



## BRANDON TOWN COUNCIL

### FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF BRANDON TOWN COUNCIL

#### OLD SCHOOL HOUSE BRANDON

**MONDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2025 7.00 P.M.**

Present: Councillors: Wittam (Chair), Brocklehurst, Bland, Challiss, Gorrington, Hughes, Kostecki, Lukaniuk, Pinnell, Savage, Siebert, Skinner, Watts. Clerk: Cunnell,  
Minute Taker: Prior

### MINUTES

The Chair started the meeting by explaining about the different tiers of Council and how they operate between Town Council and government. He further explained about Code of Conduct issues.

1	<b>Apologies for Absence</b> No apologies received.
2	<b>Declarations of Interest and requests for Dispensations</b> None.
3	<b>To receive a report from Sqn Ldr Eaton – RAF Lakenheath</b> Sqn Ldr Eaton was unable to attend the meeting but sent in a report that was noted.
4	<b>Minutes of Previous Meetings</b> Agree and sign the minutes from the Full Council Meeting on 10th March 2025. Resolution Record No: <b>BTC/164/14/Apr/25</b> <b>RESOLVED</b>
5	<b>Minutes of Previous Meetings</b> To receive and note minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting of 7 <sup>th</sup> April 2025. Received and noted.
6	<b>Chairmans Report</b> Chairman gave the following verbal report:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Confirmed Tina Cunnell's position as Town Clerk as permanent.</li><li>• TRO ongoing, public to fill in surveys.</li><li>• Ideas for projects for the town, to be sent to the Town Clerk.</li><li>• Looking to move forward to become a Gold Standard Council.</li></ul>

7	<p><b>Public Participation Time</b></p> <p>The meeting was adjourned.</p> <p>A resident commented on the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Impressed with the progress of the new cemetery.</li> <li>• Issues with cars parking in residential areas, that are using the church and the need for a car park at the new cemetery.</li> </ul> <p>The Chair gave an update on the progress of the new cemetery.</p> <p>A resident asked questions regarding a recent planning application and queried the Council's approval of the application. The Chair of planning answered their queries. The Clerk further gave information.</p> <p>The Chair read out a letter from a resident querying how a Councillor that had moved away from the area, can still represent his ward on the Council. The Clerk gave a legislative review on the matter. It was decided to contact the Councillor.</p> <p>A resident raised concerns about the bin on the southside of the river bridge that had been moved, causing lots of extra rubbish. Cllr Savage would look into getting a bin put back.</p> <p>Lastly, a resident was upset about Cllr Pinnell's comment made about an area in the town, where a memorial bench had been placed. The Chair asked Cllr Pinnell if he would be prepared to apologise, to which he did and he also offered his help in the future as did Cllr Savage.</p> <p>Meeting re-opened.</p>
8	<p><b>Reports from County and District Councillors</b></p> <p>Cllr Lukanuik as County Councillor reported:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Met with enforcement officer from Norfolk County Council, last week, at the station regarding the challenge being made by Network Rail on the HGV conditions. Norfolk County Council will challenge the appeal. Representation from BTC needs to be made by Wednesday morning. The Clerk suggested that Cllr Blands comments be sent around to the Councillors for approval and we could then comment on the portal, to object to the planning application.</li> <li>• On 18<sup>th</sup> March West Suffolk County voted for a Western Suffolk Unitary Council, which will now go to government.</li> </ul>
9	<p><b>Reports from Town Councillors</b></p> <p>Cllr Lukaniuk thanked Cllr Brocklehurst, Cllr Watts, Cllr Gorringe and Brandon in Bloom for stream cleaning the planters in the High Street and putting in new soil, trees and plants.</p>

