



Leigh-on-Sea Town Council

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Chairman: Cllr Bernard Arscott | **Vice Chairman:** Cllr Sandra McCurdy

Town Clerk: Helen Symmons PSLCC



MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT LEIGH COMMUNITY CENTRE
TUESDAY 25th JULY 2023

Present: Cllrs: Murat Agdeve, Bernard Arscott, Dr. David Bowry, Owen Cartey, Mark Flewitt, Jonathan Garston, Paul Gilson, Alan Hart, Carol Lambert, John Lloyd, Sandra McCurdy, Carole Mulroney, Dr. Anne Robinson, Judith Suttling and Craig Watt

Also in attendance: Helen Symmons (Town Clerk) and Ingmar Lindberg-Jones (Council Admin Assistant), Chief Inspector Jo Collins and 9 members of the public

MINUTES

The meeting opened at 7.30pm

40. CHAIRMAN AND HOUSEKEEPING ANNOUNCEMENT

The Chairman made his housekeeping announcements and a minute's silence was held for past Cllr, Declan Mulroney who sadly passed away 17th July 2023.

41. WELCOME TO SOUTHEND DISTRICT COMMANDER, CHIEF INSPECTOR JO COLLINS

Chief Inspector Jo Collins introduced herself and spoke about the local & community policing response, provided crimes stats for the Leigh Area, spoke of Operation Union and summer engagement events, knife poles, speeding in the Leigh Area and recruitment for community speed watch.

42. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Rosemary Arscott

43. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Mulroney declared non-pecuniary interests in any agenda item where Southend City Council are mentioned in her capacity as City Councillor.

Cllr Cartey declared a non-pecuniary interest in any agenda item where Southend City Council are mentioned in his capacity as a City Councillor.

Cllr Flewitt declared a non-pecuniary interest in any agenda item where Southend City Council are mentioned, his husband being a City Councillor. He also declared a non-pecuniary interest in Agenda item 2, a member of the family working for Southend Police.

Cllr Garston declared a non-pecuniary interest where Southend City Council are mentioned, his father being a City Councillor.

44. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING [23RD MAY 2023](#) AND THE EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING [10TH JULY 2023](#)

The minutes of the meeting 23rd May 2023 were agreed as an accurate record and signed.

RESOLVED

Following a proposal (Cllr Bernard Arscott, seconded Cllr Flewitt) Council **RESOLVED** under Standing Order 11 a iii to defer Agenda item 4 Approval of minutes of the Extraordinary Council meeting 10th July 2023 to the Extraordinary Council meeting 31st July 2023

45. PUBLIC REPRESENTATIONS (on agenda items)

Two members of the Public spoke regarding the mosaics sited at Moon Corner (Broadway/Leigh Road). Councillors provided guidance and indicated support for their efforts. Cllr Mulroney mentioned that if it was possible to re-site the mosaics perhaps Council would consider this a CIL project. Cllr Flewitt and Cllr Garston were also in agreement with this idea.

46. PUBLIC QUESTIONS (for which written notice has been received)

There were none.

47. QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS (for which written notice has been received)

Question from Cllr Alan Hart:

Regarding Motion One re allowances as raised at the Extra Ordinary Meeting 10th July, subsequently withdrawn, please confirm that there is 'no intention to resubmit' as stated in Echo press piece 12th July

The Chairman responded to Cllr Hart's question stating that over the next 4 years there is no intention to resubmit a motion.

Cllr Flewitt was asked to respond by the Chairman as it was his motion albeit withdrawn. He commented that he still feels passionately that £85 is too small an amount however is open to discussion.

Cllr Hart then followed his question up in regards to when the questions that were received from him after the Annual Council meeting would be answered. The Chairman stated that they related more to Cllr Flewitt. Cllr Flewitt responded that he hadn't seen the questions. Cllrs Hart and Flewitt will liaise outside of the meeting.

48. SOUTHEND CITY COUNCIL

Cllr Cartey in his capacity as a City Cllr advised the meeting that an interim CEO of Southend City Council had been appointed. He further advised of the withdrawal of the parking charges between 6pm – 9pm at several car parks in the area as well as the withdrawal of parking charges at the City's parks.

Cllr Mulroney in her capacity as a City Cllr advised that in response to the parking charges withdrawal, a reduction to the budget for the parks department had been made. She further advised that works were commencing regarding the 20mph trials in certain roads in the area.

49. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT **Agenda item 10**

Following a proposal (Cllr Paul Gilson, seconded Cllr Flewitt) Council **RESOLVED** under Standing Order 11 a iii to defer noting the Town Clerks report to the Extraordinary Council meeting on 31st July 2023

COMMITTEES / PDGS AND REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

50. COMMITTEES

- a) The minutes of the Planning, Licensing and Highways Committee were **NOTED**

- b) The minutes of the Community & Culture Committee were **NOTED**
- c) The minutes of the Staffing Committee were **NOTED**

Cllr Bowry asked whether Minute 7 had been concluded or whether it was to be discussed at the Extra Ordinary Staffing Committee meeting on Friday 28th July. The Chairman of the Staffing Committee advised that it was not an agenda item on Friday.

51. STRATEGIC PLAN PDG

Council **NOTED** the report.

52. YOUTH PROVISION PDG

Council **NOTED** the report. Cllr Mulronee asked if any other members apart from herself had attended the open invitation to the last Youth club meeting. Members indicated that they had not attended but hoped to in the future.

53. REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Cllr Flewitt informed Council that he had attended 2 fascinating meetings and a virtual meeting about noise at the Southend Airport Consultative Committee.

Cllr Gilson gave a verbal report regarding the Veolia Community group, informing Council that he has learnt a lot about Veolia and plans to attend a walk around in Leigh with them.

OTHER DECISION ITEMS

54. MOTION SUBMITTED BY CLLR HART, SECONDED CLLR BOWRY **Agenda item 15**

Cllr Hart was invited by the Chairman to move the motion. There followed discussion and Cllr Bowry confirmed his seconding of the motion.

Council **RESOLVED** that letters be sent to reinforce correspondence to date sent from Cllr Hart on behalf of St James ward regarding congestion/frequency of the bus service that serves St James Ward

55. TO APPROVE EXPENDITURE **Agenda item 16**

Following a proposal (Cllr Garston, seconded Cllr Suttling) Council **RESOLVED** the expenditure.

Cllr Mulronee raised a question regarding signatories to the account as she still remained the only Councillor signatory. Cllr McCurdy confirmed that she was yet to sign the mandates but would be doing so this week.

FOR NOTING / CONSIDERATION

56. COUNCIL INCOME AND EXPENDITURE BUDGET UPDATE AS AT 10TH JULY 2023

Council **NOTED** the report.

57. COUNCIL BANK ACCOUNT BALANCES AS AT 11TH JULY 2023

Council **NOTED** the report.

58. CIL ALLOCATION 2022/23

Council **NOTED** the report.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

59. RECEIVED 5TH JULY, RESPONDED 11TH JULY

Council **NOTED** the report.

CONFIDENTIAL

60. MOTION TO EXCLUDE PUBLIC – The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960

RESOLVED that in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted the public and press be excluded and instructed to withdraw

61. OUTSTANDING INVOICE **Agenda item 22**

Council **RESOLVED** the recommendation in the report

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Tuesday 19th September 2023

The meeting closed at 20:34pm.