



WISBECH TOWN COUNCIL

18 March 2019 – 7.30 pm

MINUTES OF MEETING

Present: Councillor Human, Chairman (and Town Mayor); Councillors Miss Cobb, Mrs Cox, Hill, Miss Hoy, Lynn, Maul, Oliver, Miss Oliver, Prest, Rackley, Tibbs and Tierney.

Apologies: Councillors Hodgson and Mrs MacRae.

Public Participation: None requested.

138/18 Health and Care Sector Work Academy (HCSWA)

Members received a presentation from Julie Bennett, Vice-Principal of the Day Opportunities and Innovation Pilot at City College, Peterborough, and Nicola Arbon, Health and Care Sector Work Academy Project Manager, on a pilot project being delivered by the Health and Care Sector Work Academy for the Cambridgeshire Combined Authority to address a skills shortage in the health and care sector. The aim of the project is to encourage those who are unemployed or trapped in low paid jobs to start a career in health and care, as well as providing progression opportunities for those already in the sector.

Mrs Bennett informed the council that in 2016 there were 14,000 vacancies for staff in the health and care sector and that the Devolution Deal, under which the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority (CPCA) was created, allowed the CPCA to apply for funding from the Department for Work and Pensions to help address the “skills agenda”. This project is one of six innovation projects across the UK but it is the only one in the health and care sector; as this is a pilot project, it will be evaluated as it progresses. The HCSWA is looking to secure 2,100 learners over the three years of the project. The project is led by a steering group, which works closely with local employers.

The HCSWA provides sector-specific training in Health and Care, which will equip learners with a Level 1 Qualification to gain skills needed to take the next steps into employment. It is also able to offer ongoing careers guidance, provide bursaries and identify in work progression routes. The eligibility criteria for participation is that learners must be at least 18 years of age, live within Cambridgeshire and Peterborough and be claiming in or out of work benefits. Under the project, training can be provided for people from outside and within the health and care sector simultaneously; the formal training is supplemented by work experience; there are many different roles/opportunities within the sector available to those who achieve the qualification. As well as providing specific job-related training, the project also assists in upskilling participants in the subjects of English and Maths.

Mrs Arbon explained to the council the model used for the delivery of training to learners, namely:

- tailored to meet the needs of local employers
- a core Pre-Level 2 programme (consisting of Care Certificate theory, City and Guilds Level 1 Certificate and employer engagement/work experience)
- basic skills, contextualised to the sector
- Level 2 – 4 Apprenticeships.



The training courses (the content of which is co-produced with employers), which began in March 2018, currently run for 20 weeks (totalling 60 hours); the Academy is looking into the feasibility of providing the training hours over fewer weeks. The courses are delivered locally, within the community, at accessible times (including evenings and weekends). A bursary is available to participants to help remove travel, childcare and adult care barriers to attending training. Following completion of the training, learners are able to access career guidance and post-employment (mentoring) support.

Mrs Arbon summarised the current progress situation with regard to delivery of the project, as follows:

- there had been 179 learners to date
- 59% of learners who completed the full programme had moved into employment or further training
- the training sessions have been delivered at Cambourne, Cambridge, Ely, Huntingdon, March, Peterborough, Wisbech and Yaxley and there are plans to deliver courses in rural locations. 4 courses had been run in Wisbech to date (at the Queen Mary Centre and the Rosmini Centre), in which 24 learners had participated
- 45 employers had engaged with the project.

The council was informed by Mrs Arbon of the ways in which it could become involved in the project:

- identifying where and how the Academy could recruit onto the courses
- identifying employers which might be interested in becoming involved
- suggesting venues from which to run the courses
- assisting with identifying opportunities for publicity and marketing of the project.

Mrs Bennett and Mrs Arbon responded to members' questions.

Councillor Tierney thanked Mrs Bennett and Mrs Arbon for delivering a very interesting presentation. He suggested that the Academy considers using the Oasis Centre, as well as the Queen Mary Centre and the Rosmini Centre, as a venue from which to run courses.

Councillor Human expressed the opinion that this is an extremely valuable project is vital to the local community.

Members decided that the information presented be noted and that the council would lend its support to this project where possible.

139/18 Queen Mary Centre, Wisbech

Members received a presentation from Keith Smith, Director of the Ferry Project, as a means of consulting the council on a proposal for the possible replacement of the existing Queen Mary Centre with a new building.

