



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 19TH NOVEMBER 2019
LEIGH COMMUNITY CENTRE, 71-73 ELM ROAD, LEIGH-ON-SEA

Present: Cllrs: Vinice Cowell, Doug Cracknell, Keith Evans (from minute 92), Anita Forde, Paul Gilson, Alan Hart, Jill Healey, Caroline Parker (until minute 97), Vivien Rosier, Emma Smith, Mike Wells and Andy Wilkins

Also in attendance: Helen Symmons (Town Clerk) and Southend Borough Councillor Aylen (until minute 88)

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

MINUTES

The meeting opened at 7.31 pm

83. CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS INCLUDING HOUSEKEEPING

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting and made the appropriate housekeeping announcements. Three remembrance services had been attended plus the unveiling of the Cenotaph sculpture which the Chairman found amazing and had met the lad on whom the sculpture was modelled. Additionally she had attended the Southend YMCA Awards evening which was heart warming.

84. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs: Mark Bromfield, Carole Mulronee and Declan Mulronee.

85. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Cllr Gilson declared a non-pecuniary interest in Agenda item 10c relating to minute 65 of the Community & Culture Committee with regards to his relationship with North Thames FLAG. He abstained from voting.

86. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING 17TH SEPTEMBER 2019

The minutes of the meeting 17th September 2019 were agreed to have been an accurate record of the meeting and were signed by the Chairman.

87. PUBLIC REPRESENTATIONS

The agenda report was noted and the Chairman advised that a further letter had been received from Leigh Royal British Legion thanking the Town Council for allowing the use of the Community Centre facilities for the post parade festivities after the Remembrance Service. It was noted that the poppies on the lamp posts were very popular and lovely to have the 'Charles Benford' bus in the parade.

88. SOUTHEND BOROUGH COUNCIL

Cllr Aylen was invited to speak. He introduced himself from Belfairs Ward and was most unhappy that his CIL suggestions had not been implemented and he had not heard anything further. He quoted that the breakdown of the CIL money was £4,000 for Belfairs Ward. The Town Clerk advised that the Council had not received this information and was advised by Cllr Aylen that the breakdown could be sought from the Borough. The Town Clerk informed Council that Cllr Aylen had been informed in July that his suggestions would go on the list for the CIL PDG and in September a report had been included in the Council agenda detailing the recommendations of the group. All Borough Councillors representing Leigh wards within the Town Council's area receive a copy of both the agenda and minutes of Leigh Town Council meetings. The Chairman informed Cllr Aylen that his comments were noted. Cllr Aylen further asked that Leigh Town Councillors communicate better with Southend Borough Councillors in their ward.

Cllr Aylen left the meeting

Council noted that there have been no changes to the polling places/stations in Leigh Wards.

89. QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

There were none.

90. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

The report was **NOTED** along with all the Councillor training that is taking place. Cllr Parker pointed out that both herself and Cllr Evans had represented Leigh Town Council at the Eastwood Memorial Hall Remembrance Service.

COMMITTEES

91. COMMITTEE VACANCIES – Agenda item 9

Cllr Cowell was nominated (Cllrs Cracknell and Healey) for Planning, Highways and Licensing Committee. This was **RESOLVED** by Council.

Cllr Gilson was nominated (Cllrs Healey and Rosier) for Finance & Governance Committee. This was **RESOLVED** by Council

Cllr Evans joined the meeting

92. COMMITTEES – Agenda item 10

- a) Cllr Healey presented the minutes of the Planning, Licensing & Highways Committee as per the Agenda. There were no recommendation.
- b) Cllr Healey presented the minutes of the Staffing Committee as per the Agenda. There were no recommendations.
- c) Cllr C Forde presented the minutes of the Community & Culture Committee as per the Agenda. There were two recommendations:

Council **RESOLVED** to adopt the new Partnership Working Proposal only if Southend Borough Council agreed to the proposal cost terms;

Council **RESOLVED** to adopt the new Allotments Mediation Procedure

- d) Cllr Healey presented the minutes of the Finance & Governance as per the Agenda with five recommendations.

