

MINUTES of the Meeting of Wivenhoe Town Council held in the Council Chamber on Monday 16 June 2008

Present: The Town Mayor, Cllr. F. Richards (Chairman),
Cllrs: D. Purdey, C. Liddy, M. Iacovou, B. Sinclair, A. Vaughan, K. Rogers
P. Kraft, N. Lodge and C. Fox.
Borough Cllrs. S. Ford, M. Cory and J. Manning.
Peter Kay, Public Transport representative
Mrs. A. Stinson (Town Clerk)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies for absence were received from County Cllr. J. Young, Borough Cllr. A. Quarrie and Cllr. P. Hill.

2. MINUTES. RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Town Council held on 19 May 2008 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES. None.

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

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

a) Essex County Council: Members noted receipt of Cllr. Young's report which was circulated to members: Main items of note was the Wivenhoe Trail and its permission over private land which runs out in 2016, Cllr. Liddy said that he was looking into this; re the University, the proposed housing development had been put on a back burner, which then affects the development of the Science Park and work on the A133; Cllr. Young had met with both head teachers at Broomgrove School on road safety concerns; re the launch of the Youth Bus, Cllr. Young said that this was a fine example of what can be achieved when people work together and the volunteers deserved the highest praise. A thank you letter would be sent to those companies which donated supplies for the barbeque at the launch of the Youth Bus.

b) Borough Council: Cllr. Cory said that he was also dealing with Broomgrove School and liaising with the County Council on road safety. He had attended the launch of the youth bus – in all 70 10-17 year olds attended. He was also chasing highways on the deterioration of roads on the Vine Farm Estate. Cllr. Ford reported that he would be meeting with the new Wivenhoe Rail Access for All Group concerning access to the railway station. He would also be raising with Geoff Harris re street lights, the Co-op 'lake', pavements, road markings and also the standard of the pavement repairs along Belle Vue Road. Members were also concerned to learn that residents in Belle Vue Road had not been notified of the pavement repairs.

It was also Agreed that the Town Council arranges a daytime site meeting with Geoff Harris or Ray Smith to look at these problem areas.

Members then welcomed new Borough Cllr. J. Manning who reported on school issues; leisure bus and bottle banks.

Cllr. A. Quarrie expressed her appreciation to the Town Clerk and the rest of the helpers for the Mayor's Summer Ball on Saturday evening.

c) Public Transport Representative: Peter Kay reported on issues concerned the 61 and 62 bus; travel fares and the High Street bridge over the railway, which was still causing

concern. A diagram of the proposed improvements was still awaited by the Town Council from CBC Engineer, John Tupper.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS.

6.1 Planning

a) Minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 3 June were received and noted. Cllr. Liddy reported that Karen Syrett, CBC Spatial Policy Manager had attended the meeting to fully explain the processes of the LDF Core Strategy. A Statement of Common Ground had now been drawn up and Cllrs. Fox and Liddy would be attending the sessions on the Town Council's behalf.

b) **Section 106 Working Party (Cook's):** Cllr. Liddy reported that a reply was still awaited from Eversheds. A query concerning the ownership of the jetty was still under discussion. The solicitors had been instructed to do a LA search on the whole site.

c) **Health Centre:** Cllr. Lodge reported that he was hoping to see a drawing soon and would keep members informed of progress.

6.2 Personnel, Finance and Administration Committee.

The date for the next Finance meeting would be on 16 July at 7.30pm. and an informal Personnel meeting would be held on 25 June at 8.00pm.

6.3 Best Value Committee

a) Draft notes of meeting held on Monday 9 June were received and noted.

Items of Note: Recommendation for fencing around the dog exercise area to be carried out in-house at a cost of £1285 was Approved. The Town Clerk would ask the CBC Animal Control Warden to patrol the King George V Playing Field regularly.

Cllr. Vaughan asked when the goalnets were to be put back and the Town Clerk said that they were scheduled to be done this week.

7. WORKING PARTY REPORTS.

7.1 William Loveless Hall Working Party:

a) Cllr. Kraft reported that the next meeting of the Working Party would be on 26 June. The fire alarm in the kitchen was still causing concern and the Fire Brigade would be asked for their advice.

7.2 General Amenities & Landscaping Working Party.

a) The notes of Meeting held on 2 June were received. Cllr. Lodge reported that the Broadfields Residents Association had finally got their grant for £13,000 and a letter of congratulations would be sent from the Town Council to Margaret Currell.

7.3 Wivenhoe Wood Working Party: Cllr. Sinclair reported that meetings were taking place on 13 July and 24 August.

7.4. Minibus Working Group. Cllr. Sinclair, the new Chairman would be convening a meeting soon.

7.5 Youth Facilities Working Party. Cllr. Purdey reported on the excellent launch of the Youth Bus, adding that the volunteers did themselves proud. A meeting was being held the following evening.

