

Swaffham Town Council

Minutes of the **Full Town Council** meeting held on **Wednesday 13th November 2019** at **6.30pm** in the Council Chamber, Town Hall Swaffham.

Present: Mayor Cllr J Skinner (in the Chair)

Councillors: Mrs J Anscombe, Mrs L Beech, Mr S Bell, Mrs W Bensley, Mr P Darby, Mr G Edwards, Mr B Holmes, Mr C Houghton, Mrs S Matthews, Mr Pilcher, Mr L Scott.

Deputy Town Clerk: Mrs C Smith
Minute Taker: Ms K Furnass

Breckland & Norfolk Cllr: Mr E Colman (until 7.25pm)

Press: Mr B Harding

Public: 5

There was no live streaming of the meeting carried out.

1. Apologies and reason for absence

- 1.1 Cllr D Wickerson – annual leave
- 1.2 Cllr K Sandle– unwell
- 1.3 Cllr I Sherwood – work commitment

2. Declarations of Interest – for items included on the Agenda.

- 2.1 Cllr Skinner declared an interest on item 8.1f

The meeting was adjourned to allow public participation 6.31pm
See *appendix 2*

The meeting was resumed at 6.45pm

3. Mayor's Report

- 3.1 Civic Events:- The Mayor reported that it had been a quiet month, she had attended the Swaffham Players "Back Up the Beanstalk" production, it had been a very enjoyable evening.
- 3.2 To receive any Mayor's Announcements:-
The newsletter deadline for the January newsletter is 12th December. The annual Christmas meet and greet for the newsletter volunteers will be held in the Council chambers on 16th December at midday.

Consultation on a new layout for the public toilets is taking place in November. Any comments to be received at the Town Hall by 30th November deadline

- 3.3 Urgent reports, correspondence or information at the Mayors discretion:-
As previously mentioned in the public sector Mr R Bartram had asked that Council consider that the trees at the back of his property be cut back. He considered this to be a security risk. The Deputy Clerk informed the meeting that the Town Council were responsible for the trees, but they had not been highlighted the tree report as a problem. It was mentioned that the public are worried about walking past the area. It was suggested that the trees be looked at and information taken back to the next Open Spaces meeting.

It was agreed for Mr Bartram, Cllr's Edward, Skinner and Pilcher to look at the trees and to take back the information to the next Open Spaces meeting,
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- 3.4 Cllr Matthews made a statement in relation to a complaint made against her by a member of the public:-
Cllr Matthews read out her statement and informed the meeting that she had been completely exonerated in the Monitoring Officer's report. The Town Clerk has a copy of the report.

4. Reports: local charity, police, principal authority etc

- 4.1 Market Town Initiative Officer report –
Mr Notley had to cancel his attendance at the meeting as he was unwell, but he would be attending the Market meeting on Monday 18th November.
- 4.2 Swaffham Heritage, Howard Carter celebrations 2020 report –
See *appendix 3*.
- 4.3 Police report –
There were no Police in attendance.
- 4.4 County Councillor –
Cllr Colman read out his report. See *appendix 4*.
In the discussion that followed it was highlighted that there would need to be a further debate on the Town Council taking on streetlights on new developments.
- 4.5 Breckland District Councillor -
Cllr Colman read out his report. See *appendix 5*.

5. Minutes

- 5.1 After the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 9th October 2019 were adjusted to include Cllr Scott in attendance, they were agreed and signed as an accurate record.

6. Report from the Town Hall by the Deputy Town Clerk

- 6.1 To receive a brief report from the Deputy Town Clerk:
Cllrs were reminded there is to be a Budget Workshop tomorrow 9.30 in the Council Chamber. Cllrs were asked to respond to the request to volunteer for the Christmas event.
- 6.2 Councillors questions relating to ongoing business -
It was asked if the Town Clerk had an update on the hedge that had to be reinstated. The Deputy Clerk would look into this.

