

## Beckingham Parish Council

### Draft Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> May 2018

**Chair** Cllr Lawrence Tatton (Parish Council Chairman)

Parish Cllrs Andy Brewer, Philip Wells, Lyn Sills and Robin Gibbons

District Cllr Sue Howe (SH), District Cllr Pat Woodman MBE

County Councillor Marianne Overton MBE

PCSO Sarah Lingard

11 parishioners

Hugh Wilson and Stubton

Notetaker Terry Brown (Parish Clerk)

Minute	Action
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#### **18/62 Apologies for absence**

Mark Leggett

#### **18/63 Approval of the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting 31<sup>st</sup> May 2017.**

These were approved and signed by the Chair of the meeting.

#### **18/64 Matters arising**

None.

#### **18/65 Chairman's report:**

*"Good Evening and welcome to our 46th Annual Parish Meeting. Why are we here? I am here because the 1972 Local Government Act says I must be here to Chair the meeting, I hope you are here if not to be entertained at least to be informed about the work of your Parish Council over the last 12 months.*

*There is a loose agenda for this evening, starting with a report on the activities of the Parish Council, this will be given by me, in my role as Chair of the PC and then there is an opportunity for anyone to put questions etc. on how well or badly it is perceived that the PC has performed over the last 12 months. It is a fairly informal meeting, although as I said it is a mandatory meeting prescribed by Act of Parliament, but feel free to top up your glass or plate as the case may be whenever you need to.*

*At this meeting anyone, or any local company or charity, or organisation based or resident in the parish is able to make a presentation should they so wish and hopefully take questions from the floor, so we have this evening:*

*A report on the activities of the Village Hall Management Committee, by it's Chair, Mr Andrew Brewer.*

*The Beckingham Village Hall Social Club will report on it's inaugural first year.*

*Some years ago when the spectre of wind turbines looming over the village was of concern, a group titled VETO was formed to fight a planning application. The threat now having permanently receded, the question is what is to become of the residual funds that are left being held in the village.*

*The Parochial Church Council will report on their last 12 months and their plans for the future.*

*A presentation will be made by Huh Wilson, a visitor from Stubton on the matter of A Local Plan. This is a hot topic in some parishes and PC feels the need to gauge the opinion of the electorate.*

*Another issue that the PC would like a view on is the future of the Playing Field.*

*So the report from the Parish Council.*

*We have been successful in attracting two new Councillors onto the Parish Council, Lynn Sills and Robin Gibbs, so the council now has it's full number of members. I would like now just to take a moment and thank each and every one of them for the work, effort, input, enthusiasm that they each put in. We are fortunate that we have a close knit group that works together to meet common aims for the Parish with each member having a wide breadth of knowledge and experience in various fields that add to our collective decision making process. I must also thank on behalf of the PC our Parish Clerk, Terry Brown, for the work that he does, work that to the public is hidden behind the scenes, it is however an equally valuable contribution.*

*Breaking the year into suitably sized pieces we'll start with Planning.*

*All Planning Applications submitted to NKDC are passed to the PC for us to peruse and comment on. There have been 4 in the past year, down in number from previous years. The applications were, to rebuild of a garage off Hillside, to remove the phonebox, a new build on Chapel Street, a new build on School Lane and a variation to an existing Planning Application regarding Beckingham House.*

*All applications were passed without comment with the exception of the Variation. It was felt that allowing such a variation could jeopardise road safety at the junction of Sleaford Road and Hillside due to probable increased traffic exiting the premises. Indeed prior to this application the PC was made aware of such traffic issues by residents in the locality. For this reason the PC commented adversely on the Application.*

*Mention was made of the removal of the Telephone Box and although not really within the timescale of the last 12 months it is worth a little more detail. This application was made by BT, due to the underuse of the box, along with a considerable number of others in Lincolnshire. The PC did consider adopting the box which is possible in exchange for the sum of £1. However due to the poor condition and not inconsiderable costs required to repair and maintain the box it was considered not to be a viable option.*

*The Planning Application made it's way through the various stages and a date was fixed for the disconnection of the box and it's subsequent removal. Here the matter stalled, a start was made and the electric supply was disconnected, although not in the tidiest of ways. The removal which was also scheduled for the same day as the disconnection did not occur and considerable time (several months) and effort was expended in persuading BT to complete the exercise. The box eventually being delivered to Brunel Drive in Newark to a company that restores and sells such things.*