	<p>Cllr Gorringe commented on the defibrillators project, regarding fixing of defibrillators on streetlights. The Clerk explained why Suffolk County Council do not put defibrillators on their streetlights. After discussion it was decided further meetings are needed, to decide the way forward with managing the defibrillators.</p> <p>Cllr Pinnell reported:-</p> <p>He had attended the Brandon Commission meeting, along with the District Councillors:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The meeting was well attended with local businesses present, and many other organisations.</li> <li>• Many questionnaires had been returned.</li> <li>• The next meeting is in May at the Council offices.</li> </ul> <p>After speaking with the local bus company re the number 86 service, running later, to which they agreed, their funding has changed so they withdrew. They are however, increasing the 201 service, to a half hour service to Thetford.</p> <p>Cllr Challiss reported that she attended the breakfast club at the Royal British Legion and thanked Cllr Siebert and Brandon Creative Forum, funded by the prosperity fund and Cllr Savages locality budget.</p> <p>Cllr Brocklehurst reported:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cranswick planning application had been rejected.</li> <li>• Free compost from brown bins at Brandon Country Park on 7<sup>th</sup> May 2025.</li> <li>• Warren and Wood Close – reports of motorised traffic using the green. Any reports contact police.</li> <li>• BOB awards have taken place with over one hundred guests including the Nick Timothy, our Local MP and a number of Councillors attended.</li> </ul> <p>Cllr Bland queried as to why the QR code for the TRO was not put in the monthly town magazine. Cllr Brocklehurst explained the reason.</p>
10	<p><b>Accounts</b></p> <p>To approve and note payments made in March 2025.</p> <p>Resolution Record No: <b>BTC/165/14/Apr/25</b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b></p>
11	<p><b>Grant Applications</b></p> <p>Decision required: To consider S137 grant from Fledgelings Preschool Brandon</p> <p>Cllr Lukaniuk presented the grant application. Queries were made over the amount of the grant and it being the start of the financial year.</p> <p>After discussion, it was decided that due to a representative not being present and there not being enough information regarding the application and possible Councillor visits to the site needed, the item be deferred.</p> <p>Resolution Record No: <b>BTC/166/14/Apr/25</b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b></p>
12	<p><b>Income &amp; Expenditure Statement against budget for February 2025</b></p> <p>Received and noted.</p>

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	<p>Cllr Brocklehurst as Chair of the New Cemetery Committee, suggested keeping as a separate committee. The following was discussed:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do same as planning and have under Full Council.</li> <li>• Full Council will be a longer meeting.</li> <li>• Have an update on the new cemetery every month.</li> <li>• Evenings more people can attend.</li> </ul> <p>Cllr Challiss proposed and Cllr Bland seconded that New Cemetery go to Full Council.</p> <p>Resolution Record No: <b>BTC/170/14/Apr/25</b>  <b>RESOLVED</b></p> <p>Cllr Hughes commented that Events should also go to Full Council. The following was then discussed:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Events have a budget.</li> <li>• If on Full Council delays in approving to book things.</li> <li>• Public are on the Events Committee.</li> </ul> <p>Cllr Pinnell proposed and Cllr Brocklehurst seconded that the Events go to Full Council.</p> <p>Resolution Record No: <b>BTC/171/14/Apr/25</b>  <b>FAILED</b> – The Events Committee will stay as a stand alone committee.</p>
15	<p><b>Model Publication Scheme</b></p> <p>To adopt Model Publication Scheme. The Town Clerk explained about the Model Publication Scheme.</p> <p>Resolution Record No: <b>BTC/172/14/Apr/25</b>  <b>RESOLVED</b></p>
16	<p><b>Norfolk and Suffolk Devolution Consultation</b></p> <p>To review comments received and agree  <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/norfolk-and-suffolk-devolution">https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/norfolk-and-suffolk-devolution</a></p> <p>After discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Skinner and seconded by Cllr Pinnell to defer this item, to hold an EGM to discuss in more detail, due to the importance, with the deadline being 9<sup>th</sup> May. Councillors to complete the survey and the Town Clerk to collate the answers, to present at the EGM.</p> <p>Resolution Record No: <b>BTC/173/14/Apr/25</b>  <b>RESOLVED</b></p>
17	<p><b>Lingheath and Atmere Charities</b></p> <p>Nominate a Trustee</p> <p>Cllr Skinner put himself forward to be the Trustee of Lingheath and Atmere Charities.</p> <p>Resolution Record No: <b>BTC/174/14/Apr/25</b>  <b>RESOLVED</b></p>

18	<p><b>Clerks Update</b></p> <p>The Clerk gave the following update:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working on a business plan - projects and priorities to consider, the Clerk to circulate ideas.</li> <li>• Overview given of how funding works.</li> </ul>
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The meeting closed at 9.31 PM

Chairman

Date