

MINUTES of the Meeting of Wivenhoe Town Council held in the Council Chamber on Monday 19 April 2004.

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Present: The Town Mayor, Cllr. G. K. Primrose (Chairman)  
Cllrs: C.P. Liddy, D. Purdey, K. Rogers, P. Kraft, P. Hill, J. Richardson,  
C. L.F. Thompson and T. Roberts.  
County Cllr. J. Young

Prior to commencement of business PC Steve May and PC Harrison attended the meeting to talk to the Town Council about the current situation with regard to Community Policing in Wivenhoe. PC May reported that the crime figures for Wivenhoe were only slightly up from last year but these figures did include the University. Cllr. Rogers requested more details on the figures for Wivenhoe itself. PC May said that the Mobile Police Office would continue to visit but the actual Police Station itself in Wivenhoe would now be open on occasions. Times of the opening would be publicized on the notice board outside the Police Station. Members welcomed this improvement. A situation had arisen on the quay front recently during the day whereby some youngsters had been attacked by youngsters from outside of Wivenhoe. Members expressed their concern over this sort of behaviour. Cllr. Rogers reported that the Community Police Officer had visited all the youngsters involved but as yet had not identified the youths who had caused the trouble. Members learned that there were plans for 45 more Community Support Officers in Essex and AGREED to register the Town Council's interest and that a formal request be sent to Supt. D. Murthwaite for more Community Support Officers in Wivenhoe.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr. S. Glozier-Green, Borough Cllrs. E. Kraft, B. Newman and D. Adams.

**2. MINUTES.** RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 15 March 2004 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

**3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.**

**Condolences:** As Cllr. Thompson was not present at the last meeting he stated that he wished to be associated with the Town Council's expressions of condolence on the loss of Cllr. Richard Davies.

**9.5 a) Wivenhoe at your Service –** Cllr. Kraft acknowledged receipt of the Town Council's sponsorship.

**3. 5.a) 19/2/04 Visual Arts Facility:** Members noted that a provisional date of 21 June had been set aside by Andrea Hill, CBC Chief Executive for an explanation of the VAF. The Town Clerk would ensure that everything would be up and running for a 7.00pm start on the presentation.

**4. POINTS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.**

## **5. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILS.**

**a) Essex County Council:** Cllr. Young circulated two papers responding to points on the Colchester New Transport Strategy. Transport for Colchester had been approved by the Cabinet in February 2004 and extensive consultation with Town and Parish Councils would be undertaken on the new document in the coming months. Cllr. Young had put forward the Town Council's views on the Southern Bypass and these had been noted by the Head of Highways and Transportation. Plans for a Quality Bus Partnership along the Wivenhoe to Colchester route were also revealed, which Town Council members were pleased to learn. The County Council budget had been set and Cllr. Young drew particular attention to an amount of £250,000 which had been identified to deliver specific projects to reduce anti-social behaviour across the County. Details on how to access the money were circulated to all Town Council members by Cllr. Young. The subject of "SIDS" (Speed Indicator Display Signs) was also raised and Cllr. Young would pursue the request of the Town Council for at least 3 or 4 of the signs in Wivenhoe namely along Rectory Road, Colchester Road and The Avenue.

Health Centre: Several comments had been received about alternative sites for the Heath Centre and Cllr. Young had forwarded these to the PCT. Site requirement was now greater than first thought, approximately about 1 and a half acres. Cllr. Hill would update the document on the web site.

Cllr. Thompson asked if Cllr. Young knew anything about the University's Medical School and Cllr. Young would investigate this.

**b) Borough Council:** Nothing to report.

## **6. COMMITTEE REPORTS.**

### **6.1 Planning:**

**a)** Minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 11 March and 1 April 2004 were received. Members noted that the flats behind The Flag had been refused. Concerning the garden of the Rose and Crown PH, Cllr. Roberts reported that he had heard there had been some correspondence with the Wivenhoe Society in the past and he had been trying to research this. The Town Council had already written to Sarah Hayes of the Borough Council's Planning Department about this and it was decided that, to prevent further time being spent in researching this matter, another letter be sent to the Planning Department asking them that if the Town Council could demonstrate that the rear garden of the Rose and Crown PH had never been used as a beer garden in the past would the Borough Council take any action.

**b) Section 106 Working Party:** Cllr. Hill reported that he had sent an e-mail to Cllr. Gower and was awaiting a response. Cllr. Thompson said that he had also sent an e-mail to Cllr. Gower.