7. Finance

- 7.1. Accounts for payment for November 2019 (recorded as **Appendix 1**).
An interim list of accounts was circulated with the agenda pack, an updated list was circulated at the meeting, tabled for approval.

It was agreed to accept the accounts for payment for November 2019, recorded as Appendix1.

- 7.2. To consider an update on s106
The report/update was circulated at the meeting.
A brief discussion took place and it was noted that if the Town Clerk made a modified application, £117, 623.00 would be authorised to be paid immediately. To expedite this payment the Town Council could waive the right to consultation on the amended application. Cllrs proposed and agreed that as long as no changes were made in the call up period by Breckland, the Town Council would waive their rights to consultation and the Town Clerk could go ahead with the modified application.

It was unanimously agreed that the Town Clerk could make the modified application and consultation rights could be waived on the basis that no modifications would be made during the call up period.

- 7.3 To consider request for funding from Norfolk Citizens Advice

Cllrs considered that this service was of benefit to local residents and it was proposed to agree a grant of £300, the same as last year.

It was agreed to give a grant of £300.

- 7.4 To consider for the Town Council to continue to pursue ownership of the Shambles
At the last finance meeting Councillor's had deferred the decision to the Full Council meeting. The Town Clerk had a meeting scheduled with the solicitor for tomorrow, it was thought to continue to pursue ownership as it was near to conclusion.

It was agreed for the Town Council to pursue ownership of the Shambles.

8. Correspondence or Information

8.1 General

- a) To consider a petition from Mr R Bartram for the Council to proceed with the commissioning a statue to highlight the Carter connection with Swaffham and to be completed before the centenary in 2022
The Town Council accepted the petition from Mr Bartram. Any decision regarding a statue would be made in conjunction with the Museum's proposed scheme Carter 22.
- b) To consider proposal by Cllr Scott to implement a path survey with cutting priorities
Swaffham's volunteer Footpath Warden, Mr L Wright had offered to do a footpath survey on behalf of the council to log which footpaths are most important to keep and to maintain. This survey could be given to Norfolk County Council who were now doing their cutting list for 2020. He would also be in a good position to put any issue that he finds through to them. It was confirmed that the Town Council was insured for volunteers and suggested to invite Mr Wright to a meeting at the Town Hall to establish what his activity would be.

It was agreed for Mr Wright to do a footpath survey on behalf of the council.

- c) To consider an invitation to attend the Churches Together Festival of Carols 12th December
Could Councillors inform the office as soon as possible please so that seats can be reserved. Six Cllrs confirmed attendance at this time.
- d) To consider a request to pass a motion in support of the Local Electricity Bill and sign up to the campaign
This bill has had a first reading in the house of commons but will not progress further as the session has come to an end. However, the Council were in favour of supporting the motion.

It was agreed to support the motion.

- e) To consider attendance of Swaffham Town Council representatives at Norfolk ALC
Cllr's Matthews & Darby confirmed they will be attending.
- f) To consider correspondence regarding a statutory notice referring to a road in Necton Parish and a notice to make changes to a bridleway in Gooderstone by Dr D Ormerod
In discussions it was reported that volunteer Rights of Way Officer, Dr Ormerod was reviewing rights of way on behalf of Swaffham Council but only within the town's parish boundary. Anything that he reports outside of the boundaries he does as a private individual and should identify himself as such. It was suggested that Dr Ormerod be contacted and ask him to change the language of his letters and not to identify himself as working for Swaffham with issues outside of its borders.

It was agreed to contact Dr Ormerod and ask him to change the language of his letters and not to identify himself as working for Swaffham with issues outside of it's borders.

- g) To consider a design for a new coat of arms for Swaffham
A design for a new coat of arms has been sent to the Council. It was thought that there may already be two coats of arms in existence. The Deputy Clerk informed the meeting that she is awaiting confirmation from the College of Arms.

8.2 Breckland Council

- a) To consider information regarding the Parish Precept Requirements 2020/21
Cllrs noted the information.
- b) To consider update on Swaffham High Streets Heritage Action
The Mayor gave a brief update and thanked Cllr Anscombe, Mrs S Gattuso and Mrs K Gordon for the work done so far. In discussions it was noted that there was only a little information available and that changes had been made to the original ideas for the project.

