

MINUTES of the Meeting of Wivenhoe Town Council held in the Council Chamber on Monday 16 July 2007.

Present: The Town Mayor, Cllr. D. Purdey (Chairman),
Cllrs: P. Hill, F. Richards, C. Liddy, N. Lodge, M. Iacovou, C. Fox, P. Kraft, K. Rogers and A. Vaughan.
Borough Cllr. A. Quarrie.
Mrs. A. Stinson (Town Clerk)
Press

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. B. Sinclair, Borough Cllrs. E. Kraft, S. Ford and County Cllr. J. Young.

2. MINUTES. RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 18 June 2007 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.

17.5.a) Speed Indicator Sign: Town Clerk reported that she had asked Jennifer Gudka at ECC Highways to look into the provision of speed indicator sign for Wivenhoe.

17.5 c) Meredith's Close 'statue'. Town Clerk to write to Sue Jackson to obtain clarification on the matter.

6.3 Elmstead Parish Council grass: Agreed that Cllr. Purdey contact the Chairman of Elmstead Parish Council for an update on the situation of the uncut grass.

4. POINTS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

A letter had been received from Martin Newell expressing concern about a recent incident on the King George V Playing Fields and the lack of policing in Wivenhoe. AGREED to invite Mr. Newell, along with a senior Police Officer to the next Town Council meeting and also circulate details of the next Neighbourhood Action Panel meeting which was on 11 September at 7.00pm in the Congregational Church.

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

a) Essex County Council: Cllr. Young had submitted a report advising that she would be meeting with Highway officers morning to discuss the proposed improvements to the A133 on Clingoe Hill. The decision had already been taken to restrict speed to 50mph and other improvements are planned, she will be updating the Town Council at future meetings when more detail is known.

b) Borough Council: Nothing to report. Cllr. Quarrie arrived later in the evening, having attended a Borough Council meeting earlier, she reported that she was now on the Borough Council's Licensing Panel.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS.

6.1 Planning

a) Draft Minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 26 June were received and noted.

b) Section 106 Working Party (Cook's): A meeting to discuss the leases would be held before the next GAWP meeting. Cllr. Hill reported that the leases in their present form

were unacceptable, clarification was needed on the depth of the wet-dock and the issue of the public toilet.

c) Health Centre: Cllr. Hill reported that the new project director was Tonia Parsons and that negotiations were ongoing.

d) War Memorial, St. Mary's Church: Members noted that the War Memorial had been added to the Statutory List of Buildings of Architectural or Historic Interest.

e) Core Strategy: Noted that the Town Council's submission had been received and documented by the Colchester Borough Council's Spatial Policy Team, ref. no. 027. An email had been received from Charlotte Allen of the Policy Team requesting the opportunity to attend a Town Council meeting to discuss the Town Council's views on the Core Strategy. Agreed to invite Ms. Allen to the September Town Council meeting.

6.2 Personnel, Finance and Administration Committee.

Cllr. Purdey reported that the first Team Meeting had been held that morning and proved very successful. The next meeting would be held on 13 August at 10.00am. The next Personnel, Finance and Administration Committee meeting was on Monday 30 July.

6.3 Best Value Committee

a) Draft notes of meeting held on Monday 9 July 2007 were received and noted. Concerning the Café Pavement Licence, ECC Highways officer Terry Knights would be invited to a planning meeting in order to clarify a couple of issues and consider further concerns. The Town Council's objective, as per their policy, was that the whole of the quay should be maintained as an area free for the public to roam. All members would try to attend the meeting.

AGREED on a small budget of £50 from Civic Grants for the Youth Forum.

Town Clerk to contact Celia Hirst again for dates for a meeting re the May Fair.

b) Car Park : A meeting had been held with Richard Walker of CBC, attended by Cllrs. Richards, Purdey and E. Kraft and a draft report on a system of pay and display for the High Street car park was considered. Members were not confident that the proposal would achieve the Town Council's objective, which was to free up the car park for visitors. Agreed that it be noted that the Town Council were seriously looking into the methodology of a visitors' car park and a letter of thanks be sent to Richard Walker for his report.

AGREED that a small working group consisting of Cllrs. Richards, P. and E. Kraft, Hill and Fox meet to discuss the matter further.

c) Cycle Path: The Town Council's objective was to achieve a cycle route across the fields to Colchester. News was awaited from Jo Leyland of the Colchester Cycling Group and Andrew Nightingale was coming to the Town Council's Planning meeting on 30 October. Cllr. Purdey would check that CBC officer Beverly Gould was working on the matter.

7. WORKING PARTY REPORTS.

7.1 William Loveless Hall Working Party:

a) Tree Lopping: Cllr. Kraft reported that work on the tree had now been completed.

b) Fire Alarm System: Town Clerk to contact Mr. Sparrow re a date for commencement of the work on installing the fire alarm system.

c) The application for extension of hall hire to 12.30am for a wedding on 29 September, 2007 was approved.