*Environment.*

*The village occasionally benefits from a visit from a road sweeper. This vehicle was noted sweeping Sutton Road as far as the entrance to the Playing Field and then using the entrance to turn round and depart. This prompted a series of calls to NKDC to the person responsible for the operation of the vehicle to see if it was possible to extend the operation of the road sweeping to the end of the row of dwellings on Sutton Road. This was readily agreed and now the residents of that part of the Parish can benefit from a cleaner gutter. We do have, as this matter demonstrates it, a good working relationship with our District Council.*

*On the matter of roadside gutters, Lincolnshire County Council is responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of all highways and footpaths. This includes preventing the growth of weeds at the interface between kerb and road as well as general maintenance in those areas. Due to budgetary restraints Highways have ceased these activities and in order to maintain a reasonably attractive appearance the PC has commissioned a Contractor to carry out this work on our behalf.*

*The interface has been dug out to remove years of soil and debris build up that the sweeper is unable to remove and then the subsequent spraying to prevent weed growth. We believe that part of our duty as a PC is to look after the infrastructure in the Parish as well as trying to get those that we already pay to do the work to actually do it.*

*Also environmentally we have renewed the 2 yearly grass cutting contract for what is termed "Amenity Grass" in the Parish. This work starts when it is decided that the weather is suitable and length of grass is sufficient to instigate cutting. The Contractor then cuts at regular intervals to maintain the appearance. Also included in this work is the cutting of the hedge alongside the Playing Field which has to be done outside of the Nesting season. Another job that was done before Christmas was an improvement to the road side verge along the Churchyard wall on Sleaford Road. This was dug out levelled and seeded and will now be part of the routine grass cutting maintenance.*

*A visually important piece of work that we have had planned for a couple of years is the "siding" of footpaths. This is a job for Highways but again has not been attended to for a number of years. It involves the removal of grass that has over time grown over the verge and onto adjacent footpaths reducing the footpath considerably in some places. In total 1.6 kilometres of footpath sides were attended to, hopefully something that the parishioners will notice and appreciate.*

*We were made aware that the A17 was to be closed overnight for a period to enable renewal of the top surface of tarmac before the substrate becomes degraded. Co-incidentally we had earlier in the year written to Highways pointing out the standing water that collects and the puddle that forms at the junction of Chapel Street and the A17, both to the detriment of road safety.*

*The usual "we acknowledge receipt of your letter" reply was received from Highways. On formal receipt of notice of the carriageway work we again wrote to Highways pointing out our concerns and after a prolonged search through minutes going back to the last century we also listed the numerous official letters that we had sent over the years on the same subject.*

*The result was that a meeting was arranged between the senior engineer that would be overseeing the work and the Parish Council. A site visit took place, photographs that had been taken of the standing water dangers were produced and the Highways personnel agreed that we had a case. Unfortunately there was no budgetary provision for our work and an admission that Highways were totally unaware of the issues that we had presented over the years. The work started with overnight closures, only to be suddenly terminated.*

*We were then informed that work would recommence in April, strangely in a new financial year. The result is that a lot of our work has been carried out, a large soakaway and additional drains installed at the junction and some efforts made at improving water drainage on the A17.*

*Hopefully this demonstrates that a small Parish Council can apply pressure and change policies.*

#### *Community:*

*This building that we are sat in is owned by the Parish Council and is the largest asset that we possess. As a Parish Council we are mandated to "make best use of our assets" We have been fortunate that through the efforts of some dynamic individuals and with the Parish Council supporting them the usage of the hall has dramatically increased.*

*I shall leave the details of this work to the reports to be made on behalf of the Village Hall Management Committee and from the newly formed Social Club.*

*The Parish Council, in making best use of it's assets is currently looking to further improve the facilities in this Hall by reducing the heating costs and improving the general acoustics by seeking grant aid to facilitate the installation of suspended ceilings in the two main rooms.*

*The Parish Council has taken over the production of the Beckingham Bugle newsletter after many years of sterling work by Andrew and Mikki. We hope to be able to increase interest in it and to enable diverse and relevant articles with submissions from across the whole Parish on any subject.*

*Local Parish Councils form a group called a Cluster that meets to discuss common interests. We hosted and chaired a meeting this year of the Custer and the guest speaker was the new Chief Constable. We took the opportunity to press home residents' concerns regarding access and egress to and from the A17 with regard to the volume and speed of traffic. He took on board our concerns but as yet we have not seen any positive impact on the behaviour of motorists.*

*The village web site is updated every time that there is something to put on it, all relevant agendas and minutes of meetings are listed as well as all financial transactions by the PC and the Village Hall Management Committee.*

