

MINUTES of the Annual Meeting of Wivenhoe Town Council held in the Council Chamber on Monday 19 May 2008.

Present: The Town Mayor, Cllr. D. Purdey (Chairman),
Cllrs: F. Richards, C. Liddy, P. Kraft, A. Vaughan, M. Iacovou,
N. Lodge and K. Rogers (8.30pm)
Borough Cllrs. S. Ford and M. Cory
County Cllr. J. Young
Mrs. A Stinson (Town Clerk)
Peter Kay, Press

Prior to the meeting Cllr. Purdey thanked all those who had helped and supported him. It had been a very busy year for the Town Council, dealing with issues such as the car park, youth matters, policing and planning matters. He especially thanked his wife Heather for all her support during the year.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs. P. Hill and B. Sinclair, Borough Cllrs. A. Quarrie and J. Manning.

2. ELECTION OF TOWN MAYOR.

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

The Town Mayor (Cllr. Frances Richards) Chairman

Cllr. Purdey said that it had been an honour and privilege to serve Wivenhoe as its Mayor and expressed thanks to fellow members and all who had supported him during her year. Cllr. Purdey added that it had been a unique experience which he and his wife had enjoyed immensely and had attended almost 100 functions during her year. The Mayoral event list which Cllr. Kraft had produced had been a great help and Cllr. Purdey formally thanked the team of volunteers who worked tirelessly behind the scenes at most Mayoral events. Cllr. Purdey also thanked Cllr. Richards for her support as Deputy Town Mayor and in particular welcomed Cllr. Richards sister, Jean, who had come all the way from Canada to attend the Mayor-making ceremony.

Cllr. Kraft then presented a bottle of wine to the retiring Mayor and a bouquet of flowers to the retiring Mayoress, Mrs. Heather Purdey, as a gesture of thanks and appreciation from the Town Council.

Cllr. Richards also congratulated Cllr. Purdey on his year, stating that it had been a privilege to work with him as Deputy Town Mayor and thanked him for all his advice and help. Cllr. Purdey then presented Cllr. Richards with a gift from the community of Sopatujar in Spain.

3. ELECTION OF DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR

RESOLVED unanimously that Cllr. Neil Lodge be elected Deputy Town Mayor for the ensuing year. Cllr. Lodge thanked Members for the honour conferred upon him and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

4. COMMITTEES

a) Planning Committee:

RESOLVED that the following be appointed to the Planning Committee for 2008/2009:

Cllr. Cyril Liddy (Chairman)

Cllr. D. Purdey

Cllr. N. Lodge

Cllr. F. Richards

Cllr. C. Fox

Cllr. A. Vaughan

b) Personnel, Finance and Administration Committee:

RESOLVED that the following be appointed to the Personnel, Finance and Administration Committee for 2008/2009:

Cllr. P. Kraft (Chairman, Personnel)

Cllr. F. Richards

Cllr. P. Hill

Cllr. N. Lodge

Cllr. D. Purdey (Chairman, Finance and Administration)

Cllr. B. Sinclair

Cllr. C. Liddy

Cllr. M. Iacovou

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

5. WORKING PARTIES

Agreed that the composition of Working Parties be as follows:

a) William Loveless Hall Working Party:

Cllrs: P. Kraft (Chair), F. Richards and N. Lodge.

Co-opted members - John Pendle, Colin Andrews, Albey Stinson, Mick Wells and Carol Johnston.

b) General Amenities Working Party.

Cllrs: N. Lodge (Chair), P. Hill, F. Richards, B. Sinclair, C. Fox and M. Iacovou.

c) Wivenhoe Wood Working Party:

Cllrs: B. Sinclair (Chair), K. Rogers, D. Purdey, and F. Richards.

d) Mini-Bus Working Group:

Cllrs: B. Sinclair (Chair), D. Purdey, P. Kraft and Town Clerk.

Co-opted members - John Foster, Des McCourt, Len Horner, Mick Collins and Albey Stinson.

e) Youth Facilities Working Party:

Cllrs. D. Purdey (Chair), K. Rogers, F. Richards and A. Vaughan.

f) Wivenhoe Engine Shed Trust:

defunct now

g) WRUG: Cllrs: D. Purdey (Chair), K. Rogers, and B. Sinclair.

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

6. REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER BODIES

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

- a) Colchester Association of Local Councils** - Cllrs. Lodge, Purdey and Kraft
- b) Civil Protection** - Cllr. Rogers
- c) Public Transport Representative** - Peter Kay
- d) Crime Prevention Panel** - Cllr. Rogers
- e) Wivenhoe Society** - Cllrs. Purdey, Richards and Kraft
- f) Colne Estuary Partnership** - Cllr. Sinclair with Cllr. Hill as substitute.
- g) Wivenhoe Housing Trust** - Cllr. Hill and Jan Richardson
- h) Wivenhoe & District Sporting Facilities Trust** - Stuart Gillman
- i) Wivenhoe Police Liaison Group** - Cllr. Rogers (Chair) and Purdey.

