£ 42,387.25	£ 1,991.61	£ 44,378.86
Bank Transfers						
196	Transfer	Unity Trust Bank	From deposit to current - cover pymts			£ 30,000.00
Summary of Income - June 2018 (market rents, allotment deposits, cemetery invoices, room rentals, loan payments etc)						
06-Jun-18	Cash Analysis	Cash & Cheques taken over the counter				£ 901.60
06-Jun-18	Cash Analysis	Cash & Cheques taken over the counter				£ 52.70
13-Jun-18	Cash Analysis	Cash & Cheques taken over the counter				£ 1,515.16
20-Jun-18	Cash Analysis	Cash & Cheques taken over the counter				£ 1,667.66
27-Jun-18	Cash Analysis	Cash & Cheques taken over the counter				£ 298.50
Total BACS		Total Additional Income received by BACS				£ 2,735.66
TOTAL						£ 7,171.28
Items of expenditure to be reclaimed						
Age Concern		Salary	£ 3,764.39	£ 6.40		£ 3,770.79
Museum		Museum - Telephone 721230	£ 22.33	£ 4.47		£ 26.80
Sues News		Electricity - Sept 2017	£ 85.47	£ 17.09		£ 102.56
Watton Town Council		Shared staff - IT equipment costs	£ 501.77	£ 100.35		£ 602.12
TOTAL				£ 3,786.72	£ 10.87	£ 3,797.59

LIST OF CORRESPONDENCE – July 18**General**

- a) Email – Swaffham NP – draft NP for Steering Group review
- b) Email – Abel Homes / Mr Jolly complaint
- c) Email – Anglian Water – London St repairs complaint
- d) Email – Swaffham NP – Grant application and information
- e) Email – Swaffham NP – DRAFT Sustainability Appraisal
- f) Email – Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal – thank you
- g) Email – Swaffham Cemetery – report of recent incidents
- h) Email – Impsons Butchers – agreement to hog roast 21st July 2018
- i) Email – Market Cross Café – booking for Civic Reception Beat Retreat 21st June 2018
- j) Email – Swaffham Market – new trader Debs Bags
- k) Email – Swans Nest – play area layout agreement
- l) Email – Public Toilets – cigarette bin enquiry
- m) Email – Swaffham Parkrun – toilet facilities
- n) Email – Swans Nest – Final Certificate
- o) Email – Public Sector Mapping Agreement (PMSA) – June 18 newsletter
- p) Email – NABMA – Market lettings & VAT newsletter
- q) Email – Norfolk Community Foundation – Sumer newsletter
- r) Email – Community Action Norfolk – invite to annual meeting
- s) Email – Community Action Norfolk – sector news
- t) Email – Rt Hon Elizabeth Truss MP – monthly news report – May 2018
- u) Email – NALC – Newsletters & Chief Exec Bulletins

Breckland Council

- v) Email – Highways – White Hart application
- w) Email – ShopAppy – High Street of the Year Awards
- x) Email – Swaffham NP – pre-submission draft to Breckland
- y) Email – Breckland Satellite – removal of photocopier
- z) Email – Orford Road – handover discussions

Norfolk County Council

- aa) Email – AQMA meeting notes – 13th June 2018
- bb) Email – Ian Parkes – queries on meeting notes – 13th June 2018
- cc) Email – Highways response to resident requesting speed humps on Whitecross Rd

Police

- dd) Email – Monthly crime update – June 2018
- ee) Email – Abandoned Car in the Shambles

NCC Report – Cllr E Colman

Norfolk businesses can claim up to £3,000 towards the cost of an ultrafast digital connection, through a £67m government voucher scheme.

It offers small to medium-sized businesses, and the local communities surrounding them, a one-off contribution towards the installation cost of a full fibre connection, capable of delivering gigabit (1,000 megabits) speeds.

Tom Garrod, Chairman of Norfolk County Council’s Digital Innovation and Efficiency Committee, said: “This is a great scheme designed to help small to medium-sized businesses get access to superfast broadband and we’re keen to make sure business owners in Norfolk are aware of the opportunity.

“Individual companies can claim up to £3,000 towards the cost of connection, or the vouchers can be pooled. So, if there are 10 companies on a business park and they join together to apply, that could mean a contribution of up to £30,000 towards the connection costs (for installation and other year one costs).”

