



Leigh-on-Sea Town Council

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Chairman: Cllr Douglas Cracknell | **Vice Chairman:** Cllr Keith Evans

Town Clerk: Helen Symmons PSLCC



MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT LEIGH COMMUNITY CENTRE
TUESDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER 2021

Present: Cllrs: David Bowry, Vinice Cowell, Doug Cracknell, Keith Evans, Anita Forde, Paul Gilson, Jill Healey, Emma Mills, James Preston, Emma Smith and Mike Wells

Also in attendance: Helen Symmons (Town Clerk)

Absent: Cllrs: Alan Hart, Carole Mulroney, Damian O'Boyle and Andy Wilkins

MINUTES

The meeting opened at 7.30 pm

53. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT AND HOUSEKEEPING

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting and made the appropriate housekeeping announcements. A minutes silence was held for past Councillor and Chairman Reta Cocks who passed away in August.

54. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs Hart, Mulroney and Wilkins

55. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Cllr Evans declared a non-pecuniary interest as a Southend Borough Councillor in any agenda items where the Borough were mentioned.

56. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING 20TH JULY 2021

The minutes of the meeting 20th July 2021 were agreed as an accurate record and signed.

57. PUBLIC REPRESENTATIONS

There were none.

58. QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

There were none.

59. SOUTHEND BOROUGH COUNCIL

Cllr Evans in his capacity as a Borough Councillor commented that it had been highlighted recently that for any Borough consultation explanations should be submitted to support 'yes or no' answers to consultation questions. He also advised that junction protection notices were being displayed and it was important for all to check for any negative effects.

60. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

The report was **NOTED**. Cllr Evans requested an update on the proposed Christmas event arrangements which the Town Clerk spoke about. Cllr Gilson volunteered to dress up as 'Santa' for a few days. Further social media will keep residents informed of the plans.

COMMITTEES / PDGS AND REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

61. 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**

62. COMMITTEE VACANCIES

There were no nominations.

63. REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

In Cllr O'Boyle's absence, Cllr Evans spoke about the Airport Consultative Committee. There was a discussion around night flights and Council were informed that the Section 106 agreement for the number of flights had been breached and looked likely to be over again this month instead of complying with the sanction of lesser flights the following month. There was also concern that the public meeting was by invitation only to certain representatives in the public.

Following a proposal (Cllr Cracknell, seconded Cllr Healey) it was **RESOLVED** that the Council would write to both the airport and Southend Borough Council asking what is being done with regard to breaches of the Section 106 agreement.

Cllrs Mills and Smith spoke about their attendance at the Southend Business Partnership meeting and the issue around the taxi service in Southend. Cllr Mills has been asked by the Interim CEO of the Borough Council to supply evidence.

Several Councillors had attended the first Listening Room session and reported on its success.

Cllr Forde advised that the Youth Forum had restarted and a presentation on the Local Plan and a talk from HMS Leigh would be taking place at the next forum, 14th October.

Several Councillors had attended the Yantlett Open Day and spoke of its success and the community asset to residents.

OTHER DECISIONS

64. LIBRARY GARDENS BUILDING – **Agenda Item 12**

Extensive discussion took place considering all aspects of the project with a variety of views put forward.

Council **RESOLVED** that subject to a satisfactory survey and details of the funding conditions remaining as advised, the Council would take on a 7 year lease based on the heads of term of the lease as outlined in the report but with a review of the project at year 4 to give the required 6 months-notice should Council wish to invoke the break clause at year 5.

Council further **RESOLVED** that the start-up costs for the project be funded from the Strategic Projects budget.

65. TO APPROVE EXPENDITURE – **Agenda item 13**

Council **RESOLVED** the expenditure

FOR NOTING/CONSIDERATION

66. COUNCIL INCOME AND EXPENDITURE BUDGET UPDATE

Councillors **NOTED** the report and thanked the Town Clerk and Assistant Responsible Financial Officer for presenting reports on a regular basis.

67. COUNCIL BANK ACCOUNT BALANCES

Council **NOTED** the balances.

68. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The first litter pick had been a success with many people stopping to thank the group. Thanks were given to all that came to the first litter pick and the next one was Sunday 26th September.

Council **NOTED** the report regarding the Council magazine.

Council **NOTED** the report regarding the Awards afternoon which will be taking place from 2-4pm.

CONSULTATIONS

69. CONSULTATION – SOUTHEND NEW LOCAL PLAN STAGE 2 REFINING THE PLAN

Those Councillors that had already attended the presentation urged remaining Councillors to visit a drop-in session elsewhere in the Borough as it was very important for as many as possible to engage in the consultation. The Working Group date was **NOTED**.

The meeting closed at 8.44 pm