

MINUTES of the Meeting of Wivenhoe Town Council held in the Council Chamber on Monday 17 September 2007.

Present: The Town Mayor, Cllr. D. Purdey (Chairman),
Cllrs: P. Hill, C. Liddy, N. Lodge, K. Rogers, M. Iacovou, A. Vaughan, P. Kraft and C. Fox.
Borough Cllrs. A. Quarrie and S. Ford.
County Cllr. J. Young.
Peter Kay, Public Transport representative
Mrs. A. Stinson (Town Clerk)
Press

Prior to the start of the meeting members met the Borough Council's Core Strategy Policy Team to discuss the Town Council's responses to the consultation.

Laura Chase explained that so far responses had been good and the Strategy document was constantly being amended in readiness for its submission to Government in November with the expectation that examination on the Strategy would be in May. Re housing diversity a housing needs allowance for Wivenhoe was being carried out at the moment but would be in conjunction with the whole of the Borough. Detailed flood risks were being carried out and Anglian Water would be working on a 30 year plan for upgrading capacity. Members noted that in the light of recent floods all new developments now have to provide a detailed flood risk assessment.

Thanks were expressed to the Core Strategy Team for visiting the Town Council.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. F. Richards, B. Sinclair and E. Kraft.

2. MINUTES. RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 20 August 2007 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.

6.3b) May Fair: Members noted that a meeting was being held that evening.

7.8e) Cycle Route: Cllr. Hill reported that he and Cllr. Lodge had attended the Colchester Cycling Campaign's meeting on Tuesday 4 September and pressed for a route for upper Wivenhoe without being specific about which route was preferred thereby leaving options open. The meeting was very useful.

4. POINTS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

Members had been copied on a letter sent to the Wivenhoe Chronicle from a resident about an incident on Friday 14 September. Members were very disturbed about this and Cllr. Rogers left the meeting to investigate the matter further with Colchester Police.

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

a) Essex County Council: Cllr. Young reported on the cycle path meeting; the education centre at Saffron Walden which was to close and the evolving situation re heads of Essex County Council, Brentwood District Council and Maldon District Council which could affect governance issues on all tiers.

Before Cllr. Young left the meeting members brought forward item 10.5. The Town Council's view was that the 20mph zone was welcomed and they encouraged the CBC to implement it. Cllr. Young said she would take the Town Council's views on board.

b) Borough Council: Cllr. Ford reported on the issue of the 'gap' between the railway platform and train at Wivenhoe Station. One resident had already suffered a broken ankle and Cllr. Ford was continuing to pursue the issue with Network Rail.

Cllr. Quarrie reported that she would look into the matter of the serving of alcohol to persons who already had consumed too much alcohol, hence the drunken behaviour on the streets of Colchester increasing the demand for policing and the services of the NHS resulting in the non availability of police to deal with emergency situations in Wivenhoe when they arise. Complaints had been received by NAP on Colchester at night being a no go area due to drunken anti-social behaviour. Cllr. Rogers raised this and also asked if she could find out what action the police are taking on this issue.

c) Public Transport Representative: Peter Kay gave a report on the lack of staff on the Hythe to Wivenhoe rail stations which was causing problems.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS.

6.1 Planning

a) Minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 28 August were received and noted. Members were reminded that Terry Knights would be attending the planning meeting and would take up several issues with him, namely - the public has free access all over the quay; clarification that the land in front of the Wilkins development is public highway and that pedestrians have right of access over it; clarification on the area in front of Rose Lane and The Folly and maintenance of the wet-dock.

b) Wivenhoe Port Phases 3 and 4 - Obelisk: More details were needed on this.

c) Section 106 Working Party (Cook's): Cllr. Hill to further this with Sue Jackson.

d) Health Centre: Cllr. Hill reported that this was still inching forward.

6.2 Personnel, Finance and Administration Committee.

a) Date of the next meeting would be 22 October. Cllr. Purdey reminded Chairs of Working Parties about their spend needs for budgetary purposes.

