

# DEREHAM TOWN COUNCIL

12<sup>th</sup> November 2024

At a meeting of the **Full Council** held on **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2024** in the Memorial Hall at **7.30pm**.

**Present:** Councillors L Monument (Chairman), A Brooks, H Clarke, K Cogman, C Coleman, P Duigan, Z Flint, S Green, A Greenwood, H King, P Morton and R O'Callaghan.

Also in attendance: District Councillor A Webb, Town Clerk A Needham, Deputy Town Clerk J Barron and Town Council Officer T Thompson.

76. **To receive apologies for absence.**  
There were no apologies for absence.
77. **Declaration of Interest.**  
There were no declarations of interest.

*The meeting was adjourned*

Vanda Alexander expressed her concerns at the possible closure of Toftwood Medical centre, the impact to those registered there and the knock-on impact to services at Theatre Royal Surgery and Orchard Surgery.

District Councillor A Webb encouraged applications to the Household Support Fund. She asked that people made their views known on proposed car parking charge and provided the current position regarding the Akash.

PC Roger Benton gave a verbal update on current Dereham priorities - shop lifting and speeding - and arrests and prosecutions for vandalism in the town. PC Benton was asked for an update on a rise in anti-social behaviour in Dereham.

Councillor Z Flint raised concerns over the safety of vulnerable people in temporary accommodation in Dereham, paid for by Breckland Council. District Councillor A Webb would raise this with the relevant department.

*The meeting resumed*

78. **To consider response to the consultation regarding the closure of Toftwood Medical Centre.**  
Councillor L Monument agreed that this agenda item could be brought forward.

Liz Feeke was permitted to voice her concern that getting appointments at Theatre Royal Surgery was already difficult and would only get worse if Toftwood patients were transferred there.

Councillors felt there had been a lack of forward planning by Norfolk & Waveney Integrated Care Board in view of the increase in new homes planned for Toftwood. Had other locations, such as Dereham Hospital, been considered? Councillor L Monument stated that the Town Council would support all attempts to keep Toftwood Medical Centre open, either at its current site or, without interruption, elsewhere in Toftwood.

Proposed by Councillor P Duigan, it was agreed that Dereham Town Council would write to the Secretary of State to review any decision to close Toftwood Medical Centre.

79. **To receive announcements.**

The Mayor, Councillor L Monument announced she had attended the following events:

13<sup>th</sup> October 2024 – Justice Service at Norwich Cathedral  
20<sup>th</sup> October 2024 – El Alamein Service at St Andrew's Church, Honingham  
10<sup>th</sup> November 2024 – Dereham Remembrance Parade and church service  
10<sup>th</sup> November 2024 – York House, Dereham  
11<sup>th</sup> November 2024 - Service at Dereham War Memorial

Councillor H King confirmed that 21 crosses had been placed on war graves in Dereham.

80. **To receive from the Chairman, confirm as correct and sign the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2024.**

Proposed by Councillor L Monument, the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2024 were agreed and signed.

81. **To receive and adopt the list of accounts paid, the Financial Statement and list of accounts to be paid.**

Proposed by Councillor L Monument, the list of accounts paid, the Financial Statement and list of accounts to be paid were agreed and signed.

82. **To receive any updates/reports from members of the Council who are County or District Councillors.**

Councillor A Brooks raised concerns over rising violence toward teachers and teaching assistants in Norfolk schools. Councillor P Duigan was asked for a response from Norfolk County Council on how this is being dealt with.

Councillor Z Flint requested that District Councillor A Webb raises the issue of parking if Dereham Park Run participants can no longer park at Dereham Football Club.

Councillor A Brooks requested an update on the future of the Children's Centre. Councillor P Duigan said it was unlikely to remain as an education centre.

Councillor A Greenwood asked for an update on flooding in Toftwood. Councillor H Clarke and Councillor P Duigan would request updates and report back.

Councillors S Green and A Brooks asked about the future of the Fred Nicholson site once the school had moved to Swaffham. Councillor P Duigan was asked to enquire and report back.

**Chairman**