**c) New Health Centre:** Cllr. Hill reported that he had met with the Fire Station Commander, Mr. G. Waller, to discuss the matter of a shared access. The Station Commander confirmed that the present access was proving to be dangerous and that he had already taken the matter up with the Highways Authority. The idea of a shared access could present both a practical and financial solution to the problem. Cllr. E. Kraft would be asked to look into this.

Cllr. Hill also reported that the Town Council's planning application had now lapsed and that a new application needed to be submitted. The process so far had been fruitful in flushing out some issues and it was hoped that funding would be forthcoming. Some more proposals for two other sites had been put forward by residents and these had been passed onto the PCT, current requirement for the site was between 1.50 and 1.25 acres.

**d) Emergency Planning Exercise:** Cllr. Primrose reported on the emergency planning exercise carried out on 1 April 2004. There were doubts about the exercise because of the date and of the nature of the exercise, but both Cllrs. Primrose and Glozier-Green went through the exercise efficiently and methodically.

**e) WDSFT – Broad Lane Sports Ground:** Cllr. Hill reported that because of a sight splay requirement the Highways Authority required removal of part of the hedgerow for the improvements to the car park at the Broad Lane Sports Ground. The work would not be carried out until nesting birds had left the hedgerow. It was hoped that the hedge on the other side would be left untouched.

## **6.2 Personnel:**

a) A report was circulated to members on the recruitment of new office personnel.

**6.3 Best Value Committee:** Nothing to report.

## **7. WORKING PARTY REPORTS.**

### **7.1 William Loveless Hall Working Party:**

a) The report of the meeting held on 7 April was received and noted. Cllr. Primrose reported that a small rise in the hiring charges had been put forward by the Working Party and this was AGREED by the Town Council, effective 1 May 2004.

### **7.2 General Amenities Working Party.**

a) No meeting had been held this month. The next meeting would be on 10 May 2004.

b) **Quay Shelter Roof:** Members received the report on the damage to Quay Shelter roof tiles and Sailing Club hut and the proposal from the Sailing Club for 'anti-climb' fencing to be installed with costs being shared between Sailing Club and the Town Council.

AGREED that the matter be put before the next Working Party meeting.

Cllrs. Purdey, Hill and Primrose all declared an interest as members of the Sailing Club.

**7.3 Wivenhoe Wood Working Party.** Cllr. Primrose reminded members of a meeting arranged with Mary Bagley of Colchester Borough Council Leisure Services on 28 April at 7.30pm in the Council Chamber. All members were invited to attend the meeting, Cllr. Roberts had advised that he would be bringing a few interested members of the public with him.

### **7.4. Minibus Working Group:**

a) Town Clerk reported that the end of year balance was £12,260.40.

b) **Town and Parish Councils Grant Scheme:** The Town Clerk reported that the Town Council's application to the Grant Scheme for replacement of the mini-bus had been

submitted and that the outcome should be known at the meeting of the Town and Parish Clerks' Forum on 15 July 2004.

c) Cllr. Primrose said that Cllr. Richardson would be arranging a meeting shortly. Cllr. Kraft added that it was important that a meeting was held fairly soon because of the grant application.

**7.5. Youth Facilities Working Party:** Cllr. Liddy reported on the meeting held on 22 March 2004 held in the Council Chamber in the afternoon when a representative from 'Freestyle' had attending. Cllrs. Kraft and Purdey were also in attendance. Various sites were discussed and the product of the discussions would be available soon. Cllr. Liddy said that he had suggested to the youngsters that they present a petition to the Annual Town Meeting on 12 May. Cllr. Rogers said that he was still awaiting the outcome of the grant application for the youth shelter.

Cllr. Primrose drew Cllr. Liddy's attention to some funding which was being allocated by the County Council to reduce anti-social behaviour across the County, *details of which were earlier circulated to the meeting by Cllr. Young.* Cllr. Liddy would look into this.

#### **7. 6 Communications Working Group:**

a) Annual Town Report: Members noted receipt of a copy of the Annual Town Report, publicized in the April edition of the Brightlingsea and Wivenhoe Chronicle.

b) **Web-site Celebratory Party:** Cllr. Hill advised that this had been postponed for the time being.