Mr Smith explained how the current centre had come into being following closure of the Queens Girls and Queens Girls Schools. He mentioned the Ferry Project had been issued originally with a five years lease by Cambridgeshire County Council (the owner of the building) in 2013; this had subsequently been extended to December 2022. During the time that the Ferry Project has been



lessee of the Queen Mary Centre it had undertaken in excess of £65,000 worth of repair works to the building and a further £50,000 worth of improvements.

The council was informed by Mr Smith that Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) had deemed in 2012 the building to be a “demolition site”; CCC sees the land, but not the building, to be an asset. It is consequently issuing only short-term leases of the building until such time as it makes a decision as to the long-term future of the site.

Mr Smith informed the council that the Queen Mary Centre is now used regularly by more than 70 community groups, with in excess of 1,000 people attending the building each week, and is covering all of its operational costs. However, major repairs are needed to the building and, as a result consultation with users of the building and other members of the local community, there are requests for facilities which would require significant investment in the current building (which has an uncertain future, because of the County Council’s stance, as a community building). Consequently, the Ferry Project has been developing the concept of a new, replacement building; the purposes of such a building would be:

- a community centre for the local population
- a community centre for all
- a place to celebrate
- a place to meet people and make new friends
- a place to try something new
- self-sustaining.

Mr Smith expressed the opinion that local people see the Queen Mary Centre as a “village hall for Wisbech”. He showed members a potential design of a new building, which would have a different “footprint” to the current building (including land which currently forms part of the Queens Road public car park).

Mr Smith invited councillors’ opinions in relation to the future of the Queen Mary Centre, including what they would like to see delivered at the centre and their opinions in relation to the possibility of a new, replacement building.

Councillor Tierney commented that in 2012 the building had been in a poor state of repair and it has needed maintenance and improvement works ever since. He acknowledges that the Queen Mary Centre is well supported by local groups. The councillor asked that the management of the Queen Mary Centre thinks carefully about its charging structure and encourages it not to set charges at a level where it could result in a detrimental impact, because of groups being “tempted away”, upon the viability of other community centres in Wisbech.

Councillor Tierney stated that there is a need for the Queen Mary Centre to continue operating and he is supportive of innovative ideas in that regard; however, he would not support any proposal which have the effect of reducing the number of off-street parking spaces in the town.

Councillor Human invited Mr Smith to inform the council of his ideas regarding the future of the Queen Mary Centre. Mr Smith stated that there is a community desire for the provision of a space for live performance/entertainment, as well as facilities for music tuition. To facilitate such provision, it would be necessary to re-design the existing Queen Mary Centre building or to replace it. He mentioned that he is liaising with the Angles Theatre to explore a means of providing a larger entertainment/performance space in Wisbech; the nearest such facilities currently for people living in Wisbech are at King’s Lynn and Peterborough. He expressed the opinion that it would be a significant achievement if were possible to achieve such an additional facility in the town, as well as continuing to provide the necessary space for community groups.



Mr Smith mentioned that a local architect had produced some concept designs for a new building and that there had been discussions with potential funders, including the Mayor of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority, in that regard. Mr Smith commented that none of the potential funding sources had reacted negatively. He mentioned that the sports hall at the Queen Mary Centre is under-used and it may be possible to use that space for live entertainment/performance instead of sport.

Councillor Miss Hoy expressed the opinion that since the Ferry Project had taken on the Queen Mary Centre, great things had happened; it is situated ideally as a community centre for Wisbech. She commented that she likes the idea of providing a live entertainment/performance space and is pleased that Mr Smith is liaising with the Angles Theatre in that regard. She commented that she, like Councillor Tierney, would not support any proposal which would have the effect of reducing the number of off-street parking spaces in the town; Wisbech needs more, not fewer, car parking spaces. Councillor Miss Hoy commented that she is pleased that Mr Smith had been discussing with the Mayor of the Combined Authority the possibility of funding.

Members decided the information presented by Mr Smith be noted and that their comments, as outlined above, be the council's response to the issues he had raised and questions that he had posed during his presentation.

140/18 Cambridgeshire Constabulary

Although no officer of Cambridgeshire Constabulary attended the meeting, the Constabulary had provided to the Clerk, via e-mail, the new Fenland Neighbourhood Policing Team Monthly Review report (minute 4/18 refers) on recent incidents of crime and disorder and other matters in Wisbech and the northern villages in Fenland. The Clerk summarised briefly the report.