6.3 Best Value Committee

a) Draft notes of meeting held on Monday 10 September 2007 were received and noted. Police Sgt. Matt Garrett and PCSO's Louise Neville and Neil Gibson attended the early part of the meeting to discuss policing issues in Wivenhoe, PCSO Neville had drawn the attention of the Town Council to the safety ladder at the sea wall in front of West Quay which had been interfered with so as to prevent access to it. A problem had occurred during the summer with youngsters using the ladder to gain access to the river and creating a disturbance along West Quay. As a result of this persons unknown had put padlocks on the ladder preventing its use. The Town Council had been very concerned about this and the clear danger it presented. A letter had been sent to the

Wivenhoe Quay Management Committee about it.
Members noted that the padlocks on the ladder had now been removed.
Members were reminded about the 'awayday' arranged for Sunday 14 October from 11.00am till 4.00pm.

7. WORKING PARTY REPORTS.

7.1 William Loveless Hall Working Party:

Cllr. Kraft gave a report of the meeting held on 12 September. The change of entry signs for around the Hall were to be renewed and further clarification on the area for resurfacing of the car park would be sought from the contractors who had sent in estimates.

7.2 General Amenities & Landscaping Working Party.

a) Notes of the meeting held on 3 September 2007 were circulated.

Cllr. Lodge reported that the Management Plan for the Old Cemetery was being finalized. The Working Party were now looking into funding for a feasibility study on a community building.

7.3 Wivenhoe Wood Working Party: Cllr. Rogers reported that he had attended the Colne Local Nature Reserve's Action Plan Meeting at Wivenhoe Woods on Thursday 13th September, the meeting took the form of a walk around the woods to determine work to be carried out over the coming year and was very successful.

7.4. Minibus Working Group. Nothing to report.

7.5 Youth Facilities Working Party. Cllr. Vaughan reported that although only four youngsters turned up it was a positive meeting on 11 September. For future meetings the youngsters would be written to instead of contacted by e-mail. The volunteer meeting was to be held on Saturday 22 September at 10am at the William Loveless Hall.

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 at the Wivenhoe Youth Theatre's recent excellent production 'Bed'; John Stewart's Wivenhoe Memories Exhibition; Crabbing Contest; WAGA Wivenhoe Show and Prize-giving; Wivenhoe Society funday and Watercolour challenge; East Essex area forum. Cllr. Purdey also reported that he had been contacted about digital archiving of the Wivenhoe memories, members agreed that this was important and would be looked into further.

b) **Community Safety and Police Matters:** Cllr. Rogers reported that the British Transport Police were now patrolling local trains; youths drinking alcohol was again becoming a problem; regarding the incident under Minute 4 Cllr. Rogers reported that he would follow this up the next day. The NAP meeting was poorly attended and more residents should be made aware of these meetings. Both Cllr. Rogers and Cllr. Hill attended the Police Consultative meeting held at the Town Hall last week. It was agreed that a

Consultative meeting should be held in Wivenhoe. The Town Council would continue to have police liaison meetings.

c) FairTrade Resolution: Members considered the following proposal from Cllr. M. Iacovou:

“Wivenhoe Town Council recognises and supports the contribution of the Fair Trade Foundation towards improving the living conditions of workers and farmers in developing countries. The Town Council also supports the efforts being made by the local Fairtrade Steering Group, towards Wivenhoe achieving Fairtrade Town Status.”

RESOLVED that the Town Council undertake to:

- Serve Fairtrade tea and coffee in the council offices and at other events organised by the Council.
- Promote Fairtrade and local produce, for example via the council newsletter.
- In the event that Wivenhoe is accredited as a Fairtrade Town, put in place appropriate street signage to this effect.

d) Wivenhoe Remembrance Service: Cllr. Peter Hill reported on this Wivenhoe Remembrance Day on Sunday 11th November to be held in St Mary's Church and by the young people in the William Loveless Hall. Mrs. Bonnie Hill had organised a meeting for 18th September with Rev David Thomas, Pastor Patrick Baxter and to which Town Clerk was also invited since the Royal British Legion Wivenhoe branch had asked the Town Council to take it over the arrangements for Remembrance Day in Wivenhoe. Members agreed to Cllr Hill's request for a £50 budget to provide refreshments following the service around the War Memorial and as agreed at the Town Council meeting held on 16 October 2006 to cover the cost of the band, which was £100.

