



# Leigh-on-Sea Town Council

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Chairman: Cllr Jill Healey  
Vice Chairman: Cllr Vivien Rosier  
Town Clerk: Helen Symmons *PSLCC*

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING OF THE LEIGH-ON-SEA TOWN COUNCIL  
TUESDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2019  
LEIGH COMMUNITY CENTRE, 71-73 ELM ROAD, LEIGH-ON-SEA

Present: Cllrs: Keith Evans, Paul Gilson, Jill Healey, Carole Mulroney, Declan Mulroney, Damian O'Boyle, Caroline Parker, Vivien Rosier, Mike Wells and Andy Wilkins

Also in attendance: Helen Symmons (Town Clerk), Malcolm Blake-Lawson, Vinice Cowell (co-option candidate) and 1 member of the public

Prior to the meeting prayers were said by Fr. Neil from St Clements Church

MINUTES

***The meeting opened at 7.31 pm***

64. CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS INCLUDING HOUSEKEEPING

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting and made the appropriate housekeeping announcements.

65. PRESENTATION TO COUNCIL

Malcolm Blake-Lawson spoke to Council about his exhibition held at the Leigh Community Centre. He had felt privileged to be able to display his works and had received a good reaction from all, even invited to join art groups. He was also honoured to have his picture as the cover for the soon to be published next edition of the Council's magazine. He congratulated Leigh Town Council for the art wall and entertained Council talking of his connections with the building as a child. He was grateful for a lot of the work of the Council and the presentation of his painting 'Free Fish' was a thank you to the Council for their work and for allowing him to exhibit. The Chairman received the painting and thanked Malcolm for his kind words.

Malcolm Blake-Lawson and one member of the public left the meeting.

66. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs: Mark Bromfield, Doug Cracknell, Anita Forde, Alan Hart and Emma Smith also Jon Morgan co-option candidate

67. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Cllr C Mulroney declared a non-pecuniary interest in Agenda items related to the Borough Council and North Thames FLAG.

Cllr Wells declared a non-pecuniary interest in Agenda item 6 as one of the candidates was well known to him.

68. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING 16<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2019

The minutes of the meeting 16th July 2019 were agreed to have been an accurate record of the meeting and were signed by the Chairman.

69. CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR HIGHLANDS WARD

Vinice Cowell was invited to speak to members. Both candidates were then nominated 'en bloc' and Cllr Wells left the room.

A vote was taken and Vinice Cowell upon receiving an absolute majority of votes was declared co-opted and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office. Cllr Wells returned to the meeting and Cllr Cowell was invited to join the meeting in her capacity as Councillor.

70. PUBLIC REPRESENTATIONS

There were none

71. SOUTHEND BOROUGH COUNCIL

Cllr C Mulroney in her capacity as a Borough Councillor provided an update as follows:

Blue badge holders visiting from out of Borough now do not have to pay parking charges

Southend Borough Council has passed a motion regarding a climate change emergency

Southend Borough Council have introduced a new tree policy for planting council trees and initiating two initiatives in connection with this – donate a tree and volunteer working.

72. QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

There were none.

73. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

The report was **NOTED**.

<b>COMMITTEES</b>
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74. COMMITTEES – **Agenda item 11**

- a) Cllr Healey presented the minutes of the Planning, Licensing & Highways Committee as per the Agenda. There were no recommendation.
- b) Cllr Evans presented the minutes of the Staffing Committee as per the Agenda. There were no recommendations.
- c) Cllr C Mulroney presented the minutes of the Community & Culture Committee as per the Agenda. There were no recommendations.
- d) Cllr D Mulroney presented the minutes of the Finance & Governance as per the Agenda with the three recommendations. Council **RESOLVED** the Business Continuity Strategy. Council **RESOLVED** the Business Continuity Action Plan and the Town Clerk confirmed that this would be tested. Council **RESOLVED** the expenditure and the Chairman signed the report as acknowledgement.

## 75. REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

The Chairman read the notes provided by Cllr Forde from matters discussed at the London Southend Airport Consultative Committee which was discussed by members. Council requested that Cllr Forde raise the fact that many residents feel their complaints are not being heard.

<b>DECISION ITEMS</b>
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## 76. CIL PDG – Agenda item 13

Council **RESOLVED**:

- Purchase of 4 fire retardant, soft fixing recyclable litter bins – two for Library Gardens and two for the Leigh Marshes Skate Park at a cost of £1,796 + VAT
- Purchase of new see saw (equipment only) for Leigh Library Gardens £3,500 + VAT

The see saw is to replace the current one with the maintenance and installation the responsibility of Southend Borough Council.

## 77. DEFIBRIALLATOR FOR OLD LEIGH

Council **RESOLVED** to accept the generous offer of £1,000 from Leigh Lions towards the cost and further **RESOLVED** that up to £250 will be provided by the Council to cover any shortfall. The Town Clerk will liaise with the Planning Authority to establish the acceptability of Strand Wharf as the location for the defibrillator.

## 78. EXECUTION OF LEGAL DEED

Council **RESOLVED** that the Deed be executed on behalf of the Council in accordance with Standing Order 27b.

<b>FOR NOTING / CONSIDERATON</b>
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## 79. EXTERNAL ANNUAL AUDIT 2018/19

The Council were pleased with the audit result.

## 80. SPATIAL PLAN PDG

The Town Clerk advised that a discussion meeting has been arranged with a Borough Officer with regard to the suggestion of a Town Council 'task force'.

## 81. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- a) LTC Magazine - Cllr Rosier advised that the next edition is currently with the graphic designer and is taking shape nicely.
- b) Leigh Regatta - The Councillor Regatta stall did a great trade in recycling sacks although it was felt the stall was too 'passive' and needs more thought for 2020. The weather was great and the Old Town was very busy. Councillor managed to engage with some of the youth in the town. There was good councillor support on the stall.
- c) Coffee and Cake with the Council - Council **RESOLVED** the two suggested dates for the events – Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March, 10 am till noon and Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2 pm to 4 pm.

## 82. RECORDING OF A COMPLAINT

Council **NOTED** the report

***The meeting closed at 8.35 pm***