The report mentions that the Neighbourhood Policing Team's priorities over the last month had been:

1. targeted patrols in the Horsefair Shopping Centre and the town area, due to persistent anti-social behaviour by youths
2. engaging with the homeless and those victims of homeless assaults.

The report mentions that the Neighbourhood Policing Team continues to undertake day and evening patrols of the Horsefair Shopping Centre and the town centre, engaging with the youths and local businesses. Officers had been gathering evidence regarding the anti-social behaviour (ASB) perpetrators to support further intervention.

It is mentioned within the report that during the month since the last report there has been a slight increase in calls for service relating to youth ASB. Two youths had been taken home by officers after being caught throwing eggs within the Horsefair Shopping Centre. Youth-related ASB interventions have been continuing, with 4 more ABCs (Acceptable Behaviour Contracts) issued.

Other matters include:

- two cannabis factories had been located and disabled with the assistance of the Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT)
- an adult male had been arrested by the team for possessing a baton in a public place
- two outstanding suspects in relation to a serious assault in the church gardens had been located by the NPT and arrested
- a mini-moto had been seized by officers, in response to a report of youths riding such a vehicle in a residential area.



With regard to the youth-related ASB in Wisbech, Sergeant Levens comments in the report that when the original group surfaced at the end of last year, there were approximately 20 youths. 15 of that original group have not come back to Police attention since family/housing interventions by the police. There are a small number who have remained persistent and actually some of those persistent nominals have improved dramatically in the last few weeks. One such nominal had gone from not attending school for months to 3 weeks of full compliant attendance with no adverse behaviours in that time. That said, an entirely separate group has emerged, the ring leaders of which are the focus of police attention. The sergeant comments, in the report, that he would be working with partner agencies to consider those who are placed in local care home settings with a view to removal from the community if processes allow.

Councillor Tierney commented that it is very reassuring that the local policing team is taking seriously the “new” youth-related anti-social behaviour issues. He commented that he had heard from a local shopkeeper, who had been the victim of shoplifting recently, that the police had arrested the offender but had decided not to prosecute; he asked that the Clerk enquires of the local Policing Inspector how such decisions are made/what criteria is used in that regard?

Councillor Mrs Cox asked that the Clerk draws to the attention of the local Policing Inspector that there are youths on motorcycles (no registration plates on the motorcycles, no lights being used and the riders not wearing crash helmets) who are riding across Wisbech Park (accessing from Tavistock Road).

Councillor Prest commented that he is pleased with the action of the police with regard to seizing a mini-moto.

Members decided that the content of the report from the Constabulary and the comments made and issues raised by members be noted and that the Clerk would refer to the local Policing Inspector the issue raised and the question asked by Councillors Mrs Cox and Tierney respectively.

141/18 Fenland District Council

(1) Information

The Clerk reported that he had been sent, by e-mail, information in respect of CCTV performance, Section 106 Planning Obligations details and the council’s Environment newsletter and that he had forwarded, last week, the e-mail and attachments to all members of the council.

Members decided that the situation be noted.

(2) Environmental Health

Members received a presentation from Mr Trevor Darnes, Environmental Health Officer at Fenland District Council, updating them on recent activities within that area of District Council service.

Mr Darnes, after reminding members of his role at Fenland District Council (FDC), informed the council of the activities undertaken by the Environmental Services Team: as follows:

- Food Safety (including food hygiene inspections and operating a rating system for food premises in Fenland)
- Health and Safety
- Health and wellbeing (including encouraging healthy eating)
- Infectious Diseases (including food poisoning)



- Port Health (including inspections of ships' sanitation facilities)
- Housing (including regulation of Houses in Multiple Occupation)
- Public Health
- Licensing compliance (Taxis, Public Houses, Scrap Metal Dealers etc).

Mr Darnes made the point that all of these functions are undertaken to protect the public and the environment - to keep people safe whether in their home, at work or during leisure activities. He explained that the Environmental Health service possesses powers, through approximately seventy pieces of legislation, to take enforcement action to address "enviro crime".

Members were provided, by Mr Darnes, with a variety of statistics and other facts with regard to the Environmental Health service during the financial year 2018/19 to date, as follows:

- the team had received 475 general requests for service
- 136 Food Safety interventions had been undertaken
- 5 formal Food Hygiene enforcement notices had been served
- there had been 1 voluntary closure of a food business (in cases where Environmental Health Officers had deemed there to be an immediate risk to health); voluntary closure by the operator of a business avoids the operator being subject to Court action
- 1 simple (formal) caution is pending
- the team had monitored a fire which had occurred on land at Barton Road; however, it had been deemed not to constitute a statutory nuisance.

