

MINUTES of the Annual Meeting of Wivenhoe Town Council held in the Council Chamber on Monday 19 May 2003.

Present: The Town Mayor, Cllr. D. Craze (Chairman),
Cllrs: P.M. Hill, S. R. Davies, C. Liddy, J.H. Richardson, G. Primrose,
C.L.F. Thompson, T. Roberts, K. Rogers, D.Purdey and P. Kraft.
Borough Cllr: B.Newman
County Cllr. J. Young
Retiring members: Mrs. M. Hignell and Mr. M. Jarvis
Mrs. S. R. Bradley, Assistant Town Clerk, Mrs. A. Quarrie (past Cllr.)
9 members of the public.
Tom Weatherall of the Colchester Evening Gazette

Cllr. Craze welcomed new members of the Town Council, Cllrs. D. Purdey, Mrs. P. Kraft, T. Roberts and K. Rogers.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. Apologies for absence were received from Borough Cllrs. D. Adams and E. Kraft.

2. ELECTION OF TOWN MAYOR.

RESOLVED unanimously that Cllr. Gillian Primrose be elected to serve as Town Mayor for the ensuing year. Cllr. Primrose thanked Members for the honour conferred upon her, assumed the Chair for the balance of the meeting, and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

The Town Mayor (Cllr. Gillian Primrose) Chairman

Cllr. Hill expressed the thanks and appreciation of Members to the retiring Mayor, Cllr. Craze, and presented to Cllr. Craze a CD containing a photographic record of his year as Town Mayor. Cllr. Craze expressed his thanks for this, stating that he had enjoyed his year very much. Cllr. Craze then presented a bouquet of flowers to the retiring Mayoress, Mrs. Angela Craze, thanking her for all her support during his year of office.

3. ELECTION OF DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR.

RESOLVED unanimously that Cllr. Peter Hill be elected Deputy Town Mayor for the ensuing year.

Cllr. Hill thanked Members for the honour conferred upon him and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office. He added that although he had been Mayor twice, he had never held the office of Deputy Town Mayor and so was looking forward to it very much.

4. COMMITTEES.

a) Planning Committee:

RESOLVED that the following be appointed to the Planning Committee for 2003/2004:

Cllr. G. Primrose (Chairman)

Cllr. T. Roberts

Cllr. R. Davies

Cllr. J. Richardson

Cllr. D. Purdey

Cllr. C. Liddy

b) Personnel Committee:

RESOLVED that the following be appointed to the Personnel Committee for 2003/2004:

Cllr. P. Hill (Chairman)

Cllr. P. Kraft

Cllr. C. Liddy

Cllr. D. Purdey

Cllr. K. Rogers

c) Best Value Committee: All members with Cllr. Hill as Chairman.

5. WORKING PARTIES.

Agreed that the composition of Working Parties be as follows:

a) William Loveless Hall Working Party:

Cllrs: Primrose (Chair), Richardson and Kraft

Co-opted members - John Foster, John Pendle, Dave Sleightholm,

Colin Andrews and Mick Wells.

b) General Amenities Working Party(incorporating Open Spaces Working Party)

Cllrs: Richardson (Chair), Hill, Rogers, Roberts, Purdey and Liddy.

c) Wivenhoe Wood Working Party:

Cllrs: Rogers, Roberts, Primrose and Hill.

d) Mini-Bus Working Group:

Cllrs: Richardson (Chairman), Davies, Kraft, Purdey, Town Clerk, Assistant Town

Clerk. Co-opted members - John Foster, Des McCourt, and John Gosling.

e) Communications Working Group:

Cllrs. Liddy (Chair), Thompson, Hill and Roberts.

Co-opted members - Mr. A. Vickers and Mr. K. Primrose.

f) Engine Shed Working Group:

Current - Cllrs. Hill, (Chairman), Liddy and Purdey.

a) Wivenhoe Community Association Committee:

Town Council's representatives - Cllrs. Purdey and Liddy.

b) Project Committee – representatives Cllrs. Purdey and Liddy.

g) Wrug: Cllrs: Hill (Chair), Rogers, Purdey, Richardson, and Roberts.

- h) Section 106 Working Group:**
Secretary : Cllr. Hill. All members of the Town Council's Planning Committee.

6. REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER BODIES.

RESOLVED that the following be appointed as representatives on other bodies:

- a) Colchester Association of Local Councils** - Cllr. Richardson
- b) Civil Protection** - Cllr. Rogers with Cllr. Primrose as substitute.
- c) Public Transport Representative** - Cllr. Roberts with Cllr. Purdey as substitute.
- d) Crime Prevention Panel** - Cllr. Rogers
- e) Planning Forum** - Cllrs. Hill, Primrose and Thompson
- f) Twinning** - Cllr. Richardson
- g) Wivenhoe Society** - Cllr. Richardson with Cllr. Kraft as substitute
- h) Colne Estuary Advisory Group** - Cllr. Hill with Cllr. Purdey as substitute.

