

Swaffham Town Council

Minutes of the **Transport & Environment Committee** meeting held on **Tuesday 1st March 2022** at **4.00pm** in the Council Chamber.

Councillors: Mrs J Anscombe, Mrs L Beech, Mr L Scott, Mr K Oliver.

Committee members: Mr P Bray, Mr J Zielinski (Chair), Mrs K Gordon, Mr S Sole

Town Clerk: Mr R Bishop
Admin Assistant: Ms K Furnass

BDC Cllr: Mr I Sherwood (from 4.10pm)
BDC & NCC Cllr: Mr E Colman

The Chairman, Mr J Zielinski, asked everyone to pause and spare a thought for these difficult times in the world.

1. Apologies for absence.

Cllr J Skinner – family commitments

2. Declarations of interest

None received.

3. Traffic, Access or Environment issues from Non-Members Councillors

None received.

4. Minutes

The minutes of the Transport and Environment Committee meeting on Tuesday 4th January 2022 were agreed by the Committee and signed by the Chairman as an accurate record

A brief conversation on the TEC Strategic Plan concluded that Mrs Kate Gordon would help Cllr Anscombe to amalgamate all the information for a review.

5. Outstanding Actions agreed at previous meetings

5.1. Station Street Car Park – There had been a meeting between the Town Clerk and Breckland Officer James Watkins to confirm that the Committee wished to go forward with the changes. The next step would involve a 30 day consultation.

5.2. War Memorial Phone Box – This was still progressing through the application which usually takes about 90 days. It was also asked if the telephone box and the surrounding area at Globe Hill could be cleaned up? The Town Clerk replied that he thought Iceni were responsible for this and offered to contact them with the Committees concerns.

6. Environmental & Climate Change Session - Cllr Ian Sherwood, Lead Member for Climate Change.

6.1. Litter, Recycling, School's-education and projects - Cllr Sherwood gave a brief explanation on the Street Cleaning Teams. He explained that BDC were eager to involve volunteers, either as groups or individuals. They would help and support with distributing and collecting any full black bin bags. Breckland also encouraged 'take home and recycle'. Through education the right ways to recycle can be achieved. He encouraged anyone to go and visit the recycling plants to see how they worked. Educating the youngsters was also important. Hamonds Academy students were engaged in recycling and had introduced their green message project. Additional bins had been installed around the school to encourage recycling. Cllr Sherwood then asked for questions from the Committee. Discussions followed and various issues were raised: One councillor suggested that more bins were needed around the town and that self-sorting options were the way forward.

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Cllr Sherwood was informed the 3 recycling bins on Theatre Street car park were in a bad condition. They needed replacing or re-painting. The area around them also needed tidying up. He offered to look into this for the Committee.

Recycling contamination was a problem, and it was agreed that more education was needed on what can or can't be recycled. It was suggested that schools were invited to visit the recycling plants.

Cllr Scott asked if Breckland planning department would have any thoughts on Sustainable Drainage Systems use in any future developments around Days Field. These could be of benefit to the Tumbler Hill allotments and possibly other future sites in similar geographical situations. Cllr Sherwood asked Cllr Scott to email him the information and he would look into it. Cllr Colman added that a lot of good work had already been done by Breckland but it was dependant on the Planning White Paper. Developers would also need to be on board.

- 6.2. Climate Change Issues – It was reported that as the Climate Change Group covered many of this committees issues it might be a good idea to invite them to the next meeting.

It was agreed to invite the Climate Change Group to the next Committee meeting.

- 6.3. Tree Planting - Cllr Sherwood was asked if it was possible to have two replacement trees planted at the War memorial. He replied that he would look into this. Breckland were working closely with the Woodland Trust to plant trees in Swaffham on Breckland owned land. More information could be found on Breckland's web site under Your Environment <https://www.breckland.gov.uk/climate-change>

- 6.4. Electric Car Charging Points – Theatre Street – This is something Breckland are still keen to do. It is on-going and being priced out.

- 6.5. Green Planters – This was not an item for this agenda it was a Market Towns Initiative.

- 6.6. AQAP meeting February 22nd, 2022, with Craig Fowler and Andrew Grimley – feedback Cllr Anscombe and the Town Clerk – It was reported that many points were covered in the meeting:

- Idling cars at schools
- Walking buses
- Station Street junction
- Traffic flow at the traffic lights

Multiple initiatives were involved, Network Improvement Strategy and HAZ. They all formed the Town Delivery Plan.

Cllr Colman mentioned that the Network Improvement Strategy was in DRAFT but questions could still be asked.

It was agreed to introduce the idea of clean air for the town centre and take to Full Council.

7. Transport, Walking & Cycling items – Cllr Ed Colman, Breckland and NCC.

- 7.1 Walking and Cycling Strategy - There was no update as yet, this is still being finalised. A consultation will be held later in the month. Cllr Colman thought the Town Clerk should contact Matthew Heywood for a meeting when the DRAFT Strategy was published.

- 7.2 Travel Plans – Persimmon Homes and Barratts Development Norwich Road – Councillors raised concerns about the lack of safe footpaths from the new developments on Norwich Road to the local schools and into the town centre. There had also been a request from a local care home for a footpath to join up with an existing one. Cllr Colman pointed out to the Committee that developers only had to install footpaths to meet existing ones. The Committee would like to see footpaths to schools discussed in the early stages of new planning developments.

7.3 NCC matters ongoing

- a) Signage at Theatre Street car park - Cllr Colman noted that the Theatre Street signage was

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- complete, but the Committee disagreed with this. Cllr Anscombe informed him of 4 points that were not as agreed. The Town Clerk would bring this up at the Highways meeting on Friday.
- b) 20 mph zone in Valentine Barker Court/Courtfields – This would come with a cost, and it would be at least 12 months to apply. In discussions it was not thought to be an area that had speeding issues.
- c) TROD footpath from Meadow House, access to town, possible funding under Parish Partnership – Unfortunately there was no common ground between the existing footpath and the requested path. Permission from Individual ownership would be required.

7.4 Items for Highways meeting with Jack Griffiths.

A1064 through the town, pot holes, metal work covers. Who is responsible for checking the work?

Watton Road, blocked footpath access.

Road sign at Junction of Beachamwell Road and Cley Road. Will this be replaced, or could it be restored?

Possible wrong information of safe footpath along Watton Road to School.

To pass on thanks for the Theatre Street, Westfields footpath repairs.

- 8. War Memorial Phone Box – It was reported this was ongoing. The process takes about 90 days to complete.

9. Next meeting:

Tuesday 1st March 2022 4pm Town Hall Chamber.

Meeting Closed 17.45pm

Chairman.....