8.3 Norfolk County Council

- a) To consider Norfolk Fire and Rescue Service Draft Integrated Risk Management Plan
For information only, already considered.
- b) To Note the arrangements for street party closures
For information only, road closures for street party arrangements are the same as for any other event.
- c) To consider NCC view on streetlighting at development at Norwich Road by Persimmon Homes and to resolve on whether the Town Council take on streetlighting in this development
Norfolk County Council had confirmed that they will not be taking on any streetlighting at the development.

The Town Council had previously agreed to take on lights at other developments, and this was noted as a usual function of a town or parish council. If the Council choose to go ahead the lights would be put in by the contractor as part of the s38 agreement to provide them. Cllrs discussed the merits of providing footway lighting. It was suggested to defer this to the Finance Committee and then bring back to Full Council.

It was agreed to defer this to the Finance Committee and then to bring back to the Full Council.

It was proposed for draft minutes to be emailed out to Councillors alongside displaying them on the Town Council web site.

It was agreed for draft minutes to be emailed out to Councillors alongside displaying them on the Town Council web site.

9. Correspondence & Information received
The monthly list of correspondence was noted.

10. Committee & Working Group Reports

10.1 COMMITTEES

- a) To receive current COMMITTEE Reports
(Planning & Built Environment, Market, Events & Tourism, Recreation & Community Services, Transport, Access & Environment, HR & Governance, Estates, Heritage/Town Hall & Site Maintenance)
Planning & Built Environment – Cllr Scott reported that there were changes to a footpath on a recent application that allowed a more open aspect.
An application to change a restaurant to 2 bedsits was not thought to be of good design.
Developers at the Old School are close to admitting a new design.

10.2 WORKING GROUPS, TASK GROUPS or TOPIC GROUPS

- a) To receive current WORKING GROUP reports
(Twinning Liaison, Swaffham Heritage Liaison, Christmas Lights Event Working Group, Swaffham/Watton Liaison)

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

None received.

12. **Date of forthcoming meeting**

Market, Events & Tourism Committee	Mon	18 th Nov	6.30pm	Council Chamber
Recreation & Community Services Committee	Mon	25 th Nov	6.30pm	Council Chamber
Planning & Built Environment Committee	Tue	26 th Nov	4.00pm	Council Chamber
Finance Committee	Mon	2 nd Dec	6.30pm	Council Chamber
Transport, Access & Environment Committee	Tue	3 rd Dec	4.00pm	Council Chamber
HR & Governance Committee	Mon	9 th Dec	12noon	Council Chamber
Full Council	Wed	11 th Dec	6.30pm	Council Chamber

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

CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS following the exclusion of the public and press

13.1 **Staff related issues from the HR & Governance Committee.**

The minutes from the last HR & Governance Committee meeting were not yet available.

13.2 **To consider updated report from the Deputy Clerk following the extraordinary meeting held on 6th November 2019**

A robust discussion was held after which it was proposed:

The process is at Stage1 and to go ahead with

- a) a valuation of Days Field
b) a valuation of the Green Britain Centre

It was unanimously agreed that the process is at Stage 1 and to go ahead with a) a valuation of Days Field. b) a valuation of the Green Britain Centre.

It was proposed to obtain ballpark figures regarding:

- a) a price to demolish the Green Britain Centre
b) a ballpark price to bring the Green Britain Centre back into use

It was unanimously agreed to obtain an observation on a) a price to demolish the Green Britain Centre. b) a price to refurbish the Green Britain Centre.

It was proposed for the Town Clerk to draft a Critical Path Analysis.

It was unanimously agreed for the Town Clerk to draft a Critical Path Analysis.

The meeting closed at 9.10 pm

Mayor.....

