



Leigh-on-Sea Town Council

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Chairman: Cllr Caroline Parker
Vice Chairman: Cllr Paul Lawrence
Town Clerk: Paul Beckerson



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE LEIGH-ON-SEA TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT 7.30PM ON WEDNESDAY 9th APRIL 2014 AT LEIGH COMMUNITY CENTRE, 71-73 ELM ROAD, LEIGH-ON-SEA

Present: Cllrs: Caroline Parker (Chairman), Margaret Cotgrove, Syrie Cox, Donald Fraser, Richard Herbert, Jerry Holden (until Min 133), Pat Holden (until Min 133), Paul Lawrence (until Min 133) and Carole Mulrone

Also in attendance: Paul Beckerson (Town Clerk), one member of the public

Prior to the meeting prayers were led by Rev Julia Monaghan (Wesley Methodists)

The meeting opened at 7.34pm

125. CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS

The Chairman spoke of the need to raise the Council's profile. Events attended included the Leigh Sailing Club Commodore's cocktail party, a Business Briefing at Southend, Leigh Infant School Easter Bonnet Parade and afternoon tea with Father Clive at St Clements.

Members were reminded about the Easter Event taking place on Easter Saturday in the Library Gardens.

126. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

127. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs Mark Bromfield, Geoff Crawford, Patsy Ryan, David Stanley and John Wren

128. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There were none.

129. QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

There were none.

130. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of 12th March 2014 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

131. COMMITTEES

- a. Planning and Licensing Committee – The minutes of the meetings of 11th and 25th March 2014 were **noted**.

Cllr Paul Lawrence requested that a vote of thanks be minuted for all the hard work Cllr Pat Holden undertook as Chairman.

- b. Allotments Committee – The minutes of the meeting of 19th March 2014 were **noted**.
- c. Leisure, Foreshore and Environment Committee – The minutes of the meeting of 20th March 2014 were **noted**.
- d. Finance and General Purposes Committee – The minutes of the meeting of 1st April 2014 were **noted** with the exception of minutes 164, 166, 169, 170 and 172 (separate agenda item) containing recommendations.

- i. Minute 164 – CALENDER OF MEETINGS

It is proposed that meetings of the Council and F&GPC remain monthly, that LCCC and LF&EC are held bimonthly except August, T&HC and Allotments are held quarterly.

An amendment was proposed that Allotments are held bi-monthly for the next year and are then reviewed.

Proposed Cllr Paul Lawrence; Seconded Cllr Donald Fraser.

A further amendment was put that T&HC remains bi-monthly.

Proposed Cllr Caroline Parker; Seconded Cllr Margaret Cotgrove.

A further amendment was proposed that LCCC be held monthly.

A point of order was raised under SO 6g in that in totality the amendments had the effect of negating the motion.

The Chairman ruled to uphold the point of order and that none of the amendments would be taken and the meeting would vote on the substantive motion.

A recorded vote was requested.

For the motion: Cllrs Richard Herbert, Carole Mulroney and Caroline Parker. 3

Against the motion: Cllrs Margaret Cotgrove, Syrie Cox, Donald Fraser, Jerry Holden, Pat Holden and Paul Lawrence. 6

The motion was **lost**.

- ii. Minute 166 – NOTICE UNDER THE LOCAL PENSION SCHEME REGULATIONS

The Council **RESOLVED** ratification of membership as below:

The necessary 28 days' notice has been given, and that the following posts (Town Clerk, Community Centre Manager, Senior Administrator, Junior Administrator and Janitor) will be admitted to membership of the Local Government Pension Scheme operated by Essex County Council.

- iii. Minute 169 – EARMARKED RESERVES

Council **RESOLVED** that the following are carried forward as earmarked reserves:

Elections Budget £11,212; Renewals Fund £10,085; Legal Costs £375; Bursary Fund £671

- iv. Minute 170 – REFERENCES FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

Allotments Committee 19th March 2014 – Minute 55

Council **RESOLVED** that any unspent sums in the 2013/14 budget with the exception of the Staffing Budget (which will be subject to a year-end adjustment) be allocated to an earmarked reserve for Waste Clearance.

Leisure, Foreshore and Environment 20th March 2014 – Minute 81

Council **RESOLVED** that any underspends in the LF&EC budget is used to fund the replacement brackets in addition to using the £1,000 Lights Capital Renewal Budget and that should there be a shortfall that this is funded from the GP Renewals Fund.

e. Leigh Community Centre Committee – The minutes of the meeting 2nd April 2014 were **noted** with the exception of minutes 117 and 121.

i. Minute 117 – LIAISON WORKING PARTY

Terms of Reference of Working Party

The Council delegates and authorises the members of the Community Centre Liaison Working Party, Cllrs. R Herbert, D Stanley, J Holden and C Mulroney, to hold discussions with SBC officers and members and others with regard to the future of the Leigh Community Centre.

Council **RESOLVED** to agree the Terms of Reference

ii. Minute 121 – MAINTENANCE EARMARKED RESERVE

Council **RESOLVED** that the under-spends for 2013/14 of approximately £15,294.63 be placed in a revenue earmarked reserve for Maintenance.

132. FINANCIAL REPORT

Council **RESOLVED** to agree the expenditure and note the income.

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

That in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted the public and press be temporarily excluded and they are instructed to withdraw (SO.1c) – (Legal action)

Cllrs Jerry Holden, Pat Holden and Paul Lawrence declared a non-pecuniary interest as allotment holders and a possible involvement in the dispute and left the meeting.

Start of Confidential Business

ALLOTMENTS DISPUTE WORKING PARTY (Confidential Appendix 1)

The Council **RESOLVED**, after having considered the report and in the light of the overwhelming evidence detailing the actions of the relevant tenant which have caused nuisance and annoyance in breach of condition (j) of the Allotments Tenancy Agreement, that the tenancy of that tenant be determined with one month's notice.

End of Confidential Business

The meeting closed at 9.02pm