Mr Darnes showed the council a number of photographs to demonstrate some of the points that he had made; these included

- a case of a man using his residential property to keep hundreds of birds, which constituted a hazard to health. A formal notice had been served upon the occupier of the property as a means of addressing the situation; if that action does not prove to be successful, the council would undertake direct intervention
- more than 100 tonnes of unfit meat had been discovered at a cold store in Fenland; the meat had subsequently been destroyed
- a sewerage/drainage problem in the home of a vulnerable adult
- an example of the poor state of repair of some of the private-sector rental accommodation in the district; including dangerous electrical installations, faulty windows, damp conditions etc
- an accumulation of rubbish following the closure of a food business and consequent rats infestation; both removal of the rubbish and treating of the infestation were undertaken by the District Council.

Mr Darnes responded to members' questions.

Members decided that the information reported by Mr Darnes be noted.

(3) Section 106 Planning Obligations expenditure on leisure and recreation

Wisbech Town Council is being invited again (as was the case at minute R16/17) by the Head of Leisure Services at Fenland District Council for the two councils to work together on the provision of additional play equipment in the town through the use of Section 106 Planning Obligation monies held currently by the District Council.

Since the time of minute R16/17, Fenland District Council (FDC) had received a further £32,000 in Section 106 Planning Obligation monies for funding the enhancement of public open spaces.



The Head of Leisure Services makes the point, in his e-mail to Wisbech Town Council, that, as the deadline for spending these monies is not until 2022, there is a sufficient amount of time to consider what/where in terms of additional play equipment provision and for the District Council to submit applications to match fund against the Section 106 monies. Any work by officers of FDC on this project would not commence until September 2019, at the end of the grass-cutting season, when the District Council could then put resources into fund-finding.

The Head of Leisure Services at Fenland District Council is of the belief that it should be possible, through obtaining grant funding, to double the money that would be available and, hence, deliver a project or projects which would have a greater community impact.

Wisbech Town Council is being asked by Fenland District Council to consider where equipment is required within the town on Fenland District Council-owned open space. The spaces that FDC would consider placing equipment are the larger open spaces, generally to either enhance or to renew current provision.

Councillor Tierney commented that he is pleased that Wisbech Town Council and Fenland District Council are able to work collaboratively on these types of projects.

Members commented that they would like to see more play equipment at the Jasmine Close Spider Park and at the West Parade/Burcroft Road play area. They would also like FDC to think about accessibility for the disabled when selecting the types of play equipment to be installed.

In addition, Councillor Mrs Cox made a personal plea that the District Council considers upgrading the picnic tables in Wisbech Park.

Members are pleased that FDC is looking to try to “double-up” the available funding through applications for grant aid.

Members decided that their views in relation to this matter, as set out above, be forwarded by the Clerk to the Head of Leisure Services at Fenland District Council.

142/18 Cambridgeshire County Council

The Clerk informed members that, as far as he is aware, there are currently no County Council matters requiring consideration by Wisbech Town Council.

Members decided that the situation be noted.

143/18 Minutes of the Town Council meeting of 18 February 2019

Members decided, on the proposal of Councillor Oliver, seconded by Councillor Miss Oliver, that the minutes of the Town Council meeting of 18 February 2019 be confirmed and signed.

144/18 Minutes of committees

Members received, for information, the minutes of committee meetings held since the last meeting of the Town Council, as follows:

- (1) Planning and Community Infrastructure Committee – 18 February 2019
- (2) Planning and Community Infrastructure Committee – 4 March 2019.



Members decided that the contents of these minutes, including the decisions made by the committees, be noted.

145/18 Mayor's Report

The Mayor informed members of the civic events that he had attended and activities in which he had participated since the last meeting of Wisbech Town Council. He mentioned that he had attended 13 events since the last meeting of the council, including his own Civic Service, held at the St Peter and St Paul's Church, Wisbech on 10 March 2019.

The Mayor commented that the number of attendees at the Civic Service had exceeded his expectations (approximately 100 people had been there) and he gave his thanks to all of those who had supported the event and to those who had sent their apologies for not being able to attend. He made the point that council staff had ensured, through their involvement, that the event had taken place successfully and he expressed his gratitude to Terry Jordan (Clerk to the Council), Susanah Farmer (Operations Manager) and Tracy Bidwell-Hazell (Administrator and Civics Officer) in that regard.