7. SUBSCRIPTIONS

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

- 1. Essex Association of Local Councils - subscription £670.20 p.a
(which includes contribution to NALC)
- 2. National Playing Fields Association - subscription £35.00 p.a.
(now called Fields in Trust)
- 3. ICCM – Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management - subscription £75.00 p.a.
- 4. Society of Local Council Clerks - subscription £120.00 p.a.
- 5. Eastern ,Essex & Herts Regional Employers Organisation for Local Authorities (Resource) NJCouncils- subscription £130.00 p.a.
- 6. N.A.L.C. Direct Information Service - subscription £90.00 p.a.
(Town Clerk to look into this)
- 7. Community Transport Association - subscription £116.60 p.a.
- 8. Council for Protection of Rural Essex - subscription £28.00 p.a.
- 9. Association of Burial Authorities - subscription £86.00 p.a.
- 10. Rural Community Council of Essex - subscription £35.00 p.a.
- 11. Friends of Historic Essex - subscription £10.00 p.a.

8. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 21st April 2008 and of the Town Meeting held on 7 May 2008 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

9. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.

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:

2008	2009
16 June	19 January
21 July	16 February
15 September	16 March
20 October	20 April
17 November	18 May
15 December	

11. POINTS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:

- a) **Mrs. J. Coverley Town Meeting 7/5/08:** Proposal for staging the Annual Town Meeting at a time later than 7.00pm to allow commuters more time to attend the meeting.

AGREED that the Annual Town Meeting start at 7.30pm next year.

12. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILS

a) **Essex County Council:** Cllr. Young congratulated Cllr. Richards on becoming Town Mayor and wished her a successful year. Cllr. Young also congratulated Cllr. Purdey on a very successful year. Cllr. Young then reported on matters concerning the NAP, roads on Vine Farm Estate and that the Cycle path had been included in a 3 year funding scheme. Cllr. Young also spoke about the removal of the safety ladder along West Quay which was being investigated. Cllr. Young would also investigate the route of the cycle path and whether the part of the cycle path which joined the railway station was actually a PROW at this junction.

b) **Borough Council:** Borough Cllr. S. Ford also expressed congratulations to Cllr. Frances Richards as Town Mayor and Peter Richards as Mayor's Escort, and said he looked forward to working with them and that it was a great role to play in the community. He then congratulated the outgoing Mayor and Mayoress Cllr. Dave Purdey and Heather Purdey on their very successful year, Cllr. Ford also said that behind each Mayor is a dedicated team of volunteers which oil the wheels of the community and expressed his thanks to the team for the support which they give to each Town Mayor. Cllr. then expressed his sadness in seeing Cllr. E. Kraft lose his seat and welcomed new Borough Cllr. J. Manning. Cllr. Ford also thanked members for their kind sentiments on his wife's recent illness, saying that she was recovering well. On the new political set up at the Borough Council, Cllr. Ford said that he was Deputy Chairman of Planning.

Borough Cllr. M. Cory also congratulated Cllr. Richards on becoming Town Mayor and then complimented Cllr. Purdey on his achievements during his year as Mayor. Cllr. Cory said that he was on the Strategic and Scrutiny Committee and Planning Committee. He had taken up issues with parking at the new One-Stop shop at Vine Parade also mentioned that progress with the University research park was faltering. He was liaising with the police on the end of term celebrations which might happen on the Lower Lodge play area.

Cllr. Richards thanked the Borough Cllrs for their sentiments and said how pleased she was that two of the Ward Cllrs were on the Borough Council's Planning Committee.

c) Public Transport representative: Peter Kay said that there was not much to report his month, apart from Network Rail appointing contractors to repair the station wall, which had been pushed over by vandals.

13. COMMITTEE REPORTS.

13.1 Planning:

a) Minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 22 April and draft minutes of 13 May 2008 were received and noted.

b) **Section 106 Matters:** Cllr. Liddy reported that S106 contributions had been secured from the Gance Lodge development in De Vere Lane and that it might be possible to transfer the funds from the S106 Agreement on the Wilkin development to another project now that the Engine Shed was not progressing. A meeting was being held on Thursday afternoon with Sue Jackson of CBC Planning. Cllr. Richards stressed the importance of linking S106 funding to projects and a meeting of the Chairs of Working Parties would be organized to consider this.

c) **Health Centre:** Nothing further to report.