#### *The future:*

*We shall continue as a Council to work wherever we can to do our best for the needs of the Parish with efforts being made to maintain and improve upon the appearance of the Parish whilst being aware of the need to keep an eye on keeping the Precept (or rates) at a reasonable level.*

*Again the word Highways comes to the fore as I mention Potholes. We have been informed that there is not much chance of our roads being repaired to a standard that would satisfy us, we have been granted permission should it become necessary and therefore we will probably arrange to do the work ourselves, even though it is the responsibility and duty of others to carry out this work.*

*We have in the past tried to arrange that we can cut the grass on the Village Green, only to be thwarted by NKDC. Although it has been agreed that what we propose is in the best interests of both parties the best that we have been able to achieve to date is a written promise that a decision will be made sometime in 2019. The stumbling block being the breaking of a principle that the District Council alone is responsible for the care of District Council land.*

*We are working towards meeting the criteria for operating a Parish Council that will enable us to be awarded a "Local Councils Award". This is an independently audited scheme that examines all aspects of a Councils' work, finance, timely publishing of agendas and minutes, dissemination of information etc. We have already met the Foundation Standard and have set a 2 year target of reaching through Quality level. In the last published list of Councils across the country only Mablethorpe and Sutton in Lincolnshire have attained a Quality Award. It will not show any visible benefit the man in the street but will be a level of pride that we are doing a good job and will give us a proven level of service that we shall strive to maintain.*

*We welcome the public to attend any PC meeting where they can have 15 minutes of free time to question, criticise, make requests of the Council or put their view forward on any subject that they think fit. It is not something to be afraid of, you will be putting your thoughts to like minded neighbours such as ourselves and we welcome input from anyone.*

*Around this time next year I shall step down from my position as Chair of the Parish Council having considered myself fortunate to have worked alongside the 4 other stalwart Councillors. Stepping down also will be the Vice Chair and the other 3 councillors as well. The period that we were elected for being over. This then becomes an opportunity for anyone else who would like to consider a position on the Council to stand for election in our place. We would like to think that our joint efforts would warrant us being returned to office. Something no doubt that politicians further up the tree always wish for.*

*That just about sums up what I have to say, so thank you for listening and I'll be pleased to answer any questions."*

## **18/66 Reports from Community Groups**

The accounts for the following parish organisations had been tabled:

All Saints Church - see Annex 1

Beckingham Highways Trust - see Annex 2

Randolph Pattinson Charity – see Annex 3

Cllr Sue Howe tabled a report on NKDC activities – see Annex 4

### Police report:

PCSO Sarah Lingard reported that the District had been found the safest in England and Wales and much of that was due to working in partnership with NKDC in areas such as anti-social behaviour.

However, a recent burglary was a timely reminder for all parishioners to take precautions against opportunistic thefts, a problem made worse by the proximity of the A17.

A parishioner asked about the police response to the increased incidence of fly tipping. Sarah responded that the Police would take action but that the NKDC Environmental Team could equally be the first point of contact to deal with such problems.

### Village Hall Management Committee:

Andy Brewer outlined the objectives of the Committee and listed the membership of the Committee.

The cost of electricity had forced an increase in hire charges, but the Committee had made significant improvements to the Hall with purchases such as water heaters. Fire extinguishers had been purchased and PAT testing carried out.

He emphasised that the Hall remained open to all to hire.

### Beckingham Social Club:

Philip Wells reviewed the successful licence application and the improvements that had been made to the Club's facilities after a very successful first year with a current membership of 117.

Purchases included for example a new wood burner, new furniture and glass washer.

He outlined the events that had been arranged and emphasised that the aim was one of inclusivity to welcome all sections of the Village.

#### All Saints Church:

The Church was now fully lit and the Church was organising a varied and extensive programme of fund raising events.

#### Cllr Marianne Overton:

Marianne outlined the ways in which Lincs CC had been lobbying and working directly with the Government to increase funding into the County and a recent change in arrangements for Business Rates was a significant example.

Highways issues remained a top-level concern but persistent lobbying at all levels seemed to be making a difference.

#### **18/67 Stubton's experience of a Neighbourhood Plan – Hugh Wilson & Rob Thornton**

With a population of just 175 Stubton is one of the smallest villages in the country to have successfully adopted a neighbourhood Plan.

The speakers emphasised the difference in the considerable support, financial and otherwise, for any village now attempting to pursue a Plan as against the minimal support that Stubton found in its work some four years ago.