Members decided that the information reported by the Mayor be noted.

146/18 Leader of the Council's report

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Miss Hoy, informed members that, given that each of the council's Committee Chairmen would be providing an update, at minute 147/18, on the work of their respective committees, she would not be providing a general update on the council's activity at this meeting. However, she made reference to the fact that former Town Councillor Virginia Bucknor is currently very unwell and proposed that a bouquet of flowers be sent, on behalf of Wisbech Town Council, to Mrs Bucknor.

Members decided that the comments of the Leader of the Council be noted and that her proposition, which was seconded by Councillor Human, in relation to sending a bouquet of flowers to Mrs Bucknor, be supported.

147/18 Quarterly reports to Council by Committee Chairmen

In accordance with minute 114/17, members received reports, in turn, from the council's Committee Chairmen on matters pertaining to the work of those committee, as follows:

Community Events and Festivals Committee

Councillor Miss Hoy, the Chairman Community Events and Festivals Committee, informed members that following agreement by the Community Events and Festivals Committee on 11 February 2019 to a programme of community events and festivals for the financial year 2019/20 (minute C4/18 refers), the associated working party had met on 4 March 2019 to begin the planning for those events. She reminded members of the events which would be provided directly or supported by Wisbech Town Council.

Members were informed by Councillor Miss Hoy, further to minute 134/18< that, given the low number of nominations received to date for this year's Wisbech Unsung Heroes Awards – in some categories there had been none - and the closing date is 22 March 2019, it had been decided, following her discussions with the members of the Community Events and Festivals Committee, that the ceremony (scheduled currently for 12 April 2019) would be postponed until the summer of this year. Such a measure would allow additional time for the submission of nominations. The council would continue to work with the Fenland Citizen newspaper in that regard.



Members decided that information reported by the Chairman of the Community Events and Festivals Committee be noted.

Wisbech Market Place Management Committee

Councillor Tibbs, the Chairman of the Wisbech Market Place Management Committee, informed members that there had been no meeting of the Wisbech Market Place Management Committee since the update report that he had given at the December 2018 meeting of the council. He mentioned that he had decided, in liaison with the Leader of the Council and the Town Clerk, that it would not be appropriate to hold the meeting which was included in the Calendar of Meetings 2018/19 for 4 March 2019 as there had been insufficient business requiring decisions at that time.

Members were reminded by Councillor Tibbs that the Wisbech Market Place Management Committee had considered at its last meeting (on 3 December 2018), the pre-planning advice provided by Fenland District Council, as Local Planning Authority, in respect of the town council's proposed scheme of enhancement for Wisbech Market Place and that, consequently, the committee had decided that it would need to reflect upon that advice in terms of progressing with the enhancement scheme as proposed. He expressed the opinion that the District Council had been less than supportive of a number of elements of the proposed scheme.

Also, subsequent to 3 December 2018 meeting of the committee, the Clerk received, last month, an e-mail from an officer of the County Council's Highways Service raising some queries in relation to the Town Council's application for revised traffic management proposals for the Market Place area (which had been the subject of an application for a new Traffic Regulation Order).

Councillor Tibbs informed members that over the last three weeks both the Leader of the Council and the Town Clerk had met, firstly, with the local planning agent who had obtained, on behalf of Wisbech Town Council, the pre-planning advice from the Local Planning Authority (so that he could pursue the matter further with the Local Planning Authority) and, secondly, with the officer of the Local Highway Authority who is dealing with the Traffic Regulation Order application. The aim of those meetings was to ascertain what considerations/actions are required by Wisbech Town Council to be able to address the issues/queries which had been raised by those authorities in relation to the town council's proposed enhancement scheme. The Clerk is pursuing responses from both the Local Planning Authority (via the planning agent) and the Local Highway Authority.

Members were informed by Councillor Tibbs that, until it is clear as to how the issues raised by the Local Planning Authority (LPA) and the Local Highway Authority (LHA) can be addressed to those authorities' satisfaction, it is not possible for the enhancement proposal to be progressed any further. As soon as this council receives responses from the LPA and the LHA, a meeting of the Wisbech Market Place Management Committee would be convened for the purpose of discussing those responses and, hopefully, considering the production of a scheme delivery plan.

