

# CROWLE TOWN COUNCIL

1.

MINUTES of a meeting of the Annual Assembly meeting held at Crowle Community Hub on 12<sup>th</sup> May 2009

**PRESENT.** Cllr M Bailey, Town Mayor, presiding

Cllr's	T Barker	C Stewart	R Stewart	P Venum	F J Rhodes
	I Tonge	N Culpin	G DaCosta	H S Osborne	
	J R Smith	B Duffield			

**WARD COUNCILLORS:** T Barker J Briggs

**1. APOLOGIES** for absence were received from Cllr's: N Arrand (Holiday)

I Mason (Work Commitments)

K Holgate (Work Commitments)

**2. MATTERS ARISING.**

No matters were raised:

**3. MAYORS REPORT OF PREVIOUS YEAR.**

2008 saw many changes within the town as the first stages of regeneration took place with the installation and operation of the first CCT camera with a second CCT camera being installed soon. We are however suffering from some localised technical problems which we hope to resolve shortly.

This was followed by the active involvement of the Local Market Place Delivery group relentlessly pushing forward the development of the Market Square Area. This local development will become the future of Crowle and a way forward for our community. There are many local decisions to be made and a great deal of local consultation before finalisation of the project. All I can say at the moment is please watch this space and when the opportunity arises please make your comments.

The recent development of an overseeing group for all projects within the North of the Isle has been set up with the aid of North Lincolnshire Council and the major funding body "Yorkshire Forward" this group took on the title of "The North Isle Partnership" or (NIPS) the group has already played an important role in securing funding for a new Toddler play area situated in Ealand park. This project was delivered and managed by the local group called "Friends of Ealand Park" The first phase of that project is completed and children are enjoying their new facility. There are many other groups in the area realising that Crowle and Ealand is the place to watch. We are a community that is moving forward and far from being a dying community we are very much alive and well.

Both our ward councillors have played and continue to play an active role in our regeneration together with several members of North Lincolnshire councils Staff and I wish to relay our gratitude to all at North Lincolnshire Council for their continued support in these very changeable times.

The members of the Crowle Town Council work hard for the community and have had to search their consciences when making some very difficult decisions I can assure you no councillor takes their work and responsibilities lightly and spend many hours deliberating and continue to do so on some very sensitive issues .

During the year we were the target of thieves who stole all the council's maintenance equipment creating not only financial loss to the council and the community with the added expense of employing contractors to fulfil our committed role at short notice.

I will at this point like to thank the contractors concerned for responding so rapidly and effectively to our needs.

Last year I reported on the state of repair of the cemetery chapels, which were in need of some remedial work. I can now report that the first phase of the work has been completed and the outside of the buildings is now in good condition and weather proof. We do however need to repair and decorate the inside of both chapels ready for re-use.

During the past few months some of your local councillors have been progressing with our attempt to gain Quality Council Status with many new targets needing to be hit. One such target was the production of a newsletter which was delivered with the aid of the Regeneration group within their own publication of the Regeneration News and I would like to thank the Regeneration group for their support and also for the great work they do for the community every year.

Manor Park has been the cause of many problems and concerns for the council and the local residents. This is an area that needs a considerable amount of expenditure if it is to become a good facility and accepted within the local community. Several attempts at raising support group interest have fallen by the wayside and I plead with the residents of the Town to support the efforts being made to gain the external funding that is required to turn this play area into a quality amenity for young and not so young alike.

The Town website is still up and running and all the council minutes and future council agendas are listed on it. We are trying to improve it by getting other pages of interest introduced and future copies of the Crowle Town Council's newsletter will be available on it. We hope to have a feedback and comments pages where people can comment on relevant Town issues.

My final words must be to thank my fellow councillors and staff for their support during my period as Town Mayor and in particular Kate who has worked exceptionally hard for the council as well as going forward for extensive training to enable her to serve you the residents effectively and I have pleasure in reporting that Kate has passed her course with distinctions and we should all be proud of her, Kate is now a well qualified clerk and I know she is very pleased with herself as its been extremely hard work for her.

Our Town Handyman Malcolm has also had to cope with a very difficult period within the council and I want to thank Malcolm for his continued support and effort.

#### **4. WARD COUNCILLORS REPORT.**

Cllr T Barker reported concerning the following:

##### **The Hub**

The future of this building has been secured. However, we now need for the people of Crowle to make use of the facility. The opening hours have recently been increased, which is a move forward.

##### **Flood Strategy**

After much work involving several people including the sitting MP Ian Cawsey, the Environment Agency has set up a committee to oversee a new consultation, this will involve all stakeholders, including this council, and our views will be important. As I am Lead Member for this North Lincolnshire Council, I will keep you informed of the progress.

#### **4. WARD COUNCILLORS REPORT CONT:**

##### **Windfarm Traffic**

As most people will be aware, we are at present awaiting a new transport plan to be presented to North Lincolnshire Council. When this becomes available later this month, a full consultation will be undertaken, to gather the views of all concerned. I must stress that we can all help in this procedure by taking the time to write to North Lincolnshire Council and inform them of our views. I feel that all councillors in Axholme North must stick together on this issue and present as we are now, a united front.

##### **Delivery Group**

Over the past year with respect to the Delivery Group, this has been a frustrating period. Delays have been forced upon us due to legal requirements, but I am pleased to inform you that this has now been resolved, and we should be able to move forward now and very soon. The public will be invited to participate in a new consultation exercise. It is felt within the group that the grant for £500,000 secured by North Lincolnshire Council will be the driving force to move this scheme forward. I look forward to the participation of the council and the public in the near future.

##### **Assistance to the General Public**

It is my pleasure to report that in the last year I have been involved in helping approximately sixty people with their difficulties in dealing with North Lincolnshire Council. I still assist Crowle Town Council in their dealings with North Lincolnshire Council, and do all within my power to ensure a desirable response is received. I will continue to involve myself with Crowle Town Council business that needs to be dealt with at North Lincolnshire Council.

May I conclude by expressing my thanks and congratulations to members of Crowle Town Council for their continued support and involvement in local affairs? Crowle has a very well run council and public I am sure understand and appreciate this. Well done to all concerned, with a special word of praise to the clerk Katy.

Cllr J Briggs reported concerning the state of the economy at present stating that there are 2.2 million unemployed and 7000 council staff have lost their jobs, but was happy to report that no council staff within Lincolnshire has lost jobs.

Cllr Briggs welcomes the work carried out by organisations within Crowle and we need to continue to work together as there are exciting times ahead.

Concerning the windfarm traffic this mirrors his comments to work together, he called the application into the planning committee and hopefully we will get the outcome we are all wishing for.

Cllr Briggs reported concerning the applications for methane drilling and discussed the issues within Amcotts and Keadby, he stated the council need to be very careful and monitor progress.

Cllr Briggs reported concerning the Neighbourhood Action Team stating they bring together all parties and he urged people to attend meetings when convenient.

The transfer of council homes to North Lincolnshire Homes has been very successful and is well in front of the 5 year period, major upgrades have already taken place to give greater enhancement in the home.

Cllr Briggs ended by giving thanks to all groups, organisations and councillors for all their good work throughout the year.

**5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS.**

There was no other business to report.

**The meeting closed at 7.18pm**