

19 May 2008

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**Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting
Held on the 6 May 2008 at the Old School Hall
West Street, Winterton at 7.00 pm.**

27 Members of the Public attended the meeting.

1. Apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Ward Councillor Allan Smith.

2. Minutes of the meeting for approval.

Cllr A W Smith did attend the last meeting and was missed off present. After corrections, the minutes were approved as a true record.

3. Matters arising from those minutes

No matters arising from the minutes.

4. Mayor's Report.

The Mayor said: "It had been a pleasure and an honour to be the Mayor of Winterton and represent the people of our Town across the country and beyond - for a year. Cllr Alan W Smith – said it had been a privilege to do what the Townsfolk had requested of the council, and that was to try and create a safer environment i.e., petition from the residents of the Grangefield Estate for a large CCTV Camera. The process of obtaining the Camera and 3 poles has now commenced. Sport and Leisure. The Council have recently purchased land off Newport Drive – giving the community a substantial plot of land for the future.

We received £1000 from CEMEX. This money has helped us to seed, fence and plant fruit trees on the perimeter – Many thanks to Cllr Don Johnson, for all his hard work.

A Bank account has been opened for the specific use of monies on this land for the future. £30,000 has been deposited. Street Sport have engaged our young people at the Rangers Car Park on Monday nights. Thanks to Dave Crowder and Winterton Rangers Members. Marmion Drive PF. It seems a lifetime since we purchased this playing field, and we have finally got planning permission, now all we have to do is raise £105,000 for the equipment. Bus to Brigg. The council have again approved funding for this service on a Thursday. Please do use it and encourage others to do so.

The Mayor then presented three Annual Community Certificate Awards to members of the community who had been nominated for doing extraordinary things in the community on a voluntary basis. Mrs Freda Ducker, Mrs C Graves, Karen Freeman and Stuart Maw.

5. Best Kept Town Competition

Members of the public were asked if they could promote Winterton, and help keep it tidy as the council had entered the Town into the Best Kept Town Competition.

6. Policing issues in Winterton Town Council

Members of the public mentioned the problems that some of them were having with crime and anti social behaviour in the Town. Three area's in particular at present seem to be experiencing difficulties with this. Stovin Crescent on the Grangefield Estate, and the area around Beck Walk have had noisy people coming back from the Town Centre and damaging some fencing. Boyton Crescent residents have had their cars broken into.

Manlake Avenue residents are still having problems with youths gathering and causing general disturbance. A lady off Plymouth Close said it was affecting them too. One resident said she felt the police appeared indifferent to people's problems around anti social behaviour. Cllr Cawsey said she had spoken to I Welch, who she thought said had left 8 dates with the resident to get back to him about, but no one had followed it up. The Manlake Avenue parking near the surgery still appears to be a problem too, raising concerns that there could a a major accident on this road.

The Neighbourhood Action Team meetings were mentioned, so that members of the public could feed these problems back to the Clerk or councillors and these issues would be flagged up there. Anyone belonging to a Neighbourhood Watch Group – should be attending these meetings. The meetings are used for the police to prioritise issues in the Towns and Villages.

The general feeling of the members of the public was that they would like to see more police on the Grangefield streets – in particular late at night and early morning ie., 1.30 am onwards. It was stated that at the last Town meeting the Police had intended to visit the schools, but members of the public had been told that the police had not actually been to talk to the kids at the schools.

There were complaints about the amount of litter left in the Town which was reasonably tidy in the morning, but after lunch time when kids have been into Town, there was litter all over the place making the Town look a mess. It was felt that the police should engage more with the youth in the Town.

Helen Price said they did at the Ark Youth Centre by visiting on a night, but also said as the police came in the youth left.

There still appeared to be a major problem with people getting through to the police on the Phone. The operator answered but then after that, the operator tries to put people through, but they are then left paying for a call and waiting for an answer sometimes for up to 20 minutes. It was felt the Neighbourhood Watch Schemes should be promoted more and that more communities encouraged to join them.

7. Complaints suggestions and matters for the press.

- Action - Traffic going up wrong way up Churchside.
- Action - Write to the Chief Constable about problems in Winterton.
- The Town Council was thanked for the lovely display at Christmas.
- Web Site Information out to the public and information to the Web Writer.
- Action – ask for Trods paths to be cleared.
- Action – Report to NAT and Police these issues.

Meeting Closed 8:00 pm..