



# 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 20<sup>th</sup> JULY 2021

Present: Cllrs: David Bowry, Vinice Cowell, Doug Cracknell, Keith Evans, Alan Hart, Jill Healey, Emma Mills, Carole Mulroney, James Preston, Emma Smith and Mike Wells

Also in attendance: Helen Symmons (Town Clerk), three co-option candidates and Community Special Constable William Imbush and Southend Police T/Inspector Paul Hogben

Absent: Cllrs: Anita Forde, Paul Gilson, Damian O'Boyle and Andy Wilkins

Prior to the meeting Phab Life gave a presentation to Council as they are the nominated charity for the current Chairman of Council.

MINUTES

***The meeting opened at 7.32 pm***

## 27. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT AND HOUSEKEEPING

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting and provided an overview for Council of meetings and events he had attended including the attestation of the new Leigh Town Council Community Special Constable. The Chairman then introduced him to Council and T/Insp Hogben spoke and took questions about regular police matters at present.

The housekeeping announcement was made.

## 28. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs Forde, Gilson, O'Boyle and Wilkins

## 29. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Cllr Mulroney declared a non-pecuniary interest Agenda items 14, 24 and 26 as a Borough Councillor. She also advised that she knew one of the co-option candidates.

Cllr Evans declared a non-pecuniary interest as a Southend Borough Councillor in any agenda items where the Borough were mentioned. He also advised that he knew one of the co-option candidates.

Cllrs Mills and Cowell advised that they knew one of the co-option candidates well and would take no part in the agenda item.

***The Community Special Constable and T/Inspector left the meeting***

## 30. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING 25<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2021

The minutes of the meeting 25<sup>th</sup> May 2021 were agreed as an accurate record and signed.

31. PUBLIC REPRESENTATIONS

There were none.

32. CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR FOR HIGHLANDS WARD

The Town Clerk advised that John Howard had withdrawn his candidacy. The co-option process was followed allowing candidates 3 minutes to speak. Stephen Aylen and Katie Cohen went through to the next stage with Katie Cohen receiving the most votes.

Cllr Cohen signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

***Stephen Aylen and Craig Watt left the meeting***

33. QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

There were none.

34. SOUTHEND BOROUGH COUNCIL

Cllr Mulroney in her capacity as a Borough Councillor reported that the police Operation Union and the Borough Council's Operation Heatwave were working in tandem. Both her and Cllr Bowry for the Town Council had attended a community safety meeting organised by Project Southchurch where there were many agencies in attendance. The PSPO for the Old Town was approved at full Council and will come into effect shortly.

Cllr Evans in his capacity as a Borough Councillor advised Council of the Highway notices consultation with regard to junction protections and urged everyone to take part.

35. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

The report was **NOTED**. Cllr Mulroney advised Council that the Town Clerk was playing a very active part for Leigh on the Southend Tourism Partnership.

<b>COMMITTEES / PDGS AND REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS</b>
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36. COMMITTEES

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

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

37. COMMITTEE VACANCIES

Cllr Cowell nominated herself for F&G Committee. This was seconded by Cllr Cracknell and **RESOLVED** by Council

38. EDITORIAL MAGAZINE GROUP

Cllrs Cohen and Smith agreed to be regular members of the group.

39. REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Cllr O'Boyle asked Cllr Mulroney to speak about the Airport Consultative Committee in his absence. Cllr Mulroney confirmed the annual report for the airport was published 19<sup>th</sup> July and

provided a few details within the report. The airport will be holding a public event 1<sup>st</sup> September at the Holiday Inn but details are as yet unknown.

OTHER DECISIONS
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40. LIBRARY GARDENS BUILDING – **Agenda Item 14**

Three Councillors attended the site visit and gave an overview of the building to other Councillors not in attendance. There followed full discussion with questions asked of the Town Clerk.

Following a proposal (Cllr Evans, seconded Cllr Smith) Council **RESOLVED** to set up a working party with a view to investigate as to whether Council wish to progress a lease on the Library Gardens building. In the meantime, the Town Clerk was to express an interest to Southend Borough Council that Leigh Town Council are still interested. The Working Party is to meet to enable a report to be made to Council in September.

The Working Party will consist of the following Councillors:

Cllrs: Cohen, Cowell, Cracknell, Evans, Healey, Mills, Preston and Smith.

41. SOCIAL ISOLATION PROJECTS PDG – **Agenda Item 15**

The Council **AGREED** that it was not safe to hold an event at present and asked the Town Clerk to refer the item to the Community & Culture Committee in August.

42. SPATIAL PLAN PROJECTS PDG – **Agenda Item 16**

Following a proposal (Cllr Mulroney, seconded Cllr Cowell) Council **RESOLVED** to review the Spatial Plan and referred this to Finance & Governance Committee to do.

43. TO NOTE INTERNAL ACCOUNT TRANSFERS AND APPROVE EXPENDITURE – **Agenda item 17**

Council **NOTED** the income and **RESOLVED** the expenditure

FOR NOTING/CONSIDERATION
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44. CIL UPDATE

Council **NOTED** the report.

45. COUNCIL INCOME AND EXPENDITURE BUDGET UPDATE

Councillors **NOTED** the report.

46. COUNCIL BANK ACCOUNT BALANCES

Council **NOTED** the balances.

47. CORONAVIRUS COMMUNITY RECOVERY AWARD

Council **NOTED** the report.

48. INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT

Council **NOTED** the report. Cllr Mulroney asked for thanks to be minuted to the Town Clerk and Assistant Responsible Financial Officer for the excellent work they do on the audit.

49. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT – **Agenda Item 23**

Council **NOTED** the report regarding the online forum.

Council **RESOLVED** that the Councillor run Litter Pick scheme move forward and that Councillor research could be undertaken into the most effective ways of running the project.

CONSULTATIONS
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50. CONSULTATION – SBC NEW DRAFT AIR QUALITY ACTION PLAN

As the document had not been read by any Councillor then it was **AGREED** for Councillors to complete the consultation individually.

51. BOUNDARY COMMISSION REVIEW

Some discussion took place and Councillors will submit comments and the Town Clerk with the Chairman will draft a response which will be circulated to Councillors prior to sending.

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

Council **RESOLVED** to form a working group as per stage 1 to respond to the consultation process on behalf of Leigh Town Council.

The Working Group will consist of the following Councillors:

Cllrs: Bowry, Cracknell, Mills and Preston

***The meeting closed at 9.30 pm***