

**Minutes of the Public Open Forum Held at the Trowell Parish Hall on  
Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2017, at 7.15pm.**

Present - Cllrs. Mrs. P. Cardwell (Chairman), D. Pringle, P. Singer, Mrs. L. Harley, Mrs. M. Birkitt, G. Lockwood, Mrs. S. Williams, Mrs. C. McGann, R. McGann, K. E. Rigby (Borough & County) & 1 visitor.

Clerk - Mrs. A. K. Mitchell

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PGC opened the meeting & thanked everyone for their attendance on Valentine's Day.

PGC welcomed, TH (Casual Vacancy applicant) to the meeting & thanked him for coming.

As there were no questions forthcoming from the floor, Members took the opportunity to ask TH a little about his reasons for applying to fill the current Council vacancy.

TH thanked the Council for considering his application, he stressed that his heart is in the community & stated that it is no good sitting on the side-lines & complaining if you are not prepared to do something yourself.

GL asked why as a non-parish resident TH had decided to apply to join the Parish Council. TH advised that he is planning to stand in the next NCC election for the ward which covers Stapleford, Trowell, Awsworth, Cossall & Bramcote & if successful he feels that this position would better enable him to fulfil that role.

LH asked TH what he knew about Trowell. TH conceded that he didn't know a great deal but he had lots of skills to offer despite having a lot to learn too.

MB asked how committed he could be to attending meetings. TH responded by saying that he was totally committed & that although he knows the roles are unpaid, he does not see them as voluntary, they are a serious responsibility.

RMG asked how long TH had lived in Stapleford. TH advised that he has lived in Stapleford since 2007 but had family connections with Bramcote long before that & moved to the area following leaving the military because of those family ties.

DP expressed his concern that if TH became a Councillor in Trowell, it prevented someone from the village itself fulfilling that role. TH advised that to the best of

his knowledge only one potential NCC candidate for the ward covering Trowell doesn't come from Stapleford. TH added that he is mindful that Stapleford is not the be all & end all & that his having a commitment to Trowell would be a good thing.

DP expressed concern that if TH became a Borough and/or County Councillor he would find himself spread too thin. TH responded that as far as he is aware it is not currently a requirement for a County Councillor to attend all Parish Council meetings in their area. TH also stated that he would not ignore Trowell as a County Councillor if he wasn't a Parish Councillor but he would like to have a foot on many ladders.

GL asked where TH stood on the issue of HS2. TH advised that in general he supports infrastructure projects & that he can foresee the UK losing some market access through Brexit & so there will be difficult times ahead. That being said he feels that top down distribution is a wonderful thing & that whilst in principal he believes in HS2 he is keen for it to be implemented in the best way for local people.

GL asked if TH was aware of the proposed HS2 viaduct through Trowell & if so, what would he propose to alleviate it.

TH responded that he would suggest lobbying HS2 to put alternatives on the table. He added that he had been involved in such projects before in his previous working life & had found that the concerns of local people are significant & valuable to the success of such projects. He added that HS2 need to take account of that & that Council's etc. need to lobby them on this point.

DP commented that the proposed movement of the M1 & road closures proposed by HS2 will cut the village in two twice & the latest consultation document does not mention Trowell at all. He added that whilst he appreciates what TH was saying the consultation form produced by HS2 does not allow for that kind of response.

TH added that he is not a single issue candidate & that if the Council is looking for someone unilaterally opposed to HS2, then they are not present, they have not applied. He commented that he is an engineer & so takes a pragmatic approach to such matters.

PGC then called the matter to a close & thanked TH for his responses, advising him that he was welcome to stay for the rest of the meeting.

As there were no further questions from the floor, the Open Forum was closed at approximately 7.30pm.

Signed.....Chairman

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