7.2 General Amenities & Landscaping Working Party.

a) Cllr. Lodge reported that Cllr. Fox had produced a report on the Old Cemetery, which would be discussed at their next meeting. Quotes had been received for repairs of items of play equipment which would also be discussed at the next meeting.

b) Funding for Play (BIG): Members noted the letter and information from Bob Penny, Parks and Recreation Manager have been sent to all parish/town councils advising on the funding allocated by the Big Lottery Fund for Children's Play in Colchester. Granting of the funding is dependent on a portfolio of projects being submitted and CBC encourages all parish/town councils to consider eligible projects for inclusion in the portfolio. Projects must be in excess of £50,000 and need to be submitted to CBC by 10 August.

7.3 Wivenhoe Wood Working Party: Nothing to report.

7.4. Minibus Working Group.

Cllr. Kraft reported that the minibus would be out of action from 30 July for 2 weeks while repairs to the side panel were being carried out.

7.5 Youth Facilities Working Party. Noted that a meeting was being held on 26 July.

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. Purdey reported on attendances during June which were University-Cycle to work event, Midsummer Ball at the William Loveless Hall on 23 June, thanks was expressed to all those who helped and donated raffle prizes; Crime Reduction meeting with Wivenhoe businesses; Millfields school fete and Colchester Mayoress at Home.

b) Community Safety and Police Matters: Cllr. Rogers reported that police were investigating the recent incident on the KGV Playing Field. He had attending the recent NAP meeting and would circulate details of the next meeting. The NAP Action Plan would also be circulated. AGREED to arrange a meeting with the senior officer of the Neighbourhood Police Team and invite those members of the public who had raised concerns about the lack of police in Wivenhoe to the meeting.

c) Town Plan Group: Cllr. Hill reported that the Group had budgeted for the processing of a certain number of questionnaires but the response had been higher than the Group expected. AGREED that the Town Council pay the initial invoice for the processing and the Town Plan Group then reimburse the Town Council. It was also AGREED to make a grant to the Town Plan Group of £100 from the Civic Grant budget.

8. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT.

8.1 Burial Grants and approval of memorials.

Two Burial Grants had been issued and one memorial had been approved since the last meeting. Two burials and two interments of ashes had been carried out.

8.2 NALC Direct Information Service. None received this month.

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

8.4 Work Management.

a) General: The Town Clerk reported that grass cutting was continuing on all Town

Council owned areas. The senior groundsman had attended a Chainsaw course at Writtle College and passed exams, enabling him to carry out tree work at ground level. Some minor repairs highlighted in the Rospa report had been carried out on the KGV play area. The replacement goal cross-bar had been ordered. A temporary bolt had been put on the cemetery gate and the new signs for the KGV Field had been put back up again. The number of visitors to the Council Offices for the month of June totalled 125.

b) **Town Council Yard:** An application from Persimmon contractors CCI Ltd to use part of the Town Council owned area of the yard, opposite Scout & Guide Hall to store plant overnight during urgent sewer remedial work at Wivenhoe Quay at a rental of £100 per week was AGREED. Town Clerk would obtain clarification of the items of plant and how it would get in.

9. FINANCE.

9.1 Current Financial Report

a) The June spending and income Report was received and noted.

9.2 List of cheques numbered 502634–502650 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) **Standards Board for England - Model Code of Conduct:** Upon advice from the Town Council's Monitoring Officer, Andrew Weavers, Head of Legal Services, AGREED to adopt paragraph 12 (2) of the Model Code of Conduct.

b) **CBC Best Value Performance Plan 2007-08:** Noted receipt of copy, available at meeting. Cllrs. Hill and Purdey to look at the document.

10.2 Conferences/Seminars. Members noted the following:

Open House at Rams Farm Road, Fordham –
affordable housing for local people on Thursday 26 July 10am – 5pm all
Parish Councils are invited. Cllr. Lodge would try to attend.

SLCC Conference – Coventry 26-28 October.
AGREED to approve Town Clerk's attendance.

10.3 Notices. Members noted the following:

Teddy Bears' Picnic Sunday 22 July King George V Playing Field 2 – 4.30pm

10.4 Licences.

a) Premises Licence Variation Application for the Wivenhoe Bowls Club.

The Bowls Club currently has a licence for recorded music and supply of alcohol until 11pm Mondays to Saturdays and 10.30pm on Sundays. Variation is until midnight Mondays to Saturdays and 11.30pm on Sunday. Representations to be in by 26 July 2007.

One letter of concern had been received by the Town Council from a neighbouring resident.

AGREED that the Town Council comment that the extension be limited to weekends and Bank Holidays only. This would be sent in to the Licensing Officer at CBC.

10.5 Highway Matters.

a) Bus Changes.

Notification had been received that day from Wendy Jackson, Transport Liaison Planning Specialist, Highways and Transportation, Essex County Council, County Hall, Chelmsford, Essex. CM1 1QH, on proposed changes to services 78 and 61 bus routes, both of which seriously affected Wivenhoe and Brightlingsea residents. Members were **appalled** at this and AGREED to write and object in the strongest possible terms to the changes, especially the discontinuance of the service 78 – Colchester to Brightlingsea, with copies being sent to MP, Bernard Jenkin and County Cllr. Julie Young.

b) Passenger Transport Liaison Group: Agreed to appoint Peter Kay as the Town Council's representative on the Passenger Transport Liaison Group.

CHAIRMAN

The meeting closed at 9.30pm.