7. SUBSCRIPTIONS.

RESOLVED that the following subscriptions and dues be approved for the ensuing year:

- 1. Essex Association of Local Councils - subscription £540.40 p.a
- 2. National Playing Fields Association - subscription £25.00 p.a.
- 3. Colchester Association of Local Councils - subscription £22.49 p.a
- 4. Society of Local Council Clerks - subscription £78.00 p.a.
- 5. Eastern, Essex & Herts Regional Employers Organisation
for Local Authorities (Resource) NJCouncils - subscription £95.00 p.a.
- 6. N.A.L.C. Direct Information Service - subscription £87.00 p.a.
- 7. Community Transport Association - subscription £100.00 p.a.
- 8. Council for Protection of Rural Essex - subscription £25.00 p.a.
- 9. Association of Burial Authorities - subscription £80.00 p.a.

8. MINUTES.

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 22 April 2003 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

9. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.

8.4b) Notice Board: Cllr. Thompson asked that the matter of the Dene Park noticeboard be kept ongoing.

6.2 ECC Superannuation: Application for refund of the overpayment had been submitted to Essex County Council.

7.9b) Tendring Show: Cllr. Hill reported that a photographer had been commissioned to take the large scale photograph of Wivenhoe Quay and that Cedric's had agreed to run a bus service to the Show.

10. DATES OF MEETINGS.

RESOLVED that by virtue of Standing Orders 1 and 4, meetings for the current year will be held at 7.30pm on the third Monday of each month on the following dates:
(with the exception of 13 October)

| 2003 | 2004 |
|-------------------------|-------------|
| 16 June | 19 January |
| 21 July | 16 February |
| 18 August | 15 March |
| 15 September | 19 April |
| 13 October (2nd Monday) | 17 May |
| 17 November | |
| 15 December | |

AGREED that there would be an August meeting.

11. POINTS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: None.

13. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILS.

a) Essex County Council: Cllr. Young expressed congratulations to retiring Mayor, Cllr. Craze and to the new Mayor, Cllr. Primrose. Cllr. Young reported on the County's Surface Water Alleviation Schemes; Accident Reduction sites, including the B1027, where improved signing and white lining were being considered; the matter of the school dinner contracts, still out to consultation where, Cllr. Young added, most schools emailed had responded that they were of the opinion that the current quality of school dinners was low.

Concerning Accident Reduction Sites Cllr. Rogers stressed the dangers of Colchester Road and Cllr. Hill added that the Brightlingsea Road/Broad Lane had a worst history of accidents.

b) Borough Council: Borough Cllr. Newman congratulated Cllr. Primrose as new Mayor and stated that he would be serving on Planning and the Colne Estuary Management Group. Concerning the public 'Hard' Cllr. Newman reported that the application had now been withdrawn and the use of the area would now revert back to what it was. However, it had raised all sorts of issues concerning public land in the ownership of the Borough Council, the policy of which would be going before the Overview and Scrutiny Panel to address the wider principles throughout the whole of the Borough.

Cllr. Davies congratulated Cllr. Primrose as the new Mayor and reported that he was on the Colne Estuary Management Group, ALMO and substitute on the Planning Committee. Cllr. Davies added that he was currently attending meetings with the PCT concerning new Health facilities for Wivenhoe.

13. COMMITTEE REPORTS.

13.1 Planning:

a) Minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 17 April and 8 May 2003 were received and noted.

b) **Section 106 Working Party:** Cllr. Hill reported on progress to date, that the Agreement had been agreed and ratified but not yet signed. Minor technicalities concerning the Folly and Queens Road were under consideration with the ultimate decision resting with the Portfolio holder, Cllr. Gower. Cllr. Davies added that he was having a site meeting the following week concerning The Folly and would report back.

13.2 Personnel:

Members noted that Mr. B. Skeet had now left and that the Personnel Committee's interview panel of Cllrs. Thompson and Davies together with the Town Clerk and Mr. J. Young had appointed Mr. A. Hearn.

The date of the next meeting would be on 11 June 2003 at 7.30pm.

13.3 Best Value.

The date of the next meeting would be Tuesday 3 June 2003 at 7.30pm.

14. WORKING PARTY REPORTS.

14.1 William Loveless Hall Working Party: Nothing to report.

14.2 General Amenities Working Party.

a) Cllr. Thompson enquired what maintenance had been carried out on the recently vandalized bus shelter at Smith's Corner. Town Clerk reported that the vandalized panel had been removed for the time being, until a repair could be assessed.