Even so any village considering such a course of action should not underestimate the work involved and the need for a few key people to drive the agenda forward.

They suggested that there were four key questions to be answered by the parishioners at the early stages of the process, namely:

What do you most value about Beckingham and its environs?

What do you least value?

What outdoor activities do you enjoy in Beckingham and the local area?

What would you like to see included in the Neighbourhood Plan.

#### **18/68 Open Forum**

The following items were discussed:

##### What should be done with the VETO funds that had been made available?

It was suggested that this be used together with funds raised by the village fete to fund gates to the entrances of the village.

The Clerk would ask for further ideas in the next issue of the Bugle.

##### What could be done to resolve grass cutting anomalies?

The Chair outlined the history of the problem and the actions that the Parish Council had taken to attempt to resolve the problem. He emphasised the budget implications for any expansion in the grass cutting carried out by the Parish Council.

##### What was to happen with the funds raised by the Play Park Committee?

The Chair outlined the discussions the Parish Council had held on this matter and that only a small proportion of the funds were shown to be vired for specific purposes. Two more significant issues were the cost of any new equipment to be bought relative to the funds available and the obvious lack of any significant use of the existing equipment.

**18/69 Date of next Parish Council meeting**

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2018.

The meeting closed at 9.10pm

Draft

**All Saints Church, Beckingham, Lincolnshire**  
**Receipts and Payments Account**  
**Year ended 31 December 2017**  
**Figures for 2016 in brackets**

<b>Cash at Bank 01.01.17</b>				<b>Cash at Bank 31.12.17</b>			
<b>Receipts</b>				<b>Payments</b>			
	£.p	£.p	£.p	£.p	£.p	£.p	£.p
Current a/c	1113.66		(1549.81)	Parish share	2944.96	(2243.15)	
CBF deposit a/c	6143.22		(7110.06)	Church upkeep <sup>3</sup>	5840.45	(4255.54)	
<b>Total cash at bank</b>	<b>7256.88</b>		<b>(8659.87)</b>	Churchyard mowing <sup>4</sup>	900.00	(810.00)	
<b>Cash on Hand 01.01.17</b>	<b>0.00</b>		<b>(0.00)</b>	Clergy expenses	228.71	(331.09)	
				Fees to diocese	193.00	(189.00)	
<b>Donations</b>				Cost of services	103.50	(25.00)	
Highway Trust <sup>1</sup>	300.00		(300.00)	Refund of overpaid fee	190.50		(185.00)
Parish council <sup>2</sup>	300.00		(300.00)	Children's Society			
Individuals	141.01		(740.00)	Banns fee	40.00		
Total donations	741.01		(1340.00)	Newark Emmanuel Trust	98.00		
<b>Regular income</b>				Restoration work	12260.00	(3305.94)	
Collections	1592.72		(1238.40)	Events costs	136.00		(20.00)
Planned giving	3040.00		(3225.00)	Total	22935.12		(11364.72)
Tax recovered	1106.94		(1023.15)				
Fees	971.00		(511.00)	<b>Cash at Bank 31.12.17</b>			
Investment interest	8.37		(33.16)	Current a/c	768.53	(1113.66)	
Total regular income	6719.03		(6030.71)	CBF deposit a/c	151.59	(6143.22)	
<b>Events<sup>5</sup></b>				<b>Total cash at bank</b>	<b>920.12</b>	<b>(7256.88)</b>	
Harvest Supper	702.50			<b>Cash on Hand 31.12.17</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>(0.00)</b>	
Carol Singing	52.48						
Total Events	754.98			<b>Total</b>	<b>23855.24</b>	<b>(18621.60)</b>	
Willows Trust income	1275.74		(1050.33)				
Turner Trust income	56.10		(50.24)				
Restoration account <sup>5</sup>	7051.50		(1490.45)				
<b>Total</b>	<b>23855.24</b>		<b>(18621.60)</b>				

**Assets**  
**as at 31 December 2017**

	£.p	£.p		£.p	£.p
Cash at bank	768.53	(1113.66)	General a/c	208.17	(362.17)
Current a/c	151.59	(6143.22)	Willows Trust	547.50	(2271.76)
CBF deposit a/c	920.12	(7256.88)	Turner Trust	0.00	(0.00)
			Restoration a/c	164.45	(4622.95)
				<b>920.12</b>	<b>(7256.88)</b>

**Liabilities**

**as at 31 December 2017**

Money raised from carol singing will be paid to the Children's Society.