Members decided that information reported by the Chairman of the Wisbech Market Place Management Committee be noted.

Planning and Community Infrastructure Committee

Councillor Miss Oliver, the Chairman of the Planning and Community Infrastructure Committee, informed members that the committee continues to hold two meetings each month, to enable this council to provide consultation responses to Fenland District Council, as Local Planning Authority, in relation to development proposals for the town. In addition, she mentioned that some members of the committee had attended recently the planning-related training sessions which had been provided by Fenland District Council for Town and Parish Councils in the district.



Members decided that information reported by the Chairman of the Planning and Community Infrastructure Committee be noted.

Policy and Resources Committee

Councillor Oliver, the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee, informed members that, at its most recent meetings, the committee had been focusing upon setting a council budget for the financial year 2019/20. He mentioned that the next meeting of the committee is scheduled for 8 April 2019; at that meeting members would be considering the 2018/19 financial year-end position, which would form the basis of the council's Annual Return for External Audit purposes, and allocation of the small grants and special grants budgets for the financial year 2019/20.

Members decided that the information reported by the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee be noted.

Assets Management Committee

There was no report from the Chairman of the committee, due to his absence from the meeting, in respect of the recent work of the Assets Management Committee.

Members decided that the situation be noted.

Staffing Committee

Councillor Maul, the Chairman of the Staffing Committee, informed members that, as the Staffing Committee only meets on a "when necessary" basis, there had been no meeting of that committee since the update that he gave to council in December 2018; however, he would provide information on council staffing matters in general.

Members were informed by Councillor Maul that the staffing changes which had been agreed by the Staffing Committee last autumn, following the resignation of the council's Assets Manager, continue to work well. Since his last update to council, three months ago, there had been the first recorded staff sickness absence (which totalled 5 working days) in the last five years.

Councillor Maul mentioned that the Clerk continues to look for relevant training and learning opportunities for the council's staff, so that they remain best placed to deliver efficient and effective service for both the council and the local community. He informed members that since last update to council, staff had attended training in respect of Making Tax Digital, Year-end Accounting Practices, Motivational Interviewing and Managing Change. This training had generally been accessed on a free-of-charge basis.

Members were reminded by Councillor Maul that the council's Operations Manager, Susanah Farmer, had decided to resign from her employment with Wisbech Town Council and her last working day with this council would be 31 May 2019. He expressed the opinion that Mrs Farmer, and the significant contributions that she had made over a number of years to the running of council business (as well as her extensive local knowledge), would be missed by other council staff and the members of Wisbech Town Council. In terms of moving forward, the Clerk had discussed, in general terms, with the Leader of the Council and him how the roles and responsibilities of the current post of Operations Manager could be delivered after the end of May 2019; as a result of those discussions, it is likely that this would be through a re-design of existing roles and creation of new roles etc, rather than through recruitment of a direct replacement. Any changes to the council's current staffing establishment would need to be agreed by the council's Staffing Committee.



Members decided that information reported by the Chairman of the Staffing Committee be noted and they concurred with his opinion in relation to Mrs Farmer.

Wisbech Castle Management Committee

Councillor Tierney, the Chairman of the Wisbech Castle Management Committee, informed members that meetings of both the committee and the associated working party had taken place recently. He mentioned that since Christmas the volunteers had generally taken some time-off to “re-charge their batteries”; however, some “die-hard” volunteers had continued to undertake activity at Wisbech Castle. The building had re-opened but on a limited basis because of internal decoration works being carried out.

Members were informed by Councillor Tierney that the gardening team is in the process of planning works for this year; the café is currently open on Saturdays and Sundays; visitors are still enjoying tours. He mentioned that the committee had supported the undertaking of a British Black Bee Conservation Project at Wisbech Castle, which is likely to be in place by late April 2019.

Members decided that information reported by the Chairman of the Wisbech Castle Management Committee be noted.

148/18 Correspondence

The Clerk informed members that there are currently no such items in need of reporting to council.

Members decided that the situation be noted.

149/18 Notice board/information update

The Clerk informed members that there are currently no such items in need of reporting to council.

Members decided that the situation be noted.

150/18 Date of next meeting

Members were reminded that the next meeting of Wisbech Town Council is scheduled for 15 April 2019, to commence at 7.30 pm, at the Town Hall in Wisbech.

Meeting finished at 8.45 pm.

Signed

Date