14.3 Wivenhoe Wood Working Party. Nothing to report.

14.4 Mini-bus Working Group:

Cllr. J. Richardson reported the Mini-bus Working Group still needed to convene a meeting.

14.5 Communications Working Group.

Cllr. Hill reported that the Wivenhoe Town Council web site 'Wivenhoe Encyclopedia' was now a year old. He asked members to forward any digital pictures they wished to put on the web site and said that he was now creating sites for Traders.

14.6 Strategy 2000+. Agreed that this be now incorporated within the Town Council's Best Value Committee.

14.7 Engine Shed Working Group.

Cllr. Hill circulated a newsletter to members on the Group's activities to date and also reported that the Railway Heritage Trust had given the Project a grant of £75,000. Town Clerk reported receipt of the Architect's invoice for the Engine Shed drawings and it was AGREED that the Town Council pay the fee in order to recover the VAT element.

Members congratulated Cllr. Hill on the good news.

14.8 Wrug. Nothing to report.

14.9 Members' Individual Proposals or Reports:

a) Cllr. Craze - Mayoral Activities: Cllr. Craze would be submitting a list of his activities.

b) Cllr. Hill – Wivenhoe Housing Trust

Appointment of new nominative Trustee to replace the late Bob Richardson.

AGREED that the new nominative Trustee be Cllr. Jan Richardson.

15. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT.

15.1 Burial Grants and approval of memorials. The Town Clerk reported that one burial grant had been issued and one memorial had been approved since the last meeting. Two interments had taken place and one interment of ashes.

15.2 NALC Direct Information Service. Issues No. 552 had been circulated.

15.3 Tenancy Allocations/Changes from Colchester Borough Council.

15.4 Work Management.

a) General: Vandalism was still increasing with the new gate to the children's play area having been repaired three times. WPC Allen had made a Police incident report on the matter and was making enquiries. The cemetery had been cut once and was now due for the second cut. All the tubs and the two boats were being prepared for planting.

The number of customers and visitors to the Council Offices for the month of April was 168. Town Clerk also reported receipt of an estimate of £170 to French polish the Council Chamber table and this was noted.

Members noted the Town Clerk's report.

16. FINANCE.

16.1 Financial Report:

a) Members received the April Spending and Income report in the new format.

16.2/3 List of Cheques:

a) The list of cheques drawn since the last meeting of the Town Council was received and noted.

b) The list of payments from the Imprest Account since the last meeting of the Town Council was received and noted.

16.4 Motions under Standing Orders Recommending Expenditure:

a) R.J. Wills & Co – Architect's fee for Engine Shed Plans £2115.00

16.5 Appeals for Financial Support: None.

17. NEW BUSINESS.

17.1 Correspondence.

a) Boundary Commission for England – General Review of Parliamentary

Constituencies: Members received the provisional recommendations on deposit for public Inspection – the closing date for comments being 15 June 2003.

Members expressed their disagreement with the proposals and Cllr. Thompson would draft a response containing an alternative to that proposed by the Boundary Commission.

b) Police: Members received the letter of introduction from Inspector Tony Dale and AGREED that there was not much hope for a better police presence in Wivenhoe. However, a meeting with the new Inspector would be arranged where the proposal of recruiting more ‘specials’ for Wivenhoe would be put forward.

c) ECC Local Transport Plan: Members received the Third Annual Progress Report - Cllr. Roberts and Purdey took the document to study.

d) ECC Local Access Forum for Essex: Members received details of this.

e) Vacancy for a Town Councillor: Agreed that an advertisement for the vacancy be placed on the Town Council’s noticeboards and on the Web site.

17.2 Conferences/seminars: Members noted the following:

East Essex Area Forum meeting Tuesday 17 June 2003

Wix Village Hall (agenda already circulated)

17.3 Licences. None.

17.4 Notices. Cllr. Primrose informed members of the Mayor’s Charity programme of fund-raising events to date:

Tea Dance – Saturday 14 June 2003

Garden Party at Meadowcroft – Saturday 28 June 2003.

Annual Town Cricket Match - Wednesday 9 July 6pm at Cricket Club.

Teddy Bears’ Picnic - Sunday 20 July 2003 King George V Playing Field.

50’s Rock ‘n’ Roll night - William Loveless Hall Saturday 1 November

Mayor’s Ball - 6 March 2004

Members also noted that a ‘tour’ of Wivenhoe for members, current and new, would be organized for Saturday 24 May at 2.00pm.

17.5 Highway Matters. None.

The meeting ended at 9.25pm.

CHAIRMAN

At the close of the meeting an invitation was extended to all to join the newly-appointed Town Mayor and her escort, Cllr. Gilli Primrose and Mr. Keith Primrose, at their home for refreshments.