#### **7.7 Engine Shed Working Group:**

a) Cllr. Hill reported on the planning application support document, which had been circulated to all members. Everything had been pulled together in a single document, which addressed the residents' concerns and included the sound consultant's report. The document was being submitted to the Planning Department to kick-start the planning application.

**7.8 WRUG:** Cllr. Hill had contacted Alex Midlen to thank him for the interest shown in the provision of visitors' moorings at Wivenhoe.

#### **7.9 Members' Individual Proposals or Reports:**

a) **Mayoral Activities:** Cllr. Primrose reported that due to illness she had been out of circulation for two weeks but in the last few days had recovered to attend a presentation of two bird tables to Britannia Court and Stuart Pawsey Court on 15 April. The presentation was held at Stuart Pawsey Court, with Scheme Manager, Mrs. Betsy Edwards in attendance and was followed by a tea with the residents in the new extension; on 16 April a reception of Golden Jubilee Memorabilia was held at Maynetrees, Chelmsford, where two of the Town Council's Official Jubilee Mugs form part of the exhibition. Also on 16 April Cllr. Primrose attended a private view of art at the Nottage Institute.

b) **Police Matters:** Cllr. Rogers submitted a written report which was circulated to the meeting. Cllr. Rogers added that the last few days had been quiet as PC May had spent some extra time in Wivenhoe. Members hoped that this would continue and thanked Cllr. Rogers for his report.

**c) Colchester Strategic Plan:** Cllr. Thompson reported that he had read the Colchester Strategic Plan, noting the new Town and Parish Councils Grant Scheme, the Town and Parish Clerks Forum and the fact that the Plan focused more on urbanized areas.

**d) Denis Horrigan, MBE:** Cllr. Hill paid tribute to Denis Horrigan, MBE, on his achievement of 50 years as Parish Clerk of East Donyland Parish Council. A letter of congratulations would be sent to Denis.

## **8. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT.**

**8.1** The Town Clerk reported that two Burial Grants had been issued and two memorials had been approved since the last meeting. One interment of ashes had taken place.

**8.2 NALC Direct Information Service.** Issue Nos. 577 to 578 had been circulated.

**8.3 Tenancy Allocations/Changes from Colchester Borough Council.** None.

### **8.4 Work Management.**

**a) General:** The Town Clerk reported that a start had been made on the tubs by the groundsmen. The goalposts had been adapted with a secure mechanism to prevent the top crossbar being lifted up and had been put back out and a start on grass-cutting had been made in the Churchyard and on the King George V Field. The number of customers and visitors to the Council Offices for the month of March totalled 145.

b) Members received the Town Clerk's analysis of groundsmen's hours for end of year which, in comparison with last year's figures, proved that more of the groundsmen's time was being spent in dealing with vandalism.

## **9. FINANCE.**

### **9.1 Current Financial Report.**

**a)** The March Spending and Income Report was received and noted.

**b) End of year balance .** The Town Clerk reported that the end of year balance at the bank was £75,684.51

Thanks were expressed to Mr. Len Horner for his continued assistance.

### **9.2 List of Cheques.**

The list of cheques numbered 501866 – 501874 drawn since the last meeting of the Town Council was approved and signed. The list of payments from the Imprest Account since the last meeting was received and noted.

**9.4** Motions under Standing Orders Recommending Expenditure: None.

**9.5 Appeals for Financial Support:** None.

## **10. NEW BUSINESS.**

### **10.1 Correspondence.**

**a) ECC Speed Indicator Display signs:** Members received the information on 'SIDs' from the Head of Highways and Transportation at ECC and it was

AGREED that a formal request for signs in Wivenhoe be submitted by the Town Clerk and Cllr. Young would also pursue this on behalf of the Town Council.

b) **Environment Agency – Proposed additions to the Main River Network**

Members received and noted the details on the addition of the ‘Town Drain’ to the existing main river network, which should solve the problem of the flooding in the area of Brook Street business centre.

**10.2 Conferences/Seminars.** Members noted the following:

Area Forum East Meeting 15 June 2004 at Greenstead Community Centre 1.30pm

**10.3 Notices.**

Mayor’s Charity Trip to France Sunday 9 May £10.00  
Launch of Rec-Create Saturday 24 April, 3.00pm Wivenhoe Library  
Wivenhoe Memories on 1-3 May at the William Loveless Hall.

**10.4 Licences.** None.

**10.5 Highway Matters:** None.

The meeting closed at 9.45pm.

**CHAIRMAN**