**Notes**

- 1) This donation was restricted to church and churchyard maintenance.
- 2) This donation was restricted to churchyard maintenance.
- 3) Includes cost of electricity (£88.37), insurance (£3366.31), fire extinguishers (£110.56 includes 2016) and alarm system (£945.95).
- 4) Churchyard mowing: Turner Trust (£56.10), Highway Trust (£300.00), Parish council (£300), General funds (£243.90).
- 5) Open gardens event was for restoration, details can be found in the restoration account; carol singing was for the Children's Society; other events for general funds.

## All Saints Church, Beckingham, Lincolnshire

### Details of restricted accounts (2017)

		Willows Trust			
		Receipts		Payments	
		£.p	£.p	£.p	£.p
Balance at 01.01.17		2271.76	(1221.43)	750.00	
Interest from CBF fund		1275.74	(1050.33)	2250.00	
<b>Total</b>		<b>3547.50</b>	<b>(2271.76)</b>	<b>3547.50</b>	<b>(2271.76)</b>
Capital					
Original amount (20.11.71)		2742.01			
Current value (31.12.17)		39313.77	(36058.73)		
		Turner Trust			
		Receipts		Payments	
		£.p	£.p	£.p	£.p
Balance at 01.01.17		0.00	(0.00)		
Interest from M&G Charifund		32.15	(25.20)	56.10	(50.24)
Interest from CBF fund		23.95	(25.04)	0.00	(0.00)
<b>Total</b>		<b>56.10</b>	<b>(50.24)</b>	<b>56.10</b>	<b>(50.24)</b>
Capital					
Original amount (10.01.90)		502.75			
Current value (31.12.17)		1444.10	(1336.90)		

**Restoration Account**

	Receipts		Payments		
	£.p	£.p	£.p	£.p	£.p
Balance at 01.01.17		4622.95			(20.00)
Highway Trust	3200.00		20.00		(20.00)
LPWS VAT grant	2540.00			20.00	(788.34)
<b>Total grants</b>	<b>180.00</b>		<b>12240.00</b>		<b>(2517.60)</b>
Regular giving		5920.00		12240.00	(3305.94)
<b>Total donations</b>					<b>(4622.95)</b>
Coffee morning				164.45	
Open Gardens	1131.50				
<b>Total events</b>	<b>1131.50</b>				
Willows Trust		750.00			
<b>Total</b>	<b>12424.45</b>	<b>(7948.89)</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>12424.45</b>	<b>(7948.89)</b>

**Notes**

The capital of the Willows Trust and the Turner Trust are held by the diocese. The parish can use the income from these trusts for certain specified purposes; it is this income which is shown in the accounts above.

Mr Victor W. Rampton (Treasurer)  
 Tansy Cottage, Hillside, Beckingham, Lincoln LN5 0RQ  
 January 2018

### **Independent examiner's report to the PCC of All Saints Beckingham Lincoln**

I report on the accounts of the church of All Saints Beckingham Lincoln for the year ended 31 December 2017 which are set out on pages 1 to 4.

#### **Respective responsibilities of PCC members and examiner**

The members of the PCC are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The PCC members consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as PCC members concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

#### **Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Mr John Jeffries  
Marple House, 37 Manor Drive, Long Bennington, NG23 5GZ  
February 2018

## BECKINGHAM HIGHWAY TRUST

YEAR ENDED 28 FEBRUARY 2018

<b>INCOME</b>		<b>EXPENDITURE</b>
Bank balance @ 28/02/2017	£4,118.08	
Stewardship Scheme	£134.24	Drainage Board
Single Farm Payment	£1,338.54	Anglian Water
Rent – Coney Farms	£787.50	Fencing: Cap Ex Repairs
		Criminal Damage Repairs
		Donations:-
		P C C re Grass Cutting
		P C C re Electrical Works
		BVHSC re Set Up costs
COIF Inc Dividends	£14.31	
Bank Credit Interest	£0.56	
		<b>Bank Balance @ 28/02/2018</b>
	£6,394.03	<b>£4,840.28</b>
		£6,394.03

**RANDOLPH PATTINSON CHARITY (POOR GARDENS)**  
**STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT**

For year ended  
31<sup>st</sup> December 2017

TSB Bank – Treasurers Account

Balance brought forward 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2017	<u>£1417.82</u>
<u>Credits/Income</u>	
Investment income (see Note 3b below)	£ 28.26
Bank interest	0
Poor Gardens Rental for 2017	<u>£ 100.00</u>
<b>Total Income for 2017</b>	<b>£ 128.26</b>
<u>Debits/Expenditure</u>	
Disbursement	£ 100.00
<b>Total Expenditure for 2017</b>	<b>£ 100.00</b>
<b>Cash at Bank 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017</b>	<b><u>£1446.08</u></b>