13.2 Personnel, Finance and Administration Committee.

a) Members noted that the Finance and Administration side of this committee would meet quarterly, Chaired by Cllr. Purdey and that the Personnel side of the Committee would meet as and when required, Chaired by Cllr. Kraft.

13.3 Best Value.

a) The notes of the Best Value meeting held on 12 May 2008 were received.

b) **Items of Note: Portrait of Val Last:** Members formally received a painting of the late Val Last – a former Town and Urban District Councillor, who was Wivenhoe's first Town Mayor in 1974 and then in 1982/83 and in 1986/87. The painting, by Wivenhoe artist Gail Cross, had been bequeathed to the Town Council by the family, who wished it to be displayed in the Town Council offices. The painting had been put up on the stairwell.

14. WORKING PARTY REPORTS.

14.1 William Loveless Hall Working Party:

a) The notes of the meeting held on 28 April 2008 were received and noted.

14.2 General Amenities Working Party

a) Members noted that as this Working Party covered so many issues it now required a minute-taker.

b) **Pavilion:** Cllr. Lodge reported that the work on the pavilion windows had been scheduled to take place during the summer school holidays.

14.3 Wivenhoe Wood Working Party.

Nothing further to report.

14.4 Mini-bus Working Group.

Nothing further to report.

14.5 Youth Facilities Working Party. Cllr. Purdey reported that the Youth Bus, which had been scheduled for 6 June had now been put back a week to 13 June. Two of the volunteers had requested permission to attend a first-aid course and this was Agreed.

14.6 Wivenhoe Engine Shed Trust. Noted that this was now defunct.

14.7 WRUG. Nothing to report.

14.8 Members' Individual Proposals or Reports:

a) Cllr. Purdey - Mayoral Activities: Cllr. Purdey reported on his final attendances which were at the Annual Town Meeting on 7 May; Colchester Mayor-Making on 14 May and opening of the One Stop Shop (former Londis) on Saturday 17 May. Cllr. Richards had deputized by attending the Brightlingsea Craft Day.

b) Police Matters: Cllr. Rogers had circulated a report to all members. Three burglaries had taken place during the last week and a matter of removal of the safety ladder along West Quay was causing concern. Members were trying to find out who was responsible for West Quay. Police were aware of the removal of the ladder.

15. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT.

15.1 Burial Grants and approval of memorials.

No Burial Grants had been issued and no memorials had been approved since the last meeting. One interment of ashes and one burial had taken place.

15.2 NALC Direct Information Service. Issues would be circulated electronically when received.

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

15.4 Work Management.

a) General: The Town Clerk reported that grass cutting was continuing in all areas. Work on the cemetery wall was proceeding well. Several of the new trees on the KGV field were continuing to be uprooted. New goal nets had been received for the KGV field but would not be put up until the May Fair had taken place. Rospa were carrying out inspections of all play areas during May. The number of customers and visitors to the Council Offices for the month of April totalled 135.

16. FINANCE.

16.1 Current Financial Report

a) April Spending and Income Report was received and noted.

b) 2007/2008 Audit of Accounts: Members noted that the date of the Audit would be 14 July 2008 and approved the appointment of John Turner as the Internal Auditor, as per last year.

16.2 List of cheques numbered 502822 – 502842 drawn since the last Town Council Meeting was approved and signed.

16.3 List of Payments made from the Imprest Account since the last Town Council meeting was received and noted.

16.4 Motions Under Standing Orders Recommending Expenditure.

2 first-aid day courses £100

16.5 Appeals for Financial Support. None had been received.

17. NEW BUSINESS

17.1 Correspondence.

a) Tendring Hundred Water – draft water Resources Management Plan

April 2008: Members received a copy of the report which was given to Cllr. Fox to study.

17.2 Conferences/Seminars. Members noted the following:

Colne Estuary Partnership Conference – University of Essex
Saturday 14 June 9.30 – 3.30pm

This would be circulated to all members and a copy of the minutes of the conference be requested.

17.3 Notices. Members noted the following:

Mayor's Charity Events:

Annual Cricket Match Wednesday July 9, 6.00pm

Summer Ball 14 June 2008

1940's Day – Saturday 4 October 2008

Mayor's Ball Saturday 7 March 2009

17.4 Licences.

17.5 Highway Matters.

a) East Street and Brook Street Residents' Association:

Members received the letters from Mr. J. Thurlow about the dangerous situation at the intersection of Brook St/East St/ Alma St/Black Buoy Hill and Agreed to take the matter up with Highways and also contact Cllr. J. Young about the matter.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm.

CHAIRMAN