

MINUTES of the Meeting of Wivenhoe Town Council held in the Council Chamber on Monday 19 December 2005.

Present: The Town Mayor, Cllr. T. Roberts (Chairman),
Cllrs: P. Kraft, F. Richards, D. Purdey, N. Lodge, C. Liddy, S. Glozier-Green, B. Sinclair, P. Hill, K. Rogers and S. Gillman.
Borough Cllrs. S. Ford and E. Kraft
County Cllr. J. Young
Mrs. A Stinson (Town Clerk) and Mrs. X. Li (Admin)
Press

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

No apologies for absence had been received.

2. MINUTES. RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 21 November 2005 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.

Casual Vacancy: Resolved to accept the recommendation of the Town Council's Appointment's Panel and appoint Stuart Gillman to fill the place created by the resignation of Christopher Thompson. After signing of the Declaration of Acceptance of Office members formally welcomed newly co-opted Stuart Gillman onto the Town Council.

4. POINTS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC. None.

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

a) Essex County Council: County Cllr. Julie Young reported on the Task and Finish group which had been set up to look into Park and Ride schemes; the issue of the Waste Plan, which was being monitored at County level; the Social Services overspend and that the meeting about the Day Care Services was yet to be arranged.

b) Colchester Borough Council:

Cllr. E. Kraft also reported on the Park and Ride Scheme in Colchester, which was not progressing very rapidly due to there being no suitable enough access into the town. The issue of the Waste Plan was being debated.

Cllr. S. Ford reported on Leisure World, which was being sold off.; the VAF and the temporary re-routing of buses through Queen Street and Magdalen Street.

Cllr. Hill asked if there was a possibility of the Park and Ride scheme at the University, utilizing the Section 106 Agreement, instead of the roundabout on the A133. Cllr. Young said she would try and progress this.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS.

6.1 Planning

a) Minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 6 December 2005 were received and noted.

b) Footpaths on Cooks' Shipyard. Since the last meeting much confusion had been caused by notices being put up on the development site by Colchester Borough Council which were not at all helpful for the public to determine which footpaths were being temporarily closed. Cllr. Hill reported that a statement had been put on the Wivenhoe website and had also been available as a hand-out at the Town Council offices. A map of the footpath layout on the site had also been put on the Town Council noticeboard. To clarify

the position FP 18 had been temporarily closed for Health and Safety reasons due to commencement of site clearance work but the Town Council formally stated that they would like to see the footpath re-opened as soon as possible.

c) Section 106: Cllr Hill expressed disappointment with the Phase 2 plans recently submitted by Taylor Woodrow which did not appear to conform entirely to the style of the overall scheme proposed by Lexden Restorations. The drawings failed to show how the scheme could be complementary to the adjacent Conservation Area as required by the Town Council's Development Brief for the site. Nor was there sufficient evidence in the plans for people to recognize the previous use of site as a 200 year old shipyard. AGREED that a meeting be sought with Sue Jackson of Colchester Borough Planning to discuss the concerns of the Town Council.

Cllr. Glozier-Green reported that construction lorries were using the spinal route, contrary to Taylor Woodrow's instructions. This would be raised with James Moodie.

d) Health Centre: Cllr. Hill said that there should be some promising news in January 2006.

6.2 Personnel:

a) Noted that the date of next meeting would be 25 January 2006.

6.3 Best Value Committee

a) The notes of meeting held on Monday 12 December were received and noted. Cllr. Kraft reported that a meeting had been arranged with Town Council reception staff for the morning of 21 December to go through the new Hall Hiring Agreement.

7. WORKING PARTY REPORTS.

7.1 William Loveless Hall Working Party:

a) The notes of the meeting held on 5 December 2005 were received.

b) Hiring fees: AGREED that the Hall hiring fees, which had not gone up since 2004, be increased by approximately 6-8%, in line with inflation over the last two years and that it be left to the Chairman of the Working Party to re-consider some fees which appeared impractical.

7.2 General Amenities Working Party.

No meeting had been held in December and the next one was scheduled for early January. Cllr. Glozier-Green would inform members of the date.

7.3 Wivenhoe Wood Working Party: Cllr. Richards reported that she had only just received the Wivenhoe Wood Management plan and the Wivenhoe Ferry Marsh Management plan. She also reported that she had written Paul Vickers.

7.4. Minibus Working Group: Nothing to report.

7.5 Youth Facilities Working Party. Cllr. Purdey reported that the first draft of a consolidated report containing all documents, references, plans, site visits, etc had been prepared and circulated to all members of the Best Value Committee where it was then agreed that the draft consolidated report be amended to include the addition of a) summaries of letters of objection received; b) Section listing all concerns raised; c) photos of successful skate parks; d) section on Crime Prevention; e) Tribe recommendations; and f) the Devizes Judgement. Cllrs. Kraft and Lodge would also re-visit the Marks Tey skatepark to take a measurement of the ramps and guard rails.