Initials: _____

Swaffham Town Council - Accounts for November 2019

7.1

No	Payment	Name	Details	Price	VAT	Total
Paid - 1st -13th November 2019 - Town Council meeting						
375	Card	Amazon	Xmas event - <i>Santas Grotto gazebo & batterie</i>	£ 47.39	£ 9.48	£ 56.87
376	Card	Amazon	Xmas event - <i>Santas Grotto stickers</i>	£ 7.96	£ -	£ 7.96
377	Card	Swaffham & Fkm Florist	Flowers - <i>Deputy Clerk</i>	£ 41.00	£ -	£ 41.00
378	Card	Amazon	Town Hall - <i>wall planner</i>	£ 2.82	£ 0.57	£ 3.39
379	Card	Teal	Events - <i>Portable hand washer</i>	£ 192.00	£ 38.40	£ 230.40
380	Card	SLCC	Annual membership - <i>Deputy Clerk</i>	£ 220.00	£ -	£ 220.00
381	Card	Lloyds Bank	Monthly credit card fee	£ 3.00	£ -	£ 3.00
382	BACS	Allotment Deposit Refund	Shouldham Lane 45	£ 40.00	£ -	£ 40.00
383	BACS	CGM Group	Grass cutting - <i>Aug Sept 19</i>	£ 76.00	£ 15.20	£ 91.20
384	BACS	Countrywide	Market Gazebos - <i>July/Aug 19</i>	£ 1,300.00	£ 260.00	£ 1,560.00
385	BACS	J P Skips	Allotment Clearance	£ 125.00	£ 25.00	£ 150.00
386	BACS	Staff Expenses	Team Xmas event - <i>deposit - R Ostler</i>	£ 50.00	£ -	£ 50.00
387	BACS	Travis Perkins	General supplies	£ 58.18	£ 11.63	£ 69.81
388	BACS	Zurich Municipal	Insurance -Trucks & mowers - <i>2019/20</i>	£ 1,721.19	£ -	£ 1,721.19
389	d/d	Hitachi	Truck Lease - <i>Oct 19</i>	£ 336.88	£ 67.37	£ 404.25
390	d/d	Npower	Town Hall - Gas - <i>Nov 19</i>	£ 300.00	£ -	£ 300.00
391	d/d	SSE Southern Electric	Town Hall - <i>electricity - Q3 Oct 19</i>	£ 962.25	£ 192.45	£ 1,154.70
392	d/d	SSE Southern Electric	Public Toilets - <i>electricity - Oct 19</i>	£ 97.16	£ 4.85	£ 102.01
393	d/d	SSE Southern Electric	Cemetery Chapel - <i>electricity - Oct 19</i>	£ 21.50	£ 1.07	£ 22.57
394	d/d	SSE SWALEC	Buttercross - <i>electricity - Oct 19</i>	£ 68.41	£ 3.42	£ 71.83
395	d/d	SSE SWALEC	Rec Ground Toilets - <i>electricity - Oct 19</i>	£ 11.66	£ 2.33	£ 13.99
396	d/d	Vodafone	Mobile Phone bills - <i>Sept 19</i>	£ 41.00	£ 8.20	£ 49.20
397	d/d	Vodafone	Mobile Phone bills - <i>Oct 19</i>	£ 41.00	£ 8.20	£ 49.20
398	d/d	WorldPay	Monthly payment charges - <i>Oct 19</i>	£ 42.41	£ 0.21	£ 42.62
Sub Total				£ 5,806.81	£ 648.38	£ 6,455.19