Council **RESOLVED** to adopt the amended Code of Conduct and incorporate the new rule in the Protocol Member/Officer relations.

Council **RESOLVED** to approve expenditure of £8,270.56 + VAT for a complete replacement of the IT Server and processors from IT Earmarked Reserve

Council **RESOLVED** to approve an expenditure budget of £9,000 for a Fire alarm system from LCC Earmarked Reserve

Council **RESOLVED** in principal the draft Council budget for 2020/21 subject to final confirmation of the Tax Base from Southend Borough Council.

Council **RESOLVED** the expenditure and the Chairman signed the report as acknowledgement.

93. REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Cllr Parker had attended a recent London Southend Airport Consultative Committee where it was reported that flights still remained within limits, cargo planes are not flying every night, the airport is donating £15,000 per year to charities, another new airline is due to commence operation in another year, that Southend is the happiest London city airport and the terminal and runway are being extended. Cllr Evans is currently trying to clarify whether the figure of 120 movements a month is actual movements of aircraft or flights. Many complaints had been forwarded to Councillors lately but the recommendation is to ensure each individual complains via Jo Marchetti at the airport. Leigh Town Council can lobby but would only be counted as one complaint. Therefore it would be far better for residents to lobby individually so as many complaints as possible are recorded. At the same time they should also copy in their Borough Councillors.

Cllr Wilkin reported that he had been invited to be a part of a steering group to open a further youth club in Prittlewell through Southend Youth Council and the Southend YMCA.

Cllr Cracknell reported that he had attended the Community Crime meeting 7th October and informed Council of crime numbers. Forty five patrols of Leigh Broadway including Library Gardens had taken place. Advice regarding any drug dealing being spotted is if possible to obtain car details and descriptions and to report this on 'MySouthend'. The next meeting is Monday 2nd December.

DECISION ITEMS

94. CIL PDG – Agenda item 12

After discussion, Council **RESOLVED** to provide agreement in principle subject to further research into a suitable donation amount.

The Town Clerk reported that the two litter bins were now installed at the skate park and the Parks department advised that the Library Garden bins are available for installation.

FOR NOTING / CONSIDERATON

95. SPATIAL PLAN PDG

All who attended the meeting with Cllr Woodley said it was most interesting. Councillors **NOTED** the report.

96. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- a) LTC Magazine – There was a consensus that the magazine continues to improve with compliments from outside the Town Council area. Cllrs Cowell and Smith volunteered to be on the editorial group and a meeting will be arranged.
- b) Councillors advised which events they would be able to attend.

Cllr Parker left the meeting

97. DRESS STANDARDS

Councillors **NOTED** the report but felt that the standards were acceptable and no formal dress code should be implemented

98. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

Council **NOTED** the request. The Town Clerk reported that MDAS would like the last five years financial information. The Town Clerk has informed the Treasurer that this can be provided from the accounting system but that in many areas the bills are not split between allotments as work is often undertaken for both sites at the same time e.g. tree survey.

99. RECORDING OF A COMPLAINT

Council **NOTED** the reports. The Chairman was delighted to have received an email from a resident contrary to the complaint regarding the magazine article by the youth group as follows:

'I wanted to write and say how happy and enthused I was to see the central spread of the Leigh Town Council News this week. Such care and compassion for the environment by the Youth Forum within the council shows a very progressive and vibrant youth culture within my home town that gives me a great deal of hope for the future. In these bleak austere times facing unprecedented challenges with runaway climate change and unstable governments in charge of delicate negotiations to turn round the risks into opportunities, I felt that the young people were totally on track to be ready to deliver what needs done when they get the chance to make political decisions. I hope that the council are already taking their opinions into account and are using their voices to make policy changes. I work with youth as part of my job as Mental Wellbeing coach and tutor and I am Deeply concerned about the environment and have extensive experiences in permaculture and environmental protection. I would love to have an opportunity to speak with the young people in the Forum and get to hear what they would like support with. With thanks'

The meeting closed at 9.06 pm