Cllr. Purdey reported that a meeting with the Youth Forum was going to be held in January 2006.

7.6 Wivenhoe Engine Shed Trust. Nothing to report.

7.7 WRUG. Nothing to report.

7.8 Members' Individual Proposals or Reports:

a) Mayoral Activities: Cllr. Roberts reported on attendances at a Wivenhoe Community Bus publicity event at Stuart Pawsey Court on 1 December; Late shopping and turning on Christmas lights, also on 1 December; Colchester Alzheimer's Society festive tea dance at Stanway Rovers FC on 5 December; Wivenhoe Over-60s lunch on 9 December and a Christmas Coffee morning at Stuart Pawsey Court on 19 December. Non-mayoral attendances were at the East Essex Forum at Dovercourt and Townscapes workshop in Town Hall, Colchester on 22 November.

b) Community Safety and Police Matters:

Cllr. Rogers had circulated a report which was received and noted. A few more complaints had been received about the siting of the seat on the King George V Playing and this would be referred back to GALWP. Cllr. P. Kraft asked if the new Community Support Police Officer could visit the elderly residents of Stuart Pawsey Court to give them advice on security issues.

c) War Memorial: Cllr Hill proposed that the Town Council make a financial contribution toward the cost of refurbishing the War Memorial in addition to the considerable time spent by the Town Council workforce on preparing the base and provision of kerbing around the Memorial. **AGREED** that a contribution of approximately £460 from the Town Council's Civic Grants budget be put towards the balance of the Fund, currently standing at £540. Together these two amounts would result in a donation of £1000 being sent to Halsey House, the Legion care home at Cromer.

A Service of Re-dedication was going to be held at the War Memorial at 12.30pm on 31 December 2005 to which all members and those involved in the fund-raising were invited.

8. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT.

8.1 Burial Grants and approval of memorials.

No Burial Grants had been issued and no memorials had been approved since the last meeting.

8.2 NALC Direct Information Service. Issues No. 619, 620 and 621 had been received and circulated electronically.

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

8.4 Work Management.

a) General: The Town Clerk reported that contractors had started work on the roof of the outbuildings in the Council Yard. Grass had been cut in the New Cemetery and one tree seat put on the King George V Playing Field. The dog exercise area had been mown and the new hedge had been planted along the top of the playing field, in addition roses had been planted around the Gas Transco sub-station. A start had been made on pruning back the shrubs in front of Londis Supermarket. Greenery had been cut for the churches and Christmas lights put up in front of the WL Hall. All Town Council ladders had passed a safety inspection subject to handrails and brackets being fitted. This had now been done. The number of visitors to the Council Offices for the month of November totalled 143.

9. FINANCE.

9.1 Current Financial Report

- a) The November spending and income Report was received and noted.
- b) Members noted that the date of pre-budget was to be re-scheduled, due to Mr. Len Horner's recent illness and it was Agreed that a message wishing him a speedy recovery be sent.
- c) ECC Pension Fund Report. Members noted receipt.

9.2 List of cheques numbered 502255 – 502273 drawn since the last Town Council Meeting was approved and signed.

9.3 List of Payments made from the Imprest Account since the last Town Council Meeting was approved.

9.4 Motions Under Standing Orders Recommending Expenditure. None.

9.5 Appeals for Financial Support. None.

10. NEW BUSINESS.

10.1 Correspondence.

- a) **NHS – Consultation on Reconfiguration of Cancer Services in Essex:**
Consultation period 12 Dec to 13 March 2006. Cllr. Rogers took the document to study.
- b) **Tendring Hundred Water Services Corporate Responsibility Report:**
Members noted receipt of the document.

10.2 Conferences/Seminars. None.

10.3 Notices. Members noted the following:

Essex On Tour – ‘ More Tea Vicar’ – at the William Loveless Hall,
Friday, February 3 2006 7.30pm. In aid of Mayor's Charity Fund.

10.4 Licences.

- a) **William Loveless Hall's New Premise Licence:** Town Clerk reported that this had now been received and was on display in the building, as required.

10.5 Highway Matters.

- a) **CBC Car Parking Review:** Cllr. Roberts reported that he had sent in the Town Council's response to the parking review and that a Highways Officer had responded that he would be pleased to meet Cllr. Roberts in the New Year to discuss the proposals. Cllr. Roberts would circulate the date to all members when it was known.
- b) **Life-belts on Wivenhoe Quay:** In response to Cllr. Sinclair's enquiry about life-belts on Wivenhoe Quay, Cllr. Hill advised that the provision of life-belts was not a Town Council responsibility.

10.6 Any Other Business.

Date of April Meeting: AGREED that this be held on 24 April, due to 17 April being Easter Monday.

The meeting closed at 8.35 p.m.

CHAIRMAN