To be authorised and paid - post 13th November 2019 Town Council meeting

399	BACS	Net Salaries	Town Council	£ -	£ -	£ 15,185.26
400	BACS	Inland Revenue	Tax & National Insurance	£ -	£ -	£ 5,125.40
401	BACS	Norfolk Pension Service	Superannuation	£ -	£ -	£ 5,754.22
402	d/d	Breckland Council	Town Hall - Rates	£ 1,031.00	£ -	£ 1,937.00
			Market - Rates	£ 344.00	£ -	
			Cemetery - Rates	£ 187.00	£ -	
			Public Toilet - Rates	£ 375.00	£ -	
403	d/d	Immervox (<i>Oct 2019</i>)	Town Council - Fax & Broadband 720469	£ 47.99	£ 9.60	£ 194.98
			Museum - Telephone 721230	£ 22.85	£ 4.58	
			Town Council - Telephone 722922	£ 32.19	£ 6.44	
			Town Council - Alarm 724968	£ 13.00	£ 2.60	
			Town Wi-Fi	£ 46.45	£ 9.29	
404	300276		Petty Cash	£ 82.21	£ -	£ 82.21
405	BACS	Anglian Water / WAVE	Tumbler Hill - <i>water - 15May - 30th Sept 19</i>	£ 394.86	£ -	£ 394.86
406	BACS	Bryan Lecoche	Fly Grazing notice - <i>Aug 19</i>	£ 47.50	£ 9.50	£ 57.00
407	BACS	Cooleraid	Town Hall - drinking water	£ 11.85	£ 2.37	£ 14.22
408	BACS	Diddlington Nurseries	Winter plants - <i>2019</i>	£ 129.25	£ 25.85	£ 155.10
409	BACS	JP Skips	Allotment & Cemetery clearance - <i>Oct 19</i>	£ 212.50	£ 42.50	£ 255.00
410	BACS	Lyreco	General Stationery	£ 31.50	£ 6.30	£ 37.80
411	300277	Royal British Legion	Remembrance wreath	£ 17.00	£ -	£ 17.00
412	BACS	SLCC	Civic Ceremonial book	£ 47.20	£ -	£ 47.20
413	BACS	Swaffham Service Station	Monthly Fuel - <i>Oct 19</i>	£ 211.34	£ 42.26	£ 253.60
414	BACS	T K Drakes	Cemetery workshop & general <i>supplies</i>	£ 11.25	£ 2.25	£ 13.50
415	BACS	T K Drakes	Museum - <i>boiler repairs</i>	£ 203.50	£ 40.70	£ 244.20
416	BACS	Travis Perkins	War Memorial - <i>repairs</i>	£ 69.37	£ 13.88	£ 83.25
417	BACS	Veolia	Monthly Waste Clearance - <i>Oct 19</i>	£ 148.10	£ 29.62	£ 177.72
Sub Total				£ 9,523.72	£ 896.12	£ 36,484.71

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Late Bills - received after agenda issued						
418	BACS	Ark Farm	Xmas event - Live Animal Nativity	£ 580.00	£ 116.00	£ 696.00
419	BACS	ESPO	General cleaning supplies	£ 37.55	£ 7.51	£ 45.06
420	BACS	Fakenham Town Band	Xms event - entertainment	£ 175.00	£ -	£ 175.00
421	BACS	Narford Scaffolding	Town Hall - scaffolding hire - Oct 19	£ 80.00	£ 16.00	£ 96.00
422	BACS	Brook HR	HR services OCT	£ 135.00	£ -	£ 135.00
423	BACS	TK Drakes	Town Hall light tubes	£ 17.00	£ 3.40	£ 20.40
424	BACS	TK Drakes	New vent in public toilets	£ 181.34	£ 36.27	£ 217.61
425	BACS	TK Drakes	replace PIR timer public toilets	£ 66.56	£ 13.31	£ 79.87
426	BACS	Anglian Chemicals	public toilet supplies	£ 14.84	£ 2.96	£ 17.80
427	BACS	CGM	Rec grass cut 16/10	£ 38.00	£ 7.60	£ 45.60
428	BACS	Al Motor store	Xmas banners and road signs	£ 30.00	£ -	£ 30.00
TOTAL				£ 10,879.01	£ 1,099.17	£ 38,043.05
Bank Transfers						
	Transfe	Unity Trust Bank	From deposit to current - cover pymts			£ 20,000.00
	Transfe	Unity Trust Bank	From current to deposit - precept			£ 185,000.00
Summary of Income - October 2019 (market rents, allotment deposits, cemetery invoices, room rentals, loan payments etc)						
01-Oct-19	Cash Analysis	Cash & Cheques taken over the counter				£ 117.50
08-Oct-19	Cash Analysis	Cash & Cheques taken over the counter				£ 1,452.21
15-Oct-19	Cash Analysis	Cash & Cheques taken over the counter				£ 3,050.51
22-Oct-19	Cash Analysis	Cash & Cheques taken over the counter				£ 2,346.61
	Cash Analysis	Cash & Cheques taken over the counter				£ 643.28
Total BACS			Total Additional Income received by BACS			£ 10,349.45
TOTAL						£ 17,959.56
Items of expenditure to be reclaimed						
Watton TC		Monthly reclaim		£ 1,186.35	£ 2.00	£ 1,188.35
Museum		Museum - Telephone 721230		£ 22.85	£ 4.57	£ 27.42
Sues News		Electricity - Oct 19		£ 45.01	£ 9.00	£ 54.01
TOTAL				£ 1,209.20	£ 6.57	£ 1,215.77