Business owners can check their eligibility and find out how to register with a supplier in their area, at gigabitvoucher.culture.gov.uk.

Norfolk County Council’s Public Health team won a national award at a ceremony in London last night.

The team won the category of Public Health at the Municipal Journal’s Local Government Achievement Awards at the Hilton Hotel.

Their work on combating domestic abuse in Norfolk had also previously received national acknowledgement from the Department for Communities and Local Government commending its work.

The awards entry highlighted how Norfolk is becoming a leader in this field and particularly its work to train ‘champions’ in the community – people in frontline roles, such as nurses, dentists and social workers, who are taught to spot signs of abuse and know where to go to for help and support.

Norfolk County Council is urging MPs to back fairer funding for rural areas, to tackle social exclusion. In a report to the all-party parliamentary group on social mobility, the county council said Norfolk is not receiving enough national investment in local public services, due to “false perceptions” that it is a relatively rich area.

County Council leader Andrew Proctor said: “The County Council works with partners to improve education, support economic development and provide the right infrastructure – but significant challenges remain in ensuring that everyone benefits from this work.

“I want to ensure that people can make the best of their lives, wherever they live in the county. That’s why we’re calling for the Government’s funding review to recognise the true costs of us providing services in rural areas and help us step up our work to improve social mobility.”

During the school summer holidays children at Swaffham Library will be taking part in this year’s Summer Reading Challenge, The Mischief Makers.

The Summer Reading Challenge encourages children to continue and extend their reading during the holidays in a fun and engaging way at their local library. The youngsters can also take part in a variety of other activities at the library including a treasure hunt, story time sessions, a music workshop and craft activities.

As a finale to the Summer Reading Challenge, Swaffham Library will be holding a Medal Presentation Ceremony on Saturday 8 September 11am-12noon for children who have completed the challenge. The event will also be an opportunity to celebrate the achievements of the young people who have

Swaffham Heritage Trustees Meeting Report

- New signage was being erected even as the meeting took place denoting Swaffham Heritage instead of Swaffham Museum.
- The Trustees continue to work towards the new data protection legislation. Policies are always being updated as and when necessary, with safeguarding along with GDPR being worked on at present.
- Financially Swaffham Heritage continues to see an increase in income, up £200 over the past year in spite of spending on costly items like the signs. Just as the Council works to a budget, so that is the case for the Trustees and I am always impressed by their achievements especially as they no longer have the grant from the Council to rely on.
- WW1 e-book. This is currently being researched and the Trustees are hoping that they will soon receive a grant from Breckland towards this. They have had a number of people come forward to assist in this project.
- The Trustees still haven't heard back from the Heritage Lottery Fund, who they have approached for a grant of £13,000 so they can set up a Remembrance Trail, working with the British Legion and other organisations in the town.
- James Dean has resigned as a Trustee and also from the Friends of the Museum and the TIC. Stan Roberts now heads up the Friends and the TIC is now run by John Lumly who reports that numbers of visitors is still good.

Cllr Anne Thorp

Update Swaffham in Bloom event 6 July 2018

Following a rather unfortunate lack of communication leading up to the event, the day I felt was a great success and very enjoyable.

Judy Anscombe and myself welcomed the two Judges Mr David White and Mr Phillip Feller at approx 2.00pm.

Our route commenced with visiting the very new Community Garden which had commenced earlier in the morning, the two volunteers assisted by the RHS gardener did tremendously well with three stone Gabions in place filled with plants by the time we arrived.

Points of interest were mentioned during our route from Church Walk, Red Lion, Market Cross, Assembly Rooms, War Memorial, Plowright Place, Cley Road to Mr Richard Taylors private garden in Theatre Street, ending in Suffield Court which is ~~an~~ an oasis of colour and beauty, proceeding down The Pighle and finishing back at the Community Centre at 4.15pm. for the debrief and a welcoming drink which Icení kindly arranged with the Caf  who did us proud.

Thanks to all that were involved in working together to promote Swaffham in this event, starting with the lovely Portfolio and for all the hard work done in the background by the many which really was highlighted as we walked around the town.

The results will be announced on 12th September at the Apex Theatre, Bury-St-Edmunds.

Cllr Brenda Bowler