NOTES

1. By a will dated 31<sup>st</sup> March 1691, Randolph Pattinson left to the "Poor of Beckingham and Sutton" the income from the Poor Gardens.
2. Trustees: The Trustees as at the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017 were Mr. A Brewer (1/9/21), Mrs. A Matson (1/9/2019), Mr. S Blackburn (1/9/2019) and Mr. N. Ashworth (1/9/21) secretary / correspondent.
3. The Poor Gardens have been registered with the Land Registry. The Charity Commission are listed as the Official Custodian to prevent financial charges arising following a change of Trustees.
4. The Trust assets comprise:-
  - (a) The freehold of the Poor Gardens (O.S.8076) 2,085 acres is currently let on an agricultural /grazing tenancy from at a rental of £100.00 p.a.
  - (b) 57.91 Income Shares in the Charities Official Investment Fund quoted at 1476.90 pence per share on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017, representing a value of £855.27. This investment represents the compensation received when a few yards of the northern boundary of the Poor Gardens were taken for the construction of the A17 by-pass.
  - (c) There was one disbursement during 2017.

N. Ashworth  
Secretary/Trustee  
22 May 2018

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## **ANNUAL COUNCIL ACHIEVEMENTS 2017-18**

- **NKDC approved the purchase of £1.7m of employment land at Sleaford Moor Enterprise Park to support businesses and job creation in the District.**
  - **The Council built on its £7m investment in its leisure facilities by successfully retendering its Arts, Leisure and Countryside services in readiness for three new social enterprise partners taking over April 2018 from a subsidised service to one earning a forecasted surplus for the Council totaling more than £7.5m over a decade.**
  - **The team behind the ONE NK refurbishment project was awarded the East Midlands Constructing Excellence Award for Innovation (May 2017).**
  - **14 Veteran's badges awarded as part of the annual Armed Forces Week celebrations.**
  - **Won continued funding from the Arts Council, received notice of £804,000 National Portfolio funding for the next four years, starting April 2018.**
  - **Work began on the new depot and seven new business units in Metherringham, a £4m investment project.**
  - **NK retains its title as the safest place to live for the fourth year in succession, having the lowest crime rates per 1,000 population in the country.**
  - **Planning Inspectorate dismissed the appeal by Barratt Homes against NKDC's decision in May 2016 to refuse their bid to demolish former hospital buildings (Rauceby) in favour of new-build development.**
  - **Carried out 100% of its food hygiene inspections, seeing 96.6% of premises compliant with food hygiene law (higher than the national average).**
  - **Community Champion Awards recognized local, unsung heroes from around the District who voluntarily give up their time for the benefit of others.**
  - **Children in NK have a better start in life than other areas of the county, with a survey recognizing NK as 'one of the pockets of good performers'.**
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- Success within a partnership approach to operate a county-wide Wellbeing Service from April 2018, building on the exemplar qualities of the NK Wellbeing Service to promote independent living.
  - Greater Lincolnshire approved to be a pilot for a business rates retention scheme, meaning the local economy could be boosted by a projected £14m in 2018/19. The NK share estimated to boost the Council's finance by £600,000 over the next financial year.
  - Launched a new "5<sup>th</sup> Priority, "Our Environment" to encourage cleaner air quality, life-styles, etc and approved a new "Cycling Strategy" to sit alongside this priority.
  - Identified as one of the best local authorities in the country for meeting the housing needs of its local area, both as a landlord and for developing additional affordable housing.
  - Completion of 33 flats at Steam Court, Nth Hykeham. 6 – affordable rental and the remainder to meet the demands of private rentals locally. Delivered by Lafford Homes, a wholly owned Council company established to unlock more housing choice and respond to unmet demand for more private, rental opportunities.
  - Achieved "Silver" recognition in a recent 'Investors in People' assessment. Providing insight/feedback working alongside "Our People" strategy offering confidence developing a positive, inclusive working environment focused on making a difference.
  - Funding of £2m allocated towards accelerating the delivery of the Sleaford West Sustainable Urban Extension, to help provide a roundabout to access a school and housing on the site. Part of a £866m investment by the Government to unlock around 200,00 new homes around the country in support of local work that will make housing developments viable and get much needed homes built quicker.
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