Mr Bartram

Mr R Bartram handed in a petition in support of a permanent statue of Howard Carter to be erected in Swaffham. He was aware it would be expensive but the benefit to tourism could go global. He was aware of the Museum's proposed Carter 22 proposal and supported the concept.

He asked that the date for the Dads Army Day be moved to September and for the Town Council to take into account expert opinions.

If a Music Festival were to go ahead he hoped it would be based in the town centre.

Mr Bartram commented that the layout for the Christmas event was totally wrong and would cut off the east side of the Market Place.

Due to recent criminal damage he asked the Town Council to remove the lower branches from trees in the car parking area in the Church Yard. The area is enabling persons to congregate and is being used for unlawful purposes.

Mr Bartram strongly asked that the damaged crossing outside the Green Parrot be repaired as soon as possible. Cllr Colman offered to look into this.

Mr S Allen

Mr Allen asked if the Remembrance Service was classed as an event, and if so why were there no poppy flags put up. The Deputy Clerk replied that there were only five flags in a good enough condition to use and that no request to fly the flags had been received.

Mr Allen thought that the Christmas event was lacking in proper administration and marketing and that it was time for the Town Council to use professional organisations to promote events.

He also asked why the lights were not being used on the Buttercross. The Deputy Clerk explained the reasoning behind the Christmas brochure and that there were problems with the electrics at the Buttercross.

In response to Mr Allan's enquiry about the Remembrance Service he was informed that all the arrangements for this were made by the British Legion but any request to the Town Council from them would of course be considered.

Mrs Sue Gattusu

Carter 22

On behalf of the trustees of Swaffham Heritage I would like to put before you tonight the outline of plans we have for celebrating the centenary in 2022 of Howard Carter's discovery of the tomb of Tutankhamun in November 1922. **The working title for the project is Carter 22.**

As part of my so far 18 month long preparation for this project I have visited most of the principal national museums which exhibit items of Egyptology as well as Highclere Castle, the home of Lord Carnarvon. Apart from the latter, none has so far told the story of Howard Carter, even though he is arguably the most renowned archaeologist the country has produced. Naturally, the Highclere exhibition, although excellent and totally relevant to the discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb, focuses on the achievements of Lord Carnarvon.

Swaffham is in the best position to tell Howard's story. Without Swaffham there would have been no Howard. His grandfather Samuel, his father Samuel John, his aunts Fanny and Catherine, his uncles Henry William and Robert, his brother William, his cousins Harry and Ben (Ripper) all lie buried in Swaffham. At least two of his brothers boarded at Hamonds Grammar School. Howard, although there is no written documentary evidence, spent at least part of his childhood here. There are actually several Carter houses in the town, although Howard himself only lived in the family house on Sporle Road, not in Keeper's cottage, Holly Lodge or down Ash Close.

Members of the family still live locally.