e) High Street Car Park: Members considered a model put forward by Colchester Borough Council as a solution to the problem of trying to free up spaces for visitors and shoppers. They were in favour of trying out the model, which broadly was first 3 hours free, thereafter a 'time restricted proposal' as operated by CBC at the London Road (Lexden) car park. Members agreed to this in principle but before details of the scheme are publicized more information such as period of enforcement, conditions on use, weekend use, signage, business permits, size of fines etc. would need to be discussed first with CBC officers.

8. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT.

8.1 Burial Grants and approval of memorials.

No Burial Grants had been issued and one memorial had been approved since the last meeting. One interment 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 still continuing. The landscaped area in front of Londis Supermarket had been cut back; clearance and tidying of

the Old Cemetery had started; a fallen tree had been removed from dog exercise area on KGV; graffiti had been removed from one of the new wooden bus shelters; the wooden benches recently refurbished with new wood on the KGV had been covered with graffiti which needs sanding off. One junior goal net had been removed and put in a litter bin. Litter, bottles and debris left on the KGV field each evening was still a problem. The Police Community Support Officer was aware of the situation. Town Clerk also reported that a letter of thanks had been received from the Wivenhoe Youth Theatre group for the groundsmen's help in transporting the staging to and from the Philip Road Centre. The number of visitors to the Council Offices for the month of August totalled 145.

A letter had been received from a resident about sponsoring a litter bin in Wivenhoe Cemetery. This would be put before the next GAWP meeting.

9. FINANCE.

9.1 Current Financial Report

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

9.2 List of cheques numbered 502672–502703 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.

9.5 Appeals for Financial Support. None received.

10. NEW BUSINESS.

10.1 Correspondence.

a) **CBC Consultation on Dog Control Orders:** Deferred from last meeting. Members had previously received a copy of the consultation document, comments of which were needed by 30 September. The response of the Town Council was that they agreed with the proposals for the fenced in play areas on the King George V Playing, Mede Way play area and Lower Lodge Play area to be covered by the 'No Dogs' ban. This was Agreed and a letter would be sent to the CBC to ask how the mechanism for enforcement was to take place.

b) **Service 78 Colchester to Brightlingsea:** Members noted the letter advising on the action taken to increase the service and new timetable (already circulated).

c) **Tendring Hundred Water:** Strategic Direction Statement – invitation for a member of the Town Council to take part in discussions – no date had been set for the meeting yet. Cllr. Purdey agreed to attend.

d) **Draft Essex School Organisation Plan 2007-2012:** The Draft Essex School Organisation Plan 2007-2012 is currently subject to consultation, available to view on www.essexcc.gov.uk under Learning, Schools, School Organisation and Planning - comments to be in by 19th October 2007 by email to sop@essexcc.gov.uk. Cllr. Iacovou had prepared a response which would be circulated to all members for comment at the next Town Council meeting.

10.2 Conferences/Seminars. Members noted the following:

EALC AGM 19 September 6.15pm and Making the Links event
At 3pm. Essex Records Office, Chelmsford.

Transition Essex - £35 Wednesday 24 October at Essex Records Office
(to raise awareness of climate change and challenges facing Essex towns
and villages)

10.3 Notices. Members noted the following:

1940's Day – afternoon tea dance and evening event , William Loveless Hall,
Saturday 6 October – in aid of Mayor's Charity Fund.

French Trip – Saturday 17 November with Cedric Garages, in aid of Mayor's
Charity Fund.

10.4 Licences.

10.5 Highway Matters.

a) ECC Proposed 20mph zone for Wivenhoe – investigation stage:

Taken at 5.a.)

CHAIRMAN

The meeting closed at 9.55pm.