7.6 WRUG. Cllr. Sinclair spoke about the removal of the safety ladder along West Quay again. The matter would be taken up with the Harbourmaster, Colchester Borough Council, Persimmon and the Wivenhoe Old Quay Residents Association to try and rectify the situation. The Town Clerk would also try to find out from the Land Registry who actually owns the quayside. Cllr. Rogers said he would also contact the Health and Safety Executive. Members were in agreement that the safety ladder was of paramount importance as it was the only way in which anyone falling into the river from either the quayside or a boat could get out. Cllr. Sinclair would keep members informed of progress.

7.8 Members' Individual Proposals or Reports:

a) Mayoral Activities: Cllr. Richards reported that she had attended Messing Civic Service on 25 May; Colchester Mayoress At Home on 31 May; Brightlingsea Liberty Service on 1 June; June Market and Art on the Railings on 7 June; University Summer Ball on 7 June; East Donyland Civic Service on 8 June; Vice-Chancellor's Summer Reception on 13 June and Launch of the Youth Bus; attending a Health and Safety Seminar at Dunmow on 10 June and finally the Mayor's Charity Summer Ball on 14 June, which raised approximately £700, thanks were expressed to all those who helped with the Ball.

b) Community Safety and Police Matters: Cllr. Rogers reported on drunken youths and that he was visiting their parents to speak to them. PCSO Louise Neville was still on light duties; the new replacement for Sgt. Matt Garrett had not been appointed yet.

c) Press Releases: Cllr. Iacovou agreed that she would draw up Town Council press releases following liaison with the Chairman. The press release would then be issued from the Town Council offices.

d) Rose & Crown PH: Cllr. Sinclair reported that the tenancy of the Rose and Crown PH was due to change shortly. AGREED that members make a welcome visit when the new tenant took over.

8. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT.

8.1 Burial Grants and approval of memorials.

Town Clerk reported that one Burial Grant had been issued and one memorial had been approved since the last meeting. Two interments 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 had been continual in all areas. The effect of the wet weather was causing the grass cutting schedule to fall behind a bit. The vandalized fence around the KGV play area had also interrupted the work schedule. Most of the tubs and boats had been planted up. The new junior goalposts had been tampered with and bolts had been removed, this would cause a delay in putting back the goalnets and rotating the goalposts to new areas of grass. The new noticeboard for the William Loveless Hall had also been installed. The number of visitors to the Council Offices for the month of May totalled 138.

9. FINANCE.

9.1 Current Financial Report

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

b) **Internal Audit:** Members noted that this would now take place on 18 June 2008.

c) **Fidelity Guarantee Insurance:** AGREED to approve the increase in limit from £150,000 to £180,000 as per external auditor's recommendations.

9.2 List of cheques numbered 502843 -502867 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.

Fence around dog exercise area £1285

9.5 Appeals for Financial Support.

- a) Members received a letter from Wivenhoe Railway Access for All Group requesting financial support towards administration costs. AGREED to make a contribution of £50 to the group.

10. NEW BUSINESS.

10.1 Correspondence.

- a) **NEE PCT** - Members received the proposals for a new GP-led Health Centre at Turner Road incorporating the existing Colchester NHS walk-in centre and relocating out-of-hours service, currently based at Colchester NHS walk-in centre to Colchester Primary Care Centre.

Members AGREED that this proposal was nonsensical and illogical, making it difficult for bus-users. Cllr. Iacovou would draft a response which had to be in by 4 July 2008.

- a) **NATs** – Members approved the response prepared by Cllr. Iacovou.
- b) **BT Review of Payphones** – Members were against the removal of public payphone at Colchester Road as they considered that there should at least be one public payphone at each end of the town. Consultation lasted until 6 September and it was agreed that the community needed to be alerted to this in case they wished to respond.

10.2 Conferences/Seminars.

Cllr. Lodge would report on his grant-funding seminar at the next Best Value meeting. Cllr. Richards would also report on the Health and Safety Seminar at Best Value.

10.3 Notices. Members noted the following:

Town Council Annual Cricket Match – Wednesday 9 July

10.4 Licences. Nothing to report.

10.5 Highway Matters.

- a) Members noted the response from George Ward re road markings at Brook St/Alma St/East St/Black Buoy Hill junction.

- b) **SpinDrift Way:** Cllr. Richards reported that an email had been received from a resident asking about this being designated a Private Road. The matter would be

forwarded to the Highways Authority. Members noted that none of the roads on the Wivenhoe Port site had yet been adopted by the Highway Authority.

- c) **Grass at Bowes Road, Elmstead Parish Council:** Cllr. Kraft reported that this grass was once again very high and had only been cut once. A reminder about this would be sent to Elmstead Parish Council.

CHAIRMAN

The meeting closed at 9.25pm.