Other family members occasionally visit Swaffham Heritage to see what we know of him. At which point I roll out the family tree which I have put together with the help of various members of the family and ask two questions. "Where do you fit in?" and "Are you an artist" – as so many of the Carters even today seem to be. Usually the answer to that last question is yes.

At 15 Howard decided to be an animal portrait painter, like his father. As part of his apprenticeship he worked at Didlington Hall near Downham Market. We know that on occasion he cycled there from Swaffham. And, of course, it was at Didlington, amongst the ancient Egyptian artefacts of the Amherst collection, that his career in Egypt began two years later.

So Swaffham seems to be **the** place where - even if centuries apart - ordinary working men - following a dream – find rich and wonderful buried treasure.

At this moment in time I am asking only for the Town Council's permission and support for the **concept** of our plans. With this in hand we can then talk to the Heritage Lottery Fund and come back to you shortly with costings. We have just two years to organise and execute this.

There are four separate sub-projects.

1. **The Buttercross Project.** This has been designed by a local museum designer and would be an exhibition inside the Buttercross focusing on the life of Howard and his discovery by means of holograms and a touchtable. This has been discussed with Andrew Gayton who in turn approached Historic England. Both have agreed in principle as long as the structure of the Buttercross itself is not affected. The exhibition would be in place throughout the Summer of 2022 and would be an arresting tourist attraction as it would be highly visible to passing traffic. It would be well publicised and increase substantially the number of tourists and visitors to the town. There would be an entry charge. We are aware that the difficulties lie not with the structure or the display itself but with security and volunteer manning. Because it is based on holograms it can be reprogrammed and then used to advertise or display other, later events such as Christmas lighting, the annual historic vehicle event, Swaffham Arts, theatre events, markets and so on.

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2. **A series of events** in the town throughout the year for adults, families and children.

These might include:

Lectures on Egyptology and illustrated talks on the story of Howard Carter

A guided tour of the town and/or an illustrated talk on Swaffham in the late 19th century

Family and children's activity days –Egyptian maths; handling; stories of ancient Egypt; craft work; sand tray archaeology, modelling. Life size cutouts of Tutankhamun and Carter so that visitors can photograph themselves.

An archaeology dig – in town – perhaps on a new development site - or in a village nearby

Cashing in on Tutmania - Learning to sand dance. – films such as Indiana Jones, Cleopatra,

The Mummy and so on

Egyptian cookery

Films on The Discovery

Schools' projects

3. The principle of some kind of **permanent recognition** of Howard Carter in the town which might be a plaque or a sculpture of some kind.

4. Although part of the whole project the 4th sub-project is separate as it might need to take place after the Buttercross exhibition. However, we are nevertheless asking for the Town Council's support and permission now so that it can be taken to HLF as part of the bundle.

So - a **refurbishment of the Carter Connection Gallery** at Swaffham Heritage. This is the most popular gallery in the museum with 47% of visitors designating it the most interesting and enjoyable gallery. However, the technology in the tomb is out of date and failing and the drawers in the room are dangerous if the room is crowded. Neither does it tell well the story of Howard Carter.

I would repeat that Swaffham Heritage is today asking for permission and support of the whole **concept** of the project today, as without that we cannot move towards discussion with the Heritage Lottery Fund and the costings of the various sub-projects.

Thank you. Any questions?



Cllr E Colman -NCC Report

Consistently strong decision-making helping families get the right help first time

Ofsted has praised Norfolk's handing of child safeguarding calls and referrals, after a two day visit to the County Council.

The inspectorate carried out a focused visit looking at how the council responds to calls about the welfare of children and young people – the so called “front door”.

Ofsted said that the front door had been “transformed” since their last visit in November 2017 and that information sharing, analysis and recording had significantly improved. The quality of decision making was “consistently strong” and there had been a reduction in inappropriate referrals and assessments. Inspectors said that the level of improvement achieved “provided tangible evidence of the impact of senior leaders on social work practice at the front door.”

Inspectors also found that the front door response to domestic abuse is well developed and increasingly effective and said the multi-agency child exploitation and missing team is “equally effective”.

Ofsted said there was more work to do when cases leave the front door, with the timeliness and quality of assessments identified as an area for further work, largely because of continuing recruitment challenges.

£250,000 fund launched to support early years groups

Community groups that support young children and their parents in Norfolk are being invited to apply to a new Community Fund designed to get our county's babies and pre-schoolers off to the best possible start.

The Norfolk Early Childhood Community Fund will hand out grants of up to £2,500 to projects that will support children aged 0-5 to achieve their developmental milestones and ensure children and their parents or carers aren't lonely or isolated.

Groups might include music, creative, arts or physical play to encourage parents/carers to play alongside their child and give opportunities to make new friends close to home.

Up to £250,000 is available annually to help new groups set up or existing groups to expand. The money is being made available as part of Norfolk County Council's Early Childhood and Family service which launched last month.

We can also provide advice and guidance on how to set up a new group, what things they need to consider and what support is available.

Ambitious net zero carbon target proposed for Norfolk

An ambitious date of 2030 for Norfolk to achieve net zero carbon emissions has been proposed as part of a new and far-reaching environment policy for the County Council.

A cross party group was set up in May 2019 to look closely at the key issues and actions needed to help the county council understand and address its environmental impacts from the buildings the authority uses, the way people travel, and how the land owned by the Council is used.

Over recent months the four-member working group heard from representatives of a range of organisations including Extinction Rebellion, the Broads Authority, the UEA and the New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership. A set of proposals are now available for members of the Infrastructure and Development Select Committee to discuss at their meeting on Wednesday, 13 November. If agreed, the policy would then be considered for adoption by Full Council on 25 November.

Cllr Colman – BDC Report

Members of the public are being invited to share their views on plans to change how Breckland Council calculates council tax for people claiming Universal Credit. Universal Credit is a single monthly payment which was rolled out in Breckland in 2018, replacing and combining a number of previously available benefits.

Breckland Council's current scheme means working-age people who access support because of a low income can claim up to 91.5% off their council tax, depending on their individual circumstances. However, as people claiming Universal Credit have an income that can rise and fall each month based on their latest earnings from employment, under the existing scheme the amount of council tax people are expected to pay can also regularly rise and fall.

To provide people with more certainty over their bills, the district council is proposing that people claiming Universal Credit will not see a change in their council tax unless their weekly income changes by more than £15, or £65 in a month. The proposed change would not apply to people who have reached state pension age or are not on Universal Credit as other existing provisions already achieve similar outcomes.

The new approach would mean that small changes in income would not trigger a re-assessment of council tax support, so Universal Credit claimants know how much their council tax will be and can more easily manage their finances.

While the change is expected to help the vast majority of claimants, the proposals also make provision for people who may be disadvantaged by a single change in the year, by giving the council the flexibility to not apply the new £15 tolerance rule on a case-by-case basis. For example, if a Universal Credit claimant's income falls by less than £15 per week, their council tax support will remain the same despite their reduction in earnings. In such cases, the person's council tax support could be reassessed at the end of the year, based on their actual level of income.

As part of the proposed change, Breckland Council also proposes to change when it assesses Universal Credit customers' eligibility for Council Tax Support. This will take place when the Department for Work and Pension confirms an award of Universal Credit, instead of when a customer submits a claim for Universal Credit. This will avoid the need for a re-assessment.

Cllr Phil Cowen, Breckland's Executive Member for Finance and Growth, commented: "These proposals seek to provide greater certainty to people claiming Universal Credit so they know week in and week out what their Council Tax bill will be. This will help people to manage their finances better and is one of the ways we are seeking to support potentially vulnerable local people and help them avoid falling into debt. We are now seeking the views of residents to see what they think of the plans."

A consultation on the proposals is open 28 October to 8 December and is accessible via our [Live Consultations page](#) or in hard copy at Breckland Council's offices in Dereham and Thetford. Results from the consultation will be taken into account before the final proposal is put forward for consideration by councillors in early 2020. If agreed, the change would come into effect from April next year.